

15.6.2 Mitigation measures for the development of Site 3

15.6.2.1 Construction Stage

15.6.2.1.1 Qualification of the Composition of the Existing Building Range

Construction strategies for Site 3 were designed to accommodate a range of unknown conditions within the extent of retained building fabric, with numerous scenarios factored into the development of the structural design.

It is proposed to distil construction strategies prior to commencement of works, under the direction of Waterman Moylan's and the architectural and structural heritage teams.

The intended outcome of future investigations will be to frame a precise structural analysis of the buildings, which in turn will directly and accurately inform demolition and protection strategies.

15.6.2.1.2 Qualification of Protection Strategies

The preparation of a detailed construction plan for the demolition of building fabric will inform a correspondingly detailed protection plan for retained fabric, which in turn, will safeguard the architectural heritage characteristics of retained fabric, and also reduce physical impacts for the enclosing ACA.

15.6.2.2 Operational Stage

15.6.2.2.1 Continued Protection of Retained Fabric

All of the retained fabric within Site 3 is included in the designated boundary of the ACA. A significant factor in maintaining the integrity of the ACA at operational stage is the continued maintenance and good presentation of retained fabric. It is envisaged the estate will be under a single Management Company, rather than a fragmented ownership meaning that a higher level of integrity can be maintained.

15.6.3 Mitigation Measures for the Development of Site 4

15.6.3.1 Construction Stage

Primary risks in developing Site 4 are associated with construction impacts in proximity to the National Monument. It is intended, following submission of planning applications and easing of Covid restrictions, to embark on a range of agreed conservation-led investigative works. In conjunction with statutory stakeholders, a detailed design strategy for all stages of the construction process will be developed to ensure that all risks are identified and mitigated. Ministerial Consent will be sought for the expanded construction strategies.

As a principle, it is intended to observe a similar level of detailing to mitigate construction risks for retained fabric within Site 4, on the basis that similar conditions are likely to exist elsewhere requiring a similar level of ameliorative protection and conservation.

15.6.3.2 Operational Stage

Substantial sections of Site 4 shares boundaries with either protected or retained fabric of heritage significance. Monitoring of boundary conditions into the future will be required to ensure the long term protection of these boundary conditions.

Similarly, building fabric scheduled for retention and conservation within Site 4 merits ongoing monitoring to ensure its long term protection. These buildings are not protected structures, but, in accordance with the Conservation Plan, are treated as if they were, as an integral component of a future maintenance strategy.

15.6.4 Mitigation measures for the development of Site 5

15.6.4.1 Construction Stage

Key risks for the development of Site 5 are confined to demolition and excavation stages, where risks of vibrations are predicted as occurring for the National Monument.

Mitigations against foreseen potential impacts arising from the demolition, excavation and enabling works of constructing Site 5 are detailed in structural engineering studies carried out by Waterman Moylan Consulting Engineers Limited and Waterman Structures Limited, with inputs by Ms. Lisa Edden, specialist conservation engineer of CORA, attached to the planning application for Site 5.

15.6.4.2 Operational Stage

No mitigations are envisaged as being required for operational stage of Site 5 buildings.

15.7 Residual Impact

15.7.1 Dublin Central Masterplan

15.7.1.1 Construction Stage

A key residual impact is the possibility of accidental/ unforeseen permanent loss during the construction stage, of architectural heritage cited as having significance and intended to be retained as part of the proposed development.

A less tangible residual impact following the commencement of the development of the Masterplan is economic uncertainty or a continuing Covid pandemic-scenario arising in the temporary or prolonged cessation of works, leaving historic fabric more vulnerable than it is currently.

The proposed development has been designed so that on commencement of the Masterplan development, both risks are mitigated against in the certainty of funding and in the natural elimination of the pandemic.

15.7.1.2 Worst Case Impact

A worst-case scenario would be the permanent loss of architectural heritage of significance as a consequence of the development.

A further detriment for the delivery of the Masterplan would be for the works to permanently cease as a consequence of long-term economic impacts.

15.7.1.3 Operational Stage

The viability of the Masterplan development at operational stage is dependent on the prosperity of the community for which it is intended to be delivered. In the event of a recession, and piecemeal occupancy – the vitality of the scheme and long term securing of its architectural heritage would be impacted. A positive residual impact, even in the event of a future recession, would be the securing of that same architectural heritage at construction stage, overcoming the current status of incremental decline.

15.7.1.4 Worst Case Impact

A worst case impact for the Masterplan is partial, yet incomplete development, arising in further incremental erosion of the character of the ACA and its architecturally significant buildings.

15.7.2 Residual Impacts Envisaged for the Development of Site 3

15.7.2.1 Construction Stage

A final stage of recording the building ranges following clearance of each building is proposed. Residual impacts, following this second stage of recording is limited to the physical removal of fabric identified for demolition and disruption arising therefrom, which has been anticipated in the Construction Management Plan accompanying this submission prepared by Waterman Moylan Consulting Engineers Limited and Waterman Structures Limited with inputs by Ms. Lisa Edden, specialist conservation engineer of CORA.

As careful management of the demolition process will ensure the protection of the adjoining retained fabric, no further residual impacts are envisaged.

15.7.2.2 Worst Case Impact

No worst case residual impact is envisaged as arising at construction stage, if all mitigation measures proposed are adopted.

15.7.2.3 Operational Stage

The impact of an altered external urban context is offset against the benefit of a much needed renewal of this urban block.

It is possible that material impacts arising from the generation of infill fabric to the rear of retained facades might emerge over time, such as cracking of masonry or the build-up of condensation at interstitial layers, arising in efflorescence in masonry.

15.7.2.4 Worst Case Impact

A detailed analysis of the building fabric will be possible prior to construction, by which time a site specific design for the provision of new structures behind existing, provision of insulation and breather membranes can be resolved- all mitigating against the risk of a residual impact arising from the technical detailing of retained facades.

15.7.3 Residual Impacts Envisaged for the Development of Site 4

15.7.3.1 Construction Stage

The sensitivity of constructing this development will not easily tolerate residual impacts. As a consequence, it is hoped that additional future impacts for the National Monument and retained structures of heritage significance within Site 4 can be predicted at Ministerial Consent stage, or immediately following commencement of work, where carefully considered amendments to a future consent can be sought, if necessary. As a consequence of an avoidance of residual impacts, none are envisaged as arising.

15.7.3.2 Operational Stage

The terraced, multi-occupancy context of buildings north and south of the National Monument will inevitably arise in a possible residual risk of damage occurring from within properties adjacent. Every effort must be taken to secure the long term integrity of boundary conditions to mitigate against operational stage risks, by way of quality alarm systems and regular maintenance.

The same conditions will arise in respect of retained fabric, within Site 4, where buildings will be occupied by multiple tenants of differing profiles. It is essential that all properties within the development at Site 4 are subject to strictly observed and implemented monitoring, inspections and maintenance to ensure that all historic fabric within and adjoining the site is safeguarded.

15.7.3.3 Worst Case Impact

A worst case impact for fabric of heritage significance within and abounding the development site is the occurrence of damage spreading from one property to another. As cited for the Operational Stage of Site 4, above, it is imperative that an effective management plan for the future occupancy of the development is implemented, to mitigate risks of emergence of worst case impacts.

15.7.4 Residual Impacts Envisaged for the Development of Site 5

15.7.4.1 Construction Stage

No architectural heritage residual impacts are envisaged as arising from the construction stage development of Site 5.

15.7.4.2 Operational Stage

No architectural heritage residual impacts are envisaged as arising from the operational stage development of Site 5.

15.7.4.3 Worst Case Impact

No architectural heritage worst case residual impacts are envisaged as arising from the development of Site 5.

15.7.5 Cumulative

15.7.5.1 Construction Stage

At construction stage, existing streetscapes offered by the combined sites, that presently define the architectural setting of the site from within the public realm will be temporarily supplemented with hoarding to overcome possible environmental changes arising from the works. Methodologies for consolidation and repair of shared boundaries will be executed in order to maintain their integrity and mitigate risks arising from the works.

15.7.5.2 Operational Stage

On completion of the development, the cumulative impact of the combined development on the enclosing urban environs will be considerable. The Masterplan site has, since its origins, not known a period of decline as it has experienced since the early 1980s, particularly in the context of the rest of the city, which has, in the round, improved markedly over the intervening period. That same environment has withstood the perceived hostility of urban decay as now defining its urban character.

Notwithstanding the inevitable change in character, other large-scale schemes have been constructed in the vicinity of the Masterplan area, all contributing collectively to the increasingly 20th century character of the townscape which has proven that it can tolerate and indeed embrace structures of scale and contrasting design.

It follows that the site's redevelopment, whilst maintaining the urban character will seek to exploit its scale, street frontage and historical pattern of diverse and successive redevelopment, in the generation of a more ambitious scheme than presently exists.

The Masterplan site's changing chronology over time introduced, at each successive stage of development, buildings of scale, density and architectural treatment, radically contrasting with the smaller scale residential character of 18th and 19th century buildings in the vicinity. At each stage, the enclosing urban environs embraced an evolving character.

The cumulative impact of building on a tradition of ambitious development on this site is thus held to be lessened on account of the site's existing and past morphological character, and how that same

character was accommodated by its enclosing environs on account of the proportions of the enclosing streets and internal laneways, and a passive interaction with same.

15.7.5.3 Worst Case Impact

A worst case impact for the development of Sites 3, 4 and 5 would be in prolonging their development further, which in time would create a challenge for the presentation of the heritage significance of Moore Street and its National Monument that might not be possible to overcome in isolation of the development of these sites.

15.8 Monitoring

15.8.1 Dublin Central Masterplan

15.8.1.1 Construction Stage

Multiple protection strategies are outlined in the Construction Management Plans accompanying this EIA, all of which must be observed in order to achieve the development.

15.8.1.2 Operational Stage

The delivery of the Masterplan as designed is dependent on its continued visual quality into the future. It is envisaged, given the strategic importance of the Masterplan site, and the corresponding importance to ensure that it thrives in the long term, that a maintenance schedule will be adhered to by future operators to maintain the visual amenity of the conserved site.

15.8.2 Monitoring of Site 3

15.8.2.1 Construction Stage

Demolition stage will require observation throughout to ensure that fabric scheduled for retention is protected and risk of damage averted.

15.8.2.2 Operational Stage

Monitoring at operational stage will be required to ensure that retained fabric is maintained and contributes positively to the character of the ACA.

15.8.3 Monitoring of Site 4

15.8.3.1 Construction Stage

Exceptional care will be deployed at construction stage of Site 4 to monitor all works in proximity to the National Monument. The detail of the process of monitoring will be examined rigorously in a forthcoming Ministerial Consent process, which will follow the statutory planning submission process. In addition to securing the structural integrity of the National Monument, retained fabric will require careful monitoring to ensure its safeguarding throughout the construction stage, mindful that the same fabric is generally in poor condition.

15.8.3.2 Operational Stage

Monitoring at operational stage will be required to ensure that retained fabric is maintained and contributes positively to the character of the urban environment.

15.8.4 Monitoring of Site 5

15.8.4.1 Construction Stage

The demolition stage and excavation stage will require careful monitoring to ensure that no inadvertent damage occurs to protected fabric in the vicinity.

15.8.4.2 Operational Stage

Not envisaged as being required on heritage protection grounds, at operational stage.

15.9 Reinstatement

15.9.1 Dublin Central Masterplan

15.9.1.1 Construction Stage

Every effort has been made to ensure that worst case residual risks of inadvertent damage or loss of architecturally significant building fabric are envisaged, accounted for and mitigated against. Every building has been photographically recorded and measured, to counter any such unfortunate event. This practice will be further expanded prior to the commencement of the Masterplan development and on vacation of each building to ensure that each building component, feature and space is illuminated to enable accurate recording.

In the unlikely event that unintended damage or loss of fabric occurs, building material will be labelled and safely stored to enable faithful reconstruction. At that time, the enhanced building records will serve as a solid repository to inform accurate reinstatement.

15.9.1.2 Operational Stage

At operational stage, risks of accidental loss or damage, whilst mitigated against insofar as possible at design and construction stage for architecturally sensitive buildings, are present for all building projects. On completion of the development, the completed building records will be submitted to the Architectural Archive for safekeeping. In the unlikely event of loss or damage of building fabric into the future, these records will be available for use in accurate reconstructions.

15.9.2 Reinstatement – Site 3

15.9.2.1 Construction Stage

It is proposed to protect and safeguard in the first instance, but reinstate if required, boundary conditions onto Nos 34 and 35 Henry Street.

It is further proposed to prevent, in the first instance, but reinstate if required, damage to the public realm outside the development site, in particular the special character of the ACA.

During the demolition process, it is intended to protect and safeguard retained structures adjacent (within the development site) in accordance with structural and conservation methodologies.

15.9.2.2 Operational Stage

Reinstatement measures at operational stage are envisaged as potentially arising from inadvertent damage to retained fabric during fit out stage by future tenants. Every effort will be made to ensure that such a scenario does not arise.

15.9.3 Reinstatement – Site 4

15.9.3.1 Construction Stage

It is intended to safeguard and protect all fabric scheduled for retention within Site 4, with extensive protection measures envisaged within the accompanying Construction Management Plan seeking to avoid a scenario where damage occurs, requiring reinstatement.

The greatest element of risk attached to the construction of Site 4 is the potential for inadvertent damage to arise to the National Monument at Nos 14-17 Moore Street. In the event that damage occurs, reinstatement will take place in accordance with conservation methods to the satisfaction of statutory stakeholders.

15.9.3.2 Operational Stage

Reinstatement measures at operational stage are not envisaged as having the potential to arise, as all works will be monitored closely and varied, if required, to reflect site conditions as they are known to arise. In the unlikely event of a catastrophic event, historic fabric will be carefully restored to its original condition referencing archival material. As an additional measure, historic fabric will be further recorded prior to commencement of works to inform such a reconstruction.

15.9.4 Reinstatement – Site 5

15.9.4.1 Construction Stage

As it is intended to demolish all structures on Site 5, no reinstatement is envisaged.

15.9.4.2 Operational Stage

Reinstatement measures at operational stage are not envisaged as having the potential to arise.

15.10 Difficulties Encountered

Whilst much of the Masterplan site is vacant (approximately 60% of floor area is under-utilised), some units are occupied, with access to carry out physical investigations and recording limited, particularly on account of the pandemic. Notwithstanding, all buildings were accessed with only a limited number of areas within same buildings inaccessible. In these rare instances, a view on the significance of a structure was taken on the basis of assessing visible elements.

Further, and to a greater extent, due to Covid-19 restrictions since March 2020, research of the site in public archives has not been possible. The limitations presented for / prohibiting of research in public archives, whilst atypical for architectural heritage assessment in normal times, are not on balance of all findings, site and archival, believed to alternatively influence the final architectural heritage opinion on significance of structures within the grouping.



16 CULTURAL HERITAGE (ARCHAEOLOGICAL)

16.1 INTRODUCTION

16.1.1 General

This chapter describes the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on the archaeological heritage environment. The Proposed Development which is the subject of these 3no. concurrent planning applications consists of Site 3, Site 4 and Site 5. Dublin Central is underpinned by a Masterplan (refer to Figure 16.1 below indicating the Dublin Central Masterplan area) which will be assessed also.

The purpose of the study is to assess the potential significance and sensitivity of the baseline archaeological heritage environment and in turn to identify and evaluate the likely significant effects (positive and negative) on this environment. Mitigation measures are proposed where necessary to safeguard any monuments, features or finds of antiquity identified during the course of the present study.

The following aspects are particularly relevant to the archaeological assessment within an urban environment: -

- Design: -
 - Foundation design (e.g. piling, ground beam layout, groundworks, basement levels / location, attenuation, lift shafts etc.).
- Construction: -
 - Earth-moving works (e.g. demolition, bulk excavation, piling, drainage, services)

A detailed description of the Proposed Development is provided in Chapter 3: Description of Proposed Development.

This Chapter was prepared by Siobhán Deery co-director and Senior Heritage Consultant at Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd. She holds master's degree in Archaeology and Heritage from the University of Leicester (2010), and a higher diploma in education from Trinity College Dublin (1999), a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Archaeology and Geography from UCD (1996). She is a licence eligible archaeologist and is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland since 2002. She also has a Certificates in Archaeology & the Rural Environment (2003), in the Assessment of the Setting of Heritage Assets (2013) and in Condition Surveys of Historic Buildings (2013) from the University of Oxford. She has 23 years' experience as a cultural heritage consultant specialising in surveying and evaluating archaeological monuments, historic buildings, sites and landscapes for the purposes of conservation, environmental impact assessment, management and development control.

16.1.2 Site Location

The Proposed Development is located in Dublin City centre on the northern side of the River Liffey and on the western side of O'Connell Street. The site is generally bounded by O'Connell Street Upper to the east, Parnell Street to the north, Moore Street to the west and Henry Street to the south, with Moore Lane traversing the middle of the site in a north / south direction.

A site wide cumulative Masterplan has been prepared by Dublin Central GP Limited (the 'Applicant') to set out the overall development vision for the Dublin Central project. This is called the Dublin Central Masterplan. The Dublin Central Masterplan area is divided into six identifiable sites for the purpose of making individual planning applications; Sites 1 and 2 (2AB and 2C) lie east of Moore Lane and Sites 3, 4 and 5 lie to the west. Site 3 is in its own block and bound to the north and east by Henry Place (See Figure 16.1 below).

Each site within the Proposed Development will be subject to an individual planning application.



Figure 16.1: Dublin Central Masterplan area and development sites.

The works that would enable the introduction of the O’Connell Street Metrolink station will be included with the application for Site 2AB and Site 2C (See Figure 16.2 below). The proposed Site 3, 4 and 5 boundaries, relevant to the current applications, do not sit over the proposed extents of the Metrolink Station. The application for the Metrolink Station itself will be made by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) separately as part of the application for the Metrolink railway order.

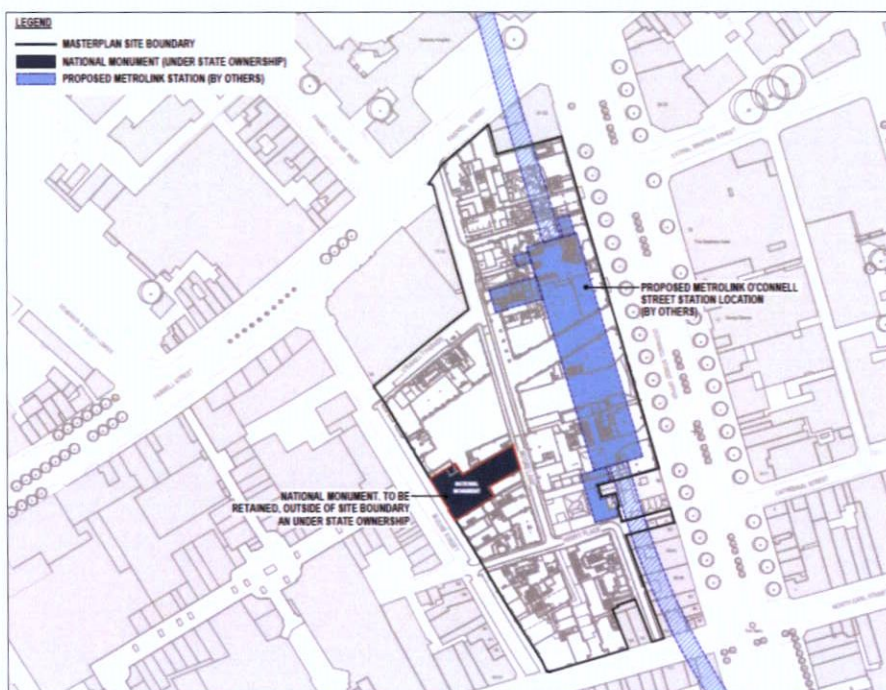


Figure 16.2: Location of the Metrolink O’Connell Street and the Dublin Central Masterplan area.

16.2 GUIDANCE AND LEGISLATION

The following legislation, standards and guidelines were consulted to inform the archaeological assessment: -

- National Monuments (Amendments) Acts, 1930 – 2014 (a summary is provided in Appendix 16.1).
- Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
- Heritage Act, 1995.
- UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972.
- ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, 2005.
- Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada) 1985, ratified by Ireland in 1991.
- Council of Europe European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta) 1992, ratified by Ireland in 1997.
- The Burra Charter, the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013.
- The European Landscape Convention (ELC), ratified by Ireland 2002. (The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 'Landscape and Landscape Assessment Guidelines' have been in draft form since 2000, however the Draft National Landscape Strategy (NLS) was launched in July 2014).
- Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements, 2002, EPA.
- Advice Notes on Current Practice (in preparation of Environmental Impact Statements), 2003, EPA.
- EPA: Draft Revised Guidelines on The Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements, September 2015.
- EPA: Advice Notes for Preparing Environmental Impact Statements, Draft, September 2015.
- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out environmental impact assessment (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, August 2018),
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (2018) Circular PL 05/2018 - Transposition into Planning Law of Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (the EIA Directive) and Revised Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Guidance on the preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment Report (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU) (European Commission, 2017).
- Circular PL 1/2017 – Implementation of Directive 2014/52/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (EIA Directive).
- Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1999, (formerly) Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and Islands.
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2000.
- Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impact of National Road Schemes, 2006, NRA.
- Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impact of National Road Schemes, 2006, NRA.

- National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- Historic Scotland (October 2010), Managing Change in the Historic Environment.
- The Heritage Council (2010), Proposals for Irelands Landscapes and International Council on Monuments and Sites (2011).
- Historic England (2017). The Setting of Heritage Assets. Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning No. 3 (Second Edition).

16.3 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

16.3.1 General

The modern urban streetscape is a result of change and modifications over millennia and understanding how these processes occur and how they are represented in today's city is critical. The evaluation of the archaeological resource of the Proposed Development was based on a desk study of published and unpublished documentary and cartographic sources, supported by a site inspection. This has facilitated the production of an archaeological and historical background to the Proposed Development lands, identifying the nature of the recorded archaeological sites and finds arising from previous development and excavation in its environs. This has also established, as far as the records allow, the archaeological potential of the site and its immediate environs.

The methodology has been designed so a full understanding of the potential effects on the character of the archaeological resource in the study area can be assessed.

Architectural and Cultural Heritage is being examined in Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage (Architectural). This chapter provides a detailed historical account of the development of the urban landscape, it includes the results of a survey, inventory, and assessment of all the properties within the Dublin Central Masterplan area. The chapter also examines the historic events associated with the 1916 Easter Rising and the subsequent War of Independence in the 1920s. It identifies features, or evidence pertaining to the 1916 Easter Rising as part of the assessment. It also includes the forensic archaeological assessment of fabric within the walls in a number of structures to establish their date. The detailed assessment identified properties of significance within the Dublin Central Masterplan area that are in addition to protected structures and facades; and as part of design mitigation has led to the retention of historic structures and / or significant fabric.

The visual change to the urban environment is represented in photomontages in Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment.

16.3.1.1 Desk Study

The assessment has been based on the available information and has followed the existing best practice format of desk and field study. The desk study availed of the following sources: -

- National Monuments, Preservation Orders and Register of Historic Monuments lists, which were sourced directly from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH).
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The SMR, as revised in the light of fieldwork, formed the basis for the establishment of the statutory Record of Monuments and Places in 1994 (RMP; pursuant to Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994). The RMP records known upstanding archaeological monuments, their original location (in cases of destroyed monuments) and the position of possible sites identified as cropmarks on vertical aerial photographs. The information held in the RMP files is read in conjunction with published constraint maps. Archaeological sites identified since 1994 have been added to the non-statutory SMR database of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (National Monuments Service, DHLGH), which is available online at www.archaeology.ie and includes both RMP and SMR sites.

Those sites designated as SMR sites have not yet been added to the statutory record but may be scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP.

- The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI).
- Cartographic sources, which included: Speed (1610), De Gomme (1673), Phillip (1685), Brooking (1728), Rocque (1756 and 1757), Scalé (1773) and the first edition and later (1838-1847) Ordnance Survey Mapping.
- Excavations Bulletins and Excavations Database (1970-2020); and Dublin County Archaeology GIS, online (The Heritage Council).
- Place names; Townland names and toponomy (loganim.ie).
- Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record (DCIHR) (Dublin City Council 2003 – 2009).
- A Dublin City Council's (DCC) Dublin City Development Plan (2016 – 2022). A Summary of relevant DCC policies in relation to archaeological heritage is provided in Appendix 16.2.
- Review and interpretation of aerial imagery (Google Earth 2001 – 2020, OSI Aerial Premium, OSI Digital Globe 2011 – 2013, Bing 2019) to be used in combination with historic mapping to map potential cultural heritage assets.
- A review of GPR data of the streets within the Dublin Central Masterplan lands.
- Other documentary sources (as listed in the Chapter 21: Bibliography) including previous assessments and studies carried out for this development block associated with previous planning applications and planning compliance reporting. The research carried out previously for the site was also availed of and revised in light of new findings. These reports include:
 - Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy. 2011. Dublin Central: 14, 15, 16, 17 Moore street, National Monument, Moore Street, Dublin North City, Co Dublin – Archaeological Method Statement – Ministerial Consent Application. Unpublished report.
 - Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy. 2012. 13-19 Moore Street, Dublin 1, Archaeological Heritage Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Unpublished report for Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.
 - Myles, F. and Shaffrey G. 2012. Application for a Ministerial Consent to carry out works at 14-17 Moore Street, Dublin 1, a National Monument. Report submitted to the Departments of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in response to an Additional Information request.
 - Simpson, L. 2014a. 'Finding's report: archaeological Assessment and supervision of Engineering test-pits at Nos 14-17 Moore Street/8-9 Moore Lane (National Monument) and Nos 6-7 Moore Lane. Ministerial Consent C392. Courtney-Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.
 - Simpson, L. 2014b, Archaeological assessment of cellars at Nos 8-9 Moore Lane (National Monument) and at Nos 6-7 Moore Lane, Dublin 1 Ministerial Consent No. C392 Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.
 - Simpson, L. 2015a, Archaeology Strategy and Method Statement for construction works at Nos. 14-17 Moore Street (National Monument) Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.
 - Simpson, Linzi, 2015b. Archaeological monitoring during the Essential Works programme at Nos 14-17 Moore Street, Dublin 1 Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.
 - Weadick, S. and Deery, S. 2018. Archaeological Finds Retrieval during the Essential Works Programme at Nos 14-17 Moore Street, Dublin 1, Phase 1 – Report and Preliminary Finds Register. Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd.

16.3.1.2 Site Inspection

Site visits were carried out within the overall Dublin Central Masterplan area, taking cognisance of the potential implications of the Proposed Development on the surviving archaeological heritage landscape (e.g., where upstanding monuments might be visible).

16.3.1.3 Test excavation

The assessment incorporated the results of licenced archaeological testing (Licence Ref: 20E0649) carried out on the 28th and 30th of November 2020 at Nos. 40 – 41 (Site 1) and Nos. 50 – 51 O’Connell Street (in Site 2AB). This was complimented by a review of the results of archaeological investigation, monitoring and excavation in sites immediately adjacent to Dublin Central Masterplan area, available on the Excavations database (www.excavations.ie) and on the Dublin County Archaeology GIS (www.heritagemaps.ie) which are available online.

16.3.2 Study Area

The Dublin Central Masterplan area lies in the heart of Dublin City on the northern side of the River Liffey. The site is low lying and occupies ground that gently slopes south towards the Liffey. It lies partly within the statutory Zone of Archaeological Potential (ZAP) for the Historic City of Dublin, RMP No. DU018-020 (Figure 16.3). The site lies outside the medieval precinct walls of St. Marys Abbey in the area of the city that was predominantly developed in the early 18th century. It lies to the south of Parnell Street (formerly ‘Great Britain Street’) which runs along the line of an ancient routeway / road that dates from at least the Late Medieval period.

To establish the general archaeological potential of the Dublin Central Masterplan area, the assessment of the archaeological environment necessitated an understanding of the development of the northern side of the River Liffey from the prehistoric period to the present day. The archaeological baseline also examined individual recorded archaeological sites within 100m radius of the development for potential physical impacts, this includes Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street, a national monument which shares its northern and southern boundaries with Site 4 and the site of an 18th century brickfield.

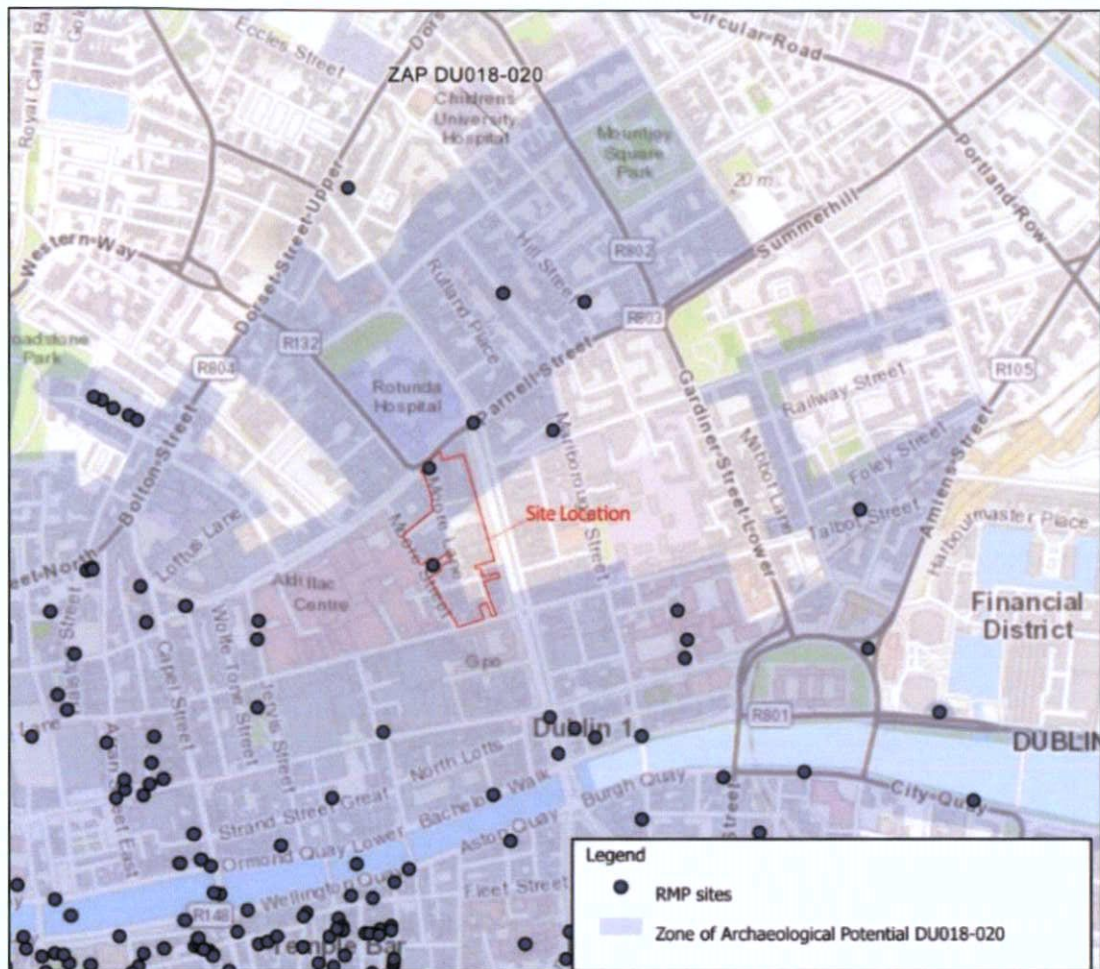


Figure 16.3: Dublin Central Masterplan area location, ZAP for Dublin and RMP sites.

The site is entirely urban in nature, composed of hard standing, buildings, and artificial surfaces. Since the 18th century the area has been subject to sequences of construction, infill, some demolition, and reconstruction within each property plot.

The surviving upstanding properties and relict remains of historic and architectural heritage merit are examined in detail in Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage (Architectural).

16.3.3 Consultation

The archaeological heritage consultants formed part of an integrated heritage conservation team (comprising conservation architects, built heritage historians, forensic archaeologists, landscape historians and conservation engineers). There was open communication throughout the project between the conservation team and the scheme architects, landscape architects, engineers and planners. Several design team meetings, online consultation and site visits were conducted throughout the design process.

Consultation with statutory stakeholders was an important aspect to the sustainable development of this site. Formal online meetings with presentations and onsite discussions were held with the National Monuments Service (NMS) of the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the DCC City Archaeologist who are responsible for the protection of archaeological heritage.

In addition to this, as part of the integrated conservation team, meetings were held with the DHLGH and the Office of Public Works (OPW) in relation to Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street, a National Monument, which is in the ownership of the State. A presentation of the Proposed Development, including a summary of the architectural heritage analysis of the Dublin Central Masterplan area was also given to the Moore Street Advisory Group (MSAG). The Applicant (Dublin Central GP Limited) has also carried out extensive consultation with local stakeholders and interested groups. This engagement and consultation with statutory planning heritage and conservation authorities has influenced the proposed design scale and layout of the development which can be considered to be a significant departure (and improvement) from the permitted development of the lands.

An archaeological strategy of test excavation of the accessible open areas of the site was agreed with the DCC City Archaeologist. An archaeological method statement to carry out testing at Nos. 40 – 41 O’Connell Street and Nos. 50 – 51 O’Connell Street was issued to the Department and a licence to carry out the testing works was obtained (Licence No. 20E0649). A testing report was subsequently submitted to the NMS, NMI and DCC City Archaeologist on the 26th of January 2021, the results of the testing are summarised in this chapter (section 16.4.2.2 and the testing report is provided in Appendix 16.4).

16.3.4 Impact Assessment Methodology

The assessment of the likely significant effects on the archaeological environment resulting from the construction and / or operation of the Proposed Development relies on a combination of qualitative and quantitative assessment.

Archaeological heritage sites are considered to be a non-renewable resource and such material assets are generally considered to be location sensitive. In this context, any change to their environment, such as construction activity and ground disturbance works, could adversely affect these sites. The likely significance of all impacts is determined in consideration of the magnitude of the impact and the baseline rating upon which the impact has an effect (i.e. the sensitivity or value of the asset). Having assessed the predicted magnitude of impact with respect to the sensitivity / value of the asset, the overall significance of the impact is then classified as not significant, imperceptible, slight, moderate, significant, very significant, or profound.

The assessment methodology, a glossary of impact assessment terms, including the criteria for the assessment of impact significance, is contained in Appendix 16.3.

16.4 RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

16.4.1 Archaeological & Historical Background

16.4.1.1 Introduction

The historical and archaeological background draws from and expands upon previous studies carried out for the wider Dublin Central Masterplan area and from recent investigations carried out in the area in advance of neighbouring developments. Cumulatively, these assessments improve our records and understanding of the development of Dublin City from the earliest of times.

16.4.1.2 Prehistoric Period (4000 – 400AD)

Dublin has a recorded history of human settlement of over 9,000 years, centred along the line of the River Liffey which before its containment was a wide tidal estuary inundating the study area to the south. Up to the Anglo-Norman period, much of modern Dublin was submerged by the tidal River Liffey, said to have been around 300m wide during the Early Christian period. The areas now occupied by Townsend Street, much of O’Connell Street, and the lands of Trinity College were all under water, and large mud flats were left behind at low tide (Somerville-Large 1979).

Until recent times there was a scarcity of evidence for prehistoric activity in the Dublin city area, new archaeological evidence has shown that there was prehistoric activity both on the northern and southern shores and inlets of the River Liffey along its former shoreline. On the north side of the River, the earliest sites uncovered include Late Mesolithic fish traps near the mouth of the River Liffey at Spencer Dock in Dublin 1, which were buried deep in estuarine deposits. A burnt mound (SMR DU018-134) with an early Bronze Age date was discovered well beneath medieval deposits in Hammond Lane, Dublin 7. This open air cooking site demonstrates that a Bronze Age community lived nearby and made use of the former flood plains of the River Liffey for exploiting food resources.

A set of Iron Age waterfront structures located near the confluence of the Liffey and the River Bradogue, (an area known as 'The Pill' during the medieval period) was found at Ormond Quay, Dublin 1. These structures represent the earliest attempt in this area to stabilise the river frontage. The same investigations revealed a single late Mesolithic Bann flake, suggesting the exploitation of the riverine environment of the River Liffey was even earlier still.

16.4.1.3 Early Christian and Medieval Period (5th to 11th Centuries AD)

During the Early Christian period, three of the mythical five great roads of Ireland met in the Dublin city area, probably at the junction of St. Augustine Street, Cornmarket and Thomas Street on the south bank of the River Liffey. People using the road from the north would have forded the river at low tide, while those coming from the south would have crossed the boggy land around the River Poddle. A small farming and fishing community probably emerged at the junction, and a church dedicated to St Mo-Lua seems to have existed (Clarke 1995). The early secular settlement was called Áth Cliath, the hurdle ford, but nearby, a monastic settlement was established within an enclosure, the limits of which are still preserved by Peter Row, Whitefriar Street, Stephen Street Upper and Lower and Johnson Place. This ecclesiastical settlement, which was bisected by Aungier Street in the late 17th century, was known as the 'black pool', after a dark tidal pool formed by the peaty waters of the Poddle (Clarke 1995).

16.4.1.3.1 Viking Activity

The development of Dublin as an urban settlement dates to the early 10th century when a Scandinavian (Viking) colony was established on the southern banks of the River Liffey. The first real town of Dublin was established by Norse settlers in AD 841. A mixed Hiberno-Norse settlement developed, and archaeological investigations have uncovered the post and wattle houses of the period. By the second half of the 10th century, Dyflinn, as it was then known, was a town of respectable size for its time. The centrepiece of the settlement was Christ Church Cathedral, built in wood around 1030 by King Sitric Silkbeard and Bishop Dúnán. Towards the end of the 11th century, town walls were raised, making Dublin one of the first walled towns outside the former Roman Empire. A bridge to the north side of the river was erected some time before 1112, and it was there that St. Michan's was founded. Later, another monastic settlement, St. Mary's Abbey (the origin of the name Abbey Street), was established as a Savigniac house and subsequently acquired by the Cistercians. Two more monasteries were established on the south side: All Saints Priory, which would become the site of Trinity College, and the nunnery of St. Mary de Hogges (Clarke 1995). There is evidence to suggest that there was a Gaelic settlement preceding the foundation of the Viking town, which was centred on the Christchurch area.

Viking Gravefield

A possible cemetery site (DU018-020495) dating to the Viking period was recorded in 1763 when the Dublin Magazine recorded that '*vast quantities of human bone*' had been found during the construction of 'new gardens' at Parnell Square. These gardens were located in the current grounds of the Rotunda Hospital. More burials were uncovered along Granby Row and Cavendish Row. Along Granby Row, '*a large sword with a spear of about two feet in length with crumbling pieces of iron resembling broad rivets*' was also recovered (RMP file DU018-020495).

The burials are thought to have stretched from Dominick Street to the west to Mountjoy Square to the east and from Dorset Street to the north to Parnell Street to the south. A further account of Viking burials occurred in 1788, where Joseph Walker wrote that a sword and helmet with several human bones had been uncovered during the sinking of foundations of a house on Parnell Square North (Walker 1788). Human bones, a sword and shield boss, were uncovered during the excavation of foundations on Parnell Square North (Ó Floinn, R. 1998). In a series of magazine and newspapers of this period, further discoveries of human remains were noted along George's Street North, Summerhill, Gardiners Row and Mountjoy Square. This concentration of burial activity may be related to Viking activity in the area (Figure 16.4). The findspots are located on a ridge that overlook the former river estuary, a topographical setting was much favoured by the Vikings.

Such 'warrior burials' usually refer to individual graves of people of Scandinavian descent buried predominantly in the 9th century, along with their weaponry, which often included swords, shields and spears. This was a high-status mode of burial, usually confined to aristocratic young men who had presumably been fatally wounded in battle. However, this was not exclusively so as the collection from Dublin includes at least one older man and a female grave. De Courcy (1996) suggests that the main action of the Battle of Clontarf took place to the east of the area bounded by O'Connell street, Dorset Street, Drumcondra Road, the River Tolka and beyond to Ballybough and the North Strand.

In 2015, further disarticulated human remains were identified at Nos. 23 – 28 Parnell Square north of the Rotunda (Licence No 15E0361), these fragments were radiocarbon dated to the 8th and 10th centuries AD, reinforcing the evidence of Viking activity in the area. Given the profile of the individuals represented in the remains (late adolescents, adults two young children and an infant) it is likely that these remains represent clearance of a nearby burial area, rather than a battlefield site (Tobin in McIlreavy, 2018).

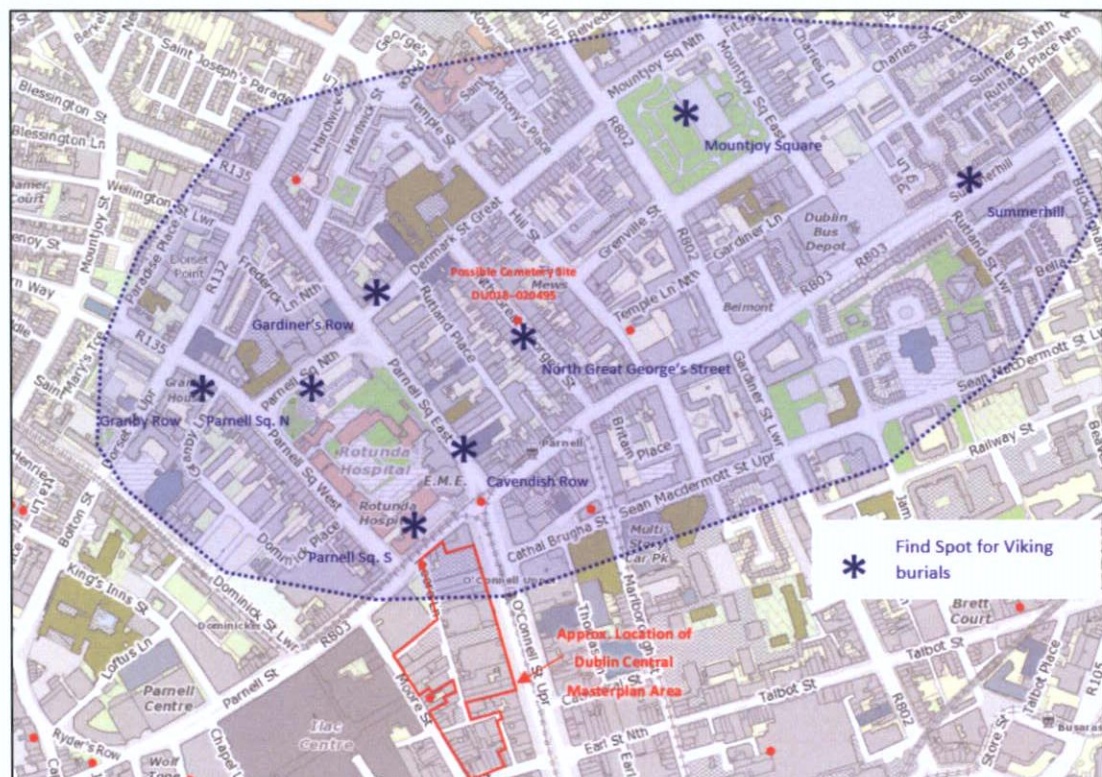


Figure 16.4: Find spots for Viking burials – the estimated size of the grave field (after Simpson 2021).

16.4.1.4 Medieval Period (Late 12th century to early 16th century)

16.4.1.4.1 The Development of Oxmantown, The Northern Suburb

After the conquest of the city by the Anglo-Normans in 1170 AD, many of the Hiberno-Norse citizens of Dublin were forced to settle on the northern bank of the river opposite the walled town of Dublin. This suburb of Dublin was known as Oxmanstown, or Ostmanby, a place-name derived from the descriptive 'Ostmen', meaning 'men from the east'. It formed a suburb of the medieval Viking town of Dublin and seems to have been centred on a thoroughfare running north from the river, now Church Street. The modern Bow Street formed one of the main streets of Oxmantown, which led directly to the original ford, known in AD 770 as Áth Cliath, across the Liffey. That Oxmantown was a separate entity from Dublin is made very clear from the documentary sources that constantly refer to it as the 'villa Ostemannorum'. Ecclesiastical establishments had their own churches and they administered to the flock on that side of the river. St. Michan's was the only medieval parish church in Oxmantown. This was situated west of the Kings highway and north of Hangman's Lane.

16.4.1.4.2 St. Mary's Abbey

As the city expanded later in the medieval period, the north bank of the river came to be dominated by the Cistercian Abbey of St. Mary's. Founded in 1139, it was developed on the eastern perimeter of the Oxmantown suburb, originally a Savigniac monastery, subsequently becoming a Cistercian House around 1147. The Abbey and its extensive land holding incorporated the area to the east of the northern suburb in the medieval period. The Abbey appears to have been surrounded by a walled enclosure that delimited the abbey precinct, the western edge of the Abbey enclosure was formed by the Bradogue Stream. To the North of it the Abbey Green lay between two routes out of town, now Parnell Street and Dorset Street (McCullough, 1989). This was depicted by John Speed on his map of 1610 (Figure 16.5) and was also cited in a deed of 1443 (Clarke 1998).

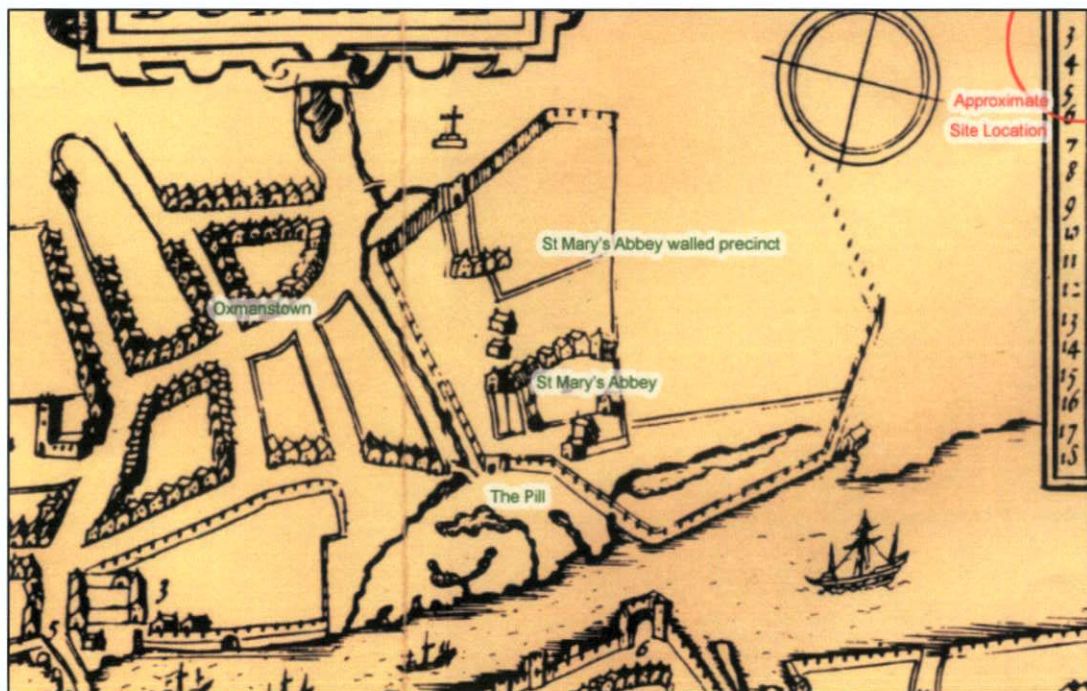


Figure 16.5: John Speed's 1610 Map of Dublin.

St. Mary's Abbey central building complex was located around Mary's Lane, where the chapter house survives today. No trace of the other abbey buildings survives above ground level (Clarke 2002) although a possible gate house associated with the inner precinct of the Abbey was recently identified on the corner by Little Green Street and Little Mary Street (Duffy and Ní Cheallacháin, 2019), excavations on Strand Street have uncovered substantial foundations of what appears to be the outer southern precinct of the abbey.

The liberty administered by the Abbey of St. Mary's was an extensive landholding that stretched to the east of the northern suburb in the medieval period and is likely to have included the area now occupied by Moore Street and Parnell Street. The present day site of the Proposed Development is located east of the walled precinct. On both Speed's map of 1610 and De Gomme's map of 1673 (Figure 16.6), most of this area was land owned by the Abbey, but it was not extensively developed.

De Gomme's map indicates nascent development in the form of new street layouts in the northeast suburb within the Abbey Lands (Figure 16.6). The eastern extent of St. Mary's Abbey comprises an undeveloped tract of land shown as 'Abby Parkes', this equates with the area of enclosed land shown by Speed. An unnamed road forms the eastern boundary of this land and may represent the line of the present day Liffey Street, the undeveloped Moore Street area lies to the east of this in open undeveloped land. This part of the city was largely on reclaimed land, and the marshy mud flats were still vulnerable to inundation from the sea.

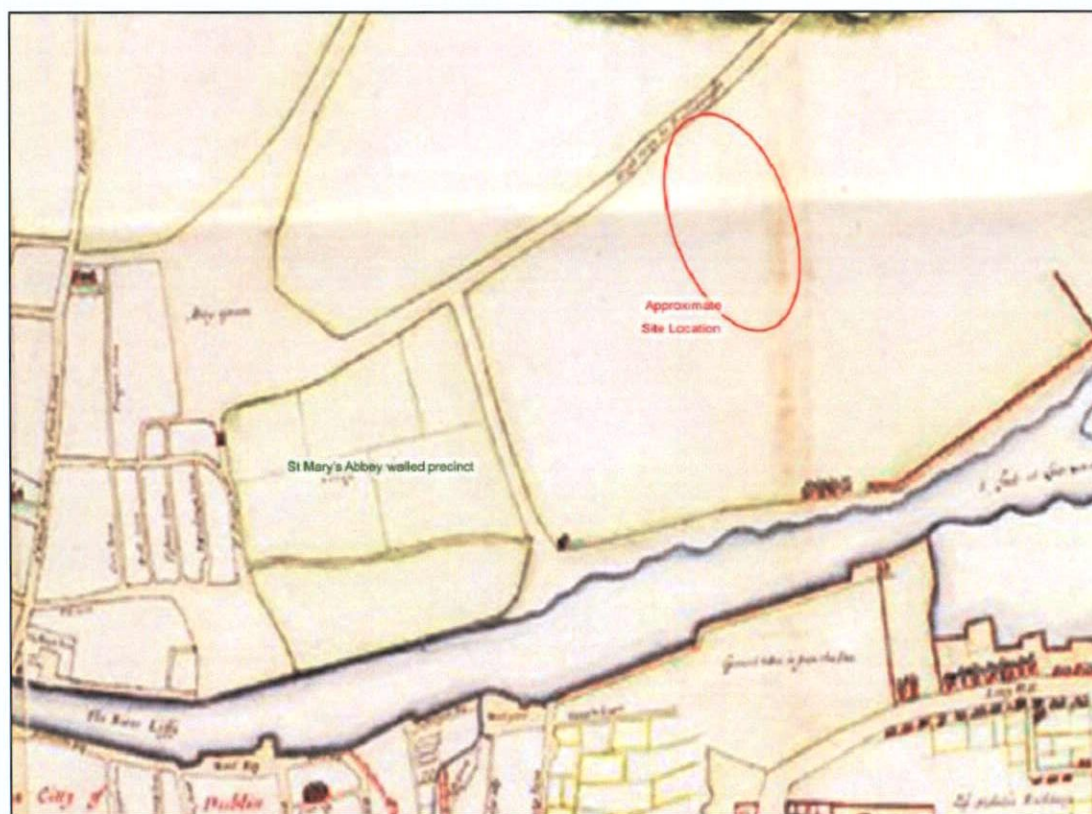


Figure 16.6: De Gomme's map of Dublin, dated 1673.

While much of Parnell Street (formerly Great Britain Street) was laid out in the first half of the 18th Century (Bennett 1991), the line of the street follows a more ancient thoroughfare (Craig 1992) and is depicted on De Gomme's map (Figure 16.6).

Thomas Phillip's map of 1685 (Figure 16.7) shows the northern foreshore of the Liffey reclaimed and the modern alignment of quays running east to the end of Bachelor's Walk and several new bridge crossings connecting both sides of the rapidly expanding city. Abbey Street runs east to intersect with the east end of the new quays, Marys Street runs north and parallel to this but only continues to easterly as far as the present-day Liffey Street, Liffey Street extends south from Great Britain Street (modern Parnell Street) to intersect with the west end of the new quay at Bachelor's Walk. It appears that the Moore Street area has yet to be developed and continues to part of an open tract of undeveloped land.



Figure 16.7: Phillips' map, dated 1685.

16.4.1.5 Early Post-Medieval Period

In 17th century Dublin, the tidewater of the River Liffey estuary still covered much of modern Dublin's commercial centre, both north and south of O'Connell Bridge (Andrews, 1983).

The character of the north-eastern corner of the city around St. Mary's Abbey changed dramatically following the passing of the Dissolution Act in 1536. In 1537, the Abbey and its lands were parcelled out, and granted in 1543 to Walter Peppard for a term of 21 years, with a reversion in favour of James Fitzgerald, Earl of Desmond. In 1561, Matthew King, Clerk of the Cheque of the Army and Garrisons in Ireland, acquired the interest in the lease from Gerald, the then Earl of Desmond, but owing to the latter's rebellion and attainder, the property reverted to the Crown. Subsequently in February 1610, James I granted to Henry King, son of the aforementioned Matthew, part of the lands of St Mary's Abbey, 50 acres of demesne and 30 acres of pasture, including 'a large messuage or slated house called the Fermorie, otherwise Fermor', besides an estate in Grange of Clonliffe. These lands were purchased from him by Sir Garrett Moore, first Lord Moore (after whom Moore Street is named), who in 1619, obtained a royal grant of them in perpetuity.

Lord Moore, who was advanced to the dignity of Viscount in 1612, took up his residence in the Abbey and his son, the second Viscount, also used it as his town-house until the rebellion of 1641 drove him to take the field against the insurgents. On 7 August 1643, Lord Moore fell in action at Portlester in Meath and the house in the Abbey was not used as a residence by his successors. The property however continued in their possession.

The period following the destructive wars of the 1640s and the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 saw a rapid redevelopment of the city. In 1663, when Alderman William Hawkins built a sea wall from modern day Townsend Street to Burgh Quay, the land within the study area began to be developed for the first time (Bennett 1991). As mentioned above during the late 17th century, at the time of Bernard de Gomme's map (Figure 16.6), much of the area to the south of the study area was still marshy mud flats still vulnerable to inundation from the sea.

By the 1660s, brick was being used to construct houses, replacing any surviving timber-framed house that had survived the turbulent second half of the 17th century. The earliest 'planned development' was on the Aungier Estate on the south side of the river, where dating of the oak and deal suggest the date 1663. The arrival of French Huguenots and Flemish settlers, particularly at the end of the 17th century, saw new architecture in the form of the brick terraced houses along with new industries, much of them centred on the southern side of the Liffey in the Liberties.

16.4.1.6 Later Post-Medieval / Early 18th Century

Relative political stability up to the Act of Union provide for the expansion, growth and development of Dublin into a prominent European city. From the late 17th century onwards, wealthy and ambitious citizens of Dublin set about acquiring the leases of large tracts of land bounding on the old walled city and along the Liffey frontage especially on the southern side but also on the northern. These were large estates, and their names can still be identified in the place-names today such as Humphrey and Jervis. In the early 18th century, the Moore family, Earls of Drogheda, were the dominant landholders responsible for laying out Henry Street, Moore Street, Earl Street, Off Lane and Drogheda Street. These new streets were in marked contrast to the narrow winding streets of the old town on the southern side of the Liffey. The new development of the current city streetscape from Capel Street to O'Connell Street and beyond to Parnell and Mountjoy Square occurred principally between the mid-17th and 18th centuries.

Private individuals, such as Luke Gardiner and Nathaniel Clements, became agents of urban development from the 1660s and were particularly important during the 18th century. Other Landlords such as Viscounts Fitzwilliam and the Earls of Meath, held large areas as part of great estates, some of these holdings also providentially close to the growing city. Many of these estates had been given to those loyal to the English crown as a means of colonization and to maintain stability. Others saw the opportunities offered by property speculation and over time built up holdings of land with an eye to profit (Brady and Simms, 2001).

Both Gardiner and Clements were jointly involved in the development of Georgian Dublin on the north side of the city. Gardiner purchased the Drogheda estate, which was part of the lands of Mary's Abbey, in Dublin in the early 18th century. This seems to have been Gardiner's first large purchase (Craig, 1959).

They were also closely associated with the architect Richard Castle. Castle and Clements became respectively Gardiner's architect and contractor after the great architect Edward Lovett Pearce's death. Nathaniel Clements (1705 –1777) in association with Luke Gardiner organised the building of Henrietta Street. Clements leased land and built houses in Sackville Street including two houses on the west side of Sackville Street (within the Proposed Development area), located at Nos. 40 – 41 O'Connell Street Upper. Clements also owned a house on the opposite side of the street that was situated on the site of the present Gresham Hotel. Other landlords such as Viscounts Fitzwilliam and the Earls of Meath, held large areas as part of great estates, some of these holdings also providentially close to the growing city. Many of these estates had been granted to those loyal to the English crown as a means of colonisation and to maintain stability. Others saw the opportunities offered by property speculation and over time built up holdings of land with an eye to profit (Brady and Simms, 2001).

From the late 17th century onwards, these wealthy and ambitious citizens of Dublin set about acquiring the leases of large tracts of land bounding on the old walled city. The development of the current city streetscape from Capel Street to O'Connell Street and beyond to Parnell and Mountjoy Square occurred principally between the mid-17th and 18th century.

By the early 18th century, the city had expanded on both sides of the Liffey, the influx of French Huguenots, and other Dutch and Flemish Protestants from the late 17th century onwards contributing to a massive regeneration and repopulation of the city. This was most typified by the construction of brick terraced houses, known colloquially as 'Dutch Billys', with their diagnostic front gable and triangular fireplaces.

Charles Brooking's map of Dublin, made in 1728 (Figure 16.8), shows that substantial development had occurred. O'Connell Street, then named Drogheda Street, extending between Great Britain Street (subsequently Parnell Street) and Abbey Street was developed but not as far as Bachelor's Walk along the river. The North Strand Road formed the eastern sea wall (part of which is now Amiens Street), although the area to the east had been walled and was silting up. According to this map the study area was already partially developed with blocks of structures (not individual building plots) fronting onto Moore Street, Henry Street and the now O'Rahilly Parade (within Sites 5, 4 and 3), the northeastern corner at Parnell Street / O'Connell Street (Drogheda Street) appears to be similarly developed. The blocks of development and the east-west laneways indicated do not seem to relate to the subsequent cartographic evidence, which suggests that site was first developed in the mid-18th century and not the early 18th century.

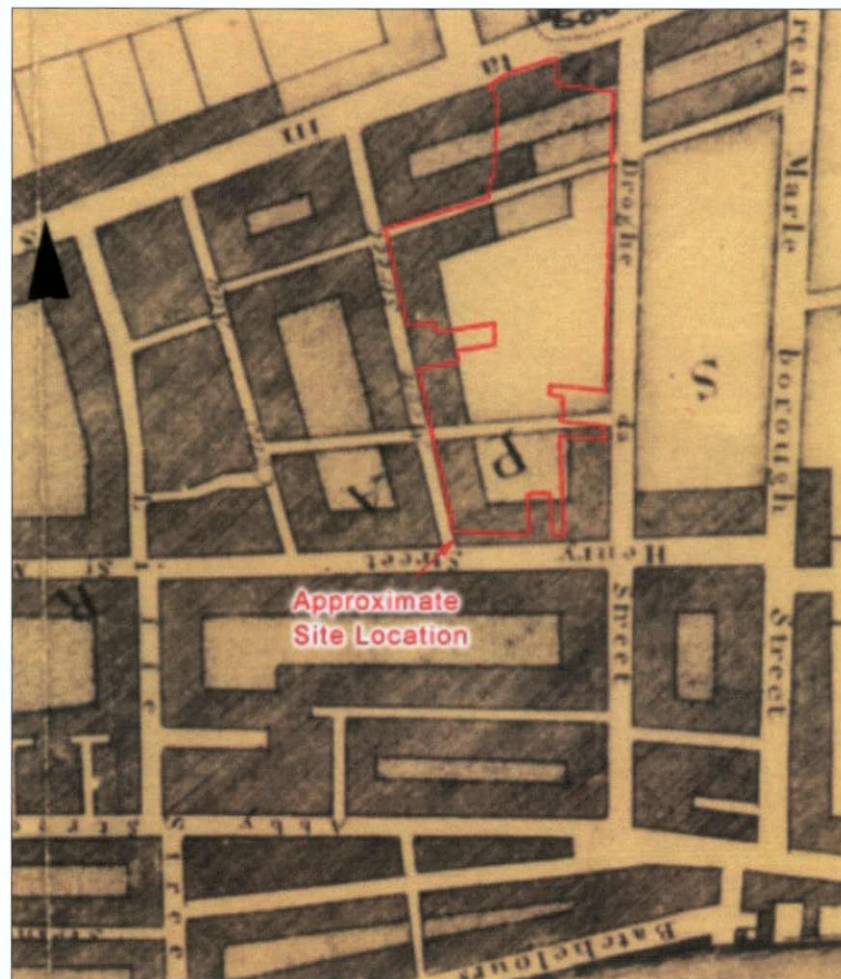


Figure 16.8: Brooking's map of Dublin, 1728 and approximate Dublin Central Masterplan area location.

By the mid-18th century, the Moore Street/ O'Connell Street area was developed for housing and this is captured on Rocque's map of the city, dated 1756 (Figure 16.8). This is the first map to show the individual plots of land and structures associated with them, it shows a greatly expanded city. The present streetscape has been developed. In addition to Moore Street, Off Lane (now Henry Lane) and Old Brick Field Lane (now Moore Lane) is laid out. Only the western section of Sackville Lane (now O'Rahilly Parade) has been formed and is unnamed. In terms of the plot development, the information shown on Rocque's map does not correlate to Brooking's map. According to Rocque only the northern and southern ends of Moore Street are fully developed, comprising houses of varying sizes with rear plots and some gardens.



Figure 16.9: John Rocque, 'An exact survey of the city and suburbs of Dublin', dated 1756 and approximate Dublin Central Masterplan area location.

An area bounded by Moore Street / Off Lane / Old Brick Field Lane, consists of a large open area called *Old Brick Field*, which stretches from Parnell Street to Off Lane within Sites 5 and 4 of the Dublin Central Masterplan area). It appears to have been partially enclosed by a wall, including a 'u' shaped structure at the northern end of the field (recent excavations on O'Connell Street show that the brickfield may have been much more extensive, see Section 16.4.2).

In this map the eastern (Site 1 and 2) and southern side of the Dublin Central Masterplan area (Site 3) has been almost completely developed. Large houses are shown fronting onto O'Connell Street (called Sackville Street) and stretching back as far as Moore Lane (called Old Brick-field Lane), with evidence of stable / mews buildings along this frontage. In between are pleasure gardens are laid out in geometric patterns. Site 3, the block between Moore Lane and Henry Street and Henry Place (Off Lane) was less formal or regular in its layout with different sized building plots wrapping around the block, with irregular sized yards to the rear. There appears to be gardens associated with large structures fronting Henry Street.

16.4.1.6.1 The Brickfield

The Brickfield was evidently in use extracting clay to make the handmade bricks in big clamps firing the bricks on site. It was probably in production well before the 18th century, as excavations at Parnell Street and O'Connell Street have identified even earlier houses dating to the late 17th century rather than mid-18th century. Brick is first recorded in Dublin in the late 16th century, with Richard Frame / Feane recorded as a bricklayer in 1560, and with lands leased by Dublin Corporation to George Burroes in 1599 'to make bricks on a 4½ acre plot of ground east of the Stein River'. From the late 17th century onwards brick kilns and brick fields are recorded on maps of the city and property deeds maps generally located on the outskirts of the city and pushed further out as Dublin city developed. In 1730, Edward Lovett Pearce passed a building act controlling the quality of brick which also indicates that it was a widespread activity at the time. Non-mechanised brick making was a slow and seasonal, it involved digging the brick clay in autumn or winter, tempering the clay, hand-moulding the brick, air drying and then burning them in temporary kilns. By 1756 the brickfield on Moore Street is termed 'Old Brickfield' and was presumably out of date by this stage. Prior to this, in 1771, brickmaking was banned in Dublin. An 'Act to prevent the pernicious practice of burning bricks within the City of Dublin, or neighbourhood thereof' was made where no brick could be made or burnt within two miles of the public lamps of the city of Dublin (Roundtree, 2007).

The excavations at Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street suggests that the brickfield had been opened up as a municipal dump before the houses were built there in the 1770s. It would appear that after the clay was extracted, the quarry pit was deliberately infilled with layers of domestic refuse in much the same way as the modern dockland was partially reclaimed today, the quarry pit proving a very convenient dumping place for the general population of north Dublin (Simpson 2014a, cf. 16.4.2.3). The site of the quarry was eventually developed, the infill material removed along the street frontage in preparation for the construction of a new terrace of houses, Moore Street.

In the reduced versions of Rocque's map (which vary in detail), there is a large undeveloped site (roughly at Nos. 42 – 45 O'Connell's Street, in Site 1) at the northern end of Sackville Street that may be a remnant of the brickfield, either a mound or quarry indicated which dominates the western side of the site (Figure 16.10 and Figure 16.11). However, it may equally be spoil generated from the construction activity being carried out around the site.

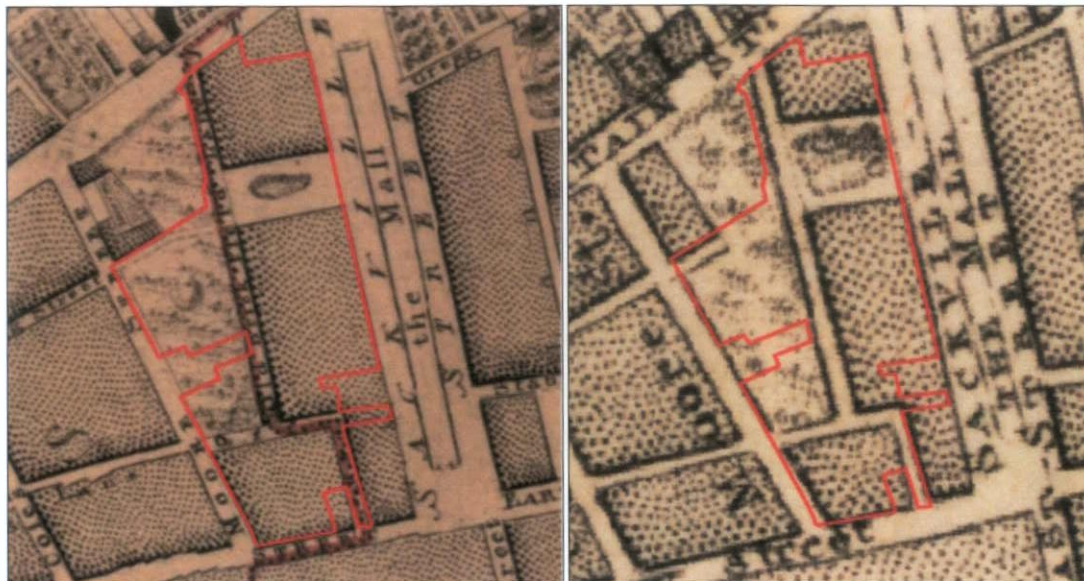


Figure 16.10: John Rocque's reduced plan from Survey of the city and suburbs of Dublin, with the parish divisions, dated 1757.

Figure 16.11: John Rocque, Survey of the City, Harbour, Bay and Environs of Dublin 1757.

Almost two decades later the Scale's 1773 revised edition shows this brickfield area entirely developed (Figure 16.12). The western side facing Moore Street was fully developed with a continuous terrace of buildings. The eastern side of the block facing Old Brick Field Lane is also developed with a terrace of eight buildings and a numerous of other structures. 'Sackville Lane' (now O'Rahilly Parade) is now named and extends to Old Brick Field Lane. There is a vague scar of the mound / quarry in the gardens to the rear of Nos. 42 – 45 O'Connell Street shown in the later map editions.

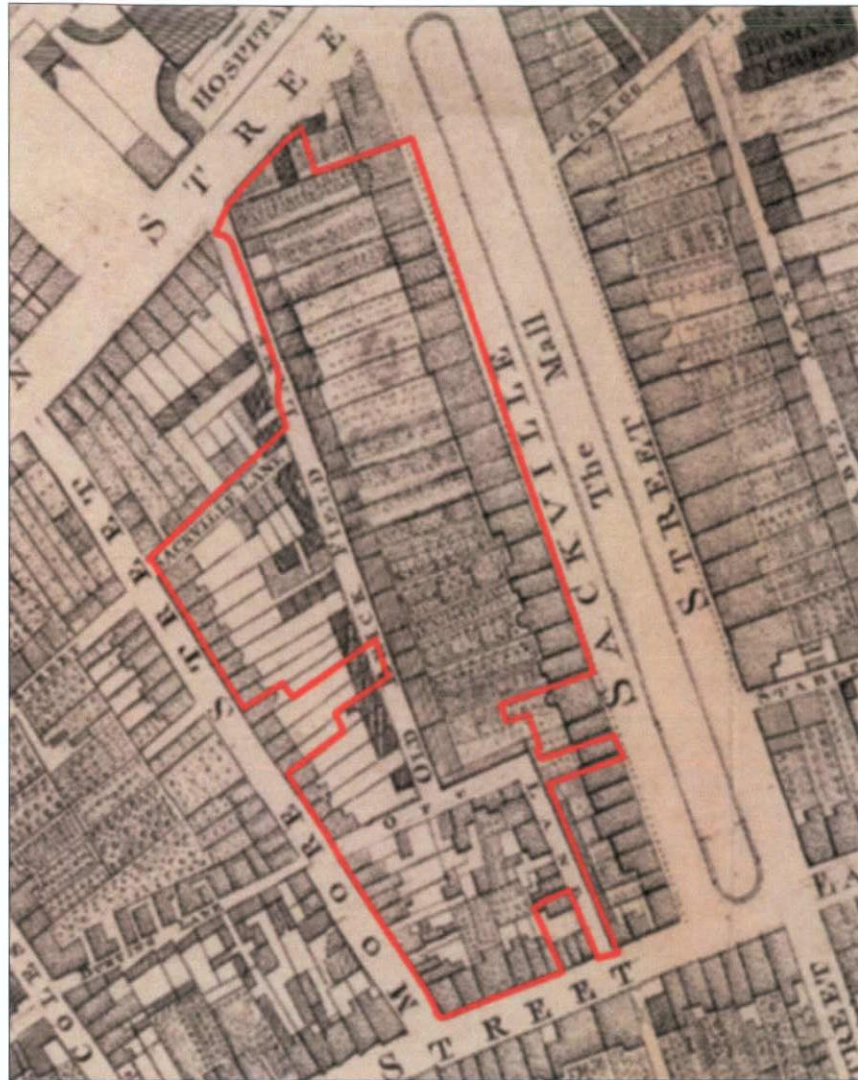


Figure 16.12: Bernard Scalé updated version of Rocque's map, dated 1773.

The somewhat unregulated development and growth of the city during this era, coupled with a narrow medieval street pattern, left the city difficult to navigate, having a serious impact on commerce and trade. A 1757 Act of Parliament was therefore passed for the establishment of the Commissioners for the Making of Wide and Convenient Streets and Passages, otherwise known as the Wide Street Commissioners. This organisation was responsible for the planning and construction of new streets on behalf of the city, or for overseeing the planning and construction of all new streets by private developers. In 1777, the Wide Streets Commission was given a grant to extend Sackville (now O'Connell) Street to the quays, and, in 1782, it was given Parliamentary approval to build a bridge (to be called the Carlisle Bridge, now O'Connell Bridge) over the River Liffey. The bridge, designed by James Gandon, was opened in 1795, but the extension of Sackville Street was under construction until 1800. Because of the works of the Wide Street Commissioners, cellars from structures demolished at this time can sometimes be found beneath the road surfaces.

By the first Edition of the Ordnance Survey map, dating to between 1838 and 1847, the modern streetscape is recognisable. Substantial development has taken place at the site and the brickfield has been completed developed. 'Old Brick Field Lane', now renamed Moore Lane and 'Sackville Lane', now O'Rahilly Parade, is also shown (Figure 16.13). But there are still gardens intact on both sides of the development site where presumably there was minimal ground disturbance.

By 1891 and 1911 Ordnance Survey maps the gardens have all but disappeared and there are numerous infill buildings with dense occupation (Figure 16.14).



Figure 16.13: First Edition of the Ordnance Survey, dating to between 1838 and 47.

Figure 16.14: Revised Edition of the Ordnance Survey, 1891, 1:1056 sheet XVIII.

All the existing structures within the Dublin Central Masterplan area is described in detail the Architectural Heritage assessment Chapter 15: Cultural Heritage (Architectural).

16.4.2 Archaeological Assessments

16.4.2.1 Introduction

Investigations have been carried out within the general environs which provide some insight into the general ground conditions and archaeological potential within the Dublin Central Masterplan area (Figure 16.15).

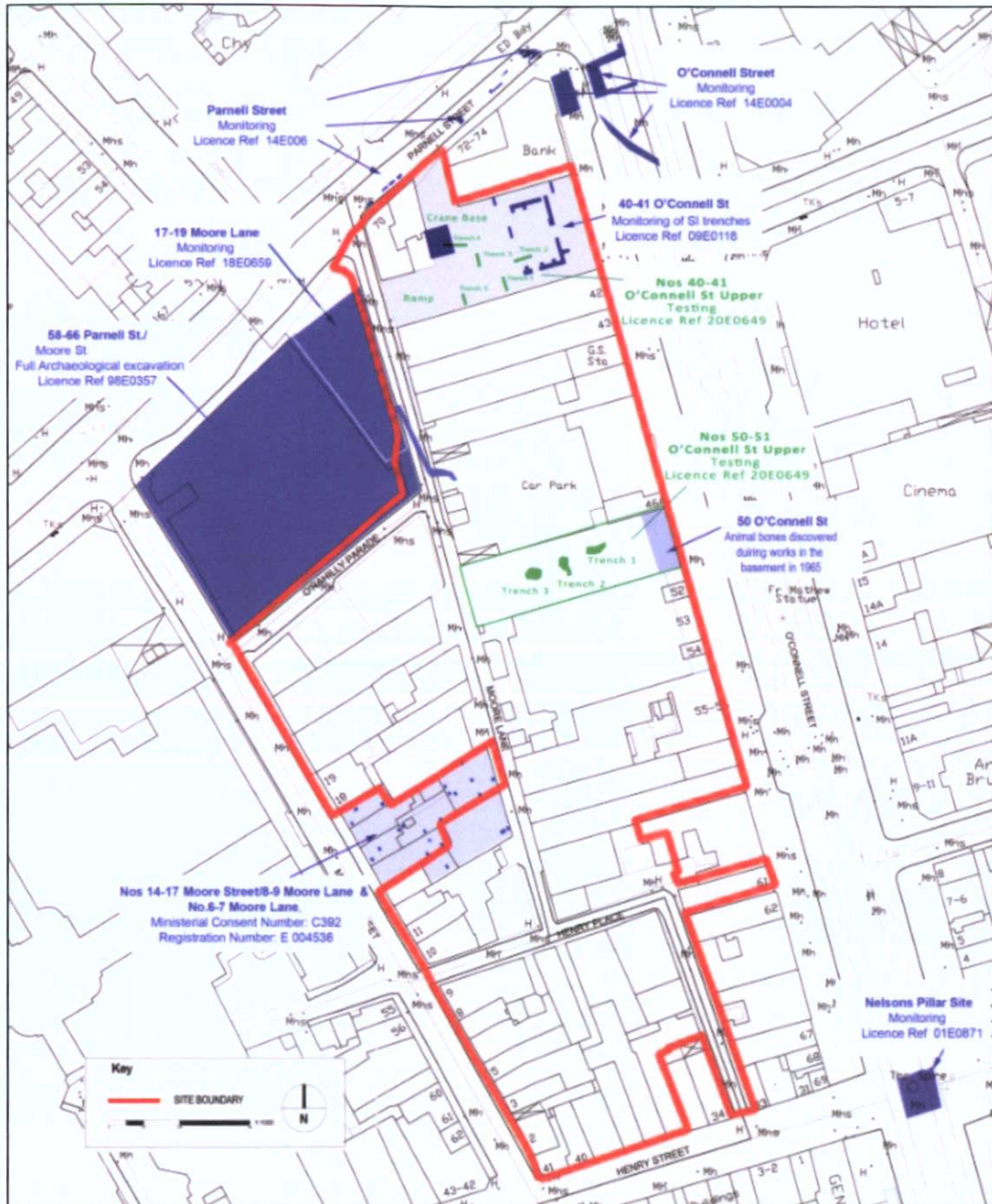


Figure 16.15: Archaeological excavations, assessments within and in the environs of Dublin Central Masterplan area.

16.4.2.2 Archaeological Assessment within the Dublin Central Masterplan Area

16.4.2.2.1 Introduction

Archaeological testing was undertaken on behalf of the Applicant in two vacant plots within the Dublin Central Masterplan area, at Nos. 40 – 41 O’Connell Street and Nos. 50 – 51 O’Connell Street (Licence Number 20E0649, (Figure 16.16). The testing was carried out on Saturday the 28th of and the 30th of November 2020 under licence no. 20E0649 (Simpson 2020). Both sites are open car-parks, stretching between O’Connell Street on the east and Moore Lane on the west. The full testing report is provided in Appendix 16.4.



Figure 16.16: Nos. 40 – 41 O'Connell Street (left) and Nos. 50 – 51 O'Connell Street (right).

16.4.2.2.2 Nos. 50 - 51 O'Connell Street Upper

Currently in use as a car-park, Nos. 50 – 51 O'Connell Street Upper located in Site 2AB of the Dublin Central Masterplan area (Figure 16.15), originally comprised two property plots which were amalgamated by the removal of the boundary wall. The northern and southern boundary walls are historic walls preserving the imprint of various buildings. They were constructed of brick and limestone and reveal the imprint of at least four buildings, dating from the middle of the 18th century onwards (the testing report in Appendix 16.4 provides a photographic and written record of the walls). Thus, the expectation was that the foundations of these buildings would survive in situ along with the drains, latrines and surfaces usually found on similar sites. The trenches were carefully positioned to try and trace any walls that could be associated with the historic standing walls. However, no other features were found. The unstable nature of the fill resulted in the sides of the trenches constantly collapsing and, as a result, the trenches were restricted to just three, these unexpectedly revealed deep deposits of very modern infill and refuse, extending up to 4m in depth.

Trench 1 exposed modern fill up to 3.40m. It exposed yellow clays at the base of the trench and close inspection identified areas of fire-reddening in the clay, the result of intense heat, most likely to have emanated from the brickworks, captured on Rocque's map of Dublin, dated 1756.



Figure 16.17: Fire reddened clay and timbers found at the base of Trench 1.

In trench 3, a substantial limestone footing lying 2.70m below present ground level and orientated east-west was identified. It was constructed of small cut limestone blocks and measured approximately 1m in width by at least 0.80m in depth. It was well-faced on the exposed northern side and it had been demolished to a single continuous level. There was an offset on the northern face, set 0.14m below the top of the wall, measuring 80mm in width. A small section of what appeared to be a blackened floor was exposed on the northern side of the trench, extending for 0.35m north-south by 0.55m east-west perhaps suggesting that there was a cellar in this location originally.



Figure 16.18: The northern face: note modern debris.

The Goad's Insurance map of 1893 indicates that the building at the western end of the site was two stories in height but with a basement, which was relatively unusual for a rear building. Rocque's map, dated 1756, does show a stable/coach-house, which is unlikely to have a basement, but which might have been integrated into the building on Goads Map. The wall foundation and floor found in Trench 3 is likely to be related to this structure. The evidence suggests that the basement was demolished but the foundations of the wall and possibly the floor are still *in situ*.

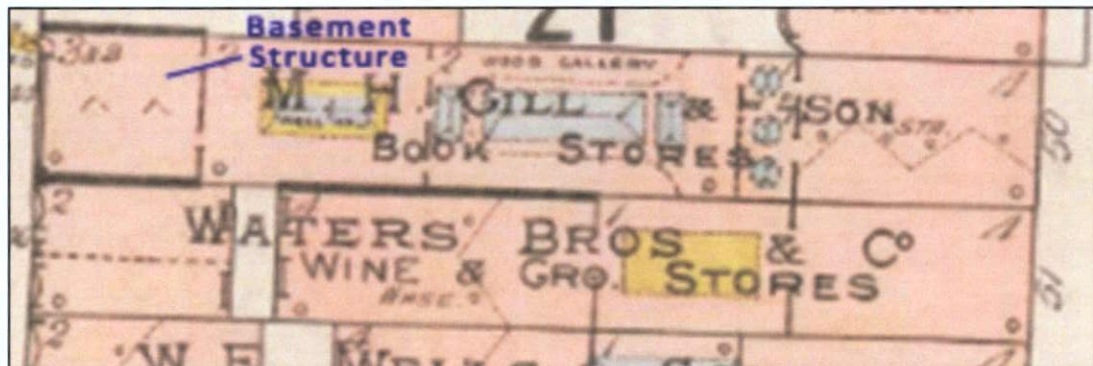


Figure 16.19: Goad's Insurance map of 1893 showing Nos 50 and 51 O'Connell Street.

The testing of this plot is likely to be most representative of the probable archaeological findings for the western side of the Dublin Central Masterplan area (Site 1 and 2AB / 2C), comprising buried structural elements (where there are no basements) and standing historic walls. There is also potential for archaeological deposits extending back to the medieval period to survive in the central area of the plots that were formerly gardens.

16.4.2.2.3 Nos. 40 – 41 O’Connell Street

The original houses at Nos. 40 – 41 O’Connell Street were demolished in 1968 for the construction of a hotel which was completed by 1972. The hotel was subsequently demolished in 2009 and a number of enabling works were carried out to support the adjoining buildings (including No. 42 O’Connell Street, RPS Ref: 6022) which were monitored (Licence Ref: 09E0118, Simpson 2009). These works revealed the hotel had a deep basement, cut into exposed natural sticky clay and gravels, indicating the basement is likely to have removed any features of significance.

The testing was concentrated in the central area of the site, as the eastern end had been previously inspected and the western end contained a ramp down into the site and could not be disturbed. The previous monitoring programme in 2009, mentioned above, found this concrete to be up to 1m in depth, sitting over natural coarse gravels. A total of nine trenches were then excavated through the basement floor level. These established that the floor sat on natural gravels and silts, with no indication of any walls or features (*Ibid*). In addition to this, an inspection of the site boundaries reveal that they are of modern date or shuttered out in concrete.

The testing programme was very challenging, as there are a series of deep slabs at basement level across the site up to 1m in depth in places, which could not be removed during the testing. A total of five trenches were attempted (Figure 16.15 and Figure 16.21), which exposed the temporary crane base inserted previously. This crane base was sealed by layers of brown organic domestic refuse, which had been thrown down over the modern crane base, but which is likely to have originated from somewhere on the site.

Thus, the archaeological testing confirmed that site (Nos. 40 – 41 O’Connell Street, in Site 1) is unlikely to contain any archaeological features over most of the site although the southern end, the ramp area may represent an area not excavated out in the modern period. From the previous testing the underlying deposits appear to comprise heavy gravels and silts that are natural deposits.

16.4.2.3 Previous Investigations within the Dublin Central Masterplan Area

16.4.2.3.1 O’Connell Street / Moore Lane: Boreholes

A number of bore-holes were carried out within the environs of the site in 1990 and again in 2000 but without the presence of an archaeologist (Figure 16.20). As a result, the information is limited but, in general, the inclusion of brick marks a post-medieval archaeological deposit.

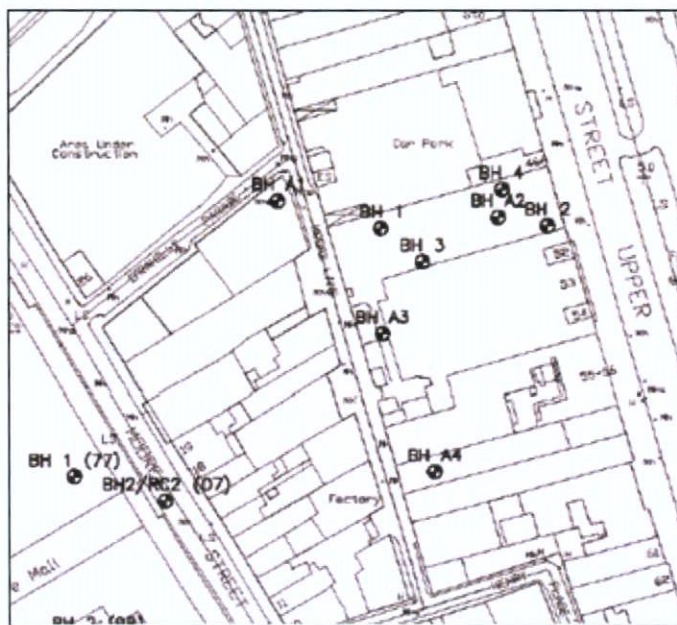


Figure 16.20: O’Connell Street/Moore Lane bore-holes locations.

The relevant bores were done to the rear of Nos. 47 to 50 O'Connell Street and to the rear of No. 53 O'Connell Street / Moore Lane, which give some information on the general ground conditions. In general, most of the bore-holes suggest deposits containing brick to a depth of 3m which is usually indicative of cellars and buildings but with clay deposits in the interior. The cellars appear to be cut into natural gravels and silts, which lie approximately 1m below present ground level.

16.4.2.4 Investigations adjacent to the Dublin Central Masterplan area

16.4.2.4.1 Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street / 8-9 Moore Lane

The results of archaeological monitoring of site investigation and essential works at the National Monument Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street (under Ministerial Consent) (Simpson 2009, 2014, 2015) provides information on the archaeological potential of Site 4 and 5 in the Dublin Central Masterplan area, the block defined by Moore Street, Henry Place and Moore Lane was the last block to be developed in the Dublin Central Masterplan area as shown on Rocque's maps (Figure 16.9–Figure 16.12). As indicated on these maps, Site 3 within the Dublin Central Masterplan area was developed slightly earlier.

This work involved engineering test pits located within the confines of the National Monument at Nos. 8 – 9 Moore Lane, within Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street, within the rear yard of Nos. 15 and 16 Moore Street and also directly adjacent to the monument in the infill houses to the rear of Nos. 13 and 14 Moore Street and within the cellars of Nos. 6 – 7 Moore Lane. Subsequent monitoring was carried out during an essential works programme included underpinning within the cellars, of engineering test-pits in the rear, the excavation for pads for propping system to the rear of Nos. 14 and 15 Moore Street and of works to the existing standing elements such as the boundary walls.

Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street lies within the site of the 'Old Brickfield'. This large brickfield was probably opened up in the late 1720s when the various streets were being laid out in the general area, and it was accessed by Moore Lane an early route, which was originally called 'Brick Field Lane'. The combined results of the monitoring works suggests that the 18th brickfield works quarried out the natural boulder clay to a depth of 2.20m exposing a coarse gravel layer. No archaeological finds or features were found in the natural riverine gravels.

It was established that following the clay extraction the quarry pit was deliberately infilled with layers of domestic organic debris, evidently forming the city dump that operated from 1756 to 1773 and containing some ceramics, glass and metal. Along the street frontage the infill material was removed to prepare for the construction of the houses on Moore Street and the house foundations were founded on the natural gravels. In the rear yards of Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street the organic fill depositions were still present.

The post-medieval infill layers were the earliest deposits found on site and there was no indication of any medieval activity. The typical stratigraphy encountered is provided in Table 17.1 (below) which suggests that the dumping occurred in bands indicating the deliberate building up of the quarry pit.

Depth	Results
0.00m – 0.07m	Concrete
0.07m – 1m	Dark brown organic refuse, composed of friable clay, charcoal and cinders, the remnants of domestic refuse. This deposit included inclusions of animal bone shell, mortar and 18th century brick.
1m – 1.50m	At this level the organic deposit had less mortar and brick and was highly organic in nature with inclusions of bone, including one butchered bone.
1.50m – 1.60m	A thick band of re-deposited yellow/orange boulder clay. This layer was probably the original boulder clay removed during the harvesting of boulder clay for brick-making.
1.60m – 1.80m	A continuation of organic refuse but slightly greyer in colour.
1.80m – 1.90m	A band of very dark brown organic material, as above.
1.90m – 2.05m	A very rich refuse deposit, with a distinctive reddish hue.

Depth	Results
2.05m – 2.15m	Very mixed stony organic, stone averaging 60mm in diameter. It contains shells and layers of black silt.
2.15m	Hard stony clay, dark yellow in colour, with small stones between 30mm and 40mm in diameter. This is a natural deposit.

Table 16.1: Description of an average test-pit through the organic clays

In addition, cellars in Nos. 8 – 9 Moore Lane (part of the National Monument) and separately to the rear of No. 13 Moore Street (Nos. 6 – 7 Moore Lane) debris dumped in the large basement on the eastern side of the National Monument was cleared out as part of the programme of works. No archaeological matter and/or historical material evidence was found within the rubbish that had been deposited historically within the cellars of Nos. 8 – 9 Moore Lane.

Given the significance of the 1916 Easter Rising event that occurred at the site, the archaeological strategy for the National Monument included the sieving through and collection of the material that had accumulated beneath the floorboards in the cavity spaces between the floor joists to recover any artefacts that might be related to the 1916 events that occurred within the buildings. This revealed a substantial collection of diverse and eclectic artefacts spanning the occupation of the house. In total 756 number of finds were recovered. However, the pottery sherds, nails, glass and metal objects were bulk numbered, and the total of individual objects were in the region of 4,458. These included as expected a very large collection of nails and building debris, but also fragments of paper and textiles (possibly used to block drafts or dragged below the floor boards by rodents), cutlery, crockery, bottles, coins, match-boxes, sewing paraphernalia suggestive of small-scale cottage industry, toys etc. which may have been swept, or lost between the gaps and cracks in the floorboards or along the skirting boards etc. Other more-high quality artefacts included part of a cameo brooch, jewellery, a patriot pamphlet with pictures of Robert Emmet and Sir Edward Fitzgerald, and a stamp of President Garfield (1884). The patriot pamphlet is particularly interesting as it may have been related to the 1916 occupiers. The bulk of these finds date from the late 19th centuries to the first three decades of the 20th century, and therefore are more or less contemporary with the events of Easter 1916. Indeed, some of the objects (the George III and Victoria I coins) found in House No. 16 would have been lying under the floorboards when Connolly and his men had taken refuge there the evening before they surrendered. The artefacts are being retained by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage on the grounds of the wealth of information it provides about the material culture and the social history of the people living in the buildings before, during and after Easter 1916, this will be used in the eventual interpretation of the site (Weadick and Deery, 2018).

16.4.2.4.2 Nos. 58 – 66 Parnell Street / Moore Street (Now Jurys Inn)

A large excavation at Nos. 58 – 66 Parnell Street / Moore Street was carried out in 2003, it was located in the north-west corner of the block but outside the Dublin Central Masterplan area (O'Donovan 1999, Licence Ref. 98E0357) in advance of the Jurys Inn development. Four main phases of archaeological activity were identified in what was a dense and complicated site. Phase 1 (the lowest level) was dated to the medieval period (12th – 14th century) and was represented by a thin layer of turbated top-soil, probably the remnants of cultivated soil perhaps associated with St Mary's Abbey. This topsoil layer was sealed by the remains of the brickfield, depicted on Rocque's map of Dublin, dated 1756 and represented by deep deposits of burnt or fired red clay. Sometime during this phase houses with triangular fireplaces were built along O'Rahilly Parade, the cellar of at least one of which survived generally intact. The third and most major phase, dated to between 1750 and 1770, was the construction of the Georgian street-front, fronting onto Parnell Street (formerly known as Great Britain Street) which involved laying out nine new plots running north-south and parallel to Moore Street. The final phase was represented by modern usage, up until the present day.

In general, the surviving remains consisted of stone and brick structures, cellars, buildings, cobbles, drains, a lime-kiln, paths and vaults and extended to 3m in depth on average (Figure 16.21). The cellars were deepest along O’Rahilly Parade at 3.10m but each plot had additional buildings, some with some basements, in the rear plots. Where there were no basements there were garden soils to a depth of between 0.20m and 0.50m in depth, the lowest levels of which were medieval in date, the upper post-medieval. However, there were also large refuse pits some as deep as 3.50m cut into the boulder clay (O’Donovan, 2004).

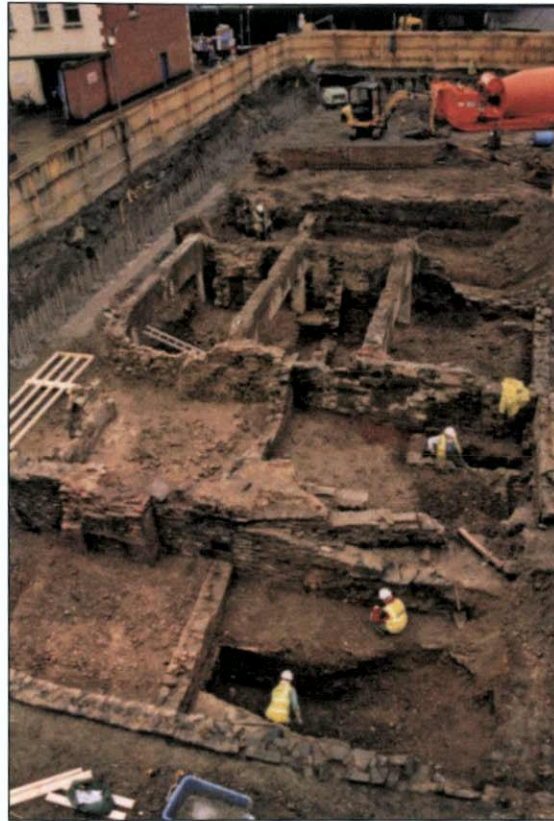


Figure 16.21: Excavations at Parnell Street: Note red clay deposits associated with brick-making (after O’Donovan, 2004).

This site is close to the Viking cemetery site but there was no indication of any Viking burials. However, the survival of the medieval soils makes it a possibility elsewhere.

16.4.2.4.3 Nos. 17-19 Moore Lane

A hotel development of Nos. 17 – 19 Moore Lane is currently nearing completion. Archaeological monitoring of the works revealed that almost the entire footprint of the site was excavated in the 18th and 19th centuries to facilitate the construction of a network of cellars. These cellars correspond to structures and plots depicted in detail within the OS mapping and the 1893 Goad’s fire insurance plan. Three cellar groups (A-C) were identified, cleaned of backfill and recorded. Cellar A group were likely to be associated with the construction of a terrace of Georgian houses in the mid to later 18th century. Cellar B group were later in date and relate to the more commercial use of the site to the south of the houses fronting onto Parnell Street. Cellar C are likely to date to the mid to late 19th century.

Associated with the Cellar C group a service tunnel that ran c. 20m along Moore Lane was identified. It was possibly connected to the public house ‘Devlin’s Pub’ that once stood at No. 17-19 to ‘WA Gilbey’s’ bottling stores located south along Moore Lane (no longer upstanding, at the rear of 46 O’Connell St). Local lore has it that Michael Collins frequented pub which may have acted as a headquarters during the Irish War of Independence and subsequent Civil War (Bailey, 2020, Licence No. 18E0659).

Subsoil was located at an average of 3m depth and, in areas not containing cellars, the overburden consisted of a mixture of soils and post-medieval levelling deposits with red brick, stone and mortar fragments present. All horizons across the site were graded to natural subsoil.

16.4.2.4.4 Excavations and Monitoring relating to the Luas Works – O’Connell Street and Parnell Street

Works connected with the Luas line have also taken place in an around the environs of the site most notably along Parnell Street (although mostly in the central median of the roads) (Seaver & Kavanagh 2017, O’Dowd & Mitchell 2017). At the western end of Parnell Street, to the east of the site under discussion, early cellars were found beneath the Georgian cellars, these were evidently associated with the brick terraced houses of the late 17th century known colloquially as ‘Dutch Billys’. At least one was found in the Parnell Street excavation with similar cellars identified during the Luas works just north of the site outside the Rotunda hospital. A slightly different structure with an early slated roof, probably of late 17th / early 18th century date was also found during the Luas works at the intersection of Parnell Street and O’Connell Street. These works suggest that Parnell Street had been raised significantly presumably because the area was wet and marshy. This raising of the road preserved a significant amount of material beneath.

Utilities works in advance of the Luas on O’Connell Street extended the full length of the street to the junction with Parnell Street and the Parnell National Monument (RMP DU018-425, RPS 6020). Works took place largely in the central paved median, western carriageway and footpaths. Natural gravels were noted at a range of locations along the street during site works. They ranged from 1.6m at the southern end of the street to 2.5m in depth at the northern end. The earliest features and deposits on O’Connell Street comprised deposits of red-brickfield dust related to brickworks (RMP DU018-020506) in Moore Street, they were found at 1.9m, a considerable depth, at the northern end of O’Connell Street opposite Nos. 37 – 38 O’Connell Street.

This was overlain by extensive areas of metalling (the top of the metalling ranged from between 1.2m and 1.66m below current ground level) which were found throughout the northern end of the street. These are likely to represent earlier street levels. The overlying extensive metallated deposits which cover O’Connell Street Upper may relate to the earliest street surfaces connected with Sackville Mall. They have been identified in both northbound and southbound carriageways and therefore are unlikely to be related to the older course of Drogheda Street which was confined to the southbound side of the carriageway.

A range of cellars were also found on O’Connell Street. The earliest were found at the junction of Abbey Street and within the central island. These were related to buildings which fronted onto Abbey Street prior to the construction of Sackville Street Lower (O’Connell Street).

An isolated find of human remains—a fragment of a cranium—was made at the north end of O’Connell Street Upper from a deposit overlying one of these cellar walls, it was suggested that there was no obvious origin for this. The deep sequential deposits of refuse and compacted metalling recorded at the junction of Marlborough Street and Parnell Street show the extent to which the ground was built up over time (Seaver & Kavanagh 2017). This is similar to the refuse deposits identified at Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street where the brickfield was infilled.

A further significant cluster of cellars were found in the central median opposite Nos. 35 – 39 and directly outside Nos. 37 – 38 O’Connell Street (Allied Irish Bank – AIB). The latter were part of a complex which continued onto Parnell Street (O’Dowd et al. 2016). A substantial Victorian sewer ran north-south up the northbound carriageway of O’Connell Street at varying depths. During the course of the monitoring programme at Parnell Street a number of archaeological features were uncovered. These were generally 18th to 19th century in date and related to the development of Parnell Street during this period and associated civic infrastructure—drains, watermains and street surfaces.

Monitoring of ground reduction works for a proposed ESB substation for Luas Line A identified sub-surface structural remains on the central median of O’Connell Street between the O’Connell National Monument (RMP DU018-423) and William Smith O’Brien Monument (RMP DU018-424) (Myles and Kerins 2005). The remains comprised a brick outhouse relating to a property marked on Rocque’s Map of 1756 and an attached cobblestone wall of possibly late 17th century date.

16.4.2.4.5 Nelsons Pillar site (The Spire) – O’Connell Street

Investigations at the site of Nelson’s Pillar at the junction of O’Connell Street and Henry Street, in advance of the construction of the Spire, identified sterile gravel layers at a depth of 1.42m OD (3.45m below the level of the footpath). This deposit was truncated by three 18th century basements relating to structures illustrated for this location on Rocque’s Map of 1756. The structures, located under the central median of O’Connell Street, were demolished in the 1780–1790s by the Wide Street Commissioners to accommodate the construction of O’Connell Street Lower. The cellars, which had cobbled floor surfaces, limestone walls and red-brick vaulted ceilings, had a maximum width of 3.43m, height of 2.02m and extended for a length of approximately 4m from the street frontage (Myles 2001). The cellars were in-filled with demolition material relating to the activities of the Wide Street Commissioners this included late 17th century ceramics and roof tiles.

16.4.2.4.6 Parnell Street

The impact of commercial development from the early 19th century on the remnants of 18th century residential Henry Street removed almost all of the original residential plots. Archaeological test excavation on Parnell Street in 1995 demonstrated the impact of the ILAC Centre. This phase of testing recorded an average depth of 3m of modern overburden across this area with the original street frontages badly damaged by services (Halpin, 1995, Licence Ref. 95E0163). Other archaeological investigations in this vicinity demonstrate similar levels of impact on the residential 18th century features. Survival in the main appears to be street frontage in most cases.

Basements were also noted along Parnell Street during investigations excavations in 1995, which extended to 3m in depth but were cut into archaeological soils, dated to the post-medieval period (Halpin, 1995).

16.4.3 National Museum of Ireland, Irish Antiquities Division, Topographical Files

There have been very few finds of archaeological interest from within the study area. This is to be expected from this part of the city, as much of the area was covered by high tides until the seventeenth century, when it was reclaimed, and because of the fact that building development in the 18th and 19th centuries has greatly disturbed the ground. The finds recorded by the topographical files, therefore, are post-AD 1700 in date.

Animal bones were discovered during work on a basement at 50 Upper O’Connell Street in 1965. They consisted largely of ox bones, but also included sheep bones. Many appeared to have cut marks, and the archaeologist who visited the site (Peter Danaher) concluded that the site might have been a knacker’s or butcher’s yard (NMI Ref. IA 15/65).

As described above, however, significant archaeological discoveries were recorded north of the O’Connell Street and Parnell Street area in the second half of the 18th century during the development of Parnell Square. The burials were believed to be Viking in origin and may have indicated a Viking cemetery or a small collection of burials on high ground overlooking the river and sea (cf. historical background above).

16.4.4 Designated Archaeological Sites

16.4.4.1 National Monuments

16.4.4.1.1 Definition

A ‘national monument’ as defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Act (1930, as amended) means a monument: -

“the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto...”

- 16.4.4.1.2 Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street is a National Monument in State care, it is subject to a preservation order (PO) made under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 (PO No. 1/2007). In addition to this designation, it is also listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP DU018-390) and in the Record of Protected Structures in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016 – 2022 (RPS Nos. 5282-5285).



Figure 16.22: 14–17 Moore Street terrace, view southeast.

- **Description**

The buildings at Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street date from the mid-18th century. The facades of all four buildings were rebuilt in the 19th century and they survive as a distinct and recognisable group in the streetscape (RMP files).

- **Extent**

The designated preservation order boundary under PO No. 1/2007 comprises Nos. 14, 15, 16 and 17 Moore Street and also includes the rear yards of Nos. 15 and 16 Moore Street and Nos. 8 – 9 Moore Lane (Figure 16.23).

- **Significance**

Nos. 14 – 17 Moore Street, as a place, is of significant historical importance in the history of Ireland. The events relate to the final 24 hours of the 1916 Easter Rising; from the evacuation of the Volunteers from the GPO on Friday, 28 April 1916 to the decision to surrender on Saturday, 29 April 1916.

The cultural significance of the terrace lies in the fact that, during the 1916 Easter Rising and after the GPO fell to the British forces, the rebel leaders or the 'GPO Garrison' retreated from the GPO and fought their way to Moore Street where they burrowed their way through the terrace, from No. 10 as far as No. 16 before ultimately setting up the last headquarters of the Provisional Government of the Irish Republic (Myles, 2012).

These men included five of the signatories of the Proclamation, Pádraig Pearse, Joseph Mary Plunkett, Thomas Clarke, Sean Mac Diarmada and James Connolly, the latter of whom was badly injured. They eventually surrendered from No. 16 Moore Street on 29 April 1916, signalling the end of the 1916 Easter Rising. The physical impact of the 1916 Easter Rising is visible within the fabric of the surviving structures in the form of creep-holes punched through the walls as the Volunteer leaders moved from one house to another before finally stopping and setting up their base at No. 16 Moore Street.

- **Ownership**

The National Monument Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the Office of Public Works (OPW) look after the National Monuments in State care. The conservation and presentation of these monuments are project-managed by the OPW, with responsibility for the archaeological aspects of projects resting with the Department.

- **Governance – Section 14 Consent**

Section 14 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) requires that the consent of the Minister is required for archaeological works at or near a National Monument in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a local authority or to which a preservation order applies. The Minister is required to consult with the Director of the National Museum of Ireland in relation to such an application for consent. The Minister may grant a consent in writing for the carrying out of works, other than works connected with an approved road development, affecting such a monument. Such conditions as may be determined by the Minister, including conditions requiring archaeological excavation, may be attached to a consent issued under Section 14. In deciding on a consent, the Minister is not restricted to archaeological considerations but is also entitled to consider the public interest in allowing the carrying out of any works.

- **Area to Assess Potential Impact on the National Monument**

An area defined by the National Monuments Service was formally established around the National Monument to allow an assessment to be compiled of the potential impact of proposed works in proximity to the National Monument (Figure 16.23). The envelope of buildings that form this area comprises Nos. 13, 18 and 19 Moore Street, as far east as and including the Moore Lane frontage (that includes Nos. 6 – 7 Moore Lane to the rear of No. 13 Moore Street).