

PROJECT:

Proposed Scour Damage Repairs, Markievicz  
Bridge, Rathquarter, Sligo, Co. Sligo

SCOPE:

Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA)

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February 2024

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## Abstract

This report relays the results of an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) of proposed scour repair works to Markievicz Bridge (also known as New Bridge) on the Garvoge River, Rathquarter, Sligo, Co. Sligo. The project was undertaken by *Mizen Archaeology* on behalf of *Punch Consulting Engineers*. The Garvoge River had a central role in the development of Sligo as an urban centre and, since its construction in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Markievicz Bridge has remained one of the only crossing points along the river. The bridge has been subject to significant changes over time, including the burial of its eighth arch and partial covering of its seventh arch, as well as the removal of its original abutments. The riverbed below and immediately surrounding the bridge has been subject to intense scour activity, which has had a negative impact on the bridge and the riverbed. The proposed works will have an overall positive impact on the integrity of the bridge, though mitigation has been recommended for excavation works in the riverbed.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 General

This report relays the results of an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) of proposed scour repair works to Markievicz Bridge (also known as New Bridge) on the Garvoge River, Rathquarter, Sligo, Co. Sligo. The project was undertaken by *Mizen Archaeology Ltd.* on behalf of *Punch Consulting Engineers*.

## 1.2 Planning Context

The following archaeological recommendations were made regarding the planning (G Pre00138/2023):

“Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment:

1. The developer shall commission an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) report which shall include the following:

a. A desktop assessment that addresses the underwater cultural heritage (including archaeological, built, vernacular, riverine and industrial heritage) of the proposed development area. The assessment shall include a full inventory, mapping and survey (photographic, descriptive, photogrammetric, as appropriate) of underwater cultural heritage features and structures identified by fieldwork, cartographic analysis, historical research and prior archaeological investigations.

b. A comprehensive historical and architectural analysis and analytical assessment and record of all historic structures (including but not limited to bridges, weirs, revetments, buildings, former mills) that will potentially be impacted upon by the proposed development. The assessment shall comprise of archaeological recording (annotated plans, elevations, sections, details of features and interpretive drawings derived from measured surveys, photographic surveys, digital surveys, opening-up works) that secures and understanding of the development and phasing of all impacted architectural structures and features (including any reused architectural carved stones) and their condition and vulnerabilities.

c. A licenced dive/wade assessment accompanied by a hand-held metal detection survey, centred on (but not confined to) the area(s) where in-stream works are proposed. The wade assessment and metal detection survey shall be undertaken by a suitably licenced and experienced underwater archaeologist. All identified underwater cultural heritage shall be surveyed (photographic, descriptive, photogrammetric) in detail as part of the assessment. A Dive/Survey licence (Section 3 1987 National Monuments Act) and Detection Device consent (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act) will be required for the wade survey and metal detection, respectively. Licences should be applied for to the National Monuments Service and

should be accompanied by a detailed method statement. Note a period of 3-4 weeks should be allowed to facilitate processing and approval of the licence applications and method statement. All archaeological wading/diving should comply with the Health and Safety Authority's Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Diving) Regulations 2018/2019.

d. Having completed the above-described works, the archaeologist shall submit a written report to the NMS describing the results of the UAIA. The report shall include a comprehensive Archaeological Impact Statement (AIS) that comments on the degree to which the extent, location and levels of all proposed works (ground disturbances, bridge underpinnings, service trenches, and other sub-surface works including Site Investigation works) required for the development will impact upon any underwater cultural heritage, archaeological materials, objects and/or areas of archaeological potential that have been identified. The AIS shall describe the potential impact(s) of a proposed in-stream development, access and ingress routes to the river, and shall also assess any proposed additional Site Investigation/Geotechnical impacts and potential secondary/indirect impacts such as scouring resulting from changes in hydrology. The AIS should be illustrated with appropriate plans, sections and photographs that clearly describe any adverse effect(s) of the development on the underwater cultural heritage and proposals for their mitigation. Mitigation may include recommendations for redesign to allow for full or partial preservation in situ, the institution of archaeological exclusion zones, further wade/dive surveys.

### 1.3 Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the UAIA are as follows:

- To ascertain the character, condition and extent of any archaeological areas, features or objects likely to be affected by the proposed works, including any associated temporary works, and the likely impact of proposed works on these remains
- To accurately locate these archaeological areas, features or objects and document the findings in map form
- To describe the same and discuss their likely provenance
- To recommend appropriate measures for the avoidance of these remains or, where this cannot be achieved
- To recommend measures to mitigate the impact of the works
- To incorporate all the above in to a report for the project.

## 2. Receiving Environment

### 2.1 Location

The proposed works are at Markievicz Bridge, crossing the Garvoge River at Bridge and Thomas Street, in the centre of Sligo. The bridge is located in Rathquarter townland and connects Bridge Street on the north bank to Thomas Street on the South.

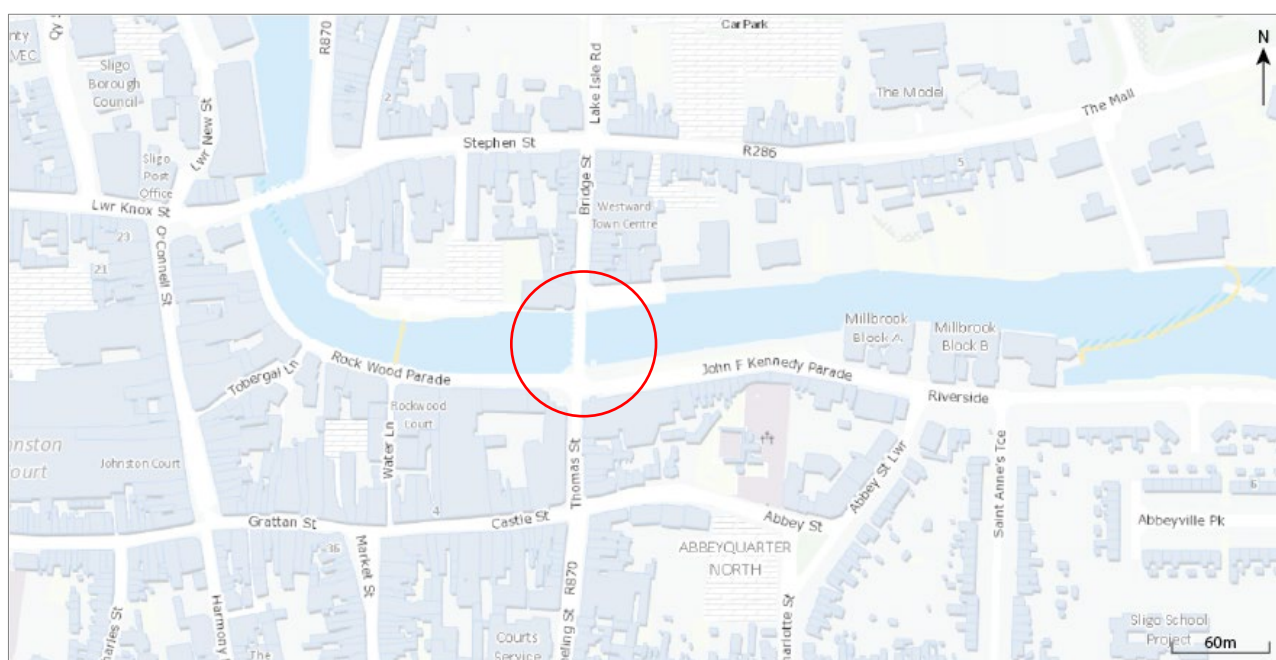


Figure 1 General site location map.

## 3. Scope of Works

The proposed repair works have two targets: the riverbed and the bridge piers. The proposed repair works to the riverbed will cover the area shown in Fig. 2 and will be done in three steps:

- 1) Reduce riverbed to proposed formation level (if required),
- 2) Place geotextile layer and granular fill material,
- 3) Place rock riprap layer flush with riverbed material to natural finished level.

The proposed repair works to the bridge piers will be done to the area indicated in Fig. 3 and will be done in the following steps:

- 1) Remove loose material. Hand excavate to competent material. Construct 'letterbox formwork'.
- 2) Fill with high early strength self-compacting concrete.



- 3) Remove concrete formwork. Cut off concrete letterbox protrusion. Consolidate any remaining voids in masonry pier with low pressure liquid grout. Make good river bed in accordance with Ciria C742 Manual on Scour at Bridges and Other Hydraulic Structures.

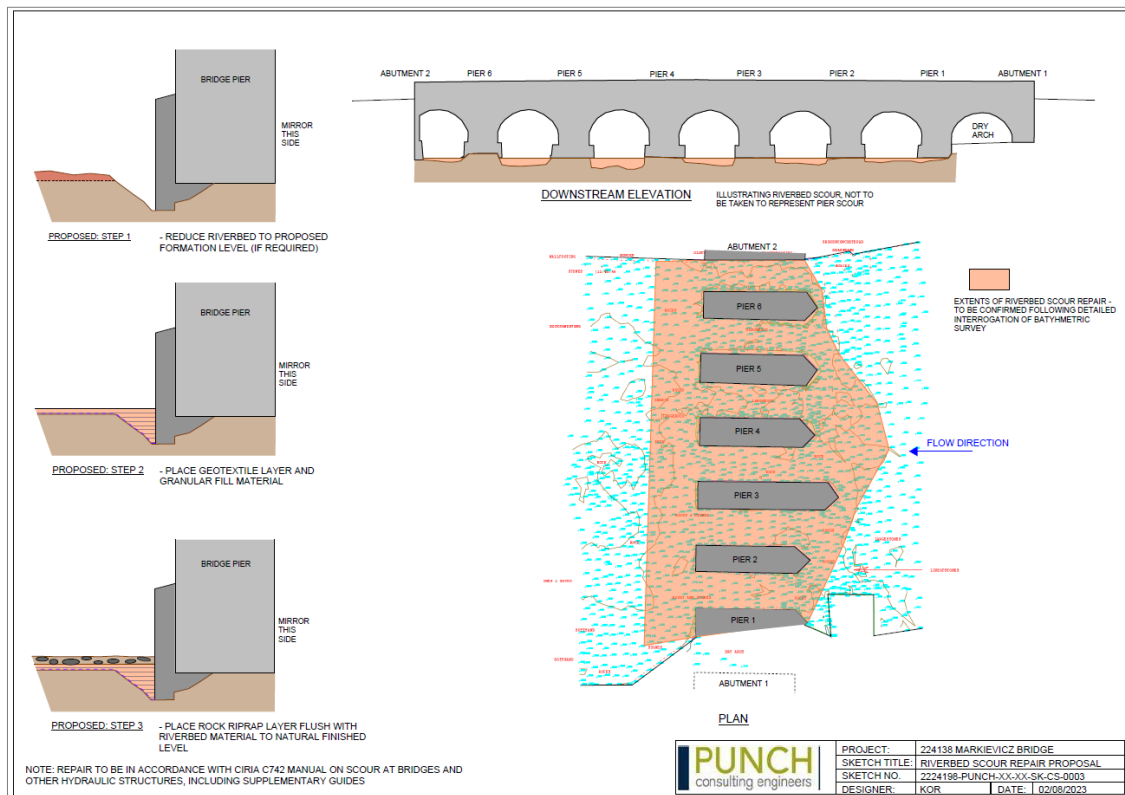


Figure 2 Scope of proposed scour repair work to riverbed (Punch Consulting Engineers).

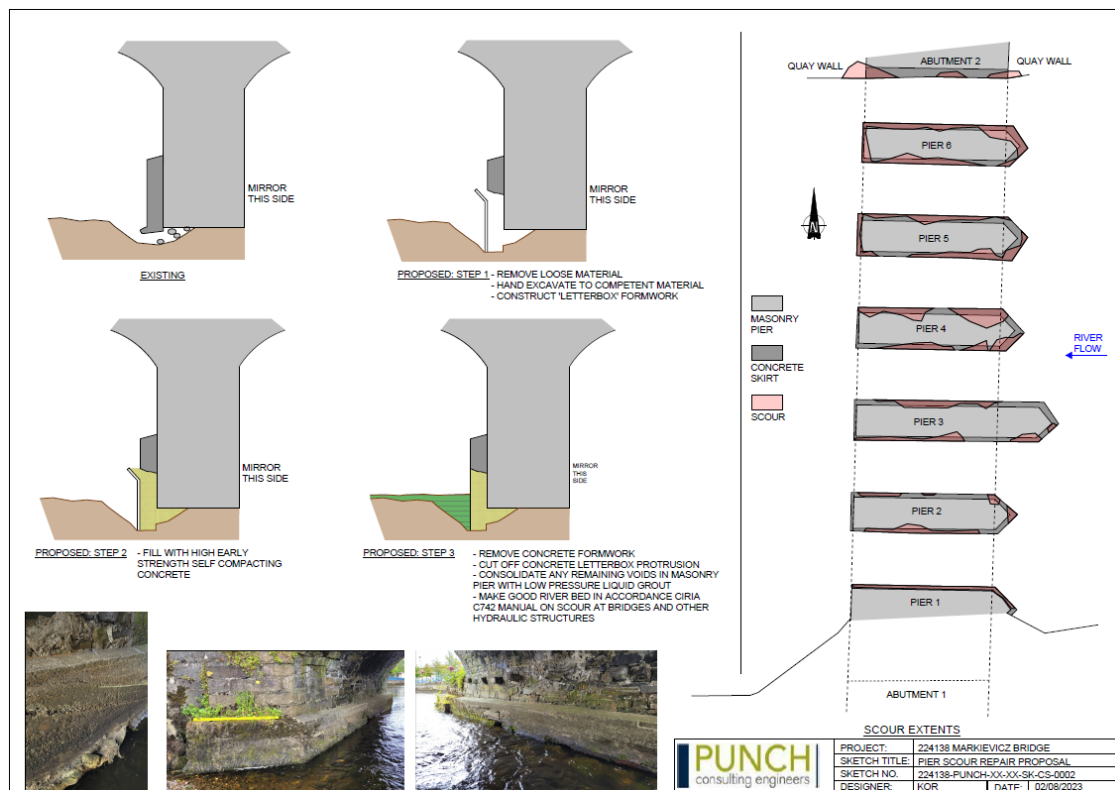


Figure 3 Scope of proposed scour repair works to bridge piers (Courtesy of Punch Consulting Engineers).

## 4. Methodology

An UAIA of the riverbed to be impacted by the proposed development as identified in Figs. 2 & 3 was undertaken. This included a dive survey and metal detection survey of the river channel of the Garvoge River, licenced by the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It also included a visual wade survey and metal detection survey of the proposed works area.

### 4.1 Desktop Study

A detailed desktop study was undertaken to ensure all available literature and background information was considered to inform the underwater archaeological potential of the area under investigation. The following sources were consulted as part of the desktop survey:

- The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) compiled by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland comprises lists, classifications of monuments and maps of all recorded monuments with known locations and zones of archaeological significance. The monument records are accessible online from the National Monuments Section (NMS) of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage at [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie). These were used to establish the wider archaeological context around the bridge and its surrounds.

- OSI: Ordnance Survey Ireland historic and contemporary maps were examined to measure the changing landscape around the bridge and the riverbank.
- The Excavations Bulletin online database ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)) which contains summaries of all archaeological excavations in Ireland, was consulted to review archaeological investigations done previously in the area.
- The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) which is a list of all protected buildings in a given area, as designated by the Local Authority. This may be due to a structure's architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, social, scientific, technical, or industrial importance.
- The Excavations Bulletin online database, known as the Database of Irish Excavation Reports ([www.excavation.ie](http://www.excavation.ie)) was consulted to review past archaeological investigations in the area.
- The Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database (WIID) and the Wreck Viewer include a broad range of cartographic, archaeological, and documentary sources concerning wreck data. Each entry in the inventory gives information on the ship's name, type of vessel, port of origin, owner's name, cargo, date of loss, and other relevant information where available. While the WIID contains information on approximately 18,000 shipwreck records (both those with known and unknown locations), the Wreck Viewer contains the same information for those wrecks but only those with known locations.
- National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files hold details of any artefactual material recovered in Ireland from the 18th century to the present. These are categorised according to County and Townland.
- Cartography: Several historic maps and charts were examined (see references below for a full list). These maps provide insight into the changes to the coastline over time along with changes in structure locations and navigational routes that may inform ship traffic and ship losses.
- Aerial Photography: A variety of low and high-altitude aerial photography was examined (see references below for a full list).
- Documentary sources: Several historical and archaeological sources were examined (see references below for a full list).

## 4.2 Site Survey

A waded metal detector survey was carried out in the survey area around Markievicz Bridge in the Garvoge River, as indicated by the locations in the Scope of Works. The survey was performed along 3m-wide transects within the areas shown.

During the survey, the visual survey element investigated the riverbed, banks and immediate surrounds for upstanding and slightly submerged archaeological and architectural material. A plan was in place to record features or objects of archaeological significance, including a written description, photographic record and GPS position. The visual survey also recorded the condition and state of submerged features where possible.

A detailed record of the bridge and existing masonry was made, including photographic, written and mapped records.

The metal detector survey was undertaken using a Minelab Excalibur II metal detection device. The discrimination settings the metal detector were set to 'pinpoint' to enable the detection of all metals. Each transect was subjected to metal detection survey, thereby ensuring 100% coverage.

A dive survey was planned in the Garvoge River if areas of water depth exceeded 0.75m and a wade survey was not possible.

## 5. Desktop Study

### 5.1 Archaeological and Historical Background

Markievicz Bridge, or 'New Bridge, (NIAH Reg. 32007110) is a masonry arch bridge which has existed as a major crossing point of the Garvoge River since its construction in 1673. It is a prominent landmark in the historic town of Sligo (SL014-065---), which contains within its limits significant archaeological architectural, and historic value.

#### History of the surrounding area

The name Sligo derives from the Irish '*Sligeach*', translating to 'the shelly place' or 'abounding in shells' for the abundance of shellfish in the region, and a number of shell middens have been found in the area (Ó Muraíle 2009). County Sligo has over 100 middens; five of which are located along the coast in Sligo Bay (SL008-101, -197, -207, SL014-003 and -0013) (Historic Environments Viewer 2023).

#### Pre-historic Period

The earliest evidence of human settlement in Sligo dates from the Neolithic Period (3900-2450 BC). County Sligo is home to over 314 megalithic tombs. There are four major megalithic tomb types: portal, passage, court and wedge tombs, with a fifth group of unclassified. Megalithic tombs occur either individually- i.e. the passage tomb at Abbeyquarter (SL014-266), c. 0.74km ESE of the study area- and in cemeteries, the most notable of which is the Carrowmore Cemetery, c. 2.3km to the SE of the study area.

The Bronze Age (2450-500 BC) is best represented in Co. Sligo by the presence of burnt mounds or *fulachta fiadh*. These were used for heating water and/or for a variety of functions that have been primarily accepted

as cooking and food-related. There are none found within 1km of the bridge, however, a cluster of three is situated c. 1.7km to the west (SL014-264, SL014-060, and AL014-061).

The Iron Age (c. 700 BC- AD 400) was traditionally referred to as the archaeological 'dark age' in Ireland, due to a paucity of known archaeological sites, and the study area is no different. However, it is possible that the area encompassing the present-day Sligo was a trading centre recorded as 'Nagnata' or 'Magnata', on Ptolemy's 2<sup>nd</sup>-century map, indicating that it was of relative importance at the time (Darcy & Flynn 2008, 46-69). However, there is no archaeological evidence to support this.

### Early Medieval Period

Sligo is situated in the barony of Carbury, the name of which is derived from the earlier *trícha, Cairbre Drom Cliabh*. The ancient name is derived from the territory of the *Cenél Cairpre*. Cairpre was the son of *Niall Noígíallach*, who held lands around Sligo from where his descendants expanded their kingdom (MacCotter 2008, 131-132).

Nearby settlements in the Early Medieval Period (AD 400-800) are best exemplified by earthen ringforts and crannogs. Ringforts were most likely occupied by extended and dispersed family units and were probably largely self-sufficient. The interior would have contained features such as domestic dwellings, outhouses, animal pens, food processing structures, craft areas and hearths. The nearest one to the study area is c. 0.8km to the south (SL014-127).

Crannogs are lake island dwellings and are not as common or well-distributed as ringforts. There are several examples in the nearby Lough Gill and Garvoge River (SL014-128, SL014-130 and SL014-131), the nearest of which (SL014-128) is located c. 0.9km east of the survey site (*ibid.*).

According to Thomas in *The Walled Towns of Ireland*, Sligo was used as a base for the Vikings. However, there does not appear to be archaeological or placename evidence to support this (1992, 238; Ó Muraíle 2009).

### Medieval Period

Sligo developed as an urban Anglo-Norman settlement in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. The choice of location was greatly influenced by its situation on the Garvoge River, which drains the nearby Lough Gill into Sligo Bay. Politically, Sligo town was strategically situated in the frontier between the areas of Connacht ruled by the O'Connors to the south and the O'Donnells in the north (Gallagher & Legg 2012, 1; Perros 1999). The territory was variously held by either side until the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century (Thomas 1992, 238).

An Anglo-Norman castle (SL014-065005) is situated on the west bank of the Garvoge River and controlled the narrow river crossing, as well as access to and from the sea. The castle was built by Maurice Fitzgerald, one of the Kildare Geraldines, around 1245. Fitzgerald was granted lands there in 1235 and built the castle as his capital to consolidate his power (Gallagher 2008, 20).

When the Justiciar gave land to Clarus Mag to build a church, Fitzgerald overtook the project and built his castle instead (UCC 2023). The castle would have overlooked the harbour, bridge and town in what is now Quay Street (Perros 1999, 2).

There is an annalistic record from 1188 about a battle there between *Ruaidhrí Ua Cananna* and Flaithbertach Ua Maelforaidh (Wood-Martin 1882). A crossing bridge was mentioned in 1236, when it was burned by the Anglo-Normans, presumably by Maurice Fitzgerald, who was granted the area only a year earlier (Annals of Connacht 1236, 1; Gallagher and Legg 2012, 1). It is possible that this ancient crossing and later bridge would have been situated around or at the present Hyde Bridge- formerly Victoria Bridge (Gallagher 2008, 19). The 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1837) denotes a four-arched structure indicated by three cutwaters on each side and annotated as the 'Old Bridge'. From the narrows at the bridge area at Martins Quay, the Garvoge opens up into a much wider estuary area known as Cummeen Strand. At Salmon Point on the east bank the Copper River issues into the Garvoge Estuary.

In 1253, Fitzgerald founded a Dominican priory (SL014-065008), dedicated to the Holy Cross, to the east of the town, which later became central to Sligo town (Historic Environments Viewer 2023). It was destroyed by an accidental fire in 1414, but was restored in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century Tighernán O'Rourke of Bréifne (Perros 1999, 3). It is the only standing building from Sligo's medieval period.

Over the next two centuries, the town was a centre of attacks from rival Irish chieftains and the Anglo-Normans. In 1246 Fitzgerald invaded Tir Conaill and took hostages (Annals of Connacht 1246). In retaliation, O'Donnell attacked Sligo, but was unable to gain control over the castle. However, he did manage to burn the bawn (Annals of Connacht 1246, 8; Wood-Martin 1882). Despite the constant attacks, Sligo continued to develop and had 180 burgages recorded by 1289 (Bolton et al. 2017, 18).



Figure 4 Excerpt from map of northwest Ireland, c. 1600. Sligo town encircled in red (Baxter & Boazio).

## English Control

Sligo came under English control in the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Sir Richard Bingham had reduced the power of the O'Connors and by 1584 had fortified Sligo Castle with English forces (Bolton et al. 2017, 18). Rather than maintain the castle, Green Fort (SL014-065014) was erected on the north side of the river to better maintain control over the town (Figs. 4-6). The quadrilateral fort was probably built in 1599 by Conyers Clifford. It is said to be on the site of an earlier ringfort, *Rath-da-bhritog*, however, apart from the placename, there is no archaeological evidence for this (*ibid.*).

On the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1612, King James I signed a Royal Charter establishing Sligo as a Corporate town. The Corporation comprised of a Provost, twelve free burgesses, a mercantile guild, a common seal, local government enabled to enact by-laws, and the right to send two MPs to Parliament. The freedoms offered by the Corporation were to entice more settlers in the hopes of raising the population that had dwindled due to the Nine Years War in Ireland (1593-1603) (Sligo Library- Sligo Charters and Patent Holders).

Sligo's hinterland trade was restricted owing to difficult inland communications. It was ranked 15<sup>th</sup> out of 21 Irish ports in the 1660s, with the main exports being butter, fish, tallow and tanned hides; imports included cloth, salt, sugar, and tobacco. Manufactured goods also appear as hats, ironware, paper and pots (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 4; McTernan 1992, 29).



In 1621, Sligo was granted a Staple that gave commercial power to trade in all wool, woollen stuffs, yarns and hides. In 1627, Sligo was granted an additional fair. Substantial trade was conducted with the Continent, as well as with Scottish and English ports (Sligo Library- Sligo Corporation). The main exports were beef, butter, fish, salted pork, tallow, tanned hides, and wool; with imports of cloth, sugar, salt, tobacco, wine and manufactured goods such as hats, ironware, paper and pots (Bolton et al. 2017, 21; Gallagher 2008, 35; Gallagher and Legg 2012, 5; McTernan 1992, 31). New houses were built for the growing population. There appear to have been fifteen large houses in the town by the early 1640s (Gallagher 2008, 35-6; Gallagher and Legg 2012, 2). In 1641, the townland of Rathquarter (encompassing all the area north and east of the river) was owned by O'Connor of Sligo. It contained 110 plantation acres that were forfeited and subsequently granted to Pius Uses in 1670 (TCD 2023). O'Connor Sligo's townland of Rathedmond on the west side of the river was granted to the Earl of Stafford. The townland of Cartron was owned in 1641 by a Catholic Tirlagh McTeige, who managed to retain his land (*ibid.*).



Figure 5 Down Survey map (1640) of Co. Sligo, Carbury Barony, Callrie, Parish (TCD 2023).



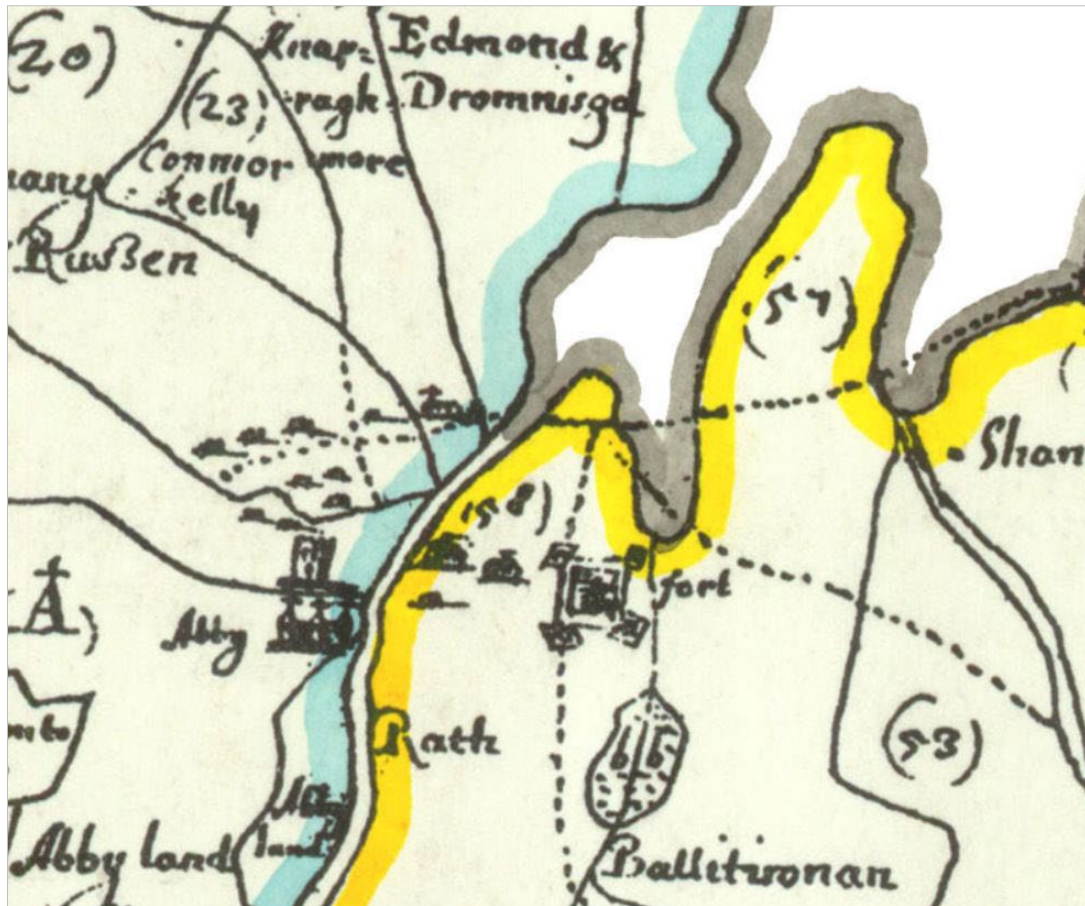


Figure 6 Extract from the Barony of Carbury map from the Down Survey c. 1656 (TCD 2023).

The 1663 'Survey of Houses' gives a clear picture of the division of the town into quarters and shows that urban growth has extended to the northern bank of the Garvoge (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 4). The list also shows that the Irish population only occupied 33 of the total 144 tiled and slated houses and thatched cabins on the survey (Bolton et al. 2018, 21). At this point, Holborn Street and Stephen Street were developed, with the main road out of Sligo to the north going over the steep crest of Forthill, and a new customhouse built by Stone Fort (Bolton et al. 2018, 21; Gallagher 2008, 24).

Sligo was an epicentre of Irish resistance and, as a result, many English troops were garrisoned in the town. The Stone Fort (SL014-065007) and Redoubt (SL014-065006) were built on the site of the old Fitzgerald-de Burgo Sligo castle (SL014-065006) to accommodate troops (Historic Environments Viewer 2023).

When the Jacobite-Williamite war broke out in Ireland between 1688-91, Sligo was considered a key strategic town for both sides. Henry Luttrell's 1689 plan of the town and defences of Sligo shows Green Fort (SL014-065014) as a small, enclosed fortification (Fig. 7). It was described as '*newly fortified with good Chemien, Court, and Glacis, well palisaded,*' when the Jacobites took control of the area in 1689 (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 14). The Jacobites retained control of Sligo until July 1690, but ultimately lost control to the Williamites. Green Fort was abandoned relatively soon after the war and was in a ruinous condition by 1739, by which times its military

function had been superseded by the barracks erected in the early 1700s to the west of the fort (SL014-0650026). Forthill House was built adjacent to the site in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and from this period onwards Green Fort appears to have lain abandoned and unused. It is not marked on Taylor and Skinner's 1778 map of Sligo (Fig. 8) or William Larkin's 1810 map. It names the 'Green Fort' on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (1837) and on all later editions and revisions, where it is shown as an isolated by well-defined rectilinear fortification with salient-angled corner bastions (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 14; Bolton et al. 2018, 21-22).

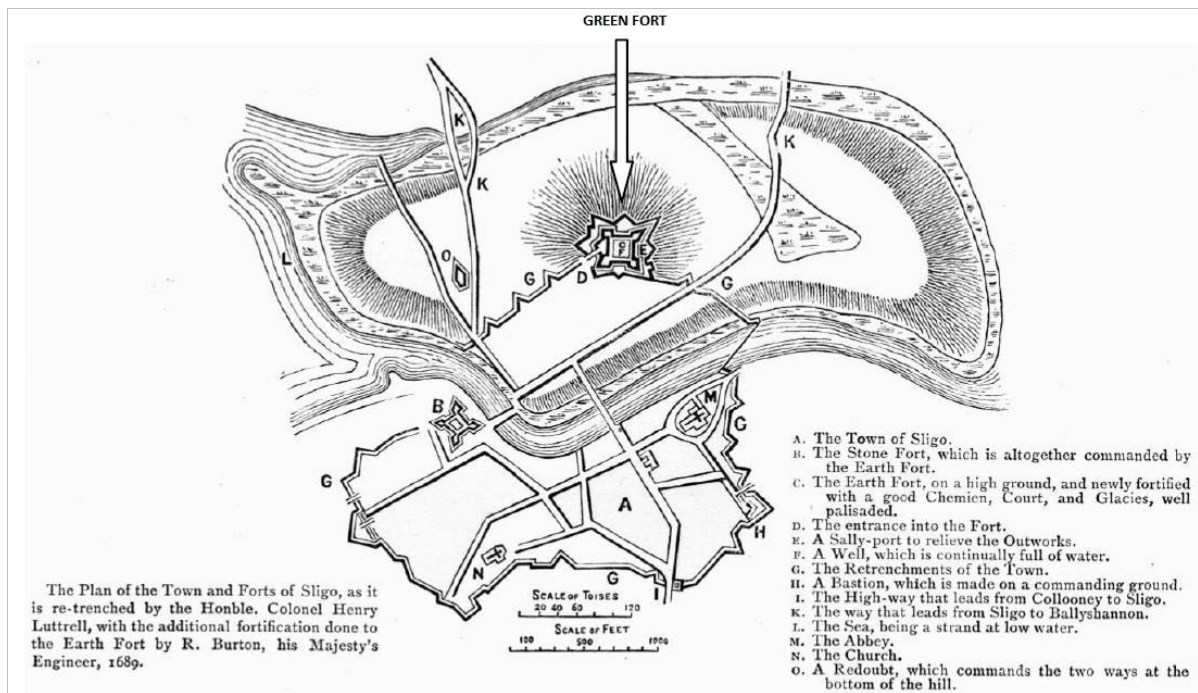


Figure 7 Henry Luttrell's map of Sligo (1689).



Figure 8 Extract from Taylor & Skinner's Map, No. 221 (1778).

After the war, a report from 1693 notes that most of the houses in Sligo town were ruinous and uninhabitable, and that the custom house, excise office and all other public buildings had been destroyed (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 4). Most of the Catholic merchants disappeared from the record after 1690 and the merchant class was overwhelmingly Protestant for most of the eighteenth century (ibid., 5, 14).

The town had 314 Protestant households in 1749 which grew to 485 in 1772, and 1157 in 1795 (Gallagher 2008, 68). Traders and merchants formed 45 percent of the population according to the census of 1759 (ibid., 5). Huge infrastructure projects were undertaken, including the construction of several schools (Ursuline Convent- Reg. No. 3232203, Saint Anne's School- Reg. No. 32322002, Markievicz House- Reg. No. 32322004), stores (Reg. No. 32007125, 32006043, 32006054) and quays (Reg. No. 32007029, 32007124, 32008007) (Historic Environment Viewer 2023). Ferries to and from Glasgow and Liverpool were established by the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and, to accommodate tourism, several hotels were built in town (ibid.). The harbour underwent many survey and development project to increase the depth for heavier ships, to widen and straighten the channel for easier manoeuvring, and to increase the number of quay areas (Wilkins 2009; Villiers-Tuthill 2006).

The 19<sup>th</sup> century saw a huge economic boom in spite of the 1832 cholera epidemic that wiped out two-thirds of the town's population. The Corporation was owned by the Wynne family (Gallagher 2008, 39). Lewis (1837) notes that 65 vessels entered the port in 1800, and that the number jumped to 540 within three decades, with their load increasing exponentially (McTernan 1992, 6). Lewis also notes that 47 of the vessels were involved



in foreign trade and imported 'iron, timber, salt and every article of West India produce, which are distributed over a very large tract of country, this being the only port of importance between Londonderry and Galway' (1837).

By 1841, there were over 2185 houses in the town (Fig 9; Gallagher and Legg 2012, 5).



*Figure 9 Extract from 1868 map of Sligo (Tailte Éireann 2023).*

### Recent Sligo History

At the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the population had reached a plateau of 13,500. The town benefited in 1922 from the introduction of the border between the Free State and Northern Ireland, as there was an increase in trade with Donegal (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 6). Trade collapsed during WWII though, with tonnages not exceeding 23,000. Housing schemes from the 1930s and 40s are the most dominant architecture in the town today. The 1960s brought rejuvenation to the port with large industries settling into the area. The 1980s saw an increase in town infrastructure projects (ibid.)

### Garvoge River

The Garvoge River is considered to be the most important factor in Sligo's development. The town started around a fording point in the river and continued as its crossing point, with the introduction of bridges such as Markievicz Bridge (NIAH 32007110) and the nearby Hyde Bridge (NIAH 32007037). Currently, the only

bridges built to cross the Garvoge have been built within Sligo town, within 1km of Markievicz Bridge and, therefore, Sligo remains the only place at which one can cross the river (Ridley 2023) (Historic Environments Viewer 2023).

Additionally, it has been used as a defence in various forms. It has hosted numerous fortifications on its banks, starting in the Medieval Period (SL014-065006; -065007; -065028; -0650026) all centred around Sligo town. This demonstrates the rivers ability to shape local conflicts and its value as a strategic asset. There have been significant efforts to both hold and capture Sligo and, thus, the only crossing point on the river.

It was previously known as the Sligo River and variations of the spelling are common. The most common being Garavogue. The toponymical origins of the name are unknown. However, the switch from Sligo River to Garvoge River occurred at some point in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century (Historic Environments Viewer 2013; National Placenames Database 2023; Gallagher 2008).

### Markievicz Bridge

Markievicz Bridge (NIAH 32007110), also known as ‘New Bridge’, is described in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage as a seven-arch limestone bridge over the Garvoge River, built in 1673. It is an iconic landmark in Sligo town and is considered an important part of Sligo’s 17<sup>th</sup>-century built heritage. It has remained more or less unaltered since its original construction, with only continued maintenance works, modern pavement added in the 20<sup>th</sup> c. and widening works, completed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

However, a photograph from the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Plate 1), taken southwest of the bridge, shows that the quays have been significantly altered in the last century. Notably, an eighth arch, on the southern side of the bridge, which is visible in the photograph, has been buried in reclaimed ground for quay expansion. The buried eighth arch was exposed at the corner of Rockwood Parade and the New Bridge during archaeological monitoring of watermain rehabilitation works (Lic. No. 17E0142 and 17R0047).

As Sligo developed as a town, Markievicz Bridge became an important crossing for the commerce taking place on either side of the river. Particularly the development of the ‘Fort Hill Quarter’, town gallows, and smith’s forge on the northern bank across the water from the rest of the town, were cited as an incentive to construct the bridge. The Corporation, as it was in place by then, funded and oversaw the construction (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 3).

Because of the bridge’s importance and its central location in the town, the riverbed and nearby riverbanks are areas of high archaeological potential.



*Plate 1 A view of Markievicz Bridge, c. 1865-1914. (The Lawrence Photograph Collection, NLI).*

## 6. Underwater Survey

### 6.1 Constraints

The survey was carried out in good weather conditions, after a period of intermittent heavy rains. The current was exceptionally swift and scour around the bridge made the riverbed very uneven, with depth ranging from 0.40m to over 1m under the bridge arches. Due to the high velocity, a meaningful metal detection survey could not be undertaken on the riverbed around the bridge piers and the assessment of this area relies on the visual survey.

### 6.2 Markievicz Bridge

The Garvoge River flows roughly east to west through under Markievicz Bridge. The bridge itself crosses the river at a near-right angle, oriented north to south. The riverbed comprises a mix of gravels and silty sand with moderate medium to large sub-angular stones (Plate 2).

The bridge is constructed of dressed random rubble, uncoursed, which was bonded with lime mortar and repaired with concrete (Plates 3 & 4). Little to nothing remains of the original abutments and wing walls on either bank. To the northwest, no remains of original abutments are visible (Plate 6). A modern stone quay wall, topped by a metal railing, angles slightly southwards away from the bridge. The quay wall covers a portion of the northern side of the northernmost archway (hereafter referred to as Arch 1). To the northeast, the

abutment turns at a sharp angle (roughly 80°) towards the east and is 1.5m long (Plate 5). The stone parapet of the abutment matches the construction of the bridge and stands roughly 1m high. Below it is a poured concrete retaining wall, with an opening in its base, perpendicular to the bridge. The opening may have once provided river access from the bank previously, but is blocked by a concrete-encased service running horizontally across its front, through Arch 7, and out downstream of the bridge.

The southwest abutment has a sharp 90° return to the west for a length of 1.55m (Plate 8). A stone wall, c. 1.5m high rests on top of a concrete retaining wall. The southeast abutment has a 45° return towards the northeast (Plate 7). It comprises a stone wall, 1.5m high, set over a concrete block containing three culverts, which completely covers the upstream opening of Arch 7. Notably, these abutments are both modern, as sources show that there was an eighth archway originally.

The parapet walls of both elevations comprised random rubble. They were 0.48m thick and reached a height of 0.98m above the pavement. The coping comprised large, squared, snecked stones, averaging 0.18m high x 0.48m wide x 0.6-1.5m long. Four cast iron street lights were placed along the top of coping, with two on either parapet wall.

The carriageway is flat and measures c. 7.5m wide, accommodating two lanes of traffic and a footpath.

All arches are segmental, are roughly 2.5m wide, and measured 2.44m from the waterline to the keystone at the time of survey. They were all in good condition. Notably, the upstream and downstream arch rings were of different decorative styles. For the downstream elevation, the voussoirs were all of plain, dressed stone wedges, with no decoration, and the only defining feature of the keystone being that it was slightly larger (Plate 10). The amount of voussoirs was variable, as the widths of the stones used were variable, but generally ranged from 27-33 with fewer voussoirs in the central arches.

On the upstream elevation, the arch rings comprised dressed voussoirs with every other one being slightly longer on the upper edge of the arch ring and protruding by c. 0.02m (Plate 9). The keystones were even more prominent, protruding by 0.03-0.04m. There were 25 voussoirs on Arch 3-6, 27 on Arch 2, and 31 on Arch 1. It is likely the Arch 7 would have also had 27 voussoirs and Arch 8 would have had 31, to create a sense of symmetry overall.

All soffits show evidence of centering, with stones protruding by c. 0.20m along the line of the springing, at regular intervals. These are visible in all arches, though they survive in varying conditions, with some broken flush to the pier, and others significantly worn.

All piers, except Pier 4 which had a unique cutwater, were of a single style of construction. Piers were rectangular, flat on the downstream face, and had triangular cutwaters upstream. A concrete apron protruded from the piers on all sides by c. 0.40m at a height of 0.60m above the waterline at the time of survey. The only

exception to the protruding foundation is the downstream of Pier 1, which is entirely flush. The tops of these aprons were angled slightly downwards towards the water. The cutwaters rose up by an additional 1m, comprising 3 courses of ashlar blocks, with a pyramidal cap rising an additional 0.5m. The cutwaters protruded from the upstream elevation by c. 1m. All cutwaters were in good condition, with moderate overgrowth visible. However, Pier 6, is partially covered by the angled concrete wall which blocks off Arch 7 (Plate 7).

The cutwater of Pier 4, which would have been the central pier when Arches 7 and 8 were fully visible, was trapezoidal with a flat top (Plate 11). It was comprised of ashlar blocks set in roughly 3 courses. It rose to a height of c. 0.5m over the protruding foundations and projected out from the upstream elevation by c. 3m. This cutwater was in good condition, with moderate overgrowth.

Paving was only visible in Arch 1 at the time of survey. Most of the original paving appeared to have been scoured away. However, broken concrete, c. 0.25m deep, alongside the northern abutment appeared to be the remains of a later re-paving of the waterway. The centre of the channel was up to 0.75cm deeper than this paving, indicating the intensity of the scour.

Several modern features have been added to the bridge and its immediate surrounds. This includes a large concrete block (c. 3m x 3m) rising c. 1.5m above the waterline, located directly upstream of Arches 6 and 7. Arch 7 is blocked by concrete on the upstream elevation and from the downstream, a concrete foundation c. 0.40m above the waterline, extends from the archway downstream for c.4m length, angled towards the south. In Arch 1, a concrete-encased service passes through the northern side of the arch, within the concrete foundation/scour protection. The concrete casing has eroded on the upstream side, revealing plastic ducting within. Cables are run on both the upstream and downstream elevations, c. 0.60m below the parapet coping, to bring power to the street lamps on the bridge.





*Plate 2 Riverbed surrounding Markievicz Bridge.*



*Plate 3 Upstream elevation of Markievicz Bridge, taken from the southeast. Arches labelled in grey and piers labelled in yellow.*





*Plate 4 Downstream elevation of Markievicz Bridge, taken from the west. Arches labelled in grey and piers labelled in yellow.*



*Plate 5 North-eastern abutment taken from the south. Note the opening perpendicular to Arch 1, crossed by a concrete-encased service.*





*Plate 6 North-western abutment, showing modern stone quay wall encroaching on downstream opening of Arch 1, and pipe exiting Arch 1. Taken from the southwest.*



*Plate 7 Upstream elevation of Arch 7, covered by angled concrete culverts with Pier 6, partially covered, and Arch 6. Taken from the southeast.*





*Plate 8 Downstream elevation of Arch 7, showing the concrete platform across its base and extending southwest, and the southwest abutment. Taken from southwest.*



*Plate 9 Upstream elevation showing Arch 1, with voussoir and cutwater details. Evidence of centering visible along the pier wall. Taken from the northeast.*





*Plate 10 Downstream elevation showing difference in voussoir decoration. Taken from the northwest.*



*Plate 11 Upstream elevation showing where Arch 7 has been covered by a modern, angled abutment with concrete culverts. Pier 4, with trapezoidal cutwater, is visible to the right. Taken from the northeast.*

## 7. Discussion

The Garvoge River is considered to be the most important factor in the development of Sligo town.. The town developed around a fording point in the river and continued as its crossing point. Markievicz Bridge (also known as New Bridge) has served as a crossing place since its construction in 1673. The bridge originally spanned across 8 arches, however, the southernmost arch and the upstream face of the second southernmost arch have been covered or removed with the expansion of the quays along the south bank. In addition, scour protection surrounding the base of the bridge was added at some point after the bridge was photographed in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Other modifications include the partial covering of the downstream face of the northernmost arch, complete removal or replacement of both abutments and wing walls, and the addition of furniture, such as street lamps.

The riverbed below Markievicz Bridge shows evidence of intense scouring, which appears to have removed original and later attempts at paving. Scouring has likely been intensified since the removal of the southernmost two arches as waterways, though one still functions as an overflow. As such, the riverbed around Markievicz Bridge has been extensively damaged.

Given the significant changes to the bridge and the riverbed over time, the only identified cultural heritage feature which will be impacted by the works is the bridge itself and the portions of the riverbed which have been less impacted by scour.

## 8. Archaeological Impact Statement

Overall, the proposed works will have a high positive impact on the integrity of Markievicz Bridge, as they will help to combat the scour which actively deepens the riverbed around the piers and is at risk of undermining the bridge structure if left to continue.

The riverbed has already been subject to significant impacts from scour and further excavation in these areas to accommodate works will have a low impact on potential archaeology. However, it remains possible that mobile artefacts may have become caught in scour depressions, and may be encountered during riverbed works. In addition, where works propose to excavate portions of the riverbed which have not been significantly impacted by scour, there will be a higher potential to encounter archaeological material.

The impacts of the individual steps of the proposed works are discussed below, in Table 1 Impacts of proposed works on cultural heritage.

Table 1 Impacts of proposed works on cultural heritage.

Works Area	Proposed Works	Possible Impact Type (Positive/ Negative/ None)	Severity (High/ Medium/ Low)
Riverbed	Reduce riverbed to proposed formation level (if required)	Negative	Low (where riverbed is already impacted by scour) OR Medium (where riverbed is not impacted by scour)
	Place geotextile layer and granular fill	Positive	High
	Place rock riprap layer flush with riverbed material to natural finished level	Positive	Medium
Bridge Pier	Remove loose material. Hand excavate to competent material. Construct 'letterbox formwork'	Negative	Low
	Fill with high early strength self-compacting concrete.	Positive	High
	Remove concrete formwork. Cut off concrete letterbox protrusion. Consolidate any remaining voids in masonry pier with low pressure liquid grout. Make good riverbed in accordance with CIRA C743 Manual on Scour at Bridges and Other Hydraulic Structures.	Positive	Medium

## 9. Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures proposed here were developed in consultation with the National Monuments Service.

While the proposed works have the potential to have a significant positive impact on Markievicz Bridge, excavation works in the riverbed have the potential to negatively impact on the riverbed, especially where excavation includes removal of riverbed which has not been subjected to heavy scour action. In addition, mobile finds may have become lodged along loose material to be removed as part of the works.



In order to combat these potential negative impacts, an experienced underwater archaeologist should carry out licenced archaeological monitoring of any excavation works within the riverbed, with a program of metal detection of a representative portion of removed material. In addition, archaeological monitoring of all conservation/engineering interventions that affect the historic fabric of the bridge is recommended in order to facilitate archaeological recording and survey.

All works should be carried out in accordance with the standards of practice as outline in the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage's Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011) and Advice Series booklet, Ruins: The Conservation and Repair of Masonry Ruins (2010).

The proposed recommendations are listed in Table 2 Recommended mitigation measures below.

*Table 2 Recommended mitigation measures.*

Works Area	Proposed Works	Recommended Mitigation
Riverbed	Reduce riverbed to proposed formation level (if required)	Archaeological monitoring by an experienced underwater archaeologist, with program of metal detection of representative portion of removed material.
	Place geotextile layer and granular fill	None
	Place rock riprap layer flush with riverbed material to natural finished level	None
Bridge Piers	Remove loose material. Hand excavate to competent material. Construct 'letterbox formwork'	Archaeological monitoring by an experienced underwater archaeologist, with program of metal detection of representative portion of removed material.
	Fill with high early strength self-compacting concrete.	None
	Remove concrete formwork. Cut off concrete letterbox protrusion. Consolidate any remaining voids in masonry pier with low pressure liquid grout. Make good riverbed in accordance with	None



	Cira C743 Manual on Scour at Bridges and Other Hydraulic Structures.	
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**All mitigation measures are recommendations only. The ultimate decision rests with the National Monument Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in collaboration with the National Museum of Ireland.**

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## 11. Appendices

### 11.1 Previous Excavations

#### **1997:475- Sligo: Rockwood Parade (ESB Site), Sligo**

SMR Record No.: N/A

Licence No.: 97E0074

Author: Eoin Halpin, Archaeological Development Services Ltd.

Site type: No excavation

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 569208m, N 835955m

Piling had been completed and construction was well advanced before site assessment was possible.

#### **2007:1546- Bridge Street, Sligo, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: N/A

Licence No.: 06E1188

Author: Cristopher Read, North West Archaeological Services

Site type: No archaeological significance

Period/Dating: --

ITM: E 569283m, N 836002m

The proposed development site is located to the rear of three small terraced buildings, fronting on to Bridge Street and adjacent to Shananigan's pub, Sligo town. The site is located just north of the Garavogue River on the east side of Bridge Street. The site lies within the zone of archaeological potential for the medieval town of Sligo (SL014-065). The site is bordered to the north, south and east by commercial premises. Two trenches measuring 10m by 1m were excavated across the only portions of the site that will be subjected to excavation as part of the proposed development. The trenches were excavated to the level of undisturbed natural. There was no evidence of archaeological activity.

#### **1999:806- Sligo: Kempton Parade, Bridge Street, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: N/A

Licence No.: 99E0487

Author: Eoin Halpin, ADS Ltd.

Site type: Industrial site

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750- AD 2000)

ITM: E 569358m, N 836005m

Nothing of archaeological significance is known from the site on Kempton Parade. However, the Urban Archaeological Survey for Sligo shows that the site is within the projected town walls of c. 1689. It is bounded to the north by the plots associated with the south side of Stephen's Street, and to the west by the line of Bridge Street. While it is impossible to be certain, it is likely that the area of the town now occupied by the site was in the intertidal zone of the River Garvoge.

Evidence from archaeological work on Rockwood Parade and Stephen's Street carpark suggested that both sides of the river had large intertidal zones before the walling of the river, presumably in the 18th century. Indeed, on the south side of the river the zone extended at least halfway up the present line of Watery Lane and Tobergal Lane. It is likely that a similar situation prevailed in the area of Kempton Promenade. Plots associated with the south side of Stephen's Street probably extended from the rear of the buildings down to the high-tide mark; thereafter the ground was subject to regular flooding and useful only for transitory activities.

Three trenches were opened to assess the nature, extent, complexity and date of any surviving archaeological deposits. The results revealed that there was on average over 1.8m of modern overburden on the site, beneath which were the remains of a relatively recent skeletal A-horizon, up to 0.3m deep. Below this was a further 1.7m of yellow/brown clay overlying a smooth, shaley bedrock (2.8m OD), which sloped quite steeply downwards from the north-west corner of the site.

It would appear that, like the areas tested on the south bank of the Garvoge River, this area was largely unoccupied in the past, presumably used simply as access to the river from the rear of the plots on The Mall. The archaeology uncovered would all appear to date from the later history of Sligo, when the area was used for industrial purposes.

#### **2002:1669- Sligo: Kempton Parade, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: N/A

Licence No.: 02E1479

Author: Rosanne Meenan

Site type: Excavation- miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Post Medieval (AD 1600-AD 1750)

ITM: E 569358m, N 836005m

Planning permission was granted to make alterations to the Lough Gill Brewery, to demolish two modern extensions and to construct a new entrance lobby. An assessment was requested. Six trenches tested the area of this late 18th-century brewery building, which is marked on the first-edition OS 6-inch map of 1837. The site is on the north bank of the River Garavogue, within the zone of archaeological potential (SMR 14:65) of Sligo.

There was a concrete floor throughout. In places where the floor was removed, a layer of light grey/light brown, silty clay containing pebbles and decayed stone lay underneath. This clay overlay bedrock, which was very smooth and even on the surface and was exposed at 1.3–1.4m below the present floor of the brewery. There was a very thin layer of black silt on top of the bedrock. This was probably a result of waterlogging immediately above the rock. There was no evidence of deposition caused by river action.

The silty clay produced no finds except a sherd of Bristol–Staffordshire slipware from Trench 5.

The two trenches (5 and 6) dug into the east–west block of the brewery revealed evidence of a brick floor underlying the modern concrete slab. Trench 5 produced evidence of the demolition of an original cross-wall. Trench 4 exposed a wall footing that may have been associated with the demolished building (or buildings) to the north of brewery. Several of the trenches revealed evidence of the dumping of stone and/or modern building rubble.

Archaeological structures were not exposed in any of the trenches. Apart from the sherd of 18th-century slipware, no artefacts were recovered. There was no evidence of riverside activity dating to the medieval or the early modern period.

### **2007:1548- 9-10, Castle Street, Abbeyquarter South, Sligo, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: SL014-065

Licence No.: 06E1173

Author: Martin A. Timoney

Site type: Urban

Period/Dating: ----

ITM: E 569239m, N 835907m

Castle Street is part of the main east–west axis of old Sligo town, where there were 15th- to 17th-century ‘castles’, as opposed to the Fitzgerald castle of 1245 or the de Burgo castle of 1310, which were on the site of the present town hall.

This property included a number of commercial and social concerns in the 20th century, having earlier served as dwellings over shops.

Following scrub clearance the tops of windows or doors indicated the buried basement of the former building. This had 3m of fill, stones, mainly rectangular, in a mortar and sand mix with all sorts of modern rubbish included; two fragments of 17th-century sandstone roof slate (Timoney 2007–2008) were found. The idea of constructing a basement section in this area was rejected by Sligo Corporation on the basis of over-density within this small site.

The northern 6m of the existing return to No. 9 was demolished, as were several of the internal walls of this return; the north 'half' of the site was levelled up by introducing 3' stone. Following on this, up to 100 100–110mm boreholes were spaced throughout the whole site.

In the digging of 1m<sup>2</sup> pad holes, some of which reached to depths of 1.2m before natural was reached, under the streetfront building and the return, some crockery, glass, bone and oyster shell was recovered. Further fragments of 17th-century roof slate were found. Similar material was found under the footpath during a cut for accessing the sewer on the opposite side of the street but nothing under the street itself.

There was nothing other than the 17th-century roof slates to indicate pre-early-19th-century activity on the site.

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#### **1996:343- Sligo: 1 and 7-8 J.F. Kennedy Parade, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: N/A

Licence No.: 96E0129

Author: Eoin Halpin and Declan Murtagh, Archaeological Development Services Ltd.

Site type: Excavation- miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Undetermined

ITM: E 569358m, N 835905m

A two-part assessment was undertaken by Archaeological Development Services of proposed development sites at Kennedy Parade, Sligo, close to the presumed site of the medieval Dominican friary. The first of these, carried out in March 1996, was a survey of the fabric of upstanding structures and boundary walls to identify the possible survival of medieval remains. None was found to exhibit features or cut stone that could be attributed to the medieval period.

A second phase of assessment was begun in May 1996 to determine whether any subsoil archaeology survived in the area of the proposed development. Two plots were examined, Plots 1 and 3.

Plot 1: Three trial-trenches were excavated across this part of the site. The first, in the south-west of the development, revealed a substantial linear feature of probable post-medieval date. The second trench, located running south from the Kennedy Street frontage, revealed organic deposits but could not be safely examined owing to the depth of the trench and collapsing sides. The third trench revealed organic deposits and silty clays. No artefacts were retrieved to date the strata.

Plot 3: Owing to upstanding buildings, the area for resting was severely limited. A wall and layer of cobbles were uncovered, but no associated artefacts were found to date the features.

**2007:1547- 5, 6, 7-8 Castle Street, Abbeyquarter South, Sligo, Sligo**

SMR Record No.: SL014-065

Licence No.: 07E0096

Author: Martin A. Timoney

Site type: Urban

Period/Dating: --

ITM: E 569209m, N 835905m

This development will require the demolition of all of the buildings between the rear of Nos 5, 6 and 7–8 Castle Street and Rockwood Parade on the south side of the Garavoge River in Sligo town. As a preliminary phase, engineering test holes were monitored under licence. Depths to natural, 1.7m towards the south end and at least 2.4m towards the north end, were recorded. The 1.6m-deep foundations of one wall of early or mid-19th-century date and running perpendicular north from the rear wall of No. 6 was exposed at the south end. All of the finds were of 19th-century date. Development works began in March 2008 and will be reported on in Excavations 2008.

**2017:533- Rathbragahan, Ballytivnan, Farranacardy, Rathquarter, Rathedmond, Knappagh Beg, Magheraboy, Abbeyquarter North, Abbeyquarter South, Caltragh, Knocknaganny, Commons, Cornageeha, Cleaveragh Demesne and Tonaphubble. Sligo Watermain Rehabilitation and Pearse Road Sewer Network, Sligo.**

SMR Record No.: SL014-064

Licence No.: 17E0142 and 17R0047

Author: Kate Taylor, TVAS (Ireland) Ltd

Site type: Late post-medieval urban

Period/Dating: --

ITM: E 569300m, N 835800m

Monitoring was conducted in Sligo Town during 2017 and 2018 as part of the Sligo Watermain Rehabilitation and Pearse Road Sewer Network project. The results are detailed in the 2018 entry.

**2018:312- Rathbragahan, Ballytivnan, Farranacardy, Rathquarter, Rathedmond, Knappagh Beg, Magheraboy, Abbeyquarter North, Abbeyquarter South, Caltragh, Knocknaganny, Commons, Cornageeha, Cleaveragh Demesne and Tonaphubble. Sligo Watermain Rehabilitation and Pearse Road Sewer Network, Sligo.**

SMR Record No.: SL014-064

Licence No.: 17E0142 and 17R0047

Author: Kate Taylor, TVAS (Ireland) Ltd

Site type: Late post-medieval urban

Period/Dating: --

ITM: E 569300m, N 835800m

Monitoring was conducted during 2017 and 2018 within the historic core of Sligo town as part of the Sligo Watermain Rehabilitation and Pearse Road Sewer Network project, specifically in the following areas: John Street, Smith's Row, JFK Parade, Thomas Street, Castle Street, Teeling Street, Pearse Road, New Bridge, Bridge Street, Stephen Street, Holborn Street, Holborn Hill, Hyde Bridge, Lower Knox Street, Wine Street, Union Street, Lower Quay Street, Quay Street, Old Market Street, Connolly Street and Mail Coach Road. Additionally, intermittent monitoring or spot checks of works were carried out at various locations outside the Historic Core of Sligo town, specifically at Tonaphubble Lane, Cleveragh and Cemetery Road.

The bulk of the monitored works were located in the townlands of Rathquarter, Knappagh Beg, Abbeyquarter North, Abbeyquarter South, Cleveragh Demesne and Tonaphubble.

Culverts were exposed on Bridge Street, Stephen Street, Quay Street, John Street, Smith's Row, Old Market Street, Connolly Street, Thomas Street and Teeling Street. A wall was exposed at the junction of Thomas Street and JFK Parade, and interpreted as either part of an old building or a wall linking to the original line of the New Bridge extending up Thomas Street. A buried eighth arch of the New Bridge was exposed at the corner of Rockwood Parade and the New Bridge. A layer of shells was encountered along Castle Street, John Street, Old Market Street, Thomas Street and Teeling Street, containing oyster and cockle shells as well as red brick, clay tobacco pipe stems and occasional glass fragments. A cobbled layer uncovered west of the rear entrance to the Quayside Shopping Centre was interpreted as part of an old street or road surface, dating to the late 18th/early 19th century. Pits near Lower Quay Street contained evidence of 18th/19th-century deposits. Walling, possibly part of another culvert or a section of an older bridge, was exposed east of Hyde Bridge. Cobbles and a portion of culvert wall were exposed on Lower Knox Street.

## 10.2 RMPs and SMRs within 500m radius

SMR No	ITM E	ITM N	Type	Description
SL014-065--- -	569118	835935	Historic town	
SL014-240--- -	568988	835742	Anomalous stone group	
SL014-065014-	569549	836290	Bastioned fort	<p>The following details are derived from Gallagher and Legg (2012, 14) and Bolton, Dargan and Roche (2017) to which the reader is referred. The fort, known as 'Green Fort', was probably built by Conyers Clifford in 1599 on the site of earlier ringfort, Rath-da-bhritog. It is shown as a regular earthwork with four corner bastions on the north side of the Garvoge River on Baxter's map c.1600. It is also marked on the Down Survey maps of the barony of Carbury and the parish of Calrie dating from c.1655-8. In 1656 it was described as an earthwork in poor condition and Thomas Phillips represents it as an abandoned earthwork in his prospect of Sligo drawn c. 1685. The Green Fort was incorporated into a network of defensive earthworks which enveloped Sligo town during the Williamite wars (1688-91) that also included the 'Stone Fort' (built late 1650s; see SL014-065007-) on the site of old de Burgo castle (SL014-065006-), a redoubt (SL014-065028-) and series of enveloping earthen ramparts with bastions. When the town was attacked by Brigadier Patrick Sarsfield and his Jacobite forces in early October 1689 the commanding Williamite officer, Colonel Thomas Lloyd, abandoned the town and brought his troops to the Green Fort from where they were able to escape to Enniskillen under cover of darkness (see SL014-065024-). After the Jacobites took Sligo, Colonel Henry Luttrell, with the aid of Robert Burton 'his Majesty's engineer', re fortified the Green Fort and added additional outworks. The fort was incorporated into the extensive earthen defences which surrounded the town. A plan of the works drawn at this time (see attached) describes the fort as 'newly fortified with a good Chemien, Court, and Glacis, well palisaded', having a well 'which is continually full of water'. In June 1690, Sir Tadhg O'Regan was appointed commander of the Jacobite forces at Sligo. He brought ordnance from the town to strengthen the Green Fort and made improvements to the town's defences. Sligo was strategically important to the Jacobites, as control of the town secured north Connacht and provided them with a platform from which they could raid into Ulster. By the summer of 1691 Williamite encroachment on Sligo seemed inevitable after the success of their campaign that had seen the fall of Athlone in June, and</p>



				<p>the Jacobite defeat at Aughrim on 12 July. These victories early in the campaign season meant that the main Williamite force could now advance on the Jacobite strongholds of Connacht and Clare. On Saturday 12th September 1691 the Green Fort was attacked by Williamite forces under Colonel John Michelburne who had noted that while Sligo had been reinforced, only a single company of grenadiers was stationed at the fort. Michelburne and his forces advanced rapidly to secure the defensive ditch and broke into the fort, causing the defenders to escape by jumping over the parapets and retreating to the Stone Fort (SL014-065007-) in the town. O'Regan was besieged in the Stone Fort, and with the arrival of further Williamite troops, he negotiated a surrender marching away with his garrison and two cannons on Monday 14 September. O'Regan handed the keys of the Stone Fort to Michelburne who was appointed Governor of Sligo. The Williamite forces took possession of the Green Fort which had 'sixteen other cannons mounted in the wall, and thirty barrels of gunpowder in the magazines, as well as stores of all kinds.' The fort appears to have been abandoned relatively soon after the war. It was in a ruinous condition by 1739, by which time its military function had been superseded by the barracks erected in the early 1700s in the town. Forthill House was built adjacent to the site in the mid-eighteenth century and from this period onwards, the Green Fort appears to have lain abandoned and unused. It is not marked on Taylor and Skinners 1777 map of Sligo or William Larkin's 1810 map. It is named the 'Green Fort' on the OS 1st ed. 6-inch map (surveyed 1837) and on all later editions and revisions where it is shown as an isolated but well-defined rectilinear fortification with salient-angled corner bastions. The monument lies on raised ground c. 30m north of Connaughton Road (R286) adjacent to the entrance of Sligo University Hospital. The remains are those of an earthen artillery fortification measuring approximately 86m N-S by 90m E-W externally, and 45m by 49m E-W internally, standing c. 3.9m high at its maximum, enclosing an area of approximately 7.7 acres/3100m<sup>2</sup>. The fort comprises a raised rectangular platform, with salient-angled corner bastions, encircled by angled earthen slopes and ditches. There are no standing remains or internal features visible within the fort (entrances, covered way, gun emplacements, well etc.) and there is no surface indication of outer defensive works. The monument now forms part of a field system and has no regular access path. The south and eastern sides of the fort including the south-east and south-west bastions feature mature hedgerows. The interior of the fort, the west and north banks, and the north-east and north-west bastions show grass cover, with wet boggy ground conditions found within the northern ditch and along the east side of the fort. A later field boundary intersects the south-west bastion at the south-west corner of the site. (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 14; Bolton, Dargan and Roche 2017) This</p>
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				monument is subject to a preservation order made under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 (PO no. 2/1983). SL014-065014-_01.jpg Henry Luttrell's 1689 plan of the town and forts of Sligo, as re-drawn by Wood-Martin (1889, ii, facing 134) showing the Green Fort (arrowed), with the 'Stone Fort' (B; SL014-065007-) and the redoubt (O; SL014-065026-).
SL014-065007-	568995	836130	Bastioned fort	Built on the site of the existing de Burgo castle (SL014-065006-) this bastioned fort was constructed in the late 1650s to house a garrison. It is referred to as the 'new fort' in 1659 and again in 1663, although it appears that it was not then properly finished since the bastions were left hollow. When completed, the Stone Fort comprised high stone curtain walls, flanked by four corner bastions. Phillips's view of c. 1685 shows a substantial castellated structure with the four bastions rising above the adjoining curtain walls. Repaired at the time of the Williamite War in 1689 part of the site was leased to the Crown for use as a barracks in 1700. It was damaged by storm in 1757 and described as the 'Old fort leased' in 1781. Part of it was converted to stores in 1800 and the site was purchased by the corporation in 1861. It was partly demolished when Quay Street was widened in 1861 and a Town Hall was constructed on the site in 1865. Remains this fort were uncovered in the course of excavations undertaken on the site in 2002 (licence number 02E0651; Halpin 2002). (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 3, 14).
SL014-065006-	569000	836130	Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle	The following details have been extracted from the introductory essay in Gallagher and Legg (2012) to which the reader is referred for further information: 'There is no evidence of substantial habitation [at Sligo], however, until the 1240s when the AngloNorman baron Maurice Fitzgerald, a member of the Kildare Geraldines, constructed a castle in order to control the roads, the bridge and access from the sea. Fitzgerald had been granted large tracts of land in upper Connacht after 1235 and his prime focus was to secure the crossing over the Garvoge and to encourage economic development on his manor of Sligo. It is possible that he replaced the existing wooden bridge with a stone one. Sligo Castle immediately overlooked and secured the bridge, and the two were intimately connected. Fitzgerald used it as a base from which to attack the territory of the O'Donnells to the north in Tír Conaill.' 'The repeated destruction and reconstruction of Sligo Castle is symptomatic of the fact that its possession was contested between various Gaelic and Anglo-Norman families. Following a period of dispute between two AngloNorman families, the castle was handed over to Richard de Burgo; he also obtained the manor of Sligo in 1299 as part of a settlement with the Fitzgeralds, who then left Sligo for good. The castle was substantially rebuilt by de Burgo, then lord of Connacht, and may have incorporated remnants of the earlier one built by Maurice Fitzgerald. The location of successive castles at Sligo was a

				<p>small rise overlooking the harbour, bridge and town in what is now Quay Street, on the site of the nineteenth-century Town Hall.' 'By the end of the fourteenth century the O'Connors emerged as keepers of Sligo Castle.' 'When Sligo was visited by Sir Henry Sidney, lord deputy of Ireland, in 1566 he noted that the castle was 'fair and the greatest of any that we have seen in an Irishman's possession'.' 'By 1584 Sir Richard Bingham, in his capacity of chief commissioner of Connacht and Thomond, had reduced the power of the O'Connors Sligo and had fortified the castle with crown forces. A map from 1587 clearly shows a castle with four towers defending the river at Sligo. The importance of the crown's possession of the castle was re-emphasised in 1588 when the Spanish Armada was blown north from the English Channel and came down the north-west coast of Ireland. William Taaffe was made sheriff of Co. Sligo and took charge of the castle that same year. Bingham reported to the lord deputy that, before leaving, O'Donnell had 'much broken' Sligo Castle and the priory. At the end of the year, it was decided that the castle should be restored by the former rebels, 'nine principal gentlemen of Galway and Roscommon', and in 1589 it was remitted to Donough O'Connor. Sligo was considered the key to Connacht and, by placing a strong garrison there, it was believed that the crown might pacify Connacht and prevent O'Donnell from returning to the province. A contemporary map of the Sligo area from 1589 shows a roughly sketched castellated structure with two towers, which may be an illustration of the old castle. In June 1595 a cousin of Bingham's was murdered in the castle and a rebel, Ulick Burke, the first earl of Clanricard, handed it over to O'Donnell. Following Bingham's attempt to retake the castle, O'Donnell demolished it 'so that he did not leave a stone of it on a stone, for fear the English might take it without his knowledge'. In 1596, however, Donough O'Connor was given custody of the castle and he endeavoured to rebuild it, although he had meagre resources. Three years later John Baxter issued a declaration concerning the rebuilding of Sligo Castle. In all likelihood the castle was in an extremely ruinous state and untenable. It was described as being 'in ruins' and the town burnt in 1602 and there is no sign of it on Baxter's map of c. 1600.' 'In the late 1650s there were also large numbers of soldiers garrisoned in the town and another quadrilateral fort, known later as the Stone Fort, was built on the site of the old de Burgo castle to accommodate them.' (see SL014-065007-). (Gallagher and Legg 2012, 1-3, 14). Compiled by: Paul Walsh Date of upload: 15 February 2018</p>
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SL014-065008-	569380	835883	Religious house - Dominican friars	<p>Located on the S bank of the River Garavogue, c. 500m from the river estuary, in Sligo Town, in the townland of Abbeyquarter North. Sligo Dominican friary is a National Monument in State ownership (no. 189). It was established in 1252 by Maurice Fitz Gerald, 2nd Lord Offaly, for the Dominican Friars, and dedicated to the Holy Cross. The Annals of Loch Cé record for the year 1253: 'A monastery was erected and a cemetery consecrated for the Friars Preachers at Sligech' (Hennessy 1871, 403). Having taken part in the conquest of Connacht in 1235, Fitz Gerald built a castle (SL014-065006-) in 1245 and established the settlement that would become the town of Sligo. Like most mendicant foundations, the Sligo friars benefitted from both Anglo-Norman and Gaelic Irish patronage. The Annals of the Four Masters record that the friary was destroyed in 1414, following a fire started by a candle, but was rebuilt two years later in 1416 'by Friar Brian, son of Dermot MacDonough' (O'Donovan 1856, 817 &amp; 825). An inducement to fund the rebuild was offered by Pope John XXIII in a papal bull issued in 1415, granting an indulgence to penitents who 'on the feast of the Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin, and on that of St. Patrick the Confessor, visit the church and give alms for the repair of it and the house of the Friars Preachers of Sligo (Scligie)...whose said church and house, in which were lately twenty friars, have been recently burned.' (Cal. Papal Letters, vol. 6, 484). Irish lords buried in the friary include Tigernan, son of Ualgarc Ua Ruairc, king of Breifni, in 1418 (MacCarthy 1895, 75), and Brian MacDonough, Lord of Tirrerrill, in 1454 (Coleman 1902, 98). After the Dissolution of monasteries, the O'Connor Sligo, patrons of the friars, pleaded with Queen Elizabeth for the friary to be preserved, and in 1568 she agreed, as she was assured that the friars had become secular priests. An inquisition in 1585 lists among the possessions of the friary, a fishing weir and a quarter of land called the Fryer quarter (Coleman 1902, 98), the boundaries of which survive in the townlands of Abbeyquarter North and Abbeyquarter South, to the S and E of the friary. In 1595 Richard Bingham, Governor of Connacht, took up quarters in the friary, and stripped out its timber fittings to construct siege engines with which to attack Sligo castle, then held by Red Hugh O'Donnell's men. James I granted the friary and its lands to Wm. Taaffe, who had been appointed sheriff of Co. Sligo in 1588. A single friar remained at this stage, but in 1608 Father Daniel O'Crean arrived from Spain to establish a new Dominican community in Sligo; by 1622 there were ten friars, and in 1627 a Provincial Chapter was held. However, in the course of the war of 1641, Colonel Sir Frederick Hamilton marched on Sligo, burned the friary and killed the friars. The Dominican community later reformed, and there were five friars in Sligo in 1703 (Coleman 1902, 99-100). In 1865 a new Dominican convent was completed, situated on Dominick Street, just a short walk from the remains of the medieval friary. The remains of the friary include a nave</p>
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				<p>and chancel church, with central tower, part of the south lateral aisle and the transept or chapel; and to N of the church, the cloister, the E range, and part of the N range. The chancel and nave retains some of their original 13th-century character, but most of the other standing buildings and structures, such as the tower, S aisle and chapel, the cloister, and the domestic ranges, are 15th century or later in date, many probably dating to the phase of reconstruction that followed the 1414 fire. The abbey is noteworthy for the rare survival of the 15th-century sculpted high altar, the rood screen and the reader's desk; also for its very fine cloister, several striking decorative and figurative carvings that enliven the grey stones of the buildings, as well as a number of fine 16th- and 17th-century funerary monuments. The buildings are constructed of roughly coursed limestone rubble masonry, apart from the nave arcade and tower pillars, which are of dressed limestone blocks. In the church, the W wall and W end of the N wall of the nave (int. c. 17m E?W; 6.55 N?S) are gone. The N wall of the nave retains three 13th-century, double pointed lancets, the middle one partly blocked by the 1506 O'Crean canopy tomb (SL014-065027-). Traces of plaster survive towards the W end of the N wall. Amongst the graveslabs on display in the nave, four (SL014-065035-; SL014-065036-; SL014-065037-; SL014-065038-) appear to be late medieval in date. The nave is separated from the S aisle by an arcade of three pointed arches, resting on two large, elongated octagonal pillars with moulded bases and capitals and two engaged semi-octagonal pillars. The arcade is a 15th-century insertion in the 13th-century S wall of the nave, which is clearly marked by a string course framing the arcade. The original S and W wall of the aisle are gone and have been replaced by modern walls. At the E end of the aisle is a round-headed archway with an internal rib, giving access into the S chapel (int. c. 9.50m N-S and c. 6m E-W). The E wall of the chapel survives, but little remains of the S and W walls. In the E wall of the chapel, there is an arched altar recess towards the N end of the wall, and remnants of another to the S, but the windows they contained are gone. There is a small piscina niche in the SW corner of the N altar recess, and an aumbry adjacent to S. At the S end of the E wall there are remnants of a window with wide splay, and another aumbry. A grave slab (SL014-065039-), on display on the N wall of the chapel, is probably late medieval date. At the E end of the nave is a rood screen structure (int.: 5.8m N-S; 1.47m E-W), which post-dates the tower. This is a rare survival. The structure originally consisted of two arcades of three pointed arches, supporting a rib-vault of three bays and a gallery above. It would have been fitted with screens to hide the chancel from view, opened only at certain moments of the liturgy, such as during the Elevation of the Host. The rood, a large representation of the crucifixion, would have been mounted above the central screen, facing towards the nave. The engaged columns at the</p>
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				four corners of the structure survive, and the W arcade has been restored, with two octagonal columns featuring moulded bases and capitals. In the N and S walls are arched recesses, which may have served as secondary altars. The S recess has an aumbry in its internal W wall. Immediately to E of the rood screen is the central bell tower, supported at W and E by tall, broad pointed arches. The internal ribs on the E side have simple chamfered conical stops, but on the W side they terminate in elaborately sculpted corbels in the form of a man's head to S and woman's head to the N, both in extravagant 15th-century headdress, the man also sporting a luxuriant moustache. Above the male head an angel bears an escutcheon; above the female head an escutcheon is held by a pair of angels in intricately feathered garb. The heads are most likely representations of the benefactors who funded the construction of the tower. In the N wall beneath the tower, there is a doorway leading to the cloister; it is slightly impeded by the NW pillar of the tower. In the S wall there is a pointed lancet, the west-most in the row of 13th-century windows that lit the chancel; this window and the doorway indicate the original W extent of the chancel prior to the construction of the tower in the 15th century. Underneath the lancet in the S wall are three 17th-century sculpted wall monuments (SL014-065029-; SL014-065030-; SL014-065031-). Above the arches, the tower tapers into a two-storey square belfry. At first floor level there are rectangular single lights in the W and E walls, a large pointed light in the N wall and a cinquefoiled ogee-headed single light with concave spandrels in the S wall. At second floor level, all four
SL014-065010-	568905	835804	Church	
SL014-065003-	568905	835804	Hospital	
SL014-284001-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056004-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 1)
SL014-284002-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056008-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 2)
SL014-284003-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056011-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 5)

SL014-284004-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056015-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 9)
SL014-284005-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056017-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 11)
SL014-284006-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056018-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 12)
SL014-284007-	569197	836100	Cross-slab (present location)	One of seven cross-slabs removed from Carrowntemple graveyard (SL044-056002-) into the care of Sligo County Council (Sligo museum). For description see SL044-056020-. (Wallace and Timoney 1987, slab 14)
SL014-284008-	569197	836100	Memorial stone (present location)	In Sligo County Museum is a stone with a Latin inscription recording the building of a bridge (SL020-230001-) over the river at Ballsadare Bay by Maria, wife of the soldier Roger Jones, in the year 1628 (Sligo Field Club files). The inscription reads 'Maria Jones, Rogeri Militus Uxor hunc pontem struxit. Anno 1628. Pons Fabricatricis menorat sua facta; superstat marmore qua viva posteritatis inops dumque lapis superest crit indelible nomen, dinque viatores, munera tanta beant.' There are no visible remains of the 17th-century bridge (SL020-230001-). The present bridge is a disused causeway bridge of 19th-century appearance between a railway line and the modern N4 road. It has two semicircular arches, roughly 12m apart, one partially replaced with concrete and the other blocked up leaving only a small lintelled channel.
SL014-065023-	569152	835829	Cross - Market cross	
SL014-284010-	569197	836100	Rock art (present location)	This stone was discovered in the corner of an outbuilding attached to the former Cloverhill school in the townland of Knockshammer or Cloverhill. It was removed from the building and placed in Sligo County Museum (pers. comm. M.A. Timoney). The stone (0.84m x 0.27m by 0.15m thick) is decorated on two opposing faces. The carvings were partly truncated when the stone was reworked for use as a quoin. Face 1: This has three sets of motifs, two double rings one with an intenal small ring like a cup and between them, a cup-and-ring motif. Face 2: This has the remains of a double ring, a single ring and a cup-and-ring motif. The original provenance of the stone is unknown but it may be that referred to by R.A.S. Macalister in a paer on Bronze-Age sculpture in Ireland (Breuil and Macalister 1921-4, 5, fn 1). In a footnote in the paper he records as follows: 'The field on the side of the road



				opposite to that containing the Clover Hill burial-chamber contains a large number of rough boulders, not artificially arranged, but tending to surround a mound on top of which is a small tumulus. On one of these boulders M. l'Abbe Breuil detected a group of concentric circles, pocked. —R.A.S.M.' It is possible that one or more of the boulders was used as a source of stone when the building was erected. (Timoney 2002c, 140, plate a)
SL014-292--- -	569340	835880	Wall monument	This rectangular panel (0.60m x 0.52m) comprises the lower portion of a much larger memorial. The triangular inscribed fragment (0.72m wide and 0.41m high) was found in a deep well at the east end of Quay Street, Sligo, in 1989. It is the upper apex of a much larger memorial or wall monument that was commissioned by Eleanor Butler, Countess of Desmond in 1624. The lower portion of the memorial was taken from Sligo in the mid-19th century and eventually found its way to Braganstown House in or after 1877 (Timoney 2013, 113) (see LH015-045---- for its present location). When grouped together (see Timoney 2013, 112) the inscription would have read: ELINORA/ BVTLER COM/ITISSA DESMOND / IN MEMORIAM / [P]ASSIONIS CHRISTI ET / SVI MARITI DONATI CON/OR MILITIS COMITATUS / SLIGO DOMINI MOR/TVI ANO DNI 1609 ET SUAE/ FILIAE DOMINAE ELISAB/ETHAE GERALD SEPULTAE / IN MONASTERIO DE / SLIGO CVM PREDICTO / DONATO / AN 1623 / ME FIERI FECIT AN / DNI 1624. This may be translated as: Eleanor Butler Countess of Desmond in memory of the Passion of Christ, and of her husband Donagh O'Connor, Knight, Lord of the County of Sligo, who died the year of Our Lord 1609, and of her daughter Lady Elizabeth Gerald, who was buried in the monastery of Sligo, with the aforesaid Donagh in the year 1623, caused me to be erected in the year of Our Lord 1624. The original location of this memorial is unknown but it has been suggested that it may have been inserted in the wall of a chapel in the castle of Sligo (Timoney 2013).
SL014-065027-	569373	835886	Wall monument	Located in the church of Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-064008-), set in the N wall of the nave. A canopy tomb, dated 1506, erected for members of the O'Crean family. The O'Creans were a wealthy merchant family from Donegal, who came to Sligo in the late 15th century, and became patrons of the friars. This tomb is typical of the period, and a similar example can be found in Strade Dominican friary (MA070-067003-) in Co. Mayo. It is comprised of a tall, pointed canopy arch (H c. 4m) with elegant, finely carved tracery, only the upper section of which survives (H c. 4m), which encloses a chest tomb. The front panel (Wth 2.56m; H 1.20m; D 0.68m) of the tomb is carved with a row of nine religious figures, within miniature quatrefoiled ogee-headed arches framed by crocketed pinnacles. The ogees are richly decorated with vine leaf carvings. The central figure is Christ on the cross. The figures arrayed on Christ's left are (L to R): St Dominic; St Catherine of Alexandria, robed and crowned, with a sword in her right hand and holding a circle against her breast, identified as

				<p>her wheel; a female figure in a long belted gown carrying a staff, possibly representing a pilgrim; and the Virgin. To the right of Christ are: St John the Apostle; St Michael the Archangel, with his raised sword and shield; St Peter the Apostle, holding the keys to Heaven; and the figure of a bishop holding a processional cross, his hand raised in benediction. Above the figures, directly beneath the slab of the tomb chest, is a Latin inscription, which reads: 'Here lies Cormac O'Craian and McSehon young Faraengasa his wife, the year 1506 (MCCCCCVI)' (Wood-Martin 1889, 70). Set in the back wall of the canopy is an armorial stone (SL014-065043-), which is a later insertion</p>
SL014-065028-	569394	835880	Wall monument	<p>Located in the church of Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), at the E end of the S wall of the chancel. It is set within the eastern-most of the chancel's eight 13th-century lancet windows. This impressive wall monument, carved in the Renaissance style, was commissioned in 1624 by Lady Eleanor Butler to commemorate her husband Sir Donogh O'Connor Sligo, who died in 1609. It is comprised of three sections, surmounted by a representation of the Crucifixion. The upper section bears the sculpted crest and coat of arms of the O'Connor family, flanked by two figures, one bearing a key, the other a sword, possibly representing St Peter and St Paul (Wood-Martin 1889, 70). The two figures stand on small projecting corbels. A projecting hood-moulding separates this section from the larger middle section. Winged cherubs' heads are carved above and below the middle section, at each corner. This section is dedicated to a representation of Lady Eleanor and her husband, who face each other, kneeling in prayer on either side of a small gabled altar or reliquary. Sir Donogh, on the left, is in full 17th-century armour, with his helmet placed on the floor behind him. Lady Eleanor is wearing a collarette typical of the period, and a long gown with a cape, as well as a rosary around her neck, and on her head a tiara or diadem. Each figure is placed within a round-headed arch, resting on the altar or reliquary in the centre, and on pillars ornamented with trophies. On the pillar to the left of Sir Donogh are a drum, flag and axe, and a shield, sword and musket. On the pillar to the right of Lady Eleanor are an open book, with a spade and torch over a censer or thurible (Wood-Martin 1889, 70). These items are most likely attributes meant to symbolize the lives they lived: prowess on the battlefield for Sir Donogh, and engagement in pious activities for Lady Eleanor. The lowermost section of the monument features a winged hour-glass surrounded by elaborate carvings of stylised flowers, foliage, scrolls and grapes, flanked on either side are two skulls. Above the monument is a small wooden canopy, installed by the OPW to protect it from the elements.</p>

SL014-065046-	569397	835907	Graveyard	<p>At Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-). A graveyard was an important element of the friary from its foundation: The Annals of Loch Cé for the year 1253 record that ‘A monastery was erected and a cemetery consecrated for the Friars Preachers at Sligeach’ (Hennessy 1871, 403). The exact location and extent of the graveyard at this early stage is unknown. It would have been intended primarily for the friars themselves. However, it was common throughout the medieval period for members of wealthy and prominent families, many of whom were patrons of monasteries, to be buried within monastic graveyards, with the most powerful or generous benefactors often accorded the privilege of burial within the friary church itself. The Annals of Ulster record that in 1418 ‘Tigernan, son of Ualgarc Ua Ruairc, namely, king of Breifni, died this year... And he was buried in the monastery of Sligeach.’, and the Annals of the Four Masters record that in 1454 ‘Brian Mac Donough, Chief of Tirerrill, died ...after Unction and due Penance, and was interred in the monastery of Sligo.’ Following the Dissolution of the monasteries, O’Conor Sligo (Donal) petitioned Elizabeth I to preserved Sligo friary, including in his submission the extenuation that it was the burial place of his ancestors; his request was granted in 1568 (Cal. State Papers). Throughout the post-medieval period, as the friary fell into ruin, the graveyard remained the primary public burial ground for the Catholic population of Sligo town, as well as for many Protestant families. The graveyard’s current manicured condition bares little relation to the disorderly, overcrowded state into which it had deteriorated by the end of the 19th-century. The effects of centuries of burials within the confined space were compounded by the many deaths that resulted from the Cholera epidemic which ravaged Sligo town in 1832, and the Famine of 1845-49, and by the mid- to late 1800’s the graveyard was considered a danger to public health. To relieve the pressure, a municipal cemetery was opened in 1846 on the S edge of the town. The friary graveyard was finally closed for burials in 1895. A broad range of burial monuments can be seen in the graveyard, representative of various sculptural styles popular over its long period of use. None of the graves of the medieval Gaelic lordly families mentioned in the annals can now be identified. However, several medieval graveslabs -some fragmentary, and none in its original position- are on display in various parts of the church: on the N wall of the nave (SL014-065035-; SL014-065036-; SL014-065037-; SL014-065038-), on the N wall of the S chapel/transept (SL014-065039-), in a tomb recess in the N wall of the chancel (SL014-065032-; SL014-065033-; SL014-065034-), and in the sacristy (SL014-065040-; SL014-065041-; SL014-065042- ); they exhibit characteristics typical of that period, such as trapezoidal/coffin-shape, cross carved the length of the slab, and chamfered edges. A very finely sculpted, early 16th-century canopy tomb/wall monument (SL014-064027-), dedicated to the O’Crean family, is built</p>
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				into the N wall of the nave, an elaborate 17th-century wall monument (SL014-065028-), erected by Lady Elenor Butler, is set high in the S wall of the chancel, and three 17th-century wall monuments/armorial stones (SL014-065029-; SL014-065030-; SL014-065031-) are on display beneath the tower. Other graveslabs, headstones and box tombs visible throughout the ruins are of 18th- and 19th-century date.
SL014-065030-	569380	835881	Wall monument	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on a stone ledge on the S wall underneath the central tower, with two other armorial stones (SL014-065029-; SL014-065031-) of similar design. This armorial stone bears the arms and crest of the O'Crean family, sculpted in relief. It has no date, but there is a partial inscription at the bottom. The lower corners of the stone are missing. The design is comprised of a shield bearing the O'Crean coat of arms, a 'rampant' wolf (rearing up) between three hearts. Above this, is a helmet in profile, with elaborate mantling of stylised leaves and wings that frames the shield, and above the helmet the O'Crean crest, a 'rampant' demi-wolf holding a heart. The intricate and polished sculpted design suggests a date later than the 1616 O'Crean and French armorial stone (SL014-065027-) and the 1625 O'Crean and Jones armorial stone (SL014-065031-). Centrally placed on top of the stone is a smaller carved stone, which also bears the O'Crean arms, enclosed by a curvilinear frame with a pointed top, with the initials A C for Andrew Crean in a smaller panel below. It has been suggested that this piece is not in its original position, but may have come from the O'Crean and French armorial stone (SL014-065043-) and that it was one of two finials bearing the arms and initials of the two families (Crawford 1921, 29).
SL014-065032-	569391	835886	Graveslab	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display within an arched recess in the N wall of the chancel, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065033-; SL014-065034-). This fragment of a late medieval graveslab appears to consist of the upper portion of a trapezoidal or tapered slab. The edges of the slabs defined by two parallel grooves. In the upper half of the fragment is a panel of elaborate foliated carvings in low relief. The lower portion bears the faint outline of a central, vertical band, perhaps a cross shaft, and a curvilinear feature in the bottom left of the fragment.

SL014-065033-	569391	835886	Graveslab	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display within an arched recess in the N wall of the chancel, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065032-; SL014-065034-). This graveslab is complete, though reconstructed from four fragments. Two grooves frame the stone at its edges, and its surface is entirely filled with two Latin inscriptions, carved in Lombardic script, alternating with elaborate decorative and figurative low relief carvings. The uppermost part of the stone carries an inscription commemorating Donatus MacSuibne and his wife. Underneath this, two soldiers or gallowglasses are depicted in profile, with helmets, long tunics, and the typical long axes, the gallowglasses' weapon of choice. The style of the helmet, in particular, suggests a date in the 16th century. These figures 'stand' on a second inscription, which is now illegible. Beneath this is a beast, possibly a lion, with a curved back and a long folded tail, with what appears to be a mirror image beneath. The lowermost section of the slab features the figure of a bishop flanked by intricate carving of window tracery, late medieval in style. It is quite an unusual design overall; another graveslab (SL014-065045-) in the chancel presents a somewhat similar decorative scheme, but there are no comparable examples elsewhere in Ireland.
SL014-065037-	569363	835886	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the nave. Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date, which would have formed the lid of a coffin tomb. It is complete, but fractured into two pieces by a roughly central horizontal break. A groove is carved along the edge of the slab. The decorative surface of the slab is worn, but traces of an interlace-like design are visible in the upper section, and the shaft of a cross extends centrally down the length of the slab. It is similar in style to another slab (SL014-065035-), also on display on the nave wall
SL014-065038-	569363	835886	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the nave. Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date. It would have been the lid of a coffin tomb. It has a groove carved along its edge. No inscription or traces of decoration are evident on the surface.
SL014-065039-	569375	835878	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the S chapel. Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date. It would have been the lid of a coffin-tomb. Two incised parallel grooves form a moulding around the edge of the slab. The surface of the slab is worn. The upper section bears a carving of a four-legged beast, on its side with head facing the top of the slab; it may be a lion, symbol of the risen Christ. Beneath this is an inscription, which fills the lower two thirds of the slab, and is carved in five lines, which follow the long axis of the slab. It is weathered and difficult to decipher, but may start with 'Hic lacet Adam' ('Here lies Adam'). The style of the

				inscription is similar to that of two graveslabs (SL014-065033-; SL014-065045-) in the chancel, also probably late-medieval in date. The position of the inscription along the long side of the slab, rather than across its width, is unusual, and raises the possibility that the inscription is a later addition, perhaps a reuse of the slab.
SL014-065042-	569387	835888	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the S wall of the sacristy, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065040-; SL014-065041-).Rectangular graveslab, possibly late medieval/early modern in date, which would have been the lid of a coffin-tomb. One corner is broken. The surfaced is surface is quite worn, and there is no trace of an inscription or decoration.
SL014-065044-	569386	835885	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the chancel.Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date, which would have been the lid of a coffin-tomb. The slab is complete, but broken into three pieces by horizontal fractures. The edges are chamfered, and carved into a groove decorated with a row of small beads, giving the slab a decorative outer frame, but the surface is otherwise plain and unadorned.
SL014-065045-	569387	835885	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display against the N wall of the chancel.This interesting graveslab may have originally lain recumbent over a grave or was possibly the lid of a coffin-tomb. It has the typical trapezoidal or coffin shape of late medieval graveslabs, however it is unusual in that the positioning of the inscription and decorative carvings suggests that the graveslab was inverted, with the broad end at the base instead of at the head of the grave.The surface of the slab is worn, and the original carvings are now difficult to trace. A groove formed a frame around the outer edge. A Latin inscription, carved in a late form of Lombardic script, extending over five rows, fills the upper section of the slab, but it is now barely discernible. This inscription and a scheme of decorative and figurative carvings were, however, still visible at the beginning of the 20th century, and were recorded in a drawing, reproduced in an OPW booklet available at the friary's visitor centre. The inscription was transcribed as follows:Hic laceTuordainMcCatruesUa Ux MarieFecit HocThis translates as 'Here lies Jordan MacCarthruess his wife Maria made this' (Anon. N.D.).Under the inscription, a crucifixion scene was depicted in low relief, with two human figures, probably the Virgin and St John, flanking the cross. Below this was a carving of a griffin, a mythical hybrid creature with the head, beak, front quarters, legs and wings of an eagle, and the ears, hind legs and tail of a lion, one of less than fifty such representations known in Ireland (Higgins 2015, 53-54). Beneath the griffin, there were three rows of rosettes; the upper two rows each had four rosettes, and the third row, seven smaller rosettes. The OPW booklet suggests a date of c.

				1500 for the slab. However, an early 19th-century unpublished representation of the graveslab gives an alternative reading of the inscription, transcribed the last line as 'Fecit 1566' (pers. comm. Dr Robert Hensey). The style of the inscription and decorative scheme is somewhat similar to that of another graveslab (SL014-065033-) in the chancel, which also bears a Latin inscription in Lombardic script in the upper section, above figurative scenes, including an animal.
SL014-065029-	569380	835881	Wall monument	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on a stone ledge on the S wall underneath the central tower, with two other armorial stones (SL014-065030-; SL014-065031-) of similar design. This armorial stone (H c. 0.53m H; Wth c. 0.60m) bears the arms and crest of Sir Roger Jones of Banada, Co. Sligo), sculpted in relief. It is without an inscription or a date. The shield bearing the coat of arms is worn, but the arms have been described as a cross between four 'pierced' stars and a pheon (or arrow) with broken staff, point downwards: the cross and stars are still visible (Crawford 1921, 29). Above the shield is a helmet with mantling of swirls and two tassels hanging on either side of the shield, the design of which is very similar to the O'Crean armorial stone (SL014-065043-) at the back of the O'Crean tomb (SL014-065027-) in the nave of the friary, which may have inspired it. The crest above the helmet, which is very weathered, is said to be a wing with stars (Crawford 1921, 30). Sir Roger Jones died in 1625 and was buried in St John's church in Sligo. The similarity of this armorial stone to the O'Crean's armorial stone, and indeed its presence in the friary, may be explained by the union of one Alice Jones to Robucke O'Crean, as implied by the inscription on another armorial stone tower (SL014-065031-) beneath the tower.
SL014-065031-	569380	835881	Wall monument	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on a stone ledge on the S wall underneath the central tower, with two other armorial stones (SL014-065029-; SL014-065030-) of similar design. Armorial stone (H 0.63m; Wth 0.58m) comprised of a shield underneath a helmet sculpted in relief, with an elaborately carved mantling of swirls and topped with a wreath. There is no crest, and immediately above the wreath is a date, 1625. The shield bears the O'Crean's coat of arms, a 'rampant' wolf (rearing up) between three hearts, which is 'impaled' with a 'rampant' lion, presumably the arms of the Jones family (Crawford 1921, 30). Indeed, across the base of the monument is an inscription revealing that it was commissioned by Robuck O'Crean and his wife Alice Jones: "Wee two are one by His decree That reigneth from eternity That first erected have these stones Wee Robuck Crean and Alice Jones" (O'Rorke 1890, 253)



SL014-065034-	569391	835886	Graveslab	In Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display within an arched recess in the N wall of the chancel, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065032-; SL014-065033-). Fragment of a late medieval graveslab. It would have formed the upper section of a trapezoidal slab. The carved surface is worn and damaged, and sections have sheared off. An incised groove defines the top edge, and the partial outline of an elaborate cross, with curvilinear motifs, within a circle, can still be discerned
SL014-065035-	569363	835886	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the nave. Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date, which would have served as the lid of a coffin tomb. Though complete, it is fractured in two sections by roughly central horizontal break. An incised groove is carved along the edge of the slab. The surface is greatly weathered, but traces of a foliate or interlace-like design carved in low relief are still visible in the upper left section. Another graveslab (SL014-065037-), also on display on the nave wall, is very similar in style.
SL014-065036-	569363	835886	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the nave. Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date. It would have been the lid of a coffin tomb. It is almost intact, missing only the top left corner. The decorated surface is worn, though carvings in low relief are visible in the upper section, comprised of four quatrefoils forming a lozenge, and the top and arms of what may have been a cross, the shaft of which extended the centrally down the length of the slab; the terminal of the cross shaft appears to be visible at the bottom of the slab, with at least one angled arm joining to the bottom left corner of the slab.
SL014-065040-	569387	835888	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the S wall of the sacristy, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065041-; SL014-065042-). This rectangular graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date, would have been the lid of a coffin-tomb. It is incomplete: the lower two thirds of the slab survive, fractured into two pieces by a horizontal break; the upper portion of the slab is missing. A raised central band, representing the shaft of a cross, extends the length of the slab, and two incised parallel grooves form an outer frame.
SL014-065041-	569387	835888	Graveslab	Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the S wall of the sacristy, with two other graveslabs (SL014-065040-; SL014-065042-). Trapezoidal graveslab, probably late medieval/early modern in date, which would originally have formed the lid of a coffin-tomb. The surface is quite worn, and it now appears plain and unadorned, but there are traces of a possible inscription in the lower section of the slab.

SL014-065043-	569373	835886	Wall monument	<p>Located in Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), inserted into the back wall of the O'Crian canopy tomb (SL014-065027-), in the N wall of the church. Armorial stone (H c. 0.71m; Wth 0.58) comprised of a shield bearing the O'Crian family arms combined with those of the French family, above which is a helmet sculpted in relief, with a mantling of swirls from which hang two tassels, framing the shield. Above the helmet is the O'Crian's crest, a small 'rampant' half wolf (rearing up) holding a heart. The surface of the shield is now quite worn, but a 1921 description recorded details of the engraving: the O'Crian arms, a 'rampant' wolf between three hearts, which are 'impaled' with the French arms, an ermine and a chevron (Crawford 1921, 29). The date 1616 is inscribed on either side of the wolf at the top. The initials AC and EF are engraved on either side of the shield, and are probably those of Andrew Crian and his wife Elizabeth French (ibid, 29). A Latin inscription, engraved across the base of the stone, reads 'cor mundum crea in me deus et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis'. It is from Psalm 51 and translates as 'Create a clean heart in me, O God: and renew a right spirit within my bowels'. The first half of the inscription may have been the Crian's motto. This armorial stone is a late insertion into the back wall of the O'Crian canopy tomb (SL014-065027-). Three other armorial stones (SL014-065029-, SL014-065030-, SL014-065031-) of similar style are on display underneath the central tower of the friary.</p>
SL014-065047-	569364	835886	Graveslab	<p>Located in the church of Sligo Dominican friary (SL014-065008-), on display on the N wall of the nave. Trapezoidal graveslab, bearing an inscription with the date '1723' or '1728'. However, the 18th-century inscription appears to have been carved over existing decoration, suggesting that the slab was re-used, and overall style of the graveslab also suggests an earlier date, perhaps in the 17th century. It would have been the lid of a coffin tomb. It is almost whole, except for a section of the top-right corner of the slab. All along the edge of the slabs are two grooves forming a shallow moulding, and it is similar in style and proportion to another graveslab, located in the S chapel of the church (SL014-065039-). While the surface is rather worn, it appears that some of the decoration included interlace-like design and the shaft of a cross, similar to another graveslab displayed on the N wall of the nave (SL014-065037-). The inscription is in English, and extends over eight lines, which read: 'Pray [for the] soul of Donogh, who dies the 22 of March, Anno Do. 1728 (or 1723)'.</p>

### 10. 3 NIAH within or adjacent to proposed works

Reg.No.	Original Use	Description	Appraisal	Date From	Date To	Rating	ITM
32007108	building misc	<p>Terraced seven-bay three-storey with attic smooth-rendered hotel building, built c. 1835. Rectangular on plan with small two-storey pitched roof return and extensive flat-roofed extensions, c. 1995. Pitched artificial slate roof, artificial ridge tiles, painted smooth-rendered corbelled chimneystacks to either end of ridge, uPVC gutters on painted timber fascia on projecting eaves corbel course. Uncoursed rubble limestone walling with painted ruled-and-lined smooth render to upper floors with moulded sill strings to first and second floors. Elliptical-headed brick-arched infilled arcade to ground floor with square ashlar sandstone piers, imposts, kneelers and key stones. Easternmost arch infilled with painted timber sheeted entrance with glazed sign over, all c. 1995. Square-headed window openings with painted masonry sills, uPVC casement windows to front and rear elevations. Square window openings to attic built up. Original, horizontally sub-divided sash windows survive to rear.</p>	<p>This well-proportioned and expansive building, although much modified, retains a strong sense of presence and is of special interest for the arcaded ground floor which must reflect something of the original use, possibly as a warehouse or mill.</p>	1820	1850	Regional	569320 835925
32007109	unknown	<p>Attached corner-sited five-bay by three-bay three-storey over basement smooth-rendered building, built c. 1782. 'L' shaped on plan with rectangular single-storey porch projecting from north elevation and various flat-roof extensions</p>	<p>This prominent building, although much altered, makes a distinctive contribution to the streetscape. The unusual porch on the north elevation is of special importance, as are the</p>	1780	1785	Regional	569298 835922

		to rear. Now in use as hotel. Pitched artificial slate roof forming hip to corner, with three painted, smooth-rendered corbelled chimneys on ridge, clay ridge tiles, painted extruded moulded aluminium gutters on timber fascia on projecting eaves course. Painted ruled-and-lined smooth-rendered masonry walls with sill string courses at first and second floors. Square-headed window openings, painted masonry sills, uPVC windows. Three-bay glazed timber entrance porch on raised base, hipped slate roof with lead hip rolls and flat cap surmounted by cast-iron railing. Painted timber rectangular columns with chamfered topped mouldings and moulded plinth blocks, chamfered beam lintels, fixed painted timber lights each with vertically sheeted panel under. Porch approached by straight flight of steps from east side. Two, dated, street name plaques on rounded north-west corner. Street fronted on both elevations.	two street/name plaques. One of which is dated 1787.				
32007110	bridge	Seven-arch bridge over river, built 1673. Repointed coursed rubble limestone walls centred on triangular cutwaters to piers to upriver (east) elevation on mass concrete bases having rendered pyramidal capping with margined tooled cut-limestone coping to benchmark-inscribed parapets. Series of seven segmental arches with margined tooled limestone ashlar block-and-start	A bridge representing an important component of the seventeenth-century built heritage of Sligo (Irish Historic Towns Atlas Sligo 2012, 21) with the architectural value of the composition confirmed not only by the blue-grey limestone dressings demonstrating good quality workmanship, but also by the elegant "sweep" of the arches	1670	1675	Regional	569282 835962

		voussoirs (east) or rough hewn limestone voussoirs (west). Sited spanning Garvogue River.	making a pleasing visual statement at a crossing over the Garvogue River: meanwhile, a benchmark remains of additional interest for the connections with cartography and the preparation of maps by the Ordnance Survey (established 1824).				
32007125	store/warehouse	Detached multiple-bay four-storey store or warehouse, built 1834, on an L-shaped plan. No longer in use. Hipped slate roof with gabled dormer over former loading bay, now blocked up, to east side of main range, clay ridge and hip tiles, half-round steel gutters on drive-in brackets on projecting stone eaves course. Rubble limestone walls possibly originally rendered with roughcast remaining on east elevation. Flat-arched brick-dressed window openings, windows boarded over to south elevation of main range, evidence of original frames on north elevation, uPVC windows to west elevation of return wing. Wrought-iron gates with repousse decorative elements to west end of main range. Main range fronts onto quayside giving to Garavogue River. Courtyard in angle between main range and return wing bounded on west side by two-storey smooth-rendered building in separate ownership.	This well-proportioned store or warehouse is a prominent feature on Sligo's riverside and is one of the few surviving buildings which relate directly with the town's brewing past. Limestone walling, brick dressings and slate roof combine to create a harmonious whole.	1830	1835	Regional	569351 836003