The Urban Archaeological Survey

County Tipperary North Riding

Part I

Archaeological Survey of Ireland

The Office of Public Works

Urban Centres included in the Urban Archaeological Survey,
County Tipperary North Riding.

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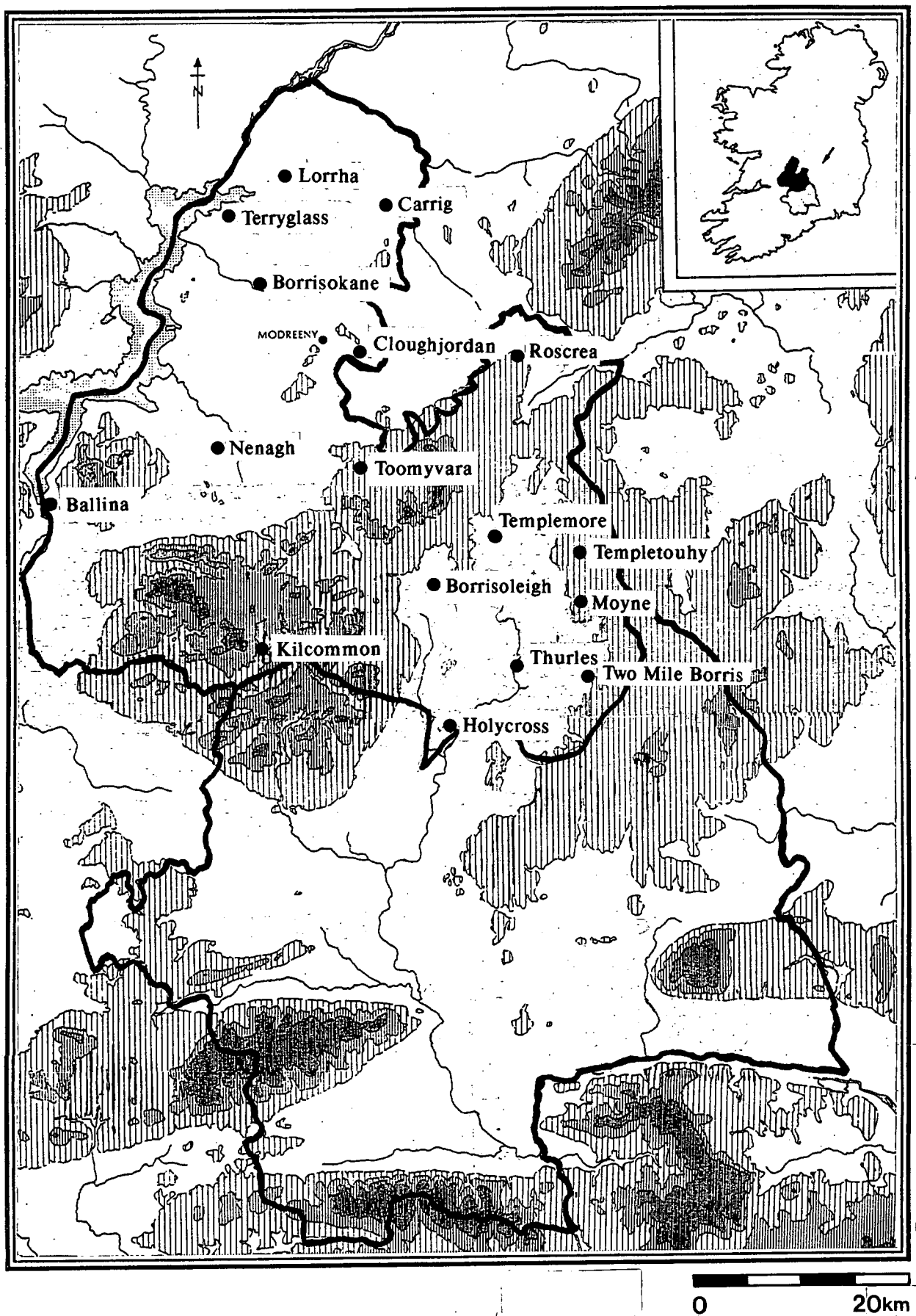compiled by

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Archaeological Survey of Ireland

The Office of Public Works

CONTENTS

List of Plates

Maps in Part II

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this survey is to highlight the archaeological potential of the urban centres of Co. Tipperary North Riding and present the information in a form which can be used by the relevant local authorities in planning matters. The Urban Archaeological Survey accompanies the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for Co. Tipperary North Riding, which highlights archaeological sites in a rural context. The archaeological inventory of sites in Part I is to be used in conjunction with Part II, which contains a set of complementary maps. It is important to stress that the present survey is not definitive.

Some primary map and documentary sources such as the Civil Survey (an important seventeenth-century source), were examined as well as secondary sources. In addition to this, most of the sites were visited, described and photographed. All the information gathered on any particular site is kept in an individual site file and can be consulted in the Office of Public Works, on request.

Sites which are 'unlocated' are those which are known from an old map source or documentary evidence but whose position is too imprecise to include it on the constraint map. The seventeenth-century Down Survey maps, for example, were not drawn to scale and therefore sites indicated cannot be precisely located on current maps. A more in depth study of both secondary and primary sources, as well as further fieldwork, may reveal the exact location of these sites, as well as bringing additional sites to light and adding new information to known sites.

It follows, that the constraint boundaries are not to be taken as the exact limits of the sites. The constraint boundary is the zone of known or suspected archaeological potential but this may be subject to alteration, with an area being extended or contracted, based on the findings of further research. In the case of those towns which have their own urban district or development plan boundary, archaeological sites within the area enclosed by the boundary (see part II, maps 11, 12, 13 and 16) but which are not strictly part of the town were not included in this report, as they have been already been included in the Sites and Monuments Record for Co. Tipperary Northth Riding.

Eighteen urban centres have been included in the present Urban Archaeological Survey Report. In order to be included, the urban centre must fulfil two basic criteria:
- they are urban centres in a modern context
- known or suspected archaeological sites are present

The first criterion needs some explanation. Many towns were founded in medieval times; some survive only as a ruined castle, church and/or earthworks in a modern rural environment. These deserted settlements have, for the purposes of this work, been treated as rural sites, and are included as such in the Sites and Monuments Record for Co. Tipperary South Riding. Others have thrived and are still inhabited today as towns and villages. With the pressures of recent urban development on towns, it is important to emphasise what still exists of our archaeological heritage in

modern urban centres, so that archaeologists, planners and developers alike can take measures to preserve and/or record these remains.

It cannot be over stressed that for all the urban centres, but particularly in the case of walled towns (with their dense concentration of early settlement), that the whole area within the archaeological zone of potential should be treated as a single monument. Thus any part of this zone, whether or not it is specifically marked as an archaeological site, should nevertheless be treated as such and dealt with accordingly.

GENERAL FORMAT

In **Part I** each urban centre is presented in the following format:

- Historical Background.
Where information is available, a brief chronology outlining the main historical events which have shaped the town / village in question are given.

- Archaeological Inventory.
Each site has two numbers, the first number refers to the map in Part II on which the site is indicated and the second number refers to the site itself. For example, Holycross Abbey is 7: 1, as it is indicated on map 7 and is number 1 in the archaeological inventory of that town.

The type of site, its name (as depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps and a local name, if any), and its location in the town are given. Where possible, a brief summary of the history of the site is provided. This is followed by a short description of the surviving remains, based on the information contained in the documentary sources and on field inspection. Those sources from which quotes or specific information has been taken are footnoted. If more detailed information is required, the field reports and documentary sources can be consulted, either in the site file (which contains both), or in the relevant book or journal.

- Complementary Maps in Part II
As stated above each site is indicated on a complementary map in Part II, designed to be used in conjunction with the text in Part I. Sites which are not located are not numbered.

The most recently revised 1:2,500 (25") Ordnance Survey maps have been used as the base maps for this report. These maps have been colour-coded as follows to highlight the archaeological sites:

- sites which survive above ground are coloured red
- sites which have been destroyed, but which may have surviving archaeological deposits below ground, are coloured yellow

-       possible sites (i.e. sites which may pre-date 1700) are coloured blue
-       possible sites which have been destroyed are coloured yellow-blue
-       the zone of archaeological potential is delineated by a dot-dash line coloured green.

Also extracts from the Sites and Monuments Record constraint maps, based on 1:10,560 (6") Ordnance Survey maps, have been included to show the area covered by the urban district or development plan boundary with the zone of archaeological potential and the SMR sites.

BALLINA

Béal Átha na Borumha meaning Ford of the cow tribute.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Bridge
2 Castle (site)

2: 1 Bridge

Siting: This bridge links Ballina, Co. Tipperary and Killaloe, Co. Clare.

Historical Background: The earliest reliable reference to this bridge dates to 1071 when a 'droichet' was built by Toirdelbach Ua Briain.[1] A century later the bridge was destroyed in a raid on Killaloe and even later again, in 1599, a bridge here was destroyed by Hugh O'Donnell.[2] No bridge is depicted on the Down Survey maps, 1655-58, crossing the Shannon at this point, despite the fact that there is a reference to 'a Bridge crossing the River of Shannon to Killalow' in the Civil Survey of 1654-56.[3]

Description: The bridge probably has its origins in the seventeenth century though it has been much altered in subsequent centuries. It has been described in some detail in Simington and O'Keeffe.[4]

2: 2   Castle Site

Siting: The site of the castle is situated in Ballina village, on the east bank of the River Shannon, north of Killaloe Bridge. It is now covered by modern housing.[5]

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[1]Bradley, J., Co. Clare Urban Archaeological Survey, 96-97 (no date, unpublished).
[2]Ibid.
[3]Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1934, vol. ii, 163.
[4]Simington, T. and O'Keeffe, P., 1991, 240-41.
[5] Fitzpatrick, L., 1985, 73 (unpublished).

Historical Background: In the Ordnance Survey Letters,[6] the castle of Ballina is said to have stood on a low rock '...forty feet from the bridge of Killaloe to the north...' According to Westropp,[7] this castle was a fifteenth-century peel tower. It was one of a pair constructed at either end of the bridge between Killaloe and Ballina. The tower on the County Clare side was destroyed during the nineteenth century.

The castle is associated with the Mac Ibrien Ara,[8] and accordng to the Ordnance Survey Namebooks was given by them to the sons of Shane O'Neill from County Antrim. The 'ruins of a castle and barbican...' stood on the site in 1654-6.[9] Lewis noticed the same ruins in 1837[10] and they appear also on the first edition Ordnance Survey map.

Description: There are no surviving remains of this castle.

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[6] O'Flanagan, Rev. M., 1930, vol. ii, 13, (31).

[7] Westropp, T.J., 1911-12, 203.

[8] O' Flanagan, Rev. M., 1930, vol. ii, 10, (23); also AFM s.a. 1559, 1573, footnote b.

[9] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol.ii, 163.

[10] Lewis, S., 1837, 105.

BORRISOKANE

Buirghes Uí Chathain meaning Ua Cathain's borough.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

13th century   D.F. Gleeson refers to Borrisokane as having been an Anglo-Norman parish.[11] The parish church, he maintains, stood on the site of the modern Church of Ireland church.[12]

1654-56   According to the Civil Survey,[13] the tithes of the parish were valued at 30 li. and portions of the parish were held by Richard Butler of Kilcash, a brother of the first Duke of Ormond.[14]

17th century   Captain James Stopford, a retired Cromwellian soldier, held the land in the second half of the seventeenth century, but never lived there.[15] Under Stopford's influence, disbanded Cromwellian soldiers settled in the town.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Church (possible site)

3: 1 Church (possible site)

Siting: Situated at the south of the town, at the junction of South Street and Church Street.

Historical Background: D.F. Gleeson refers to Borrisokane as having been an Anglo-Norman parish.[16] According to the Ordnance Survey Letters of 1840 'there

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[11] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-2, 104.
[12] See also, O'Flanagan, vol. iii, 32, (94).
[13] Simington, R.C., (ed.), vol. ii, 333.
[14] Levingstone-Cooney, D.A., 1975, 5.
[15] Ibid., 5.
[16] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-52, 104.

was an old Church, it is said, where the present Parish Church stands in the Town of Burres-O-Keane. The present church does not occupy the whole of the ancient site.'[17]

Description: The Protestant church was built in 1812,[18] though the oldest noted tombstone dates to 1729. When the church was being replastered, some years ago, medieval architectural fragments were found reused in the church walls.[19] The graveyard itself, which is very circular in plan, is another indication of an early foundation.

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[17]O'Flanagan, Rev.M., (ed.), 1930, vol.III, 32 (94).
[18]Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, vol.II, 533-35.
[19]Con Manning, pers. comm., November 1994.

BORRISOLEIGH

Buirgheis Uí Luighdheach meaning the borough of Uí Luighdheach.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

16th century   The castle belonged to the Burke family.[20]

1600   Walter Burke of Boreyse was noted in 1600[21] as an associate of Richard Purcell of Loughmoe and Sir Walter Butler of Kilcash, County Kilkenny.

1654-56   The Civil Survey entry of 1654-6[22] refers to Borres Ileigh, and to '...the castle and Bawne of Borres in good repaire, with an orchard, a good garden, a water corne mill in repaire, six thatcht houses and many Cabbins.'

1655-58   On the Down Survey maps, Borrisoloeigh is referred to as Borreshleagh.

18th century   This castle was used for a time as a brewery, until Father Mathew's temperance campaign led to its closure in the early nineteenth century.[23]

Borrisoleigh and Two-Mile-Borris are referred to by almost the same name in most historical sources.[24] As a result, it can be difficult to be sure which of the two is being alluded to in any given reference.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Tower House
2 Plaque
3 Ringfort
4 Ringfort (site)
5 Church (possible site)

Unlocated Sites

Mills

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[20] Lord Killanin and Duignan, M.J., 1967, 123.

[21] Cal. state papers, vol. vi, 32-3.

[22] Simington, R.C., (ed.), vol. i, 89.

[23] O'Flanagnan, Rev. M., 1930, vol. i, 189, (518).

[24] This problem is discussed in more detail under Two Mile Borris.

4: 1 Tower House

Siting: In the north-east of the town, east of Chapel Street. Situated in flat land which rises to the north-west on the other side of the road. A river adjacent to the south runs northwest-southeast.

Historical Background: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 there is a reference to 'one Castle [in the parish of Borrisoleigh] in repaire [and] a stumpe of a Castle out of repaire'.[25] Also in the Civil Survey there is a more detailed reference to 'the Castle and Bawne of Borres [lleigh] in good repaire'.[26] John Davis White speculated that the tower house may have been built by Walter Bourke which would date it to the sixteenth century.[27] Part of the castle was torn down in the eighteenth century to build a distillery.[28]

Description: This tower house is in bad condition. It is of limestone construction, has a number of large cracks and is heavily ivy-clad. It survives up to second floor level, with a portion of the south-east wall at third and fourth floor level. A projecting tower at the south angle is six storeys high.

The ground floor, the walls of which are an average of 1.7m thick, was entered through a doorway in the north-east wall, only the drawbar-hole of which survives. There are openings in the south-east and north-west, possible window embrasures which have been subsequently enlarged. The ground floor, with loft, has a semi-pointed vaulted roof in good condition and a chute in the south-east wall which enters the loft. There was a separate entrance at the west end of the north-west wall which gave access to a mural stair. This stair continued up within the south-west wall, leading to the second floor. This floor has no surviving features. In the south-east wall of the floor above there is a flat arch which may have been a lintel for a fireplace, subsequently blocked up. This is substantiated by what appears to be a chimney flue above the arch at fourth floor level.

A spiral stairs in the projecting tower was utilised to gain access to chambers both in the main tower and in the corner tower. Within the corner tower there are five chambers. It is possible that some of the chambers could be entered directly from the main tower, however, the north-west wall, which may have contained these doorways, is much damaged. There is a double-arch vaulted roof over the second floor. The third floor has a fireplace in the north-east wall. The only surviving windows are in this corner tower. These are in splayed embrasures, the lights themselves being

[25]Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol i, 47.
[26]Ibid., vol i, 89.
[27]White, J.D., 1892, 105.
[28]I.T.A. Survey, 1945.

rectangular, with external chamfers and internal rebates. The roof of the corner tower was gabled.

The external dimensions of the tower house are 12.43m x 9.53m, while the corner tower measures externally 5.5m x 5.25m along the southern sides.
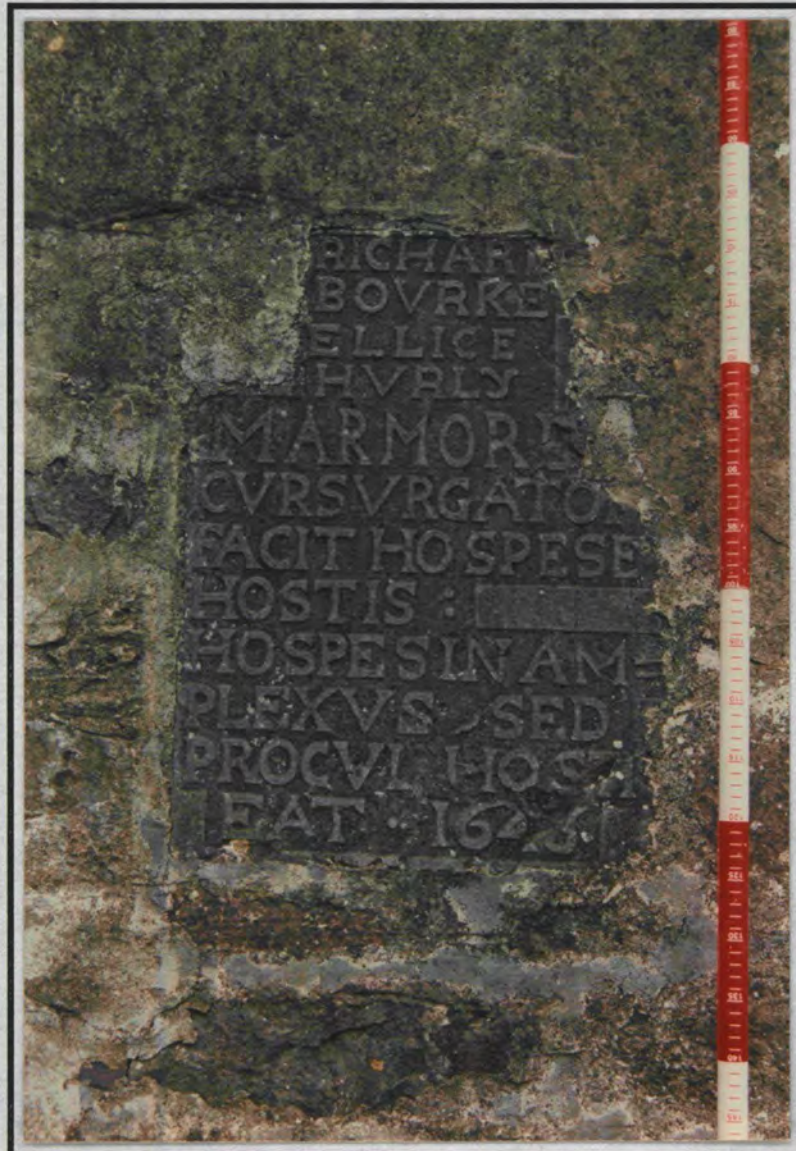
Plate 1: Seventeenth-century Plaque, Borrisoleigh

4:2   Plaque

Siting: In the south gable of the building to the north-west of the tower house in Borrisoleigh.

Description: This is a shouldered limestone plaque. There is a narrow raised border which has been slightly damaged in places. The inscription, in relief, is written in Latin in Roman script. It reads: RICHARD   BOVRKE   ELLICE   HVRLY   MARMORE CVRSVRGATO. FACIT HOSPESE HOSTIS: HOSPES IN AM=PLEXVS SED PROCVL HOSTIS EAT 1643

One translation is as follows: 'Friend and foe make this marble rise. Come friend to arms: the enemy begone',[29] while John Davis White gives a different interpretation: 'This construction in polished marble. Friend and foe combined to raise. The friend is embraced (received with open arms) the enemy may pass on'.[30]

4: 3 Ringfort

Siting: Situated at the south-west end of the town adjacent to Scoil Náisiúnta Treasa Naofa which was built in 1981. The ringfort is situated on a rise. All the surrounding ground appears to be lower.

Aspect: Good to the south and east. Hill impedes the view to the west. School blocks the view to the north.

Description: This is an overgrown univallate ringfort. A road has truncated the south-east quadrant of the site, causing the removal of the fosse and damaging the internal bank. The remaining part is largely intact. There is a good internal bank which appears to be of earthen construction and a very wide, deep, external fosse; no outer bank. The bank is 7.7m wide, c.1m above internal ground level and c.3m above the centre of the external fosse. The fosse is up to 9.9m wide and 1.4m above the external ground level. There is an impressive causeway, 5.2m wide, in the north-west quadrant. The overall diameter of the site is 37.5m north-south and c.34m east-west.

4: 4 Ringfort (site)

Siting: West of the town on the north side of the road. It was on a slight rise above the surrounding flat river valley. There is a stream immediately to the east.

Aspect: The Devil's Bit mountain is clearly visible in the distance to the north-east. The view north and west is impeded by hills, while that to the south is blocked by buildings and a field boundary. There is a good view to the east.

Description: There are no remains of the site. The area appears to have been levelled during the construction of a garage and house in 1958. A large dump with mounds of bulldozed spoil is on the site of the enclosure.

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[29]Ibid.
[30]White, J. D., 1892, 105.

4: 5 Church (possible site)

Siting: This was located at the west end of town, on the south side of Lios Phádraig Road. According to the 1902-3 6" Ordnance Survey map, it stood in the middle of the graveyard.

Description: Though there is no indication that this was a pre-1700 site, there is a possibility that a medieval church was located here. In Lewis' 1837 publication, he mentions 'the ruins of a church in Borrisoleigh'.[31] However, on the 1840 6" O.S. map there is an upstanding church in this graveyard which had disappeared by the 1902-3 edition.

UNLOCATED SITES

Mills

Description: There are several references to mills in the Civil Survey of 1654-56. Some of these were already in a state of decay: 'the ruines of a grinding Mill and the ruines of a tucking Mill.'[32] A 'water corne mill in repaire' is also mentioned.[33]

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[31]Lewis, S., 1837, 217.
[32]Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol i, 47.
[33] Ibid., vol i, 89.

CARRIG

An charraig meaning the rock.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle (site)
2 Ringfort (site)

5: 1 Castle (site)

Siting: At the west end of the village, *c.*25m south of the main Birr road and immediately west of the river.

Historical Background: In the Civil Survey,[34] Simington identified the ruined castle of Aghnacaragy with Carrig Castle. It was recorded in the Ordnance Survey[35] as a small square castle, 7.3m square, with a stone-capped round tower at the south-west corner. The ruins were removed completely during road widening in 1973.[36] Some of the stone was used in local buildings; the rest was dumped in a nearby quarry.

Description: Nothing survives of this castle.

5: 2 Ringfort (site)

Siting: At the west end of the village, 100m south of the main Birr road and west of the river.

Historical Background: It is depicted on the 1904 25" Ordnance Survey map as a large univallate ringfort, between 35m and 40m in diameter.

Description: This ringfort has been completely ploughed out. No visible remains survive.

[34] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol ii, 325.
[35] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol. ii, 379, (212-3).
[36] FitzPatrick, L., 1985, 80 (unpublished).

CLOUGHJORDAN

Cloch Siurdain meaning Jordan's stone.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There are two legends associated with the name Cloughjordan, neither of which are necessarily correct. One is that Jordan de Courcy of Exeter, thus named because he acquired a stone from the River Jordan during a Crusader campaign, inserted the stone in the wall of the tower house.[37] The other suggestion is that Jordan de Marisco, (Seigneur of Nenagh, Latteragh, etc.) having acquired land in Tipperary, used the stone as the keystone in the entrance to his new home.[38]

The Civil Survey reveals that the O'Carrolls held the area by the mid-seventeenth century.[39] The village of Cloughjordan seems to have been a product of the seventeenth century. It was founded by James Harrison, a Colonel in Cromwell's army. Harrison built his house on the site of the de Marisco castle and both he and his son built the town and populated it with disbanded Cromwellian soldiers.[40] In about 1668, Cloughjordan was listed among the possessions of Viscount Dongan of Clane.[41]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Tower House and seventeenth century house
2 Bullaun Stone

6: 1   Tower House and seventeenth-century house

Siting: Cloughjordan House is situated north of the town, in its own grounds.

Historical Background: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 the tower house is referred to as 'the ruins of an old castle & Bawne' owned by Charles Carroll.[42]

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[37]Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, 13.
[38]Levingstone-Cooney, D.A., 1975, 3.
[39]Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol.ii, 288.
[40] Ibid.
[41] Cal. state papers, 1669-70, 618.
[42]Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol.ii, 288.

James Harrison, a Colonel in Cromwell's army, built a new residence here in the mid to late seventeenth,[43] incorporating the earlier tower house.

Description: Cloughjordan House has a façade of five bays between two-bay projections. The original tower house forms the eastern projection, while the opposite end is of eighteenth-century date and the central portion dates to the seventeenth century. The tower house is now a three-storey structure, with dressed limestone quoins and a slight base batter. It has been much altered. The roof line has been lowered, with the north and south third-floor walls now forming the gables of the building. While very little of the original fenestration survives, there is a small window embrasure in the south wall at ground floor level with an internal splay. Although the window itself has been slightly enlarged it is probably a former loop. The original entrance was probably in the north wall where a modern timber-frame doorway has been inserted. Internally, the tower house measures 7.12m x 5.67m with ground floor walls up to 2.2m thick.[44] Externally it is 8.78m (north wall) x 9.32m (east wall).

The seventeenth-century building is a two-storey T-shaped house with a steep pitched roof and massive projecting chimney on the west gable which is rendered with concrete. There is also a large chimney at the east of the house which has been built

Plate 2: Tower house and Seventeenth-century house, Cloughjordan

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[43]Ibid.
[44]Feehan, J., 1988, unpublished.

onto the tower house. The façade is 16.9m long and the building is *c*.8m wide while the rear return projects out by 4m.

Further extensions have been added to the rear of the building up to the present time.

A 'moat' surrounding the house on almost three sides is shown on the Ordnance Survey maps. This survives in part as a deep, partly water-filled fosse, particularly wide at the north-east corner. It disappears under farmyard buildings to the north, reappears north-west of the house and finally runs into a stream on the west side. Until recently, the remains of a moat could be detected around much of the castle.[45]

6: 2 Bullaun Stone

Siting: Originally from St. Ciaran's church, Modreeny, this bullaun is at present outside the front of the Catholic Church, on a plinth of limestone blocks. It has been cemented onto this plinth and the external wall of the church.

Description: The bullaun is of conglomerate stone. It has a central depression in a roughly circular boulder. The circular depression is 15cm deep and 40cm x 36cm wide and the boulder itself is 36cm high, 82cm x *c*.72cm wide.

[45] FitzPatrick, L., 1985 unpublished,vol. ii, part 4, 86; Feehan, J. 1988, unpublished, (no page nos.).

HOLYCROSS

Mainistir na Croiche Naoimh.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1180   The Cistercians came to Holycross.[46]

1185/86   Holycross was given a charter by its founder Domhnall Ua Briain, King of Limerick.[47]

*c.***1186**   Ua Briain's charter was confirmed by Prince John as Earl of Morton,[48] and further royal confirmations followed during the reigns of Henry III and Richard II.[49]

1539-40   The Abbey became a secular college.[50]

1561   The Abbey became the property of the Earl of Ormonde, and though the college was dissolved, the abbey continued to function as a parish church and a pilgrim centre.[51]

1580   The Abbey and town and all its income were granted to Philip O'Kearne and Thomas Archer.[52]

1599   Hugh O'Neill made a pilgrimage to Holycross, despite political opposition.[53]

1649-50   An attempt to revive the Cistercian community at Holycross was suppressed by the Cromwellians.[54]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1   Cistercian Abbey
2   Holy Well
3   Bridge
4   Plaque
5   Fair Green (possible)

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[46] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,134.
[47] Stalley, R., 1987, 245.
[48] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 134.
[49] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.),1930, vol. i, 172-3, (476-8).
[50] Stalley, R., 1987, 245; Gillespie, R. and Cunningham, G., 1991,192.
[51] Ibid., 1987, 245.
[52] Ormond deeds,vol. v, 304-5, lit. 326.
[53] Cal. state papers, vol. , Feb. 6, 1599.
[54] Stalley, R.,1987, 29.

7: 1 Cistercian Abbey

Siting: Located on the north-west side of the village of Holycross, immediately west of the River Suir, with the main road adjacent to the south range of buildings.

Historical Background: Some of the details relating to the early years of Holycross Abbey are unclear. For example, there is a tradition that a Benedictine house founded by Domhnall Ua Briain in 1169 may have originally occupied the site.[55] Hartry[56] writing in 1640 expressed his belief that the Benedictines changed to the Cistercian observance in either 1182 or 1213-14. Doubt has been cast on the accuracy of this sequence of events,[57] but what can be said with some degree of confidence is that, whether or not there was a Benedictine precursor, the Cistercian Abbey of Holycross was colonised from the abbey of Monasteranenagh in 1180.[58] Its founder was Domhnall Ua Briain, King of Limerick, and the text of its charter, dated 1185/86, survives.

Important to the survival of the abbey was a fragment of the True Cross which was kept there. According to tradition, the fragment was given to Muircheartach Ua Briain by Pope Pascal II c.1110,[59] although another account accredits an English queen as the donor.[60]

Ua Briain's charter was confirmed by Prince John as Earl of Morton c.1186,[61] and further royal confirmations followed during the reigns of Henry III and Richard II.[62] Abbots of Holycross ranked as earls and sat in parliament.[63] During the thirteenth century, the original subjection of the abbey to Monasteranenagh was switched to Furness in Lancashire, then back to Monasteranenagh and finally to Mellifont.[64]

Holycross did not immediately cease to function during the dissolution of the monasteries. The patronage of the Earls of Ormonde may have protected the abbey and in 1539-40 it became a secular college under the provostship of Philip Purcell, the last abbot.[65] Even after 1561, when the abbey became the property of the Earl of Ormonde and the college was dissolved, the abbey continued to function as a parish church and a pilgrim centre.

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[55] Harbison, P., 1970, 227; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 134; de Varebeke, Dom Hubert, 1955,18.

[56] Murphy, Rev. D., (ed.),1895, 23.

[57] Stalley, R.,1987, 245.

[58] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,134.

[59] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,135; Grosse, F., 1791, 67.

[60] Murphy, Rev. D.,1879-88, 412; Power, Rev. P.,1989, 3; Carville, G., 1973, 113-4.

[61] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 134.

[62] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.),1930, vol. i, 172-3, (476-8).

[63] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 135.

[64] Ibid., 134.

[65] Stalley, R., 1987, 245; Gillespie, R. and Cunningham, G., 1991,192.

The Earl of Ormond, however, did lease portions of the abbey to various tenants. In May 1572, John Monk alias O'Molrian '...of the Holy Cross, chaplain', received '...the chamber wherein he now dwells in the cloister of said Holycross abbey with the appurtenances... Said John covenants to repair and uphold the chamber with slates, skin, timber, lathes and pins.'[66] Another recipient was James Fitzwilliam Purcell, who was given '...one cellar within the cloister called the chapter house, the room or loft over the chancel of the choir and the room over the Cross church of the Holy Cross... with a little way entering in the great stairs of said church to the upper rooms...'.[67] In 1580 the entire abbey and town and all its income were granted to Philip O'Kearne and Thomas Archer '...provided they keep in repair all the edifices on the premises, with the mill...'.[68] It is evident that in his own interest, the earl was anxious to keep wear and tear on the buildings to a minimum.

Despite the presence of these new tenants, the Cistercians somehow remained active. The widespread popularity of the relic for example was remarked upon in 1567[69] and 1583.[70] In 1579 it was reported that rebels had gathered at the abbey.[71] In 1600 Hugh

Plate 3: Guest house and Abbot's house, Holycross Abbey

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[66] Ormond deeds, vol. v., 220-1, lit. 199.
[67] Ibid., vol. v, 226, lit. 210.
[68] Ibid. ,vol. v, 304-5, lit. 326.
[69] de Varebeke, Dom Hubert, 1955, 16.
[70] Cal. state papers, vol. iii, 469, no. 15.
[71] Ibid., vol. ii, 182, no. 46.

The relic was brought out to him and in return he gave gifts, alms and protection to the abbey.

Early in the seventeenth century, there was a revival of the Cistercian community in Holycross. An early attempt in 1602-3[72] under Abbot Bernard Foulow failed, but under his successor, Luke Archer, the abbey became the general novitiate for Irish Cistercians.[73] To this end, some of the monastic buildings were rehabilitated;[74] a pilgrimage routine involving seven altars was practised,[75] and the relic was sometimes brought outside the diocese to a wider public.[76] A small community took up residence in the abbey, but despite this activity, some of the abbey buildings were still used for storing grain by people from the area, who believed their crops would be safe under the protection of the cross. An added attraction was a miraculous statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, donated by the wife of the Earl of Thomond and placed in a special shrine in 1628.[77]

This revival was reversed by Cromwell in 1649-50.[78] Nevertheless, the last professed monk from Holycross only died in 1752.[79] In the nineteenth century, there were elaborate plans afoot for building a new town at Holycross.[80] The plans never came to fruition in their entirety, but a fortunate by-product was some restoration of the abbey buildings. Work on the east and west windows in particular is mentioned.[81] The modern reconstruction of the abbey took place between 1971 and 1975.[82]

Description: Substantial remains of this abbey have survived intact. There is evidence of two building phases at the site.[83] The first dates to the late twelfth or early thirteenth century and is in evidence in the nave and its arcades, and the south wall of the south aisle. Some later windows were inserted in the west wall of the nave but traces of the original lancet windows are still visible.[84] The round-headed sandstone doorway in the south aisle, giving access to the cloister walk, is c.1200 in date but has been rebuilt.[85]

The earlier phase of building is quite plain in style compared to the fifteenth-century restoration, which was sponsored by the Earl of Ormonde. Work began early in the

[72] Gillespie, R. and Cunningham, G., 1991, 172.

[73] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 135.

[74] Stalley, R., 1987, 29.

[75] Murphy, Rev. D., (ed.),1895, 149.

[76] Gillespie, R. and Cunningham, G.,1991, 175-6.

[77] Ibid.,177-8.

[78] Stalley, R.,1987, 29.

[79] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,135.

[80] Ireland, A.,1982, 48-54.

[81] Ibid., 50 and 52.

[82] Hayes, W.,1993,112.

[83] Leask, H.G, 1971, 60-8; Stalley, R., 1987, 113-5.

[84] Leask, H.G., 1985, 59,62.

[85] Ibid.,62.

fifteenth century and possibly continued into the sixteenth century. The eastern part of the church, including the monks' choir, transepts, chancel and crossing tower date to this later period, as does the cloister, though this was partially reconstructed in 1928.[86] The general walling throughout is built in rubble masonry while the detailing is of high quality limestone, finely cut and closely jointed.[87]

There are a number of particularly fine internal features. These include the beautifully decorated sedilia in the chancel, traditionally called the 'Tomb of the Good Woman's Son', above which is a series of shields, the largest bearing the royal arms of England. Others include the arms of the abbey itself, the Butler arms and the FitzGerald arms.[88] The 'Waking Bier of the Monks', situated between the south transept chapels, possibly functioned as an elaborate shrine where the relic of the True Cross could be viewed through the open-work. A second shrine, formerly positioned in the north-west angle of the north transept, is stored in the guest house. The church is lit by a number of windows displaying a variety of tracery styles. The six-light east window is a good example of a fifteenth-century window with reticulated tracery. The signatures of the masons can be seen on the piers of the crossing tower where there are a number of masons' marks and protruding from the north-west pier is a carved owl with outstretched wings. Other minor carvings can be seen throughout the church. Examples of rib vaulting have survived in the north transept, crossing tower, chancel and chapels, above which are living quarters with squints overlooking the transept.[89] The night stair in the south transept formerly led to the monks' dormitory. In the crossing tower two bells have been installed. Both were found buried beneath the ruined parish church of Boulick, near Urlingford, one having been cast before 1250.[90] In the north transept there is the rare survival of a hunting scene painted on the plaster using a range of colours: red ochre, charcoal black, lime white and vermilion.[91]

Also, within the church are a large number of sixteenth/seventeenth-century graveslabs, while others were moved during the renovation to the graveyard immediately north of the abbey. Additional fragments of graveslabs and architectural fragments are currently stored in the guest house, south-east of the abbey church.

Associated with the church are a number of domestic and residential buildings. The west range of the cloister housed the sacristy, chapterhouse, with its unusual billet ornamented doorway, and day-room or parlour. The opposing range contains the cellars on the ground floor and apartments above with fireplaces and projecting garderobes.[92] South of the cloister was a range which contained the kitchen and

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[86]Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 61.
[87]Leask, H.G., 1985, 60.
[88]Stalley, R., 1987, 115.
[89]Leask, H.G., 1985, 68.
[90]Hayes, W., 1993, 113.
[91]McGrath, M., 1987, 123.
[92]Leask, H.G., 1985, 68.

refectory, now gone. The guest house and abbot's quarters are located immediately south-east of the abbey church. The abbot's quarters appear to have been remodelled in the fifteenth century, the architectural features being well-executed and designed for maximum comfort.

Plate 4: Sculptured head, Holycross

7: 2 Holy Well 'Abbey Well'

Siting: Located *c.*10m north-east of the chancel of Holycross Abbey.

Description: This well has been covered over in recent years, it is within a prayer garden created by the followers of Padre Pio to commemorate Pope John Paul II's visit to Ireland in 1979.

7: 3 Bridge

Siting: Located on the north-west side of the village of Holycross, immediately west of the River Suir, with the main road adjacent to the south range of abbey buildings.

Historical Background: This bridge has its origins in the seventeenth century, if not earlier. It was rebuilt in 1626 by James Butler, Baron of Dunboyne and his wife Margaret (see 7: 4) with the addition of a gate or arch at the western end (see Plate 5). It is referred to in the Civil Survey, 1654-56, as 'a stone bridge on the River Shewer',[93] though it is not shown on the Down Survey map of 1655-58.[94]

Description: This level bridge has eight spans and is *c.*46m long and a total of 6.56m wide. The parapets are each 43cm wide and 1.19m above the road level. The present width is due to an extension of the bridge on the downriver (south) side, possibly in the eighteenth century. All the spans on this downriver side are round-headed while the earlier arches are segmental-pointed. The average arch span, with little variation, is 4m wide.[95] There are triangular cutwaters on the upriver side, some of which rise to
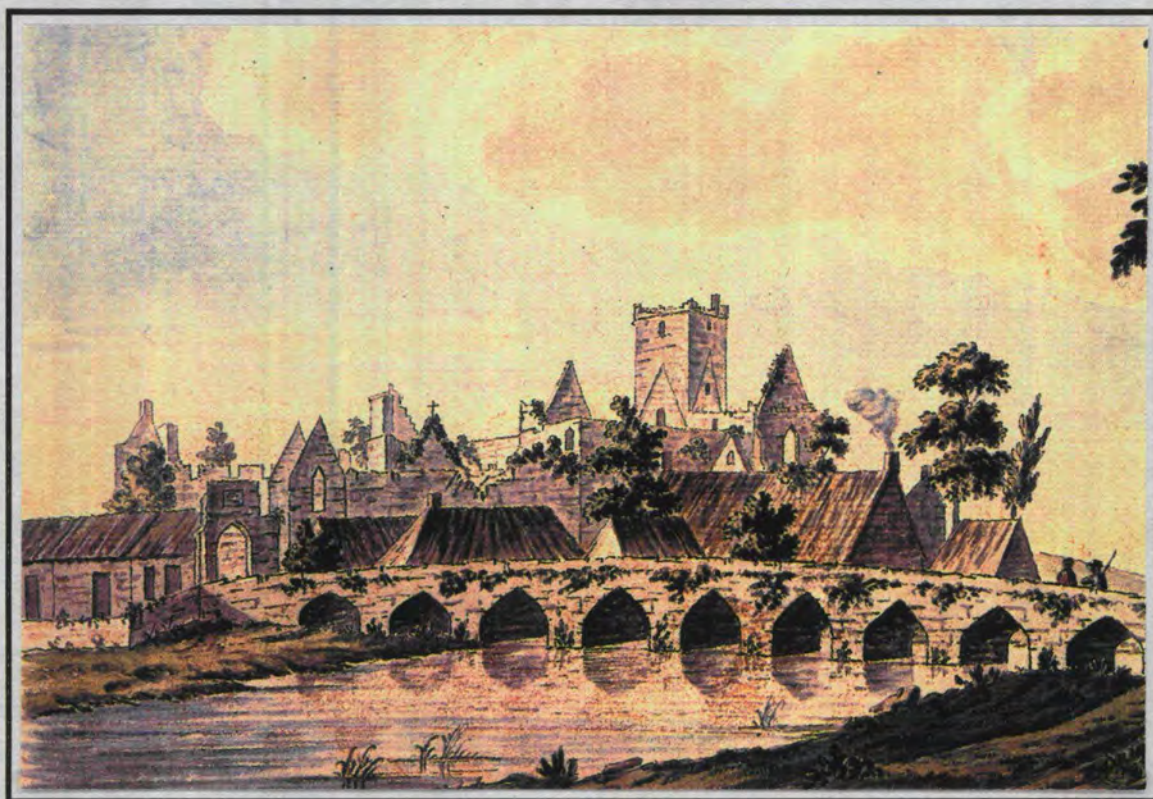
Plate 5: Holycross Abbey and bridge, Holycross (after Beranger)

[93]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, vol i, 64.
[94]Simington, T. and O'Keeffe, P., 1991, 177.
[95]Ibid.

road pavement level and may have been pedestrian refuges originally.[96] The arch depicted on Beranger's late eighteenth-century sketch no longer survives. The earlier, upriver section of the bridge has been dated to the first quarter of the fifteenth century. This is based on its similarity to Adare Bridge, Co. Limerick, dated to 1410, and Abingdon Bridge in England, built in 1416.[97]

AD VIATOREM   NICOLAS·COWLI·ME·EA·BRIKAVI

JACOBVS·BVTLER·BARO· DE·DONBOYNEET
D:MARGARETA·BRIEN·EIVS·VXOR· HVNC
PONTEM· COLLAPSVM· EREXER·VNT·SVIS
INSIGNIBVS·ADORNARVNT· ANNODOMINI· 162.
DIC·PRECOR·ANTE·ABITVM· VERBO· NON AMPLIVS
VNO: EVADAT·STYGIOS· AVCTOR·VTERQ:LACVS
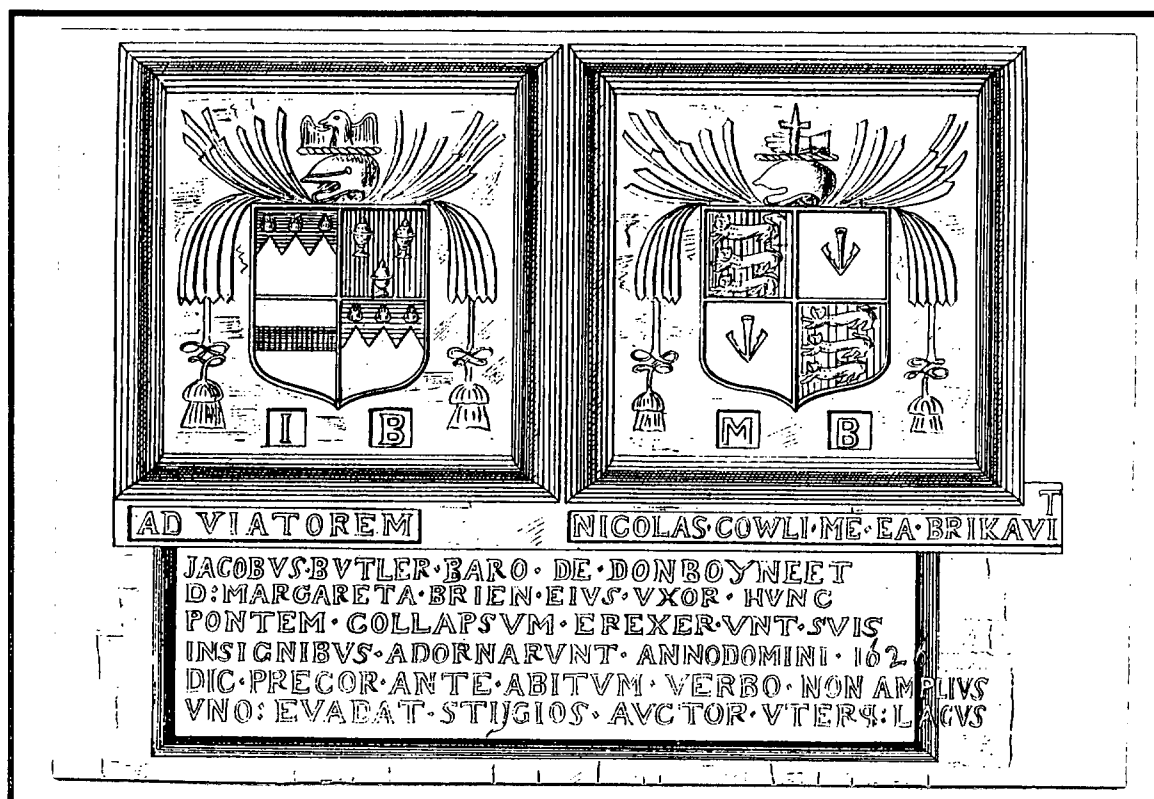
Plate 6: Seventeenth-century armorial plaques,
Holycross (after Murphy,1895, facing p.ix)

7: 4 Plaque

Siting: Located at the south-west side of the north-west end of the bridge, inserted in the wall face.

Historical Background: A sketch of Holycross bridge drawn in the late eighteenth century depicts an arch at the western end of the bridge and above it is a plaque.

Description: This limestone commemorative plaque bears two armorial coats of arms. There is a separate inscription written in Latin in raised Roman script, part of the

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[96]Ibid.
[97]Ibid., 178.

inscription spills out onto one of the wall stones. The translation of the inscription is as follows:

'To the traveller. Nicholas Cowley constructed me. :- Lord James Butler, Baron of Dunboyne, and his wife, Lady Margaret O'Brien rebuilt the bridge which had fallen, and ornamented it with their arms in the year of Our Lord 1626.

Say, I beg you before you go away this short prayer: May the two who built it escape the pit of hell.'

The plaque containing the inscription is 1.29m wide and 40cm high, while the wall stone which bears some of the inscription is 32cm x 25cm.

The two armorial plaques are within a moulded surround which is 1.68m long, 96cm high and 18cm deep. The coat of arms to James Butler, Lord Dunboyne, is on the dexter side and on the sinister side is the arms of Margaret O'Brien, daughter of the second Earl of Thomond.

7: 5 Fair Green (possible)

Siting: Located west of the abbey and village of Holycross. The eastern triangle is surrounded on all sides by a road.

Historical Background: In 1602 a platform collapsed at the fair of Holycross, injuring two people.[98] There is a reference dating to 1667 which states that Holycross had two fairs.[99]

Description: The fair green is depicted on Ordnance Survey maps as having an hour-glass shape. The western triangle was almost completely quarried in the nineteenth century. The eastern triangle, however, is still preserved as a green.

UNLOCATED SITES

Mills

Historical Background: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 there is a reference to 'two or three grinding Mills and a tucking Mill' upon the lands of Holycross.

Description: These were not necessarily located in the actual village of Holycross, as there are mills associated with the abbey almost a mile to the north of it, at Beakstown.

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[98]Gillespie, R. and Cunningham, B., 1991, 178.
[99]Smyth, W.J., 1991, 164.

KILCOMMON

Cill Commáin meaning Saint Commáin's church.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

c.1200   A Benedictine priory may have been founded here by Philip of Worcester.[100]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1   Benedictine Priory (possible site)

8: 1 Benedictine Priory (possible site)

Siting: In the graveyard immediately north of St. Patrick's Catholic church and south of a tributary of the Bilboa River.

Historical Background: Archdall[101] identified Kilcommon as the site of a Benedictine priory founded by Philip of Worcester in about the year 1200. His identification was accepted by some authorities and even on Ordnance Survey maps, the village is marked as the site of the priory. Orpen has shown however, that the Benedictine priory was in fact in another Kilcommon in Iffa and Offa barony in South Tipperary.[102] This area can be shown to have been part of the founder's lands. The priory site at Kilcommon in Kilnamanagh barony as marked on the Ordnance Survey maps therefore appears to be the wrong location.

Description: No trace of the priory was visible.

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[100] Archdall, Mervyn, 1786, 664.
[101] Archdall, Mervyn, 1786, 664.
[102] St. John Brooks, E, 1954, 288-9.

LORRHA

Lothra.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

584 Saint Ruadhán, who founded a monastery at Lorrha, died.[103]

845, 1015, 1056 The monastery was attacked.[104]

12th century A house for Augustinian canons was established at Lorrha.[105]

1208 The castle at Lorrha was destroyed by Muirchertach Ua Briain.[106]

***c.*1221** Lorrha castle had been re-built and was taken by the justiciar from the Bishop of Killaloe in the course of a dispute.[107]

1243 The manor of Lorrha was in de Burgo hands, but was held of the Bishop of Killaloe.[108]

1269 The Dominican priory was founded by Walter de Burgo, Earl of Ulster.[109]

1552 After the Dissolution of the Monasteries the last prior of the Augustinian Canons, John Hogan, was granted a lease on both the Augustinian and Dominican priories in Lorrha.[110]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Dominican Priory
2 Graveslab
3 Bullaun Stone
4 Bullaun Stone
5 'Black Castle'/Mill
6 Augustinian Friary

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[103] Gleeson, J,1915, 249; Harbison, P.,1970, 231; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,185.

[104] Chron. Scot., s.a. 845; Ann. Clon., s.a. 842; A.F.M. s.a. 843; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988,185; Chron. Scot. s.a. 1056.

[105] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F.,1916, 49.

[106] Cunningham, G.,1987, 142.

[107] Ibid.; Talbot, E.J.,1972, 9.

[108] Cunningham,G.,1987, 42.

[109] Gleeson, D.F.,1951,102.

[110] Ibid.

7   Holy Well
8   Parish Church
9   High Cross
10 High Cross
11 Monastery/Monastic Enclosure
12 Motte and bailey

Unlocated Sites
Benedictine Abbey

9: 1   Dominican Priory

Siting: South of the village, mistakenly referred to as a Franciscan Abbey on the 6" Ordnance Survey maps.

Historical Background: Founded in 1269 by Walter de Burgo, Earl of Ulster,[111] this monastery was dedicated to St. Peter Martyr, an Italian preacher who was martyred in 1252 and canonised two years later.[112] An indulgence for the repair of the buildings was granted in 1401.[113] Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1552 the last prior of the Augustinian Canons, John Hogan, was granted a lease on both the Augustinian and Dominican priories in Lorrha.[114]
Despite this change in their fortunes, the Dominicans stayed in Lorrha. In 1688 a provincial chapter of the order was held here[115] and there are references to Dominicans at Lorrha from the seventeenth to the early nineteenth centuries.[116] In 1812 a church was built immediately north of the nave, on the site of the present Catholic church, and stones from the friary are said to have been used in its construction.[117] Gleeson noted that the west wall of the church was very thick, and suggested that it may have been part of the conventual buildings.[118] The west gable of the friary collapsed on January 9, 1939, but was re-built by the Office of Public Works.

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[111] Gleeson, D.F.,1951,102.
[112] Gleeson, J.,1915, 259.
[113] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1970, 227.
[114] Ibid.
[115] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1915, 259.
[116] Taheny, Rev. L.,1940, 9-15.
[117] Gleeson, D.F.,1951, 103.
[118] Ibid,103.

Description: This long church, built of randomly coursed limestone, measures 46.3m by 10m with walls 1.16m thick and 6.5m high. The eastern end of the church has an external base batter.

The chancel area is delineated by a series of six double-light, lancet windows in the south wall, each pair within a semi-pointed embrasure with cut limestone surrounds. Beneath the most easterly double-light there is a large cinquefoil aumbry with tangential moulding containing a credence and double piscina, the latter having fairly worn, circular basins. Below the third window from the east a semi-pointed arch with the remains of a hood-moulding has been inserted in a 'niche'. It fouls the light to some degree, though the arch, which formerly contained tracery, has been left open. In the north wall of the chancel there is a semi-pointed moulded doorway, the internal hood-mould of which is badly fractured. This doorway probably led to the former sacristy, of which there is no trace. The east gable had a five-light window. Only the lower portion of the mullions survive intact although the embrasure itself survives to a greater height. Internally the window rests on a string-course which continues out to meet the side walls.

Plate 7: Dominican Priory, Lorrha

According to Leask there was a stone screen or pulpitum mid-way along the church to divide nave and chancel.[119] Mid-way along the south wall of the church there is a large block of masonry, perhaps a late internal buttress, not bonded into the wall.

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[119]Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D., 1962, 273.

Inserted in the west end of this structure is what appears to be a small side altar with a pointed cut stone arch above it. At right angles to this, inserted in the south wall is a piscina and west of this is a sedilia. The middle of the north wall has largely collapsed and been crudely rebuilt in places. A large number of architectural fragments have been placed along the internal base of this wall. It has been suggested that a cross-wall may have been inserted in relatively modern times to form a smaller church but there is no clear evidence of this.

The nave has relatively few features. There is a blocked ope near the west gable which formerly contained a doorway. Also in the south wall are two windows, a triple square-headed light with an external hood-moulding and a single lancet. The north wall is better lit with a series of single-lancet windows. However, only two survive intact with the west embrasure and jambs of a third. A row of dripstones is present on both the north and south walls of the chancel, though the survival is better on the south wall where it is clear that the dripstones are resting on the alure with a parapet above.

According to Gleeson the west gable was rebuilt by the Office of Public Works in 1939 after it had fallen.[120] It may not have been possible to reconstruct the central doorway as its cut stone was removed and incorporated in the 1812 Catholic church. The present large doorway is a mixture of reused stones with a high segmental-headed arch. Above this there is a semi-pointed window with two lancet lights. The gable is surmounted by a bell-cote.

Fragments of cloister arcade within the church testify to the presence of a cloister and give a hint of a larger complex.

Wall monuments / gravestones:

1. There are two very well preserved seventeenth-century composite wall memorials both dedicated to the O'Kennedys. One has been inserted in a niche in the south wall of the chancel, partially blocking the two-light window above. It contains the O'Kennedy coat of arms with the motto *Spes mea in Deo est* meaning 'my hope is in God' and a sermonising inscription in Latin. No date is present but it is in a typical early seventeenth-century style.

2. Opposite this there is the second O'Kennedy wall monument, with an accompanying altar tomb. It contains a plaque with a sermonising Latin inscription and a beautifully executed coat of arms with the motto *Dominus pars haereditatis meae* meaning 'the Lord is the portion of my inheritance'. The top of the altar tomb is decorated and bears an inscription in Latin, in raised Roman script with a date of 1629. The panels are also decorated.

[120]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 227.

3. East of this is a small seventeenth-century plaque inserted in the wall with a mixture of cut limestone blocks framing it, one containing an I H S inscription. It contains the Egan coat of arms and an inscription in Latin for Constantine Egan and his son John who erected this monument in 1689.

4. There is a large flat recumbent limestone slab at the east end of the chancel against the east gable. Two sides are straight with a chamfer towards the back, there is a straight break down the middle and it measures 1.6m x 95cm and is 10cm thick.

5. Near the west end of the chancel, on the northern side there is a tapering limestone graveslab lying on a concrete plinth. The tomb is decorated in relief with a St. Joseph's lily with a small cross on either side of the lily. It is 1.87m long x 59cm wide at the top which tapers to 48cm at the base and is 11cm deep. According to Rev. J. Gleeson this graveslab was unearthed at the Augustinian Priory in 1908.[121]

Plate 8: Seventeenth-century wall memorial, Dominican Priory, Lorrha

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[121]Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, vol.i, 254.

9: 2   Graveslab and Architectural Fragments in R.C. church

Siting: The limestone graveslab is lying inside the R.C. church adjacent to the Dominican Priory while the architectural fragments are inserted in the east gable of the church.

Description: The graveslab is 2m long x *c.*90cm wide and is decorated with a six-armed circular cross head with fleur-de-lys terminals, in the centre of which is an I H S motif. There is a sun and moon motif above the cross and both sides of the shaft are decorated with symbols of the passion. Also on either side of the shaft are two prayers in Latin, carved in relief in Gothic script. The shaft rests on a stepped calvary mount. The marginal inscription in Latin commemorates Patrick O'Hogan of Shearragh and his wife Johanna Dalachan who had this tomb made in 1626.

There are three pieces of carved stone. These were probably moved from the earlier 1812 church where they had been inserted in the west gable. Originally they came from the Dominican Priory. All are painted grey.

1. At the apex of the gable there is a corbel with a carved angel on the underside. This angel looks like a monk, its hands joined in prayer. It has a crisscross sash on its chest and large wings, one on either side.

2. To the south of the porch is a carved head, a pear-shaped face with long wavy hair and a crown with a single fleur-de-lys front-piece. The figure has a straight horizontal mouth incised, a long nose and circular double lines forming the eyes.

3. Piece of tracery with a carving of a head, possibly a monk's, projecting out.

There are also a number of architectural fragments lying in a pile to the north of the Dominican Priory, close to the south wall of the 'mill'. These include a moulded piece, chamfered blocks and a large dripstone, similar to those still *in situ* in the priory.

9: 3   Bullaun Stone

Siting: Situated at the south-east corner of the east gable of the modern R.C. church.

Description: This is a roughly sub-circular block of conglomerate stone which has an off-centre sub-oval depression. One side of the bullaun (present south face) has a split face giving a very straight edge. The boulder is 83cm x 63cm and *c.*50cm high. The depression is 30cm x 27cm and 17cm deep.

9: 4 Bullaun Stone

Siting: At the north-east corner of the modern R.C. church there is another bullaun stone.

Description: This is a conglomerate boulder. One face (the present south-east face) appears to be split but at quite an acute angle and below the top rim. There is a very steep-sided central bowl with a relatively flat base. The boulder is 86cm x 76cm and 42cm high. The bowl is large, being 58cm x 42cm and 25cm deep. Adjoining one side of the bowl there is a shallow semi-circular hollow, 24cm wide and 10cm deep.

Plate 9: Bullaun stone, Lorrha

9: 5   Tower house/Mill 'Black Castle'

Siting: Situated north of the Dominican Priory.

Historical Background: In the Ordnance Survey Namebooks, the ruin is called 'Black Castle', but O'Donovan noted that it was 'so called from its appearance being black and like an old castle.' He goes on to say that it 'was a mill used by the friars for grinding their corn, close by the Roman [Catholic] chapel.' In fact in 1840 there was still 'a small brook flowing across its floor, which [brook] turned the mill.'[122] It is unlikely, however, that the tower's original function was for milling as the quality of fenestration in the upper chambers is more suitable for comfortable living quarters, perhaps for the prior himself. This tower may be all that remains of a north range leading from the chancel of the Dominican Priory.
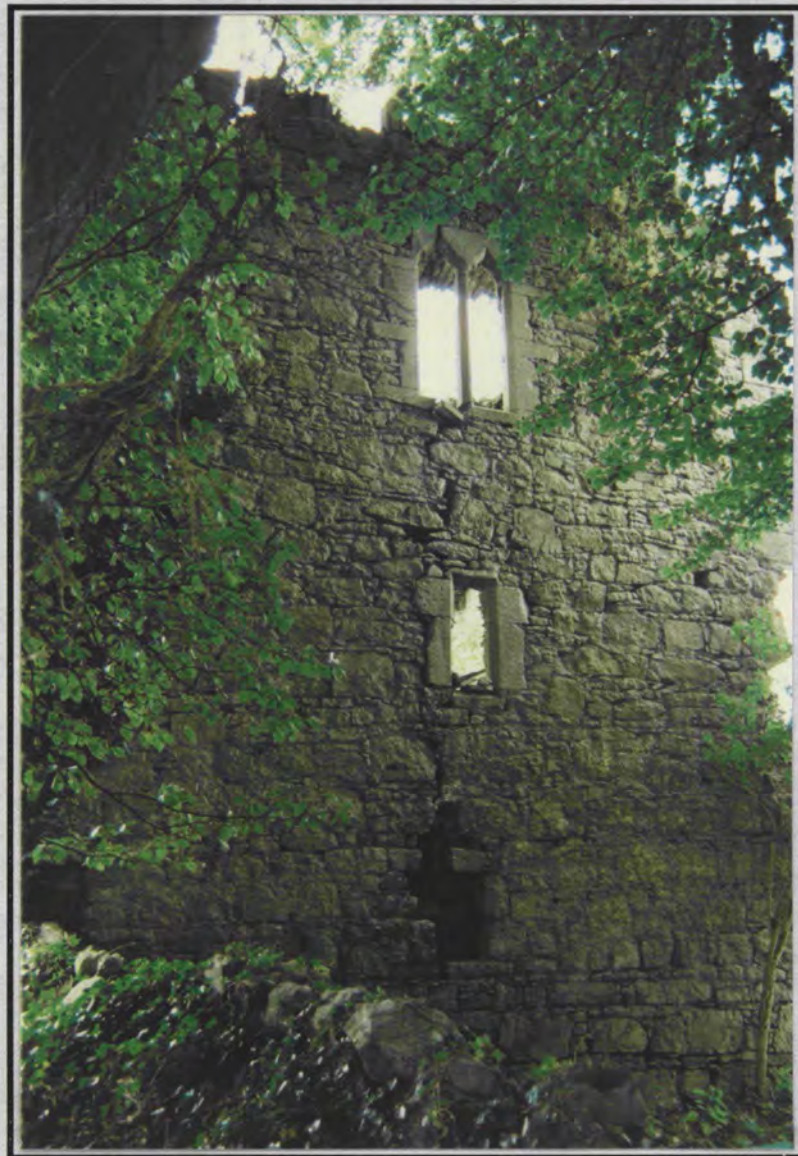
Plate 10: Black Castle/Mill, Lorrha

[122]O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol. iii, 69 (187).

Description: This tower house survives to a height of three storeys. It is constructed of randomly coursed limestone blocks of varying sizes. It is much overgrown at present, particulary the external west and south faces which are heavily ivy-clad. There are several cracks in the building and though the limestone is of poor quality, with flakes crumbling off, many of the window surrounds are dressed. The tower has a slight base batter.

At the base of the north and corresponding south wall there is a low ope with a curving relieving arch of roughly cut voussoirs. Through these opes a stream, which is no longer evident, was diverted. A modern doorway has been inserted in the west face at ground floor level and besides the 'mill-stream' opes the only other feature is a crude blocked ope in the east wall.

At first floor level there is a pointed doorway at the southern end of the west wall; twin flat-headed embrasures in the north wall, the lights of which are missing. There is a well-carved flat-headed window in the east wall with an external chamfer and an embrasure in the middle of the south wall. This light is obscured by ivy but from an earlier photograph it appears to be a simple loop.

The second floor is the most elaborate. Like the floor below, it was entered through a doorway from an external structure adjoining the west wall of the tower. The north-west corner is obsured but there may be a window there on the north wall. There is a fireplace in the middle of the north wall, its cut stone surrounds are badly denuded and the mantle-piece and chimney no longer survive. Beside this there is a single-cusped ogee-headed light, while in the east wall there is a similar two-light window. The south wall contains the remains of a two-light window and a flat-headed single light adjacent to which is a wall press. At the top of the east wall there are carved stone fragments c.50cm apart which do not appear to be *in situ*. A number of other fragments are to be found at the base of the tower, some incorporated in a stone wall to the east.

9: 6 Augustinian Priory

Siting: On the east of the village, immediately west of St. Ruadhán's ruined church and the Church of Ireland church.

Historical Background: A house for Augustinian canons was established at Lorrha at some time during the twelfth century.[123] The priory is referred to as *Beatae Mariae Fontis Vivae* and in some Papal letters as 'the monastery of Saint Ruadhán O.S.A.',[124] showing continuity between the priory and Saint Ruadhán's Early Christian foundation.

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[123] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F.,1916, 49.
[124] Ibid, 212.

It was presumably the Augustinian Priory that was burned three times during the twelfth century in 1154, 1157, and 1179.[125] When the priory was dissolved in the sixteenth century, its last prior, John O'Hogan took a twenty-one year lease on the property. His lease was renewed in 1578.[126] Later lease holders were Thomas Lambyn in 1590, Sir Robert Napper in 1599 and William Dongan in 1621. Despite the Dissolution, a prior of Lorrha was referred to in 1599,[127] but his position may have been titular.[128] Gwynn and Hadcock[129] furthermore, stated that Augustinian friars seem to have taken over from the canons in 1643, showing even greater continuity.

Description: This is a fifteenth-century church with conventual buildings adjoining to the south. The church itself measures 32m x *c*.8.8m externally and has a base batter which starts *c*.2m above ground level and splays out *c*.20cm. There is no evidence of a division between the nave and chancel. The main entrance to the church is a highly ornate doorway in the west wall. It is semi-pointed with an decorated ogee-headed hood-moulding surmounted by crocket finials. The doorway has two moulded orders, at the apex of the outer one there is a carved woman's head wearing a horned head-dress and collared robe. Immediately above this doorway there is a semi-pointed window containing a cusped, trefoil-headed double-light with quatrefoil above. It is surmounted by a semi-pointed hood-mould with plain label stop.

The north wall survives to a height of *c*.5m. Near the west of the wall there are two large blank arcades with segmental arches which appear to be late features. In the rest of the wall there are only two small windows, a pointed two-light and an ogee-headed single-light. The east gable is lit by a relatively small two-light window which has a replicated concrete mullion. Most of the south wall has collapsed, though it was built up to provide a side wall for the adjoining ball-alley. However, the east end of this wall also forms the gable of a lateral building, probably a sacristy. This building is two storey, the ground floor being vaulted. It is entered through an elaborate semi-pointed doorway in the south wall of the church. The building has a high-pitched gable on the north and south walls, the latter being surmounted by a substantial stone chimney stack. Between the sacristy and the east wall of the church there is a round-headed embrasure containing an ogee-headed two-light. Also on the south wall there was a polished, black stone piscina with credence which was removed from this church in the 1880s and brought to the church of the Immaculate Conception, Minneapolis, U.S.A.[130]

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[125] A.F.M., s.a. 1154, 1157 and 1179.

[126] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F.,1962, 51.

[127] A.F.M., s.a. 1599.

[128] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 185.

[129] Ibid., 304.

[130]Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, 253.

There is another conventual building adjoining the south of the church and the west wall of the sacristy. The west wall is gone and the south and east walls of this building have concrete rendering internally to provide a smooth surface for the hand-ball alley. On the external face of the south wall there is a blocked round-headed doorway, dressed with chamfered jambs. Four corbels project out from the south face c.2m above present ground level and there is a row of put logs c.1m above these and another row c.40cm below.

There are three recumbent slabs of limestone at the east end of the church interior.
1. A rectangular limestone slab, tapering slightly towards the base. It has a plain raised cross with a horizontal band across the top and bottom. The top edges have a slight chamfer 3cm wide. It is 2.06m long, 61cm wide at top and 54cm at base with a depth of at least 13cm, it being further embedded in the ground.
2. This slab has been split horizontally c.60m from the top, and the top portion is worn and broken. It has an incised cross pattern similar to that above. The total length of the slab is 1.34m. It tapers towards the base, being 63cm across the top and 54cm across the base. It has roughly dressed straight sides which are 11cm deep.
3. This is a small recumbent limestone slab, 51cm x 32cm and is at least 16cm deep, though it is firmly embedded in the ground. It is incised with a double circle with incised cross within. The slab appears to be broken on all sides except the top surface which is not very smooth.
Two architectural fragments have been concreted into a footing at the internal base of the south wall of the church. Both of limestone.
1. Part of a moulding, 29cm long and 20cm x 17cm.
2. Fragment of tracery, 35cm x 38cm.
There are also two architectural fragments at the back of the adjacent house to the north. Both are of limestone.
1. Part of a moulding, 37cm long, 20cm x 18cm.
2. Cut stone piece, 46cm long, 25cm x 20cm.

9: 7   Holy Well 'St. Ruadhán's'

Siting: On the east side of the village, south of the Augustinian friary on the western side of the road.

Description: This well is enclosed in a roughly D-shaped area, the stone walls of which are pointed and have a rough stone coping. The floor has cobble stones embedded in concrete. The top of the well is covered with an iron grill door which can be freely opened. The well itself is below ground level. Seven limestone steps, each

*c.*25cm thick and 1m wide, give access to the water. The roughly rectangular well hole is 90cm x 80cm.[131]

9: 8   Parish Church 'St. Ruadhán's'

Siting: On the east side of the village, within a curve in the road, probably the inner ecclesiastical enclosure of the original monastery of St. Ruadhán.

Historical Background: Saint Ruadhán was a follower of Saint Finian of Clonard.[132] His earliest foundation was probably a church at Kilruane, near Nenagh. When Ruadhán came to found his church at Lorrha, he discovered that Saint Brendan had already established himself nearby. In 588[133] Saint Brendan moved to found his church at Clonfert. Saint Ruadhán is perhaps best known for his disputes with Diarmait, King of Tara. The commonly accepted date for the death of Saint Ruadhán is 584.[134]

Plate 11:   St. Ruadhán's church, Lorrha

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[131]FitzPatrick, L., 1985, 17-22, unpublished.

[132] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F.,1962, 47-8.

[133] A.U. s.a. 588.

[134] Gleeson, J,1915, 249; Harbison, P.,1970, 231; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,185.

Members of the community of Lorrha are mentioned regularly in the annals from the seventh century onwards. Attacks on the monastery were noted in 845,[135] 1015[136] and 1056.[137] In 1037;[138] 'Cú Chaille, son of Cennétaig, King of Músgraige, with his son, was slain in front of the stone church of Lorrha after he had been taken from the altar; and Mathgamhain Ua Cathail was slain on the same night.'
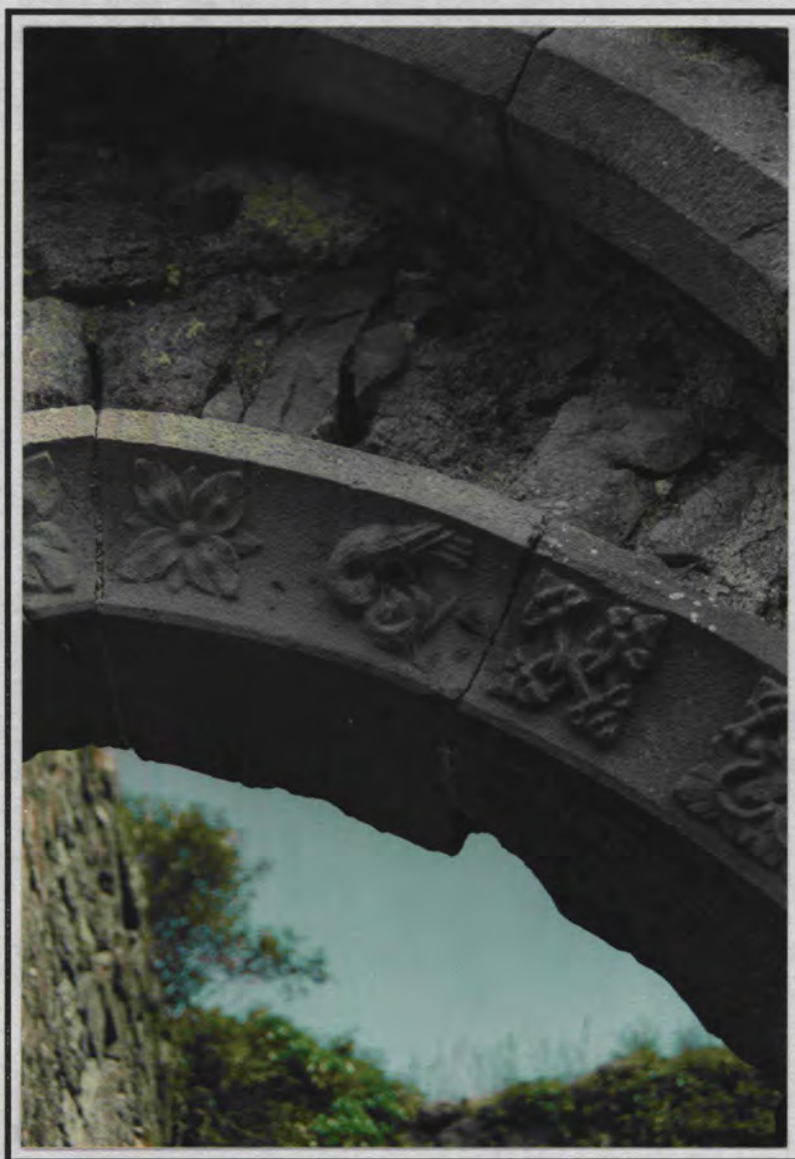
Plate 12: Detail of carved doorway in St. Ruadhán's Church, Lorrha

An important product of the monastery of Lorrha is the Stowe Missal. Discovered by O'Kennedy in the wall of Lackeen castle some time before 1735,[139] the missal is believed to have been written at Lorrha in the ninth century and hidden some time

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135 Chron. Scot., s.a. 845; Ann. Clon., s.a. 842; A.F.M. s.a. 843.
136 Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988,185.
137 Chron. Scot. s.a. 1056.
138 Ann. Inisf. s.a. 1037.
139 Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F.,1962, 49.

after the Dissolution in the sixteenth century. It was enclosed in a decorated, inscribed casket, showing signs of eleventh and fourteenth century work.

Description: This church is twelfth century in date with a high-pitch gable, antae at either end and massive stone masonry. The exterior is roughly 18.3m long x 11.1m wide. The original fabric has been subjected to a number of alterations. At the west end a residence was inserted in the fifteenth century, consisting of a barrel-vaulted chamber at ground floor level with a stairs along the south wall giving access to a first floor chamber. This chamber was well-lit with a number of windows, including the remains of a two-light cusped-ogee window in the west wall. A Church of Ireland church, still in use, was inserted at the east end. In the south wall there is a large opening with a fifteenth-century semi-pointed limestone arch with a hollow chamfer decorated with individual floral motifs and also a pelican drawing blood from its breast to feed its young. Above this is an earlier thirteenth-century arch with a carved head at the apex. Both these arches and their mismatched jambs are late inserts into this wall. East of this, a window has been inserted, once again a mixture of various pieces of worked stone. The sill stone is from an earlier window and has a roll-moulding which may have acted as a hood-mould.

9: 9 High Cross

Siting: The remains of the north-western cross are located in the graveyard of St. Ruadhán's parish church. Of the two crosses present in the graveyard it is the further from St. Ruadhán's Church.

Description: The cross has a large base, 1.17m x 94cm and 1.2m high. The base is beautifully decorated with interlace panels and some figurative scenes, the clearest being on the east face, depicting three lion-like creatures and a man. Above these the base forms two steps, both of which contain a frieze of animals. The upper is quite denuded but the animals on the lower step are clearly horses. A small fragment of the shaft, c.85cm high, remains in the socket, it is decorated with interlace on the south and north side and with denuded figure sculpture on the remaining sides. This cross is probably of eighth/ninth-century date.[140]

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[140] Harbison, P., 1992, 379-82.

9: 10   High Cross

Siting: The remains of the south-eastern cross are located in the graveyard of St. Ruadhán's parish church. Of the two crosses it is the one nearer to St. Ruadhán's Church.

Description: The cross base, 1.5m square, survives in a very denuded state, it is stepped towards the top. While the sides are very denuded they seem to have been decorated with figure sculpture, the only possibly recognisable scene being Daniel in the lion's den.[141] Portion of the cross shaft still remains in the socket. This is decorated on all sides with an interlace pattern and appears to have had projecting rolls at the corners.[142] The total height of base and shaft is 1.52m. This cross is probably of eighth/ninth-century date.[143]

9: 11   Monastic Enclosure

Siting: East of the main street.

Historical Background: The monastery was founded by Saint Ruadhán, who is believed to have died in 584. References to the monastery appear in the annals from the seventh century onwards, with attacks on the monastery being noted in 845, 1015 and 1056 (see general historical background).

Description: Early Christian monasteries were sometimes surrounded by up to three enclosures, referred to as the *sanctus, sanctior* and *sanctissimus* or holy, holier and holiest. At Lorrha two enclosures have survived in part, an inner enclosure, possibly the *sancitissimus* and an outer enclosure, the *sanctus*. The outline of an inner enclosure is preserved today in the curving road south of St. Ruadhán's church and the east wall of St. Ruadhán's graveyard. The outer enclosure, while being somewhat irregular, is very apparent in the surviving curving field boundary north-west of St. Ruadhán's Church which continues as a cropmark in the north-east quadrant. To the south the river was possibly the enclosing element.

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[141]Harbison, P., 1992, 138.
[142]Crawford, H.S., 1909, 128-129.
[143]Harbison, P., 1992, 1992, 379-82.

9: 12 Motte and bailey

Siting: At the eastern end of the village, on the north side of the road.

Historical Background: The castle at Lorrha was first referred to in 1208,[144] when it was destroyed by Muirchertach Ua Briain. By 1221[145] it had been re-built and was taken by the justiciar from the Bishop of Killaloe in the course of a dispute. In 1243[146] the manor of Lorrha was in de Burgo hands, but was held of the Bishop of Killaloe. Gleeson[147] was unaware of the function of the motte, but referred to a sixteenth-century map showing a square tower on the top of the mound.
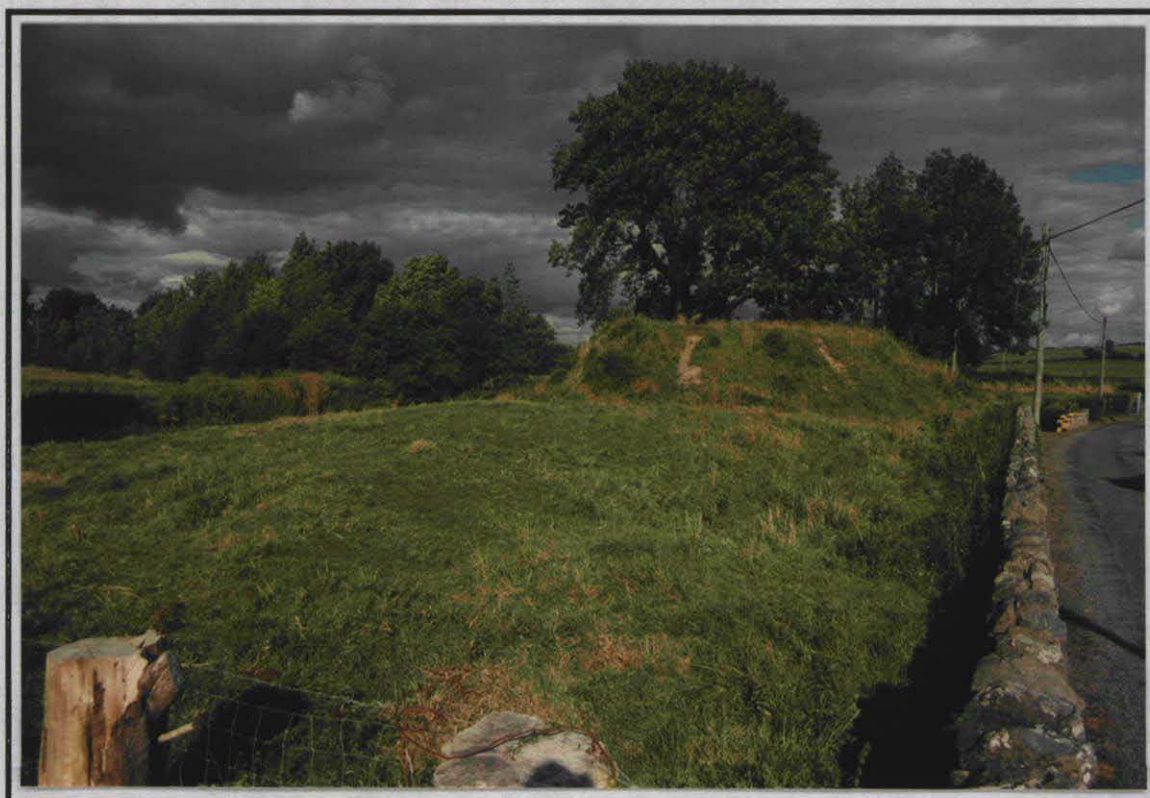
Plate 13: Motte and bailey, Lorrha

Description: This is a small, flat-topped mound with steep sides surrounded by a shallow fosse, 3.7m wide. The eastern half has been completely removed while the remaining portion has been subject to quarrying. An examination of the motte in 1972[148] revealed that it comprises a ring of turves, which was filled in the centre and heightened to form a mound. The motte is 4m high and 22.5m wide at base while the

[144] Cunningham, G.,1987, 142.
[145] Ibid.; Talbot, E.J.,1972, 9.
[146] Cunningham,G.,1987, 42.
[147] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1915, 276-7.
[148] Talbot, E.J.,1972,11.

top is 9.8m in diameter. Immediately east of the motte are the remains of a low D-shaped mound, the bailey.

UNLOCATED SITES

Benedictine Abbey

Historical Background: Alemand-Stevens (1722, 71-72) suggested that there was a Benedictine abbey of St. Deicola in Lorrha.[149] This saint died at Lure in Burgundy, France.[150]

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[149] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 109.
[150] Ibid.

MOYNE

Maighin meaning the small plain.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Church and Graveyard

10: 1   Church and Graveyard

Siting: The remains of a medieval church are at the north end of the village on the west side of the road.

Description: This simple church is in quite a ruinous condition. It has been subjected to a number of alterations, indicated by a number of anomalous straight joints in the masonry. Only the gables survive and short lengths of the side walls attached to the east gable. It measures 19.3m x 8.25m externally and the walls range in thickness from 73cm to 1.2m. The church has a base batter which rises 1.76m above external ground level. In the external face of the south wall, beside the east gable and almost at ground level, there is an unusual rectangular chamfered opening, 28cm x 40cm, which continues through the wall to the interior. Also in the south wall are the remains of a window embrasure. Interfering with the western splay of this embrasure is a trefoil headed piscina with cusped spandrels in a rectangular frame.

In the centre of the east gable there is a two-light, cusped-ogee headed window with mullion and transom. Externally this window is in a rectangular frame, and though obscured by ivy, the head appears to have a hood-moulding. At the apex of the east gable there is the base of a bellcote. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters there was also a bellcote on the west gable.[151] Along the internal east wall there is a stone 'table' 1.1m wide and up to 1m high. Internally it forms a half barrel-vaulted chamber. This is probably a burial vault inserted after the church went out of use.

The west gable is heavily ivy-clad. Approximately centrally placed in this gable are two flat-headed single-lights, one offset above the other. The Ordnance Survey Letters, however, describe four quadrangular windows in this gable.[152] To the north of these windows there is a high, flue-like feature, the base of which has collapsed away.

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[151]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), vol. i., 166 (458).
[152]Ibid.
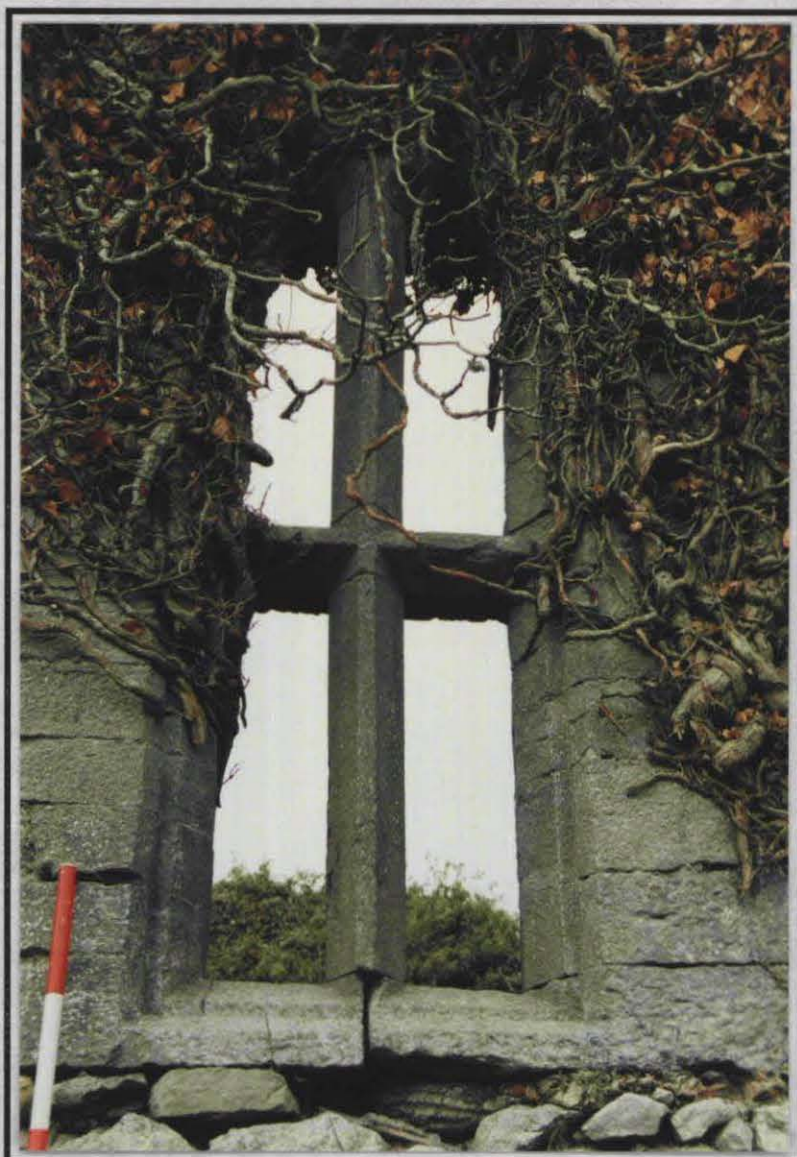
Plate 14: Detail of east window in medieval church, Moyne

NENAGH

Aenach Urmhumhan meaning fair of Ormond

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

994 /1056 *Aenach thete (Aenach Urmhumhan)* was burned during raids on Munster.[153]

1200-1220 The Anglo-Norman town at Nenagh was founded by Theobald Walter.[154]

1217-1221 A parish church is mentioned in a deed dating to this period.[155]

1299 An inquisition into a later Theobald Walter's intention to alter a roadway near the town concluded; '...that it would not damage any but those who dwell in Theobald's town of the Nanagh in the street below the castle to the east, viz. Robert, son of David and his neighbours dwelling in that street.'[156] Bradley suggested that the modern Pearse Street preserves the route of the street mentioned in 1299.[157]

1305, 1338 Burgesses were mentioned in state papers. [158]

1316 Robert Bruce's army wasted the manor of Nenagh but left the castle and settlement intact.[159]

1336 The O'Kennedys put pressure on the Butlers early in the fourteenth century, resulting in a peace treaty with the Earl of Ormond.[160]

1348 The town was burnt by O'Kennedy's.[161] O'Kennedy was defeated and killed by the Earl of Ormond.[162]

1392 The Butlers bought Kilkenny Castle and made it their new chief residence. Nenagh remained in Irish hands until the sixteenth century.[163]

1432 The reeve and community of Nenagh were noted in the Ormond deeds.[164]

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[153] A.F.M.

[154] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G.,1936, 248.

[155] Ormond deeds, vol. i, 22, lit. 43; see also O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.),1930, vol. iii, 99-100, (295-6).

[156] Cal. justic. rolls, vol. i, 234.

[157] Bradley, J.,1985, 50.

[158] Cal. justic. rolls, vol. ii,108; Cal. inquis. post mortem, vol. viii,121.

[159] Gleeson, D.F., 1936, 250.

[160] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G. 1936, 250-1.

[161] Prendergast, J.P., 1851, 392.

[162] Gleeson, D.F and Leask, H.G., 1938, 206.

[163] Prendergast, J.P., 1851, 393-4.

[164] Ormond deeds, vol. iii, 95.

1533	Sir Piers Butler reclaimed Nenagh for his family.[165]
1546	The manor of Nenagh was described as worth nothing 'because waste' due to conflict with the O'Carrolls.[166]
1548	The town was burnt by O Carroll of Éile and only those people who were in the keep escaped.[167]
*c.***1575**	The response to these attacks seems to have been a major re-development of the town.[168] Ordnances issued at this time show that Nenagh had to be re-constituted as a town because there were no burgesses or burgages.
1654-56	The Civil Survey refers to '...sixty cottages and thatcht houses lately built...' in Nenagh.[169]
*c.***1650**	Nenagh had a population of 275, 68 of whom were English.[170]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle
2 Franciscan Friary
3 Wall Monument
4 Cross-slabs and querns
5 Jail (site)
6 Market House (site)
7 Town Defences (possible site)
8 Church (site)
9 Ring-barrow cemetery
10 Tyone Abbey

Other SMR sites within the Urban District Boundary
20:33 Holy Well (St. John's)
21:26 Enclosure
21:27 Enclosure
21:40 Dwelling (possible)
21:41 Bridge (possible)
21:43 Weir (possible)
21:44 Ringfort
Unlocated sites
Seventeenth-century house (site)

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[165] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G. 1936, 255.
[166] Prendergast, J.P., 1851, 397.
[167] A.F.M., s.a. 1548.
[168] Bradley, J., 1985, 50; Thomas, A., vol. ii, 173.
[169] Simington, R.C., (ed.),1934, vol. ii, 295.
[170] Gleeson, J.,1915,162.

11a: 1 Castle

Siting: On the north side of the town centre, east of O'Rahilly Street and west of Pearse Street.

Historical Background: Nenagh Castle was built between 1200 and 1220. Extensive building work was carried out in and about the castle of Nenagh in 1287: '...in repairs of houses and in building a house below the gate, in repairing and roofing other houses and towers, in rebuilding a bridge, gates and palisades which were thrown down by a storm, and on repairs of the prisons- viz., in laying of joists and repairs of doors and locks.'[171] Nenagh castle served as the main Butler seat until the second half of the fourteenth century when they moved to Gowran, Co. Kilkenny. It was in the hands of the Mac Ibrien family in the fifteenth century but returned to Butler ownership in 1533 under Piers Butler, Earl of Ossory.

Over the following century or more, the Butlers secured their settlement in the area, defended Nenagh from Irish attacks and re-developed the town. Nenagh Castle was at the centre of many incidents during the seventeenth century. The castle was attacked several times and passed through the hands of Sir George Hamilton, who garrisoned the castle until Phelim O'Neill wrested it from him in 1648.[172] Hamilton later re-took the castle with the help of Lord Inchiquin. The Cromwellian Colonel Daniel Abbott held the castle for a time, but Sir William Flower recovered it for the Duchess of Ormond after the Restoration in 1660.[173] Long Anthony O'Carroll took Nenagh Castle for King James II in 1690.[174] After a prolonged struggle, the castle came to rest in the hands of General Ginkle's army in 1691. This was the last occasion on which the military importance of Nenagh Castle was in evidence.

After the Williamite wars, Nenagh Castle was one of a number of castles which were partially dismantled as a precaution against their use in any future disorders. In 1763, Solomon Newsome, who farmed the adjoining land attempted to destroy the castle with gunpowder in order to rid his land of sparrows, which fed on his crops and nested in the keep.[175] The chasm which resulted from his attempts was noted by O'Donovan.[176] In 1862,[177] the top storey and crenellated parapet were added on to the keep, the tower was possibly also repaired at this time and the ground floor opening broken through.[178] Writing in 1915,[179] Rev. J. Gleeson noted that the

[171] Thomas, A., 1993, 173-4; Prendergast, J.P., 1851, 391-2.

[172] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G., 1936, 256-7.

[173] Ibid., 257.

[174] Ibid., 258.

[175] Ibid., 259.

[176] Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol. iii, 102, (303).

[177] Grace, Daniel, 1993, 115.

[178] Murphy, N., 1993, 8.

[179] Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, 107.

gatehouse of the castle was being used as a ball court. In 1929 conservation work was carried out and the stairs rising from basement level inserted.[180]

Castle: The focus of Nenagh Castle is a strong cylindrical tower incorporated into the northern side of a bawn. The bawn was entered through a large gatehouse with two flanking towers (described below). There appear to have been two smaller towers at the west and east sides of what was a sub-circular bawn, only part of the eastern tower survives. Traces of the bawn wall can be seen projecting from the keep and gatehouse.

Plate 15: Keep and gatehouse, Nenagh

Keep: The original limestone keep survives to a height of four storeys, above which is a Victorian addition (1862) of continuous large round-headed windows surmounted by a crenellated parapet. The keep is very defensive. There was no entrance at ground level, though one has subsequently been broken through the 5m thick wall in the north-west quadrant. The original entrance was within the bawn at first floor level, probably leading straight onto the spiral stairs in the south-east quadrant. There is a blocked doorway in this position but it appears to be of late date. Other defensive features include long, narrow sandstone arrow loops, a machicolation on the west side protecting the bawn wall from attack and a base batter. The keep is of late twelfth/thirteenth-century date and is unusual in that there is a Romanesque door

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180 Ibid.

surround with chevron decoration on the second floor. The third floor has an elaborate doorway and fireplace with moulded sandstone engaged columns and capitals.

Gatehouse: This rectangular gatehouse is situated on the south side of the bawn. It measures 22.8m x 12.5m externally.[181] The building, which is two storeys high, survives in quite a ruinous state. There were two D-shaped towers on either side of the large arched entrance on the south side, of these only the east one remains. There is evidence that this entrance had a portcullis;[182] the high inner entrance, with its semi-circular arch, is in a precarious state. The eastern wall of the gatehouse has completely collapsed. The first storey was probably the great hall.[183] It was lit by a series of large windows in the northern wall which had moulded sandstone surrounds, few of which remain.

East tower of bawn: Only the southern portion of this tower, which would have been c.10m in diameter,[184] survives. The exterior is ivy-clad while a shed has been built up against what remains of the interior. There may have been a postern gate or sallyport adjoining the south-west wall of this tower as there is the trace of a springing arch. The wall of the tower itself is 1.45m thick.

11a: 2   Franciscan Friary

Siting: Located immediately south-east of the town centre, at the junction of Friar Street and Abbey Street and west of Martyr's Road.

Historical Background: There is some doubt as to the exact foundation date of the Franciscan friary at Nenagh. A mid-thirteenth century date is most frequently put forward, perhaps around the year 1250.[185] There is also doubt as to the identity of the founder, but Donal O'Kennedy, Bishop of Killaloe, who died in 1252, is a favoured candidate.[186] The proposed foundation date is supported by Leask,[187] who dated the existing building to the mid-thirteenth century, possibly c.1260. The earliest historical reference to the house dates to 1291 when Pope Nicholas IV granted an indulgence for this church.[188]

Towards the end of the thirteenth century, there was an attempt to separate the Irish and English friars of the Franciscan order.[189] Nenagh became the chief house of the

[181]Leask, H.G., 1936, 268.
[182]Ibid.
[183]Ibid.
[184]Ibid.
[185]Lord Killanin and Duignan, M.V., 1967, p. 387; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 256.
[186]Lord Killanin and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 387.
[187]Leask, H.G., 1938, 38.
[188]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 257.
[189]Lord Killanin and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 387.

Irish faction, and the principal house of one of the five sub-divisions of the Franciscans in Ireland.[190] A provincial synod of the order was held in Nenagh on the feast of Saint Francis in 1344.[191] Annals known as the Annals of Nenagh were kept there from the early fourteenth century.[192]

In 1548,[193] the monastery and town of Nenagh were burned by O'Carroll. During Queen Elizabeth's reign,[194] the monastery was destroyed and its friars driven out. Robert Collum rented the land in 1587,[195] but the friary continued to function. The friars became observant in 1632,[196] and the monastery was finally suppressed during the Cromwellian era.[197]

Description: There are quite substantial remains of this church which measures 45.3m x 10m externally. Much of the upstanding structure appears to be the original thirteenth-century building, with use of sandstone in the surrounds and parts of the walls. There is no division between nave and chancel except a series of lancet windows in the north wall demarcating the chancel area. Where these eleven sequential windows are located the wall is leaning outward quite badly. However, it is supported by buttresses and three tie beams connect it to the south wall. The east gable is dominated by three graduated lancet windows. There is a semi-pointed sandstone doorway at the east end of the south wall which may have led to a sacristy. Westward along the south wall there is a recess which may originally have been a doorway into the cloister of a possible southern range, now destroyed.

There were some fifteenth/sixteenth-century modifications and later nineteenth-century alterations, particularly in the west gable. Here the original west entrance, of which some sandstone jambs survive, has been altered by inserting a broad limestone arch internally and a narrower limestone door surround externally. Above this the sandstone window/s was replaced by a large semi-pointed limestone window. A bellcote surmounts this gable. Inserted on the external face of this gable is a fifteenth-century vine-scroll finial and carved head and a facing of cut limestone blocks, one bearing the inscription: 'Repaired 1815 Rev. D.L. Murphy'.

The interior is populated with nineteenth- and twentieth-century gravestones. However, there are also the fragmentary remains of a floriated graveslab of possible sixteenth- or seventeenth-century date and a graveslab to Frances Minchin, who died in 1696, is inserted in a recess in the north wall of the church. This is undecorated with a long inscription in English.

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[190]Gleeson, D.F., 1943, 157.

[191]Ibid., 160.

[192]Ibid., 157-64.

[193] A.F.M. s.a. 1548.

[194] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 257.

[195] Ibid.

[196] Ibid.

[197] Gleeson, Rev.J., 1915, 150.

Plate 16: Franciscan Abbey, Nenagh

11a: 3 Wall Monument

Siting: In St. Mary's Church of Ireland church, on the north-east wall immediately east of the door.

Description: This is a seventeenth-century wall monument of limestone and marble. It has a segmental pediment with hood-mould, beneath which is the inscription surrounded by flat columns, the capitals of which continue the hood-mould. These are flanked by volute brackets. The whole rests on a red marble plinth supported by two corbels. In total it is $c.$1.2m high and 1.6m wide. The inscription, incised in Roman capitals, is in English. It reads:

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF MARY FINCH DAUGHTER OF PETE DANELL OF TABLY IN CHESHYRE ESQR . SHE WAS MARRIED UNTO SYMON FINCH ESQ^r THE 5th DAY OF AUG^T 1651. HER MOTHER WAS SISTER UNTO S^{R}RICHARD GROSVENOR OF EATO^N IN CHESHYRE KT^N. SHE DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT KILCOLMAN THE 26th DAY OF JAN 1678 IN THE 59th YEARE OF HER AGE.

11a: 4   Cross-slabs and querns

Siting: Nenagh Heritage Centre, former jail turned convent school, on the west side of O'Rahilly Street.

Description: There is a decorated quern stone and four cross-slabs on display. All the slabs are from St. Odhrán's Monastery, Latteragh. They are decorated with an incised cross surrounded by a single or double incised circle. Dorothy Kelly has described these in detail.[198]
In the basement there are seven quern stones, two of which are decorated.
There is also a mortar with a sign '15th century monastic bowl' and a broken stone ring.

11a: 5   Jail (site)

Siting: Nos. 10 and 11 Pearse Street.

Historical Background: 'In 1696 a Session House and Gaol were built on a piece of ground 40 feet by 20 feet situate in Nenagh, and granted to James Harrison of Cloughjordan by Robert Boardman of Nenagh.'[199]

Description: There are now later buildings at this location.

11a: 6   Market House (site)

Siting: Junction of Pearse Street and Kenyon Street.

Description: This market house, of seventeenth-century date, was demolished in 1812. In length it measured 12m along Pearse St. and 10m along Kenyon St.[200]

11a/b: 7   Town Defences (possible site)

Historical Background: Although no fragments of town walls remain in Nenagh, many historians argue that medieval Nenagh was walled.[201] The town had

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[198]Kelly, D., 1988, 92-100.
[199]Analecta Hibernica No.12, 1943, 131-54.
[200]Sheehan, E.H., 1949, 3.
[201]Thomas, A., 1993, 174; Bradley, J., 1985, 50-2.

burgesses, streets, major buildings, was the centre of a manor and *caput* of the Butler lordship, and as such was vulnerable to Irish attack. Defensive walls would obviously have been of great benefit to such a settlement.

Construction work carried out in Nenagh town in 1286 included the 'building of a house below the gate' and 'rebuilding ... gates, and pallisades'.[202] This implies that there was some form of town defence in the late thirteenth century, gates being a component part of town defences, but the ramparts may have taken the form of a fosse and fence rather than a stone wall. A more substantial fortification may have been built in the fourteenth century as murage was being collected in 1322-3 and 1344-5.[203]

Two gates, Thomond Gate at Connolly Street on the west side of the town and the unlocated Sparragibba, were referred to in the seventeenth century.[204] According to Sheehan, Sparragibba was located at River Lane, in the angle between Kenyon Street and Connolly Street.[205] Murphy suggests that Thomond Gate stood on Connolly Street.[206] However, this may have been a seventeenth/eighteenth-century toll gate rather than a medieval town gate.[207] It has been claimed that 'part of the town wall' was discovered near the old church in Kenyon Street in the early nineteenth century.[208]

Description: Opinion differs as to the extent of the town defences. Thomas opts for a roughly triangular area with the castle forming one apex, the church on Kenyon Street another and a kink in St. John's Place forming the south-western limit.[209] Bradley looks to possible burgage plots as an indication of where the medieval town lay, with the caveat that these property boundaries may be as late as the sixteenth or seventeenth century.[210] The Franciscan friary may or may not have been outside the town wall.

11b: 8 Protestant Church (site)

Siting: The south-east side of Kenyon St.

Historical Background: According to E.H. Sheehan there was a church on this site in the seventeenth century, it being described in a visitation of 1615 as in a partly

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[202]Prendergast, J.P., 1851, 391-92.

[203] Bradley, J., 1985, 52; Thomas, A. 1993, 173.

[204] Grace, Daniel, 1993, 175; Thomas, A. 1993, 173; Bradley, J., 1985, 50.

[205] Sheehan, E.H., 1949, 8.

[206] Murphy, D.A., 1977, 27.

[207] Thomas, A., 1992, Vol.II, 173.

[208] Ibid.

[209] Ibid, 173-75.

[210] Bradley, J., 1985, 51.

ruinous condition.[211] It is speculated that this is also the site of the medieval parish church.

Description: The present church tower was built in 1760 onto the body of the seventeenth-century church which was subsequently rebuilt in 1809.[212] The earliest headstone, which lies broken against the south wall of the graveyard, is dated to 1730. There were two other eighteenth-century headstones noted but the majority are nineteenth-century. There are no traces of any medieval or seventeenth-century remains above ground.

11b: 9   Ring-barrow Cemetery

Siting: In the fields to the west of Nenagh Mart, behind St. Patrick's Terrace on O'Growney Street, in Knockanpierce townland.

Description:
South field: Of the three ring-barrows identified in an Ordnance Survey aerial photograph,[213] the site nearest the north wall in the field (the south garden wall of the last house in the terrace) has been denuded by cattle poaching and could not be identified. The site immediately south of this has been denuded on the north side also as a result of poaching but was still quite clear and the overall diameter could be determined. Both sites are situated south-east of a rise in the field, being slightly downslope of the highest point. The southern site is circular, the diameter being measured from the edge of the fosse. Its total north-south diameter is 8.65m and it is 8.85m east-west, while the centre mound is 2.25m in diameter and 7cm above the fosse. This latter is 10cm below the external ground level. There is no outer bank.
Further south of the above site by 9.44m there is a circular depression which has no central mound and the limit of the site is difficult to define. However, it appears to be a denuded barrow. It is situated west of the slight rise in the field, on a slight slope. It appears on the aerial photograph as a fosse. The overall diameter is 7.2m north-south and 7.4m east-west. The height from the ground level to the centre of the site is 10cm.

North Field: The land rises gradually to the south. There are four ring-barrows in this field, roughly in a diamond-shaped arrangement. The most southerly ring-barrow is on a rise in the field, while the remainder are slightly below this level. All the sites are very subtle comprising a fosse and slight internal mound. They are all roughly circular.

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[211] Sheehan, E.H., 1976, 9.
[212] Ibid.
[213] This site was first recognised by Katherine Daly of the SMR Office, O.P.W. in 1982, on Ordnance Survey aerial photo no. 3585, 16.5.1986.

The northern site has an overall diameter of 8m north-south and 7.32m east-west. The central mound is 2.05m in diameter north-south and 2.1m east-west. The fosse is 4cm below external ground level and 11cm below the mound.

The western site is 6.4m in total diameter north-south and 5.94m east-west. The diameter of the centre mound is 1.86m north-south and 2m east-west. The fosse is 10cm deep in relation to the external ground level and 3cm below the central mound.

The eastern site has an overall diameter of 6.11m north-south and 6.8m east-west, while the central mound is 2.52m in diameter north-south and 2.19m east-west. The fosse is 5cm below external ground level and 7cm below the mound.

The southern site is quite denuded on the east side and it is difficult to determine its extent. The mound itself, however, is quite visible as is the fosse on the west side, it shows up well on the aerial photograph. The overall diameter is 8.5m north-south and 9.5m east-west. The central mound is 2.98m in diameter north-south and 3.1m east-west and the fosse is 10cm below external ground level and 5cm below the mound.

11c: 10   Tyone Abbey

Siting: This abbey is situated south-east of Nenagh. It is on raised land in the midst of pasture. The Nenagh River runs north-south less than 100m to the east of the church.

Historical Background: Tyone Priory and Hospital of St. John the Baptist was a foundation of Augustinian Hospitallers or Fratres Cruciferi, not to be confused with military Knights Hospitallers.[214] It was founded by Theobald Walter whose charter to the priory is usually dated c.1200,[215] but its text survives only in a later bond which has been dated 1224-31[216] or 1224-26.[217] The charter specified that '...thirteen infirm persons there might be supported, and have sufficient food from the cellar and a mess from the kitchen.'

Tyone has been described as having been very much an English house.[218] During the fourteenth century however, the growing power of Irish lords and the loss of many of the friars due to plague, led to an increased Irish influence in Tyone.[219] In 1460 the priory is recorded as being dependent on the monastery of St. John in Dublin.[220]

In 1541-2,[221] Tyone was secularised and placed under the authority of a warden. It was finally dissolved in 1551. At the dissolution, Thady O'Meara, the last prior, was in

[214] Gwynn, A., and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 208-9.
[215] Ormond deeds, vol.I,10, lit 22.
[216] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1938, 205.
[217] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 215-6.
[218] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1938, 201-2.
[219] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G., 1938, 206-7, 214.
[220] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 214.
[221] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G. 1938, 215.

possession of the monastery, belfry, cemetery, water mill and various pieces of land.[222] By 1553,[223] Tyone and its estate had passed into the possession of Oliver Grace. The lands stayed with his family until confiscated during the Cromwellian period.[224] Colonel Daniel Abbott[225] then became their owner, and he kept the land even after the Restoration of King Charles II.

Description: The abbey church has been much altered. The mouldings on some of the sandstone blocks would suggest a late twelfth/early thirteenth-century date for the
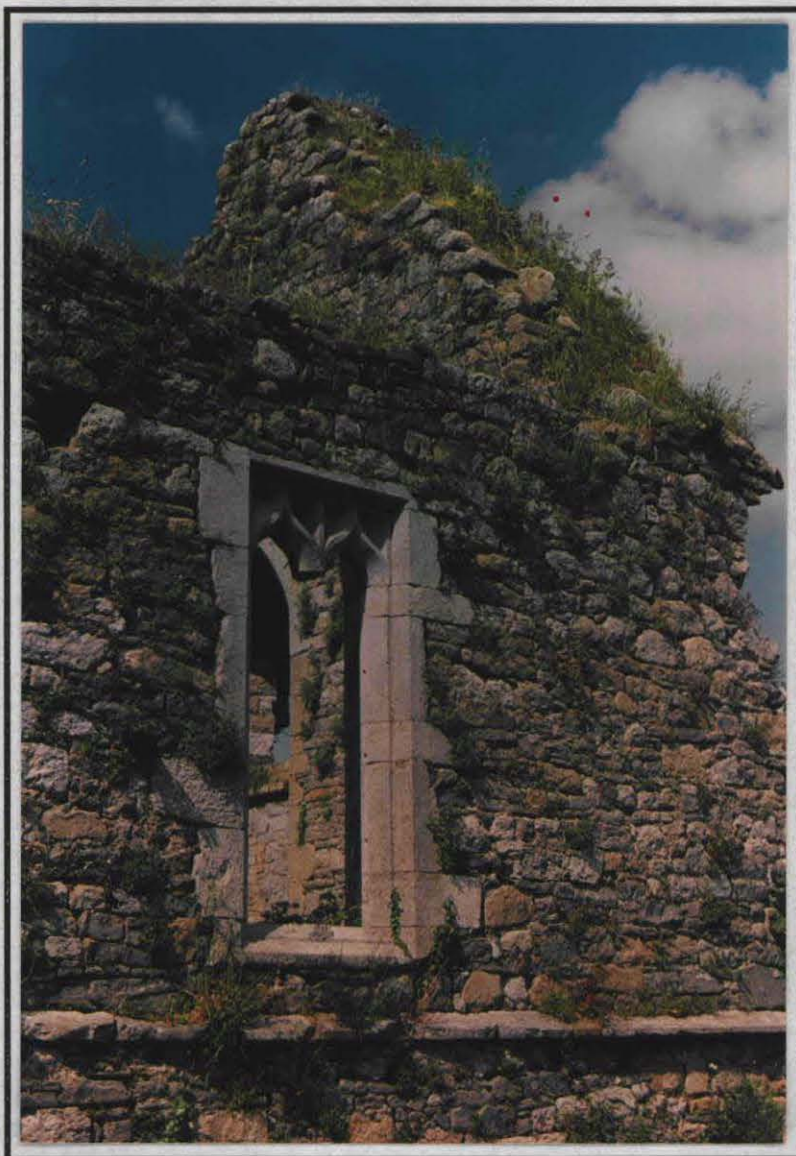
Plate 17: Tyone Abbey, Nenagh

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[222] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol. III,110-1, (326-8)
[223] Ibid., 110-1, (328-9).
[224] Gleeson, D.F. and Leask, H.G., 1938, 216.
[225] Sheehan, E.H., 1949, 75.

foundation. The present building is a randomly coursed limestone rebuild incorporating much of the earlier cut sandstone blocks, including a sandstone mullion in the south wall. Much of this rebuilding would seem to date to the late fifteenth/sixteenth century. There are a number of ogee-headed windows of this period at the western end of the church within wide-splaying, round, limestone embrasure arches. There is a large semi-pointed embrasure in the east wall. It is partially blocked and nothing remains of what was presumably a traceried window. Mid-way along the north wall there are the projecting remains of what may have been a crossing-tower. Externally there is a string course above the high base batter, running under the line of the windows. Unusually, a string course or corbel line continues internally along the northern wall supporting a wall projecting c.1m above the present ground level. The eastern end of the church is in a very ruinous state, with only the north wall partially surviving. There is a large pile of recent dumped material against the external north wall.

The abbey buildings, which are in quite a fragmentary state, are situated south of the abbey church.

There are cropmarks in the field(s) immediately north and west of the priory.[226]

UNLOCATED SITES

Church (site)

Historical Background: The precise location of the medieval parish church is unknown. It is said to have been dedicated to St. Coelan or 'Coonlan' of Iniscaltra[227] and is mentioned in a deed of c.1217-21, the advowson being jointly held between the Butlers and the abbots of Abingdon, Co. Limerick.[228] According to O'Donovan a townsman discovered the foundations of a building, which may have been the medieval church, between the Protestant church on Kenyon Street and the Franciscan friary.[229] The rectangular foundations were approximately 9m long x 6m wide and 1.5m thick. Unfortunately all the stones were subsequently removed and a ring seal of bronze found on the site has since been lost.[230]

Seventeenth-century house (site)

Description: 'The only seventeenth-century townhouse remaining in the county town of Nenagh was destroyed last year by being incorporated into a supermarket.'[231]

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[226] Recognised by Katherine Daly of the SMR Office, O.P.W., in 1992, on aerial photograph from the Cambridge University Collection, AYO 26, 7.10.1969.

[227] Gleeson, D.F., 1951, 107.

[228] Bradley, J., 1985, 52.

[229] O'Flanagan, Rev.M. (ed.), 1930, vol. iii,100 (295-96)

[230] Ibid.

[231] Gerrard, M., 1994, 35.

ROSCREA

Ros Cré meaning Cré's wood.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

7th century	The church at Roscrea was founded by Saint Cronán.[232]
1111	At the Synod of Raithbreasail in 1111, Roscrea was absorbed into the newly-created diocese of Killaloe due to the influence of Muircheartach Ua Briain, King of Munster.[233]
1119	Ua Briain died and the balance of political power began to shift. Pressure grew within the kingdom of Éile for the creation of a diocese based on Roscrea. An important product of this was the *Life of Saint Cronán*, which advertised the importance of the patron of Roscrea.[234]
1152	At the Synod of Kells the diocese of Roscrea was created.[235] This was, however, only meant to exist independently during the life of the incumbent bishop.
c. **1195**	Roscrea diocese was re-absorbed into the diocese of Killaloe.[236]

The town of Roscrea is situated at a crossroads on the Slighe Dála, one of the most important east-west roadways in ancient Ireland.[237] This roadway was noteworthy also as the site of the Aenach Teide,[238] not to be confused with Aenach Thete or Nenagh in County Tipperary.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Monastery Church
2 Round Tower
3 High Cross
4 Castle/Motte (possible site)
5 Franciscan Friary

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[232] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 43.
[233] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 62.
[234] Ibid., 63-4.
[235] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 95-6.
[236] Ibid., 192.
[237] Hayes, W.J. 1993, 121; Stout, G., 1984, 96-7.
[238] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1915, vol. ii, 327.

6 Architectural Fragments in Damer House

7 Architectural Fragment

8 'The Roscrea Pillar' (Stone sculpture, iconic)

SMR sites within the Development Plan Boundary:

12:8   Enclosure Possible

12:10 Town (described below)

12:11 Stone Sculpture (Iconic) (described below)

17:12 Castle Site

17:18 Enclosure Site

Unlocated Sites

Augustinian Priory

Mills

Seventeenth-Century Fortifications

Monastery

Historical Background: The monastery at Roscrea was founded by Saint Cronán who lived during the seventh century.[239] The earliest reference to one of his successors dates to the eighth century[240] and until the twelfth century the annals contain periodic references to people and happenings at the church of Roscrea.[241] There are more tangible remains also in the form of the book of Dimma and the Roscrea brooch, both of which are of eighth-century date.[242] A graveslab commemorating Rechtabhra is probably of ninth-century date[243] and a decorated stone known as the Roscrea Pillar has been dated to the late eighth century.[244] The surviving architectural remains of Saint Cronán's Church, the round tower, church gable and high cross are of twelfth-century date.[245] Apart from these remnants, the details of Saint Cronán's monastery are scant. O'Donovan[246] referred to a tradition that there were seven churches in Roscrea. Gleeson[247] postulated the existence of a hospice, kitchen, refectory, storehouse, mill and workshops enclosed behind a high earthen rampart.

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[239] Gwynn, A. and R.N. Hadcock,1988, 43.

[240] Gwynn A. and Gleeson, Rev. J., 1962, 60.

[241] Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.),1930, vol. iii, 136-8 (398-405).

[242] Cunningham, G.,1994, 29.

[243] Petrie, G. and Stokes, M.,1878, vol. ii, 39.

[244] Roe, H.,1967, 131-2.

[245] Stout, G., 1984,196-9.

[246] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol. iii, 127 (378).

[247] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1982, 368.

Description: The surviving components of the monastery are described separately.

12a: 1 Romanesque Church

Siting: This is situated in the north-east part of town, east of Church Street and adjacent to St. Cronán's Church of Ireland church.

Historical Background: The church at Roscrea was founded by Saint Cronán, son of Odrán[248] in the seventh century. Cronán was a native of Éile, but was associated with Connacht and Clonmacnoise. He founded other churches, about which little is known. His first foundation in Éile was at Sean Ros near Monaincha. Due to the inaccessibility of Sean Ros[249] to travellers and pilgrims, Cronán moved his church to a new site at Roscrea on the Slighe Dála. The church was largely demolished in 1812, only the west gable and short lengths of the nave being left intact.[250]

Description: The style of this sandstone gable is typically Romanesque. The gables are *in antis* with roll-moulded corners and the design and ornamentation of the western façade are twelfth century in date. The central doorway, which has three carved orders, projects out and is surmounted by a tangential gable. This arrangement is mirrored by two smaller blind arcades on either side, each with a tangential moulding above them. A string-course with pellet-ornament touches the peaks of these mouldings but is interrupted by the main pediment. Within this pediment there is a full-length carved figure, probably representing St. Cronán, with a rosette on either side. It is thought that there are further rosettes on the gable proper but they have become so eroded as to be undetectable.[251] Immediately north of the tangential pediment is a square-headed rectangular light with cut sandstone surrounds. This half-blocked light, not visible on the inner face, is a late insert with rebuild around it. Also added is the bellcote which surmounts the gable. Originally the gable would have been pointed, the roof slope being much steeper than it appears at present.

Architectural Fragments:
In the south graveyard wall there are three fragments of roll-moulded stone, including one piece that is part of an arch. They measure 15cm x 14cm, 34cm x 18cm and 29cm x 28cm.

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[248] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 43.
[249] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D., 1962, 60; Gleeson, Rev. J.,1915, 356.
[250]Harbison, P.,1970, 235.
[251]Craig, M., 1982, 45.

There are two loose architectural fragments on a nineteenth-century altar tomb adjacent to the west wall of the graveyard, north of St. Cronán's Romanesque church. Both are limestone pieces of tracery. One is decorated with linear chiselling in parallel lines along the chamfered faces and inner face, the edges being left free. There is a glazing-bar hole in the middle of the inner face. This fragment appears to have been embedded in a concrete wall as some concrete and lime mortar are still attached to it. It measures 34cm x 14cm and the chamfer is 13cm wide.

The other fragment is roughly dressed and it also appears to have been embedded in a concrete wall as concrete is still attached to one side. There are glazing slots on both inner faces. The tracery has a chamfered edge on both sides, inner and outer. It is 42cm long, the surface is 16cm x 12cm.

Cross-slabs:

Two cross-slabs were discovered in the churchyard of St. Cronán's. One, now in the National Museum, is a broken slab, 55cm x 44cm, carved with a ringed cross of two lines in a two-line frame.[252] There is an inscription under the ring of the cross which reads 'Rechtabra'. It has been dated to the ninth century.[253]

The other slab is unfortunately lost. It had an inscription in two lines: '...do ucher baill or do rig ele' which translates as '... for O'Carroll, pray for the King of Ely'.[254]

12a: 2 Round Tower

Siting: This is situated in the north-east part of the town, west of Church Street. It is positioned north-west of the west gable of St. Cronán's Romanesque church. There is a green immediately north of the tower, where a garage formerly stood. The adjacent shed and old mill building to the south are derelict.

Historical Background: In 1131 or 1135 the round tower was struck by lightning.[255] Centuries later, after the 1798 rebellion, it was shortened c.6m by the English as an Irish sniper had used the position to shoot a sentry in the barracks.[256] According to Gleeson,[257] the tower was used as a belfry until the Church of Ireland church was built in 1812 and three years later was inhabited by a family named Scully.

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[252]Crawford, H.S., 1912, 240.
[253]Petrie, G. and Stokes, M., 1878, vol.ii, 39.
[254]Ibid.
[255]Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D., 1962, 63.
[256]Harbison, P., 1970, 235.
[257]Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, vol.ii, 372.

Description: This coursed limestone round tower, containing six storeys, has an internal diameter of 2.5m and is 18.2m. The round-headed doorway is located in the south-east quadrant and is 2.14m above the present ground level, though an excavation in 1845 showed that the original ground level was *c.*60cm lower.[258] The external face of the doorway is outlined by a raised moulding 14cm wide and on the inside of the arch there is a rough reveal for a door.[259] There are three windows in the tower, the most elaborate, with a pointed-head, faces east and is just above the level of the second floor. The other two windows are small and square-headed, one facing west lights the third storey, while that facing north lights the fourth.
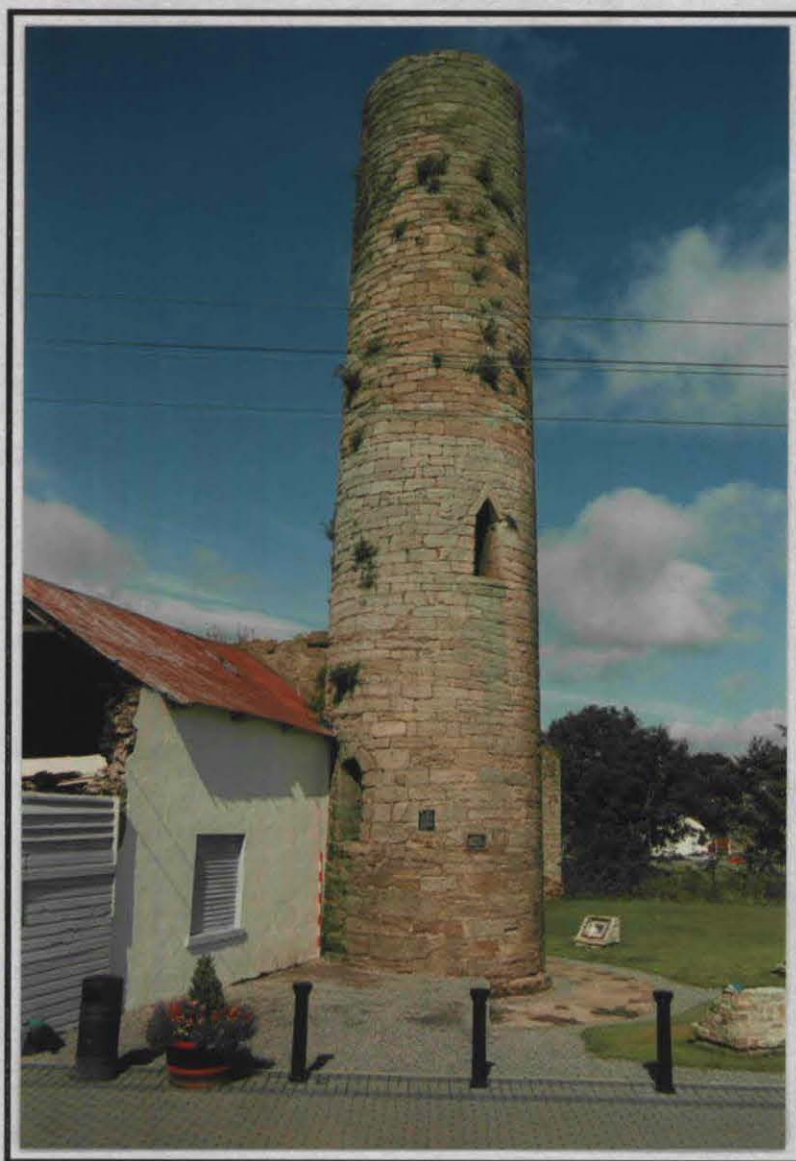
Plate 18: Round Tower, Roscrea

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[258]Lennox Barrow, G., 1979, 188.
[259]Stout, G., 1984, 99.

An unusual feature on the north, internal jamb of the pointed-window is a carving, in relief, of a single-masted ship and what appears to be an axe.[260] In 1842 an antiquarian named Wall, who was excavating the interior of the tower, detected an illegible inscription beneath this ship.[261] There is another carving on the opposite jamb, described as a belted cross.[262] Wall's excavation revealed layers of human bones, probably graveyard debris, covered by mortar and small stones and finally earth and small stones.[263] An excavation of part of the exterior, in 1845, revealed that the foundations were of solid masonry with three offsets, under which the skeleton of a man was found.[264]

12a: 3   High Cross

Siting: This is situated in St. Cronán's Church of Ireland graveyard, adjacent to the road and *c*.15m south of the west gable of the Romanesque church.

Description: This twelfth-century sandstone ringed-cross has suffered from the ravages of time, being quite badly worn and broken. The cross has been reassembled using concrete for the missing south side of the cross-head and the section of the shaft below the cross-head. It has been suggested, however, that the concrete shaft insert is only half the height of the original section of shaft, thus giving the cross a much squatter appearance than it would have had previously.[265] The lower, original shaft piece is 1.78m high, 80cm wide and c.40cm thick at the bottom.[266] The cross-head is 1.2m tall and measures 1.5m across the arms, including the reconstructed portion.[267] The base may also be quite substantial, adding to the overall height, though currently only 10cm of it is visible above ground. The inside of the ring has been cut in a stepped pattern. On the east face of the cross-head there is an ecclesiastical figure in high relief while on the opposing face there is a depiction of Christ crucified. On the lower shaft there is a figure in high relief on both the north and south sides, that on the north side had a separately inserted head which is now missing.[268] On the east and west faces there are panels bearing animal interlace, the former face also contains scriptural panels, including a depiction of Adam and Eve.[269]

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[260]Ibid.
[261]Lennox Barrow, G., 1979, 189.
[262]Stout, G., 1984, 99.
[263]Lennox Barrow, G., 1979, 189.
[264]Ibid, 188.
[265]McNab, S., 1990, 96-97.
[266]Harbison, P., 1992, vol.i, 162.
[267]Ibid.
[268]Ibid, 163.
[269]Ibid.

12a/b: 4 Castle / Motte (possible site)

Siting: This castle is situated in the centre of the town, in the angle between Castle Street and The Mall. Originally the eastern section of the castle wall was defended by the River Bunnow which was diverted and the area reclaimed in the late eighteenth century to form The Mall.[270]

Historical Background: In the early thirteenth century, Roscrea became important as the site of a castle. Founded in 1212 or 1213,[271] the castle was built in response to attacks by Muircheartach Ua Briain on Birr, Kinnity and Lorrha.[272] The early castle was built on a motte[273] on land owned by the Bishop of Killaloe. In 1280, the surviving castle was built,[274] and a year later,[275] it was granted to Edmund Butler, Earl of Carrick, in whose family it remained for four centuries. In 1654-6[276] '...a large castle and a bawne in repayre...' were noted in Roscrea. Williamite forces added to the fortifications in Roscrea in late 1690.[277] During 1691-2, plans were afoot for the destruction of a number of castles, including Roscrea, to prevent them falling into the wrong hands.[278] These plans were shelved because the castle was still useful as a protective shelter for the settlers' cattle. The castle was sold, with the lordship of Roscrea, to Robert Curtis in 1703.[279] From Curtis, the castle passed to Joseph Damer, whose nephew and heir John Damer built Damer House.

Description: This castle complex consists of a rectangular gate tower flanked by two D-shaped towers, all of which are joined by an irregular polygonal curtain wall. The southern section of the curtain wall was partially destroyed by an 1850s addition to Damer House.[280] The wall, composed of rough sandstone blocks, varies in thickness from 3.4m in the east to 2.6m in the west.[281] It is thought that there was never a central keep.[282] The gate tower, which is five storeys high with dungeons below, has been renovated by the Office of Public Works, and the complex is entered through a reconstructed drawbridge and portcullis. This tower, which occupies the north side of

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[270]Cunningham, G., 1976, 44.

[271] A.F.M., s.a. 1212; Ann. Inisf. s.a. 1213.

[272] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1982, 376.

[273] Cunningham, G., 1987, 72.

[274] Ibid.

[275]Gleeson, Rev. J.,1982, 384.

[276] Simington, R.C. (ed.),1934, vol. ii, 29.

[277] Kerrigan, P.M.,1985, 149.

[278] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1982, 386-7.

[279] Hayes, W.J.,1993, 123.

[280]Stout, G., 1984, 117.

[281]Ibid.

[282]Leask, H.G., 1936, 180-81.

the castle, has been dated to c.1280,[283] though it has been altered through the centuries, most notably by the addition of crow-stepped gables and off-set chimneys in the seventeenth century. The first floor is particularly fine. It has a groin-vaulted roof
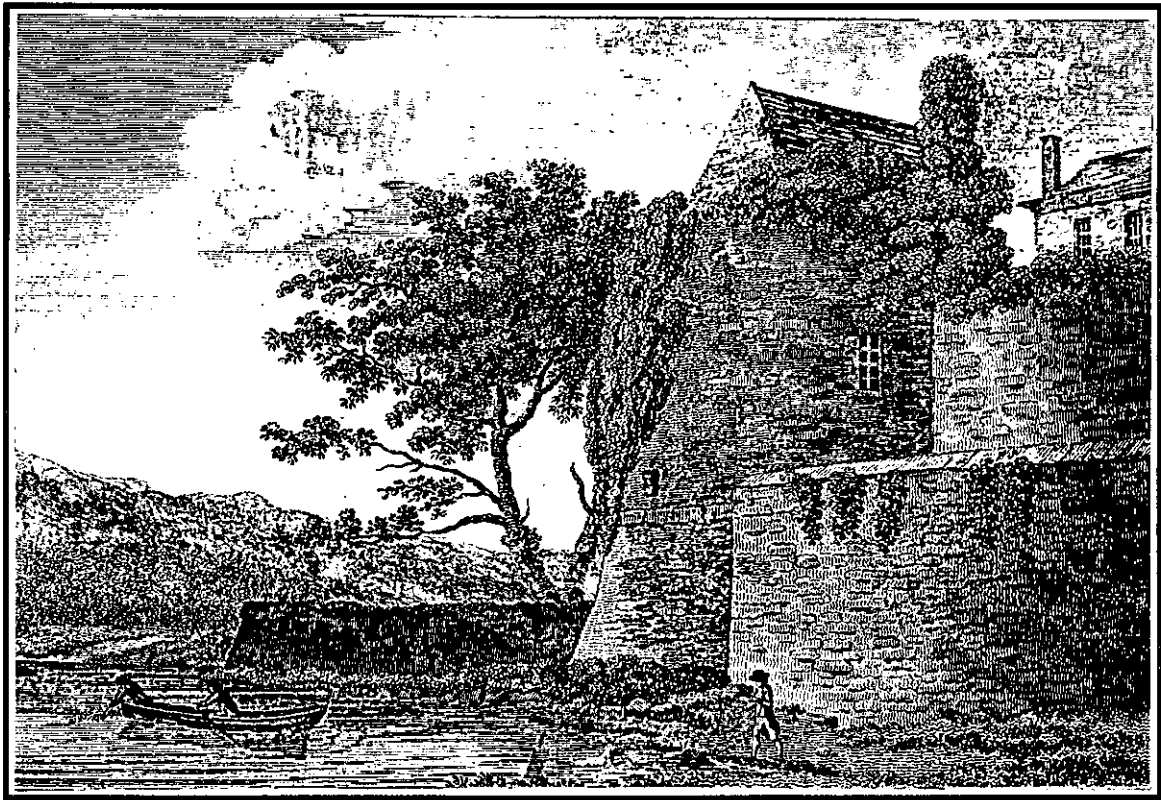
Plate 19: Castle, Roscrea (after Grose)

organised in three bays and along the south wall there is an impressive hooded fireplace. On the second floor, a partition was inserted in the seventeenth century to divide the main chamber; ovens and chimneys were built into it and against the south and west walls.

Nothing survives of the thirteenth-century motte though it probably stood on or near the site of the present castle.

12b: 5 Franciscan Friary

Siting: This lies in the south side of the town, on the south side of Abbey Street. The north wall and bell-tower are now utilised as an entrance feature into the modern Catholic church.

Historical Background: The earliest reference we have to the Franciscans at Roscrea is provided by Prior Ruaidhrí of Lorrha and dates to 1470. There is some

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[283]Stout, G.,1984, 116-121.

difference of opinion as to exactly when the friary was founded and by whom, the most probable candidate being Maolruony na Feasoige who died in 1443. It has been erroneously attributed to another Maolruony of the O'Carroll family who died in 1532. The confusion arose from a transcription of a Latin inscription on a slab formerly in the friary cloister but now lost. This appears to be a memorial plaque to Maolruony O'Carroll, though it is dated 1523, ten years before his death. Many scholars have claimed that this was a foundation stone for the friary, but the date is too late. It may record the addition of a tower to the friary[284] or it may simply be that the inscription was copied down wrongly and should read 1532.
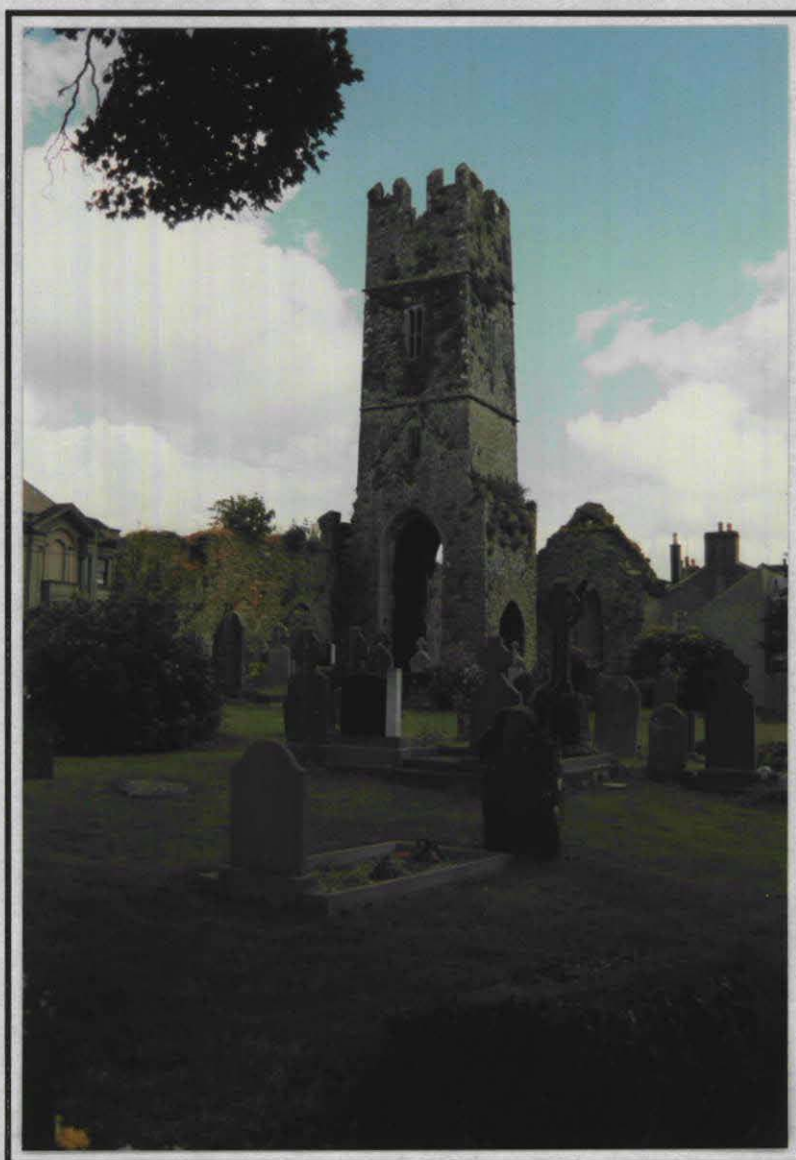
Plate 20: Franciscan Friary, Roscrea

The subsequent history of the Franciscans at Roscrea is not well documented. According to an inquisition of 1568,[285] the friary consisted of a house for the friars, a

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284 Ibid.,106.
285 Archdall, M.,1786, 674.

dormitory, a hall, the prior's chamber, a chapel, a cemetery, a garden and two orchards in a two acre precinct.   In 1579 the friars were forced to flee and the friary was destroyed. The property was given to the Earl of Ormonde, who assigned it to William Crowe.[286] By the early seventeenth century,[287] the roof had fallen in and only the walls and windows with some glass remained. The Civil Survey of 1654-6[288] recorded a large ruined abbey on the site. A large portion of the friary was destroyed in 1800 by the builders of the adjacent parish church.[289] Apart from the existing remains of the friary buildings, a number of architectural fragments survive. These were at Birchgrove House near Roscrea[290] but are now on display in Damer House.

Description: Of the Franciscan church in Roscrea there still survives most of the north and east walls and the bell-tower which divided the nave and chancel, the latter being 13.3m long and 8m wide.[291] The church is constructed primarily of sandstone with limestone used for many of the architectural details.[292] An entrance gate has been inserted in the north wall with a crenellated top mirroring those on the bell-tower. Inserted in this gateway are five architectural fragments, including a mullion which has spandrels on either side decorated with angels. The east gable contains a pointed window which was divided by two mullions and a cross-bar.[293] This is now blocked by the wall of an adjoining house, but it still contains the remains of tracery. In the north wall of the chancel there are two double-light windows, both cusped-ogee headed with hollow spandrels which have external hood-mouldings with drop labels.

The belfry tower is c.18m high, 5m long x 8m wide, though it narrows above the roof line of the church. It appears to have been inserted towards the end of the fifteenth century. The tower consists of two storeys and crenellated battlements over basal piers. These pillars form pointed archways, those facing the church interior being much higher than those on the north and south side which served as entrances. A number of incised mason's marks can be detected on these pillars. The only entrance to the tower is at first floor level.

West of this tower, the north wall survives for a further 11.5m. Visible within this wall are two blocked arches which gave access to a lateral building, now destroyed.

Unfortunately the cloister, which unusually was situated south of the church, is no longer extant. However, some pieces of the cloister arcade have survived. At the south side of the south-east pier of the bell-tower there is a low stone plinth on which

[286] Stout, G.,1984, 106.

[287] Jennings, Rev. Brendan O.F.M.,1934, 75; Ryan, Rev. Martin,1967, 115.

[288] Simington, R.C. (ed.),1934, vol. ii, 29.

[289]Lord Killanin and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 415.

[290] Jackson, R.J.,1939, 46-7.

[291]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol.iii, 128 (379-80).

[292]Stout, G., 1984, 107.

[293]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol.iii, 128 (379).

are cemented two limestone cloister arcade bases. There is another arcade base beside the little bridge over the Moneen River (see 12a: 7).

There is a large number of miscellaneous architectural fragments which are incorporated in the ruined church, particularly the bell-tower, or surrounding graveyard wall. On the south side of the south-west pier a sandstone font has been inserted in the wall. It is undecorated, D-shaped, 31cm wide internally and 4.5cm thick.

12a/b: 6   Architectural Fragments in Damer House

Siting: A number of fragments from the Franciscan friary in Roscrea, formerly located in the gardens of Birchgrove House, east of the town, are now on display in Damer House.

Description: These consist mainly of fragments of tracery from the east window of the friary and a cloister base.[294] There is also a carved fragment with a Romanesque chevron design which is thought to have come from St. Cronán's Romanesque church in Roscrea.[295] A pointed doorway, traditionally said to have come from the Woman's Church at Monaincha was also formerly at Birchgrove.[296]

12b: 7   Architectural Fragment

Siting: This is situated at the south end of the west side of the parapet of the bridge over the River Moneen, which leads from the ruins of the Franciscan friary to St. Cronán's Catholic church.

Description: This is a limestone cloister base, 91cm long and a maximum of 42cm wide. It originally formed part of the cloister associated with the Franciscan friary.

12b: 8   'The Roscrea Pillar' (Stone sculpture, iconic)

Siting: This is at present located against the wall in front of St. Cronán's Catholic church, which is situated in the south part of the town. It has, however, been moved several times. It was in Rockforest House, c.2 miles east of Roscrea, before being moved to Timoney Park, 4½ miles south-east of the town in 1907.[297] It was taken to its

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[294]Jackson, R.J., 1939, 46-47.
[295]Ibid.
[296]Ibid.
[297]Roe, H.M., 1967, 127.

current location in 1938 by Rev. T. Tuohy, then Administrator of the Catholic parish. Its original location is unknown.[298]

Description: This hollow, three-sided pillar is 40cm x *c.*35cm and 90cm high. There is a small hole in the top, probably made when the stone was used as a trough; the fourth side may also have been destroyed at this time. The pillar corners have rounded mouldings while the faces, though worn, are decorated with fanciful animals, possible biblical scenes on the east face,[299] a possible hunting scene on the south face[300] and geometric and interlace patterns. The pillar has been discussed in detail by Roe[301] and Harbison.[302]

Plate 21: 'The Roscrea Pillar' (Stone sculpture, iconic)

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[298]Ibid.
[299]Harbison, P., 1992, vol.i, 163.
[300]Ibid.
[301]Roe, H.M., 1967, 127-32.
[302]Harbison, P., 1992, vol.i, 163-64.

UNLOCATED SITES

Augustinian Priory

Historical Background: At some time during the twelfth century, Augustinian canons were established at Roscrea.[303] The earliest reference to their presence dates to 1173, but they could have been established as early as 1140-48 or 1161. They seem to have left Roscrea when it ceased to be an independent diocese, probably *c.* 1195.

Mills

Historical Background: Two mills are mention in the Civil Survey of 1654-56. One refers to 'a Grinding Mill erected uppon a small River running through the sd towne', the other 'a corne mill upon a brooke'.[304]

Seventeenth-century fortifications

Historical Background: Fortications were constructed at Roscrea by the Williamite forces late in 1690.[305] It is likely that these were only temporary defences.

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[303] Gleeson, Rev. J.,1915, 376; Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 192; Stout, G.,1984, 97.

[304] Simington, R.C., (ed), 1931, vol.i, 29.

[305] Kerrigan, P.M., 1980, 149.

TEMPLEMORE

Teampull mór meaning the great church.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

*c.*1200   The Abbey of St. Thomas of Dublin erected a large church in the townland of Kiltilane and dedicated it to the Blessed Virgin Mary.[306]

1291   The church of Templemore '*Eclasia de Corkatenny*' paid £10 Papal tax.[307]

1450   Castle built by the Butlers.[308]

1572   Name of town changed from Corkatenny to Templemore.[309]

1698   John Carden leased 'the Manor Town, Castle and lands of Templemore containing two colpes (*c.*2,000 acres).[310]

1704   Carden bought the freehold to this property.[311]

*c.*1770   The present town of Templemore was built as a market town.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle
2 Church
3 Mound

Unlocated Sites
Church (site)

Other SMR sites within the Urban District Boundary
29:88 Ringfort (possible site) - this site was destroyed to make way for a housing development.[312]

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[306] Walsh, P., 1991, 4.
[307] Ibid., 45.
[308] Ibid., 5.
[309] Ibid., 46.
[310] Walsh, P., 1993, 126.
[311] Ibid.
[312] Pers. comm., Donal J. O'Regan, 1994.

13a: 1   Castle

Siting: This castle is situated north of the town, in the town park. The adjacent lake is an artificial demesne feature.

Historical Background: An inquisition post mortem[313] after the death of William de Marisco in 1284, revealed that he had held land of Theobald Walter at Corkedofeney. The editor of the *Calendar of documents relating to Ireland* identified this as Corcathene or Templemore. A Purcell lord of Corketeni was noted in 1356,[314] but the de Marisco family was associated with the area again in 1568[315] and 1575.[316] During the seventeenth century, Templemore passed through the hands of Purcell, Baron of Loughmoe and Walter Lawless,[317] before being leased and eventually bought from the Duke of Ormond by John Carden.[318] The Carden family lived in the castle until 1740, when it was destroyed by fire.

It is not clear which of these owners built Templemore Castle. Cairns[319] suggests that it was built in the second half of the thirteenth century. There is a tradition that the Knights Templars occupied the castle[320] and another that it was built by O'Meagher, chief of Ikerrin.[321] Walsh asserted that the Butlers built the castle in 1450. The Civil Survey refers to '...a castle and the walls of a stone house out of repaire...'[322] It is not clear from this whether or not the castle was habitable in 1654-6, but it was from 1698, when the Carden family took up residence there, until 1740 when it was destroyed by fire.[323] It is now known as the Black Castle.[324]

Description: This is a large rectangular tower house of roughly coursed limestone. It survives to a height of three storeys and measures *c.*17.10 x *c.*10.90 externally. There was quite a substantial base batter but this is almost completely robbed. The south and west walls are supported by buttresses, the bases of which have also been eroded. The east wall and eastern end of the north wall have been destroyed. In the interior, at the north-west end, there is a raised area formed by a vaulted chamber which was inserted at ground floor level. This chamber, together with a double bellcote

[313] Cal. docs., Ire., vol. ii, p. 510, no. 2201.
[314] Ormond deeds, vol. ii, p. 25, lit 37.
[315] Cal. state papers, vol. ii, p. 366, no. 44.
[316] Walsh, P., 1991, 6.
[317] Ibid., 6-7.
[318] Walsh, P., 1993, 126.
[319] Cairns, C., 1987, 11.
[320] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 342.
[321] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), vol. i,182, (501).
[322] Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, vol. i, 78.
[323]Walsh, P., 1991, 5.
[324]Ibid.

surmounting the south wall and a circular tower on the north wall, were probably built as demesne features of the Carden estate.

The south wall has been subjected to a lot of modification. At the west end of the wall there is a large break which has been infilled, though it contains a narrow embrasure for a flat-headed arrow loop, possibly original. Above this at first floor level there is an opening which was probably a window embrasure. There is a similar embrasure above this at third floor level from which a mural passage runs westward, continuing into the west wall (not accessible).

Plate 22: Castle, Templemore

The west wall has been repaired partially in recent times. There are two embrasures at first floor level, both containing a single ogee-headed light with tooled limestone jambs.

At second floor level there is a large embrasure, placed south of centre, with a mural passage running northward from it. There are three windows in the west wall, the centre window and possibly the northern one, providing light exclusively for the mural passage.

There are the remains of a projecting wall between the southernmost embrasure on the first floor and the northern embrasure. The projecting wall continues from the first floor up to the second floor.

In the north end of the west wall there is a rectangular chute, 1.1m x 82cm wide. This chute is surmounted by a late circular tower (mentioned above). It exits the castle at a point 2.6m above ground level in the external face of the north wall.

13a: 2   Church

Siting: This church is situated in flat land north of the town, in the town park. The lake immediately to the west is an artifical estate feature.

Historical Background: Theobald Walter, who died in 1206, included Corcateny in his grant to Thomas de Hereford. In a series of charters dating to the early thirteenth century,[325] de Hereford gave the tithes and ecclesiastical benefices of all his lands, including Corcateny, to the Augustinian abbey of Saint Thomas in Dublin. A confirmation of a grant was composed and sealed at Corcateny in 1209-10,[326] perhaps indicating the presence of a church there. However, the first actual mention of the church of Corcateny in the register of Saint Thomas' Abbey dates to 1240.[327] In the Papal taxation of 1291,[328] the church of Corcateny was valued at 10 li. Various officials of the church are noted periodically in the sources in the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.[329]

The placename Templemore came into use in the sixteenth century,[330] possibly due to some connection with the Knights Templars.[331] A popish curate was appointed to Templemore in 1608, and Catholic priests continued to serve there at least until 1632, when Fr. Dullany was buried there.[332] The church was probably damaged during the rebellion of 1641,[333] and only '...the walls of the parish church...' are noted in the Civil Survey.[334] In 1762, the church, or perhaps more correctly, the nave of the old church, was renovated and used by the Protestant congregation until 1790.[335] In the 1970s there was a 'clean-up' of the church which involved repairing the wall.[336] Recent 'conservation' work involved repairing walls and reconstructing some features.

Description: This church has been much altered. A cross-wall has been added, possibly in 1762, shortening the church as it became the new east wall. The western part of the church, measuring 17.64m x 9.89m externally, is best preserved with side walls surviving up to a height of 3.85m. The cross-wall survives to a height of c.5m.

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[325] Reg. St. Thomas, Dublin, 194, 196 and 237.
[326] Ibid., 315-6.
[327] Ibid., 351.
[328] Walsh, P. 1991, 4.
[329] See e.g. Walsh, P., 1991, 4.
[330] Cal. state papers, vol i, 366, no. 44, dated 18 February 1568, seems earliest.
[331] Davis-White, J., 1892, 41 and Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 342.
[332] Walsh, P., 1991, 46.
[333] Ibid., 7-8.
[334] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol. i, 78.
[335] Memorials of the dead, vol. i, 1891, 490-2 and vol. vii, no. 2, 1908, 463-4.
[336]Walsh, P., 1991, 46.

The eastern end of the church is in poor condition and measures 17.2m x 8.24m externally.

The west gable is a pastiche of architectural features. A massive buttress has been built up against the exterior wall, through which a large round-headed entrance was inserted. Above this buttress there is an inserted two-light traceried window which may have been in the east gable. The gable is surmounted by a large bellcote. The only
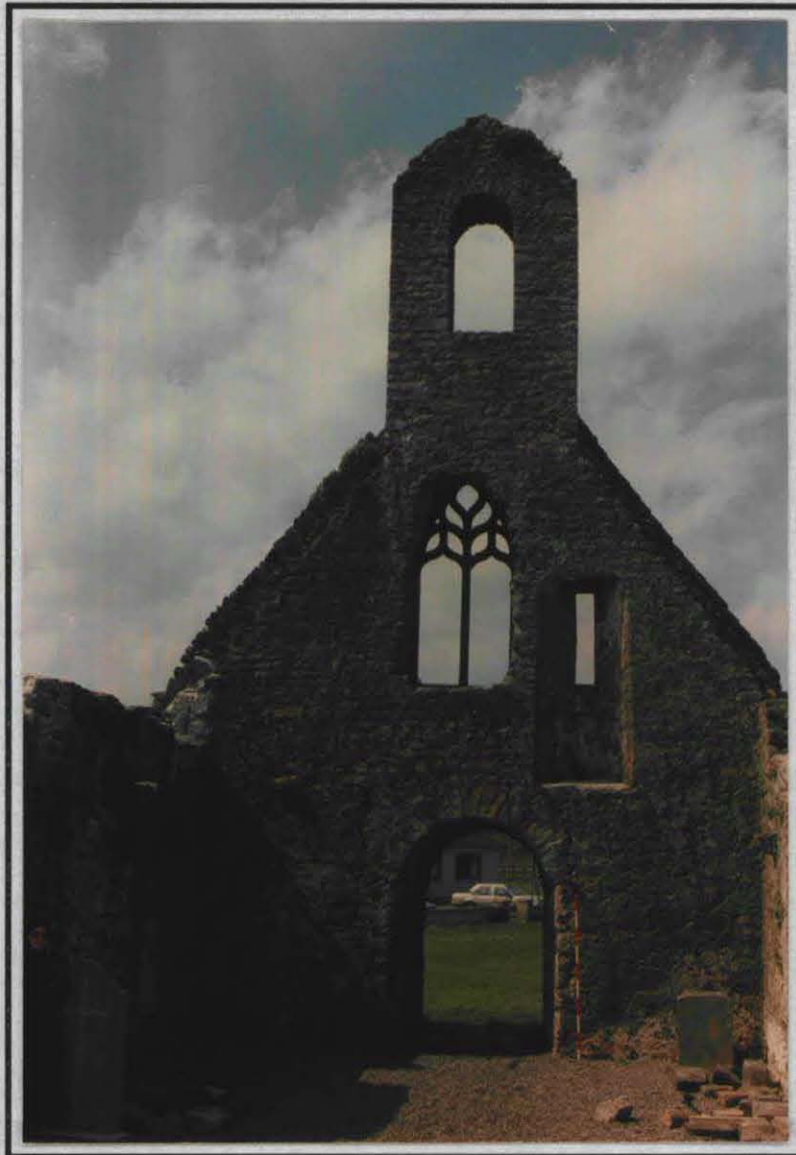
Plate 23: Medieval church, Templemore

original *in situ* feature is a flat-headed single light with transom. All the entrances into the church have been modified. That in the north wall of the western side of the church is a late insert, incorporating earlier worked stone, while that in the north wall of the eastern side of the church has had a chamfered door surround inserted in recent renovation work. The original entrance to the church may have been in the south wall where there is the base of a chamfered door surround under a later wall line.

Within the church there are a number of loose architectural fragments, some of which have been inserted in a partially reconstructed window in the north wall.

There is a seventeenth-century graveslab in the north-east corner of the church. It is a tapering slab, decorated with a floriated cross which rests on a calvary mount with a skull and cross bones. The border inscription in Latin is to Fr. Edmund Dullany, the rector of St. Mary's of Templemore who died in 1632.[337]

In the west section of the church there is a graveslab which does not appear to be decorated. The inscription in English is inscribed around the edge and it reads 'HERE LAYS THE BODY OF ISAAC HAIES OF KNOCRANROE WHO DYED THE 43 YEAR OF HIS AGE THE 15 OF APRL 1703. It seems that Isaac Hales was a Cromwellian who had been granted land in Knockinroe.[338]

13a: 3   Mound

Siting: Situated below the highest point of a slight natural rise, the land continuing to rise gently towards the east.

Description: This is a large gently sloping mound with a flat top. It is circular with an overall diameter of 48m. The top of the mound measures 14.6m north-south and 12.7m east-west. The south side is the steepest and is 2.38m high. At the north and north-east part of the base of the mound there is evidence of some quarrying activity.[339]

UNLOCATED   SITES

Church (site)

Description: The townland of Kiltelan, where Templemore is situated, takes its name from Saint Síleán who according to legend came to the area with Tenne, nephew of Niall Naoighiallach.[340] From Tenne comes Corcateny, the name which was used to refer to the area around Templemore until the late sixteenth century. The site of Síleán's Early Christian church is not known. There is speculation that the medieval church was built on the site of the earlier one.[341]

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[337]Hayes, W. J., 1993, 186-88.
[338]Walsh, P.P., 1991, 46-7.
[339]Site identified by Donal J. O'Regan.
[340] Walsh, P., 1993, 126-7.
[341]Ibid., 45.

Mill

Description: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 there is a reference to 'a grinding Mill in repaire' in the lands of James, Earl of Ormond in Templemore.[342]

Dwelling

Description: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 there is a reference to 'the Walls of a stone house out of repaire' in the lands of James, Earl of Ormond in Templemore.[343]

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[342] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol i, 78.
[343] Ibid.

TEMPLETOUHY

Teampull an tuath meaning the church ot the tuath.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Church (site)
2 Ringfort

14: 1 Church (site)

Siting: This was located at the east end of the village.

Historical Background: The parish church of Templetouhy is mentioned in the Civil Survey as being valued at £1 in 1640.[344]

Description: There is no trace of the medieval parish church. The Church of Ireland church, which was demolished in 1950, was supposedly built on or near the site[345] of the earlier church. No fragments were located.

14: 2 Ringfort

Siting: Templetouhy has expanded westward with houses built right up to the ringfort.

Description: Only the western half of this ringfort survives, the eastern side having been levelled between 1840 and 1904 and it has been quarried on its northern side. On the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey 6" map it is shown as a circular enclosure with an internal diameter of $c.32$m.[346] The enclosing bank is 2.5m wide and 90cm high[347] and appears to be mainly of earthen construction with some stones protruding. The west side of the bank has been truncated and a hedgerow is growing on top of the bank. There is no indication of an outer fosse. The house in front of the ringfort, and another within, are part of a small housing development which was built seven years ago (1987).

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[344] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol i, 27.
[345] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol.ii, 85 (229).
[346] Stout, G., 1984, 75.
[347] Ibid.

TERRYGLASS

Tír dá ghlas meaning the land of the two greens or the land of the two streams.[348]

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

549 - 552	Saint Colum mac Cremthainn, who founded a monastery at Terryglass, died.[349]
777	One hundred Connacht men were drowned at Terryglass.[350]
801, 806, 845	The monastery was attacked and burned by Vikings.[351]
***c.*840**	During the period in office of the abbot MaelDithruib, Terryglass came under the influence of the reform movement known as the Céle Dé.[352]
1112 and 1164	There were two more attacks on the monastery by unidentified assailants.[353]
1144	The monastery achieved a certain political prominence due to a peace treaty arranged at a meeting between O'Brien and O'Connor at Terryglass.[354]
1302-07	The church of Tirdaglassoe contributed 3 marks in the taxation of the diocese.[355]
1333	There is a mention of burgages and burgage rent.[356]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Monastery (site)/Monastic Enclosure
2. Church (site)
3 Bawn
4 Holy Well 'St. Columb's Well'
5 Linear Earthwork

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[348] Joyce, P.W., Irish local names explained, 1923, 87.

[349] A.U., s.a. 549, Chron. Scot. s.a. 551, Ann. Inisf. s.a. 552.

[350] Ann. Inisf. s.a. 777.

[351] AFM s.a 801, AU s.a. 806, AU s.a. 845.

[352] AFM s.a. 840.

[353] Ann. Tig., AFM s.a. 1112, AFM s.a. 1164, Ann. Clon. s.a. 1164.

[354] AFM s.a. 1144, A. Clon. s.a. 1144.

[355] Cal. docs. Ire, vol. v, 302, no. 724.

[356] Bradley, J., 1985, 59.

15: 1   Monastery (site) / Monastic Enclosure

Siting: The site of the monastery is, according to tradition, in the vicinity of the ruined medieval church and adjacent bawn.[357] A large sub-circular enclosure bounded the monastic site, remnants of which surround the village.

Historical Background: The monastery of Terryglass was founded by Saint Colum mac Cremthainn, whose death is noted in various annals at 549, 551 and 552.[358] His life story is preserved it two medieval texts. They tell of his studies under Saint Colmcille and Saint Finian of Clonard, and of the monasteries he founded, such as Clonenagh, Iniscealtra and Terryglass itself.

Abbots, bishops and other clerics from Terryglass are noted in the annals from the sixth to the twelfth centuries.[359] A number of important events are recorded also. In 777[360] one hundred Connacht men were drowned at Terryglass. The monastery was attacked and burned by Vikings in 801, 806 and 845.[361] Two more attacks by unidentified assailants, were noted in 1112 and 1164,[362] and after this, nothing is heard of the monastery of Terryglass. Under the abbot Mael Dithruib, whose death is recorded in the year 840,[363] Terryglass came under the influence of the reform movement known as the Céile Dé. The best known proponent of these reforms was Saint Mael Ruain of Tallaght in County Dublin, who was a mentor to Mael Dithruib of Terryglass.[364]

After a virtual absence from the source material during the eleventh century, Terryglass emerges again in the following century as a site of some importance. In 1152[365] Aed mac Crimthainn became abbot of Terryglass. He is renowned as the compiler of the Book of Leinster or *Leabhar na Nuachongbhála*. The monastery also achieved a certain political prominence due to a peace treaty arranged in 1144[366] at a meeting between O'Brien and O'Connor at Terryglass.

It has been suggested[367] that Aed mac Crimthainn may have been the last abbot of Terryglass. Very little is heard of the monastery after 1164.

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[357]Gleeson, D.F., 1951, 96-107; Harbison, P., 1970, 236.

[358] A.U., s.a. 549, Chron. Scot. s.a. 551, Ann. Inisf. s.a. 552.

[359] Listed in Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 38-9 and 43-4.

[360] Ann. Inisf. s.a. 777.

[361] AFM s.a 801, AU s.a. 806, AU s.a. 845.

[362] Ann. Tig., AFM s.a. 1112, AFM s.a. 1164, Ann. Clon. s.a. 1164.

[363] AFM s.a. 840.

[364] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 40.

[365] Ibid., 44.

[366] AFM s.a. 1144, A. Clon. s.a. 1144.

[367] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 47.

Description: There are no visible remains of the monastic site. However, portions of the monastic enclosure still survive as field boundaries and destroyed sections are visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.[368]

15: 2 Church

Siting: This ruinous church is located in Terryglass graveyard, immediately south-east of the former St. Columba's Protestant church.

Historical Background: The church of Tirdaglassoe[369] contributed 3 marks in the taxation of the diocese in 1302-07. There is a mention of burgages and burgage rent in 1333,[370] but the Civil Survey of 1654-6 refers only to '...the church yard of Tirraglasse...'.[371]

Plate 24: Medieval church, Terryglass

Description: Only the north and west walls, and a possible east wall, of this church survive, though in a much modified condition. They are constructed of very poor quality limestone which has recently been repointed in a crude fashion. Externally,

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[368]S.M.R. archive, aerial photographs courtesy of Leo Swan.
[369] Cal. docs. Ire, vol. v, p. 302, no. 724.
[370] Bradley, J., 1985, 59.
[371] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol. ii, 311.

these walls are composed of 'cyclopean' blocks of masonry, arranged in courses. There is also an external plinth.

In the Ordnance Survey description of c.1840 only the nave remained and this was in a bad state of preservation.[372] The east wall of the nave had a pointed chancel arch, the west gable was surmounted by a belfry and the south wall was down to foundation level.[373]

The west gable collapsed in the 1960s. As it now stands, it is 9.4m long and an average of 1.3m high and 78cm thick. There is a slight return at the base of the south-west corner. Killanin and Duignan mention a trabeate doorway in this gable, but the former caretaker has no recollection of this or any other doorway.[374] The north-west corner of this west wall steps up to meet the north wall which is c.4.3m high. In the north wall, centrally placed between the west wall and an internal buttress, there is a large blocked doorway, 2.45m high and 1.5m wide, with a curving arch of shattered voussoirs. The north wall is 12.76m long internally to the buttress and a further 8.54m beyond this. Seemingly, there was an east wall where the buttress is now. This may have been the wall containing the chancel arch.[375] If this is so, then the stretch of north wall east of the buttress and the east wall may be part of the chancel. In this length of north wall there is the west side of a possible embrasure, with an internal splay. The wall beyond this, which contains an entrance to the graveyard, survives at a lower height of c.1.1m. The remaining length of the north wall has remains of a low internal plinth.

There is also the suggestion of an internal plinth along the possible east wall, which is 6.9m long, but this is not continuous and may be part of a basal course which is slightly off line. Externally this wall, which is 2m high, has some evidence for a base batter.

There are not enough diagnostic remains to date the church, but it has been attributed to the fourteenth/fifteenth century.[376] Killanin and Duignan mention early gravestones and cross-slabs in the churchyard.[377]

Inserted on top of an undulating wall between the ruinous church and the bawn, is a piscina, currently forming part of the crenellation which surmounts this wall. The limestone block measures 52cm x 31cm and is 12cm thick. The bowl carved into this block is 24cm x 23cm and 10cm deep. The stone, including the bowl, is decorated with stab-line tooling which radiates around the circumference of the bowl.

Another interesting architectural fragment was discovered when part of the graveyard wall was being demolished. It is a block of stone, 28cm high, 20cm wide and 25cm

[372]O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol.ii, 26-27 (60-61).
[373]Ibid.
[374]Killain, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1962, 402.
[375]Willie Nolan, pers. comm.
[376]O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol.ii, 26 (60).
[377]Ibid.

thick, carved on one face with a cross-motif.[378]   Harbison dates this piece to the eleventh/twelfth century and suggests that it formed part of the arch or lintel of a church doorway.[379]

15: 3   Bawn

Siting: This bawn is situated in Terryglass village, north of the main Ballinderry to Carrigahorig road. The ruinous medieval church and graveyard are located immediately to the west.

Historical Background: O'Donovan[380] recorded a tradition that the bawn occupied the site of the college of Terryglass. It is said to have been erected during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I to secure the pass of the Shannon from attacks from Connacht.

Description: The south, east and west walls of this limestone bawn survive. The main entrance is in the east wall and consists of a beautifully carved doorway with elaborate punch tooling and a knot, perhaps some form of mason's mark on the lower arch stone on the south side (see Plate 25). There are two eye-stones, that on the north side being particularly finely dressed. The jambs on the south side are rebated and there are two draw-bar holes. While the fine decoration on the doorway is a credit to the aesthetic sensibilties of the builders, the main function of the building was military. Thus the bawn was equipped with a wall-walk, gun-loops and at least one bartizan.

The west wall is 1.39m wide with an internal alure which terminates short of the north end of this wall. In the remaining wall, near the north-west corner, there is a deep recess 80cm high. It would appear that if the alure was continued it would cut across recess 80cm high. It would appear that if the alure was continued it would cut across this feature. According to a local man,[381] who got his information from the Ordnance Survey Office, this is the 'Cobbler's Box' where a cobbler hid when the garrison was under siege. The terminus of this wall has been levelled off with re-used blocks of stone. There are no remains of the north wall.

At the north end of the west wall there is a doorway slightly splayed internally, which is 1.5m above the internal ground level and accessed by five steps. There are a number of putlogs in this wall c.1.6m above ground level and another row c.1.5m above this. South of the doorway there is a loop in a steeply splaying ingoing. It is 1.55m above ground level internally but at ground level externally. A concrete shed has been built

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[378]Harbison, P., 1967, 108-111.
[379]Ibid.
[380] O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol. iii, 27, (61); Gleeson, Rev. J., 1915, 432.
[381]Willie Nolan, pers. comm.

onto the internal face of this wall. Surmounting the north end of the external face, there is the semi-circular base and supporting corbels of a bartizan. These roughly dressed limestone corbels, two large and one smaller, are pyramidal in shape.
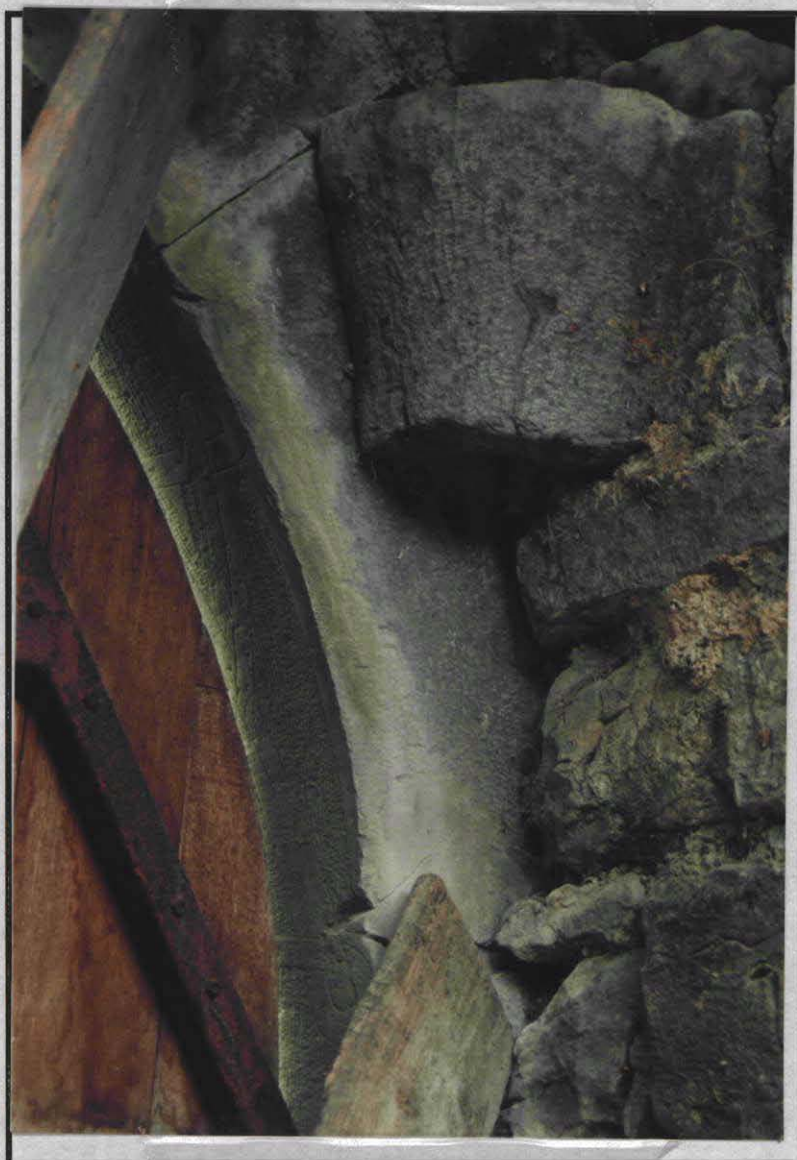
Plate 25: Detail of tooling on bawn doorway, Terryglass

A recent concrete block storage shed and toilets have been built up against the internal east face of the bawn. A large recess in this wall, which contains traces of wicker-centring, houses two gun-loops, the holes of which have been blocked up. The decorated entrance, described above, is also in this wall. The external face of the wall, which has a base batter 1.23m high and 10cm-15cm wide, has been modified. A plaque to Flann, poet of Connacht has been inserted and also a niche with a plaque. A rockery has been built up against it and a wooden lean-to erected between the rockery and the entrance of the bawn. The doorway itself is recessed in the batter. Above the doorway the bawn wall is slightly higher and inserted in it are two loops with

corbels at their base. Immediately north of this doorway is a modern single-storey extension to the premises, above which the bawn wall is visible.

The south wall survives to a lower level than the west wall and what remains of the wall-walk has been rendered with concrete. A portion of this wall has a slight internal base batter. Externally this wall bulges slightly in the centre and has no visible features.

Plate 26: Holy Well, Terryglass

15: 4 Holy Well 'St. Columb's Well'

Siting: This holy well is located north of Terryglass village. It is *c.*3m west of a stream and is close to 'Greenan' linear earthwork.

Historical Background: In the Ordnance Survey Namebooks, it is called Saint Colmcille's Well and is noted as the site at which '...persons afflicted with headaches have been cured.'

Description: A little pathway leads down to the well and continues onto a stream. The well is roughly circular, being 68cm x 60cm wide and 25cm deep. The surrounding semi-circular stone wall is 30cm thick and 85cm high. A niche, 18cm x 16cm and 18cm deep, in the internal face of this wall contains a small crucifix.

Adjacent to the well is a hawthorn tree. The ground surrounding the well hole is of cobblestones embedded in concrete.

15: 5   Linear Earthwork

Siting: This lies to the north of Terryglass village and is *c.*15m west of a stream and north-west of St. Columb's Well.

Plate 27: Linear earthwork, 'Greenan', Terryglass

Description: This linear earthwork is 79m long. The maximum height from the top of the earthwork to the exterior is 4m-6m. The east side of the earthwork is particularly steep. There is a further bank on the flat area between the mound and the stream. This bank is intermittent and irregular. At the south end, the bank is 14.2m wide and at the north side it is 10.3m.

THURLES

Durlas meaning Strong Fort

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

844   Saint Ciarán visited Durlas to punish Feidhlimid mac Crimthainn for his raid on Clonmacnoise.[382]

1174   The annals record a battle at Thurles between Ruaidhri Ua Conchobhair and Domhnall Ua Briain on one side and an Anglo-Norman army assisted by Ostmen from Dublin on the other. Ua Briain and Ua Domhnaill emerged victorious from this encounter.[383]

1192   Ua Domhnaill repeated his success, again in Thurles, against an Anglo-Norman army at a time when the Anglo-Normans were building castles and raiding extensively in Munster.[384]

There is no firm evidence for a pre-Norman settlement at Thurles. Early references to important events there, combined with the survival of the placename almost unchanged, show Thurles to have been a place of some renown.

Evidence suggests that the town, which grew around Thurles Castle, was divided into three areas by the seventeenth century.[385] These included a core area, probably walled, centering on the market square; an eastern suburb over the bridge; and the western suburbs '...without the gates...'.[386] Hearth money returns suggest that the area without the gates was the poorest area and that the eastern suburb was the main artisan quarter and contained many kilns, ovens etc.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1   Tower House 'Black Castle'
2   Tower House 'Bridge Castle'

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[382] Ibid., 1-2, (4-5).
[383] A.F.M., s.a. 1174.
[384] Ann. Inisf., s.a. 1192.
[385] Smyth, W.J.,1991,166-7; Nolan, W.,1989,12.
[386] Smyth, W.J.,1991,166-7.

3   Church (site) and Graveyard 'St. Bridget's'
4   Motte (site)
5   Sheela-na-gig
6   Bridge (possible)
7   Town Wall (possible site)
8   Carmelite Friary (site)
9   Church site and graveyard
    a   Archer Tomb
    b   Sixteenth/seventeenth-century graveslab
    c   Seventeenth-century wall memorial
10 Castle (possible site) 'Croak Castle'

SMR sites within the Urban District Boundary:

41:39   Church Site and Graveyard (described below as site 16a: 3)
41:40   Enclosure
41:41   Ringfort
41:42   Town (individual sites described below)
41:43   Enclosure Possible Site
41:44   Enclosure

Unlocated Sites
Seventeenth-century Fortifications

16a: 1   Tower House 'Black Castle'

Siting: This tower house is situated at the west end of Liberty Square, at the back of the houses fronting onto the Square and West Gate/Friar Street. It is roughly at the junction of Castle Road and Hickey's Lane.

Historical Background: Black Castle is a fifteenth/sixteenth-century tower house, probably built to replace the former castle on the nearby motte, now demolished.[387] Its construction is attributed to Theobald Walter Mac Richard Butler who is also thought to have built Bridge Castle in 1453.[388] In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 it is mentioned that 'there is a faire house wherein the Lady of Thurles liveth with a Castle and severall Turretts upon the Bawne'.[389] This seventeenth-century house may have been attached to the west face of the castle, with only the pinning corbels surviving. The

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[387] Empey, C.A., 1989, 34.
[388] Corbett, W., 1993, 144; Condon, J., 1984, 1.
[389] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol. i, 53.

bawn was quite a substantial affair[390] but unfortunately little of it remains today, the north wall was levelled in recent years and replaced by a low concrete block wall.[391]

Description: This is a four storey tower house with parapet, the ground floor having a vaulted loft. It is of limestone construction, well made with a pronounced base batter. The fenestration and doorways are well cut and dressed. There are three entrances into the ground floor, two of which are late insertions. The original entrance, which is now blocked, was in the south end of the east wall. There is an elaborate entrance design. Two small lobby areas had to be negotiated, including such deterrents as a murder-hole and a cross-loop directly opposite the doorway, before gaining access to the castle proper. The ground floor was used as a slaughter house until recently and had been altered accordingly, the walls and floor having been concreted and a plastic barrel-shaped panel roof inserted. There is a mural stair which continues along the west and north walls.

At first floor level there are two embrasures in the east wall, both of which contained windows but have since been damaged and a third embrasure in the west wall. A fireplace and flue have been inserted approximately centrally in the west wall, undermining the stability of this wall. There is an entrance at the south end of the west wall which leads into the top of the murder-hole. Before and to the south of this there is another doorway into a garderobe chamber. This narrow chamber is lit by two small loops in the south wall with the chute at the eastern end. The roof retains much of its original wicker-centring.

The floor above this has a semi-pointed vaulted roof. It is lit by three narrow windows in wide embrasures; those in the north and south wall are flat-headed while that in the east wall has a cusped ogee-head. There is a second garderobe chamber at an inter-floor level between the second and third floor. This is within the east wall, though the chute itself is at right angles in the south wall. The chamber is lit by three narrow lights and much of the roof has been repaired with redbrick.

The third floor is particularly fine. The embrasures at this level have either round- or segmental-headed cut and dressed stone arches containing cusped ogee-headed windows. All the embrasures have either a cupboard, or in the case of the northern embrasure, a wall press with a slop-stone. The side walls of two of these embrasures also contain doorways, one in the north wall giving access from below, the other in the east leading to the parapet. All that remains of the roof are two pyramidal corbels on the south wall which would have supported roof timbers. There is little left of the parapet, a portion of it survives on the south and west side and there are also the remains of dripstones at the base of the parapet wall. At parapet level, in the south-

west corner of the tower house, there are the remains of a bartizan supported by corbels which project out from the south and west faces.

Externally, on the western face of the tower house, there are substantial corbels projecting out, three just above second floor level and three above third floor level. These corbels appear to be original and would suggest that some structure, of wood or stone, was built or intended to be built against the tower house.

Bawn: Around the tower house are the remains of a bawn. It would appear that the wall of the tower house formed part of this bawn wall. The bawn would have joined the west wall of the tower house near its south-west corner. A small section of this wall survives, containing a projecting wall-walk 3.55m above ground level supported on
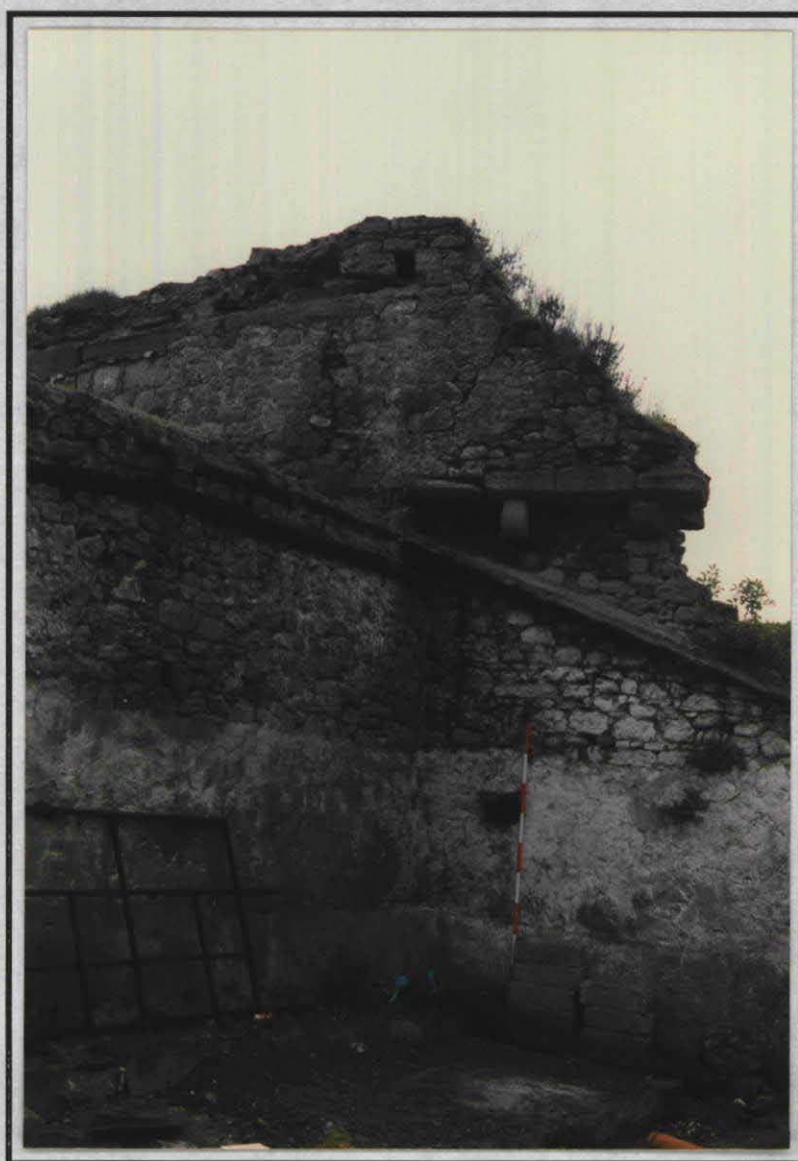
Plate 28: Portion of bawn surrounding Black Castle, Thurles

corbels *c*.30cm deep. The base of the wall-walk is composed of flat limestone slabs which have been chamfered. North of the tower house there is a section of bawn

which contains the remains of a bartizan. This is supported on cut limestone corbels, it is 3.45m above ground level and survives to a height of 80cm. Black Castle is depicted as having a substantial bawn with mural towers in an eighteenth-century sketch.[392]

16b: 2 Tower House 'Bridge Castle'

Siting: Located at the east end of Liberty Square, on the south side adjacent to the bridge (Barry's Bridge).

Historical Background: A tradition exists that Bridge Castle was built and occupied by the Knights Templars.[393] This is only a tradition, however, and other accounts ascribe this tower house to the Knights Hospitallers and another fortress to the Templars. There is no accurate date available for the construction of Bridge Castle, although the year 1453 has been suggested.[394]

Description: This is a four-storey tower house, with parapet, in good condition. Modern wooden floors have been built, roughly corresponding with original floor levels. There is a semi-pointed vaulted roof over the first floor loft and a modern roof has been erected at parapet level, in keeping with the original roof.
The ground floor of the tower house is currently a drapery shop and at some stage the west wall was broken through providing access to the adjacent premises (also part of the shop). It is likely that there was an original doorway in this section of wall as immediately north of this opening there is a blocked round-headed doorway leading to a mural stair. This stair is now accessed from a modern opening in the internal face of the west wall. In the north wall there is a blocked semi-pointed doorway which originally may have been a separate entrance to the tower house related to the town gate. The latter appears to have been attached to this tower.
All floors in the tower house are accessed from a spiral stair in the north-west corner. The window embrasures in the west wall of both the first and second floor have been broken through and crude doors inserted to connect the adjoining building. In the north wall of the first floor there is a narrow rectangular opening c.1m above floor level which leads into a small garderobe chamber lit by a single loop.
Continuing up the spiral stair there is a mural passage in the north wall of the second floor. Within the stone floor of this passage there is a rectangular hole which continues under the floor. This is a strong-box or hiding-hole which would have been covered by a stone flag, the slots for which are still evident. This passage, which is lit by a

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[392]Grose, F., 1791, Pl.119.

[393] O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (1930), vol. iii, 4, (13-16).

[394] Corbett, W., 1993, 144; Condon, J., 1984, 2.

rectangular window and three loops, also contains a garderobe chute. There are two other mural passages between the second floor and the parapet, these are in the north wall, one above the other. The main apartment on the second floor is well-lit by rebated ogee-headed windows. Above this there is a modern A-frame roof which utilises the elaborate stone supports of the original roof on both the east and west walls. The parapet has stepped crenellations which appear to be mostly original. The northern end of the parapet is higher, the base being formed by the lintelled roof of a mural chamber.
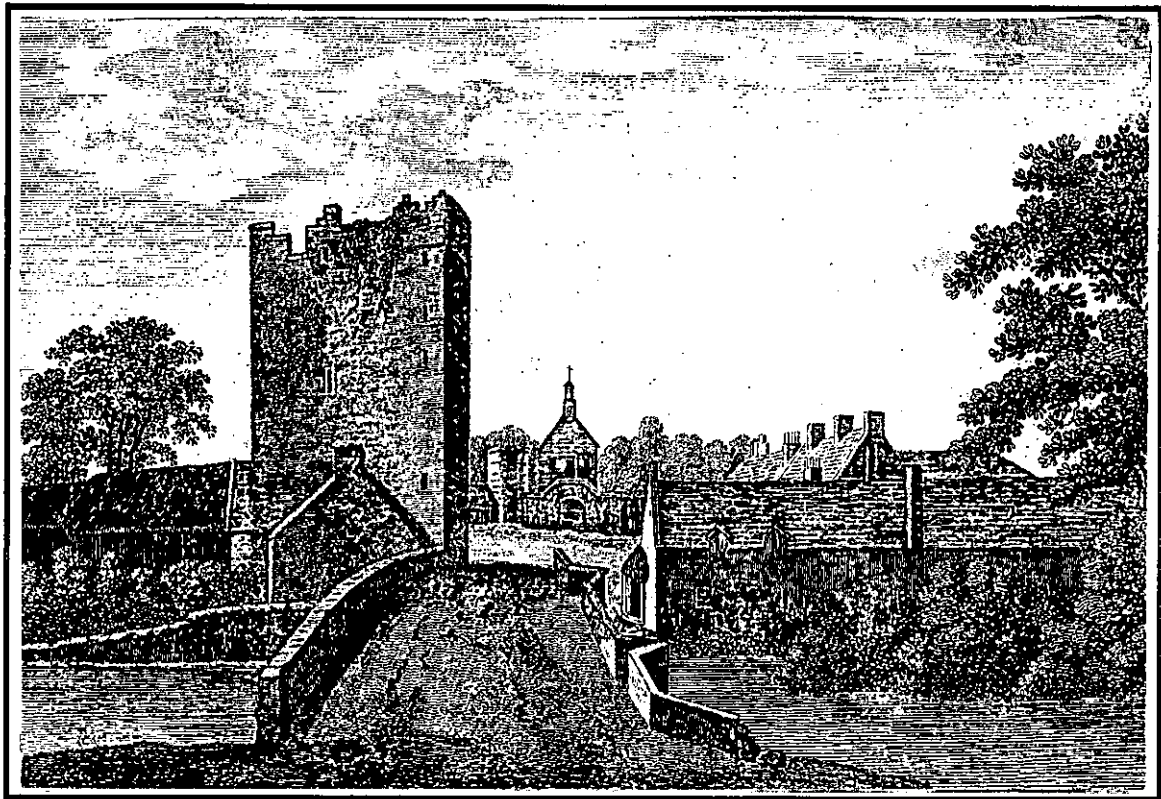
Plate 29: Bridge Castle and bridge, Thurles (after Grose)

16a: 3   St. Bridget's Church (site) and Graveyard

Siting: This graveyard is on the west side of the town, west of the railway line and on the north side of Garryvicleheen road.

Historical Background: It has been speculated that St. Brigid's church was attended by the Irish in the Thurles community,[395] it being presumed that it was not a high status church since it was situated outside the town walls. Also the patron saint of the church is particularly Irish and not a typical choice for a church founded for English

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[395]Johnstone, Rev. H., 1989, 187.

settlers. When St. Brigid's graveyard was visited by the Ordnance Survey in c.1840 there were no visible remains of any church at the site.[396]

Description: In the southern boundary of the graveyard there is a stone wall with a stone pier. Inserted in this pier are a number of pieces of carved limestone, including a cat, a lion and a human figure, all of which appear to be of relatively modern date. There is, however, an incomplete cusped-ogee window-head from a two-light window, the block being 56cm wide, 35cm high and 37cm deep, while the light itself was 21cm wide. On top of the adjacent wall there is the chamfered sill of a window which would have been 23cm wide.

Plate 30: Architectural fragments from St. Bridget's church, Thurles

On the western side of the graveyard, near the centre, there is a limestone architectural fragment embedded in the ground. It is 35cm above ground level and possibly a further 20cm below ground level. The block is 41cm x 31cm and has a chamfered edge.

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[396] O'Flanagan, Rev.M., (ed.), 1930, vol.iii, 8 (23).

16a: 4 Castle (site) / Motte (site)

Siting: The castle being referred to was at the west end of the town, near the site of the Black Castle.

Historical Background: The fact that a battle took place in Thurles in 1192, at a time when castles were being built in Munster, has led both Empey[397] and Bradley[398] to accept a late twelfth-century date for the construction of an Anglo-Norman castle at Thurles. The earliest reliable reference to a castle in Thurles is in a charter granted by Theobald Walter, who died in 1206.[399] That charter mentions '...the *theodum* where the castle of Durlas is situated.' Hugh de Lacy besieged the castle in 1208.[400] By the early fourteenth century,[401] the castle was at the centre of a complex of buildings which consisted of a courtyard or bailey (*curia*), a kitchen, a bakehouse and a chapel. This complex was replaced, probably during the sixteenth century,[402] by buildings described in the seventeenth century as: '...a faire house...with a castle and severall turretts upon the bawne...'[403]
The motte upon which this castle was built survived for many centuries,[404] and was described in 1752 as '...a mount with a winding ascent...'[405]

Description: This motte, which was c.30m high, was destroyed c.1800.[406]

16a: 5   Sheela-na-gig

Siting: Situated on the back stone wall of Lyons' Tyre and Batteries Centre which is west of Slievenamon Road and roughly opposite the former bank, now GAA office/museum. The wall on which it is placed is c.2.8m high. The sheela is 2.2m above ground level and 20cm below the top of the wall.

Historical Background: According to the Ordnance Survey letters, the west gate in Thurles was called Geata na gCoileach or the Gate of the Old Women with a carving of

[397] Empey, C.A., 1989, 32, 36.
[398] Bradley, J., 1985, 54.
[399] Ormond Deeds, vol. i,18, lit. 34.
[400] Saint Mary's Annals, s.a. 1208, 311; White, J. D., 1892, 9.
[401] Red Book of Ormond, 69.
[402] Empey, C.A., 1989, 34.
[403] Simington, R.C., (ed.), vol.i, 53-4.
[404] O'Flanagan, Rev. M.,1930, vol. iii, part i, 5-6, (17-21).
[405] Stokes, George T.,1891,174.
[406]O'Flanagan, Rev. M., vol. iii, part 1, 7, (21).

an old woman chiselled 'on a stone in one of its sides'.[407]   It is very likely that this stone is the sheela-na-gig now inserted in the wall of Lyons' yard were it was placed after the west gate was demolished.

Description: This is a typical exhibitionist sheela-na-gig made from limestone carved in relief. The pear-like face has recessed almond-shaped eyes, a small nose, a horizontal mouth, with a depression in the centre of the face and pronounced jug ears, though that on the sinister side is worn. The body is chunky with breasts which are quite pointed, and arms over splaying legs. The hands, which are not well defined, are grasping a pronounced vulva. The lower leg on the dexter side is missing while that on the sinister side terminates in a foot positioned side-ways with pronounced heel and foot. The stone is 49cm high and *c*.47cm wide. The figure itself is the length of the stone. Across the shoulders it is 55cm wide and the head is 28cm wide and 16cm long.

Plate 31: Sheela-na-gig, Thurles

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[407] Ibid., 7-8, (22).

16b: 6 Bridge (possible) 'Barry's Bridge'

Siting: Crossing the River Suir, joining Liberty Square and Cathedral Street.

Historical Background: In the Civil Survey of 1654-56 there is a reference to 'a stone bridge upon the River Shewer' in Thurles.[408]

Description: This is a limestone bridge with seven spans. It is c.50m long and c.6m wide, mostly level with a slight rise towards the middle. The surface has been concreted and an overhang added on the south side to accommodate pedestrians. The north side has been extended and faced with round-headed arches with cut voussoirs and a projecting keystone and there are six cutwaters. As two refuges, visible on Grosse's sketch of 1793 (see Plate 29) are no longer extant, the rebuilding is likely to have taken place after this date, probably the early nineteenth-century. However, the south still retains its original appearance. The segmental-pointed spans are of rough limestone blocks, the spans somewhat gradated with the outermost being lowest.

16a/b: 7 Town Defences (site/possible)

Historical Background: There is evidence that the town was defended from quite an early date, though there is only one recorded murage grant to Thurles, dating to 1356-57.[409] In the Ordnance Survey letters of c.1840, O'Donovan referred to the west gate as *Geata na gCoileach*, or 'the gate of the old women', though it appears to have been gone by this date.[410] There is also mention of an occupied '... round building called Crow's Tower ...' which '... stands at the town to right of the road to Cashel'.[411] It would appear from the location given that this may have been a mural tower associated with the West Gate, although it is also possible that this tower was incorporated in the bawn which surrounded Black Castle. Other mural towers may have existed, there is a tradition that five 'castles' were pulled down in Thurles for the building of a Courthouse.[412] Unfortunately there is no evidence to substantiate this and on both the Down Survey map of 1655-59 and Rocque's map of 1755 there is no town wall indicated.[413]

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[408] Simington, R.C. (ed.),1931, vol.i, 53.
[409] Thomas, A., 1992, vol. ii,192.
[410] O'Flanagan, Rev. M., 1930, vol. iii, 7-8. (22).
[411] Ibid., 7, (22).
[412] Ibid., 8, (22).
[413] Rocque, J., *A plan of the camp near Thurles*, dated 1755. TCD, early printed books, 00. a60. No. 9.

Description: Nothing remains of the town defences and possible reconstructions of the plan have been based on the surviving street pattern and property boundaries.[414] The picture that emerges is of a roughly rectangular-shaped town wall extending westward from the bank of the River Suir.[415] This probably included the long property boundaries stretching north and south from Liberty Square and to the west the motte, Black Castle, the gate at West Gate Street and the wider section of Croke Street, encompassing a total area of between 5.5[416] and 7.5 hectares.[417]

It is not certain that the town defences were made of stone,[418] but there was an east gate, a west gate and possibly a north gate. The east gate protected the approach across the bridge and was attached to Bridge Castle. Only the spring of an arch now remains on the north face of the tower house. The west gate only survives as a place name, while no remnant survives of a north gate.

16b: 8   Carmelite Friary (site)

Siting: It stood on what is now the site of the Cathedral of the Assumption on the east side of the river.[419]

Historical Background: The Carmelite Friary was founded in either *c.*1291 or 1300.[420] The friary was dissolved during the sixteenth century and its possessions were granted to the Earl of Ormond in 1557.[421] The friars nevertheless returned to Thurles from time to time, *Thurlusiae* being listed among the Irish Carmelite houses *c.*1737.[422]

Description: Although nothing now remains of the friary, an 'old ruinous aby'[423] was described by Simington in 1654-6. Almost one hundred years later, Pococke noted the remains of '...a convent, a tower and some part of the cross aisle to the north...'[424] In 1892, John Davis White referred to, 'a tower...on the east side of the river, and some

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[414] Bradley, J.,1985, 53; Thomas, A.,1992,192.
[415] Ibid.
[416] Bradley, J., 1985, 52.
[417] Thomas, Avril, 1992, 193.
[418] Thomas, A.,1992, vol. ii,193.
[419] Lord Killanin, and Duignan, M.V.,1967, 440.
[420] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N.,1988, 291-2.
[421] Ibid., 291-2.
[422] Ibid., 291-2.
[423] Simington, R.C.,1934, vol. ii, 53.
[424] Stokes, George T.,1891,174-5.

part ot the cross aisle leading to the north.'[425] The similarity to Pococke's comment suggests Davis White may not have visited the site himself. The first Catholic Archbishop's house in Thurles was built near the ruins of the friary by James Butler (1692-1774).[426]

16b: 9   Church (site) and Graveyard / Monuments

Siting: This is situated c.400m east of Barry's Bridge on a natural height at the end of St. Mary's Avenue.

Historical Background: The modern Saint Mary's Church is situated some distance away from the medieval core of Thurles. This had led some historians to question its identification as the medieval parish church.[427] Some historical references cast doubt on its role also. The Civil Survey of 1654-6 for example noted: '...the walls of the parish church...' among a list of buildings '...in the towne.'[428] The reference to these ruins being in the town could be taken to mean that the original parish church was in the medieval core. The Thurles entry in the Civil Survey begins with the Black Castle, mentions various stone houses and cabins, followed by the bridge over the River Suir, Bridge Castle, '...an old ruinous aby', and the parish church ruins. The ruinous abbey is presumably the Carmelite house on the east bank of the Suir. The impression given is that Thurles was being described from west to east. Black Castle was at the western extremity and the parish church was at the eastern extremity on its present site.

There are a number of references to the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary during the medieval period, although Bradley[429] noted that some of these may refer to the Carmelite monastery because it 'was usual among the Carmelites to dedicate the church to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.' By the late thirteenth century, Saint Mary's had come under the control of Owney Abbey in Limerick.[430] In 1292, the abbot of Owney mortgaged the church to some Italian merchants. In 1302-7, Saint Mary's contributed 20 li. to the taxation of Cashel diocese.[431] The church of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Thurles is mentioned in 1359[432] and in 1432[433] the Earl of Ormond granted safe conduct to all pilgrims visiting Thurles on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed

[425] White, J. D., 1892, 9.

[426] O'Toole, J.,1989,117.

[427] E.g. Bradley, J., 1985, 54.

[428] Simington, R.C., (ed.), vol. ii, 53.

[429] Bradley, J., 1985, 54.

[430] Johnstone, Rev. H. 1989,187.

[431] Cal. docs. Ire., vol. ii, 283, no. 718.

[432] Ormond deeds, vol. ii, 47, lit. 49.

[433] Ormond deeds, vol. iii, p. 82, lit. 98.

Virgin Mary. Thurles was therefore obviously a centre of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In December 1562 all the possessions of Owney Abbey, including Thurles, were put in lay hands.[434] The recipient was allowed to have the income of the lands, but in return, buildings were to be kept in good repair and curates appointed. By the time of the Civil Survey (1654-6) the church was in ruins, but 20 years later, the church, or at least a nearby chapel was back in use. In 1673,[435] Lady Thurles was buried in the 'Ladyes Chapple' beside Saint Mary's Church. The Lady Chapel may have been so named

Plate 32: St. Mary's Church, Thurles (after Grose)

because of Lady Thurles, but in 1686[436] John Grace included in his will that his body be; 'interred in my owne tombe in Our Lady's the Blessed Virgin Mary's chapell, near the parish church of Thurles, where my father and my wife were buried.' A memorial to John Grace and his wife is preserved in Saint Mary's churchyard.

More conclusive evidence that the church itself and an associated chapel were again in use dates to 1752. That year, Pococke noted: 'On the east side of this river is the church, which is built to the tower of an old church, the east part of this church being an arch under the tower; to the east of that is a chapel in which there is a monument to the Archers of Archer's Court near....'.[437] The modern Saint Mary's Church dates to

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[434] Johnstone, Rev. H., 1989,187.
[435] Corbett, W. 1993,145.
[436] Davis-White, J. 1892,10.
[437] Stokes, George T., (ed.), 1891, 174.

1820,[438] but a castle called Church Castle was recorded in the Ordnance Survey Letters as having stood at or near the church. This 'castle' may have been the tower of the old Saint Mary's, as mentioned by Pococke in 1752.

Description: There are no extant remains of the church buildings.

Monuments: (a) Archer Tomb

Siting: Located in the graveyard of St. Mary's Church of Ireland church, east of the east gable of the church.

Historical Background: This tomb bears the effigies of Edmond Archer and his wife. According to the inscription this Archer was lord of Rathfernagh, Galboly, Corbale and Killienane. According to Johnstone this family lived in Archerstown Castle on the road to Littleton.[439]

Description: This is a double effigial tomb lying on an ornate altar tomb. The knight and his lady are carved in high relief, the feet of each resting on a dog. The lady is wearing a low heart-shaped head-dress with lace kerchief and side veils.[440] Her gown is fully pleated with a rounded neck and tight sleeves in cuffs and around her waist she is wearing a belt with a buckle and tie,[441] from which hangs a sash. Her hands are in a praying position. The knight is dressed in armour with a sword hanging from a belt at the waist. His hands are extended, the dexter hand resting on his thigh and the sinister hand on his sword. There is an inscription around the margin of the capstone. It is written in Latin in Gothic script which translates as: [Here lies] Edmund Archer (?), burgess of Thurles and Lord of Rathfernagh, Galboyle Corbale [and] Killienane, who died on the 18th of the month of September in the year [...] daughter of Counuchan caused me to be made whose [...].[442]

A transcription in the Memorials of the Dead includes the date 1520 which is now illegible.[443]

The capstone with the effigies has straight edges and is then chamfered towards the base. It is 2.13cm long x 1.16cm wide and 10cm high.

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[438] Johnstone, Rev. H., 1989,188.
[439] Ibid.
[440] Hunt, J., 1974, vol.i, 230.
[441] Ibid.
[442] Ibid.
[443] Memorials of the Dead, 1898-1900, vol.4, 305-06.

The altar tomb is decorated along each side with six figures of the apostles, each within a separate carved niche c.30cm wide. At the head end there are three niches with a depiction of Christ crucified in the middle, Our Lady on one side and St. John on the other.[444] This triple arch division is repeated at the foot end with a seated figure in the centre, possible Christ in Majesty and a coat of arms on either side, that on the dexter side being Butler or de la Poer and that on the sinister side being Archer.[445] The altar tomb is 2m long x 1.09m wide and 45cm high.

Plate 33: Archer tomb, St. Mary's church, Thurles

(b)   Sixteenth/Seventeenth-century graveslab

Siting: Located on the south side of St. Mary's Church of Ireland church, c.10cm south of the west door. It is recumbent, its eastern side is right up against the border of a nineteenth-century grave plot.

Description: This sixteenth/seventeenth-century limestone graveslab has an eight armed floriated cross with a knop under which are the symbols of the passion. The dexter panel contains a cock on a stepped mount, two scourges, spear, rope and a reed thrust into Christ's hand. On the sinister panel there is a ladder, column or whipping post, [unknown object], hammer, dice, pincers grasping nails, robe and St.

444Hunt, J., 1974, vol.i, 230.
445Ibid., 231.

Peter's sword. There is an angular calvary mount which contains a skull and cross-bones, above which there is a three bar knop. The inscription around the margin, which is 10cm wide, is in false relief but is not legible. The top dexter side is broken in two places. The slab is 2.04m long and 79cm wide.

(c)   Wall Memorial

Siting: Located in the graveyard of St. Mary's Church of Ireland church, north of the church, this wall memorial is built up against a free-standing stone wall.

Description: This composite wall memorial, built in 1683, rests on a limestone altar. It lies against a wall 55cm deep, 2.3m wide and 3.5m high, which is surmounted by two layers of limestone capstones. Above the entablature of the memorial itself there is a plaque with a halved shield bearing the Grace and Purcell coats of arms. The centre piece of the monument is an incised inscription in Roman capitals. Most of it is in Latin but the last six lines are in English. It is an eulogy to John Grace and his wife Ellen Purcell, celebrating both their virtues and their marriage.[446]

16a: 10   Castle (site/possible) 'Croak Castle'

Siting: This castle is depicted on Rocque's map of 1755 as being on the south side of Garver Clahen Street. On the first edition of the Ordnance Survey 6" sheet of 1840 'Garryvicleheen' road extends westward from Liberty Square, across the railway line, and onwards to meet the present Abbey Road. It would appear that Rocque's 'Garve Clahen Street' was subsequently called 'Garryvicleheen' and the length from Liberty Square to the railway bridge, where 'Croak Castle' seems to have been located, is now Friar Street.

Description: There are no visible remains of this castle above ground level.

UNLOCATED   SITES

Seventeenth-century   Fortifications

Description: Fortifications were constructed at Thurles in 1690-91.[447] Kerrigan, however, suggests that these were only temporary defences, built to protect garrisons stationed in the town during this period.[448]

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[446]Memorials of the Dead, 1900, vol. iv, No.3, 469-70.
[447] Loeber, R.,1979, 299.
[448] Kerrigan, P.M.,1980,149.

TOOMYVARA

Tuaim uí Mheadhra meaning O'Meara's mound or tumulus

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

*c.***1140**   Suggested foundation date for the Augustinian priory.[449]

1541   Donogh O'Meara was said to have been building a castle here at that time.[450]

1597   Archbishop Miler Mac Grath was given the priory and its precinct.[451]

Toomyvara is in the townland of Templedowney. Templedowney is an anglicisation of Teampall Dónáin which was named for Saint Dónáin, the patron saint of Toomyvara.[452] Almost nothing is known about Saint Dónáin. His holy well is near the town and a slab with incised chi-rho markings dating to the seventh or eighth century, which was found in the town, provide possible evidence for the existence of his church.[453]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Church
2 Augustinian Priory
3 Church (possible site)

17: 1 Church

Siting: On high ground in the centre of the village. The graveyard is to the south of the remaining wall.

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[449] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988,155.
[450] Ibid.
[451] Ibid.
[452] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-2,133.
[453] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 214.

Historical Background: The ruin in the centre of Toomyvara is known as the parish church. Although a church at Toomyvara is noted in the sources,[454] some authorities hesitate to identify these ruins with it. The Ordnance Survey Namebooks record a belief that a graveyard extended between the Augustinian abbey and the smaller ruin in the centre of the town. It is claimed that human bones were found in the area between the two, and that the two ruins were therefore part of a single complex. A seventh- to eighth-century cross slab found at this ruin, but now lost,[455] may indicate that the building had some ecclesiastical function. Other suggestions as to its purpose are that it was part of O'Meara's castle, mentioned in 1541[456] or that it was one of the outbuildings noted in the environs of the abbey in 1597.[457]
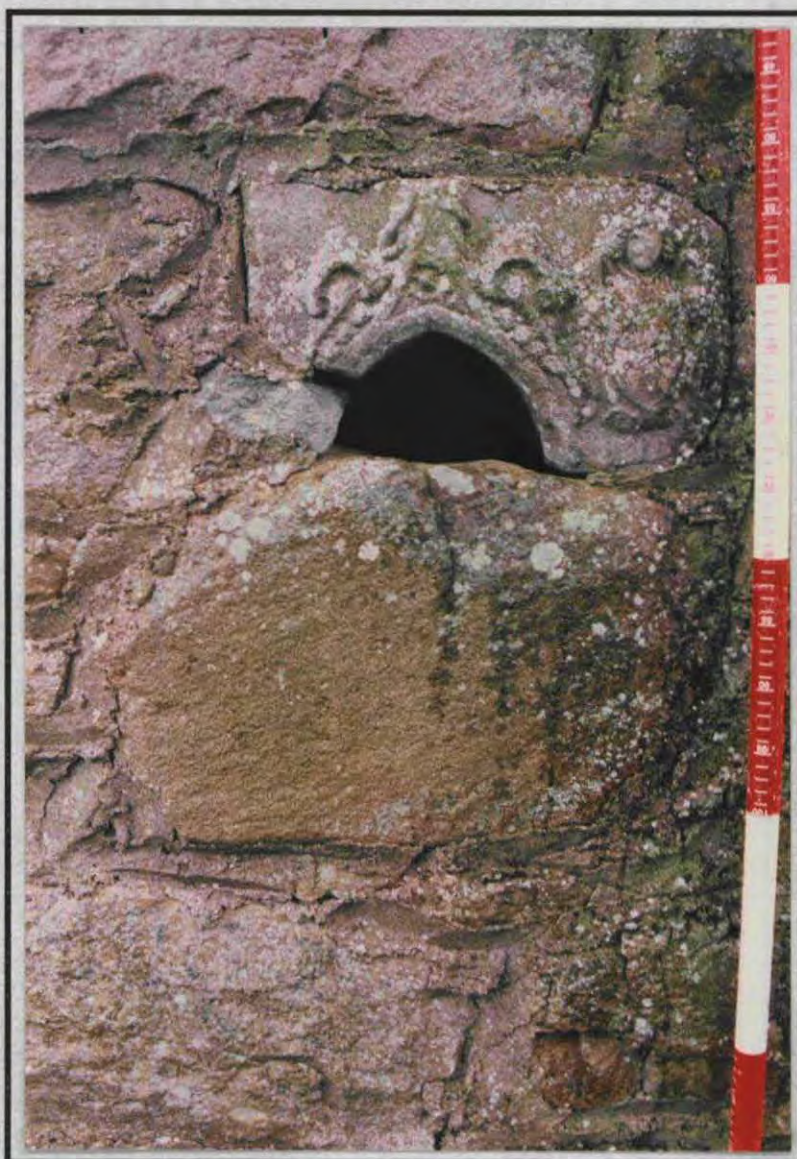
Plate 34: Stoup inserted into church wall, Toomyvara

[454] Cal. docs. Ire, vol. v, 302, no. 724.
[455] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-2, 133; Gleeson, D.F. and Gwynn, A., 1962, 214.
[456] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-2,133.
[457] Cal. pat. rolls Ire, Hen. VIII-Eliz., vol. ii, 460.

Description: Only one length of wall of this building survives. It is 1.3m high, 1m thick and 24.8m long and has two openings, a window embrasure and a doorway, neither of which is original. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters, the surviving wall is the southern one.[458] This seems likely as masonry projects from both ends of the north face of the standing wall, suggesting that the gables ran northwards. If this is correct it is quite possible that the present north wall of the graveyard is on the line of the north wall of the church, which would mean that the church had an internal width of 6.8m. Inserted in the east face of the wall at the doorway is a sandstone stoup with a separate decorated stone inserted above it (see Plate 34). The latter has a semi-pointed moulded ope surmounted by a foliate design with an angel holding a shield on the sinister side.

There is a square enclosure on the south side of the wall, at the west end. It is probably a family plot though it contains only one visible recumbent gravestone dated 1774.

17: 2 Augustinian Priory

Siting: This is situated on the south side of the town, immediately north of the Catholic church.

Historical Background: An Augustinian priory dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary is referred to in Toomyvara from the fourteenth century onwards.[459] Gwynn and Hadcock suggest a foundation date sometime after 1140 for the priory.[460] Gleeson cites a fifteenth-century reference to the Augustinian monastery of Thomdomyn, suggesting continuity with Saint Dónáin's foundation. It is possible therefore that Toomyvara fits into the familiar pattern of an Early Christian Irish monastery being succeeded by an Augustinian monastery during the twelfth century or later. Toomyvara was a daughter house of the priory of Monaincha.[461] The influence of the O'Meara family led to the village becoming known as Tuaim uí Mheadhra or O'Meara's mound or tumulus.

The O'Mearas maintained their connection with the priory until its dissolution in the 1540s.[462] Donogh O'Meara was said to have been building a castle there in 1541.[463]

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[458]O'Flanagan, Rev. M., (ed.), 1930, vol.i, 197-98 (547-48).
[459] ITA survey, 1945.
[460] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988,155.
[461] Ibid.,155.
[462] Gleeson, D.F., 1951-2,133.
[463] Ibid.

In 1597[464] Archbishop Miler Mac Grath was given the priory and its precinct. A persistent tradition that the Knights Templars had a preceptory in Toomyvara was recorded in the Ordnance Survey Namebooks. This idea was dismissed by Gwynn and Gleeson[465] who pointed out that Toem, near Cappawhite in Emly diocese, was a Templar site. Toomyvara is frequently referred to as Thom in the source material[466] and Gwynn and Gleeson take the similarity with Toem to be the cause of the confusion.
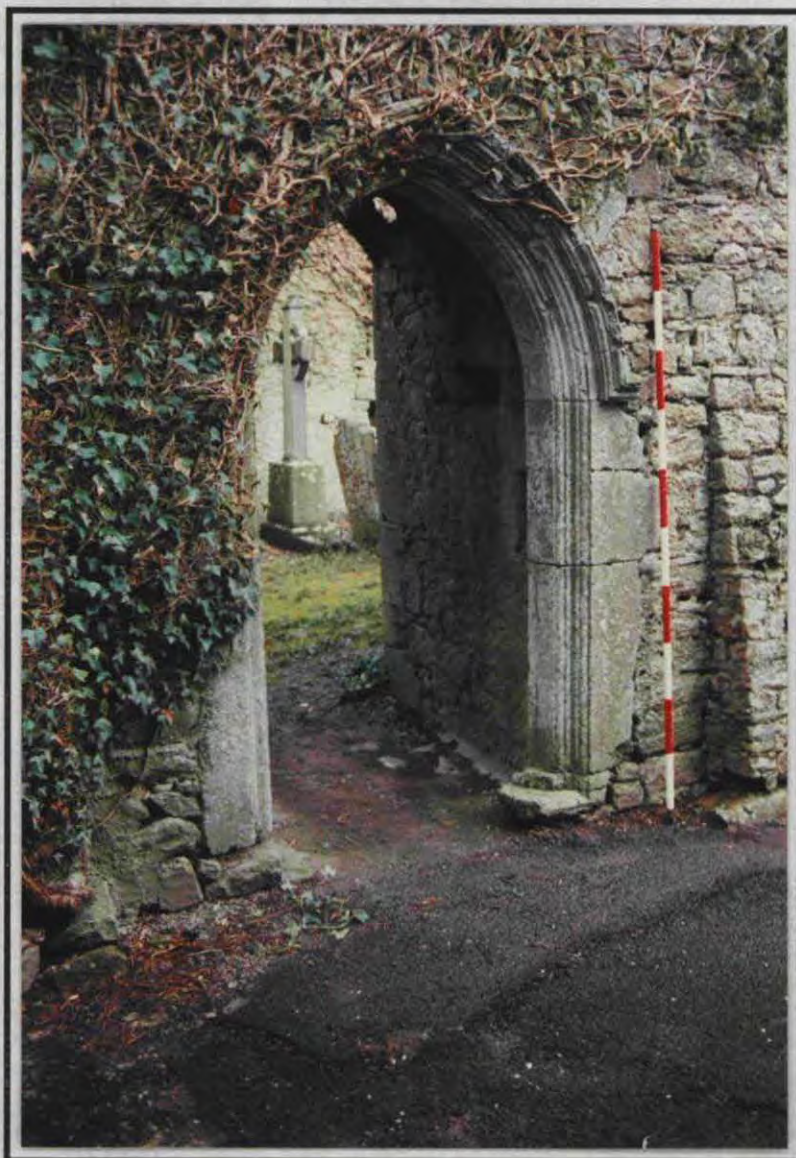
Plate 35: South doorway of Augustinian priory, Toomyvara

Description: Only three sides of this church have survived, the east gable being completely gone, along with portions of its adjoining side walls. It is constructed of

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[464] Ibid.
[465] Gwynn, A. and Gleeson, D.F., 1962, 215.
[466] E.g. Ormond deeds, vol. iv, 244, lit. 294(1543); vol. iv, 153, lit. 180, (1532); vol. v, 33, lit 13, (1548-9).

coursed blocks with smaller coursed pinning stones and has an external base batter. The church has two doorways. One, at the west end of the north wall, has a flat-headed doorway, splaying internally, with cut surrounds internally. The external batter, 1.1m high and 20cm thick, stops 40cm from doorway on both sides of the external face with a straight edge to end the batter. The other doorway (see Plate 35), c.7m east of the west gable in the south wall, has an unusual porch which projects c.70cm into the interior of the church. Externally the base batter stops 65cm short of this semi-pointed doorway.

The west gable is lit by a two-light window which bears the remains of tracery springers. Externally it has a semi-pointed hood-moulding which is similar to that over the south doorway. The gable is surmounted by a bellcote. There are two windows in the north wall, the one nearest the west gable is flat-headed with a chamfered external surround while that at the east end has a cusped ogee-head with an external moulded surround with a square hood-moulding. There are remains of plaster on the internal wall faces.

Near the east end of the south wall there is a seventeenth-century plaque with a chamfered surround. The head and base of the surround do not appear to match the sides, although the stone is similar. There is an inscription in Latin which translates as: 'While the renowned offspring of O Meara reposes in this tomb. To whom O Traveller happily open Heaven by thy prayer. To William. To Ellen Bourke open heaven. By the merits of His blood He made possible that path. He snatched thrones from earth. Let this marble be a witness to thee O reader, 1664 henceforth from Evil.'[467]

The plaque is 1m above ground level, 49cm wide by 55cm high and with the surround is 93cm by 93cm. There is also a short inscription along the base chamfer of the surround.

There are three fragments of tracery on the ground within the ruined church.

Adjacent to the external face of the south wall there is a recumbent effigial tomb. Hunt, who describes the tomb in detail, assigns a late fifteenth-century date to it.[468] The tombstone is 1.33m long, 18cm deep and tapers towards the bottom, being 53cm wide at the top and 24cm at the base. It is decorated with a cross head, under which is an effigy, separated from the cross-head by a decorative panel. The top and bottom of the tombstone have broken off. There is an inscription in Black Letter around the border which is only partly legible. It commences on the sinister side at the level of the commemorated man's shoulder, and reads: HIC JACET IOHES OMAR[?]... which translates as 'Here lies John O'Mar...'[469]

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[467]Ibid.
[468]Hunt, J., 1974, vol.i, 94, 96, 231 and vol.ii, Pl.182.
[469]Ibid., 231.

17: 3 Church (possible site)

Siting: This is situated on the north side of the town, on the west side of the road.

Historical Background: There is some confusion concerning the location of the original parish church. John Davis White implies that a seventeenth-century church occupied the site of the present Protestant church.[470] However, he states that the Protestant church, which replaced the earlier church in 1834, was taken down c.1890.[471] Gleeson cites the Protestant church as being a likely location for the medieval parish church.[472]

Description: There are no early remains visible at this site.

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[470]White, J.D., 1892, 57-58.
[471]Ibid.
[472]Gleeson, D.F., 1951-21, 134.

TWO MILE BORRIS

Buirghéis a' Dhá Mhíle meaning the two mile borough.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1302-7	Reference to a church in the burgage of Milath, which is tentatively identified as Two Mile Borris.[473]
1416	Reference to 'the lordship of Burgageleyth.'[474]
1516	Earliest reference to the 'Blakecastell of Burisse Lieghe.'[475]
1614	Reference to the 'Blakecastle of Burries.'[476]

References to Two-Mile-Borris have frequently been mistaken for references to Borrisoleigh.[477] The difficulty arises because of the similarity between the various anglicised versions of the placename, Buirghéis Leith and the placename Borrisoleigh. The seventeenth-century Down Survey maps for example, refer to Borrisoleigh as Borreshleagh, whereas Two-Mile-Borris was referred as Buresleagh. A 'lordship of Burgageleyth', was mentioned in 1416[478] and the 'borough of Borreishlee' in 1521.[479]

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Tower House 'Black Castle'
2 Church site possible/Medieval headslab
3 Ringfort

Unlocated Sites
Mill

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[473]Cal. Doc. Ire., vol v, 282, no 718.

[474] Ormond deeds, vol. iii, 14, lit. 22.

[475]Ibid., vol.iv, 36, lit.36.

[476]Ibid., vol.vi, 172, appendix 4.

[477]See e.g., conflicting references in Ormond deeds, vol. iii, 14 and 166.

[478] Ormond deeds, vol. iii, 14, lit. 22.

[479] Ibid., vol iv, 65, lit. 71.

18: 1 Tower House 'Black Castle'

Siting: This is situated on the south side of the road at the western end of the village. It is incorporated in a farmyard.

Historical Background: A number of references mention the Black Castle of 'Burgesleagh'[480] in Eliogarty[481] and it is clear that Two Mile Borris in the barony of Eliogarty, which comprises the townland of Blackcastle and is on the Black River, is the site of the castle. The Civil Survey of 1654-56 records '...one castle in repair.'[482]

Description: This is a substantial tower house of four storeys with battlements. It measures 12.97m (north wall) by 10m (east wall) externally. A stone outbuilding has been built up against the southern end of the west side, obscuring the original entrance. This doorway is 1m above the external ground level, though the base batter beneath the doorway has subsequently been broken through. On entering the tower house, one is confronted with an elaborate defensive system. There is an entrance hall, divided by doorways into three smaller lobbies, and directly facing the entrance there is a cruciform loop through which the defenders could attack. The most unusual feature, however, is the ceiling of this hall. Though now gone, it was essentially a large wooden trap-door which functioned as an enormous murder-hole.
Modern openings have been broken through each of the walls on the ground floor, which at the time of the survey was full of hay.
The first and second floor are accessed from a mural stair which rises along the west and north walls. In the north-east corner the stairs becomes spiral just above second floor level.
The first floor has three window embrasures, each containing a flat-headed single-light. In the south wall there is a large off-centre fireplace, the hood of which is missing and the skew-back and supporting corbel only survive on the east side. Behind the west wall is a mural chamber which contains the murder-hole mentioned above.
The second floor has a vaulted roof. There is an embrasure in the east and south wall, both contain blocked lights. There is also a fireplace in the south wall. A doorway in the west wall leads to a mural chamber. Between the second and third floor there is a garderobe chamber entered from the spiral stairs. It runs along the east wall and dog-legs to the south, the chute itself being in the south wall.
The third floor is the most elaborate. There is a large window embrasure in each wall, two in the north wall. There is a door on either side of the western embrasures. That on the north leads to the battlements while the southern opening gives access to a mural

[480] Ormond deeds, vol. iv, 36, 169; vol. v, 200, 204, 227, 277; vol. vi, 47, 172.
[481] Ormond deeds, vol. iii,14, lit. 22, (1416); vol. iv, 36, lit 36, (1516).
[482] Simington, R.C., (ed.), vol. i, 47.

chamber. On the west side of the south embrasure there is a door which opens onto steps decending to a mural passage in the west wall. On the east side of the north embrasure there is an ornate cupboard, the base of which, now gone, covered a small hiding hole.

At battlement level only part of the wall-walk remains intact. The base of this feature is indicated externally by a string-course. There are well-preserved bartizans at the north-east and south-west corners.
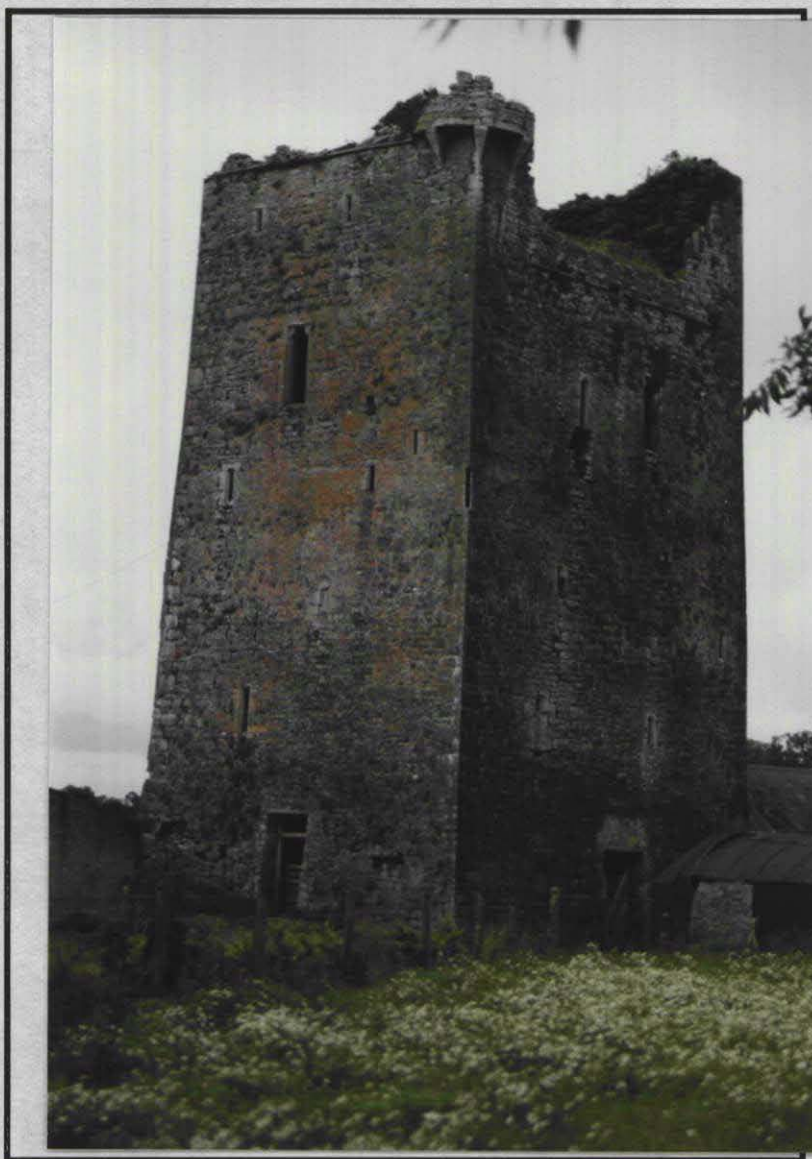
Plate 36: Tower house, Two Mile Borris

18: 2 Church site possible/medieval headslab

Siting: This is situated 100m south of the main road and to the south-east of the tower house.

Historical Background: A church is mentioned in the ecclesiastical taxation of 1302-7[483] at the 'burgage of Milath' which possibly refers to that at Two Mile Borris. When visited in *c.*1840 this nave and chancel church still stood, though in a ruinous condition.[484] The nave was 17.5m x 7.9m and had opposing doorways in the north and south walls and was lit by two quadrangular windows.[485] In the chancel, which

Plate 37: Thirteenth/Fourteenth-century head-slab

was 5m x 1.8m, the east gable with its window had largely collapsed and the two other windows were also 'destroyed'; a doorway in the south wall of the chancel probably lead to a sacristy.[486] Also in the chancel there was a piscina with a credence above it, the latter being a repository for votive offerings (buttons, hairpins etc.) at the turn of the

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[483] Cal. docs. Ire, vol. v, 282, no. 718.
[484] O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, vol. i, 161-62 (449-451).
[485] Ibid.
[486] Ibid.

century.[487] The building survived at least until 1943 when visited by the Irish Tourist Association, however, their description is suspiciously similar to that of the Ordnance Survey a hundred years previously.[488]

Description: All that remains of the church is a short section of wall running east-west in the graveyard, 2.24m long, 71cm thick and 3.4m high. The north side is much denuded, with rubble and lime mortar exposed, while on the south side there is a possible wall face but it is obscured by ivy. Another short section of wall is situated at the end of the graveyard which may be the remains of the east wall of the church. It runs north-south, measures 1.7m long x 63cm wide and forms the base for a twentieth-century headstone.

A new graveyard has been added on to the north side of the existing one. On the east side of the old graveyard there is a late thirteenth/early fourteenth-century headslab. The worn head, 21cm x 15cm, projects by 4.5cm above a four-armed fleur-de-lys cross carved in relief, the shaft and base of which, if still in one piece, are buried. The head of the slab is pointed while the remainder is coffin-shaped. The slab, 17cm thick, is visible above ground to a height of 88cm and is 50cm wide, though it tapers as it descends. Hunt detected a very worn inscription in the sinister side, possibly in Black Letter; it may have been added later.[489]

18: 3 Ringfort

Siting: South of the village and immediately east of the graveyard, on a slight rise in gently undulating pastureland. Lowlying land to the east is occupied by a housing development.

Aspect: The view to the north is obstructed by a garage and houses. There is a good view to the west, with the graveyard and tower house in the foreground and also good views to the south and east.

Description: This is a univallate ringfort with a slightly concave interior. The east side has been destroyed and the south-east quadrant has been used to dump buildng material, concrete, old masonry, etc. The site has also been badly poached by cattle. In the south-west quadrant the bank has been denuded and to the north it has been truncated along the exterior face. On the west side the bank appears very broad but this is partially the result of bank material slipping into the interior. It is 1.62m high (a steep drop) above the exterior and 1.31m high above the interior (a gradual descent)

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[487]Memorials of the Dead, 1899, vol.iv, No.2, 302.
[488]I.T.A. Topographical Survey, 1943.
[489] Hunt, J., 1974, vol.i, 231-32.

and 10.86m wide (including slippage towards the interior). There is no obvious entrance feature or external fosse.

UNLOCATED SITES

Mill

Historical Background: There are several references in the Ormond Deeds between 1521 and 1591 to a mill in Two Mile Borris.[490] The 1591 reference closely associates the mill with the castle: '... the castle commonly called the Black Castle near Burries Liegh in the Crosse of Co. Tipperary, and the mill near to the same...'[491] The Civil Survey of 1654-56 records 'the ruines of a grinding mill and the ruines of a tucking mill and some few cabbins.'[492]

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[490]Ormond Deeds, vol.iv, 65, lit.71; ibid., vol. iv.,110, lit. 127; ibid., vol. iv, 141, lit. 157; ibid., vol. v, 227, lit. 213; ibid., vol. vi, 47, lit. 67.

[491]Ibid., vol. vi, 47, lit. 67.

[492] Simington, R.C., (ed.), 1931, vol. i, 47.

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Abbreviations:

Ann. Clon.	Annals of Clonmacnoise
AFM	Annals of the Four Masters
Ann. Inisf.	Annals of Inisfallen
Ann. Tig.	Annals of Tigernach
AU	Annals of Ulster
Cal. docs. Ire.	Calendar of documents relating to Ireland
Cal. inquis. post mortem.	Calendar of inquisitions post mortem
Cal. justic. rolls.	Calendar of the justiciary rolls
Cal. state papers.	Calendar of the state papers relating to Ireland
Chartul. St. Mary's, Dublin.	Chartulary of Saint Mary's Abbey, Dublin
Chron. Scot.	Chronicon Scotorum
ITA	Irish Tourist Association
JRSAI	Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
NLI	National Library Ireland
NMAJ	North Munster Antiquarian Journal
Ormond Deeds	Calendar of Ormond Deeds
PRIA	Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy
St. Mary's Annals	Chartularies of Saint Mary's abbey, Dublin

Anon.   'Saint Cronán's monastery, Church Street', (Roscrea), in *Roscrea People*, 1 November 1975, 7.

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Glossary of Architectural & Decorative Terms

Term	Explanation	Example
Alure	A walkway positioned outside the roof and behind the parapet of a castle or church or around the interior of a bawn (also called wall-walk)	Bawn, Black Castle, Thurles
Antae	Side walls projecting beyond gable wall	St. Ruadhán's church, Lorrha
Aumbry	Cupboard within a wall, usually for housing sacred vessels	Dominican priory, Lorrha
Bartizan	Projecting floorless turret supported on corbels and used defensively at the corner of a structure.	Tower house, Two Mile Borris
Batter	The inclined face of a wall. The stronger inclination at the foot of a wall is called a base batter	Augustinian priory, Toomyvara
Bawn	Enclosing defensive wall around castle/ abbey	Terryglass
Bellcote	Small gabled or roofed accomodation for a bell/bells	Templemore church
Billet	A moulding consisting of several bands of raised short cylinders or square pieces placed at regular intervals	Doorway of chapterhouse, Holycross Abbey
Black Letter	Gothic lettering	Archer Tomb, St. Mary's C. of I., Thurles
Blind Arcade	A series of arches applied to the surface of a wall	St. Cronan's romanesque church, Roscrea

Bullaun	Hollowed-out stone basin	Lorrha (Plate 9)
Buttress Terryglass	Masonry feature built against a wall to give additional strength	Medieval church,
Capital	Crowning member of a column or pilaster	Wall memorial, St. Mary's C.of I. church, Nenagh
Centering	The temporary support on which an arch is constructed	Black Castle, Thurles
Chamfer	The narrow plane formed when an arris of stone is cut away, usually at a 45 degree angle	Commonplace on cut-stone windows & doorways
Chancel/Choir	East end of church containing altar	Commonplace from the 12th century.
Chapterhouse	Place of assembly for abbot/prior & monks, usually in east range	Holycross Abbey
Claustral/Conventual Buildings	Buildings ancillary to an abbey church	Augustinian abbey, Lorrha
Cloister	A covered arcade forming part of a monastic establishment	Holycross Abbey
Corbel	A projecting block of stone or wood supporting a floor, overhanging building, parapet etc.	Commonplace feature of medieval & early modern buildings
Credence	A shelf within or beside a piscina, or a table for the sacramental elements and vessels	Dominican priory, Lorrha
Crenellation	A parapet comprising vertical blocks of masonry alternating with regular openings, Generally found on	Nenagh Keep

	towerhouses, crossing-towers and bawn walls	
Crocket Finial	An ornament comprising regularly placed, hook-shaped leafy knobs, usually surmounting a gable, pinnacle, or canopy	Augustinian priory, Lorrha
Cutwater	Projections, generally triangular on the upstream/downstream end of a bridge pier, to divert floating objects	'Barry's Bridge', Thurles
Drawbar-hole	Long socket which contains the wooden bar inside a door or window shutter when it is not in use	Commonplace in castles, tower houses and churches
Dressed Stone	Stone face worked to produce punched, pocked, reamed or diagonally tooled finish	Commonplace in in tower houses and churches
Dripstone	Grooved and angled drainage stone on exterior upper masonry courses of building	Dominican priory, Lorrha
Fleur-de-lys	Ornament in the form of a stylized lily	Commonly features on cross terminals of medieval graveslabs
Floriated Cross	Cross with fleur-de-lys terminals	Common on medieval graveslabs
Fosse	A ditch or moat surrounding a defended or enclosed area	Ring-barrows, Nenagh
Garderobe	Medieval latrine delivering down through a mural shaft	Tower house, Two Mile Borris
Groin Vault	A stone vault, without ribs, produced by the intersection of two barrel vaults	Roscrea Castle

	socket accommodating the upper pintle of a door hinge	Terryglass (Plate 25)
Hood-moulding	Moulding projecting above & outlining a doorway, window or archway	Medieval church, Moyne
Ingoing	The sides of an embrasure	Commonplace
Knop	An ornamental knob	Usually features on the shaft of a cross on a medieval graveslab
Lady Chapel	Any chapel with an altar to the Virgin Mary	Formerly at St. Mary's Church, Thurles
Lancet	A tall, narrow window with a pointed head	Windows in the north wall, Franciscan friary, Nenagh
Light	Small single window opening	Commonplace
Loops	Openings of various types including musket loop with splayed sides, cross loop, & loop with circular shot hole at base or at upper and lower ends	Commonplace in tower houses and bawns
Machicolation	An opening between the corbels of a parapet of an early castle or towerhouse, through which intruders could be assailed	Nenagh Keep
Mason's mark	A symbol, monogram or initial incised in stonework by the mason responsible for the construction of a building	Franciscan friary, Roscrea
Mortar	A generally small circular stone vessel with luggs	In Nenagh Heritage Centre
Mullion	Vertical member between the lights in a window	Commonplace in tower houses and churches
Mural-passage	A passage created in the	Commonplace

Mural-passage	A passage created in the thickness of a wall	Commonplace feature of tower houses
Murder-hole	An apperture in a floor or vault usually above the main entrance to a castle or at the entrances to upper floors through which intruders could be fired upon	Black Castle, Two Mile Borris
Nave	Main body of church west of the chancel for use of congregation	Commonplace from twelfth century
Ogee-head	The head of a window/arch comprising a double curve formed of a convex and a concave element	St. Bridget's graveyard, Thurles (Plate 30)
Parapet	A low wall placed at the edge of a sudden drop	Bridge Castle Thurles
Pediment	A triangular feature crowning a door or window	St. Cronán's Romanesque Church, Roscrea
Pinning Stones	Small stones used to fill irregularities in masonry	Augustinian priory, Toomyvara
Piscina	A basin provided with a drain, used for washing the sacred vessels	Dominican priory, Lorrha
Plinth	A flat-faced projecting band at the bottom of a wall; a square block support	Terryglass church
Pointing	Exposed mortar joining of masonry or brickwork	Templemore castle
Portcullis	Defensive feature of castle entrance, comprising iron gateway made to slide up and down	Roscrea Castle
Postern or Sally-Port	A back-door or minor entrance through a defense	Possible remains on bawn, Nenagh Castle

Pulpitum	Stone screen dividing the nave and chancel	Dominican priory, Lorrha
Putlog Hole	Opening left in a wall for the insertion of scaffolding	Commonplace in tower houses and churches
Quoins	The stones, generally dressed, at the angles of a building	Tower house, Cloughjordan
Rebate	A continuous rectangular notch or groove cut on an edge, so that a door etc. may be fitted into it	Commonplace in tower houses and churches
Refectory	Dining-hall in a monastery	Formerly at Holycross Abbey
Refuge Bridge'	A recess for pedestrians in the parapet wall of a bridge	Formerly at 'Barry's Thurles (Plate 29)
Relieving Arch	A roughly constructed arch placed above a doorway/window to relieve it of its superincumbent weight	Commonplace
Reticulated Tracery	An open net-like pattern of ogee-shaped stone-work in the upper part of Gothic windows	East window, Holycross Abbey
Rib Vault	A framework of diagonal arched ribs carrying the cells which cover in the spaces between them	Holycross Abbey
Ringed Cross	A cross-head in which the spandrels between the arms of the cross and the cross ring are broken through	High cross, Roscrea
Roll-moulding	A continuous prominent conved moulding	St. Cronán's romanesque church, Roscrea
Sally-Port or Postern	A back-door or minor entrance through a defense	Possible remains at east tower of bawn, Nenagh Castle

Sedilia	The seats for the priest, deacon, and subdeacon officiating at Mass	Holycross Abbey
Sequential	In a regular, consecutive order	Windows in north wall, Franciscan friary, Nenagh
Sheela-na-gig	Sexually explicit female/male exhibitionist carving	Thurles (Plate 31)
Spandrel	Triangular space (sometimes cusped), between an arch & its containing rectangle, or between arches	Common feature of fenestration
Springer	The first stone of an arch where it rises from its supports	Commonplace
Spud-stone	Stone with socket providing housing for lower pintle of door hinge	Commonplace in tower houses and churches
Stop	The terminus of a hood-moulding or chamfer	
Squint	A window, usually in the pier of the chancel arch, permitting a view of the chancel from the nave	Holycross Abbey
Stoup	A vessel to contain holy water, near a church door	Toomyvara church (Plate 35)
String Course	A projecting horizontal band in a wall, often moulded	'Tyone Abbey', Nenagh
Surround	The masonry framing an opening such as a window or door	Commonplace
Tracery	The ornamental intersecting work in the upper part of a window, screen etc.	East window, Franciscan friary, Roscrea
Transept	Transverse portion of an cross-shaped church	Holycross Abbey

Transom	A horizontal bar of stone or or wood across a window-light	East window, Moyne church
Univallate	Single bank enclosing an area	Ringfort, Borrisoleigh
Vault	Stone ceiling, generally lofty	Tower house, Borrisoleigh
Volute	Spiral Scroll	Wall memorial, St. Mary's C.of I., Nenagh
Voussoir	Each of the wedge-shaped stones forming an arch	Commonplace
Wall-walk	A walkway positioned outside the roof and behind the parapet of a castle or church or around the interior of a bawn (also called alure)	Bawn, Terryglass
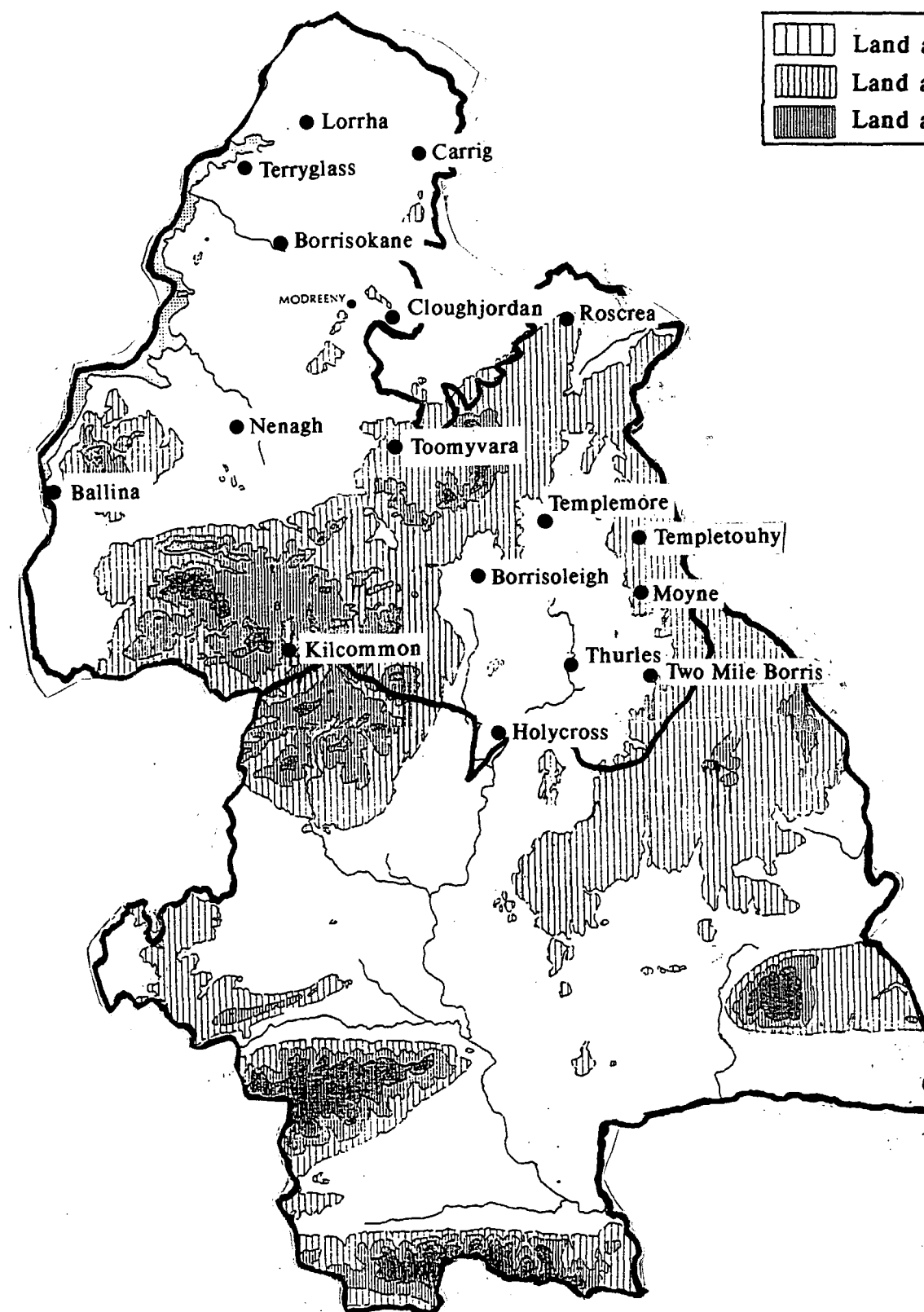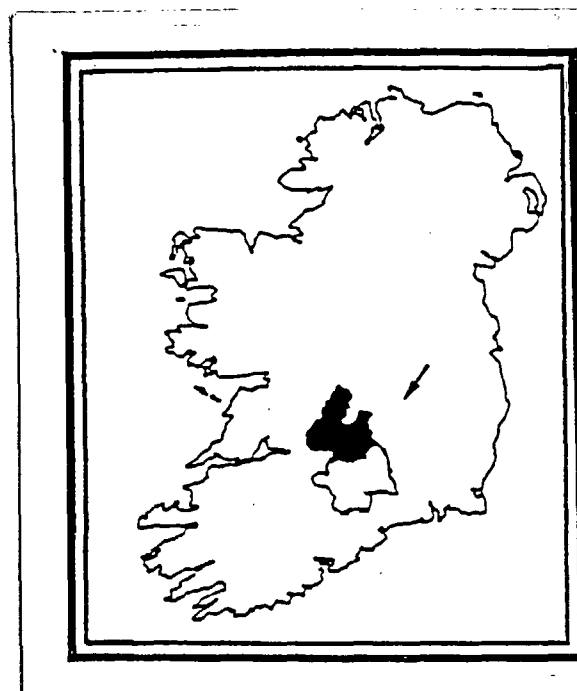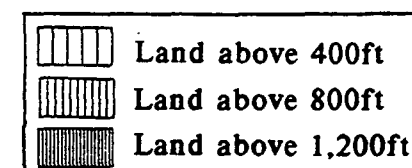
Legend:

‖‖	Land above 400ft
‖‖	Land above 800ft
‖‖	Land above 1,200ft

Lorrha

Carrig

Terryglass

Borrisokane

MODREENY

Cloughjordan

Roscrea

Nenagh

Toomyvara

Ballina

Templemore

Templetouhy

Borrisoleigh

Moyne

Kilcommon

Thurles

Two Mile Borris

Holycross

0   20km

Map 1: Location of Urban Centres in the Urban Archaeological Survey, County Tipperary, North Riding.
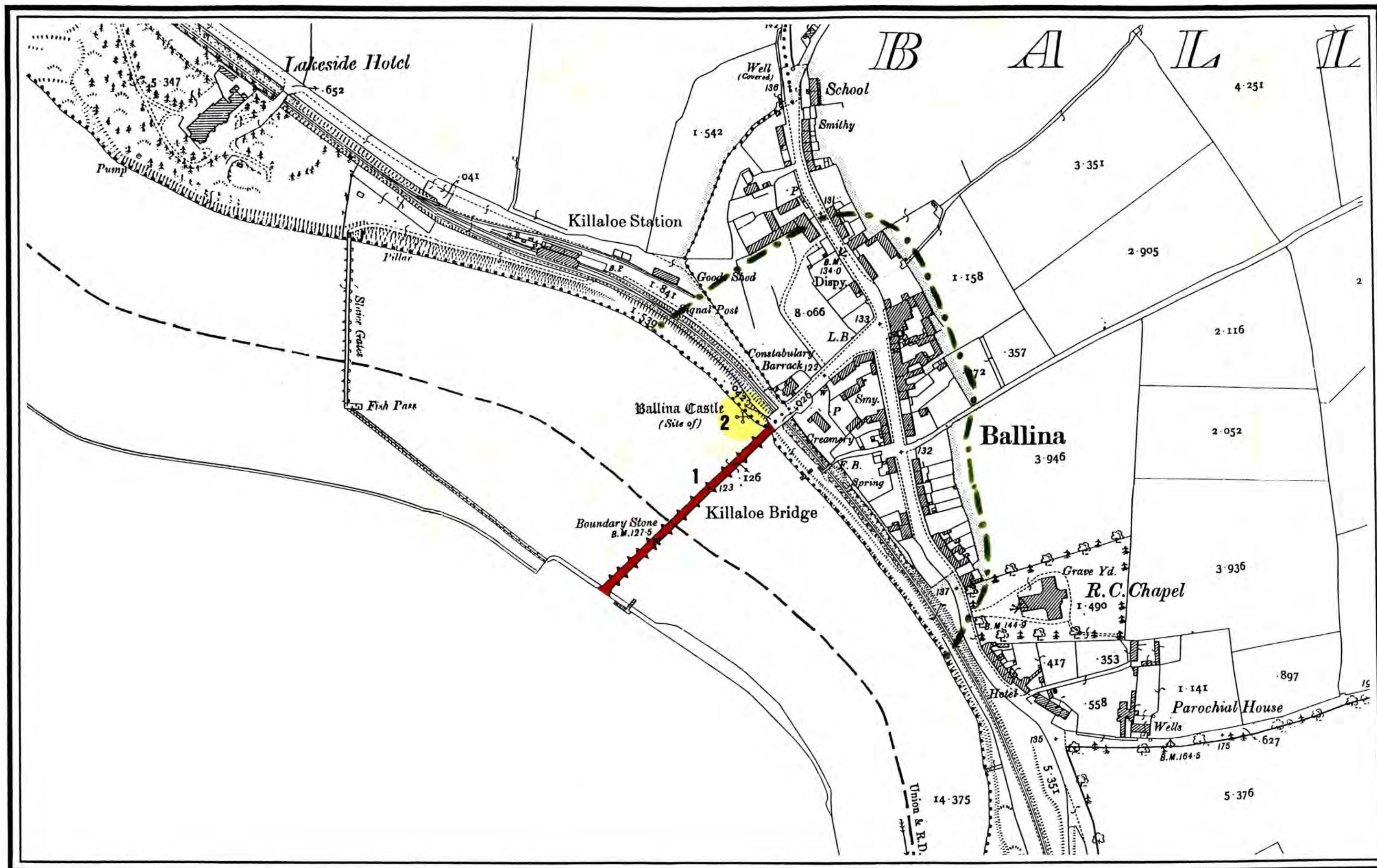
Map 2: Ballina. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 3: Borrisokane. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Borrisokane

Fever Hospital

St. Paul's
R.C.Chapel

Rectory

Parochial
House

School

Corn Mills

Rathmore
House

Convent
(Sisters of Charity)

School

Smithy

Bank
Hotel

P.O.

Market
House

Methodist
Chapel
B.M.208·1

Dispensary

Hotel

W.M.
B.M.216·6

Church

Court House

Fair Green

White

B.M.213·9

B.M.193·0

B.M.214·5

0   200m
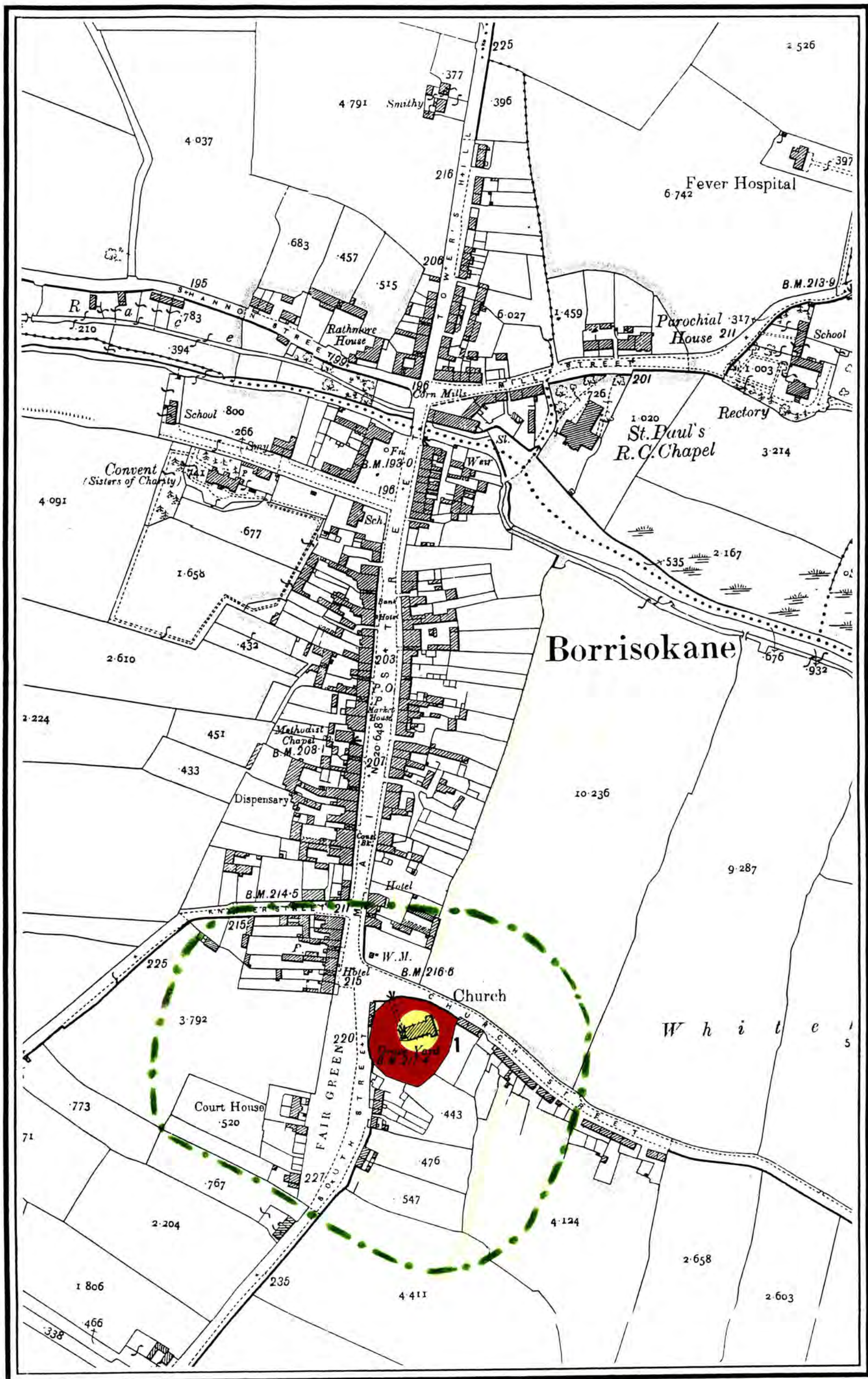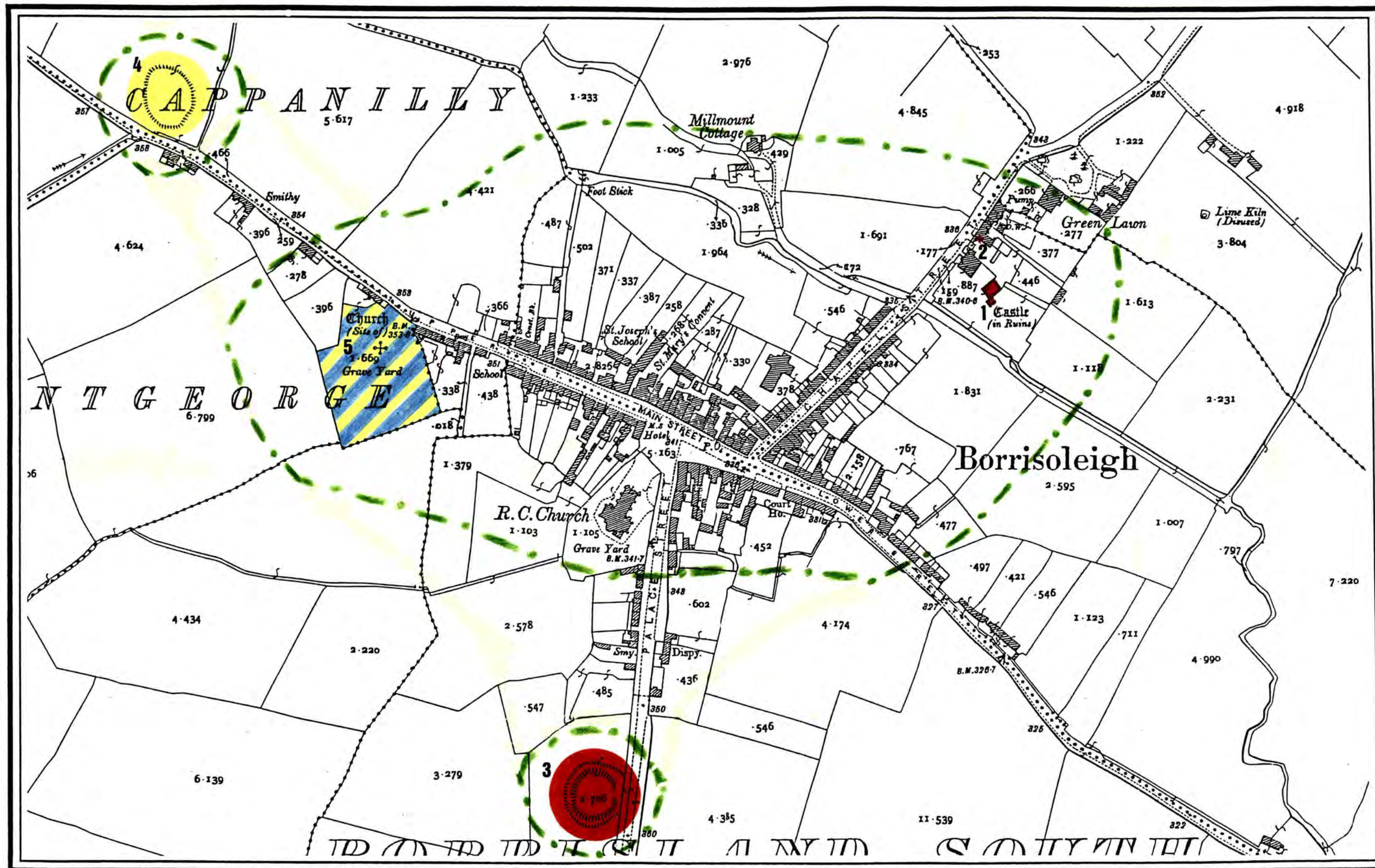
Map 4: Borrisoleigh. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

.800

2·710

1·246

27·737

Carrig Cottage
4·147

·601

1·615

Windmill
(in Ruins)

630

Carrig

343
182

School

19·460

·382

·428

890

·143

·141 Pump

·152

858

R.C.Chapel

1·775

·469

Smithy

·699

16·039

B.M.185·8

186

143

1

Carrig Castle
(in Ruins)

·272

·003

·369

2

5·026

·780

1·389

·154

189

4·928

14·000

327

4·807

192

Foot Stick

171

Sluice

·371

·693
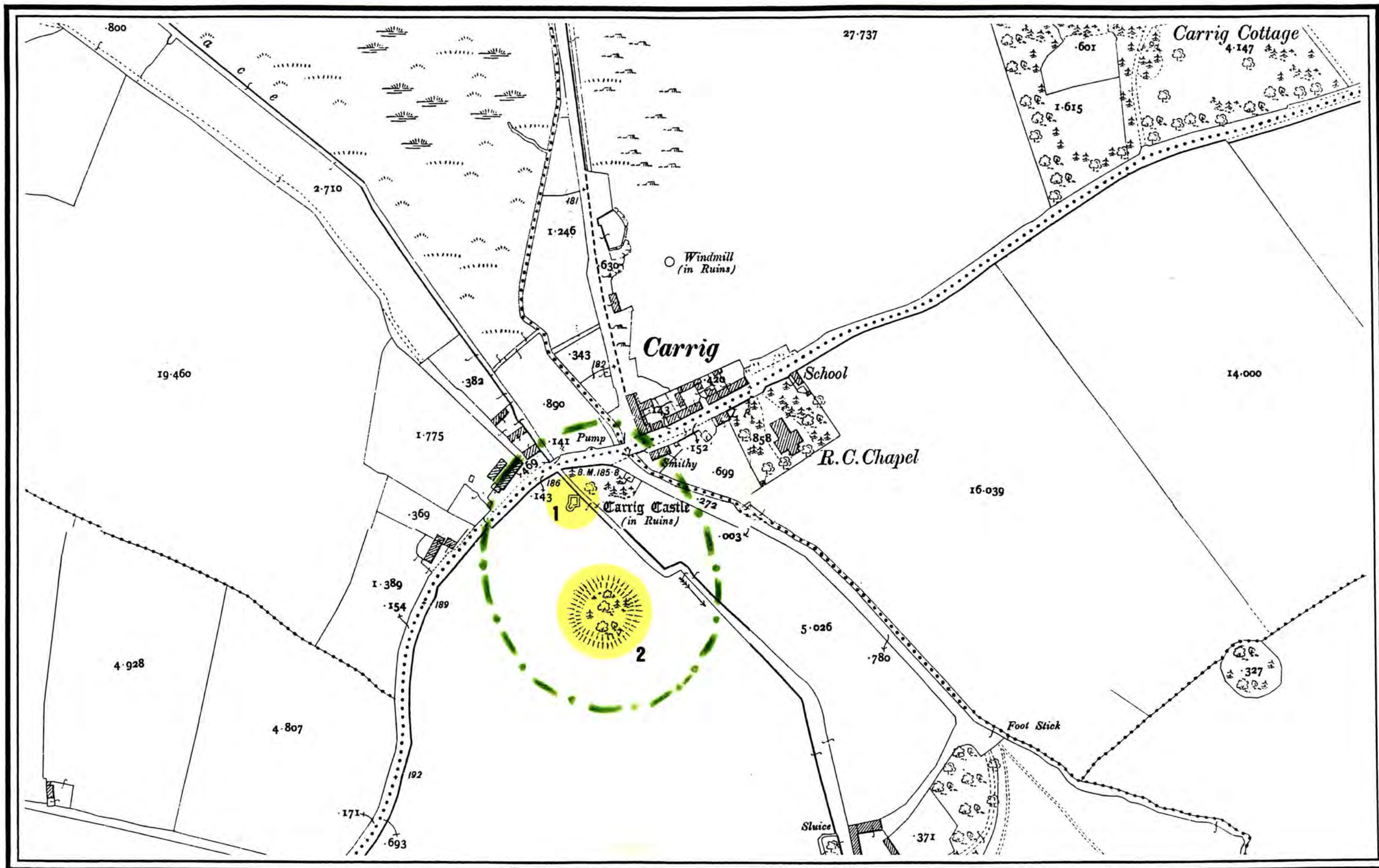
Map 5: Carrig. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
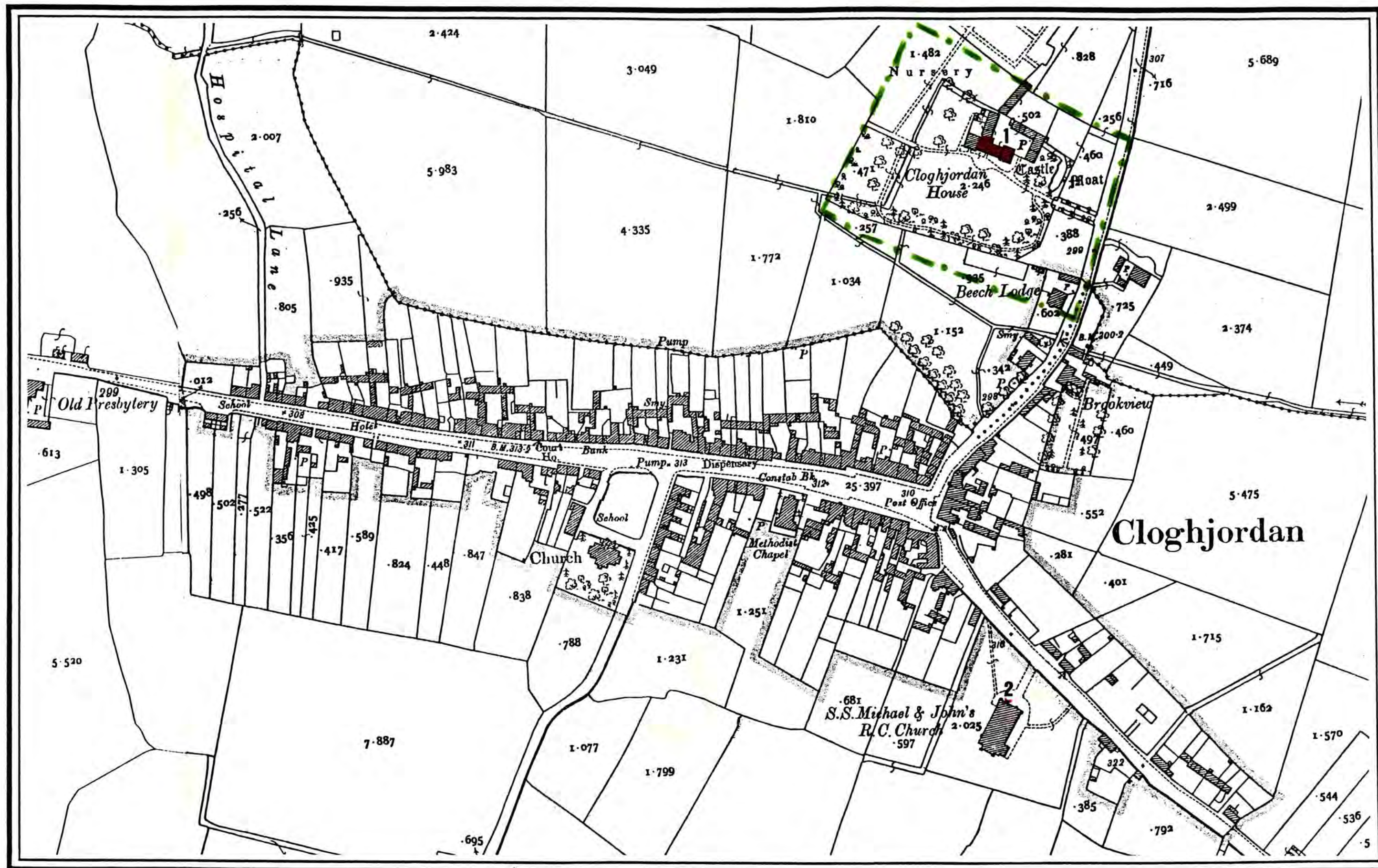
Map 6: Cloughjordan. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
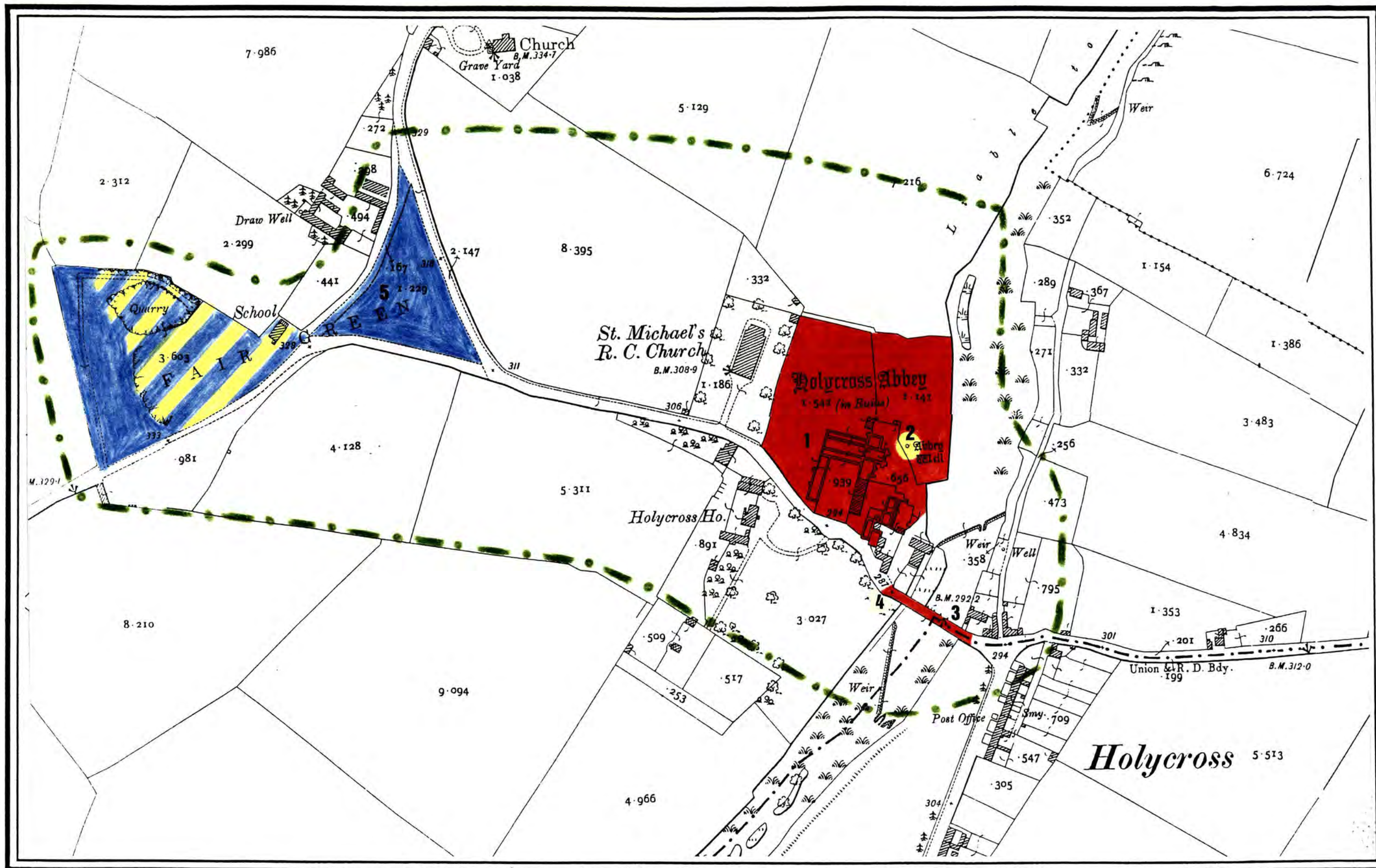
Map 7: Holycross. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
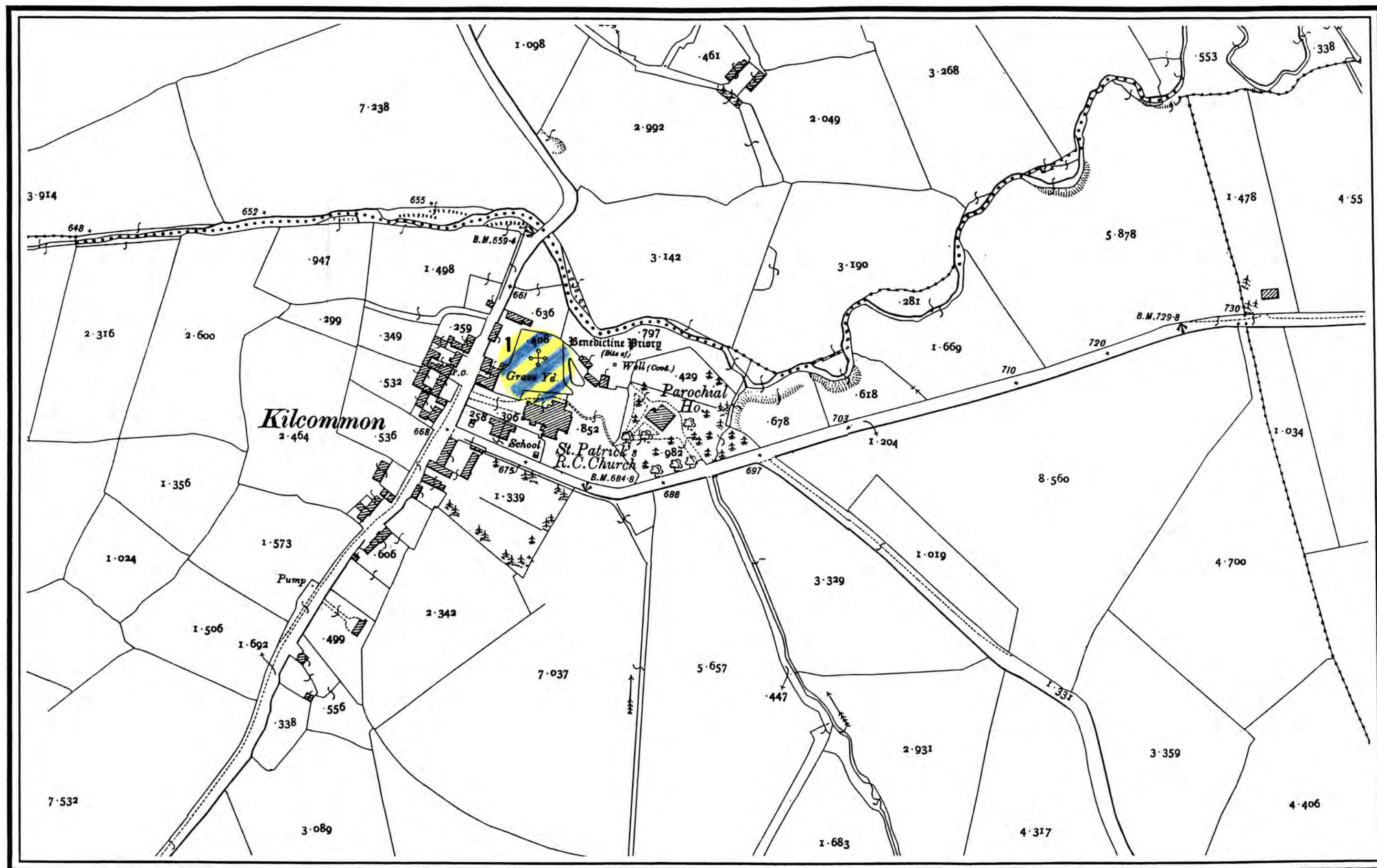
Map 8: Kilcommon. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
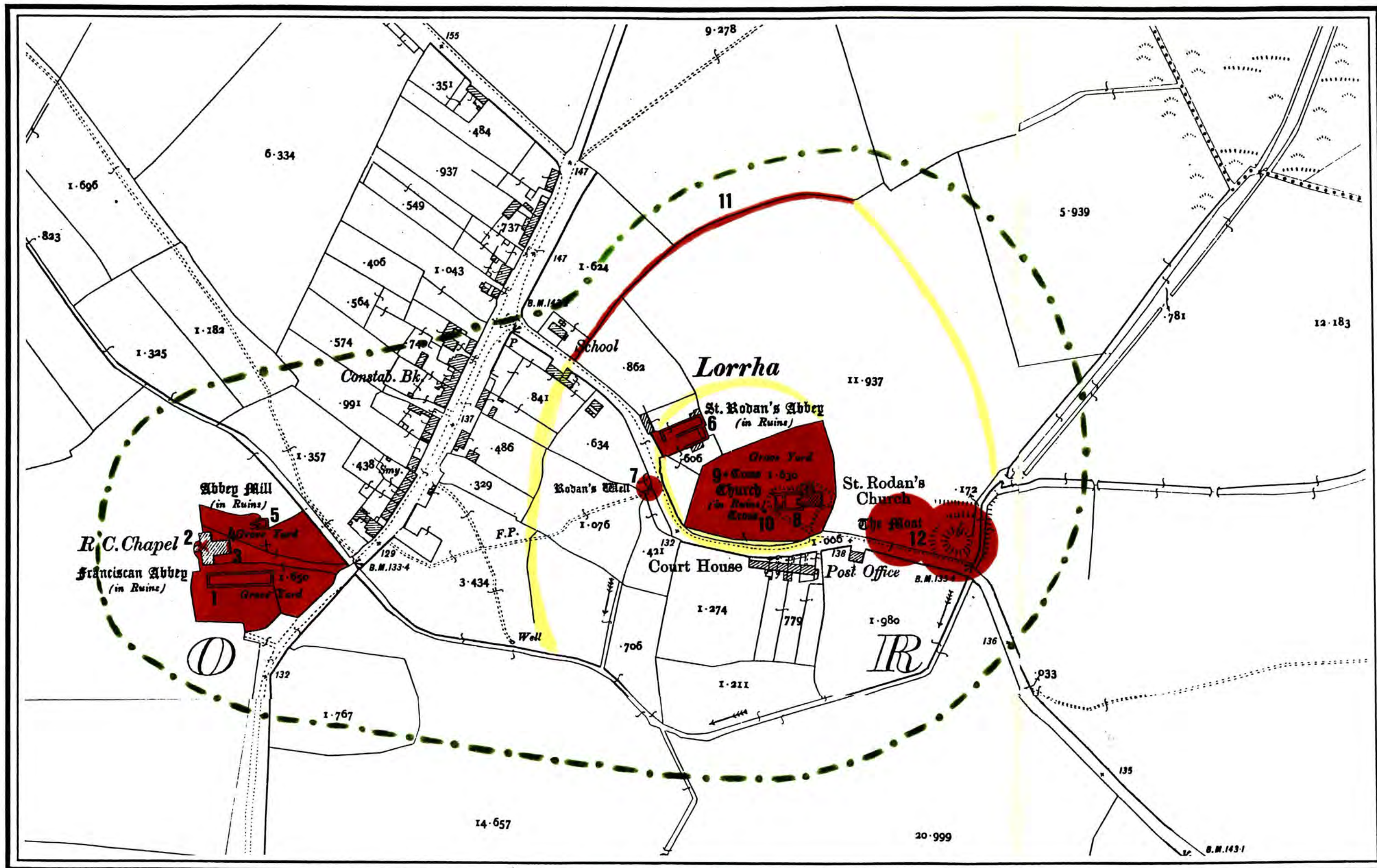
Map 9: Lorrha. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

NEWTEMPL

Moyne Church
(in Ruins)

Grave Yard
School

St. Mary's
R.C. Chapel

Grave
Yd.

Moyne

F.P.
F.P. on fence
Foot Stone
Well
Well
Well

4·005
4·452
5·552
413
5·793
·617
5·066
3·330
1·982
2·258
5·793
2·542
415
1·489
9·878
7·444
·799
6·331
2·144
1·509
418
·996
656
2·697
6·827
·466
1·343
7·070
8·730
417
1·282
2·990
1·537
55
P
B.M 419·2
·707
3·568
Well
6·271
4·026
·290
418
427
3·034
7·517
4·190
1·011
·018

Map 10: Moyne. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 11: Nenagh. Limit of Urban District Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential.
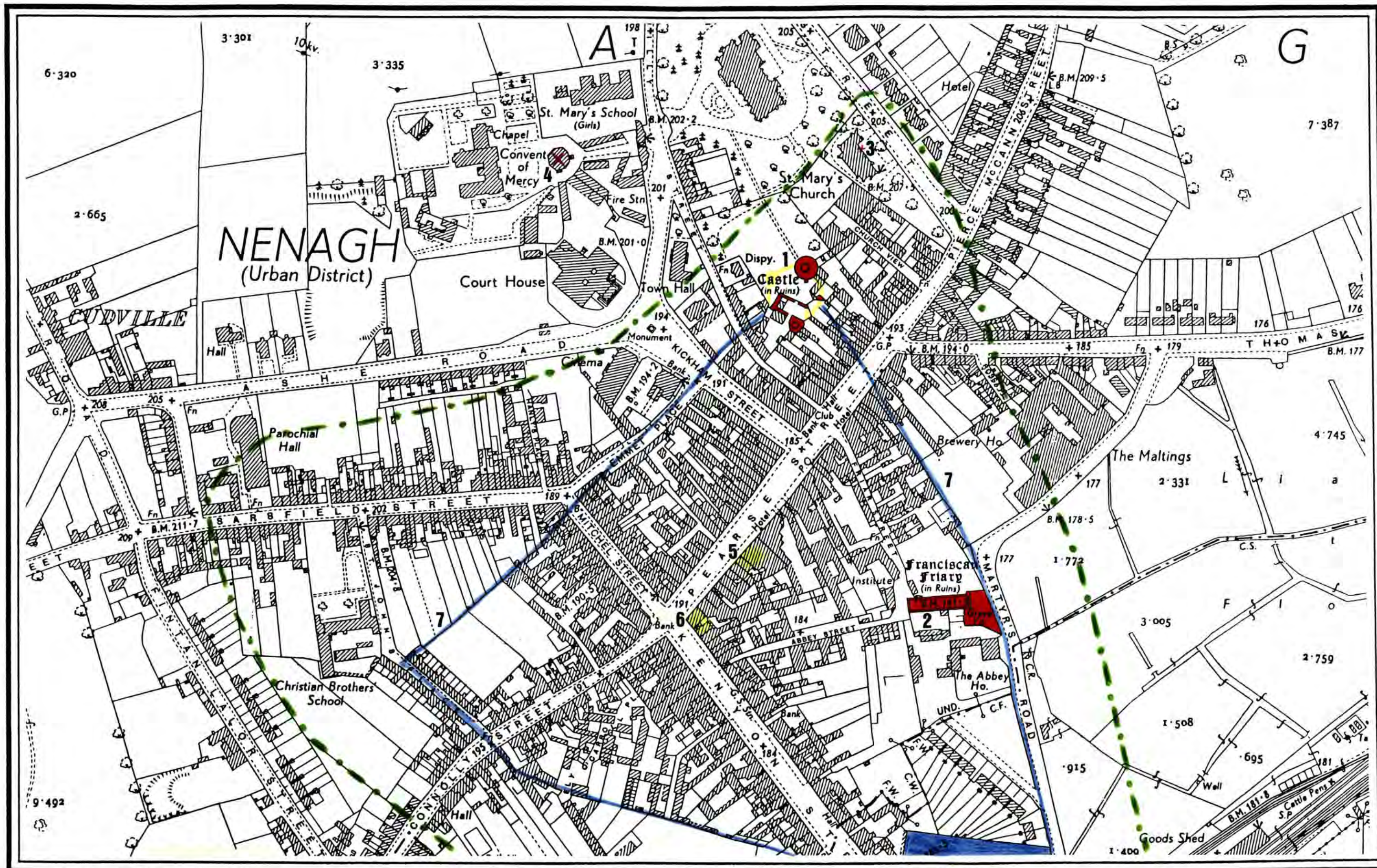
Map 11a: Nenagh. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- Zone of Archaeological Potential

Map 11b: Nenagh. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 11c: Nenagh. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 12: Roscrea. Limit of Development Plan Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

— · — Limit of Development Plan Boundary

——— Zone of Archaeological Potential

0   1 km

Map 12a: Roscrea. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 12b: Roscrea. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
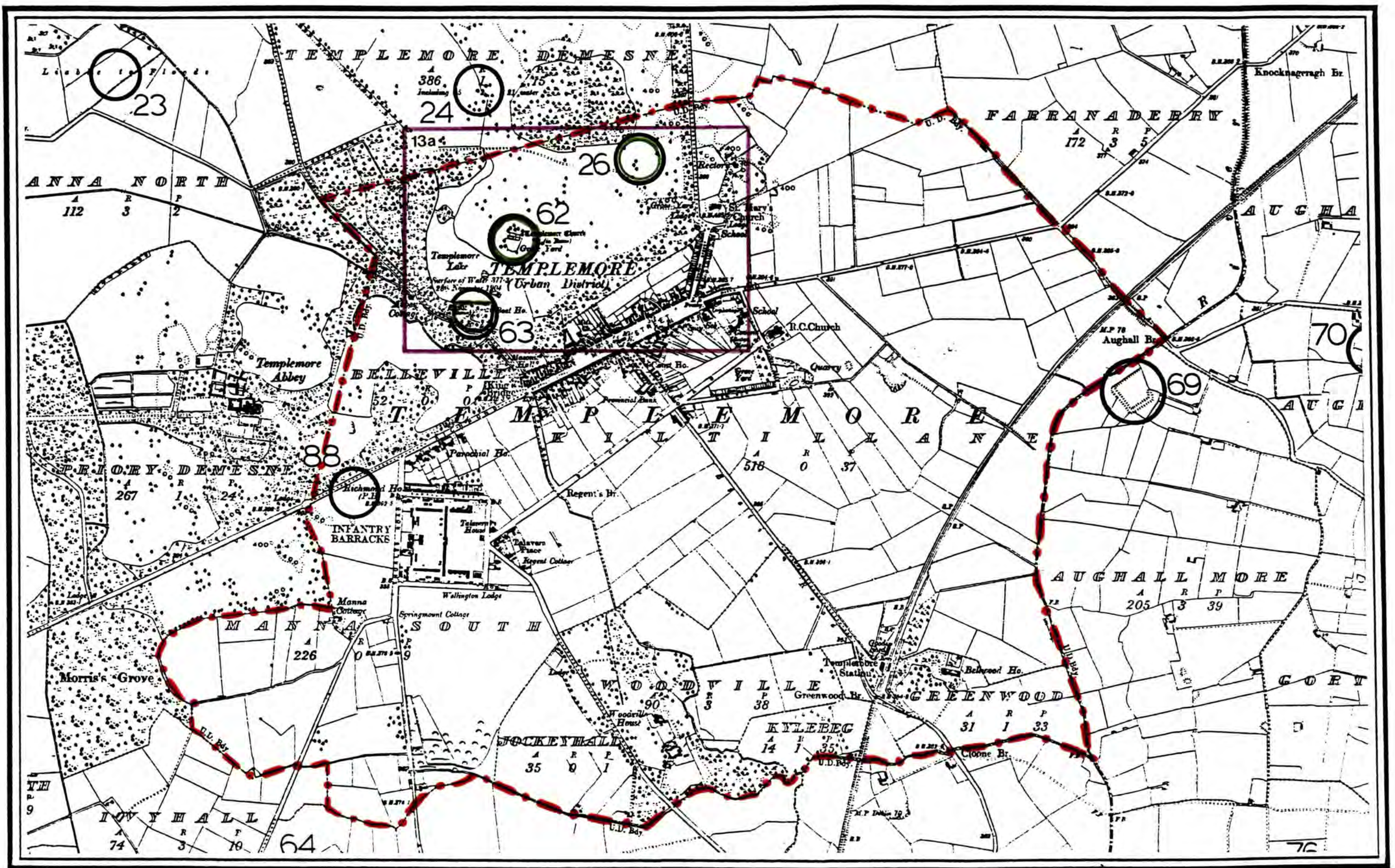
Map 13: Templemore. Limit of Urban District Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential.
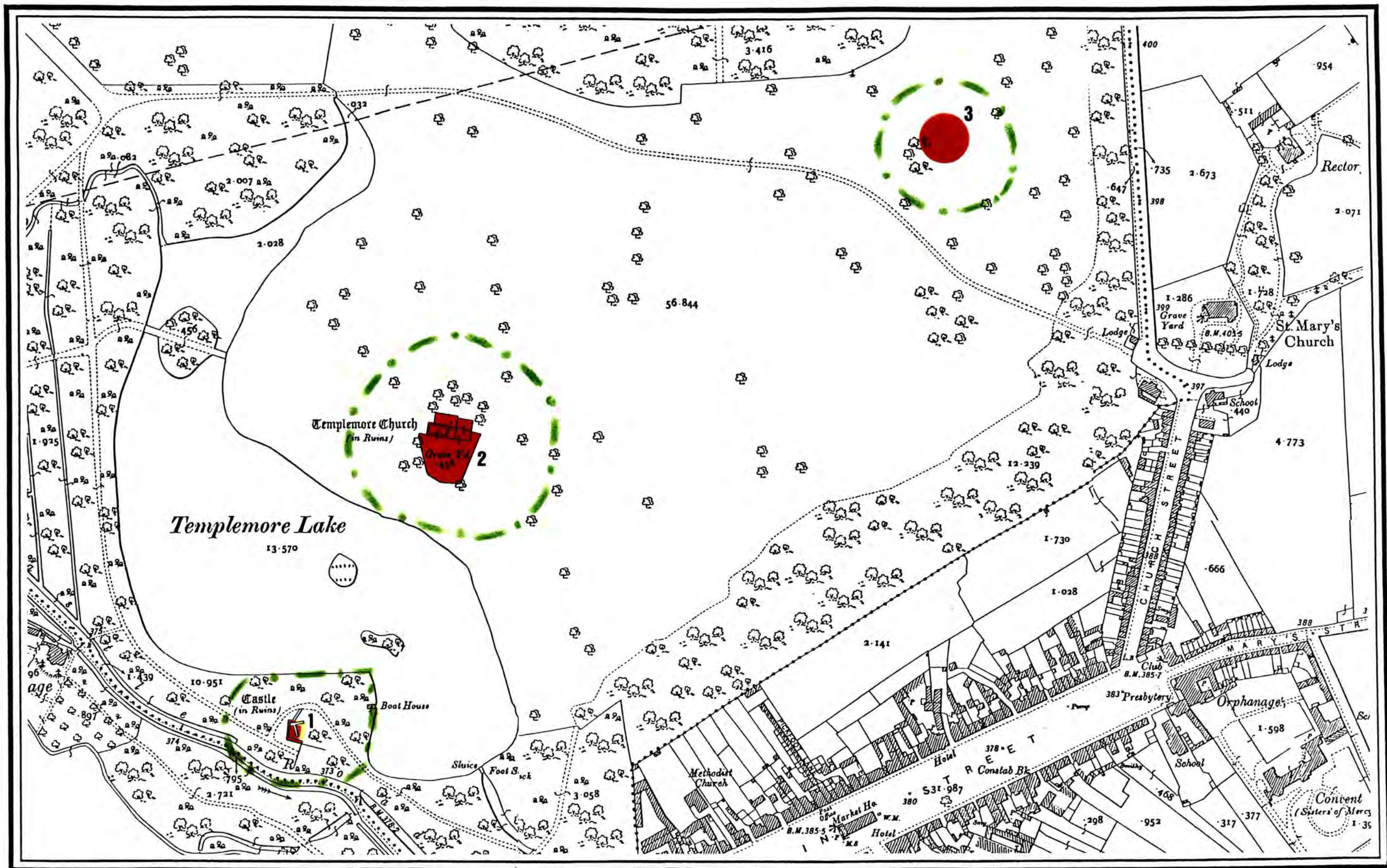
Map 13a: Templemore. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Templemore Lake

13·570

Templemore Church
(in Ruins)

Castle
(in Ruins)

Boat House

St. Mary's
Church

Rector

Grave
Yard

Lodge

Lodge

School

Orphanage

Presbytery

Methodist
Church

Convent
(Sisters' of Mercy)

CHURCH STREET

MARY'S STR

0   200m

Map 14: Templetouhy. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

St. Mary's
R.C. Church

St. Columb's Well

St. Columba's Church

The
Abbey
(in Ruins)

School

Greenan

Well

Elm Ville

Terryglass

P.O.

Grave Yd.

Cobler's
Burial Gd.

Foot Stick

Tank

Well

Well

C A R R

B.M.153·0
B.M.145·3
B.M.165·7

1·568
1·535
2·512
6·895
3·243
3·443
1·944
·569
·300
1·877
10·016
7·852
5·293
2·48
3·224
1·622
·445
·912
·856
1·086
·599
·773
6·537
150
·061
·387
146
152
·722
·030
141
·050
164
158
·874
·300
143
·959
149
1·178
123
129
143
11·598
·17
6·148
·483
·452
14·037
157
144
·705
·486
2·738
2·674

1
5
4
2
3

Map 15: Terryglass. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 16: Thurles. Limit of Urban District Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential.

0   1km

Map 16a: Thurles. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
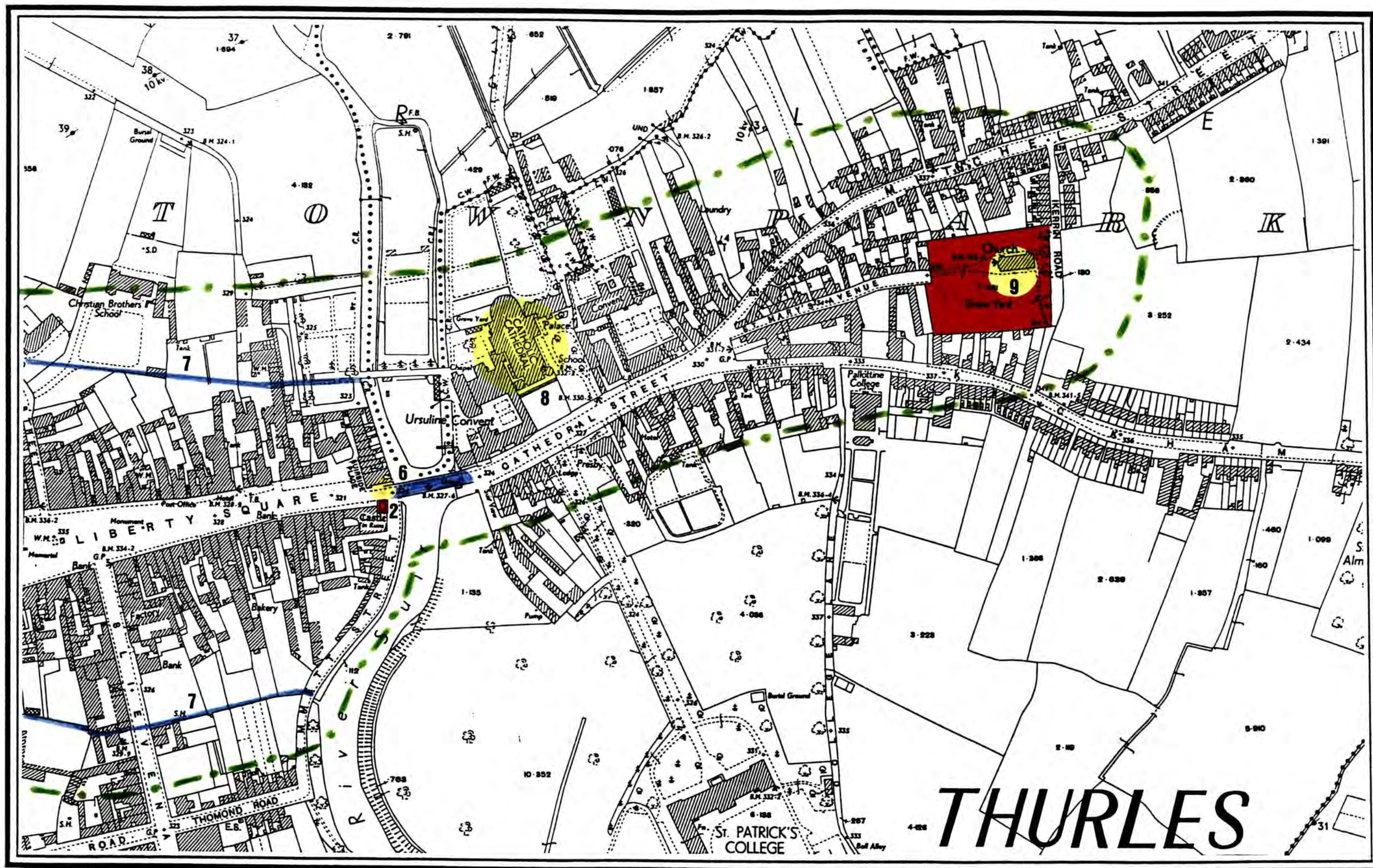
Map 16b: Thurles. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Ford
3 342
395
1·019
2·462
22·316
·762
Grave Yd
B.M.416·2
Church
3
B.M.416·2
4·635
399
·420
1·100
·454
5·547
4·850
322
405
·414
4·702
Well
6·497
Smithy
5·639
·562
3·869
411
Const Bk.
Fn
Dispensary
Toomyvara
788
Church
(in Ruins)
1
420
Smy
413
B.M.411·8
3·168
4·679
788
P
8·013
402
375
536
School
Smy
Spring
11·235
398
391
Grave Yd
1·183
Abbey
(in Ruins)
2
428
Grave Yd
8·142
918
1·548
·711
R.C.Chapel
·217
·383
488
B.M.492·5
382
3·194
435
B.M.436·9
447
468
1·740
7·360
Spring
B.M.382·2
445
1·900

Map 17: Toomyvara. Zone of Archaeological Potential.
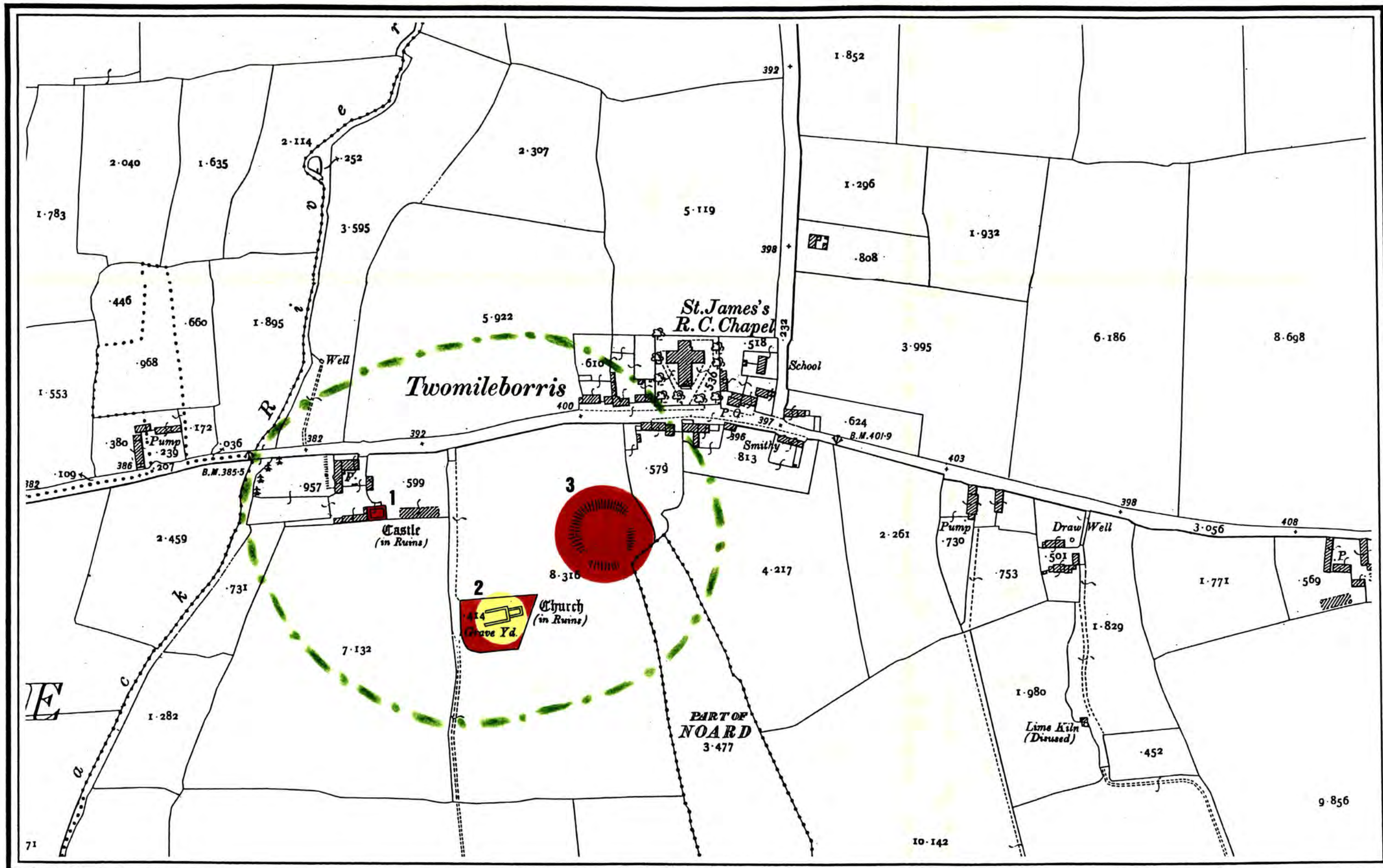
Map 18: Two Mile Borris. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

The Urban Archaeological Survey
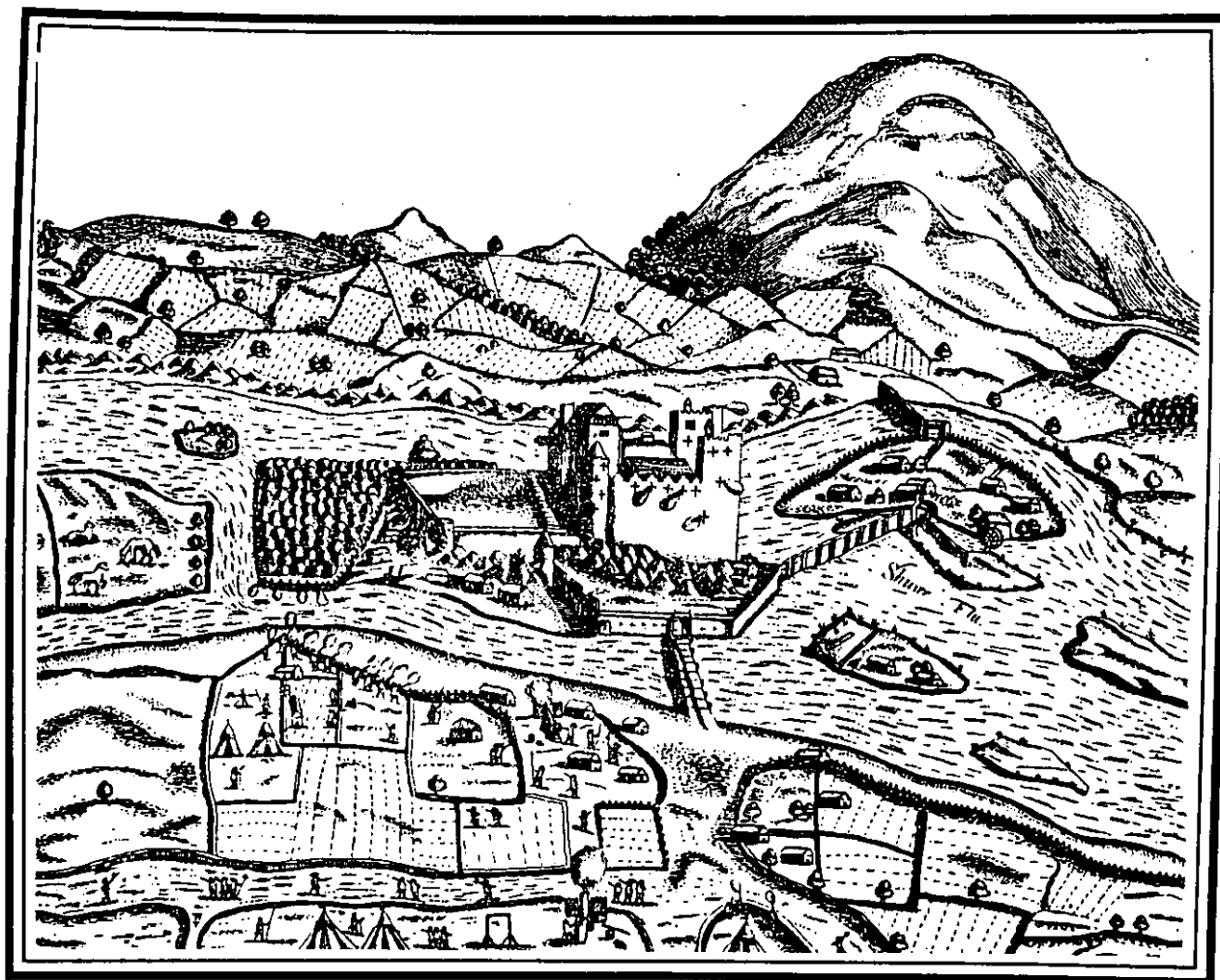
County Tipperary South Riding

Part I

OPW

Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
The Office of Public Works

Archaeological Survey of Ireland

The Office of Public Works
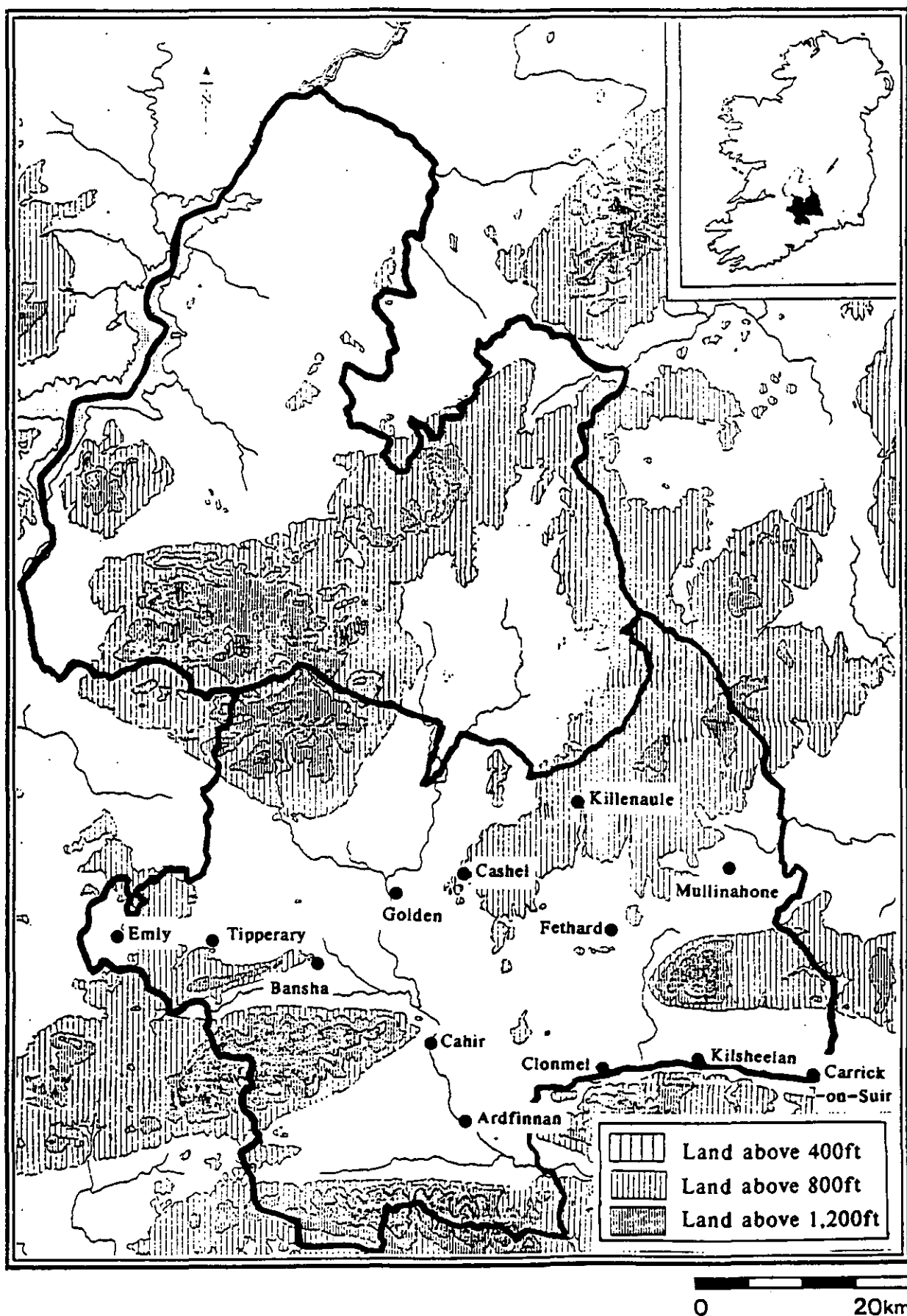
Urban Centres included in the Urban Archaeological Survey,
County Tipperary South Riding

The Urban Archaeological Survey

County Tipperary South Riding

Part I

compiled by

Jean Farrelly

Liz FitzPatrick

Dublin

1993

OPW

Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
The Office of Public Works

Archaeological Survey of Ireland

The Office of Public Works

CONTENTS

List of Plates

List of Figures

Fig. No.   **Title**

Maps in Part II

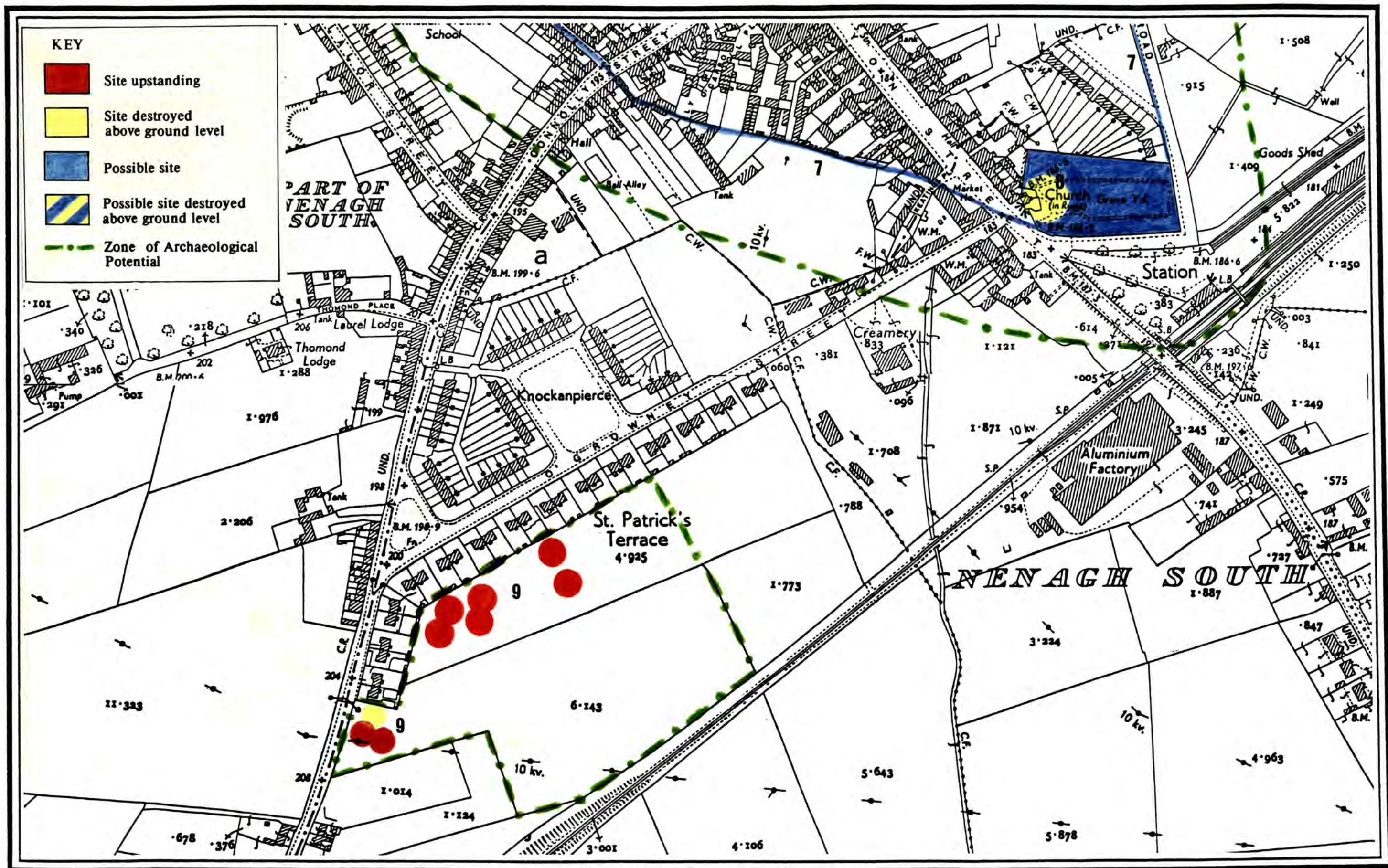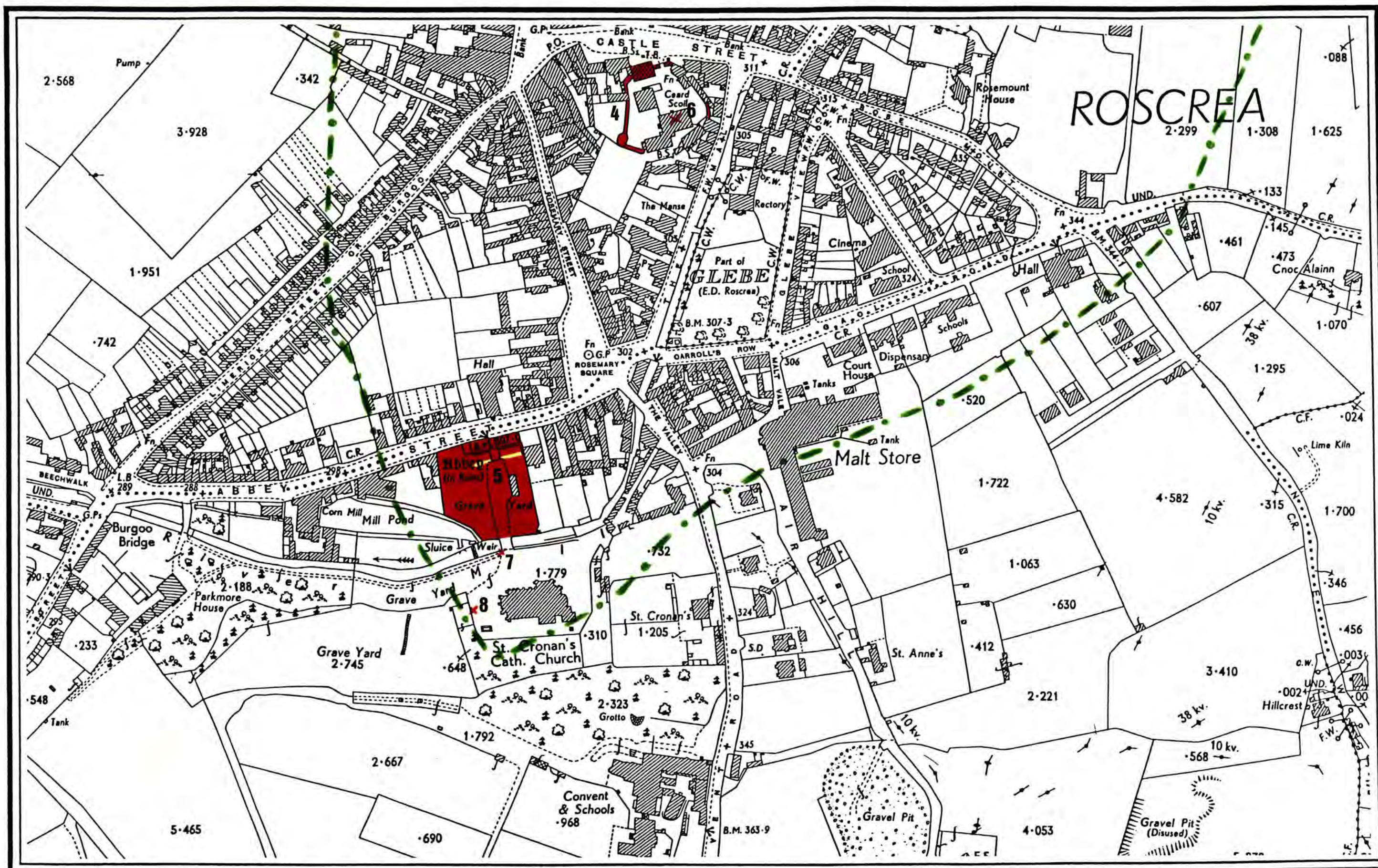| Map No.	Title	
1	Location of Urban Centres in the Urban Archaeological Survey, County Tipperary, South Riding.	
2	Ardfinnan	Zone of Archaeological Potential
3	Bansha	Zone of Archaeological Potential
4	Cahir	Limit of Development Plan Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential
5a	Cahir	Zone of Archaeological Potential
5b	Cahir	Zone of Archaeological Potential
6	Carrick-on-Suir	Limit of Urban District Boundary highlighting the Zones of Archaeological Potential
7	Carrick-on-Suir	Zone of Archaeological Potential
8	Cashel	Limit of Urban District Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential
9a	Cashel	Zone of Archaeological Potential
9b	Cashel	Zone of Archaeological Potential
10	Clonmel	Limit of Borough Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zones of Archaeological Potential
11a	Clonmel	Zones of Archaeological Potential
11b	Clonmel	Zone of Archaeological Potential
11c	Clonmel	Zones of Archaeological Potential
12	Emly	Zone of Archaeological Potential
13	Fethard	Limit of Development Plan Boundary highlighting the Zone of Archaeological Potential

14	Fethard	Zone of Archaeological Potential
15	Golden	Zone of Archaeological Potential
16	Killenaule	Zone of Archaeological Potential
17	Kilsheelan	Zone of Archaeological Potential
18	Mullinahone	Zone of Archaeological Potential
19	Tipperary	Limit of Urban District Boundary highlighting the Zone of Archaeological Potential
20	Tipperary	Zone of Archaeological Potential

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this survey is to highlight the archaeological potential of the urban centres of Co. Tipperary South Riding and present the information in a form which can be used by the relevant local authorities in planning matters. The Urban Archaeological Survey accompanies the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for Co. Tipperary South Riding, which highlights archaeological sites in a rural context. The archaeological inventory of sites in Part I is to be used in conjunction with Part II, which contains a set of complementary maps. It is important to stress that the present survey is not definitive.

Some primary map and documentary sources such as the Civil Survey (important seventeenth-century source), were examined as well as secondary sources. In addition to this, most of the sites were visited, described and photographed. All the information gathered on any particular site is kept in an individual site file and can be consulted in the Office of Public Works, on request.

Sites which are 'unlocated' are those which are known from an old map source or documentary evidence but whose position is too imprecise to include it on the constraint map. The seventeenth-century Down Survey maps, for example, were not drawn to scale and therefore sites indicated cannot be precisely located on current maps. A more in depth study of both secondary and primary sources, as well as further fieldwork, may reveal the exact location of these sites, as well as bringing additional sites to light and adding new information to known sites.

It follows, that the constraint boundaries are not to be taken as the exact limits of the sites. The constraint boundary is the zone of known or suspected archaeological potential but this may be subject to alteration, with an area being extended or contracted, based on the findings of further research. In the case of those towns which have their own town or borough boundary, archaeological sites within the area enclosed by the boundary (see part II, maps 4,6,8, 10, 11 and 19) but which are not strictly part of the town were not included in this report as they have been already been included in the Sites and Monuments Record for Co. Tipperary South Riding.

Thirteen urban centres have been included in the present Urban Archaeological Survey Report. In order to be included, the urban centre must fulfil two basic criteria:
- they are urban centres in a modern context
- known or suspected archaeological sites are present

The first criterion needs some explanation. Many towns were founded in medieval times; some survive only as a ruined castle, church and/or earthworks in a modern rural environment. These deserted settlements have, for the purposes of this work, been treated as rural sites, and are included as such in the Sites and Monuments Record for Co. Tipperary South Riding. Others have thrived and are still inhabited today as towns and villages. With the pressures of recent urban development on towns, it is important to emphasise what still exists of our archaeological heritage in modern urban centres, so that archaeologists, planners and developers alike can take measures to preserve and/or record these remains.

It cannot be over stressed that for all the urban centres, but

particularly in the case of the walled towns (with their dense concentration of early settlement), that the whole area within the archaeological zone of potential should be treated as a single monument. Thus any part of this zone, whether or not it is specifically marked as an archaeological site, should nevertheless be treated as such and dealt with accordingly.

GENERAL FORMAT

In **Part I** each urban centre is presented in the following format:

- Historical Background.
This is a brief chronology outlining the main historical events, which have shaped the town/village in question.

- Archaeological Inventory.
Each site has two numbers, the first number refers to the map in Part II on which the site is indicated and the second number refers to the site itself. For example, Cahir Castle is 3:1, as it is indicated on map 3 and is number 1 in the archaeological inventory of that town.

The type of site, its name (as depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps and a local name, if any), and its location in the town are given. Where possible, a brief summary of the history of the site is provided. This is followed by a short description of the surviving remains, based on the information contained in the documentary sources and on field inspection. After each inventory entry there is a list of the sources which were relevant to that particular site. Those sources from which quotes or specific information has been taken are footnoted. If more detailed information is required, the field reports and documentary sources can be consulted, either in the site file (which contains both), or in the relevant book or journal.

- Complementary Maps in Part II
As stated above each site is indicated on a complementary map in Part II, designed to be used in conjunction with the text in Part I. Sites which are not located are not numbered.

The most recently revised 1:2,500 (25") Ordnance Survey maps have been used as the base maps for this report. These maps have been colour-coded as follows to highlight the archaeological sites:
- sites which survive above ground are coloured red
- sites which have been destroyed, but which may have surviving archaeological deposits below ground, are coloured yellow
- possible sites (i.e. sites which may pre-date 1700) are coloured blue
- possible sites which have been destroyed are coloured yellow-blue
- the zone of archaeological potential is delineated by a dot-dash line coloured green.

Also extracts from the Sites and Monuments Record constraint maps, based on 1:10,560 (6") Ordnance Survey maps, have been included to show the area covered by the town or borough boundary with the zone of archaeogical potential and the SMR sites.

ARDFINNAN

Ard Fhíonáín meaning St. Fíonáín's height

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

7th C. St. Fíonán Lobhar founded a monastery in Ardfinnan. This is located c.300m north of village on the site of Protestant church.[1]

1185 Ardfinnan castle was built by Prince John of England.[2]

1558 Granted borough status by James, fourth Earl of Ormond.[3]

[1]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 66.
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]Ormond Deeds, 1547-84, 108-09.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle 'Ardfinnan Castle'/Bawn
2 Bridge (possible)
3 Mill (possible/site)/Carved Stone Head (site)

Unlocated Sites:
Franciscan Friary
Dwelling
Weir

2: 1 Castle 'Ardfinnan Castle'/Bawn

Siting: The Ardfinnan castle complex is perched high on a massive rock outcrop overlooking the River Suir to the south. Its position is exceptionally strategic, dominating the town, with a bird's eye view of the bridge.

Historical Note: The annals tell us that King John erected a castle at Ardfinnan in 1185 and it appears to have been added to, altered and occupied continuously in subsequent centuries. The most notable event connected with the later structure was its seige during the Cromwellian wars in the mid-seventeenth century. To-day the towerhouse, with its Georgian wing and the nineteenth century battlemented tower, is still lived in.

Description: The site comprises the remains of a once substantial bawn, a cyclindrical keep at its northeast corner, a rectangular towerhouse to which was added a three-storey gable-ended Georgian wing and also a three-storey battlemented tower of the nineteenth century.
The keep is essentially a late twelfth/thirteenth century four-storey limestone structure with subsequent fifteenth -nineteenth century modifications. It is roughly

1

circular in plan, approximately 7m in diameter internally with walls over 2m thick. Its spiral staircase is housed in a small semi-circular annexe projecting from its southwest aspect and an ungainly ruined narrow rectangular turret adjoins it on

Plate 1: Ardfinnan Castle

its northwest side. The bawn wall formerly enclosed a rectangular area, with the thirteenth century keep positioned at its northeast angle and the later towerhouse adjoining it at the southeastern end. The extant walling, in its somewhat modified condition, comprises the greater part of the south wall which skirts the precipitous edge of the outcrop; a small portion of the southwest corner; and much of the east wall including a gate entrance. Nothing of the north wall remains. The towerhouse to the south of the courtyard is a substantial structure of at least four-storeys, approximately 6m x 10m externally. It is rendered with plaster and none of the original fenestration is extant, with the possible exception of a loop in the east face. Visible original features include a series of crude dripstones in the top masonry courses and a pronounced base batter.

General References:
Barry, T.B., 1977, 23.
Bence-Jones, M., 1988, 9.
Cahill, M., 1975, A429.
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 5.
Grose, F., 1791, Vol.I, 66 and Plate.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 66.
Leask, H.G., 1941, 73, 160.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M., 1930, Vol.I, 27-28.
Power, Rev.P., 1908, 13.
Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.2, 410.
Westropp, T.J., 1902-04, 268.
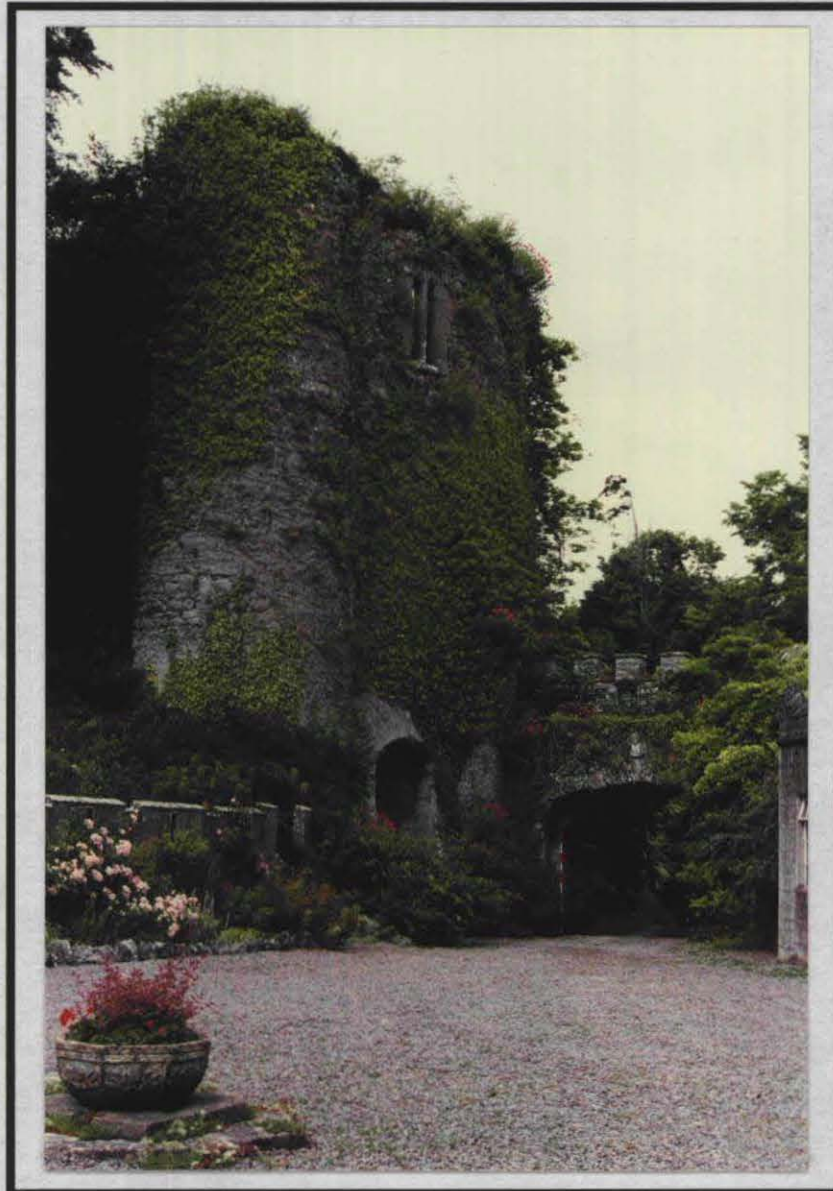
Plate 2: The keep, Ardfinnan Castle

2: 2 Bridge (possible)

Siting: Ardfinnan bridge fords the River Suir in a north-south direction. The greater development in the village has taken place to the south of the bridge.

Historical Note: The earliest record of a bridge in Ardfinnan occurs in 1311 when Edward II made a pontage grant to the reeve and men of the village.[1] In 1399, the earl of Desmond was drowned here.[2] A bridge is also mentioned in the Civil Survey of 1652-54.[3] It appears that this point on the Suir has had a bridge for almost 700 years.

Description: The bridge is an elegant construction of nine spans, with three overflows, and eight triangular cut-waters on its east face. The main fabric of the bridge is randomly coursed limestone rubble with cut-stone voussoirs employed

3

around the semi-circular arch-rings of each span. The arch soffits are rendered with concrete. It is 6.45m wide and there is a slight rise in its surface mid-way along but not sufficient to classify it as a hump-backed type. The parapets stand at a height of 1.15m over the present road surface and are 0.45m thick. They are finished with large flat roughly-cut capstones except at the southeast end where they have been replaced with concrete. There are a number of drainage holes (rectangular slots) placed at regular intervals in the parapet walls.

[1]*Chartae priv. imm.* 44.
[2]Power, Rev. P., 1908, 13.
[3]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.I, 260.

General References
Grose, F., 1791, Vol.I, 66 and Plate.

2: 3   MIll (possible/site)/Carved Stone Head (site)

Siting: The mill was situated on the west side of the bridge at its north end. The sculpted head was embedded in the masonry of the mill and was most likely on its east wall as there was a tradition (particularly among the women of the district) of spitting upon it from the bridge side.

Historical Note: The only reference we have to an early mill in Ardfinnan is the Civil Survey 1654-56, which mentions a grist mill as being among the attributes of the town.[1] Tradition has it that the sculpted female head popularly designated 'Jane Squib's head', is that of the castle cook of the reign of King John. During the course of the construction of the castle, the masons were wont to ask the cook for titbits from the kitchen, ...'but she having declined to yield to their solicitations, they vented their disappointment and spleen against her, by setting up a caricature of her in this conspicuous manner, heaping every possible indignity upon it, which observance towards it was handed down to posterity'.[2]

Description: Nothing of the former mill remains. The mill buildings presently on the site are nineteenth/twentieth century structures. The sculpted head is long since lost and indeed there was no memory of it among some of the older generation mill-workers when asked in July 1993. A building on Ardfinnan bridge depicted by Grose,[3] may be the mill mentioned above.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.2, 410.
[2]Courtenaye, 1871, 507.
[3]Grose, F., 1791, Vol.I, Plate.

UNLOCATED SITES

Franciscan Friary

Siting: The location of the former Franciscan Friary is not known.

Historical Note: There is no record of the founder or foundation date of the Franciscan Friary of Ardfinnan. Following its dissolution, the buildings and farm of the friary were occupied by Robert Butler, who paid 6s.8d rent for the farm. His rent was in arrears in 1540-41.[1]

Description: There are no upstanding remains of the friary.

[1]White, N.B., 1943, 339-40.
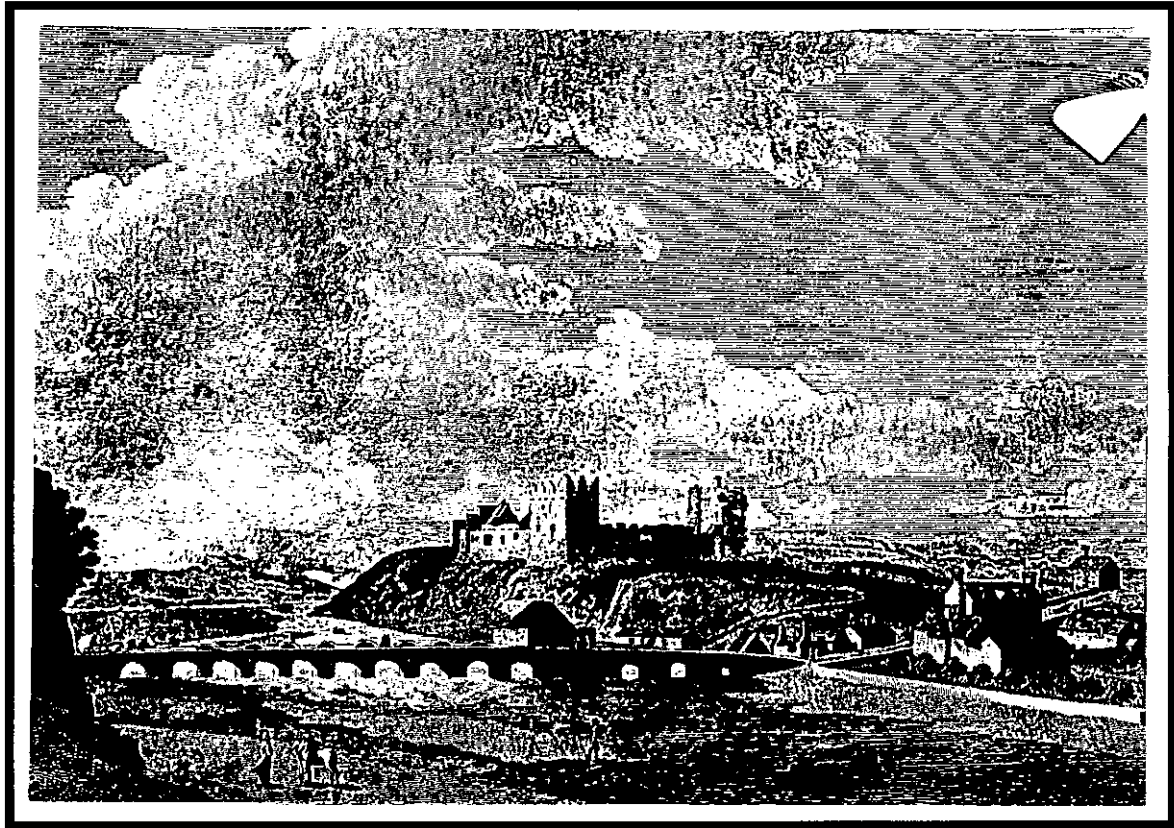
Plate 3: Bridge, mill and castle at Ardfinnan (Grose)

Dwelling

In the Civil Survey 'ye walls of a stone house' are referred to as being in the Manor of Ardfinnan.[1]

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.2, 410.

Weir

In the Civil Survey 'a weire on the river Swier' in Richard Butler's Manor of Ardfinnan.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.2, 410.

BANSHA

An Bháfnseach meaning a level place

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1582   Captain Thomas Norreys engaged the forces of David Mc Ulick Burke
'at the Banscho', July 23rd.[1]
1610   Leased by the Earl of Ormond and his feoffees to Richard Butler
FitzPiers of Bansagh, November 10th.[2]
1627   Richard Butler of Bansagh knighted.[3]
1630   Second lease of the Earl of Ormond to Sir Richard Butler of the manor
of Bansagh, October 21st 1630.[4]

[1]Calendar State Papers, Ireland, Eliz. I, 387-88.
[2]NLI Deed 3621.
[3]Lord Dunboyne, 1973, 428.
[4]NLI Deed 3783.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle
2 Church and Graveyard

3: 1   Castle

Siting: The remains of the castle lie immediately west of the main road
through Bansha and at the northern end of the town. The River Ara flows
due southeast to the east of the road and it was channelled for a mill race at
some stage. The mill race is still present and borders the castle on its east
side. The view from the site is in general quite limited with the westerly
aspect being totally restricted by a rise in ground level .

Historical Note: The earliest reference to this site is for the early 17th
century. A lease dated 1610 specfies that the incumbent of the property was
to build two new storeys onto the tower, and turrets and flankers for
defence.[1] By 1654, the Civil Survey reported that the said castle was in need
of repair. There were several thatched cabins and twenty acres of woodland
asociated with it at that time.[2] O'Donovan visited the site in the 1840s and
described it as '...one tower of a large fortress', of which only two fragments
of the walling then remained.[3]

Description: At present the site comprises the much ruined remains of
what appears to have been a circular flanking tower, perhaps one of those
referred to in the 1610 lease. It is composed of randomly coursed rubble and
is 6m in diametre internally with an average wall thickness of 3m. It stands to

a height of approximately 5m over the surrounding field level. Among the extant features of the tower are a semi-circular stair- turret (staircase does not survive) at north-northwest and the narrow entrance to a mural passage visible at south. The masonry of the eastern half of the tower has been squared to accomodate a grotto and its exterior has been faced with quartz on this side. A mass-concrete buttress was built up against the internal face of the eastern aspect in order to provide additional support to the grotto structure. The interior is filled with debris and collapse material.

[1]Cairns, C.T, 1987, 19.
[2]Simington, R.C, 1934, 20.
[3]O'Flanagan, M. Rev, (ed.), 1930, 12 -13.

3: 2 Church & Graveyard

Siting: The church and graveyard is situated immediately east of the main road through the town. The Ara River flows due southeast to the north of the site.

Historical Note: The church and graveyard in Bansha was mentioned in 1654 in relation to its accompanying glebeland which was '...fenced about with a ditch'.[1] The authors of this report are not aware of any earlier references to the site.

Description: The graveyard is a large sub-rectangular raised area with a significant mound at its centre upon which an eighteenth/nineteenth century church is situated. An examination of the gravestones revealed a re-used fragment of an early christian slab on the north side of the graveyard. The slab is presently acting as a footer at the base of the Keating family plot. It is 45cm in height over ground level, 37cm wide at its base, narrowing to 24cm at the top and it is 11cm thick. Its east face is decorated with an incised cross-arm
29cm long, with an expanded terminal 14cm wide. The coincidence of the impressive mound, the early christian graveslab fragment, the seventeenth century reference to the glebeland being fenced about with a ditch and the river functioning as an enclosing element to the north of the site, strongly suggests that this is likely to have been an early christian foundation. The present graveyard area may represent the inner sanctum of the early church ,and the glebeland on its north side bounded by the river - the area of the outer enclosure.
When O'Donovan visited the site in the 1840s, he recorded a seventeenth century Butler graveslab located at the east end of the church. He described it as an ornamented slab bearing the following inscription in raised lettering around its perimeter -'Here lyeth Theob: Butler, grandson to Sr. Richard Butler of Knocktoher who discesed the 20th of March 1672. Pray for his soule'.[2]

[1]Simington, R.C, 1934, 366.
[2]O'Flanagan , M. Rev, ed. 1930, 12 (32)

CAHIR

An Cathair meaning stone fort or citadel

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3rd C.   Reference in the Book of Lecan to the destruction of Cahir fort. There are other references to the fort in Brehon law texts.[1]

c.1169   Cahir was granted to William de Braos.[2]

1215   Ownership of Cahir was granted to Philip Worcester and eventually passed, by his grand-daughters marriage, to the Birminghams, who possessed it until 1332.[3]

1375   The manor of Cahir was bestowed on James Butler, Earl of Ormond, in whose family it remained almost continuously up to the nineteenth century.[4]

1599   Cahir castle was attacked and captured by Elizabethan forces under the Lord Lieutenant Robert Devereux, the Earl of Essex.[5]

1647   Murrough "the Burner" O'Brien, Parliamentarian Lord President of Munster (Inchiquin), captured the castle.[6]

1650   The castle was surrendered to Cromwell.

[1]Burke, Rev. W.P., 1909, 272.
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]*Ibid.*
[4]*Ibid.*
[5]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 132-33.
[6]*Ibid.*

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle 'Cahir Castle'
2 Augustinian Priory
3 Church
4 Holy Well (possible) 'Lady's Well'
5 Mill 'Abbey Mill' (possible/site)
6 Bridge (possible)
7 Sculpted Head
8 Stone Plaque

SMR Sites

Unlocated Sites:
Mills (possible/site)
Weir
Weir

5b: 1   Castle 'Cahlr Castle'

Siting: Located on an island of rock outcrop in the River Suir, south of Castle Street.

Historical Note: This castle was probably built in the thirteenth century either by Philip Worcester or his nephew and heir William. It passed by marriage to the Berminghams, who lost it to the Crown in 1332. In 1375 it was granted to James Butler, the third Earl of Ormond and the Butlers continued to live in Cahir castle until the eighteenth century despite fluctuations in the family fortune. In 1599 the Earl of Essex, with the aid of newly developed artillery, captured the hitherto impregnable castle as part of a campaign to quash an Irish rebellion. The castle was again captured in 1647 by Lord Inchiquin on behalf of the Cromwelliams and had to be retaken by Cromwell in 1650. In the eighteenth century the family left the castle vacant and moved to a new house (now Cahir House Hotel) facing the main square of the town.[1] Between 1840 and 1846 repair works were carried out on the castle by the then owner Richard Butler of Glengall and his architect William Tinsley. No further work was carried out until the castle was taken into State care as a National Monument in 1964.[2]
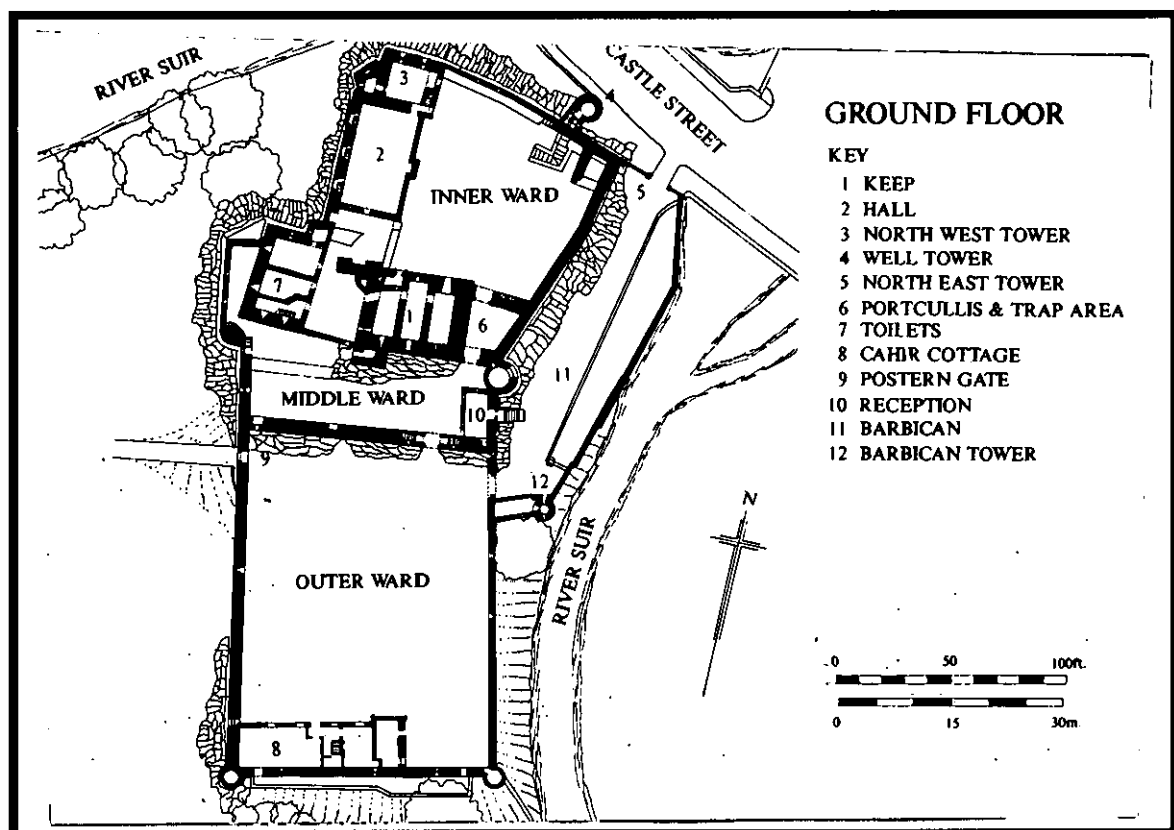
Figure 1: Plan of Cahir castle (from O.P.W. booklet)

Description: Although Cahir castle was probably built in the thirteenth century, its appearance today is largely due to fifteenth and sixteenth century rebuilding and nineteenth and twentieth century restoration. Within the curtain wall, which itself incorporated six mural towers/turrets, there is a great hall, a square keep

and three courts. The keep was actually the gatehouse of the original thirteenth century castle and bawn, the latter now forming the inner court. In the fifteenth/sixteenth century the gate of the keep was blocked up and rebuilt immediatedly to the east. The doorway giving access to the keep is guarded by a musket loop and a machicolation directly above it at parapet level. The great hall was also entirely rebuilt in the nineteenth century, only the present west wall is early and the south wall originally extended further back incorporating the great fireplace to the west of the north face of the keep. The circular tower to the north of the entrance gate and the ground floor of the north-east tower in the inner court, appear to have been prisons. To the west of the north-east tower there are steps leading down to a well tower, an important feature in times of seige. The rock-cut steps seem to be early in date, though the upper portion of the tower is probably seventeenth century. The north-west tower in the inner court, immediatedly north of the great hall, is primarily a fifteenth/sixteenth century towerhouse. Like the keep it has a number of defensive features, including a murder-hole over the original doorway in the south and narrow windows or loops where the building was vunerable to attack. The house (Cahir Cottage) and conical roofs of the towers at the south end of the outer court were built in the 1840s.

There are a number of interesting sculptured pieces. These include the sandstone coat of arms of the Butlers over the entrance gateway which was taken from Cahir Park, a Victorian house begun in 1861 and burnt in 1961; the corbel supports of the fireplace on the first floor of the north-west tower - the south corbel bears a griffin-like creature in raised relief and the north corbel has a carved male head, very similar to one in the chancel of the medieval parish church in Cahir; a fireplace with an elegant design of roll-mouldings on the first floor of the keep, probably dating to the sixteenth century, is very similar to one from the south tower of the Augustinian Priory, Cahir; and an unusual incised carving depicting the interlocked outline of two heads and a central figure on a stone in the east wall of the keep.[3]

[1]Bence-Jones, M., 1988, 53.
[2]Wheeler, H.A., O.P.W. booklet.
[3]Holland, P., 1988, 15-17.

General References
Anonymous, 1902, 63-75.
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 13.
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 22.
Harbison, P., 1970, 221.
Holland, P., 1991, 215-217.
Kerrigan, P.M., 1980, 148.
Killanin Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 133.
Leask, H., 1951, 123 and Pl.V.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.II, 130-32, 135.
Reynolds, J.F., 1972, 26.
Shirley, E.P., 1867, 80.
White, J.D., 1892, 4.

5a: 2   Augustinian Priory

Siting: Located at the north end of the town, on the east side of Abbey Street, north of the railway line and accessed via a lane opening out onto the main street.

Historical Note: The priory of St. Mary was founded for the Augustinian Canons Regular by Geoffrey de Camville in the thirteenth century, c. 1220.[1] In 1540 the prior Edmund Lonergan surrendered the monastery to Henry VIII.[2] At this time the church was stated to be parochial and the buildings were granted to Sir Thomas Butler, who was created the Baron of Cahir in 1542.[3]

Description: The priory remains consist of a church with crossing tower and a range of buildings to the south, including a large vaulted chamber, a tower and the possible remains of the refectory. There is also a length of wall to the south running east- west which may be part of a later enclosure or bawn.

Church and Crossing Tower: The church consists of a chancel, 19.45m x 9.7m externally and crossing tower, 6.32m x 9.05m externally (excluding stairwell in the north-west corner). There is no nave, this may have been destroyed when the crossing tower was being remodelled in the late sixteenth / seventeenth century for domestic use. Some of the sandstone windows in the chancel were altered in the fifteenth century with limestone inserts and an elaborately decorated east and north window were also added at this date, with an interlace pattern on the exterior of the east window. The five-storey crossing tower appears to have been a four storey structure originally. The high semi-pointed arches of the tower originally connecting the chancel and nave have been blocked up on the east side while the west wall of the tower seems to have been entirely rebuilt. The internal fittings, staircase and later fireplaces are very fine and there are interlace patterns on the jambs of the doorway in the north wall of the ground floor.

KEY
1 NAVE
2 TOWER
3 CHANCEL
4 SOUTH EAST TOWER
5 CLOISTER GARTH
6 GRAVEYARD
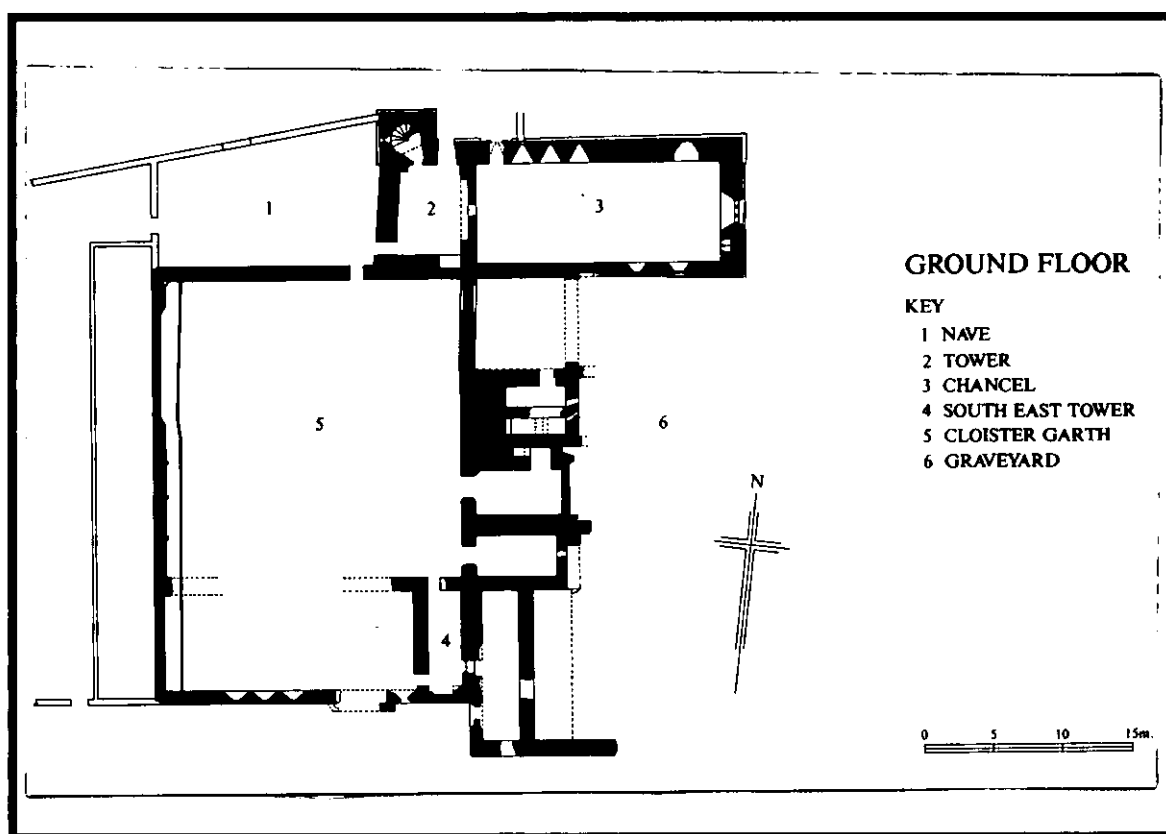
Figure 2: Plan of Cahir abbey (from O.P.W. booklet)

Claustral Buildings: A blocked doorway in the south wall of the chancel gave access to the claustral buildings. Immediately south of the chancel are a series of vaulted chambers, aligned east-west, although little survives of the most northerly. South of these, aligned north-south is a long barrel vaulted chamber, measuring 10.9m x 2.82m internally, which is thought to have been the chapter room. This is very poorly lit, with only a single-light window in the west wall which is now blocked. Access to this room was from the vaulted ground floor of the south residential tower. This narrow, rectangular tower, 6.42m x 2.15m internally, is at least four storeys high. East of this tower are the remains of the south wall of a building which may have been the refectory. This wall, which contains a series of sandstone windows, has been much altered, with windows shortened and gun ports inserted in the embrasures.

Bullaun Stone: Located just inside the graveyard entrance and set against the north end of the boundary wall there is a split multiple bullaun stone. This stone, which is a sandstone conglomerate with white quartz, contains four circular depressions, ranging from 0.1m wide and 0.1m deep to 0.26m wide and 0.21m deep. The stone itself is 0.86m x 0.52m and is 0.41m high.

[1] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 162.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] Wheeler, H.A., n.d., 22.

General References
Irish Tourist Association Survey, 1942.
Leask, H.G., 1960, Vol.III, 53.
McNeill, C., 1922, 18, 20, 31.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 132-34, 381a/b.
Reynolds, M., 1975, 41.
Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 359.

5b: 3   Church

Siting: This church is situated on the north side of Old Church Street, on a precipitous north facing slope, with a good view of the town to the north. It is aligned east-west and occupies the eastern end of the graveyard.

Historical Note: The medieval parish church of Cahir is mentioned in the Civil Survey of 1654-56, it is described as having "a house roome on the North of the sd Church"[1], this was probably a residential building added onto the church proper. The church was in use for Protestant worship until 1820.[2]

Description: This is a much modified multiperiod structure. It has a long rectangular plan and is constructed primarily of limestone, though the earlier features are of sandstone. The church appears to be of thirteenth century date with later rebuilding in the fifteenth/sixteenth century. Early features include two sandstone ogee-headed windows in the east gable and the probable remains of the south jamb of a central window. This window was replaced in the fifteenth/sixteenth century by a mullion and transom four light limestone window, which has three interlace patterns carved on the external side. The earliest doorway appears to be in the south wall. This sandstone, semi-pointed doorway

CAHIR

is now blocked up and only visible externally to a height of 0.86m above ground level. The church was later altered and divided to accommodate both Protestant and Catholic worship. Notable features include a bellcote on top of the west gable, a corbel on the south wall with a carved human head and a piscina below. There are a number of loose architectural fragments, both in the church itself and reused as gravemarkers in the graveyard.

Plate 4: Fireplace in crossing tower, Augustinian Priory, Cahir.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 359.
[2]Killanin Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 133.

General References
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 135, 381c.

5a: 4 Holy Well (possible) 'Lady's Well'

Siting: Situated on the west bank of the River Suir, c.60m south-west of Cahir abbey, at the base of a steep rock outcrop precipice under young beech trees.

Description: This well, more accurately described as pool in the rock outcrop, is of irregular shape with no enclosing element. It is 2m x 4m in diameter and 0.2m deep. Clear water is visible bubbling out from under a rock on the south side. Two streams emanate from the well, flowing sluggishly to the north and south, where

13

they meet a larger stream (former mill race) and eventually join the river. There is no evidence of religious veneration.

5a: 5   Mills (possible/site)

Siting: Located north of the town, c.50m north of Cahir "Abbey".

Description: Both mills are indicated on the 1906 ed. of the 25" map as "Abbey Mills - Corn". These may be on the site of the grist mill mentioned in the Civil Survey[1] and may have originally been the property of the Augustinian Priory.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 359.

5b: 6   Bridge (possible)

Siting: Immediately north of Cahir Castle, forming the part of Bridge Street which crosses the River Suir.

Description: The "Bridge of Cahyr" is mentioned in the Civil Survey.[1] Which bridge it refers to is unclear. The may refer to the main bridge in Cahir which is "long, partially 18th century or earlier, with cutwaters, and of at least six arches."[2]

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 260.
[2]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 13.

5b: 7   Sculpted Head

Siting: No. 7, Castle St., Cahir. Inserted in the west end of the south wall of a private dwelling, at second floor level (house is three-storey over basement).

Description: This is a large sculpted medieval male head with almond-shaped eyes with eyebrows, long aquiline nose, thin-lipped mouth, large jug ears sticking out on either side and ribbing to indicate hair. The head has been painted white.

5b: 8   Stone Plaque

Siting: No. 13 Castle St., Cahir, premises of E. Clohosey, butcher. The plaque is inserted in the south facing wall of the building, at second floor level between two windows.

Description: This small rectangular limestone plaque has a thin border around the edge with a capital I on the dexter side and a capital E on the sinister side. Within the centre there is a pyramidal arrangement, with a capital M on top, a capital W and I on the middle row and finally on the bottom row the date 1717.

SMR Sites within the Development Plan Boundary
(see SMR constraint maps and manual)

Sheet No.	SMR No.	Site Type
75	41	Burial(s)
75	44 :1/2	Holy Well/Cross Slab (present location)
75	46	Enclosure
75	47	Castle
75	60	Enclosure
75	61	Enclosure (site)
81	02	Enclosure
81	59	Church (site) and graveyard

UNLOCATED SITES

Mills (possible/site)

Siting: Located on the west bank of the River Suir, c.70m west of Cahir castle.

Description: "A mill with sluice gate is illustrated in Pacata Hibernia (Dublin, 1830, 76-77) and on the 1st ed. O.S. 6" map, while parts of the latter remain, nearly all of the mill buildings were demolished a few years later (Walsh, J., (ed.), 1988: *Cahir Heritage Newsletter*, 23, Cahir) and the river, or mill pond, was filled in and narrowed".[1] These are probably on the site of the grist mills mentioned in the Civil Survey, which were the property of Cahir manor.[2]

[1]Holland, P., 1991, 217.
[2]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 350-51.

Weir
A weir is mentioned in the Civil Survey as belonging to the town of Cahir.[1] Its precise location on the River Suir is unknown.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1,359.

Weir
A weir belonging to the Lord of Cahir is mentioned in the Civil Survey as being located near the "Mansion house" which is Cahir castle.[1] This may be at the site of the weir indicated on the 1st ed. of the 6" O.S. map.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, Vol.1, 350-51.

CARRICK-ON-SUIR

Carraig na Sfufre meaning rock of the Suir

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

13th C.	Carrick-on-Suir, known as Carrickmacgriffin, held by the Anglo-Norman family, le Brets.
1247	Matthew FitzGriffin received a patent permitting him to hold a fair in Carrigmacgriffin.[1]
14th C.	The manor became the property of Edmund Butler, the 1st Earl of Carrick.
1309	The Butlers built a castle on the site of a Poor Clare convent. [2]
1336	James, 1st Earl of Ormond founded a Franciscan friary in Carrickbeg.
1344	James obtained a charter from Edward III for the town of Carrick.[3]
1366	Earliest surviving borough charter for the town.[4]
1565	Thomas Butler, Earl of Ormond added an Elizabethan manor house to the double towered fifteenth century castle.[5]
1650	Carrick-on-Suir castle was captured by Cromwellian forces.

[1]Power, P.C., 1989, 20.
[2]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 143.
[3]I.T.A. Survey, 1942, 40/26.5.
[4]Bradley, J., 1985, 42.
[5]*Op. cit.*, 1967, 143.

General References
Kerrigan, P.M., 1980, 148.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle/Dwelling/Convent (possible/site)
2 Franciscan Friary/Graveyard / Castle (possible/site)
3 Church 'St. Nicholas's' (site)
4 Bridge 'Old Bridge'
5 Tholsel
6 Town Defences
7 Late Medeival Building (possible)
8 Sculpted Head

SMR Sites

Unlocated Sites:
Church (possible/site) / Graveyard 'Killmoleran'
Frankhouse
Hospital

7: 1 Castle/Dwelling/Convent (possible/site)

Siting: At the eastern end of the town, east of Castle Street, on the northern bank of the River Suir.

Historical Note: The Butler castle at Carrick is said to have been built in 1309 on the site of a Poor Clare convent,[1] possibly one of the three convents of Franciscan nuns in Ireland mentioned by Peter de Trau in 1385-99,[2] however, there is little evidence to support this as claim. In the fifteenth century two tower houses
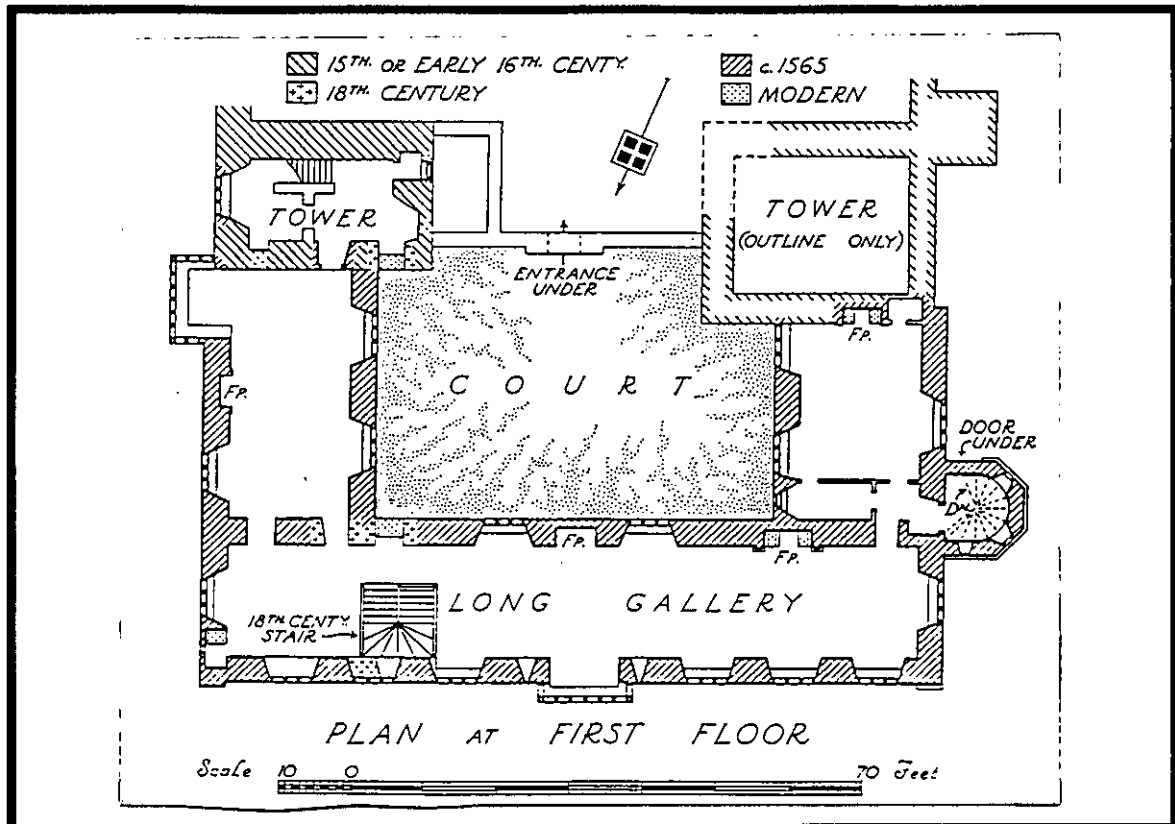
Figure 3: Plan of tower houses and tudor manion, Carrick-on-Suir (after Leask)

were erected, their construction has been attributed to Eamonn mac Risterd Butler in c. 1445.[3] In c.1565, (although some ascribe a slightly later date of c. 1600[4]) a tudor mansion was added by Black Tom, the 10th Earl of Ormond. The castle was captured by Cromwellian forces in 1650, only to come under attack again by Royalist forces under Inchiquin. It seems that any damage incurred during this turbulent time was repaired by the 12th Earl of Ormond in 1660. Unfortunately, following this earl's death, the house was not used again as a Butler residence. It was rented out to tenants during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries[5] and gradually fell into a state of disrepair. The building has now been restored by the Office of Public Works.

Description: The tudor mansion forms three sides of a courtyard with one of the fifteenth century tower houses terminating each wing. According to Leask[6] and Waterman[7] the courtyard was fully enclosed, the fourth side being formed by the "main front of an earlier castle with large terminal towers", however, there is no

evidence that such a "main front" existed. The mansion house itself is a two-storey building with a multi-gabled attic. Although long, the building is only one room wide, one of the finest rooms being a gallery decorated with oak panelling and stucco-work including medallions of Queen Elizabeth and an elaborately

Plate 5: Tower houses and tudor mansion, Carrick-on-Suir (after Grose)

decorated fireplace bearing a date of 1565. Other chambers in the house have further examples of stucco-work. The house has limited defensive features including gun-holes above and round the main door and cross gun-loops in the east projection. It must be remembered that the tower houses were fully integrated parts of the whole structure and so not only gave additional living space but also provided a place of refuge in times of threat.

[1] Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 143.
[2] Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970 (reprint 1988), 314.
[3] Empey, C.A., 1982, 207.
[4] Leask, H.G., 1951, 146-47.
[5] Lanigan, K., 1965, 31-37.
[6] *Op. cit.*, 1951, 146-47.
[7] Waterman, D.M., 1961, 252-53.

General References
Anonymous, 1906, 19-20.
Bence-Jones, M., 1988, 57.
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 16-18.
Crawford, H.S., 1909, 255.
De Breffny, B. and ffolliott, R., 1975, 124-25.
Harbison, P., 1970, 222.

CARRICK-ON-SUIR

Harbison, P., 1991, 30-31.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 143.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 63-65 (168-75).
O'Scully, T., 1895, Pl. 232-33.
Reynolds, M., 1975, 42.

7: 2 Franciscan Friary / Graveyard / Castle (possible/site)

Siting: This is located on the south bank of the River Suir, on the east side of Abbey Hill Road in Carrickbeg. It is partly incorporated in St. Molleran's Catholic Church.

Historical Note: This Franciscan friary was founded in 1336 by James Butler, Earl of Ormond, supposedly on the site of the initial manor castle.[1] The first guardian, Friar Clyn, wrote that the said James Butler "gave the franciscans his castle as a friary at Carrick".[2] Construction of the friary appears to have been slow as twelve years after the foundation date the friars were being granted land by the second Earl for a dwelling-house, out-buildings, a church and an oratory.[3] According to tradition, the church was in ruins by 1447 when it was re-founded by Edward Mac Richard Butler.[4] In 1540, as part of the overall dissolution of Monasteries, the friary was surrendered by the then prior William Cormoke. At this time the friary possessed "a church and steeple, chapter-house, dormitory, hall, three chambers, kitchen, stable and gardens...the buildings being ruinous and accounted of no value."[5] The friary was subsequently granted to James Butler, the then current Earl of Ormond. The catholic parish church of St. Molleran's, built in 1827, incorporates the tower, part of the north wall and west doorway of the original friary church.

Description: The original friary church is of fourteenth/fifteenth century date. The church appears to have been longer by c.6.4m and narrower than the present parochial church.[6] A drawing dating to c.1702 and another from the eighteenth century indicate a large arched opening in the western end of the north wall, which may have lead to a side chapel. In the west gable there is a very fine fourteenth century semi-pointed doorway, c.6m high, the semi-pointed arch orders of which are executed in old red sandstone and the capitals and jambs in orange sandstone. The capitals are beautifully decorated, that on the north side with a series of four female heads beneath which is a male head wearing a type of mitre[7]; while the ornamentation on the south capital consists of dog-tooth, roll-moulding and a foliage motif. Also in the west gable, inserted above the central window, there is a limestone armorial plaque which is possibly of seventeenth century date. The north wall, c.32.5m long, incorporates much of the friary, including an unusual hanging tower which is supported by a large pyramidal corbel. A three-storey bellcote, 3.4m square in plan externally, also projects out of the north wall. It is possible that this structure, which may be of fifteenth century date, was built up against the east wall of the former side chapel. The tower was lit by long rectangular cut-stone loops at first and second floor level in the east wall and the bellcote itself surmounts the north wall. There is a nineteenth century buttress at the north-east corner of the church, one of the quoins of which is a reused stone with a projecting carved head.

Grave-slabs:

(a) There is a fragment of a sixteenth/seventeenth century limestone graveslab embedded in the ground at the base of the south wall of St.Molleran's church, near the south-west corner. It is inscribed along the sinister side with letters in raised latin script. There is also the faint suggestion of a cross shaft towards the centre. The surviving fragment measures 0.57m x 0.51m and is 0.07m thick.

Plate 6: Carved capital in west gable
of St. Molleran's church

(b) This may be a reused seventeenth century limestone grave-slab. It is situated on the north side of the church, directly north of the bellcote. It is 1.33m above ground level, 0.83m wide and 0.1m deep. The top of the slab appears to have been re-cut in the nineteenth century, when an inscription, dated to 1833, was added on the east face. On the west face there is a slightly raised four-armed

20

lozenge-shaped cross with trefoil terminals. The calvary mount is buried from view.

[1]Bradley, J., 1985, 41.
[2]Crowley, W., 1978, 7.
[3]*Ibid*, 8.
[4]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M.V., 1967, 143.
[5]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 243-44.
[6]*Op. cit.*, 1978, 18.
[7]Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.I, 220, Vol.II, Pl.126.

General References
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 16-18.
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 23.
Leask, H.G., 1960, Vol.III, 51-52.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 63-63 (168-172).
Power, Rev. P., 1896, 2-5.

7: 3   Church 'St. Nicholas's' (site)

Siting: Located on the west side of the town, north of Main Street.

Historical Background: The church of St. Nicholas of Myra appears to have survived until c.1813, when it was demolished and replaced by the Protestant church.[1] The church is currently serving as a tourist office and heritage centre.

Plate 7: Seventeenth century graveslab, St. Nicholas' graveyard

Description:
Although the church itself does not survive above ground level, there are a number of whole and fragmentary late medieval graveslabs in the graveyard, ten of which have been recently incorporated into the internal face of a new boundary wall on the west and south-west side of the graveyard. There are also three intact slabs in the area immediately north-west of the church and one in the burial area to the south. In addition to those housed in the boundary wall, there is a limestone window head and one possibly early graveslab incorporated into the west kerb wall which forms part of the avenue entrance to the site.

In the church hallway there is a limestone crucifixion plaque with the crucified Christ in high relief. According to an explanatory note on the plaque it was found in the south-south-east of the graveyard. The plaque is crudely inscribed with the name DAUGHERTY and the date 1710, there is other lettering on the slab but it is barely legible.

There is also a stone statue c.2m high. It has been dated to between the second half of the seventeenth century and the mid eighteenth century.[2] It formerly stood in the grounds of the Franciscan Friary in Carrickbeg and is the figure of a man dressed in a full length franciscan habit with a voluminous hood. There is a limestone armorial plaque on the west gable of the disused Protestant church, however, it appears to be of late date, probably nineteenth century.

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 63 (168).
[2]Coady, M. and Ryan, H., (local historians), unpublished.

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 23.

7: 4   Bridge 'Old Bridge'

Siting: This bridge crosses the River Suir and connects Carrick-on-Suir with Carrickbeg, running from Bridge Steet in the former to Abbey Hill in the latter.

Historical Note: There are records of pontage grants made in 1343 and 1356,[1] and portions of the bridge possibly date from this time.[2] The present eight arch structure has been dated to 1447,[3] but it may be of sixteenth century date.[4] The bridge is depicted on the Down Survey map of 1656.

Description: The present bridge is 91.4m long and 4.6m wide. It consists of eight segmental arches, all 6m wide except one of the most southerly which was enlarged in the eighteenth/early nineteenth century to a width of 15.2m, double that of the others. There are massive triangular cutwaters on the upriver side which have been brought up to parapet level to form pedestrian refuges, while the rectangular piers on the downriver side are also brought up to form similar refuges in the parapet wall. There is a large rectangular refuge at the middle of the bridge which is known as "Nailers House". Simington and O'Keefe date the bridge, based on structural form, to the fifteenth or sixteenth century.[5]

[1]Bradley, J., 1985, 41.
[2]O'Keefe, P. and Simington, T., 1991, 156-58.
[3]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 16-18.
[4]Op. cit., 1991, 156-58.
[5]Ibid.

CARRICK-ON-SUIR

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 23.
Craig, M., 1982, 34, 276.
Down Survey, 1656.

7: 5   Tholsel

Siting: Located on the north side of West Gate Street.

Historical Note: None other than that it is known locally as the Tholsel.
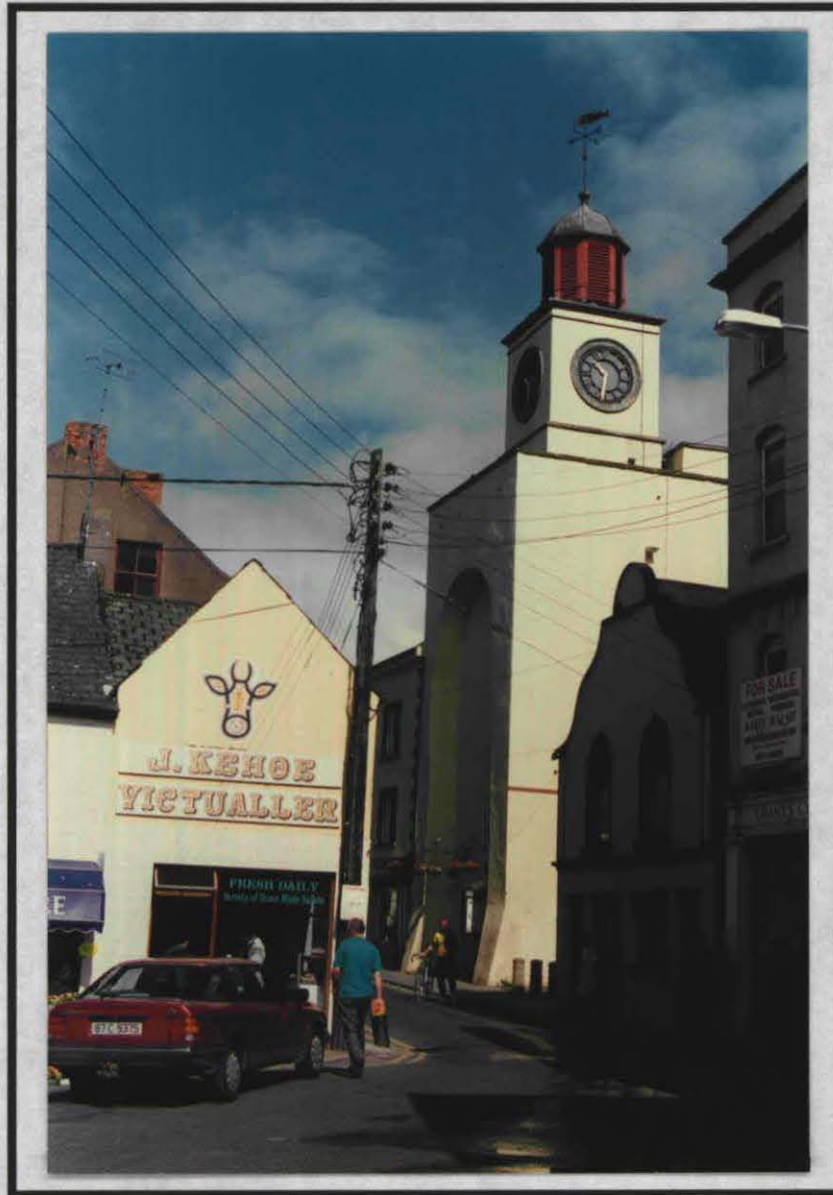
Plate 8: Tholsel, Carrick-on-Suir

Description: This is a four storey tower, rendered externally and on the ground-floor interior, and measures 7.65m north-south x 6.85m east-west externally. The large recess in the south wall indicates where the wall was partially destroyed

23

and in recent times rebuilt further back. The original south-east and south-west corners are still visible externally and indicate that the building had a base batter. The tower must have been quite defensive originally, the only surviving windows are arrow loops and there is a murder hole over the staircase at ground floor level. In the seventeenth century the tower was altered, probably with a view to making it more commodious; thus in the north wall of the first floor there is an elegant fireplace inscribed with the date 1637 and on the third floor there is a fine seventeenth century fireplace with a chamfered mantlepiece. In the eighteenth century a clock-tower and lantern was added[1] and more recently the building was converted into a tourist office. Most of the original spiral staircase has been replaced with both a stone and wooden staircase, with only the upper portion, from the third floor up, surviving intact.

[1]Craig, M., 1982, 314.

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 23.

7: 6 Town Defences

Siting: The only surviving section is the north-east angle of the town wall, which forms the boundary of the present Tennis Club grounds.

Historical Note: The earliest indication of the presence of a town wall in Carrick-on-Suir comes from a grant of 1343 which restored the right to collect murage[1] There are further references to the town wall from the fourteenth century onwards, mainly occurring in property documents.[2]

Description: It appears that the town was enclosed on at least three sides. The River Suir possibly acted as a natural barrier to the south, although Thomas suggests[3] that there was also a wall running parallel to the river front. The total area enclosed would have been c.15 hectares.[4]
The northern section of the town wall ran, from where it survives in the north-east corner, westward along William Street and Townwall Lane. The west and east portions of the town wall ran at right angles to the river. The former probably continued the line of Kickham St. and the latter, while running towards the river, appears to have intersected with the castle and may have been incorporated in the castles defences.
Only one length of town wall survives intact, the section which formed the north-east corner of the town defences. The northern length, running from east to west, is 162.2m long, 2.2m wide and survives to a maximum height of 4.15m, the wall then turns towards the south for a further length of 17.25m. It is composed of randomly coursed rough sandstone and limestone blocks and rubble. Where the core is exposed it seems to consist of large lumps of sandstone. There was probably an internal wall-walk as there is an internal ledge along the northern length. Internally, at the corner of the wall there is a staircase constructed of large, very roughly cut limestone steps. The three bottom steps of which have collapsed recently. This staircase led up to a projecting look-out post or possibly a bartizan, although there are no apertures at its base for allowing missiles to be dropped on assailents. It is supported by four rough limestone corbels and stands at a height of 2.65m over the present ground level. The most westerly length of wall is leaning out dangerously and needs attention.

It seems likely that there were at least four gates in the town wall. West gate (6a), at the western end of Main Street survives as a placename and it is possible that there was an eastern gate (6b - unlocated) at the opposite end of Main Street.[6] It is also probable that there was a gate on New Street (6c) where it intersects with the town wall and another gate at the southern end of Bridge Street (6d).[7] None of these gates have survived.

[1]Bradley, J., 1985, 40-42.
[2]Thomas, A., 1992, Vol.II, 43-46.
[3]Ibid.
[4]Op. cit., 1985, 40-42.
[5]Ibid.
[6]Op. cit., 1992, Vol.II, 43-46.
[7]Op. cit., 1985, 40-42.

General References
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 64 (171).
Reynolds, M., 1975, 42.

7: 7   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: Located on the south side of Castle Street, on the western side of the junction with Brewery Lane.

Description: This building has a particularly striking projecting chimney in the east gable. Though the walls of the building do not appear to be unusually thick, they are on average c.0.6m. The stone chimney indicates a possible early date for the structure. The building is presently occupied by Joe Walsh and Sons, funeral directors and coffin makers.

7: 8   Sculpted Head

Siting: Located on the pebble-dashed south wall of St. Francis R.C. church.

Description: A red sandstone head, most likely of a king, heavily bearded with long flowing hair and cadaverous facial features, wearing a feathered crown. The date and original location of this head is unknown.

SMR Sites within the Urban District Boundary
(see SMR constraint maps and manual)

Sheet No.	SMR No.	Site Type
85	03	Cross Fragment (present location)
85	05	Enclosure - field inspection revealed this to be a quarry
85	06	Dwelling (possible) - (see description below)
85	07:1-4	Fulachta Fiadha

Late Medieval Building (possible) 'Tinhalla House' (SMR No. 85:06)

Siting: Located c.1.5 miles east of the town of Carrick-on-Suir, just within the Urban District Boundary, on the south bank of the River Suir.

Historical Note: A seventeenth century house is depicted here on the Down Survey map, 1655-58 and it is possible that a reference in the Civil Survey to "the chief howse"[1] of James, Earl of Ormond at Tynkally may be the house now called "Tinhalla".

Description: This long, two-storey building appears to be of seventeenth century date. Features which are indicative of this early date include two large projecting chimneys in the south wall, the thickness of the walls themselves, being 0.86m thick, and a pronounced internal batter on the north wall. The present back door appears to have been inserted into a former window ope as its embrasure is splayed internally. One of the advantages of the house is that it has a quay which gives direct access to the River Suir. This would have been an obvious bonus in previous centuries when water transport provided a quick and efficient method of travelling.

[1]Simington, R.C., 1942, 104.

UNLOCATED SITES

Church (possible/site) / Graveyard 'Killmoleran'

Siting: Located opposite the former Franciscan friary, on the east side of Abbey Hill behind St. Francis' Catholic church.

Description: According to the Rev. Power, a pre-Norman church, dedicated to St. Moeloran, was associated with a graveyard traditionally called *Relig na muc* or the Pigs' Cemetery. He locates this to the graveyard behind St. Francis' Catholic church and states that it contains many eighteenth-century tombstones and a few seventeenth-century ones. After a detailed examination of this graveyard no early tombstones were found and it is possible that Power was confusing this graveyard with that associated with St. Molleran's Catholic church (site 2).

[1]Power, Rev. P., 1896, 5-6.

Frankhouse
A frankhouse of the Knights Hospitallers under Hospital of Any, reported in 1541.[1]

[1]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 340.

Hospital

Siting: Located on the banks of the River Suir.[1]

Historical Note: The Priory or hospital of St. John the Evangelist was founded in Carrick-on-Suir by William de Cantelo and his wife, Dionisia, c.1240.[2] Afterwards, it became subject to the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, London.[3] The 'priory' was granted to Thomas Butler, Earl of Ormond, in 1557.[4]

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 64-65 (173-75).
[2]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 343, 347.
[3]Lee, G. A., 1966, 12-26.
[4]Op. cit., 1970, 343, 347.

General References
Power, P.C., 1989, 17-18.

CASHEL

Caiseal meaning stone fort

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

370 Cashel became the principal stronghold of the Kings of Munster.[1]

1101 It became primarily an ecclesiastical centre,[2] having been handed over to the Church by Muircheartach O'Brien.[3]

1218 The town was taken out of the archbishop's control by the Justiciar of Ireland.[4]

1228 The new town of Cashel was returned to the control of Archbishop Maurianus O'Brien with the agreement of Henry III.[5]

1250 Charter from Archbishop Muirin to the reeve and twelve burgesses.[6]

1316 Edward Bruce halted his army and held a Parliament at Cashel.[7]

1319-24 The town wall was built.[8]

1647 The ecclesiastical centre on the Rock of Cashel was burnt by Murrough O'Brien, Earl of Inchiquin.[9]

[1]Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 24-25.
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 121-127 (317-329), 128-152 (336-424).
[4]Bradley, J., 1985, 45.
[5]*Ibid.*
[6]Cahill, M., 1982, 8/32.
[7]Jackson, R.W., 1957, 15-19.
[8]Jackson, R.W., 1949, 24-25.
[9]*Op. cit.*, 1970, 24-25.

General References
Murphy, J.A., 1965, 55-62.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Ecclesiastical Remains "St. Patrick's Rock"
   Round Tower
   Cormac's Chapel
   Cathedral
   Archbishop's Castle
   Hall of the Vicars Choral
   Chapter House
   Cross of St. Patrick
2 Dominican Friary
3 Franciscan Abbey (site)
4 Town Defences
5 Urban Tower House
6 Late Medieval Building
7 Sheela-na-gig

8   Church of St. John the Baptist
9   Armorial Plaque
10   Armorial Plaque
11   Sculptured Head, Architectural Fragments and
     Castellated Tower (possible/site)
12   Architectural Fragments
13   Re-used Architectural Fragment
14   Re-used Architectural Fragments
15   Re-used Architectural Fragments
16   Mortars and Architectural Fragments
17   Holy Well (site) 'Lady's Well'
18   Fair Green (possible)
19   Late Medieval Building (possible)

SMR Sites

Unlocated Sites:
Mill and Bakehouse
St. Nicholas' Chantry
Jail (possible)

Streets and Street Pattern
An excavation close to the Main St. frontage revealed several stratified layers between 0.52m and 1.04m below the present ground level, which were interpreted as probably representing medieval house floors.[1]

[1]Hayden, A., 1991, 51-52.

9a: 1   Ecclesiastical Remains "St. Patrick's Rock"

Siting: The Rock is a massive limestone outcrop some 500ft O.D. which dominates the skyline north of the town of Cashel.

Historical Note: The rock first became an important fortress site in the late fourth/early fifth century when it was occupied by Conall Corc of the Eoghanacht dynasty and thereafter it was the seat from which all successive Eoghanacht kings ruled Munster. The principle challenge to their control of the province came from Brian Boru in 976, who by 978 had made himself the undisputed King of Cashel. In 1101, his descendant Muirchertach O'Brien presided over the synod of Cashel and having laid successful claim to the high kingship of Ireland, handed the Rock over to the church to be henceforth used as the see of the archbishopbric of Munster. Among his most influential successors were Cormac McCarthy, who in 1127 commissioned what is now called Cormac's Chapel - a fine romanesque church, and Donal Mor O'Brien who commenced the construction of the great cathedral in 1169. A second synod of Cashel was summoned by Henry II in the winter of 1171-72 in order to reinforce church reform.
The Rock was the subject of many attacks and burnings throughout its history, the most notable of which were Gearoid Fitzgerald's vandalism of the cathedral in 1495 when he set it on fire (because, as he explained to Henry VII, he 'thought the archbishop was inside'), and the firing of the rock by Murrough (of the burnings) O'Brien i.e. Lord Inchiquin during the seige of 13th September 1647.

Despite the destruction wrought by Inchiquin, the cathedral continued in use and piece-meal restoration continued right up to 1730. Following the elevation of the parish church of St. John to cathedral status c. 1749, the Rock was abandoned. As early as 1869 conservation work on the surviving buildings began in earnest.

General Description: The archaeological remains on the Rock comprise a round tower, Cormac's Chapel which is a fine romanesque church, a cathedral, an episcopal tower house, hall of the vicars choral, a chantry or chapter house, Cross of St. Patrick, and a host of monumental tombs in both complete and fragmentary condition. The various components of the rock are described below.

Round Tower: This is situated at the north-east corner of the north transept of the thirteenth century cathedral to which it was connected by a passage. The tower was most likely erected in the twelfth century following the transfer of the site to the church. It is constructed of regularly coursed sandstone with limestone in evidence in the lower masonry courses and was restored by the O.P.W. in 1874-5, at which times most of the masonry was repointed and the conical cap reset. It is presently in excellent state of repair and stands at a height of 27.94m, 4.42m of which is taken up by the cap and is approximately 5.33m in diameter at its base. The original round-headed doorway 1.65m x 0.74m at its base faces southeast and is at a height of 3.28m above ground level. A second doorway situated in the west face of the tower gives access to the connecting triforium passage of the cathedral. Fenestration comprises four single-light windows with pointed heads on the very top floor, just below the cornice, facing northeast, southeast, northwest and southwest respectively and three other rectangular single-lights at various intervals facing north, northeast and southeast.[1]

Cormac's Chapel: Cormac's Chapel was begun in 1127 by Cormac McCarthy and according to the annals was consecrated in 1134. The relative sophistication of this romanesque church with its twin towers, external arcading and the elaborately carved hunting scene on the tympanum over the doorway suggests strong continental influences and indeed there is evidence that Regensburg craftsmen were involved in its construction, although an English derivation is favoured by some scholars.[2] It is a nave and chancel structure, approximately 15m in total length, the nave being 5.10m wide and the chancel only 4.80m with side walls 1m thick. A small apse-like rectangular recess runs off the chancel to the east while a doorway of two orders gives acess to the north tower (over 20m high) at the eastern end of the north wall of the nave, and a smaller round-headed doorway leads to the spiral staircase in the corresponding south tower. Above the barrel vault of the nave there is a bee-hive vaulted chamber formerly of two-storeys, which is known as the croft. The most striking architectural features of the church are the boldly carved chancel arch executed in four orders with a hood-moulding; the groined vault of the chancel with heavy diagonal ribs of half-round section; the ornamental pedimented gable of the north porch and north door in five orders with a hoodmoulding and tympanum with lion-hunting scene. Cormac's Chapel was painted internally. Although quite worn, geometric and floral motifs and a fresco of the baptism of Christ are still distinguishable on the chancel arch, vault ribs and arcade niches.

Sarcophagus: Within the church and lying against its west wall, there is a trapezoidal sandstone sarcophagus, with broken side and end panels, decorated with an Urnes-influenced melange of interlaced animals and short and long snakes executed in false relief. It was formerly in the cathedral and removed to

the safety of the chapel in the last century. It has been dated to the 1120s or 1130s and has been suggested that it was designed to fit against the north wall of another church on the Rock. It may well be the tomb of Tadhg Mac Carthaig who succeeded his brother Cormac as king of Cashel and died in 1124.[3]

The Hall of the Vicars Choral & Dormitory

This two-part structure which has been completely restored by the O.P.W., is attributed to Archbishop O'Hedian's fifteenth century renovations. The Vicars Choral was constructed for laymen who were appointed to assist in chanting the cathedral service. It is divided into two main sections and both are of two storeys. The east section functioned as a dormitory and was lit by four windows on each floor, while the larger western extent housed the main hall of the Vicars Choral and additional chambers. The main hall contains a later seventeenth century fireplace. Its lower floor is vaulted and now used to display carved stonework from the site (see section on exhibits in undercroft).

The Chapter House

A chapter house undoubtedly existed in the seventeenth century as is testified in the chapter-books of the cathedral. It was possibly located to the north of the cathedral chancel. The chapter-books tell us that it was in good condition in 1661 and in 1698 the passage connecting it to the chancel was apparently roofed with 'good timber and slate'. However, by 1755 it had been abandoned and chapter meetings subsequently held in St. John's Church in the town. In 1833 a new chapter house was built and is now used as the premises of the G.P.A. Bolton Library.[5]

St. Patrick's Cross

A replica now occupies the former position of the original cross, south of the cathedral. The original is housed in the vaulted undercroft of the Vicars Choral. The high cross is unique in its appearance. Originally hewn from a single piece of sandstone, it stands to a height of 2.30m and has one remaining upright supporting member under the cross arm. The west face is decorated with a depiction of Christ crucified while the east face displays a panel of interlaced beasts. The massive base (reputed to have been the coronation stone of the Munster kings) into which the cross is tenonned was also decorated . Although it is badly eroded, recessed crosses and squares are discernible on the south face and a large spiral or group of concentric circles can be picked out on the north side. The cross has been dated to the second quarter of the twelfth century.

Archbishop's Palace

This is a very fine five-storey ecclesiastical towerhouse, constructed of randomly coursed limestone, 24m in height, approximately 10m x 5m internally with walls over 1m thick. It was constructed up against the west wall of the nave of the cathedral in the fifteenth century. Among the finer architectural features of the tower house are the barrel-vault over the first floor; a cut-stone oculus window in the west wall of the second floor chamber; The straight-sided steep mural staircase in the west wall; the network of murder holes protecting the second floor chamber and its connection with the northern mural passage of the nave of the adjoining cathedral; the remains of a joggle-jointed limestone fireplace in the east wall of the same room.

Pentagonal Tower

A tower of pentagonal plan connects the archbishop's residence with the cathedral crossing-tower. It houses a well lit broad spiral staircase, the descent of

which leads into the cathedral by a doorway in the south transept. At the top of the staircase there is a sculpted stone head wearing a mitre - presumably that of an archbishop.

Cathedral

The Cathedral is a large limestone structure cruciform in plan, comprising a chancel, nave, a north and south transept, off which run a number of side chapels, a formidable crossing tower at the junction of nave and chancel, and a tower house adjoining it at the west end of the nave. There are a large number of altar tombs and wall memorials within the cathedral the majority of which date from the sixteenth century.

Chancel: The chancel dates from the thirteenth century as is indicated by the characteristic evenly spaced sandstone lancet windows of the north and south walls. There are also a series of small quatrefoil windows set into the wall spandrels above each of the lancets. It is approximately 34m x 10m internally with side walls almost 1.50m thick. Unfortunately the former three-light east window has not survived. There are two other windows, one looking north and the other south onto the courtyard which separates the Cathedral from Cormac's Chapel.

Crossing Tower: The crossing or central tower is a stout impressive structure, 15 square metres in plan internally, composed of randomly coursed limestone. It is borne by four expansive semi-pointed arches in three orders with a hood-moulding springing from heavily moulded piers. Overhead there is a very fine chamfered groin-rib vault and above this a commodious chamber which contains wonderful sculpted corbels bearing animal and human heads. There has been some debate as to the date of the tower. Although it contains a number of ogee-headed windows which are a diagnostic fifteenth century feature, it seems likely that the main structure is of late thirteenth/fourteenth century date -with construction commencing during the archbishopric of Daibhi Mac Cearbhaill.

Transepts: The transepts running off the crossing tower to the north and south are of the same period. They are each approximately 17m x 12m wide and are both lit by a three-light lancets. An additional attractive feature of the north transept main window is a simple openwork quatrefoil set into a round embrasure above the head of the central lancet. A series of windows with semi-pointed heads are set high in the east and west walls of both transepts. They are connected to each other by mural passages which themselves are accessible via two winding staircases on the north and south sides of the crossing tower. Facilitated by steep flights of ascending and descending stairs, these passages run through the walls of the transepts on all sides and down over the eastern tower arch and extend westwards into the sidewalls of the nave.[4] Both transepts have side chapels on their east side. Those in the north transept form external projections and are each gabled and lit by twin lancet windows. The most northerly of the two is called Apostles Chapel and the southern one is known as the Baptistry. The two vaulted chapels in the corresponding south transept dedicated to St. Brigid and the Blessed Virgin, are not additions but are simply created out of the wall thickness. Externally, the northeast and southeast corners of the south transept terminate in elaborate corner piers which have canopied niches for statuary and terminate, above the roof, in octagonal turrets with conical caps.

Nave: The nave is unusually short at approximately 15m in length and is c. 12m wide. It is believed that it may have been shortened during renovations to the building by Archbishop O'Hedian in the mid fifteenth century. It is entered through a heavily moulded semi-pointed limestone doorway on the south west side.

Originally it had an upper floor as is evidenced by the rows of corbels some of which are decorated with heraldic devices of the Butler family.

Monuments
The cathedral houses a large number of recumbent medieval graveslabs, altar tombs, wall tombs and heraldic plaques, concentrating largely in the chancel and transepts.

Nave monuments:
In the north wall there is a trefoil-pointed niche springing from two decorative corbels. The back wall of the niche houses a large sculpted male head and a rectangular plaque bearing the arms of the Sall family. Below this there is the base of a large limestone slab chamfered about its perimeter with no apparent inscription.

In the corresponding south wall and within a window embrasure there is a large elaborately decorated limestone altar tomb resting on a chamfered plinth. The embrasure within which the altar tomb is set is also of interest. The soffit and portion of the upper side-walls are decorated with the fragmentary remains of plaster-work. The soffit design comprises a central star-burst with tassells surrounded by a composition of smaller estoiles, a crescent moon and sun. The east side wall displays the remains of a crucifixion scene and there is a badly eroded escutcheon on the corresponding west side.

Over the head of the doorway leading into the archbishop's tower-house, at the west end of the nave, there is a small limestone shield.

South Transept

Blessed Virgin Chapel:
There is a limestone altar tomb within the north wall of the most southerly of the two eastern side-chapels of this transept i.e. Blessed Virgin Chapel, with a side panel from a separate monument.

North Transept: At the very north end of the transept there are two side panels of a reconstituted altar tomb. In line with this there are two side panels of another reconstituted altar tomb.

Apostle's Chapel:
Within the north wall of the Apostle's chapel (the most northerly chapel of the north transept) there is an end-slab of what may originally have been a double effigial tomb. A niche in the south wall contains two plain piscinas.

Baptistry Chapel:
Within the north wall of the Baptistry (south chapel of north transept) and set into a round-headed niche bearing chevron motif, there is a slab from a tomb chest. The niche in the corresponding south wall houses a recumbent limestone graveslab.

Chancel: The tomb of Archbishop Myler McGrath (d.1621) dominates the eastern end of the south wall of the chancel. It comprises an effigial tomb and memorial plaque set into a round-headed cut limestone recess, with a heraldic plaque incorporated into the masonry below the upper part of the tomb.

In the corresponding position in the north wall of the chancel there is a composite wall memorial erected to the memory of Archbishop Hamilton who held office from 1623 to 1629. The back wall of the recess contains a rectangular limestone plaque. Immediately east of the Hamilton tomb there is a large limestone memorial comprising a tablet bearing a coat of arms and an entablature with a latin inscription surmounted by a moulded cornice.

Plate 9: Myler Mc Grath's heraldic plaque,
cathedral chancel, Rock of Cashel

At the upper eastern end of the chancel there are 25 medieval tapering recumbent slabs, six of which are fragments. Almost all of them are decorated with a full-length cross with fleur-de-lys terminals and have latin inscriptions in gothic lettering about the perimeter. There is one exception to this decorative scheme. In the northeast corner of the chancel there is the lower half of an incised effigial slab. It displays the bottom part of a robe and the feet of a cleric. At the

western end of the chancel there are two recumbent slabs and although they appear on stylistic grounds to be of medieval date, they are both nineteenth century reproductions. The majority of the slabs within the chancel mark the burial places of the various catholic and protestant Archbishops of Cashel.

Monuments In Vicar's Choral

The lower vaulted room contains a large number of architectural fragments and some funerary monuments not only gathered from the Rock but also from former sites in the town such as the Franciscan Friary. The monuments include a thirteenth century head-slab, a sarcophagus and a late thirteenth century tomb effigy originally from the Franciscan Friary (for description of same see Franciscan Friary report). Among the other exhibits are St. Patrick's Cross; a sheela-na-gig; decorative panel with elephant and castle; panels bearing the symbols of the evangelists; an arcaded tomb front from Athassel Priory decorated with four knights; fragment bearing a sejant addorsed crested griffin; fragment decorated with an amphisbaena (African snake) of dragon type, originally from the Adare Manor Collection; and 32 cut-stone architectural fragments including window tracery and engaged columns and bases.

[1]Barrow, L., 1979, 182-85.
[2]De Paor, L., 1967, 134.
[3]Bradley, J., 1984, 14.
[4]Leask, H.G. & Wheeler, H.A., O.P.W.
[5]St John, Rev. D.,1910, 329-9.
[6]Rae, E.C. , J.R.S.A.I., 1971, 21-22.
[7]Hunt, J., 1974, 221-223.
[8]*Ibid.*, 221-223.
[9]*Ibid.*, 221-223.
[10]*Ibid.*, 221-223

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9a: 2 Dominican Friary

Siting: The friary is situated on the east side of Dominic Street in the northwestern area of the town.

Historical Note: St. Dominic's Friary was founded in 1243 by Archbishop David MacKelly of Cashel (d.1252) for the Friars Preachers. A second period of building took place in 1270 with the addition of the south wing. Testimony to the importance of the foundation was its hosting of two General chapters of the Dominican order in Ireland in 1289 and 1307. In the fifteenth century (c.1450) there were some modifications made to the chancel and the south wing - namely the replacement of the thirteenth century windows with the fashionable traceried windows of the time. Following an accidental fire in c. 1480 the greater part of the friary was rebuilt by Arcbishop John Cantwell (d.1483) in return for which he was duely recognised as patron and co-founder. In April 1540 the then Prior, Edward Brown surrendered the Friary. In an inquisition of that time it was described as comprising a church and belfry, a cloister, dormitory, and a chamber with two cellars accompanied by an orchard, three gardens, and a cemetery. In the precints there were nine cottages with six gardens and outside were two messuages with four gardens. In 1543-4 the entire complex was granted to Walter Fleming for a rent of £46.2s.6d.

Description: St. Dominic's comprises the ruined remains of a long rectangular church, orientated east-west, with a crossing tower at the junction of nave and chancel, a south aisle running off the nave and an aisled transept adjoining the former at its southeast end. In addition, the presence of a series of 5 corbels projecting out of the external face of the north wall of the nave and a blocked sandstone doorway on 1st floor level at its west end suggests the former

existence of a claustral building on this side of the church. Likewise there are the remains of a building running east-west adjoining the northern and southern ends of the external face of the east wall of the south transept.

It is essentially a two-period construction, displaying thirteenth and fifteenth century architecture, with later brick and limestone repairs in evidence.

The main fabric of the complex is composed of randomly coursed uncut limestone, with soft yellow sandstone employed for the thirteenth century
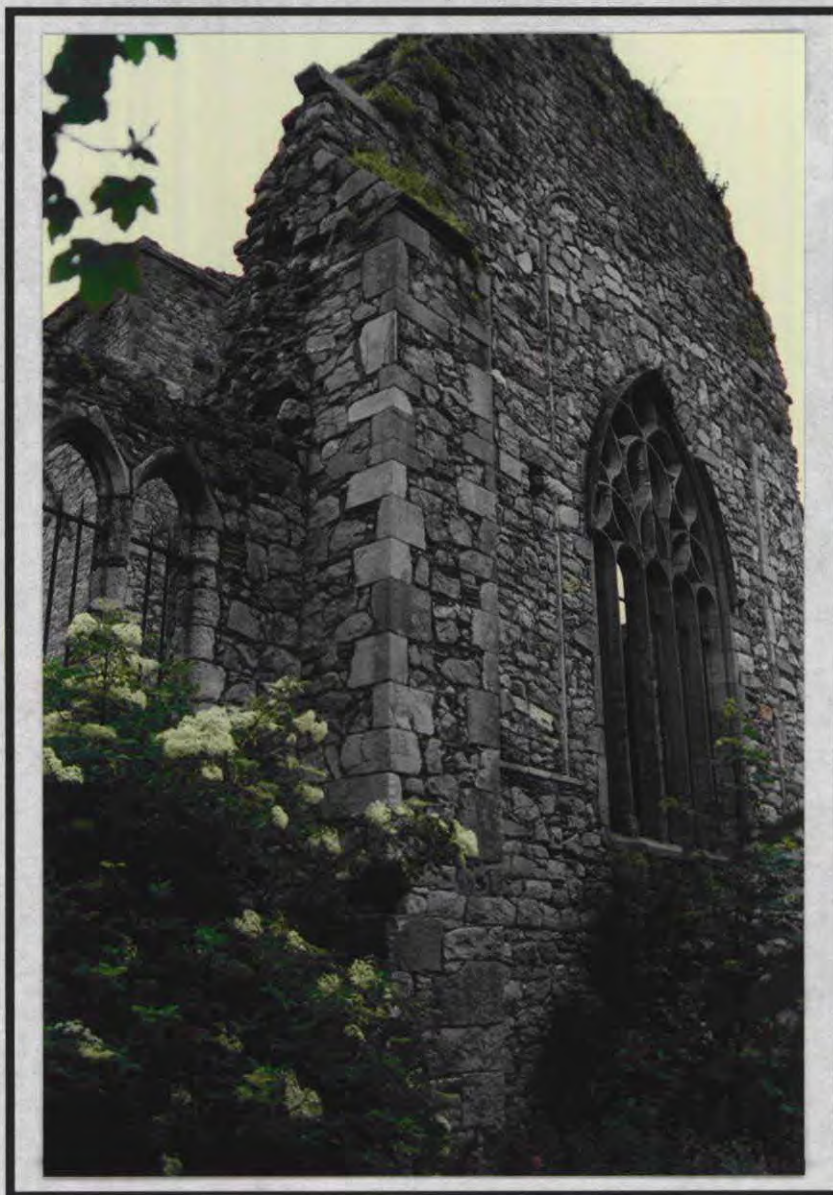
Plate 10: East window of Dominican Priory, Cashel

fenestration and doorways, and cut and dressed limestone prefered in the fifteenth century alterations.

The most architecturally pleasing aspects of the church are the fine crossing tower; the sequential alignment of the pointed single-light sandstone windows of the north and south walls of the chancel; the four-light reticulated traceried east window and the four-light switch-line traceried window in the west gable (which is identical to the east window in the Friary at Moyne Co. Mayo c.1460). Also of interest are the many burials and fragments of medieval and later sculpture within

the church. There are up to 35 gravestones within the church; 13 in the south transept and its aisle, and the nave houses over 20, four of which are tapering recumbent medieval slabs. The remains of a curious stone sarcophagus lie in its northeast corner.[1] There is a sculpted female head and a primitive carving of a male child-like figure (perhaps a portrayal of the child Jesus), and portion of a side-panel of an altar tomb decorated with symbols of the passion, incorporated into the masonry of the north wall of the nave. On the date visited, a very badly worn fragment of a medieval graveslab was observed functioning as a step up into the chancel area east of the crossing tower.

[1]Bradley, J., 1988, 81, fig. 4

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9b: 3   Franciscan Abbey (site)

Siting: The Franciscan Friary was formerly situated east of Friar Street and outside the south-east wall of the town on the site of what is now the Catholic Church and Convent complex. The location of the former site is preserved in the townland name St. Francisabbey in which it was situated.

Historical Note: Also known as Hacket's Abbey, the friary was founded in *c.* 1265 (reign of Henry III) by Lord William Hacket for the Conventual Franciscans. In 1285 Hacket was murdered by the Irish. One of the interesting incidences involving the franciscan community here occured in 1363 when the Guardian Maurice Hamond and three of his friars were accused of assisting one John Bridge in driving away cattle and cutting down timber on the lands of the Lord Chief Justice Sir Robert Preston.
The foundation became Observant in 1538 and in the same year the Archbishop of Cashel Edmund Butler obtained the friary for a small rent. During the course of the dissolution of monasteries, the Cashel friary was seized, but the friars were apparently allowed to stay on. An inquisition of the 7th April 1540 described the precinct as comprising a church and steeple, dormitory, hall, four chambers, kitchen and two gardens, one acre, all in a ruinous state and not valued; the possessions included 18 messuages and gardens, and 16 acres of land, valued at £3 10s. 2d. The friars finally abandoned the premises in *c.* 1550.

Description: There are no extant structural remains of the Franciscan Friary. However, a variety of displaced fragments believed to have come from the site are to be found in a number of places throughout the town and on the Rock itself. There are also some late eighteenth century illustrations and written descriptions testifying to its former extent and structure. In 1791 Francis Grose in his Antiquities of Ireland explained that on the 14th February 1757 the crossing tower of the friary had collapsed and in 1781, the east window along with other features of the establishment were pulled down to acquire building material for private dwellings. He then went on to describe the condition of the friary in 1791 -'This

religious house was situate at the rear of Friar-street, and is now so much gone to ruin, that it is scarcely possible to trace the divisions of the building: what remains
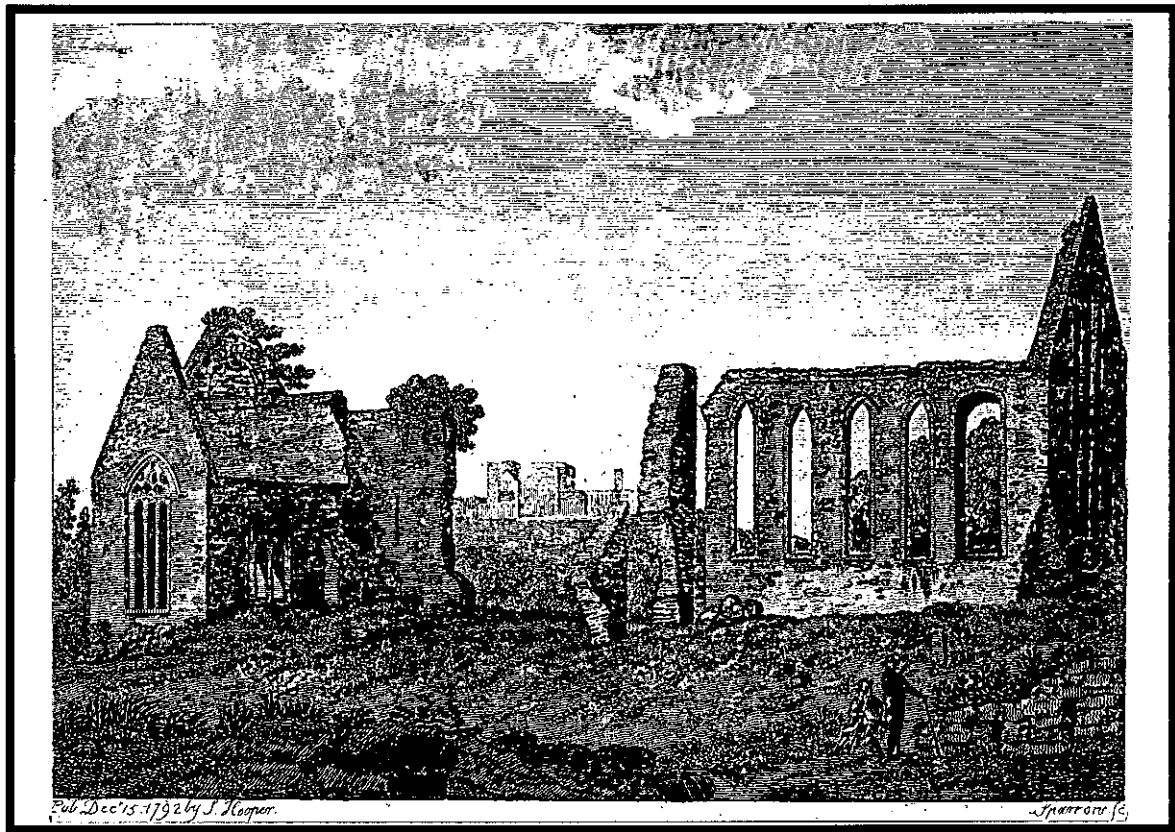
Plate 11: Franciscan Abbey, Cashel (Grose)

measures east and west, one hundred and fifty feet in length, and twenty-five in breadth; on the south side, opposite the centre of this range, is a small chapel, with niches for candles, and a handsome window'. His description was accompanied by a view taken from an original drawing of the friary by Barralet, then in the collection of William Conyngham.

A print housed in the G.P.A. Library, Cashel, shows the ruined friary church drawn by J. Hopper on December 15th 1792. However, this does not appear to be a contemporary drawing as the east window which was pulled down in 1781 is represented. Hopper may have based his drawing on an earlier illustration or alternatively used some artistic licence in his portrayal of the site. His drawing shows a much ruined chancel with a large three-light window, a row of four semi-pointed single-light windows at the east end of the north wall of the chancel and at the very east end of the same wall, a larger window with a depressed head. A transept runs off at a right-angle to the west end of the north wall of the nave. This transept is lit by a semi-pointed three-light window with a hood-moulding with returned stops in its north wall, and a two-light ogee-headed window in its east wall. Neither the side walls of the eastern end of the nave nor the entrance in the west gable are represented.

O'Donovan's survey record for the site is identical to Grose's description, with the minor addition that he mentions the existence of '... several old tomb stones on which are crosses but no inscriptions'. In 1888 John Davis White noted that not a stone of the abbey was still standing, having been replaced by the modern Catholic church. He added that a 'stone coffin' said to be that of Sir William

Hackett was then used as a holy water recepticle and placed at the entrance to the church (see (b) below).

Fragments: The following fragments are reputedly features of the former franciscan friary.

(a) A thirteenth century head-slab now housed in the Hall of the Vicars Choral on the Rock of Cashel, consisting of a limestone tapering slab. The top of the slab is decorated with a projecting male head with curling hair below the ears, while the body bears the remains of the shaft and head of a cross with fleur-de-lys terminals. Portion of a lombardic inscription is visible on the top right-hand side. The upper half of this slab was recorded by Hunt when it was housed in the grounds of the convent.[1]

[1]Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.1, 244-25, Pl.234.
Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.II, Pls. 37 and 103.

(b)   A tapering limestone decorative sarcophagus housed in the hall of the Vicars Choral since 1983, originally found c. 1770 in a crypt of the medieval Franciscan Friary and subsequently placed in the south-west porch of St. John the Baptist's parish church. John Davis White noted its presence there in his 1888 Cashel Guide and suggested that it was made for Sir William Hacket. It has been described by Bradley.[1]

[1]Bradley, J., 1988, 74-94.

(c) The fragmentary remains of a late thirteenth century tomb-effigy of a man also housed in the Hall of the Vicars Choral.   The figure of the layman is set into what was once an elaborate trefoil canopy. The face is missing and there is a large crack between the head and the body. It has been described by Hunt.[1]

[1]Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.1, 244-25, Pl.234.

(d)   In a small shed at the south-southeast end of the nuns' graveyard in the convent grounds there is a collection of architectural fragments (see 15), consisting of four limestone semi-circular engaged columns and a column base, and a badly eroded medieval graveslab.   Among the columns there is a large dressed block of limestone which may be part of a former door-jamb.

(e) In the porch of the Convent school there is a small limestone lugged mortar and a stiff-leaf foliage bosse inserted into a mock semi-pointed niche in a wall. It is likely that both pieces were taken from the remains of the Franciscan Friary.

(f)   The Hacket tombs originally from the Franciscan Friary are now housed in the graveyard boundary of the Church of Ireland church. See monuments at the church of St. John the Baptist (site 6).

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Reynolds, M., 1975, 43.

9a & 9b: 4 Town Defences

Historical Note:
The promotion of Cashel to the status of a borough is attributed to Archbishop Donat O'Lonargan (1216-1223) who apparently gave burgage tenements to the burgesses, reserving to the see a yearly rent of twelve pence out of each burgage. About fourteen years later Archbishop Marianus O'Brien (1224-1238) issued a charter to the reeve and 12 burgesses. Despite its early elevation to borough status, Cashel did not receive a murage grant until 1303-7. An additional grant for five years was furnished on 30th February 1319. It has been suggested that the new town had reached the extent delimited by the town wall before c. 1265. On 20th July 1378 Cashel was exempted from paying murage at Clonmel, most likely because this toll was already being collected within Cashel. The majority of references to the town walls and its gates are for the 17th and 18th centuries and are particularly abundant and informative in the records of Cashel Corporation between 1673 and 1773. The latter records tell us that there were at least five gates - Moor or Our Lady's gate to the north; the east gate variously called Canopy Gate, Upper Gate and Dublin Gate; St. John's and Friar Gate to the south; and the west gate variously called West gate, Lower gate and St. Nicholas' Gate.
In 1677 fortifications which had been erected in the area of Canopy Gate during Inchiquin's seige were deemed dangerous '...and a great impediment to the passage through the said gate for coaches, wagons and all sorts of carriages'. Another reference from the Corporation Book for the same year notes that gates have to be repaired and recommends that a 'little tottering tower in the south corner of St. John's churchyard, being ready to fall, be pulled down...and the corner...be firmly built up with lime and stone, suitable to the rest of the city wall'.
In 1702 the inhabitants of the suburbs without Canopy gate were granted permission to block up the said gate and create a new one -'provided that the new and enlarged passage be secured with 'stone and good mortar' and in 1732 it was decided to take down Lower Gate on the west side of the town as it was apparently dangerous to passengers. By the late eighteenth century the same records tell us that the walls and gates were long since fallen into decay.

Description: The outline of the town wall of Cashel has been described as an irregular heart-shaped area, the circumference of which is a little over a mile in length enclosing approximately 28 acres. The unusual complexity of its shape has been attributed to the need to accomodate the lands of the pre-existing Franciscan and Dominican friaries. Although its line can be traced through the use of 1st and current O.S. maps and to a large extent follows the townland boundary, only ten fragmentary lengths including the northwest, southwest and southeast corners, in varying condition, are now extant, and none of the gates alluded to in the Corporation records survive. It is interesting to note that there is a disparity between the representation of the townland boundary on the 1st ed (1843) and that on the current ed. in regard to the southwestern corner of the town.
There were at least five gates on the town wall. Moor/Our Lady Gate (4a) to the north, Canopy/Upper/Dublin Gate (4b) to the north-east, Friar Gate (4c) in the south-east, John's Gate (4d) in the south and Lower/St. Nicholas'/West Gate (4e) in the west. An eighteenth century stone plaque bearing the inscription 'Moor

Gate', incorporated into a wall on the northeast side of Chapel Lane is all that remains as an indicator of this particular gate, while the location of Lower Gate is preserved in the street of that name on the west side of the town. The best preserved continuous portion of the wall is undoubtedly the southern sector, more specifically the southwest corner and its extension eastwards to St. John's C of I graveyard, the boundary of which is actually co-terminous with the town wall. However, the northwest corner provides us with by far the most comprehensive impression of the former composition and structure of the town wall. The internal face of this segment is best viewed from the grounds of the vocational school and the exterior of same in the cattle mart, east of Lower Gate Street, and in the grounds of Ryan's Hotel. Here as elsewhere throughout its line, the wall is composed of large rough blocks of randomly coursed limestone and the occasional sandstone, with smaller pieces of limestone rubble used as packing and a gritty lime mortar in evidence. It attains a formidable height of 5.50m over the exterior and has a pronounced base batter 2.90m in height projecting out at least 0.30m. A well-preserved sally port or postern gate occurs here in the thickness of the base batter - the only surviving gate feature of the entire town wall. It comprises a two-period spilt-level round-headed arched passage 3.10m deep, 2.25m wide and 2m in height on its internal face. The inner and outer arches of the postern are faced with cut wedge-shaped limestone voussoirs. The soffit of the lower inner arch bears impressions of plank centering indicating an early date while the slightly higher outer arch soffit reveals remains of wicker-work centering of the later medieval period. Another sallyport with 'gothic mouldings' is believed to have existed in the southwest corner of the town wall, more precisely in that stretch of wall which is visible externally in the County Hospital grounds and internally from Tom Flaherty's Paddock south of William Street. However no evidence of this is now visible.

Mural towers were an integral part of town wall defences and Cashel was no exception. One imagines that due to the angular nature of the wall plan there would have been much need for towers and pronounced batters. Unfortunately only one tower remains at the northwest corner (4f) and there is the site of another in the southeast corner of St. John's (4g). The wall was also also equipped with an wall-walk, evidence of which is again visible at the southwest corner. Maximum wall thickness is 3m and the maximum height taken within the yard of Mitchellstown Co-op is 6.40m over the interior. Three exacvations carried out within the urban zone between 1988 and 1990 revealed a length of town wall 1m high and 1.42m in the area adjacent to the Rock of Cashel ; deposits relating to the structure of the wall within the site of Mitchellstown Co-op ; and possible trenches for wall foundations, two hearths, a variety of pits and a collection of thirteenth - fourteenth century pottery sherds also within the Co-op site.

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Long, Rev., R.H., 1897, 149.
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Stevens, S., 1991, 51.
Thomas, A., 1992, 46-48.

9b: 5   Urban Tower House

Siting: The towerhouse is situated on the southeast side of Main Street and is presently a hotel trading under the name Grant's Castle Hotel.

Historical Note: Despite its central location and imposing presence within the heart of the old walled town of Cashel, there is remarkably little written by way of historical commentary on this fine late 15th century towerhouse. It is generally known as Quirke's castle but the Kearney Family have a much lengthier and closer historical association with it. The Kearneys were one of the more dominant Gaelic and catholic Irish families in the town up to the Cromwellian confiscations. Thomas Kearney was Alderman of Cashel in 1640 and Fr. John Kearney was hanged within the towerhouse in 1652. Lord Inchiquin apparently used the castle as a base for his garrison during his seige of the Rock of Cashel in 1647.

Description: Quirke's castle is a well-preserved six storey towerhouse constructed of randomly coursed hammered limestone with neatly cut and dressed quoinstones at each of its four corners, and a pronounced batter approx. 2.50m in height at its base. The walls are over 1m thick and the average internal dimension is 5.15m x 4.85m. The battlements which appear to have been repointed in more recent times have stepped crenellations and the wall-walk although masked with asphalt is still discernible on the northwest and southeast sides of the roof. In the masonry courses immediately below, there are a series of drip-stones, three of which terminate in sculpted human heads with gaping mouths. The former entrance to the towerhouse originally in the northwest wall has been replaced with a large round-headed arch and a wooden and glass panelled doorway. Fenestration comprises a number of loops and at least one single-light ogee-headed window. Much of the interior has been altered to accomodate hotel fittings but features such as spiral staircase, mural passages, vaulting, embrasures and wall-cupboards remain intact.

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 24-25.
Reynolds, M., 1975, 43.

9b: 6   Late Medieval Building

Siting: The building is situated in the grounds of the Super Valu supermarket, immediately southwest of Wesley Square.

Description: This structure was first noted by Mr. Patrick Holland, Curator of the Tipperary S.R. Museum in 1988 during the course of the development of the supermarket site.
The building comprises the very substantial steep-pitched east gable, the east end of the north wall and eastern end of the south wall of what appears to have been a large late fifteenth/early sixteenth century, four-storey domestic building. It is clear that the building originally extended much further to the west, however, the greater part of its western extent is now occupied by a modern concrete-built furniture store. The history of occupancy of the building is quite remarkable in itself, the east end having been used as the coach house of the Old Rock Hotel in the last century and a warehouse in this century, while the west end was used as a garage and finally as a furniture store. It is oblong in original plan, 23.45m east-west x 10.20m north-south and composed of randomly coursed limestone rubble with some brick repair in evidence around window reveals. The best preserved
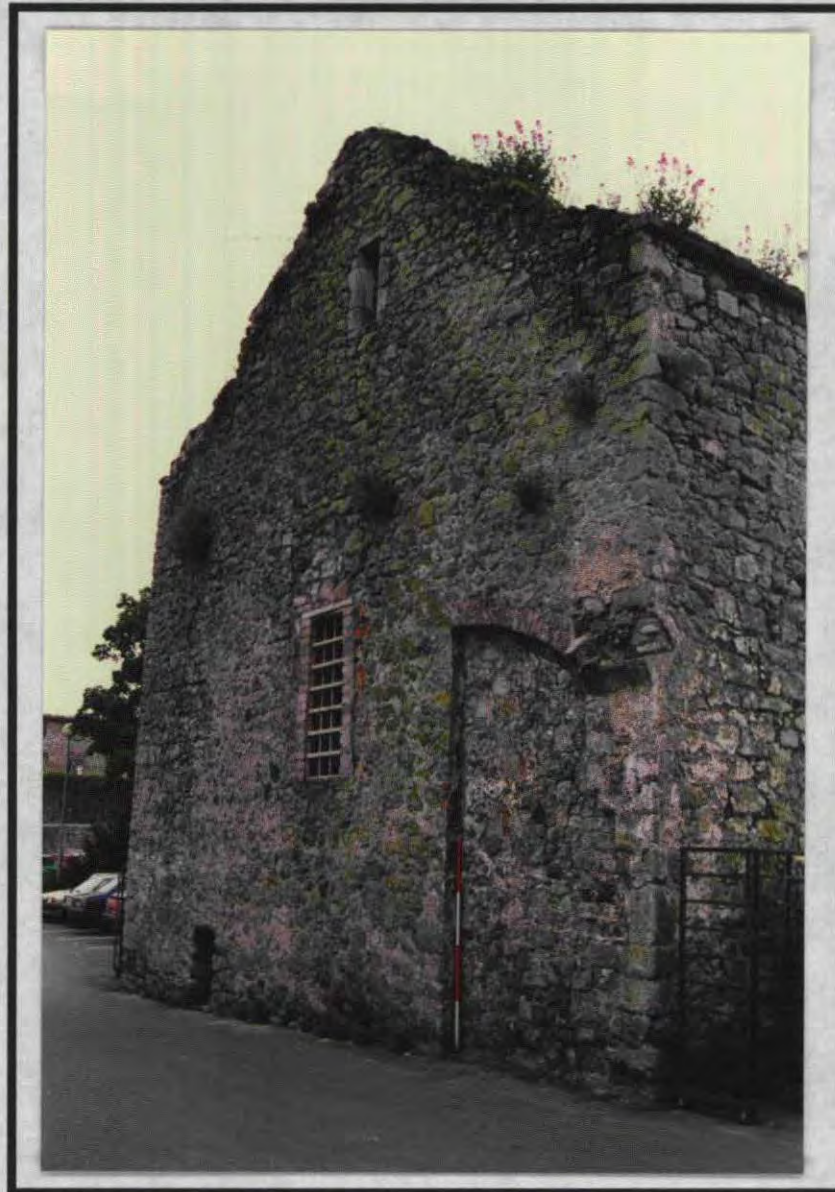
Plate 12: Late medieval building, Cashel

features of the extant east end include a cut and chamfered single-light rectangular limestone window placed centrally on the top floor of the east gable ; the head and western jambstone of a single-light rectangular dressed limestone window in the north wall; two garderobe chutes - one at the base of the south end of the east gable 1m x 0.57m and the other at the eastern end of the south wall; the quoinstones of the northeast and southeast corners; the roof coping along the top of the south wall and the eastern end of the north wall; and finally the springer of what must have once been a gate entrance, incorporated into and projecting out of the quoins on the northeast corner of the building, approx 3.25m above ground level.

Comment: There is disagreement with regard to the western extent of the late medieval building. Mr. McInerney of the furniture store maintains that his premises occupies the total extent of the plan of the former building. This however would make it unusually long, adding a further 8.35m onto the above stated 23.45m estimated E-W length. On the other hand the local chemist who owns the

44

garden property adjoining the building on its south side, believes that it stopped about half way along the length of the present furniture store. The latter theory seems more likely.

All entrances to the building have been blocked off. Survey of the interior was therefore not possible.

9a & 9b: 7 Sheela-na-gig

Siting: Situated on the east face of a quoin stone on the northeast corner of what is now the boilerhouse of the Cashel Palace Hotel. This building was apparently originally constructed in 1733-1740 as the Cashel Diocesan Library and it was presumably at that time that the Sheela-na-gig was incorporated.

Description: This female exhibitionist figure is very crudely executed, comprising a large round head with big protruding ears, a pronounced body with suggestions of a rib-cage, long arms with hands in front touching the vulva and rudimentary legs. The facial features are unclear but seem to include a broad proboscis-like nose. The figure is very lightly incised on the east face of a block of limestone 0.57m x max. 0.31m which was re-used as a quoin stone and located at a height of 1.5m above ground level. The face of the stone is also dressed with diagonal tooling.

Its original location is not known.

General Reference
Dean Woodworth, Cashel, 1993 (Unpublished Notes on Sheela-na-gigs).

9b: 8 Church of St. John the Baptist

Siting: St. John's lies on a slight rise immediately east of John Street and within a southeast angle of the town wall.

Historical Note: The date of the construction of the medieval Parish Church of St. John's, Cashel, is not known. However, Rev. St. John D. Seymour in his work on 'The Chapter Books of Cashel Cathedral' 1910, wrote - 'As far back as 1291 St. John's Church in Cashel is mentioned; and indeed it would seem certain that it had acted continually as the parish church of the city all through the pre-Reformation period'.[1] Regrettably Seymour does not cite his source for the 1291 date and it does not appear to come from the Chapter-books themselves, as those remaining run from 1660/1 - 1758 only. The first direct reference to the site occurs in the Calendar of Ormond Deeds for the year 1463 when we are told that Robert Boyton, Reeve of the Town of Cashel assigned 11d per annum to be paid to the 'Parish Church of St. John the Baptist at Cashel' by William Bary, William Weyton and Donal O'Spelayn and his heirs, all of whom had been granted tenements in the town.[2] However, in a deed of May 4th 1434 we learn that Margaret Brit of Cashel granted a messuage in 'St. John's Street' to John Walsh.[3] The reference to St. John's Street here suggests that the Parish Church of that name was already in existence in 1434.

It was described as being 'well-slated in 1607 and in 1670 it was deemed one of eight churches in the Diocese of Cashel in fit condition for Divine Service. In 1755 it was decided that due to the large number of parishioners (estimated 500), a larger church would have to be built. Shortly after 1758 the old church of St.

John's was demolished and on June 23rd 1763 the first stone of the new (and present) cathedral was laid.

Description: Nothing of the fabric of the former medieval church of St. John's remains. Its site is now occupied by an 18th century church and library and a large rectangular graveyard enclosed by a stone boundary, the south-west, south-east, and greater part of the north-east walls of which are co-terminous with the town wall.
Of interest within the graveyard are three female effigies of the late thirteenth/early fourteenth century, at least one of which is thought to be a representation of a Hackett lady and a fourth male effigy, most likely of a Hackett knight, dating to the first half of the fourteenth century. It is believed that these effigies were originally housed in the Franciscan Friary which was also known as Hackett's Abbey. All four effigies are set into niches in an upright position in the internal face of the eastern end of the northeast boundary, and within the southeast boundary.
In the area immediately southwest of the church there is a collection of recumbent graveslabs most of which on stylistic grounds appear to date to the early modern period; the side-panel of an altar tomb decorated with symbols of the Passion; and the remains of a large composite memorial tomb comprising a pediment bearing the crucified Christ and an impaled coat of arms between two volute brackets almost identical to that on the Market House marriage-stone, and bearing the same initials. In addition, there are a number of architectural fragments and small portions of medieval graveslabs re-used in the masonry courses of the north-west boundary wall and the northern corner of the north-east boundary.

Tomb-Effigies:

Four late thirteenth/early fourteenth century Hackett tomb effigies are placed in upright positions in niches in the churchyard and town walls. Three in the south wall and one in the east wall. Three represent women and one a knight. The effigies were brought here from the Franciscan friary in the eighteenth century.

Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.I, 223; Vol.II, Pls. 14, 26, 27 and 28.

(a) Knight c. 1320: Located at the east end of the southeast boundary wall of the graveyard. Set into a limestone niche with a semi-elliptical head of roughly cut voussoirs. This effigy has been described in detail by Hunt .[4]

(b) Unknown Woman late thirteenth/early fourteenth century: Situated in a similar niche at the eastern end of the northeast wall. This elegant effigy has been described in detail by Hunt [5] (see plate 13).

(c) Woman late thirteenth/early fourteenth century: Located in niche at southern end of southeast wall. See Hunt for detailed description.[6]

(d) Hackett Lady late thirteenth/early fourteenth century: Immediately west of the above and also set back into a niche. See Hunt for detailed description.[7]

Tudor Figure: The body-half only of this limestone male figure remains. It flanks the west side of the entrance to the G.P.A. Library. In its broken state it is no more than 76cm in height. Presented in praying attitude with hands raised and joined

at the breast, the figure wears a pleated gown with wide skirt over a shirt or doublet with padded and ruffed sleeves and narrow ruched projecting collar.

Plate 13: Effigy, St. John the Baptist church, Cashel

Composite *c*.seventeenth century memorial: The remains of this limestone monument comprises five individual pieces which are not necessarily all contemporary or originally from the one monument. The components include - a pediment decorated with the Passion of Christ, an inscribed fragment from a graveslab, and a coat of arms flanked by two individually cut volute brackets. It is placed against the southwest gable of the church, resting on a tiered limestone corner plinth.

Side Panel of Altar Tomb: There is a limestone panel most likely from an altar tomb lying in the gravel kerb southwest of the church. Its details are quite eroded.

Recumbent Graveslabs: Four graveslabs lie in the gravel kerb southwest of the church.

(a) A large limestone rectangular slab 2.48m x 1.10m and 0.06m thick. Very badly eroded and of poor quality limestone. Decorated at its upper end with a centrally placed coat of arms. The shield appears to be charged with three fleur-de-lys. The mantling is quite elaborate and there is a scroll at its base which once possibly bore a motto. The bottom of the slab is decorated with a skull-and-crossbones within a swag. The upper dexter and sinister corners of the slab contain winged cherub heads, the best preserved of which is that on the dexter side. Some lettering is visible but not decipherable at the centre of the slab. No date visible.

(b) A large rectangular limestone slab 2.39m x 0.87m and 0.10m thick. Decorated with a full-length cross with crown-of-thorns head, and cross arms terminating in fleur de-lys terminals, executed in relief. Under the cross arms there is an IHS monogram on the dexter side and what is possibly a winged cherub on the sinister side. The shaft terminates in a Calvary mount bearing a skull-and-crossbones. The dexter and sinister upper corners are decorated with crescent moon and sun, repectively, while the dexter and sinister bottom corner panels contain heater-shaped shields, the dexter one of which is charged with clover-leaf crosses on either side of a dexter bend. The border of the slab bears a badly eroded latin inscription in gothic lettering. No date visible.

(c) Recumbent limestone rectangular slab 2.07m x 0.88m, embedded in the ground. Very badly eroded or may alternatively be lying face down. No decoration or inscription visible.

(d) Tapering recumbent limestone slab 1.96m x 0.50m with chamfered sides. Decorated with slightly off-centre floreated cross with fleur-de-lys at right angles to the main shaft above and below the cross arms. A plain horizontal bar crosses the shaft under the cross head. There is a raised border around the perimeter of the slab. No script or date visible.

Fragments in the Boundary Wall:

(a) A limestone jambstone 0.70m x 0.26m with chamfered triangular stop, located in the upper masonry courses of the north corner of the northwest boundary wall, external face.

(b) Fragment of a sandstone medieval graveslab 0.35m x 0.18m decorated with portion of an incised trefoil or clover-leaf cross. Located in the top masonry course of the west end of the northwest boundary.

(c) Lower half of a tapering limestone medieval graveslab approx 0.27m square, decorated with portion of an incised cross shaft with scrolled terminal. Located in flower-bed kerb running inside and parallel to the northwest boundary wall, internal face.

(d) Fragment of a sandstone graveslab dressed with diagonal tooling and what appears to be a lightly incised portion of a cross head. Located in top masonry course of northwest boundary.

(e) Irregularly shaped block of limestone 0.30m x max. 0.22m, decorated with an unrecognisable incised motif. Located in lower masonry courses of the east end of the northeast boundary, internal face.

(f) Small rectangular block of limestone inscribed with gothic lettering , approx 0.25m in length, functioning as a voussoir in the carriage arch entrance to the graveyard, north corner. This is clearly a fragment of the border inscription of a former medieval/early modern graveslab.

[1]Seymour, Rev. St. John D.,1910, 336-38.
[2]Ormond Deeds, Vol III, 1413-1509, 195.
[3]*Ibid.,* 105
[4]Hunt, J., Vol. I, 1974, 223.
[5]*Ibid.,* 224
[6]*Ibid.,* 224
[7]*Ibid.,* 224.

General References
Bradley, J., 1985, 44-45.
Long, Rev. R.H., 1897, 93-95.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 145 (400).

9a & 9b: 9   Armorial Plaque

Siting: Incorporated into the masonry of the external face of the southeast wall of the mid-nineteenth century Market House, on the northwest side of Main Street.

General Description: This plaque comprises a rectangular block of cut limestone decorated with a heater-shaped shield surmounted by a crest and surrounded by mantling terminating in tassells. This particular plaque is a marriage stone which bears the initials I S and M C and the date 1631 in raised lettering. The shield is impaled, the sinister containing the arms of the wife M C charged with a bend decorated with rosettes alternating with trefoils slipped, between two clover-leaf crosses. The dexter contains the arms of the husband I S charged with two fleur-de-lys and a crescent, the latter being a mark of cadency indicating a second son. The crest consists of a pelican in her piety issuing from a gentleman's helm.

General Reference
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 23.

9a & 9b: 10   Armorial Plaque

Siting: The plaque is situated on the 1st floor of the southeast facade of nos. 104-105 (currently John Feehan's pub), on the northwest side of Main Street. It is incorporated into the masonry of the building and flanks the central sash window on its west side.

Historical Note: The inscription on the plaque reads - 'Thomas Archiepiscopus Cashelensis $A^{\underline{o}}$ Domini 1647'. The Archbishop in question is Thomas Walsh, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cashel who was born in Waterford, educated initially for a commercial career under Portugese masters and the Fathers of the Society of Jesus in Lisbon and subsequently for the priesthood at the Irish College in Salamanca. Having served in the diocese of Waterford for twenty years, he was consecrated in Rome on June 7th, 1626 and died and was buried 5th May 1654 in the Church of St. James, Compostella. He was a contemporary of Archibald Hamilton, Protestant Archbishop of the diocese (1630-1659). The date on the plaque neither alludes to his consecration nor his death but is possibly a commemoration of the endowment of a building by him, as he vigorously restored and refitted many Protestant churches for Catholic worship in the relatively tolerant atmosphere immediately following the Confederation of

Kilkenny (1642-49). It may also refer to the completion of an ecclesiastical college for the town which he apparently financed in the years before the Confederacy. Walsh was active in the Assembly of Catholic Confederates at Kilkenny between 1642-1649. Encouraged by Rinuccini, the Papal Legate, he and others of the Catholic clergy rejected the 'Ormond Peace' in February 1647, and in 1648 he petitioned the Assembly with regard to the injustice of one of his Protestant predecessors Myler McGrath having surrendered to the Crown the power of the Archbishopbric of Cashel, for personal gain. He sought the restoration of those lands and powers alienated to the Crown by McGrath and other Protestant Archbishops.

Description: The plaque is executed in limestone with a diagonal seam of quartz running through its upper half. It measures 63cm x 48cm and is framed within a cable moulding. The shield is heater-shaped and is charged with a chevron and two over one upright pheons. The crest comprises a cross with clover-leaf terminals surmounted by what appears to be a ring collar. The mantling consists of a chord knotted and tasselled, while the latin inscription is written in plain raised script in two lines at the base of the plaque. Its surface is lightly dressed with linear tooling. According to the proprietor it was painted at one time and has since been stripped of same. Its original location is not known but it is in its present position for at least a century.

9b: 11 Sculpted Stone Head, Architectural Fragments and Castellated Tower (possible/site)

Siting: The sculpted head, architectural fragments and the site of the possible tower are situated in the southwest boundary wall of Burke's Lane which itself runs northwest-southeast at a right angle to the south side of Main Street, Cashel.

Historical Note: The features listed above appear to have gone unnoticed or at least unrecorded until February 8th 1938 when the site was visited on behalf of the National Museum by Miss Mary Birmingham and Mr. Joseph Raftery. Raftery described the sculpted head as being '...embedded in the wall of a castellated tower...'. This tower (if it ever existed) is no longer in evidence.

Description: (1) Stone Head: The limestone head of a c.thirteenth century male civilian is incorporated into the upper masonry courses of the southwest wall of Burke's Lane, at a height of 3.10m above ground level. It is more accurately described as a bust as it does include head, neck and a small portion of the shoulders and chest. It is possible that it is all that remains of a former full-length tomb effigy. It is 0.40m in length and is in reasonably good condition. The facial features include oval-shaped eyes, a straight mouth and a badly-chipped nose and chin. The curling hair falls just below the ears and is not unlike the hairstyle of the male civilian portrayed on the head-slab in the Vicar's Choral. The civilian wears a large ring-brooch placed centrally on his chest. This feature is quite similar to the ring brooches worn by two of the Hackett female effigies in the grounds of the Church of St. John the Baptist. Both of these effigies are dated by Hunt to the late thirteenth/early fourteenth century. On the basis of his brooch, the Burke's Lane figure may perhaps be dated to the same period.

(2) Architectural Fragments: Two jambstones from a doorway or window have been reused in the southwest wall of Burke's Lane. The first of these is a large cut

and dressed block of limestone 0.28m x 0.37m (most likely the base of a side-stone of a window or door-jamb) with a hollow chamfer running its length and terminating in a triangular pointed stop. It now functions as a quoin-stone. The
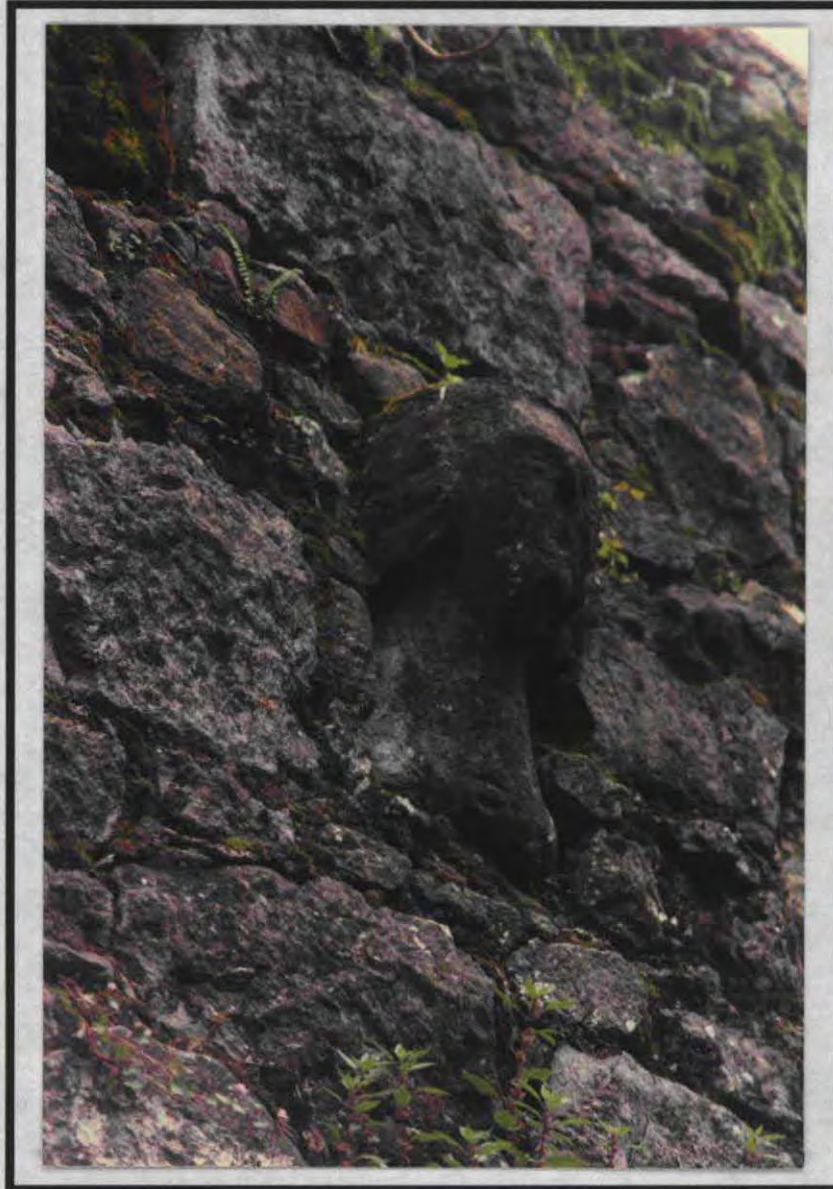
Plate 14: Sculpted head, Burke's Lane, Cashel

second piece is located in the lower masonry courses of the same wall. It is of limestone 0.56m x 0.17m, chamfered and terminating in a chamfered triangular stop. The oiginal location of these fragments is not known.
(3) Castellated Tower: The only indication that such a building existed is Raftery's reference to it in 1938. Unfortunately he did not record it in any detail. The wall in which the sculpted head and re-used architectural fragments are presently inserted is not of any antiquity.

National Monuments Topographical Files, 1938.
 Hunt, J., cat. no. 235, photo no. 103.

9b: 12   Architectural Fragments

Siting: There are two lugged mortars incorporated into the 'Ave Regina Viatrix' (1918) grotto on the north side of the churchyard of the Catholic Church northeast of Friar Street.

Description: The lugged mortars are almost identical. They are both executed in undressed limestone, and are presently used as plant holders within the grotto. One is 22cm in overall diameter, 20cm deep with a rim 3cm thick and lugs projecting out 6cm. The second piece is 24cm in diameter, 15cm deep with a rim 2.5cm thick and lugs also projecting 6cm. The side of the bowl of both mortars is perforated, most likely done in more recent times perhaps to attach them to a wall. Both of these mortars were apparently taken from the old Franciscan Friary.

9b: 13   Re-used Architectural Fragment

Siting: The reused archstone is lodged in the northwest corner of the gable of a house at the junction of John Street and William Street.

Description: This fragment is most likely the remains of a window-head or arch and was re-used in modern times as a jostle stone protecting the northwest corner of a house facing out onto John Street. It is of limestone, chamfered on its inner edge and it contains two glazing-bar holes.
Its original location is not known.

9b: 14   Reused Architectural Fragments

Siting: Two architectural fragments reused as quoinstones in the south corner of the southwest gable of a premises (presently McInerneys Gift Shop) on southeast side of Main Street, at its lower east end.

Description: The upper of the two architectural fragments, reused as quoins, is a large chamfered limestone door jamb dressed with pocking. The lower member is a large limestone corbel inserted on its side.
The former location of these fragments of medieval stonework is not known.

9b: 15   Architectural Fragments

Siting: In a small shed at the south-southeast end of the nuns' graveyard in the convent grounds.

Description: There is a collection of architectural fragments, consisting of four limestone semi-circular engaged columns and a column base, and a badly eroded medieval graveslab.   Among the columns there is a large dressed block of limestone which may be part of a former door-jamb. It is probable that these are surviving fragments from the franciscan friary.

9a: 16 Mortars & Architectural Fragments

Siting: Two mortars and nine window fragments within backyard of Cashel Folk Museum, on west side of Chapel Lane.

Description: The museum curator informed the Urban Survey that the following items had come from the convent grounds, in other words the site of the franciscan friary.
One of the lugged mortars is in poor condition, its bottom having fallen out and it is cracked through its middle. It is executed in limestone, quite squat and roughly hammered internally and equipped with four lugs. It is 26cm in overall diameter with a lip 3cm thick and stands 16cm high. Its companion is also of limestone but is smaller, not dressed, and in much better condition. It is 19cm in overall diameter with a lip 2cm thick and an internal depth of only 8cm. Again it has four lugs.
In addition to the mortars, there are nine sandstone window fragments some of which are dressed with diagonal tooling all assembled as one window in the museum's church reconstruction in the yard.

9a: 17 Holy Well (site) 'Lady's Well'

Siting: The site of the original Lady's Well was in a field at the junction of Lady's Well Street and Bohereenglass. The present well, although channelled from the same stream as the original, is a recent monument erected at the junction of the main Dublin and Holycross roads.

Description: According to Mr. Michael Devitt of Lady's Well, the original well was totally covered during the construction of a large housing development on the site during the 1950s. No trace of it is now visible.

9a: 18 Fair Green (possible)
Located at the north east end of the town on Ladyswell Street.
Cashel was granted an annual fair in 1228.[1]

[1]Bradley, J., 1985, 44.

9b: 19 Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: This house is situated on the southeast side of Main Street and is set back from the streetline. It is presently called 'The Bailey' and is used as a guesthouse and restaurant.

Description: It is a five bay, three-storey over basement house with a t-shaped plan. The walls average 0.65m in thickness. It is presently rendered with plaster and the rear of the building was formerly hung with slates. The cut limestone roof coping is still in position and the centrally placed narrow rectangular doorway approached by a series of broad limestone steps are original to the building. Internally, a number of alterations have taken place, however the original staircase which is 1.1m wide remains *in situ*.

A heart-shaped datestone (which appears to be modern), placed on the façade at top floor level claims a 1709 construction date for the house.

SMR Sites within the Urban District Boundary
(see SMR constraint maps and manual)

Sheet No.	SMR No.	Site Type
61	71	Road
61	135	Enclosure (possible)

UNLOCATED SITES

Mill and Bakehouse

Located on Friary St.
In an inquisition of James I there is a reference to one Patrick Conway who owned a mill and bakehouse on Friary Street.[1]

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, 145 (400)

St. Nicholas' Chantry (possible / site)

Siting: St. Nicholas' Chantry was apparently located in the immediate area of the present P.O. (Main street to Lower Gate Square) at the west end of Cashel.[1] L.M. McCraith suggests that it was located 'a little to the east of the old Barracks, at the back of the houses, some old walls may be traced which are the remains of St. Nicholas' Chantry, now demolished'.[2]

Historical Note: The chantry was founded by Archbishop David Mac Carwill in the late 13th century for the support of an existing leper hospital which had been established by Sir David Latimer earlier in that century.[3] The chantry was dedicated to St. Nicholas and was also attended by the monks of Hore Abbey.

Description: There are no extant remains of this structure visible in the area of the old barracks.

[1]Lee, G.A., 1966, 23.
[2]McCraith, L.M., Cashel of the Kings, (no date), 49.
[3]Gwynn, A. & Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 347.

General References
Bradley, J., 1985, 45.
Jackson, R.W., 1957, 18.

Jail (possible)

Siting: Beside the church of St. Nicholas.

CASHEL

Description: According the Jackson, "1275. Erection of a gaol in Cashel beside the Church of St. Nicholas".

Jackson, R.W., 1957, 19.

CLONMEL

Claaín Meala meaning honey meadow

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1205/06   Clonmel was granted to William de Burgo,[1] whose son, Richard, probably founded the town.[2]

1225   Henry III granted Richard, the right to hold an annual fair in the town.[3]

1265   Otho de Grandison was granted the manor of Clonmel and also appointed sheriff.[4]

1298   A murage grant was made to finance the building of the town wall. Further grants were made throughout the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.[5]

1328   Clonmel became the headquarters or *caput* of the County Palatine, an administrative area controlled by the Earls of Ormond.[6]

1338   The manor of Clonmel was sold to Maurice Fitzgerald, 1st Earl of Desmond.[7]

1516   Clonmel was besieged by the Earl of Kildare.[8]

c.1531   The manor of Clonmel was conveyed as a dowry to the Butlers of Ormond by a Fitzgerald bride.[9]

1608   Clonmel became a free borough by royal charter.[10]

1647   The Supreme Council of the Confederation of Kilkenny assembled in Clonmel.[11]

1650   Cromwell laid siege to the town.[12]

1665   500 families were brought from Canterbury by the Duke of Ormond to initiate a woollen industry in the town.[13]

1662   The Palatinate was restored to the Duke of Ormond by the restored king, Charles II.[14]

1712   The County Palatine was extinguished by Act of Parliament.[15]

[1]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975.
[2]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 172-74.
[3]*Op. cit.*, 1975.
[4]*Ibid.*
[5]Bradley, J., 1985, 45-48.
[6]*Op. cit.*, 1975.
[7]*Ibid.*
[8]Power, Rev. P., 1908, 6-7.
[9]*Op. cit.*, 1975.
[10]*Ibid.*
[11]*Op. cit.*, 1967, 172-74.
[12]*Op. cit.*, 1908, 6-7.
[13]*Ibid.*
[14]*Op. cit.*, 1975.
[15]*Ibid.*

General References
Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 242-53.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 69-79 (209-39).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

By the seventeenth century Clonmel consisted of the medieval walled town plus three inter-connecting suburbs to the east, west and north.[1] The east suburbs extended down to a lane called "Bohir Mullinneparky", the west suburbs extended from the West Gate to a lane called "Borinenenardchysy" or Chiefe Rent Lane.[2] Towards the end of the seventeenth-century a number of weavers were brought from England to assist in the setting up of their trade in Clonmel. These were housed in Bolton St. (formerly Weaver' Row).[3]
Though the medieval street pattern in Clonmel remains largely intact, some streets have disappeared entirely. For instance, the section of O'Connell St. between the Bridge St. junction and the West Gate was originally two streets with a row of houses in the middle, called Middle Row.[4]
The wealth of the town in the seventeenth century is demonstrated by the fact that almost a quarter of the houses in the town were taxed for more than two hearths.[5]

[1]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 11-12.
[2]Simington, R.C., 1931, 385.
[3]Op. cit., 1975, 11-12.
[4]Ibid.
[5]Smyth, W.J., 1991, 167-69.

1   Church 'St. Mary' and Graveyard/Late Medieval Buildings (site)
2   Bridge 'Old Bridge'
3   Town Defences
4   Church 'St. Stephen's' and Graveyard/Hospital
5   Church 'St. Nicholas'
6   Franciscan Friary
7   Main Guard
8   Castle (site)
9   Market Cross Base
10 Late Medieval Building
11 Late Medieval Building
12 Late Medieval Building (possible)
13 Late Medieval Buildings
14 Dominican Priory (possible/site)
15 Late Medieval Building (possible)
16 Heraldic Stone (site)
17 .Penal Chapel (site)/ Monument
18 Late Medieval Building (site)
19 Holy Well (possible) 'Toberaheena'
20 Mills (possible)
21 Burials
23 Armorial Plaque
24 Burials

SMR Sites

Unlocated Sites:
Castle and Tenements (site)
Carmelite Friary (possible/site)

Hospital (site)
Mound (possible), Oldbridge
Medieval Building (site)
School (site)
Medieval Buildings
Weir (possible)
Holy Well (possible/site), Oldbridge

11a: 1 Church 'St. Mary' and Graveyard/Tower House/Late Medieval Buildings (site)

Siting: Located in the north-west corner of the town wall, west of Mary Street.

Historical Note: The parish church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or 'Our Ladye of Clonmell', which was its more popular appellation, dates to the thirteenth century. The initial foundation, of which there are no upstanding remains, is attributed to William de Burgh or alternatively his son Richard. The earliest reference to the church is contained in a letter from Abbot Stephen de Lexinton who preached in St. Mary's in August 1228, on the occasion of his
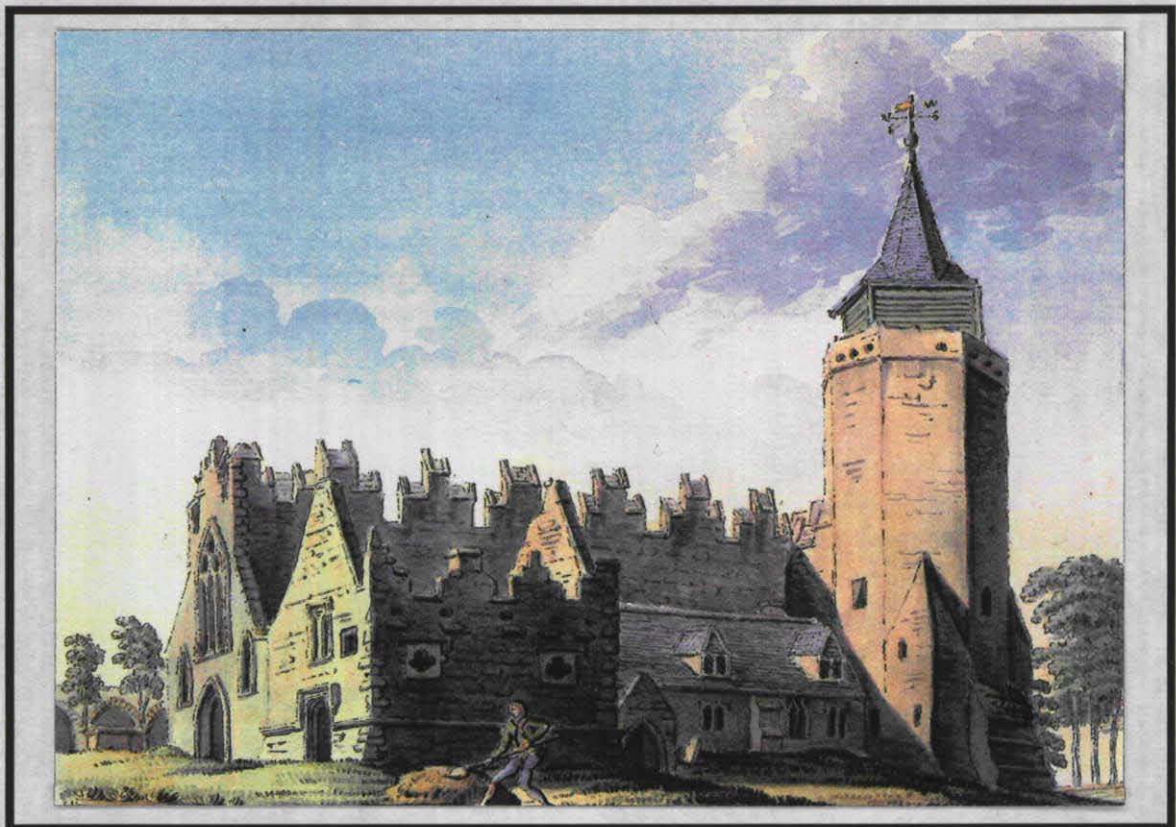
Plate 15: St. Mary's church, Clonmel (Grose)

visitation of the nearby Abbey of Inishlounaght.[1] In the late 14th century the town was almost continuously besieged by the Irish, leading James Earl of Ormond to exclaim in 1385 that the citizens of the town had been unable to attend divine service in their parish church in the accustomed manner due to the poor state of repair of the building.

In response to the need for greater safety, a fortified church was built on the site in the late fourteenth century / early fifteenth century. A sketch by Daniel Grose in the late eighteenth century provides an excellent impression of the fifteenth century structure prior to its extensive renovations in 1805 and its total rebuild in 1857. The White Mortuary Chapel (1622-3) is shown as are the crenellated battlements which crowned the side-walls and the gable ends, the wooden fleche and belfry which formerly surmounted the octagonal tower and the dormer windows of the aisles.[2] Burke in his 'History of Clonmel ' describes in some detail the structural changes of 1805. The east gable of the chancel, which was originally aligned with the end wall of the present vestry, was set back, shortening the chancel by 29 feet; the White Chapel was demolished and a new porch constructed at the west end of the church; the top storey of the tower was taken off

Plate 16: Seventeenth century graveslab, St. Mary's church, Clonmel

and the present octangular pile raised on it.[3] Internally, the north and south galleries were removed. The bells of St. Mary's dated 1697 were left in place. In 1857 the church was almost entirely rebuilt .

Description: St. Mary's is an extensive complex of church buildings executed in sandstone and presently comprising a nineteenth century church which retains its c. 1500 east and west windows; an octagonal belfry 4.22m N-S x 4.40m E-W, of which the lower half only is medieval in date; a four-storey towerhouse 6.30m E-W x 4.67m N-S; a large collection of sixteenth & seventeenth century graveslabs both within the church and throughout the attendant graveyard. Among the most interesting of these are the large limestone graveslabs of John Striche and his wife Margaret Smith dated 1625 and the late seventeenth century Hutchinson family slab, both within the church. The graveyard contains approximately a dozen seventeenth century graveslabs some of which were re-used. Among the most curious of these is a plain rectangular sandstone slab bearing the inscription 'N. L. ET SOC' which apparently commemorates eight Jesuits who were massacred in 1625. There is a limestone window stop (1a), similar to those of the west porch window, decorated with vine leaf and interlaced tendril incorporated into the upper masonry courses of the external face of the southeast corner of the boundary of the graveyard. In 1857 numerous architectural fragments of the early church were uncovered, the "entire area of the church seemed to be paved with old monuments"[4] and a skeleton with head pointing east, a wooden cross on the breast, and leather buskins on the feet, ornamented with rosettes, was discovered beneath the foundation of one of the piers.[5]

In the churchyard there were a number of dwellings. The Vicars house and a school was situated on the south side and a slate stone building which was used as a hospital "for old impotent decayed inhabittants of Clonmell" was located on the east side.[6]

[1] Shee, E. & Watson, S.J., 1975, 23-28. .
[2] Stalley, R. (ed.), 1991, 96-97, Pls.XVIII, XIX.
[3] Burke, Rev. W.P. 1907, 263-271.
[4] Graves, Rev., J., 1857, 359-61.
[5] Anon, JRSAI, 1856-57, 361.
[6] Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, 387.

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 32.
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 27.
Harbison, P., 1970, 225.
Hunt, J., 1974, Vol.II, Pls.167, 336.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 173.
Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 252.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 73 (220).

11a: 2   Bridge 'Old Bridge'

Historical Note: On the 12th January 1355, Clonmel received a pontage grant from Edward III. [1] There is no record of the exact location of this 14th century bridge, but it is likely that it forded the Suir in the place where Oldbridge now stands. Bridge Street is mentioned as early as 1388. [2] The Down Survey map of

1656 provides a perspective sketch of the walled town indicating the bridge to the south. In the eighteenth century it was represented on Moll's map of 1714 as an integral part of the principal road leading to Dungarvan and Cappoquin and in 1748 it was described as a "very spacious bridge over the Suir ... of twenty arches[3].

The oldest portion of this bridge to have survived is that part now known as "Old Bridge". According to Lyons this three arch bridge, originally 5.5m wide, was widened by a third of the present width about the middle of the eighteenth century.[4] He states that the bridge piers are "in their ancient state on the west side.

In 1830, a Mr. Hughes, a miller in the town, removed a portion of a building projecting onto the roadway, at the south end of the bridge. This widened the bridge on the down-river side, and it was at this time that the new parapet with its neatly executed coping was added.

Description: Old Bridge is a three-span slightly hump-backed structure with two large cut-waters , trapezoidal in plan, on its east and west faces. The cut-waters on the east side have an edge to them while their western companions are blunted, being square. The bridge is 24.5m in length and 8m wide, and is composed of randomly coursed sandstone, limestone and some granite. The parapet is 1.2m high and 55cm broad. The arch-rings are almost semi-circular and comprise a series of closely set, cut wedge-shaped voussoirs. The regularity of the arch-rings suggests a construction date no earlier than c. 1750.[5] However, the stout piers and the span to pier ratio are clear indicators of an earlier structure, onto which the later features such as parapet and arch-rings were added.

[1]Rec. Comm. Ire., 1889, 59.
[2]Ormond Deeds 1350-1413, no. 289.
[3]O'Keefe, P. & Simington, T. 1991, 158.
[4]Lyons, P., 1909, 290.
[5]Op. cit.,1991, 158.

11a: 3 Town Defences

Historical Note: The earliest recorded murage grant for Clonmel is for the year 1298, bestowed upon the town by Edward I for a ten year period. Subsequent grants were made in 1316, 1319, 1356, 1364 and in 1409 Henry IV authorised a thirty year grant.[1] Testimony to the importance of the wall to the town was the fact that tolls were actually levied on the people for the maintenance of the South Gate and the repair of the walls in 1463.[2] It appears that the walls were also well-maintained throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. William Camden, including Clonmel in his 1587 travelogue 'Britannia', described it as being 'well fortified'[3] and in 1608 with the inauguration of the Corporation of the town by James I, it was remarked that '...great and frequent costs are expended' on the amendment and repair of the walls.[4] The Down Survey map illustrates the medieval curtain walls and towers surrounding the town, with an inner wall built diagonally across the southeast corner. Cromwell's seige of Clonmel in 1650 initiated the decline of the walls. A large breach was made during the bombardment of the town which apparently caused considerable damage.[5] In

the late seventeenth century the walls were reinforced by the addition of artillery defence works, outside gates and corner towers all of which were constructed by the Williamite forces and indicated on J. Goubet's 1690/91 map of the town.[6]

Description: The town wall of Clonmel formerly enclosed a roughly rectangular area of 14 hectares, with a projection at the northwest corner demarcating the boundary of St. Mary's C of I. The Civil Survey of the 1650s described the town as being 'walled about with a stone wall of lyme and stone, with severall Turretts'.[7] The upstanding remains of this once extensive and formidable structure comprises its northwest corner which is co-terminous with the north and west boundary walls of St. Mary's C of I, accompanied by the remains of three mural towers in varying condition. A fourth mural tower, but much modified in the nineteenth century, accompanied by a substantial stretch of wall is intact at the southern end of the west side. According to Goubet's map there were at least six mural towers, while documentary sources indicate that there were a total of six gates, namely the North Gate (3a) variously called Lough Gate and Breech Gate, formerly located in Gladstone Street; Mary's Gate or postern (3b) at the entrance to Mary Street; the East Gate (3c) also called Kilsheelan Gate in Mitchell Street; Water Gate (3d); the South Gate also called Bridge Gate (3e); and finally West Gate which was reconstructed in 1831 (3f).[8]
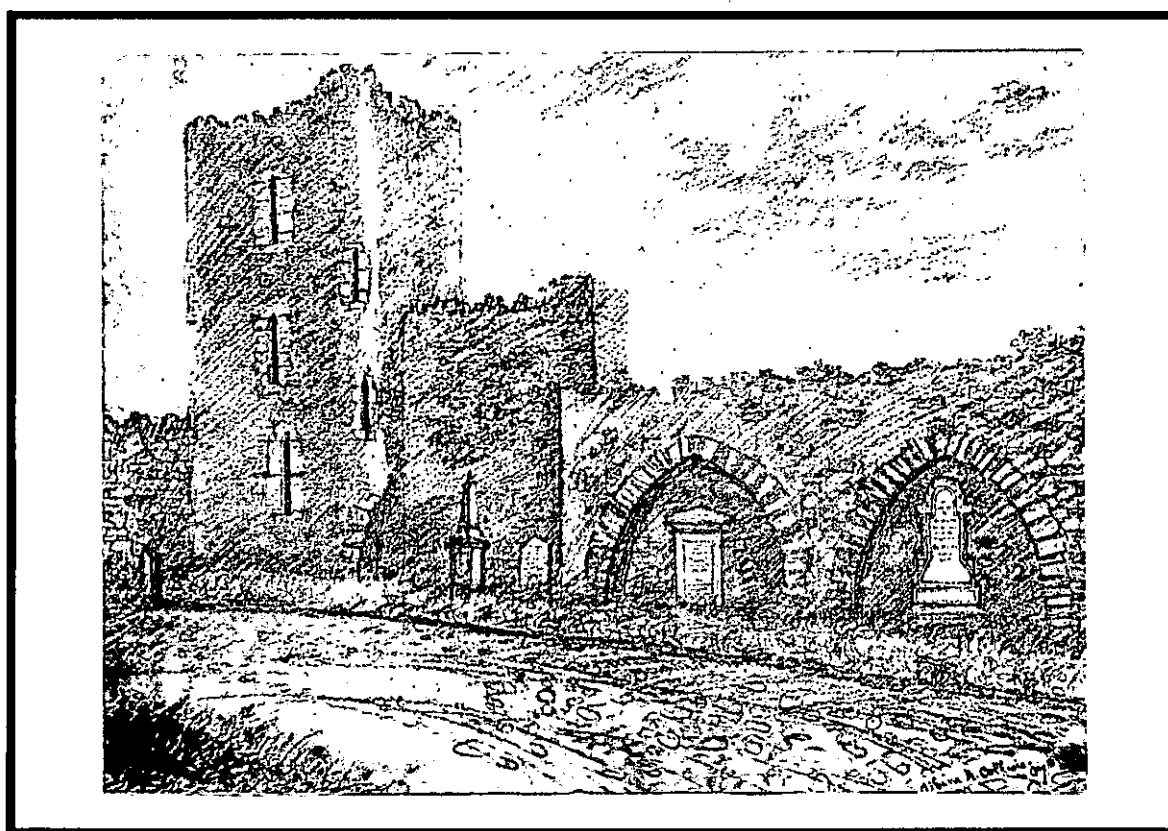
Plate 17: Section of town wall with tower, Clonmel (after Burke)

Goubet also drew at least six bastions on his map (indicated on constraint map as blue projections) two of which are positioned in the northwest corner, another mid-way along the east wall and three more at the main land gates.[9]

62

Elsewhere along its projected course, our knowledge of the direction of the wall and its defenses is drawn largely from recent archaeological excavations, Goubet's map of 1690/91 and gleanings from historical sources. In the past three years excavations have yielded evidence for the northeast corner of the town defenses in the form of a circular mural tower at the junction of Emmet Street and Kickham Street, with its attendant southern extension of town wall, a 19m length of which was exposed in February 1993;[10] In addition, a portion of the southern end of the west wall accompanied by an extra-mural ditch (3k) *c.* 8m wide, was uncovered at Dowd's Lane in July 1992.[11] In April 1993 a circular mural tower was also excavated at the southern end of Dowd's Lane establishing what is the southeast corner of the town wall.[12] This tower was again indicated by Goubet on his 1690/91 map.
Investigations at Old Quay in July 1993, along the projected line of the southwestern end of the wall did not produce any evidence for same.

The upstanding walls are constructed largely of randomly coursed limestone rubble and are on average 2m thick, attaining a maximum height of 6m over the exterior at west. There is a notable absence of any significant base batter. The upstanding towers are almost entirely composed of sandstone and the three on the northwest side have been dated to the fifteenth century.[13] The extant features of the town wall include evidence for a wall-walk at the western end of the north wall, and in the stretch of town wall flanking the tower in Hickey's Bakery field, there are three shot-hole loops and one plain rectangular loop, now blocked up. Also of interest are a series of semi-pointed niches on the internal face of the wall at northwest measuring 1.90m in height, 2.55m in width and 93cm deep. These were constructed to provide support for the wall-walk and were re-used as tombstone niches from the eighteenth century onwards.

The tower at northeast (3g), the eastern half of which was recently uncovered, is circular in plan, 5m in height over present ground level, with an internal diameter of 3.60m and wall thickness of 1.94m. It is composed of sandstone rubble and retains just one feature - a rough rectangular loop looking to the northeast. The best preserved of the towers are those at northwest. That at the northwest corner (3h) is quite squat, rectangular in plan with excellent quality sandstone masonry, particularly at the quoins. Its southeast corner is flanked by a buttress, while at the base of the east face there is a vaulted porch entrance.
A little further south on the west wall and still within St. Mary's C of I grounds there is a second tower. (3i) It is more slender than the above and is rectangular in plan with rounded corners. Again the sandstone masonry is of a high quality. The exterior of this tower is best observed from Hickey's Bakery field. From this side one can see that the tower was re-used as a gazebo/garden feature in the last century, at which time the entire ground floor was altered and a large, broad external staircase was created up against the north face of the tower to allow access to the first floor. The first floor is vaulted
To the west of the northwest corner tower there is a third tower (3j) which is in excellent condition having been partially restored. Like its counterpart on thwe west wall it is slender, well-constructed and has rounded corners with angled quoins on the lower southwest corner. It is a three-storey structure 2.54m x 2.43m in dimension internally with a semi-poined vault over the ground floor.
Fenestration comprises a number of loops, a single-light ogee, a caernarvon-arched window and a cross-loop.

[1]Bradley, J, 1985, 47.

CLONMEL

[2]Calendar of Patent Rolls, Ireland, Henry VII-Eliz ii, 210-11.
[3]Thomas, A, vol. 2, 1992, 51.
[4]Shee, E. & Watson, S.J., 1975, 20.
[5]*Ibid.*, 20.
[6]Kerrigan, P.M., 1980, 149.
[7]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1931, 385-88.
[8]*Op. cit.*, 1985, 47 & *op. cit.,* vol. 2, 1992, 52.
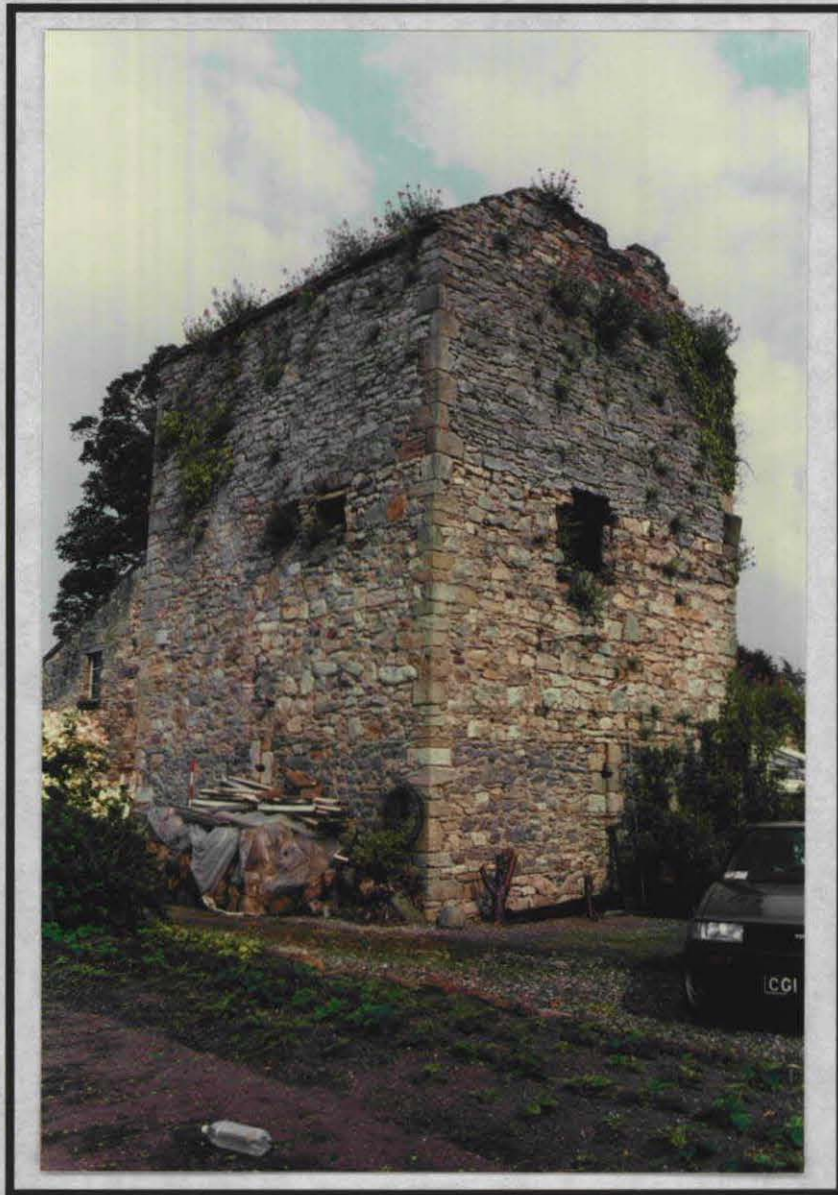
Plate 18: Tower on town wall, Clonmel

[9]*Op. cit.*, 52.
[10]Zajac, S., 1990; Channing, J., 1992; Cleary, R.M., 1993 & Henry, M., 1992-3
[11]Opie, H., 1992.
[12]Scully O.M.B., 1993.
[13]Bradley, J., 1985, 46.

General References
Crean, Dr. T.J., 1937, 125-26.
Fayle, E., 1937, 126.

64

Harbison, P., 1970, 225.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 173.
Lyons, P., 1936, 286-87,289.
Lyons, P, 1945, 258-259.
Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 243, 247.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 79 (238).
Zajac, S., 1991, 51.

11c: 4   Church 'St. Stephen's' and Graveyard / Hospital

Siting: Located on relatively level ground immediately east of St. Stephen's Place and south of Western Road.

Historical Note: The earliest record to St. Stephen's lazar house and attendant church is for the year 1510. On the 20th December, of that year, the Commissioner of the Bishop of Lismore and Waterford decided that the ecclesiastical revenues of St. Stephen's appertained to its rector and not to the Prior of Athassel.[1] A Court Survey held at Clonmel on the 9th August 1655 described St. Stephen's as 'wholly destroyed onely some part of the wall standinge...'[2]

Description: The remains of St. Stephen's comprise the very low ruined and overgrown side walls and gable ends of a rectangular church 18m x 9.5m with and average wall thickness of 0.8m, where discernible. The church is situated at the northern end of the graveyard. The south wall stands to a height of 0.9m over the exterior; the west gable is only 1.5m in height and the east gable no more than 0.95m. The north wall is completely obscured by trees and bushes. In the 1840s John O'Donovan visited the site and recorded it in some detail. He noted two windows in the est gable, two in the south wall and one in the west gable. He remarked that the upper area of the church was most likely used as a dwelling, evidenced by joist holes in the east gable at first floor level and a chimney surmounting the west gable.[3] During the course of the I.T.A. Survey of the early 1940s, the church was again recorded and at that time a small niche or aumbry was visible in the southeast angle, a lance window in the east gable, and a small ope in the south wall.[4] There is no trace of the leper hospital mentioned in 1510. The sizeable rectangular graveyard is enclosed by a mortared stone wall. It is sparsely populated with gravestones predominantly of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The earliest headstone is that of Eleanor Keating, who died at 18 years of age in 1724, situated at the eastern end of the graveyard. It is decorated with the Keating arms which comprise a shield parted *per saltire* with four leaves slipped in each quarter.

[1]Lee, G.A., 1966, 12-26.
[2]Burke, Rev. W.P., 1907, 244.
[3]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 78-79 (236-38).
[4]I.T.A. Survey, 1942.

General References
Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 248.
Simington, R.C.(ed.), 1931, 388.
Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 8.

11b: 5 Church 'St. Nicholas' & Graveyard (SMR 83:20)

Siting: St. Nicholas' is situated outside the town wall, in open ground on a gentle west-facing slope between St. Nicholas' Lane to the north and Whitening Stream to the south and west, in the OldBridge quarter of the town.

Historical Note: The records are frugal with regard to the origins of St. Nicholas'. The present church on the site is medieval, most likely of thirteenth century date and of Anglo-Norman construction as its dedication suggests.[1] The church was also known locally as Seana Bheinn - 'Old Steeple'. It is possible that it was erected on the site of an earlier church perhaps founded by Tadhgain, alledgedly one of the seven companions of St. Fiacc of Sletty and who gave his

Plate 19: Internal west gable of St. Nicholas' church, Clonmel

name to the Parish of Kiltegan in which St. Nicholas' is situated. The more popular name for the church is Teampull na Plaighe - the church of the plague

due to the large numbers of plague victims who were buried here from the fourteenth century up to, and including, the seventeenth century.[2] The church was in use as late 1669 and was one of only two churches used for Catholic worship in Clonmel (the other being the thatched chapel in Irishtown), in the post-Restoration period.[3]

Description: St. Nicholas' comprises the ruined remains of a single-chambered medieval church 7.85m x 4.47m internally, with a wall thickness of 0.90m. It is badly overgrown, has fallen foul of graffiti vandals and some burning has taken place up against the base of the interior of the west gable. The church is constructed of randomly coursed sandstone and granite. The remains of the former semi-pointed doorway is situated at the western end of the north wall and there are two windows - a centrally placed rectangular single-light in the west gable and a similar but larger single-light set into a deep, wide-splaying embrasure in the east gable. The surviving stonework of the doorway and fenestration is of noticeably inferior quality. Two small wall-cupboards or aumbrys are situated the northwest corner and south of the east window and the west gable is surmounted by an ivy-clad bell-cote.

In the 1950s the remains of a building at the southeast angle of the church were noted, the ruined west wall of which was co-terminous with the glebe boundary. Although it was apparently modern, it was suggested that it was on the site of a conventual domestic building.[4]

The attendant graveyard is a small sub-rectangular area less than an eight of an acre, enclosed by a low ruined stone wall. It is sparsely populated with gravestones (among them a large percentage of unmarked stones), and there are none earlier than the 18th century visible. However in the 1950s a Mr. P. Condon of Clonmel drew Patrick Lyons' attention to a mill-stone which had been re-used as a gravemarker at St. Nicholas's and a small lugged mortar was found in the precincts of the church about the same period.[5] Neither of these pieces are now on site. Of interest among the existing gravestones is a small rectangular slab of old red sandstone 0. 54m x 0. 31m at its base, broadening to 0.36m at its unevenly worked top, situated at the western end of the graveyard near the boundary wall. It is very roughly decorated with an incised latin cross and what appear to be two inverted key-holes. It is most likely a late folk-art carving.

There is one headstone within the church set against the west gable. It is a large limestone slab mounted in mass concrete, dated 1766 and dedicated to Mary Phelan. Its inscribed face is covered with graffiti.

[1] I.T.A. Survey, 1942.
[2] Lee, G.A., 1966, 12-26.
[3] Lyons, P., 1952, 28.
[4] *Ibid.,* 25.
[5] *Ibid.,* 23, 29-30.

General Reference
Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 8.

11a: 6 Franciscan Friary

Siting: Located in the south-east corner of the town wall, east of Abbey Street.

Historical Note: This Franciscan friary was founded in 1269 by Otho de Grandison.[1] The former chancel of the thirteenth-century church is co-terminous

with the present north aisle, while the nave, which was demolished in c.1760, originally extended to the west, crossing Abbey Street. Its foundations now lie beneath the car park immediately west of the Friary .[2] It is probable that the cloister and domestic buildings were located to the south of the church.[3] The friary was reopened in 1828[4] and rebuilt in 1883, incorporating the northern wall of the original thirteenth-century choir and the later fifteenth-century tower.[5]
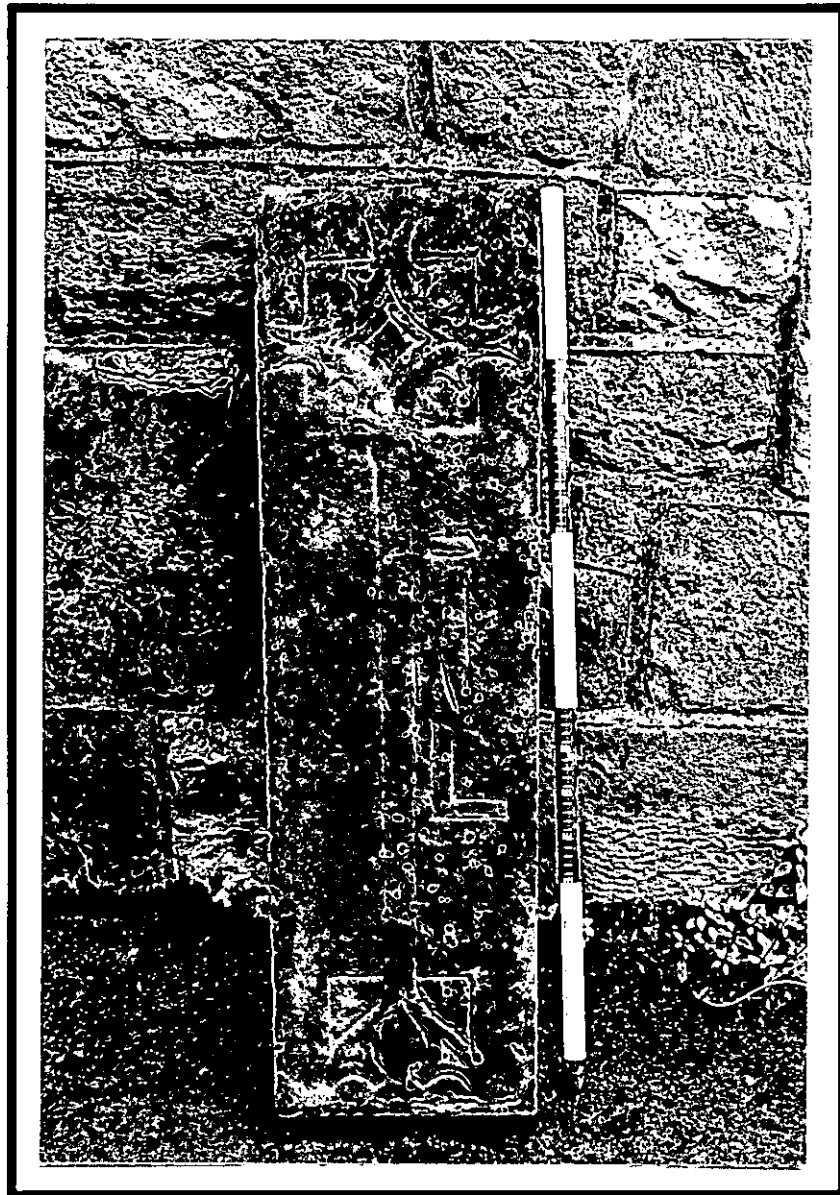
Plate 20: Medieval graveslab in yard of Franciscan church

At the time of Dissolution in 1540, the friary consisted of "a church, a belfry, a dormitory, a hall, three chambers, a kitchen, a stable, ... a weir" and land.[6] During Cromwell's attack on Clonmel in 1650 the friary was badly damaged. The "ffort of Clonmel" was built there soon afterwards, thereby destroying the claustral buildings.[7] Towards the end of the seventeenth-century a number of weavers brought from England established their factory at the old fort of Clonmel.[8] In 1705 the chancel was repaired for use as a Dissenters' chapel and remained as such until 1789, when the friars once again took possession.[9] In c.1813 the building

was converted into a barrack.[10] By 1840 a south-east wing[11] and a porch in front of the tower had been added.[12]

Description: Of the former medieval friary church and its domestic buildings, only the crossing tower and traces of the gabled roof of the old nave on its west side remain upstanding. In addition, there are a number of architectural fragments in the yard adjoining the church on its north side, and within the church itself there is a Butler double effigial tomb and fragments of panels from three other altar tombs. However recent excavation within the precints of the former friary revealed a number of human bones.[13]

Monuments: The Butler tomb, housed in a niche at the northwest end of the nave aisle, bears a latin inscription which in translation reads ' Here lies James Galdy, son of the Earl of Ormond. In the year of the Lord 1431 died Peter Butler...1464. Thomas [Fitz] Peter Butler, in the year of the Lord 1478 died Edmund Thomas son of Peter Butler AD. 1513. [Catherine] Poer wife of Edmund Butler, in the year of the Lord 1512. Pray for the souls of Thomas Butler and Ellen Butler his wife who had this work made in the year 153-'.[14] The monument is composite and of several different periods. The effigy is fifteenth century, while the tomb front illustrating the Instruments of the Passion is seventeenth century.
Above the effigy , in the back wall, there is a fragment of a tomb chest decorated with six saints set into ogee niches and dating to the first half of the sixteenth century. Another fragment bearing two ogee niches, within which are the Virgin and Child and St. John the Baptist, is incorporated into the northeast pier of the belfry. In the seventeenth century, the franciscan Luke Wadding noted that there were several tombs of 'black marble' within the church, commemorating 'the Prendergasts, Mandevilles, Walls, Whites, Brays, Moronys and other notables'. When Burke wrote his history of Clonmel in 1907, only the Butler tomb and the wall-memorial to John White were extant. Today the White Memorial which was moved to St. Mary's R.C. Church in Irishtown is missing (see report on White Plaque).[15]

Architectural Fragments: The fragments in the yard include:
(a) A small limestone medieval graveslab 1.03m x 0.31m with incised floreate cross and mason's symbols, found during the creation of the carpark west of the church (see plate 20).
(b) Portion of a sixteenth century pillar stone (or pardon stone) all four sides of which are decorated. The decorative panels include vine leaf, a representation of the Pieta, and two heraldic shields with supporting male figures.
(c) A shallow baptismal font (originally from Old St. Mary's), 48cm wide across the mouth, 37cm deep, decorated with four aegricane and garlands.
(d) A Victorian crocket finial.
(e) Two late lugged stone mortars.
(f) A late rectangular baptismal font 52cm in diameter across the mouth and 36cm deep.
(g) A 19th century cross flory executed in sandstone and incorporated into the north wall of the church nave.
Belfry: The crossing-tower is a seven-storey, slender sandstone structure, rectangular in plan and no more than 3m E-W x 2.70m N-S, with an average wall thickness of 1m. The crenellations, porch entrance and buttress features, on its west face, and some of the windows are modern additions to the medieval fabric. Internally, the original piers which carried the vault of the tower are in place. The 1st floor is non-extant and access to the 2nd floor is presently via a tiny doorway

forced through the south wall of the church gallery. The eroded sandstone staircase leading to the upper floors is steep and straight-sided for the greater part of its distance and spirals at top floor level.

The finest feature of the upper stories is the bee-hive vault over the 5th floor, with its impressions of wicker-work centering. The top floor presently houses a bell.

Chalices: Among the liturgical artifacts in the keeping of the Franciscan Friary are two sixteenth, four seventeenth and one eighteenth century chalice, and an altar plate.

[1]Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 248-250.
[2]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 11-12.
[3]*Ibid.*
[4]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 27.
[5]*Op. cit.*, 1909, 248-250.
[6]*Ibid.*
[7]*Op. cit.*, 1975, 11-12.
[8]*Ibid.*
[9]*Ibid.*
[10]*Op. cit.*, 1909, 248-250.
[11]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 70-71 (210-15).
[12]*Op. cit.*, 1975, 11-12.
[13]Henry, M., *Pers. Comm.*, December 1993.
[14] Hunt, J., 1974, 225-6.
[15] Burke, Rev. W.P., 1907, 299-313.

General References
Craig, M. and the Knight of Glin, 1970, 32.
Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 240, 286, 288.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 173.
McNeill, C., 1922, 22, 26, 31.

11a: 7   Main Guard

Siting: This elegant seventeenth century building occupies a prominent position in the Clonmel streetscape, closing the O'Connell Street vista at its east end.

Historical Note: The Main Guard was built by James Butler, 1st Duke of Ormond, between 1673 and 1684, as a prestigious courthouse for the Palatinate of County Tipperary.[1] The building has many of the hallmarks of a Sir Christopher Wren design, and it seems likely that its architect (possibly Sir William Robinson, Surveyor General of Ireland)[2] was influenced by Wren's works. *Circa* 1715, the palatinate jurisdiction was extinguished and the building was subsequently used as a tholsel and seat of the Assize Courts until 1803 when the present courthouse was completed.[3] In *c.*1810 the ground floor, a loggia of open arches, was converted into shops.[4]

Description: The Main Guard has been described as '...a transitional building, incorporating albeit awkwardly, elements of the new classicism but with strong backward glances at the medieval'.[5] It is a long rectangular sandstone ashlar building, which prior to the 1810 alterations would have had one main floor over an open arcade. It has a moulded triangular floating pediment and heavy cornice,

Plate 21: Façade of the Main Guard, Clonmel

a Mansard roof and a finely executed octagonal lantern which may be an original feature of the building.[6] Among the surviving internal features are the first floor level and a number of re-used original floor beams; arches supported by several half-round engaged columns some of which still carry their capitals; and relieving arches in the front wall, interrupted by the present fenestration.[7] There are two sandstone heraldic plaques dated 1675 on the west facade at first floor level. The most northerly of the two, displays the much eroded arms of Butler of Ormond while its southern counterpart bears the arms of the Borough of Clonmel, and is in equally poor condition.

[1]Quinlan, M., 1991, 2.
[2]Shee, E. & Watson, S.J., 1975, 35-6.
[3]Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 173.
[4]*Ibid.*
[5]*Op. cit.*, 1991, 7.
[6]Craig, M. & Garner W., 1975, 28-30.
[7]*Op. cit.*, 1991, 4.

11a: 8   Castle (site)

Siting: The site of the castle was apparently on the grounds of No. 75 (formerly Tangney's drapery) on the north side of O'Connell Street.

Historical Note: There is remarkably little written about this supposed early castle. P. Lyons believed that it was part of the Court of the Palatinate.[1]

Description: The castle, traditionally called "Clonmel Castle" was apparently in existence up to circa 1810 when it was pulled down by a Mr. John Harvey.[2] In 1936 Lyons identified what he believed to be the remaining east wall of the castle between the then adjoining Woolworth Building and Tangney's drapery.[3]
There is now no trace of this east wall.

[1]Lyons, P., 1936, 288.
[2]Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 242.
[3]*Op. cit.*, P. Lyons, 288.

11a: 9   Market Cross Base

Siting: The cross base projects out from and is overcut by the base of the east gable of No. 1 O'Connell Street (presently McMahons shoe shop). The gable itself faces out onto Sarsfield Street.

Historical Note: The market cross apparently originally stood in the market place at the junction of Gladstone Street and O'Connell Street. By tradition it was known as the 'Bargain Stone' and *c.* 1890 was moved further north to the top of the rise from the river. Fair-day deals were closed at the cross base with each party placing a foot on it. It has been suggested that the market cross in its entirety and in its original location must have been visible from the port entrance at the Water Gate.

Description: The cross base is executed in limestone and although only three of its sides and small portions of two others are showing from beneath the base of the east gable of No.1, it is most likely hexagonal in shape. It is 1.10m x 0.40m and is approximately 0.20m in height. It is moulded about its edges, each of the two chamfers being 0.10m. There is an unexplained protrusion 0.08m x 0.02m on its east side projecting out from the lower chamfer, which is unfortunately partly covered with concrete.

General References
Lyons, P., 1936, 288-89.
Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 9.
Thomas, A., 1992, 53.

11a: 10   Late Medieval Building

Siting: Located on the quayside west of Collet's Lane and at the rear of No. 31-32 O'Connell Street (Emerald Garden Chinese Restaurant).

Historical Note: P. Lyons relates a popular tradition that this building was associated with a monastic order. However, there is no historical documentation to support this contention.[1]

Description: P. Holland describes this building as 'a late medieval structure, possibly of first-floor hall type'.[2] It is a long rectangular two-storey building approximately 17.90m x 4.55m, of which only the south wall and southern end of the east gable and the badly overgrown west gable are upstanding. The greater part of the south wall which faces onto the river is ivy-clad and continuous

burning of rubbish against the base of the wall at its west end has caused blackening and fracturing of masonry. Average wall thickness is 1.10m. It is constructed of well mortared randomly coursed sandstone rubble with larger roughly cut sandstone quoins employed at the southeast and southwest corners. There is a discreet batter at its base and the lower quoins are slightly rounded. The extant features of this building include an intra-mural garderobe positioned at the eastern end of the south wall on the first floor, lit by a small rectangular ope, and its chute or outlet at the base of the exterior of the wall. It is entered via a rectangular sandstone doorway with a single hewn lintel and threshold stone. There are the remains of eight large crudely executed dripstones in the upper masonry courses of the south wall. There appear to have been originally four windows on the first floor, however, surviving fenestration includes only the remains of a former two-light rectangular window comprising rudimentary mullion and fractured hood-moulding and some of the upper east sidestones at the east end of the south wall on the ground floor. Internally, the ground floor appears to have had four vaulted embrasures. Three corbels project out of the south wall internally at first floor level. An original doorway remains *in situ* at ground floor level at the western end of the south wall. Its jambstones are chamfered and a fragment of a hood-moulding with returned stops is visible at its head. The three remaining ground floor opes were broken through in more recent times. The extant masonry of the east gable is featureless and the west gable is so badly overgrown that none of its features are discernible. However a possible fireplace has been distinguished on this wall.[3]

[1] Lyons, P., 1954-5, 26
[2] Holland, P., Tipperary Historical Journal 1992.
[3] *Ibid.*

11a: 11   Late Medieval Building

Siting: No. 58 O'Connell Street, located at the junction of O'Connell Street and Mary's Street.

Description: A two-storey building rendered with plaster. On the first floor in the north wall (i.e. the rear of the building) the remains of an early modern window of the sixteenth/seventeenth century is visible in the plaster rendering. The window is rectangular 1.40m x 0.85m and was formerly of two-lights. It is executed in sandstone and comprises a chamfered hood-moulding with returned stops and the rudimentary remains of a central mullion which divided the two lights. The window reveal is 0.22m deep and there are two glazing-bar holes in place on the soffit. The actual facing stones of the window are rendered with plaster. This window is very typical of sixteenth/seventeenth century domestic fenestration.
On the northeast corner of the east gable of the same building there is a fragment of a cornice which must formerly have ran horizontally around the gable. Beneath it there is a corbel pojecting out of the wall suggesting that there was an adjoining structure on this side.
This site was highlighted by Lyons as the traditional location of a medieval prison[1] which he suggested probably replaced an earlier prison within 'Clonmel Castle'.[2]   During field work for this report only the western part of the building, now used as a dental technician's studio, was accessible. It has been modernised internally and several partition walls inserted.

The features on the exterior of the building indicate that it is an early modern structure - most likely a town house of the sixteenth/seventeenth century.

[1]Lyons, P, 1936, 288.
[2]Lyons, P., 1954-5, 29.

11a: 12   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: No.12 O'Connell Street is situated on the south side of the aforementioned street and on the west side of Flag Lane.

Historical Note: This building bears a number of external architectural features which suggest a medieval/early modern date for the building. Local antiquarians identified it as a town house of the Butlers of Ormond and there is a tradition that Oliver Cromwell resided there after the siege of Clonmel.[1]

Description: No. 12 is a large three storey building which was formerly a public house (McInerneys Tavern) and is presently unoccupied. The east gable has a very broad inverted L-shaped chimney projection which commences at a height of 2.35m above the level of the lane. The projection is rendered but where the rendering has come away it is possible to see the neat coursing of sandstone masonry beneath it. In the top masonry courses of the east end of the south face of the building, there is a large dripstone projecting out from the wall. Access was not gained to the interior.

[1]Lyons, P. 1936, 288.

11a: 13   Late Medieval Buildings

Historical Note: There are no known records regarding the history or antiquity of these dwellings. However, a list of the holdings and occupants of West Gate Lane/Street drawn up during the settlement of 1666, mentions over a dozen slated and thatched houses, some of them 'waste' and classified as tenements.[1]

Siting: Nos. 2 (presently property of Ms. Marguerite Morrissey) & 3 West Gate are located immediately north of the West Gate and at the southwest corner of West gate and Wolfe Tone Street.

Description: A number of internal and external architectural features indicate that both of these buildings are of medieval/early modern origin. The walls of No. 2 are 0.90m thick. The masonry of its southeast corner is interesting - the lower courses being rounded and middle courses chamfered. Internally the window embrasures both in the kitchen and on the staircase are very deep with sloping sills. There was a doorway in the north gable at ground floor level but has been blocked up. On the west facing wall of the kitchen there is an external chimney projection, whitewashed and composed of large blocks of randomly coursed sandstone, 2.20m wide and projecting out 0.34m from the wall. The combination of wall-thickness, large deep window embrasures, treatment of quoins on the southeast corner and

the chimney projection point to a medieval/early modern date for this structure. Whilst the interior of the adjoining No. 3 is completely modernised, its west gable at ground floor level contains a sandstone single-light window with an elliptical head. It is 0.80m x 0.25m internally, its side-stones are chamfered and dressed with pocking. The features of this window provide us with a late fifteenth/early sixteenth century date for the building.

[1]Burke, Rev. W.P, 1907, 260.

11a: 14   Dominican Priory (possible/site)

Siting: Located on the western side of the junction between Blue Anchor Lane and O'Connell Street.

Historical Note: It is possible that the Dominicans were not established in Clonmel until shortly before 1643 and were repressed by the Cromwellians in the 1650s.[1] There appear to have been four Dominican martyrs in Clonmel between 1649-51.[2]

Description: Though a number of sources refer to a Dominican foundation in Clonmel, there are no physical remains to support this.[3] According to Lyons, this is the traditional site of the Dominican Priory and he states that there is 'in the cellar of the premises (Mrs. Feehan's) a plain though elegant ancient doorway in the Pointed style. Inside the frontage wall on Blue Anchor Lane are built up slits, as of an altar window'.[4]

[1]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 232-33.
[2]Ibid.
[3]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 71-72 (215-16).
[4]Lyons, P, 1936, 288.

11a: 15   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: Located in the gable of a building at the eastern side of the widest section of Collet's Lane.

Description: The remains of a two-light window with window bars, assigned a late medieval date by Patrick Holland,[1] were formerly visible. Unfortunately an extension has since been built which obscures this feature completely. According to Lyons this was the remains of an ancient building "perhaps a baronial kitchen".[2]

[1]Holland, P., 1992,
[2]Lyons, P, 1936, 292.

11b: 16   Heraldic Stone (site)

Siting: The stone was formerly located in the west wall of a house in Weir View, in the Oldbridge quarter of the town. It was suggested that it originally came from

the old Manor Mill of Clonmel, which was rebuilt as a creamery about the time the Weir View terrace house was constructed.

Description: In 1934, P. Lyons[1] recorded a possible heraldic stone at the rear of Mr. Mullaney's house in Weir View. He described it as a figure of a cat, possibly wearing a collar and suggested that it might be a depiction of the crest of the Burkes of Clanrickard, who were at one time Barons of Clonmel. The Clanrickard crest is a cat-a-mountain sejant gardant, collared and chained.
There is now no trace of this sculpted stone. The present custodian of the house, Mrs Agnes Slevin of William Street, informed us that her brother who had lived in Weir View had just died but that she remembered the stone well. The wall on which the stone was housed had been recently plastered and it seems likely that it was removed at that time. Its present location is not known, however, Mrs Slevin feels confident that her brother may have placed it in safe-keeping.

[1]Lyons, P, 1934, 264.

11a: 17   Penal Chapel (site)/Monument

Siting: A penal chapel once stood just west of the present R.C. church of the Assumption (St. Mary's) on the south side of Irishtown road. It is recorded that a seventeenth century plaque commemorating John White 1st Alderman of Clonmel was removed to the R.C. church from the Franciscan Friary.[1] There is no trace of the penal chapel and the White memorial is no longer housed in St. Mary's.

Historical Note: Following the dissolution of the Franciscan Friary of Clonmel on 8th March 1540, several of the friars remained in the town and as late as 1615 the Provincial of the Franciscan Order reported that the church was still used for prayer. With the Restoration of Charles II in 1660, a thatched chapel was used by the community in Irishtown. It is indicated on a late eighteenth century map of Clonmel and was added to and continued in use up to c. 1850. The White memorial, formerly located in St. Mary's R.C. church, commemorated John White fitz Geoffrey, first mayor of Clonmel who died in 1615.

Description: Athough the penal chapel is no longer standing and the plaque is missing, the Rev. William P. Burke includes descriptions of both in his 'History of Clonmel' and an antiquarian drawing by Edward Brenan provides us with an impression of the chapel as it was in the nineteenth century. An old resident of Irishtown who had seen the penal chapel before its demolition described it to Fr. Burke as a low T-shaped building aligned east-west. It had three galleries which were reached by stone steps on the outside of the building and it was lit by long round-headed leaded windows. The informant mentioned that ' as the floor was seven feet below the present level, not infrequently divine service was suspended by floods from the river'.
By 1714 the thatched church was enlarged and replaced with slate. The Corporation leases referred to it as 'that part of the Mass House the property of the Corporation' the lease of which was renewable every 31 years and was held by various members of the Brenock family down to 1810. The last lease was taken by John Brenock in 1789 and from 1810 it was held by John Bagwell 'for ever at £1 per annum.[2]

Monument: The White memorial was housed in the present R.C. church in Burke's time. His description of it is accompanied by a sketch by a Miss Collins which shows a rectangular plaque set within a deeply moulded frame decorated

Plate 22: White memorial plaque (after Burke)

with the arms of John White. The arms comprise a heater-shaped shield charge with a serrated chevron and two over three roses, with two angel supporters flanking the dexter and sinister sides of the shield. The crest consists of an esquire's helmet surmounted by a demi-archer. Elaborate foliage mantling issues forth from the helmet. A latin inscription in plain lettering below the arms reads in translation:- 'The arms of John White Esquire, sometime Seneschal of the County Palatine of Tipperary, Sheriff of the County of Waterford, First Mayor of Clonmel. So the glory of the world passes away. Benedict White heir of the said John, and Ellice got this made 1615'.[3]

[1]Rev. William P. Burke, 1907, 302.

[2]Dan Pyke, 1984, 14.
[3]*Op. cit.*, 1907, 302-303.

General References
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 173.
Morrissey, J.F., 1909, 253-54.
Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 30.

11a: 18   Late Medieval Building (site)

Siting: Located on the south side of Parnell Street, on the side of the present Town Hall.

Historical Note: A late seventeenth-century mansion was built on this site by Richard Hamerton.[1] In the eighteenth century the building was converted into the 'Great Globe Inn' and it was rebuilt in 1881 as the Town Hall.[2]

Description: There are no visible remains of the original seventeenth-century mansion.

[1]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 38.
[2]*Ibid.*

11c: 19   Holy Well (possible) "Toberaheena" (83.14)

Siting: Toberaheena is situated on the south side of a stream and at the bottom of a northeast-facing gentle slope in a residential/commercial estate, southwest of the main Clonmel-Cahir road.

Description: Despite the fact that it has the 'tober' element in its name and is represented as an antiquity on the current O.S. map, there are no known documentary references to this site. Neither is there any evidence for religious activity at the well. It has been totally rebuilt and comprises a mass concrete hood into which large rough limestone pieces have been set. The hood is 2.05m in length externally by 1.80m in width across its mouth. It is 0.87m in height over ground level. Four broad steps lead down to it from northwest and there are two hawthorn trees growing about it.

11a: 20   Mills (possible)

Siting: Located on the 'Old Bridge'.

Historical Note: According to the Civil Survey the town 'hath the Accomodation of a stone bridge together with two Greist mills on the same'.[1] In the Settlement of 1666 a colonel Booker was granted a mill in Bridge Street formerly the property of Thomas White fitz Mathew.[2] The same source tells us that there were five other mills, including tuck mills and corn mills in the vicinity of the bridge.[3]
It is possible that one of these mills was the 'Manor Mill', which was rebuilt as a creamery. Although according to Lyons this was 'essentially a part of the South [Bridge] Gate'.[3]

Description: There are no visible remains of these mills.

[1]Simington, R.C.(ed.), 1931, 385, 388.
[2]Burke, Rev. W., 1907, 260.
[3]*Ibid.*, 262.
[4]Lyons, P., 1909, 291.

11b: 21 Weir (possible)
Located on the southern section of the River Suir, south-east of Suir Island House.
This "Mill Weir", according to Lyons may be an ancient fishing weir.[1]

[1]Lyons, P, 1936, 292.

11a: 22 Burials

Siting: To the south of the town hall.

Description: Twenty-three human skeletons were recovered in a reasonable state of preservation during a recent excavation.
The finds with the skeletons included lead musket balls and sherds of pottery of late medieval and post-medieval date.[1]

Henry, M., Pers. Comm., December 1993.[1]

11a: 23 Armorial Plaque

Siting: Situated in the east face of the western side wall of No.9 O'Connell Street.

Description: The plaque is a fragmentary rectangular limestone block, 24cm x 31.5cm, decorated with a shield charged with a engrailed chevron between three roses. The arms have been identified as those of the White family, prominent in Clonmel in the seventeenth century. The stone appears to be commemorative, inscribed with the date 162? and the letter D flanks the upper dexter side of the shield.[1]

[1]Holland, P., 1992, 197-201.

11a: 24 Burials

Siting: To the east of the Main Guard.

Description: A number of human bones were uncovered during recent excavation. There close proximity to the franciscan friary suggests that they may have been buried in former franciscan grounds.[1]

Henry, M., Pers. Comm., December 1993.[1]

SMR Sites within the Development Plan Boundary
(see SMR constraint maps and manual)

Sheet No.	SMR No.	Site Type
77	78:1/2	Church and graveyard / Enclosure
77	79	Holy Well
77	82	Burial Ground
77	85	Church and graveyard
77	86	Castle
77	87:1/2	Tower House / Bawn
77	90	Castle
83	01	Enclosure (site)
83	03	Architectural Fragment - Present Location
83	04:1/2/3	Church/Holy Well/ Cross
83	05	Enclosure (site)
83	06	Enclosure (possible)
83	07	Dwelling (see description below)
83	08	Enclosure
83	09	Enclosure
83	10	Ringfort
83	11	Watermill (possible)
83	15	Watermill (possible) - (see description below)
83	16	Mill
83	18	Weir (possible)
83	21	Mill/Mill Race/Fish Pond/Weir (possible)/Architectural Fragment (see description below)
83	22	Bridge
83	23:1/2	Enclosure (site) / Enclosure (site)
83	30	Hospital (site)

Dwelling (83:7)

Siting: Located in the junction between Silver Spring Road and St. Patrick's Road.

Description: According to Shee and Watson this dwelling was built in 1747 to accomodate a new Charter School.[1] However, Craig and Garner argue that many of its features would suggest an earlier date, perhaps late seventeenth century.[2] The most typical seventeenth-century characteristics of this building are the facade with it two-bay advanced ends and the internal walls with stud partitions forcing the chimney stacks to stand independent of any heavy supporting walls.[3]

[1]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 40.
[2]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 99-100.
[3]*Ibid.*

Watermill (possible) (83.15)

Siting: Located on the northern bank of the River Suir, just east of Abbey Ville house.

Historical Note: A flour mill and mill pond are marked on the 1st edition of the 6" O.S. maps (1840-41). These may have been on the site of a grist mill mentioned in the Civil Survey.[1]

Description: Most of this mill has been demolished, one wall was incorporated into a ball alley. There are no visible remains of any antiquity.

[1]Simington, R.C., 1931, 308.

Mill & Mill Race (possible) /Fish Pond (possible) /Weir (possible)/Architectural Fragment (83.21)
Located 1/2m-1m from Clonmel town centre, south of the River Suir.
It had been suggested that this complex of sites is, at least partly, of medieval origin, possibly having belonged to the Franciscans who are known to have had a fishing pool and weir.[1] Lyons suggests that the eastern portion of Dudley's weir is the oldest part and also that which belonged to the Franciscans.[2] The fish pond, described in detail by Lyons,[3] may be old but no date has been ascertained as yet. The architectural fragment refers to an "ancient doorway" built into the mill.[4]

[1]Gwynn, A. and R.N. Hadcock, 1970, 246.
[2]Lyons, P., 1936, 292.
[3]Lyons, P., 1942, 71-73.
[4]Ibid.

UNLOCATED SITES

Castle & Tenements (site)

Siting: Located to Bridge Street.

Historical Note: A list of holdings and their occupants, taken in the town of Clonmel, following the Settlement of 1666, includes a "castle and waste tenements" in Bridge Street, then the property of one Thomas Batty and previously held by Nicholas White.[1]

Description: There are no upstanding remains of a castle and accompanying tenement buildings in Bridge Street.

[1]Burke, Rev. W.P, 1907, 260.

Carmelite Friary (possible/site)

Siting: The location is unknown although P. O'Connell speculates unconvincingly that No.10 in the report, which is located on the quayside west of Collet's Lane and at the rear of No. 31-32 O'Connell Street (Emerald Garden Chinese Restaurant), was a medieval ecclesiastical residence associated with the Carmelites or White Friars.

Historical Note: While the founder and foundation date of the Carmelite community in Clonmel is unknown, an extent made at the palatinate court on 15th January, 1541 stated that the priory church had '...from time immemorial been the parish church'. The same extent described the priory as comprising 'the house of the priory ... with two gardens and other accomodations'.[1]

Description: There are no visible remains of this foundation.

[1]White, N.B., (ed.), 1943, 330-331.

General References
Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 288.
O'Connell, P., 1953-54, 3-4.

Hospital (site)

Siting: Located on the east side of St. Mary's churchyard, west of the "Comon Pound".[1]

Historical Note: There is a reference to a hospital in Clonmel in 1620/2 (XIX Elizabeth), dedicated to St. John the Baptist.[2] A certain Henry White and his predecessors had to pay the Prior of this hospital the annual rent of 3s.[3] This may be the same hospital mentioned in the Civil Survey, which appears to have been built c.1620 and was "sett apart for an Hospitall for old impotent decayed inhabittants of Clonmell & soe used untill the takeing of the towne in the yeare 1650".[4]

[1,4]Simington, R.C., 1931, 387.
[2]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 73 (219).
[3]Ibid.

Mound (possible), Oldbridge

Siting: This mound is apparently located in the middle of the five acres which constitute St. Nicholas' Glebe.

Description: In the 1950s Mr. P. Condon of Clonmel noted a large artificial mound within the glebe and this information was subsequently recorded by Patrick Lyons. Lyons described it as being '15 feet long and 12 feet wide and consists of two parallel lines of large rough boulders, separated by a small space.' He suggested that it might be a megalithic tomb but then qualified this by stating that it possibly had geological origins.

General Reference
Lyons, P., 1952, 25.

Medieval Building (site)

Siting: Located at the north end of Gladstone Street, in the vicinity of the North Gate.[1]

Description: This was the building were the Manor courts were held. It was destroyed by the Cromwellians in 1650.[2]

[1]Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 34.
[2]*Ibid.*

School (site)

Siting: Located on the south side of St. Mary's churchyard.[1]

Description: The Civil Survey refers to a house, destroyed before the Rebellion (*c.* 1650), which had been "sett a part (time out of mind) for a free schoole". This school, however, was re-established in 1653 and appears to have continued in Mary St. into the nineteenth century.[2]

[1]Simington, R.C., 1931, 387.
[2]Quane, M., 1964, 1-28.

Medieval Buildings
A number of dwellings and buildings are mentioned in seventeenth century sources.

General Reference
Butler, H., 1978-79, 642-645
Simington, R.C., 1931, 387.

Weir (possible)
Located under the southern portion of the Gas House Bridge on the River Suir. Lyons speculated that a slight ramp under the southern portion of this bridge may be one of the weirs held by the Franciscans.[1]

[1]Lyons, P, 1936, 292.

Holywell (possible/site), Oldbridge

Siting: Was apparently situated beside the church, presumably near the Whitening Stream bordering the site to the south and west.

Description: In 1952, Patrick Lyons noted that there was a well, then closed, beside the church. Its exact location was known at that time. No trace of it is now visible and those locals we spoke with had no memory of the well or any tradition associated with it.

Lyons, P., 1952, 23.

EMLY

Imleach Iobhair meaning the lake-marsh of the yew tree

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

527   *Imleach Iobhair* or Emly grew from its origins as an Early Christian monastery, founded by St. Ailbe who died on the 12th of September.[1]

845   The monastery was pillaged.

1058-1162 According to the Annals of the Four Masters this monastic foundation was pillaged twice and burnt five times between these dates, as well as earlier in 845.[2]

1111   Cashel became an archbishopric and much of the territory given to Cashel was at Emly's expense, thus Emly ceased to be one of the wealthier monasteries in Munster.[3]

1215   The English bishop of Emly was granted permission by King John to hold an annual fair and the bishop's weekly market was not to be disturbed.[4]

1303   A murage charter was granted to the town.

***c*.1505-42** Bishop Thomas Hurley founded a college of secular priests at the cathedral.[6]

1569   The monastery was united with the see of Cashel, a factor which further precipitated the decline of the monastic town of Emly.[7]

1718   The Catholic bishopric joined with Cashel.[8]

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 38-60 (118-83).
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 77-78,360.
[4]O'Dwyer, M. and L., 1987, 1-29.
[5]*Ibid.*
[6]*Op. cit.*, 1970, 77-78,360.
[7]*Ibid.*
[8]*Op. cit.*, 1987, 1-29.

General References
Fanning, T., 1976, 34.
Power, P.C., 1989, 3.
White, J.D., 1892, 105-11.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Monastic Enclosure
2 Cathedral (site)/Monuments
3 Holy Well 'St. Ailbe's Well'
4 Stone Cross 'St. Ailbe's'

5 Holy Well 'St. Peter's Well'
6 Window Fragment

Unlocated Sites:
Town Defences
Castles

12: 1 Monastic Enclosure (site)

Siting/Description: The monastery at Emly was surrounded by a circular enclosure centering on the main ecclesiastical elements. The outline of this enclosure is preserved today in the road and field pattern south of the present catholic church. The line of the enclosure commences at the road junction in Emly, where the road curves from northwest through to southwest, a field boundary, meeting the road at the southwest, continues the circle to the northwest (see map). The northern half of this enclosure is not immediately apparent but may show up as a crop mark.

Historical Note: In the fifth century a monastery was founded at Emly by St. Ailbe. In 1058 the Annals of the Four Masters record that the *daimhliag* or great stone church and the *cloictheach* or round tower and belfry of Emly were burnt.[1]

12: 2 Cathedral (site)

Siting/Description: In 1058 the Annals of the Four Masters record that the daimhliag or great stone church and the cloictheach or round tower and the belfry of Emly were burnt.[1] According to the Ordnance Survey letters the early cathedral was on the site of the present cathedral,[2] however, other references and the Ordnance Survey maps indicate that the pre-1700 cathedral was situated in the east side of the present graveyard.[3] By 1607 the cathedral was totally ruined and four years later the clergy and laity of the diocese were ordered to repair it at their own expense.[4] However, by 1615 only the chancel had been rebuilt.[5] A sketch of the buildings drawn in 1680 shows that although the cathedral was roofed a number of monastic buildings to the south were in a ruinous state.[6] In the 1827 a new cathedral was built, however, this was dismantled in 1877 and the stones were taken to build a church in Monard.[7]

[1]Barrow, G.L., 1979, 190.
[2]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 39-60 (120-83).
[3]O'Dwyer, M. and L., 1987, 1-16.
[4]*Ibid.*
[5]*Ibid.*
[6]*Ibid.*
[7]*Ibid.*

General References
Fairbairn, 1905 (1984 ed.).
Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 77-78,360.
Harbison, P., 1992, 87.
Long, Rev. R.H., 1898, 173-74.
Shirley, E.P., 1864-66, 286-87.
White, J.D., 1892, 105-11.

Monuments

Siting: There are three sculptured heads and a fragment of a grave-slab incorporated into the graveyard wall immediately north-east of the modern church. They are described here, according to their present locations, from west to east.

(a) This head is attached to a pilaster 0.23m x 0.64m and 0.26m deep. It is male with long hair curling up at the ends. The facial features are badly eroded and there is only a rudimentary neck. It probably formed part of a window, possibly the stop or label at the springing of an arch order. A fragment of pilaster is also still in position.

(b) The base of a grave-slab, measuring 0.3m x 0.27m and 0.07m deep. It was decorated with a cross, of which the shaft, terminating in a trefoil pattern with double incised lines, remains.

(c) The arch fragment is decorated with the head of a bishop, wearing a mitre, and the collar of a robe is also visible. The ears are pinned back and the south face of the stone is fluted. The facial features are badly eroded.

(d) This sculpted head is similar to (a). It is 0.22m x 0.5m and 0.24m deep. The facial features are eroded, the hair is curled and is denoted by ribbing. It is accompanied by a pilaster similar to the one mentioned above.

(e) **Stoup:** This is located in the east porch of the cathedral.
The stoup, consisting of bowl, shaft and base, is composed of a conglomeration of sandstone, granite and quartz. The bowl, with two luggs, each 0.14m wide, is roughly shaped, not symmetrical. It measures 0.32m x 0.42m and is 0.1m deep internally. The shaft is 0.3m long and rests on a stepped base, beneath the cut step, which is c.5cm deep, the base, 0.25m deep, is crudely finished.

(f) **Seventeenth Century Memorial Plaque:** Located in the north boundary wall of the graveyard. This plaque, which measures 1.22m x 0.65m, has a latin inscription written in Roman Capitals. It has been transcribed by E.P. Shirley.[1]

[1]Shirley, E.P., 1864-66, 286-87.

(g) **Armorial Plaque**

Siting: This is located in the eastern end of the north boundary wall of the graveyard, in the southern face.

Description: It measures 0.9m x 0.73m and carries the coat of arms of the Hurley family. The shield bears a bend charged with two mullets and a hand, between six crosses patee. Above the shield there is a closed helmet in profile from which a garland issues forth. The helmet is surmounted by what appears to be a bird, close, in profile with a cross patee on it's breast. Beneath the shield there is a latin motto in Roman Capitals which reads: DEXTRA CRUCE VINCET, this translates as : My right hand conquers by the cross.[1]

[1]Fairbairn, 1905 (1984 ed.).

(h) Seventeenth Century Stone Plaque

Siting: This is incorporated into the northern face of the graveyard wall, immediately east of the east gate pier.

Plate 22: Seventeenth century stone plaque, Emly

Description: The plaque has been painted white, with the lettering highlighted in black with a thin black border. The inscription is in latin and reads: LOCVS INO QVEM INTRAS TERRA SANCTA EST 1641 R.IONES PCENT. It roughly translates as :the place within which there is holy ground. The name at the bottom of the inscription belongs to a Robert Jones who became the Precentor of Emly cathedral in 1628[1] (see plate 22).

[1]O'Dwyer, M. and L., 1987, 16.

12: 3   Holy Well 'St. Ailbe's Well'

Siting: This is located in the north-east quadrant of the graveyard.

Description: This is traditionally known as St. Ailbe's well. The circular well is now covered in mass concrete, 0.4m above the ground and 1.92m in diameter. There is a square aperture in the concrete, 0.28m wide, which gives very limited access to the well water. According to O'Flanagan the stone shaft of the wall is c.7m deep.[1] Traditionally this holy well was visited on the feast day of St. Ailbe, the 12th of September. In 1898 the well was still being used to supply the village with water.[2]

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 40 (122).
[2]Long, Rev. R.H., 1898, 173-74.

12: 4   Stone Cross 'St. Ailbe's'

Siting: This is located in the south-western quadrant of the graveyard.

Description: This is traditionally known as St. Ailbe's cross. It is a sandstone imperforate ringed cross, 1.48m high and 0.19m deep, the top arm is 0.32m wide and there is a tapering shaft which is 0.4m wide at the bottom. The head of the cross is 0.57m wide, the side arms are very short, only projecting out 3cm. The west and east faces of the cross differ slightly in that the east face is more of a latin cross while the arms of the west face are thicker and do not have differentiated terminals.[1]

[1]Harbison, P., 1992, 87.

General References
Crawford, H.S., 1907, 207.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 39-40 (120-21).

12: 5   Holy Well "St. Peter's Well"

Siting: This is located 175m north-west of the present St. Aible's catholic church.

Description: This well is marked on the 25" O.S. map as "site of", however, on inspection it would seem that the well is under a large rock. The rock is partly supported by smaller stones and water appears to be visible through a small gap in the stones.

12: 6   Window Fragment

Siting: This window head has been inserted in the north-east wall of the old school house in Emly, presently called Halla Naomh Ailbhe.

Description: This window head, which is 0.54m x 0.4m, is chamfered and round-headed with cusped spandrels and a chamfered hood, 0.6m long, dressed with sparrow-pecking. It probably came from the old cathedral. In its present location it acts as the head of a rough stoup which has been inserted into the thickness of the north-east gable.

UNLOCATED SITES

Town Defences

Historical Note: In 1303 a charter of murage was granted to the town of Emly and a map dating to 1599 (map of Munster held in T.C.D.) depicts Emly as a walled town with two gates.

Description: No physical evidence of this wall survives.[1]

[1]O'Dwyer, M. and L., 1987, 1-29.

Castles

In 1622 the Archbishop of Cashel visited Emly where he reported there were two castles, the 'great and the small', one of which had been the residence of the Bishop of Emly.[1]
The Civil Survey mentions an "old castle" stands on the lands of Emly.[2] A castle is also depicted on the Down Survey map as being located north-east of the Cathedral.[3]

[1]O'Dwyer, M. and L., 1987, 26.
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]*Ibid.*

FETHARD

Fíoðh Anð meaning high wooð

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

*c.*1208-10	William de Braose claimed Fethard as 'his borough'.[1]
*c.*1215	Archbishop of Cashel granted two and one half carucates of land in Fethard to the Burgesses.[2]
1292	Murage grant for seven years, in the reign of Edward I.[3]
1306	Augustinian Friary founded outside the walls by Walter de Mulcote.[4]
1375	18th October Edward III granted permission to the townsfolk to erect a town wall. Duration of grant, ten years.[5]
1409	Subsequent murage grant by Henry IV.[6]
1449	Murage grant by Henry VI.[7]
1467-68	Murage grant for twelve years by Edward IV.[8]
1541	Extent made to Clonmel concerning the dissolved house of the Augustinian Friars.[9]
1544	Augustinian Abbey granted to Edmund Butler, Baron of Dunboyne on 16th January.[10]
1553	Town acquired charter ordaining the borough as a corporate body.
1607	Sir John Everard obtained a charter for large possessions in the town and surrounding countryside.[11]
1608	King James granted a governing charter to Fethard, whereby the said town was made and created a Corporation and Body politic, consisting of a Sovereign twelve burgesses and one Portrieve.[12]
1650	The governor of the town surrendered to Cromwell in order to avert a massacre.[13]
1654	Fr. William Tirry, Fethard martyr, was hanged at Clonmel on May 2nd.[14]

[1]Reg. St. John Baptist, Dublin, 298.
[2]Laffan, T., 1906, 143.
[3]Cal. doc. Ire., 1285-1292, No. 1015.
[4]Cal. Justic. Rolls Ire., Ed. I 1305-07, 237, 310.
[5]*Chart. privil. immun.*, 71.
[6]Cal. Pat. and Close Rolls, Hen. II - Hen. VII, 189, No. 25.
[7]Stat. Ire. Hen. VI, 176.
[8]Stat. Ire., 1-12, Edward IV, 497.
[9]White, N.P., 1943, 239.
[10]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1988, 300.
[11]*Op. cit.*, 1906, 143.
[12]*Op. cit.*, 1906, 144.
[13]*Op. cit.*, 1906, 146.
[14]Harbison, P., 1970, 226.
[15]O'Connor, J., 1992, 27.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1   Holy Trinity Church
2   Urban Tower House
3   Town Hall (Market House)/ Plaques
4   Abbey 'Augustinian'/Sheela-na-gig/ Monuments
5   Urban Tower House 'Fethard Castle'
6   Late Medieval Building/ Architectural Fragments
7   Town Defences/ Sheela-na-gig
8   Late Medieval Building (possible/site) 'Old Hotel'
9   Late Medieval Building (possible)
10 Mill (possible/site)
11 Re-used Fireplace Jamb
12 Pound/Window
13 Late Medieval Building (possible)
14 Late Medieval Building
15 Late Medieval Building (possible)
16 Late Medieval Building (possible)
17 Watergate Bridge (possible)
18 Bridge (site) 'Madam's Bridge'
19 Late Medieval Building (site) 'Everard's Mansion'
20 Late Medieval Building (possible)
21 Architectural Fragment
22 Ringbarrow (S.M.R. 70.112)
23 Late Medieval Building (possible)
24 Late Medieval Doorways

Unlocated Sites:
Hospital (possible)

14: 1   Holy Trinity Church

Siting: This church is situated south of Main St. and is within the town wall which forms its southern boundary.

Historical Note: Formerly the medieval parish church of St. John. After the Reformation it appears that St. John's continued as a place of Catholic worship for some time, as is implied by an Elizabethan Inquisition of 1577.[1] Now only the former nave remains in use as a place of Protestant worship, the church has been renamed Holy Trinity.

Description: This medieval parish church, of limestone construction, appears to date to the late fifteenth century, with additions and alterations being carried out in the late sixteenth/seventeenth century. The present church, much altered in the nineteenth century, is the former nave of the original church and the chancel (13.9m x 7.25m) lies in ruins to the east of it. The remains of a round-headed, blocked-up doorway can be seen in the south wall of the nave and part of the hood-moulding survives with a carved human head at the terminal. There is a small stair-turret at the east end of the nave which in former times would have given access to the chancel. The remains of a side chapel (13.23m x 5.38m) lie to the south of the former nave, this has an attractive fluted piscina in the south wall. An auxillary building was added onto the chancel, probably in the late

sixteenth/seventeenth century, when the chancel itself was modified with the insertion of hood-moulded windows. The bell tower, adjoining the west end of the church, is late fifteenth century in date. It is square in plan and has an unusually high parapet with stepped Irish crenellations.

Sixteenth - Early Eighteenth Century Graveslabs: There are twelve slabs in the present Holy Trinity church, most being decorated in typical seventeenth century style, in false relief with a floriated cross and latin or english inscription. Also within the church is an elaborate wall memorial to the Jolly family dating to 1709 and two armorial plaques. One, located in a niche on the west face of the
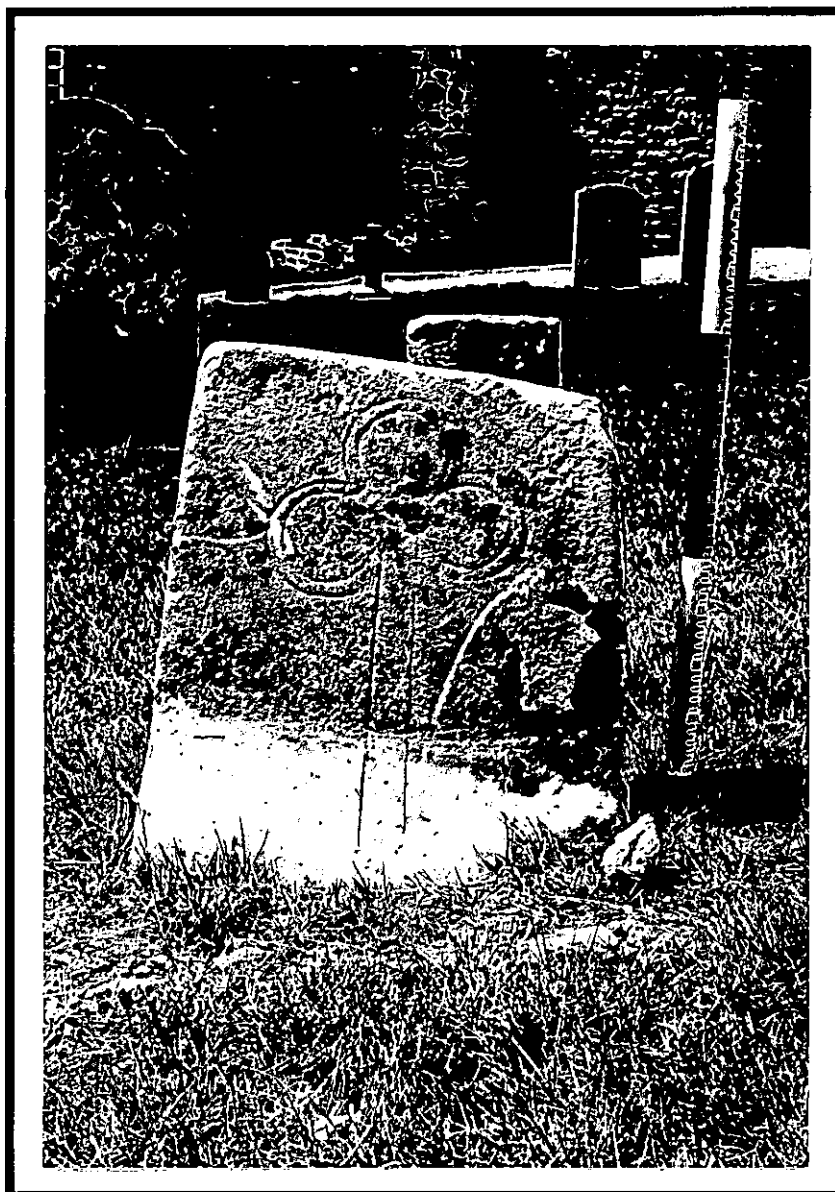
Plate 23: Medieval graveslab in Holy Trinity graveyard, Fethard

central pier of the north aisle of the present church, bears the coat of arms of the Hackett family. The other, located in a semi-pointed niche at the western end of the south wall of the south aisle of the church, is a fragment of the coat of arms of Edward VI. The shield is surmounted by the royal crown and to the dexter of the

shield there is a lion coward guardant. Under the shield are the poorly carved letters: VIVELER.

There are a further two slabs within the graveyard precincts, (see plate 23) three within the ruined chancel and two fragments have been incorporated in the external face of the building.

General References
Leask, H.G., 1960 (1985 reprint), 56.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.1, 77-78 (207-11).

Fireplace

Situated in the east boundary wall of Holy Trinity churchyard (internal face). This limestone fireplace is inserted in the wall. It is chamfered on its inner edge, the head is hewn from one single piece of limestone. The facing stones are pocked and chamfered and dressed with horizontal line tooling. The width of the fireplace opening is 0.98m and the chamfer is 0.08m wide. The head is 1.43m long and 0.2m high, its dexter side is 0.94m high and its sinister side is 1.1m high.

14: 2   Urban Tower House

Siting: Immediately south-east of Holy Trinity church and adjoining the town wall there.

Historical Note: The information on this building is scant. In Fleming's sketch it is described as "Bishops Palace",[1] this may be so as Fethard was an Archiepiscopal Borough at the time of its foundation c.1215 and this status does not appear to have changed until 1553 when the borough was made a corporate body.[2]

Description: This is a long rectangular building, at least three, possibly four storeys high. The long axis is aligned east-west, the south wall being on the line of the town wall. It is constructed of rough limestone blocks and layers of small flat pinning stones laid in random courses. The southern side of the ground floor consists of a long hall, above which, the first floor is roofed by a barrel-vault. The original doorway at ground floor level gives access to the northern part of the building. In the west wall there is a blocked-up opening, the southern chamfered jamb of which is still visible. It is likely that this is also an original doorway which provided separate access to the hall at ground floor level. There is a round-headed doorway at first floor level in the west end of the north wall which would suggest that there was another structure abutting this wall, to which this doorway provided access.

The upper storey apartment measures 11.4m east-west x 5.85m north-south internally. Access to this level was by a stairs rising in the thickness of the west wall and opening into a small mural lobby; at the south end of this lobby were two arched entrances (now broken), one into the main apartment itself, and the other into the machicolation which projects southwards from the exterior of the building. The east wall of the apartment opposite this lobby has three bays of arcading carried on long, tapering corbels. There is a blocked doorway at the west end of the north wall but this is an insert, replacing a fireplace, the flue of which still remains; this doorway originally led into the apartment from a northwards running building, a range of buildings now destroyed. This apartment was lit by at least six

windows, two in each of the east and south walls, and one in each of the other two walls. The north wall window, which is destroyed apart from portion of its west chamfer, also appears to have been inserted at the expense of a fireplace. All the other windows had ogee-heads; those in the centres of the east and south walls were twin-lights. There are also three niches, all in the north wall; the central one is blocked. A stair, turning clockwise in the north-west corner gives access to the parapet, with two separate doorways serving the wall-walk along the north wall and the west gable.[3]

The building, with its cusped ogee-headed windows, machicoulis on the south wall and wall-walk, appears to be of fifteenth century date.

[1]Fleming, J.S., 1914, Frontispiece.
[2]Laffan, T., 1906, 143.
[3]O'Keefe, T., *Pers. Com.*, description of upper storey, December 1993.

14: 3   Town Hall (Market House)/Plaques

Siting: Located on the south side of Main Street, immediately west of the entrance to Holy Trinity Church of Ireland church.

Historical Note: When Fethard was incorporated in 1608, the charter "directed that the Corporation should build a Tholsel for assemblies, for the succession and election of officers &c., &c", the charter also directed that the "sovereign, &c., were to erect for such [town] guilds a tholsel or common hall, where they could assemble and discuss matters for the good of the several companies".[1] It is likely that the building on Main Street, often called the Market House, is in fact the tholsel built as a direct result of the early seventeenth century incorporation charter.

Description: This is a modified seventeenth century building, two storeys high with a forward-facing gable, the apex of which is crowned with an elaborate octagonal chimney stack. There is also a similar stack on the west gable. Some of the original square-headed chamfered windows with hood-mouldings are still *in situ*, though they have been blocked up. The present fenestration dates to the early nineteenth century, as does the carriage arch in the centre of the facade. In the back wall of the building there is a fine segmental-headed doorway with a hood-moulding at first floor level, there is also a dripstone protruding at the western end of this south wall. Inserted in the facade are three seventeenth / early eighteenth century plaques, two of which bear coats of arms of the Dunboynes and the Everards, respectively, and the other is a crucifixion plaque erected by Margaret Everard in 1646.

[1]Laffan, T., 1906, 146-48.

General References
White, J.D., 1892, 97-98.

14: 4   Abbey 'Augustinian'/Sheela-na-gig/Monuments

Siting: Located at the eastern end of the town, at the junction of Abbey Street and Abbeyville and immediately north of the Clashawley river.

FETHARD

Historical Note: The Augustinian foundation in Fethard, Holy Trinity Priory, known simply as "The Abbey", was founded in c. 1306 on land granted by Walter Mulcote. The friars remained here until the dissolution of the monastery in 1540. According to the jurors sent to access the extent of the property, the friary church had been the parish church from time immemorial. At that time the friary possessed "a church and steeple, dormitory, hall, two chambers, kitchen, etc....a mill and a bake-house". In 1544 the property was granted to Edmund Butler, Baron of Dunboyne.[1] It seems that the Augustinian link with Fethard continued up to the seventeenth-century, when the provincial chapters were held there in 1643, 1646 and 1649, and the Provincial Surperior of the Order lived in the town from 1646 to 1649. However, it was not until early in the nineteenth century that the friars were finally able to return. Rebuilding of their church began almost immediately in 1820.[2]

Description: This is a simple nave and chancel church dating from the fourteenth century and rebuilt in the early nineteenth century. There was originally a Lady Chapel running at right angles from the north wall of the nave. The north gable of this side chapel and portion of its east wall survive in a ruinous state. Leading off the south side of the chancel is a small chapel, formerly of the Dunboyne family, now Lady Chapel. The church itself contains some fine fourteenth/fifteenth century stonework with lovely details including floral motifs

Plate 24: Range of Augustinian Abbey, Fethard

and masons marks, particularly in the present Lady Chapel and chancel, both internally and externally. The abbey range, 19.35m long and originally four storeys high, runs southward at right angles to the church. It comprises a chapter room, "cellars", kitchen and dormitories. The range terminates with a building

running parallel to the church, which functioned as a refectory and at the eastern end, housed the library. This last building does not survive above ground level.

The "cellars" mentioned above is in fact a ground floor partitioned into three, each division having a barrel-vaulted roof. It is lit by three windows in the east wall, formerly all two-lights with ogee-heads, and was entered through an ogee-headed sandstone doorway in the west wall. The kitchen has a fire-place in the north-east corner but only the flue remains. A stairs to the west of the kitchen led to the dormitories.

Monuments:
Within the church there are a number of seventeenth century memorials and armorial plaques.

The Wale memorial dating to 1634. This is located in the south wall of the nave.

The elaborate Tobin monument dating to 1634. Located in the south wall of the present Lady Chapel.

Three coats of arms on the south wall of the chancel, one of the Dunboyne family, one of the St. John family and other unidentified.

In the graveyard, north of the nave, there are two memorials, sixteen seventeenth century grave-slabs and four grave-slab fragments, three of which have been incorporated into the fabric of the church. The elaborate composite memorial to the Dunboyne family dates to 1640, the other is an armorial plaque, date and family unknown. Also on the north side of the church is a sculpted male head, inserted in the north gable of the sacristy and a sheela-na-gig inserted into a wall. This sheela-na-gig is atypical, it has straight legs and no obvious sexual characteristics, perhaps these were removed at some stage.

There is an architectural fragment on the gate pier at the south-east corner of the Priory church. This is a double capital decorated with a carved human head and foliage designs.

Stoup: Set into the western end of the south wall is a large circular stoup within a semi-pointed niche. The diameter of the stoup at the mouth is 0.49m internally with a rim 0.06m wide and the bowl is 0.19m deep. It is composed of limestone, painted black externally and roughly tooled. Its large size suggest that it may be a re-used baptismal font. The niche in which it is situated is 1.26m high from soffit to base with a chamfer internally 0.09m wide. It is dressed with sparrow-pecking and line tooling.

[1]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970, 299-300.
[2]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 48-51.

General References
Anonymous, Pamphlet, n.d.
Mullally, M., 1862-63, 146-48.

14: 5   Urban Tower House 'Fethard Castle'

Siting: This building is situated on the west side of Watergate St., between the 'Castle Inn' - a former bar and hotel, and a derelict seventeenth century building.

Historical Note: There is as yet no information about who built this castle and when. It is locally associated with the Knights Templar. The presence of a piscina in the west wall at second floor level would support the opinion that it had some religious affiliations.

Description: The internal dimensions of this site at ground floor level are 11.5m north-south and 7m east-west. The walls are on average 1m thick.

This urban towerhouse is a two-phase construction. It appears to have been built in the late fifteenth/sixteenth century, with major alterations being carried out in the late sixteenth/seventeenth century. It is a fine four-storey structure built of limestone. It has a rectangular plan, with an external stair-well projecting from the west face.

The ground floor has been shortened to accommodate access from the street into the back yard, however, the original north wall and first floor semi-pointed vault are still *in situ.*
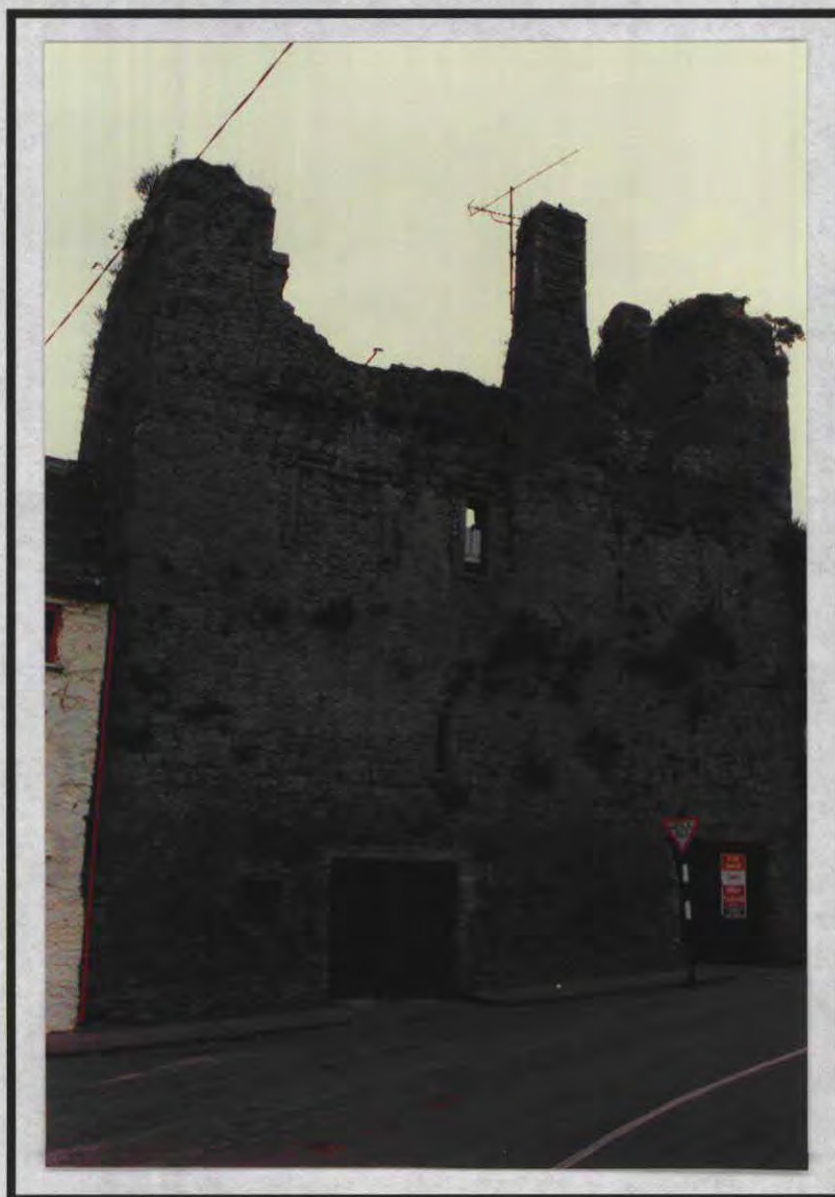
Plate 25: Urban tower house, 'Fethard Castle', Fethard

The second floor has been much modified. The original ceiling level appears to have been heightened by c.1m in the late sixteenth/seventeenth century, the new ceiling level is marked by a double cornice on the east and west walls. The original fireplace was in the south wall, the side jambs of which are still in place. However, it was replaced in the late sixteenth/seventeenth century by a fireplace

inserted in the east wall, with an heavy rectangular chimney stack narrowing towards the top which blocks the wall-walk. The piscina in the west wall is an unusual feature in a secular context and is more usually associated with ecclesiastical buildings. There is a garderobe chamber in the south-east corner and a spiral-staircase in the south-west corner which leads to the wall-walk. The windows at this floor level, with their external hood-mouldings, may be later inserts.

The third floor has also been modified. There seems to have been a central fireplace in the south wall, now blocked, with a blind arcade on either side. This triple arrangement was mirrored on the opposing north wall, but during the second phase of building a fireplace was inserted in the central arcade, its chimney partly fouling the mural chamber above, and an overhang was constructed in the western arcade allowing access from the third floor to the wall-walk.

14: 6 Late Medieval Building/Architectural Fragments

Siting: Attached to the south side of Fethard Castle.

Description: This is a modified seventeenth century building (see plate 26). It has three storeys, is square in plan, measuring 9.2m x 9.15m externally and is composed of randomly coursed limestone blocks with cut-stone used on quoins.

Plate 26: Late Medieval Building, Fethard

The roof is steep-pitched and there is a massive projecting chimney in the west wall. The original windows have been either blocked up or replaced. In the west

wall there is a blocked loop at ground floor level and a single light with chamfered surround survives on the first floor. Also at first floor level in this wall there is a blocked semi-pointed cut-stone doorway, its presence at this level would suggest that there was formerly an external stairs or ancillary structure attached to this wall. Internally there are a number of corbels and there is a fine seventeenth-century cut-stone fireplace with casement moulding in the west wall.

Architectural Fragments:
(a) The limestone chamfered base of a doorway lying loose in the yard of the house.
(b) A cut and dressed archstone incorporated into the east boundary wall of the yard.

14: 7   Town Defences/Sheela-na-Gig

Siting: The medieval town walls surround most of the present town of Fethard, although the town has developed beyond the walls on the eastern side. The Clashawley river runs parallel to the southern side of the town wall.

Historical Note: The earliest known murage grant for Fethard dates to 1292, further grants, were made from 1367 onwards over a period of at least a hundred years.[1] In 1608 the incorporation charter of James I empowered the town authorities "to take fines, forfeitures, &c., same to be applied to the repairing of town wall and fortifications".[2]

Description: The town walls of Fethard are remarkably intact. Practically the whole oval circuit, enclosing an area of 7.5 hectares, is complete, apart from a short stretch at the western and south-eastern ends. The wall is composed of large blocks of randomly coursed limestone with small rubble fill and pinning stones . On the north side the wall is 1.36m thick and survives to a maximum height of 6m. The southern stretch of town wall, from the south-east corner of Holy Trinity graveyard westward to Convent Bridge (Madam Bridge), is currently under-going restoration, along with the only remaining rectangular wall tower (7a) which is in the south-west corner of Holy Trinity graveyard. In time this restoration will probably extend to other stretches of the town wall. The mural tower, as well as the north gate, appear to be of fifteenth century date and were probably built with money received from the later murage grants.[3] At the north-east corner of the town wall there is a circular tower which has a round-headed, single-light window near the top (7b). Some buildings have been built up against it externally and it is possible that the turret was altered when it was incorporated into the military barracks.[4] The town wall is surprisingly featureless considering the level of survival. There is a blocked loop, 1.3m high and 0.12m wide, with an external splay in the south-east corner of the town wall and two other smaller loops, one immediately to the east of the loop described above and the other is at a higher level in the southern section of wall east of Watergate Street.

Gates: The north gate (7c) at Sparagoulea is the only surviving town gate. Originally the town would have four, if not five gates, one guarding every access route to and from the town. The gate at the western end of Main Street (7d) and another on Barrack Street (7e) were only demolished towards the end of the nineteenth century. It is likely that one was situated on Moor Street (7f) and another on Watergate Street (7g), as the street name suggests. The north gate is

3.5m wide and has a round arch. It was originally higher, possibly with a room above it, but the upper courses were removed when they became too unstable earlier this century; a pedestrian archway was also broken through the adjacent town wall around this time. Attached to the east side there is a rectangular gatehouse 7.2m x 5.9m. This building appears to have had at least three storeys, the uppermost of which is barrel vaulted. There is a mural passage in the north
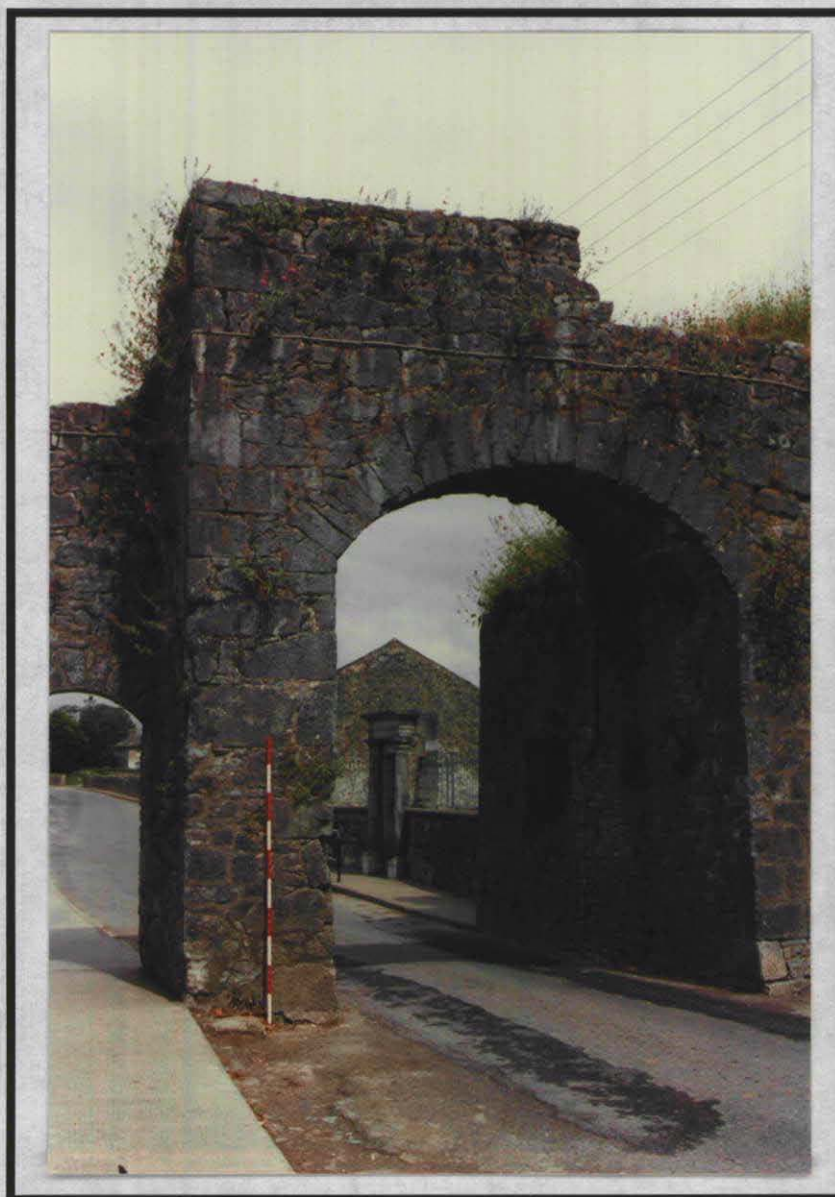
Plate 27: Sparagoulea gate, Fethard

wall and only two windows are visible. In the west wall there is a single loop with an external splayed embrasure and in the south wall at second floor level there is a blocked single- light ogee-headed window.

Sheela-na-Gig: This is inserted in the town wall near Watergate Street and faces the Clashawley river. The figure has a large head with pronounced eyes, the mouth displays a teeth-baring snarl and the cheeks are deeply scored; its

body has clearly defined ribs, no breasts and the arms are extended behind the splaying legs, with the hands holding the open vulva.

[1]Bradley, J., 1985, 48.
[2]Laffan, T., 1906, 148.
[3]*Op. cit.*, 1985, 48.
[4]Thomas, A., 1992, Vol.II, 102.
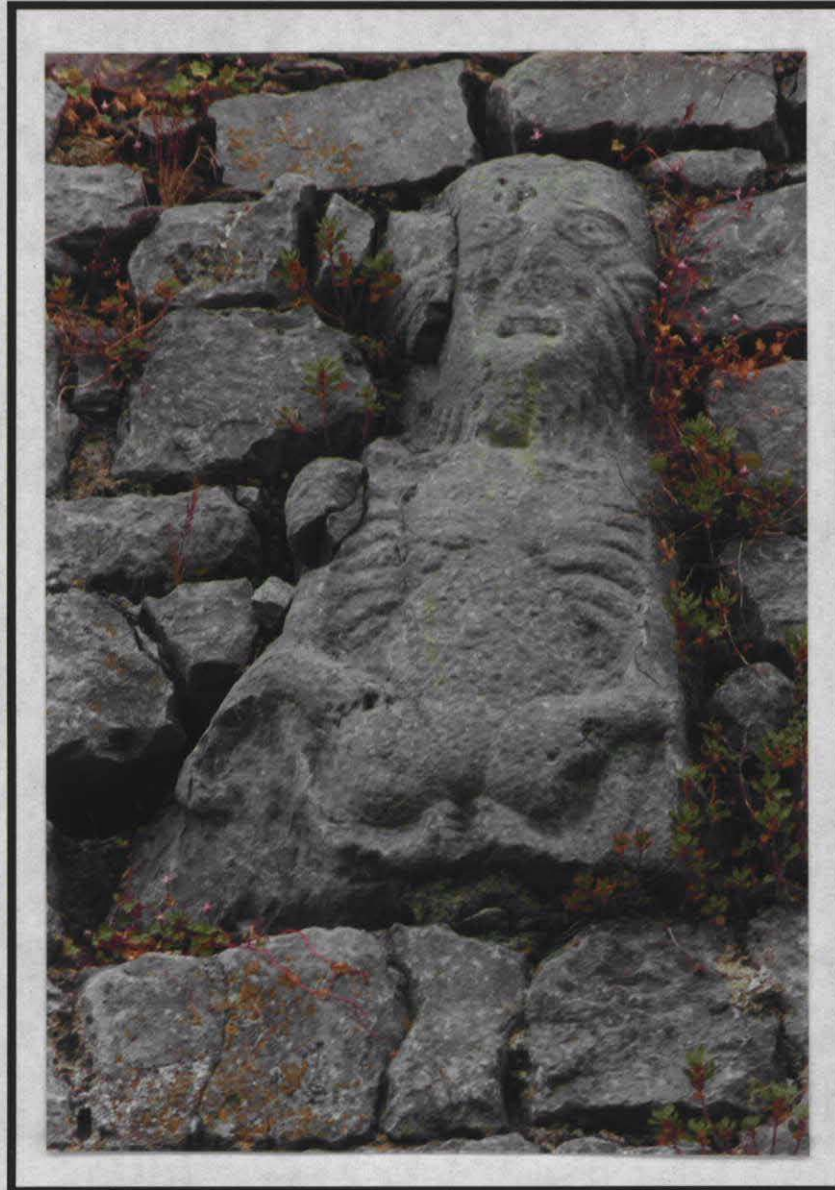
Plate 28: Sheela-na-gig in the town wall, Fethard

14: 8 Late Medieval Building (possible/site)   'Old Hotel'

Siting: At the east end of Main Street at the junction with Barrack Street, Fethard.

Historical Note: This building was a hotel in the late nineteenth and most of the twentieth century. It was demolished in September/October 1993 and a new building erected on the site.

Description: The external length of the facade was 15.25m, although the most northerly 3.25m appeared to be the base of an extension. This was a large three storey building with irregular fenestration. Some rendering from the west facade had been removed and the left-hand side jambstones of a fine, moulded limestone fireplace were revealed plus an additional moulded fragment, presumably part of the same. This is a typical seventeenth century fireplace. At first floor, in the east wall, there was a similar early modern fireplace. It is also of limestone and is moulded along its inner edge. A number of corbels were also noted at first floor level. A heavy limestone chimney on the south gable is also indicative of an early date for the building.

General Reference
Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 50.

14: 9   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: North side of Moor St./General Thomas Burke St., currently Coen's Meat Market.

Description: Noted as possible early building equipped with a massive chimney stack on the west gable by Garner and Craig.[1] Mr. Coen told us that in December 1987 he took out a very large fireplace 6'x 4' constructed of large limestone blocks (re-used in Friary wall), five cartloads were removed in the demolition of the chimney and fireplace. The chimney projection in the west gable below roof-line still remains intact. The north wall of this building at ground floor level is 0.8m thick. The building has been heightened.

[1]Craig, M. and Garner, W., 1975, 51.

14: 10   Mill (possible/site)

Siting: Located at the east end of Fethard, immediately south of the Augustinian Abbey and north of the River Clashawley.

Description: This mill building is probably on the site of an earlier mill which would have been part of the abbey complex. The earliest part of this present mill dates to the eighteenth century, as indicated by a large limestone plaque incorporated into the masonry "Aby Mills Built by Patrick O Connel in the year 1791". This plaque was re-used as a threshold stone at some stage as is suggested by a spudstone hole at one of its corners. There is no evidence of a pre-eighteenth century structure. The mill, which is primarily of nineteenth century date, was entirely renovated in the 1980's.

14: 11   Re-used Fireplace Jamb

Siting: Lodged in the bottom south-east corner of a wall on the northwest side of Barrack Street.

Description: This is possibly part of the same fireplace fragment lodged in the west facade of the old hotel building. The limestone fragment is 0.57m x 0.37m and 0.33m high and has a moulding on one side 0.08m deep.

14: 12   Pound / Window

Siting: The former pound which is located immediately south of the town wall and the ancillary building to the south-east of Holy Trinity Church. The window is located in its west wall.

Description:
The pound is a roughly coursed limestone structure measuring 19.1m x 6.6m externally and 48cm thick. It is accessed through a round-headed arch in the south wall which is 1.2m wide. The minutes of Fethard corporation's D'Oyer Hundred jury court which survive from 1707 record the annual income received from the pound in that year.[1] Between 1708 and 1718 the pound was in need of repair, requiring paving and a new door or gate.[2] The pound must have been in existence for some time in the sixteenth century to warrant such attention.
In the west wall of the pound there is a key-hole window with a splaying chamfer surround. This chamfer is 0.08m towards the top and widens to 0.22m. The surround is 1.29m high, and 0.19m deep and the sill projects 0.18m and is 0.46m wide. The light itself is 1.05m high and 0.13m wide and there is a glazing-bar hole at the top on on the north jamb. The wall in which this window is placed is 6.37m long with a battered base. It is 1.3m thick and 2.45m high. A limited excavation by G. Scally has revealed that the west wall of the pound was originally the east wall of an earlier builidng which ran westward, parallel to the town wall.[3]

[1]O'Donnell, M., 1988, 25.
[2]*Ibid.*
[3]Scally, G., Typscript, February 1991.

14: 13   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: Located at the eastern end of the town, at the corner of Moor Street and Lower Green Street.

Description: This building is described by Craig and Garner (1975): "At the gable-end of the return of the building, which is a T-plan, is a heavy stack". The house appears to have an L-shaped plan and the heavy stack is still visible in the north gable. Access to the interior was not attainable.

14: 14   Late Medieval Building

Siting: Located at the western end of Moor Street, the first two houses on the south side.

Description: These buildings were identified by Craig and Garner (1975) as having a pie-crust cornice, "dating them to *c.* 1700". There was another building attached to the west gable of the most westerly house which may have been

similar. The easterly house has a slightly higher roof pitch and only portion of the pie-crust cornice has survived intact. The owner of the end house informed us that both houses had been subject to major internal alterations. The interior was not accessed.

14: 15   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: Located at the east end of Main Street. It is currently a pub belonging to P.J. Lonergan.

Description: This building was noted by Craig and Garner (1975) as being a former forge with a heavy stack on its south gable. The building has been modified and extended.

14: 16   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting:_On the south side of Moor Street (beside a four-bay, three-storey house with a simple, square headed doorcase with a fanlight).

Description: This building is described by Craig and Garner (1975) as 'a four-bay, two-storey house with a steep-pitched roof and heavy stacks, but modernised facade'. It is roughly T-shaped in plan and has brick cornice work at the rear which suggests a late seventeenth-century date.[1]

[1]Pers. Comm. Tadhg O'Keeffe, Jan. 1994.

14: 17   Watergate Bridge (possible)

Siting: Located south of Fethard, this bridge crosses the Clashawley river and connects Watergate Street with The Valley.

Description: This is a small narrow bridge of rubble limestone, irregularly coursed. It is flat with four spans, two segmental headed arches at the northern end and two round-headed of differed sizes at the southern end. There are two triangular cut-waters on the west face. The bridge is 29.1m in length, 5.15m wide and the parapet is 1.37m high above road level and 0.38m wide. The capstones have been rendered with concrete and are now quite weathered. The parapet curves outwards on both sides at the northern end of the bridge. No datestone is apparent, however its simple construction, its location in the town and its name with its associations with one of the town gates, would suggest that it is probably of medieval date.

14: 18   Bridge Site 'Madam's Bridge'

Siting: This is located at the western end of town, it crosses over the Clashawley river, connecting Main Street to Kerry Street.

Description: The earlier bridge at the site was demolished in 1884. The present nineteenth-century three-span bridge is similar in form to its predecessor (see print by F.O'Reilly), though it is not humped.

14: 19   Late Medieval Building (site)   'Everard's Mansion'

Siting: Formerly located at the eastern end of Main Street on the north side.

Description: This building, traditionally a tower house of the Everard family, was incorporated in the British military barracks in the eighteenth century. In 1922 the barracks was completely destroyed, as well as any trace of the earlier dwelling.

14: 20   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: Located east of the long building associated with Holy Trinity church (the Archbishop's palace) and south of the seventeenth century dwelling adjacent to Fethard Castle.

Description: This building appears to have adjoined the town wall and may be an early building; there are traces of such in the present yard (belonging to Dr. Stokes) which appears to be on the site of this building (see architectural fragments in yard of the seventeenth century dwelling). The building is illustrated in Fleming's *The Town Wall Fortifications of Ireland*.[1]

[1]Fleming, J.S., 1914, Frontispiece.

14: 21   Architectural Fragment

Siting: This fragment is incorporated in a wall in The Valley, a road running east-west, located south of the town and Clashawley river.

Description: This is portion of the head of two-light ogee with cusped spandrels. It measures 0.57m x 0.37m. The fragment probably came from the town itself where a similar window occurs in the east wall of the ruined fifteenth century chancel in Holy Trinity church.[1]

[1]Maher, D., 1991, 228-230.

14: 22   Ringbarrow (SMR 70:112)

Siting: Located in the corner of a large field immediately south of the garden allotments on the south side of the Valley road.[1]   It lies on a gentle north-facing slope and commands a fine view of the town.

Description: This is an excellently preserved earthen ringbarrow.   Its total east-west diameter is 21.70m and it is 23m north-south. The central mound which is 13m in diameter is surrounded by a ditch which is 1.20m wide. Mound and ditch are enclosed by a bank which is 3.10m in overall width, 0.35m in height internally and no more than 0.10m over the exterior. A property boundary running north-south clips the outer edge of the bank at east.

[1] This site was first recognised by Katherine Daly of the SMR Office, O.P.W., in 1992, on O.S. aerial photo no. 9874/3.

14: 23   Late Medieval Building (possible)

Siting: On the south side of Moor Street.
Description: The town wall was utilised to form the western gable of this building. In the interior of the house there is a stone stairs which was evidently built up against the town wall. This building is possibly of late seventeenth-century date.[1]

[1]Pers. Comm. Tadhg O'Keeffe, Jan. 1994.

14: 24a-c   Late Medieval Doorways

Siting: On the south side of Moor Street, incorporated in the boundary wall to the rear of site 14:16 described above.
Description: Three similar dressed and chamfered limestone doorways. They vary in width from 97cm (a) to 78cm (c), doorway (b) is 83cm wide. The doorways are typical of the late medieval period, however, they are not in their original location, which is unknown.[1]

[1]Pers. Comm. Tadhg O'Keeffe, Jan. 1994.

SMR Sites within the Development Plan Boundary
(see SMR constraint maps and manual)

Sheet No.	SMR No.	Site Type
70	44	Hospital (possible)
70	112	Ringbarrow (described above)

UNLOCATED SITES

Hospital (possible)
Historical Background: The hospital of the Holy Trinity at Fethard is mentioned in a charter dating to 1612. This charter was granted to John Everard who built two poorhouses/hospitals in the town, one north of Holy Trinty church and one south of the same.[1] A plaque on the Market House states in latin that " Madam Everard, 'alias' Roche, widow of John Everard; junior, erected these ensigns of Our Redemption, which the Everards, the founders designed to be set up for the Patrons of this Monastery; and being prevented by death their names could not be affixed to this".[2] The afore mentioned Margaret Everard died in 1646 and according to Lee this hospital may have been located at the site of the present Market House.[3] However, it seems more likely that the Market House was built for the specific function of acting as a Town Hall when the town was incorporated in 1608. The incorporation charter "directed that the Corporation should build a Tholsel for assemblies, for the succession and election of officers &c., &c".[4] The plaque commemorating the building of the "monastery" was probably taken from the hospital and inserted in the facade of the Market Hall.
Lee also postulates that the name Spitalfield, attached to both a street and townland south of Fethard, is associated with hospital foundations, so the hospital may have been in the vicinity of either of these locations.[5]
[1]Laffan, T., 1906, 147.
[2]White, J.D., 1892, 97-98.
[3]Lee, G.A., 1966, 24.
[4]Laffan, T., 1906, 147.
[5]Lee, G.A., 1966, 24.

GOLDEN

An Gabhaílin meaning a little fork formed by a river

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1640 Golden castle and lands held by James, Earl of Ormond.[1]
1641 Seige of Golden castle by 200 Confederates with 20 men, 120 women and children within it.[2]
1690 William III camped at Golden bridge on the 5th of August.[3]

[1] Simington, R.C., 1934, 7.
[2] Cairns, C.T., 1987, 24.
[3] White, J.D., 1892, 50.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Church (site)
2 Tower House
3 Bridge
4 Earthworks
5 Architectural Fragment
6 Late Medieval Building (possible/site)

Unlocated Sites:
Weirs

15: 1 Church (site)

Siting: The Church of Ireland church and graveyard is located north of the village, on the east side of the River Suir and is accessed via a narrow avenue running due north of the main street through the village.

Historical note: The graveyard in which the present church stands was traditionally known as Relick Murry i.e. Reilig Mhuire (Virgin Mary's cemetery). Although this name is no longer applied to the churchyard, it is retained in the parish name. The earliest recorded reference to the site known to the authors of this report, is for the seventeenth century. The Civil Survey of 1654-56 refers to a church in the parish of Religmurry with attendant glebeland 'fenced about with a ditch' and describes it as 'wast without improvement'.[1]

Description: The present church is a nineteenth century structure and the graveyard is dominated by eighteenth to twentieth century gravestones. However, three architectural fragments, including a piece of cusped window tracery, a mullion and portion of the head of a rectangular window were found within the graveyard. The ditch surounding the church glebeland, mentioned in the Civil

Survey, has not survived. An interesting later feature of the graveyard is an eighteenth century mausoleum adjoining the eastern boundary at its southern

Plate 29: Medieval window fragment, protestant church, Golden

end. A limestone plaque bearing a latin inscription over the doorway of the mausoleum, commemorates Samuel Alleyn.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.II, 365.

General References
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.I, 83 (221).

108

15: 2 Tower House

Siting: Golden tower house is situated on a small island in the River Suir which adjoins the west face of Golden bridge, at the southwestern end of the village. The river separates into two channels north of the village which then reunite at
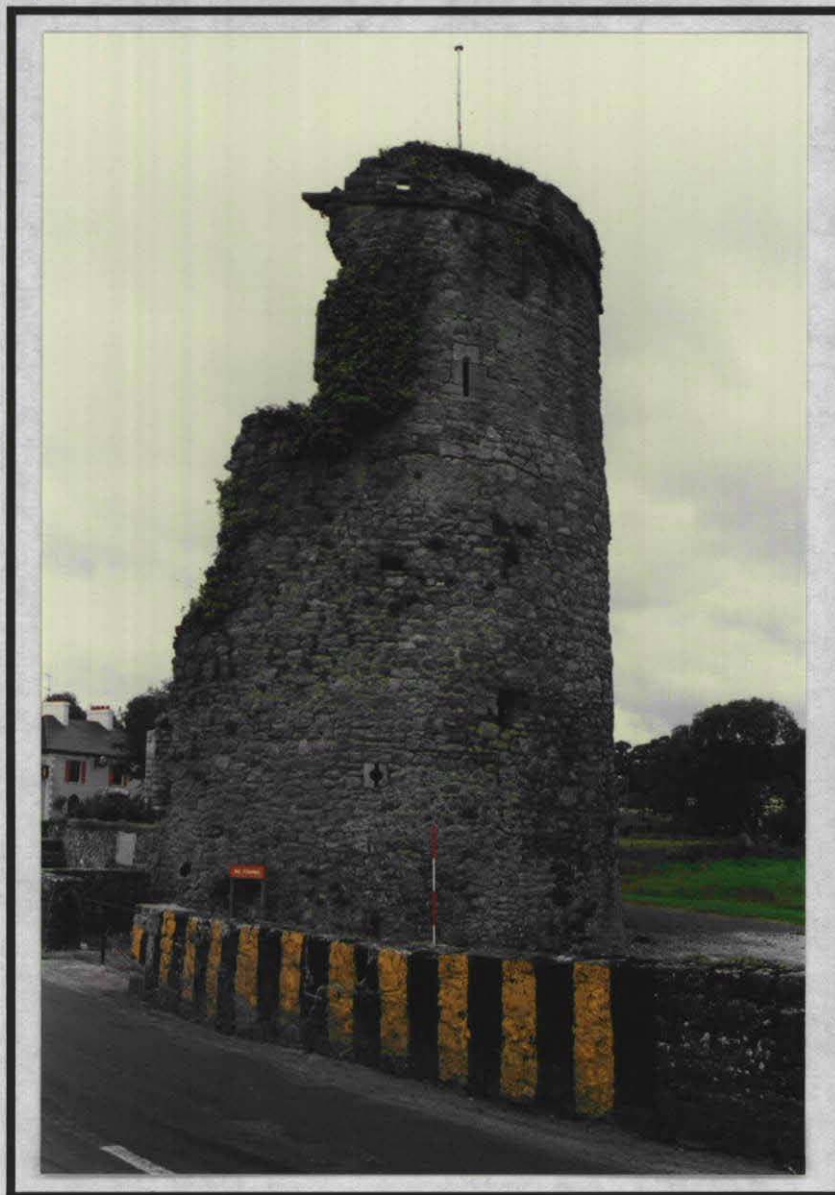
Plate 30: Tower house, Golden

the bridge consequently forming the sub-rectangular island on which the castle stands.

Historical Note: The present tower house was erected (most likely as a Butler stronghold) in the late fifteenth/early sixteenth century to guard the pass over the River Suir at this point. It has been suggested that there was an earlier stone castle here of twelfth-fourteenth century date.[1] Early references to the site are rather scant and it is not until the seventeenth century that it features in any prominent way in historical sources. The principle incident connected with the tower house is the seige which commenced in December 1641 and continued for

11 weeks. Over 130 men, women and children managed to exist within the confined space of the towerhouse for the duration.

Description: The tower house is a relatively small much ruined structure, circular in plan, composed of randomly coursed limestone rubble. It formerly comprised four-storeys, however, only the eastern half housing the ground to first floor flight of the spiral staircase and portions of the second and third floors

Plate 31: Detail of gun-port, tower house, Golden

remain standing. The original internal diameter is 6.20m and the surviving wall is 1.85m thick. There are suggestions of the springing of a vault under the first floor croft. Among the remaining features of the towerhouse are the lower flight of the lintelled mural staircase, 0.87m wide; the cut limestone rectangular doorway giving access from the staircase to the first floor; a string-course and apertures for drip-stones in the top masonry courses; two cut limestone circular gun-ports facing east and southeast, one of which looks out from the stairwell; two arrow loops facing east and northeast; a possible slop-stone outlet; and a single-light

ogee-headed window on the top floor. The area immediately west of the standing portion of the towerhouse has been landscaped as a small park for the village and a memorial to James McDonagh erected within it.

Medieval Graveslab

Of interest within the tower house is a medieval limestone graveslab of the thirteenth/fourteenth century reused as a staircase lintel, measuring approximately 1.10m x 0.55m. It is decorated with an incised unfinished cross, comprising a plain shaft and the very rudimentary beginnings of what was obviously intended as a cross head. The top and bottom of the slab are obscured where they are bonded into the side walls of the staircase so that the remains of the upper part of the design of the head and the base of the cross are not discernible. There is an almost perfectly circular three-strand spiral scored over the surface of the slab at its centre and cutting across the shaft. In addition, there are a series of six scored intersecting circles on the dexter side of the spiral. These marks most likely represent trial pieces or blue-prints for other works. It seems that for one reason or another the thirteenth/fourteenth century graveslab was never finished, was subsequently used as a mason's layout block and finally taken by the fifteenth/sixteenth century tower house builders, undoubtedly because of its ideal size, and reused as a lintel on the lower flight of the staircase.

[1]Barry, T.B., 1977, 147.

General References
Cairns, C.T., 1987, 11-12, 24.
Craig, M., 1982, 103.
Hall, Mr. and Mrs., 1841, 157.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.I, 83 (221).
Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, 7.
White, J., 1892, 48-53.

15: 3 Bridge

Siting: This bridge is located on the River Suir at the point where it utilises an island in the middle of the river.

Historical Note: One of the earliest references to a bridge over the Suir at Golden occurs in the Civil Survey 1654-56. It is described as being 'uppon a pass' between Golden castle and Religmurry. It is connected with a number of historical events - the seige of the towerhouse during the 1641 rebellion and the renewal of the Charter of Cashel which was signed upon the bridge by William III on 5th August 1690. However, the existence of the towerhouse at this point on the river Suir as early as the fifteenth/sixteenth century and the possibility of an earlier castle on the site, strongly suggests that there was a bridge or ford at this point prior to the seventeenth century.

Description: Golden bridge is an elegant limestone structure in good condition, which dominates the village at its southwest end. It is 82m long and runs in a northeast-southwest direction for its greater length, then angles and broadening slightly, continues due northwest. At the junction between both sections, a squinch was inserted to square the angle. It is typically narrow being only 6m wide, the parapet walls are 0.45m thick and 1.10m in height over the bridge surface. It is an eleven-span bridge with eight four-centred arches and three

smaller round-headed arches in the over-flow channels at the centre and both ends. The narrow channel at the very northeastern end of the bridge is likely to have been used as a mill-stream as there is quite a steady flow on it. On the

Plate 32: Golden bridge

underside of each of the larger spans there are corbels on both sides of the arch springing. There are nine cut-waters, triangular in plan, on its west side. The main fabric of the bridge is randomly coursed limestone rubble, while cut-stone is used in the cut-waters and around each arch span. The caps of each of the cut-waters are rendered with concrete as are the soffits of the arch spans. There are also a number of rectangular drain-holes in the parapet. A date-stone crudely inscribed 1761 is incorporated into the masonry of the parapet on the northwest side of the bridge near the present entrance to the towerhouse.

A local informed the survey that the bridge had been recently pumped with dry cement to strengthen it.

General References
Craig,M. and Garner, W., 1975, 53.
Hall, Mr. and Mrs., 1841, 157.
Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, 7.
White, J., 1892, 49-50.

15: 4   Earthworks

Siting: The earthworks extend across the greater part of the townland of Baurstooken on the north side of the village and are bounded by a north-south flowing stream to the west and the River Suir immediately west of that again.

GOLDEN

Access is afforded north of both the R.C. graveyard and the Church of Ireland churchyard. The complex occupies a gentle west-facing slope in meadowland which sweeps down to the river bank. The Slievardagh hills are visible to the north while the view to the east is obscured by trees and a rise in ground level.

Description: On the date visited, the site was knee-high with grass so that the earthworks were not clearly distinguishable. Nonetheless with the aid of a CUCAP aerial photo the following features were located -

(a) a sub-rectangular platform enclosure 51.08m in diameter N-S x 50. 07m E-W. It is slightly concave at the centre and is enclosed by a bank, best preserved in the northeastern quadrant, where it is 5m wide including slip. Elsewhere the bank has been almost totally flattened to the extent that the perimeter of the site is unclear at west. The enclosure is raised approximately 1m over the surrounding field level while the surviving bank is 0.27m in height over the interior of the enclosure. There are indications on the CUCAP aerial photo of a single bank adjoining the enclosure on its northwest side and running due north for a considerable distance.

(b)The most interesting feature of the site are two denuded parallel earthen banks, 4.55m apart, snaking across the meadow in an approximate north-south direction from the north boundary of the Church of Ireland churchyard, to merge with the bank of a stream at the northern end of the townland. The conclusion may be drawn that this is a former roadway, wide enough to have facilitated carts. The most southerly portion of this linear earthwork was not visible on the date of the survey, however, aerial evidence illustrates that it ran in a northeast-southwest direction. The second portion of the earthworks runs from southeast to northwest for a distance of 28m and the third and final segment angles slightly to the northeast and proceeds for 14m to join the bank of the steam. In general the western one of the two banks is the better preserved, rising to a height of 0.25m over the surrounding field level and attaining a maximum width of 4m including slippage on its inner and outer faces. The corresponding east bank is in poor condition being no more than 0.20m in height over the exterior except at its very northern end where a small portion of it stands to a height of 0.27m over the exterior and 0.58m over its internal face. The authenticity of this portion of the bank is however in doubt. The freshness of its content and the presence of a hollow nearby suggests that it is recent cast-up material. The area between the banks, which is undoubtedly a roadway, has a slight ridge at its centre.
A small hump-backed single-span bridge of randomly coursed limestone rubble, 5.40m in length and 2.60m wide fords the stream near the terminus of this roadway. It is just possible that the roadway was in use as late as the eighteenth/early nineteenth century and that the bridge was associated with it. The CUCAP photo shows additional linear earthworks (possible field system) running at right angles to each other and to the road at its southwest end.

The origins of the roadway and the associated earthworks are unknown. However, the existence of a church and its attendant glebeland, recorded as being 'fenced about by a ditch' in the Civil Survey 1654-56, may suggest that there was accompanying settlement in its immediate area, of which the surviving roadway and platform enclosure were possibly an integral part.

15: 5 Architectural Fragment

Siting: Incorporated into the masonry of the north wall of the interior of the porch of the R.C. church at the eastern end of the village and north of the main street.

Description: A semi-circular limestone base for an engaged pillar (possibly originally from a window or niche) of fifteenth century type. It is moulded and bears some traces of dressing. The original location of this fragment is not known but may have come from the nearby Religmurry.

15: 6 Late Medieval Building (possible/site)

Siting: Located at the south-east side of Golden Bridge.

Historical Note: According to J.D. White, the house adjoining Golden bridge at its southeast end was both a Club House and a dwelling, possibly dating from the seventeenth century but certainly no later than the opening years of the eighteenth century. This is testified by a stone (now lost) inscribed with the date 1705 and the initials F.M.C. which formerly graced the facade of the building. The initials are thought to be those of Florence McCarthy who managed the Club for Lord Clan William. When the premises ceased to be a club is not known. It was the private residence of Captain Ryan at one time and c. 1837 members of the 69th Regiment were quartered there.[1]

Description: There are a number of buildings adjoining the bridge at its southeast end. However, they all appear to be of nineteenth century date. Locally, there is no recollection of the datestone described above.

[1]White, J., 1892, 53

UNLOCATED SITES

Weirs
Two fishing weirs at Golden are mentioned in the Civil Survey, 1654-56.[1]

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, 7.

KILLENAULE

Cíll Náfle meaning chunch of St. Náfle

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

c.1359 The Reeve and community of Killenaule were fined 20d for the assize of bread and ale.[1]

1417 Thomas Butler, Prior of Kilmainham granted Killenaule to his son Edmund fitz Thomas Butler, July 9th.[2]

1432 The Reeve and community of Kilsheelan were summoned to the Seneschal's Court in Clonmel.[3]

1441 Earliest record of Killenaule castle, held by the first Lord of Knight, Stanon.[4]

1442 Walter de Burgo was held in the Earl of Ormond's prison "in the Castle of the town of Killenayl".[5]

1534 Richard Cantwell granted all his messuages and lands in Killenaule to Piers, Earl of Ossory.[6]

1538 Henry VIII granted Piers and James Butler the town of Killenaule, among others, in consideration of their faithful service during the Geraldine Rebellion.[7]

1540 Indenture between Margaret, Countess dowager of Ormond and her son James Butler in which Margaret is granted, among others, the castle, town and manor of Killenaule.[8]

1542 James Archer granted to Thomas Marres and Edmund Purcell 'his whole inheritence in the town of Killenaule'.[9]

1544 Meiler Cantwell granted Thomas Marres, all his messuages, land etc., in Killenaule and in the burgage of the same.[10]

[1]Calendar Ormond Deeds, 1350-1413, 38.
[2]*Ibid.*, 1413-1509, 16-17.
[3]*Ibid.*, 95.
[4]Hassett, J.J. (ed.), 1990, 26-27.
[5]*Ibid.*
[6]*Op.cit.*, 1509-1547, 64.
[7]*Ibid.*, 178.
[8]*Ibid.*, 194.
[9]*Ibid.*, 221.
[10]*Ibid.*

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1   Church and Graveyard
2 & 3 Castle (site) and earthworks
4   Well (possible)
5   Well (possible) 'Toberavoher'

16: 1   Church and Graveyard

Siting: On the south side of River Street. The church is at the highest point of a gentle rise with the graveyard occupying the slope of the hill to the east and south of the church.

Description: The present church is a nineteenth century structure built on the site of an earlier eighteenth century church. It was a Catholic foundation until 1762 and thereafter used for Protestant worship. There was clearly a much earlier church on the site as is suggested by an illustration on the Down Survey map of 1655-58. This is borne out by four medieval architectural fragments found in the graveyard. Each of the fragments are limestone and were reused as gravemarkers. They include a mullion and two other window fragments and two possible door jambstones.
There are no pre-1700 gravestones in the graveyard. Access to the church interior was not obtained.

General References
Hassett M.(ed.), 1990, 35.
Down Survey 1655-58.

16: 2 & 3   Castle (site) and earthworks

Siting: This site complex occupies a central position in a field at the lower east end of the town, northeast of River Street. It is not particularly commanding as it is situated at the very western foothills of the Slieveardagh Hills. It is surrounded by marsh on its north, east and south sides with a river running north-south forming the townland boundary to the west.

Historical Note: In 1441 the castle in Killenaule belonged to Stanon, the first Lord of Knight.[1] Walter De Burgo was held in the Earl of Ormond's prison "in the Castle of the town of Killenayl" in 1442.[2]
In 1482, Walter, son of William Hackett was also threatened with imprisonment in the castle prison. [3]

Description: The site comprises a flat-topped earthen mound rising to a maximum height of 3m. It was erected at the southern end of a lowlying natural ridge with its long axis north-south. The mound is accompanied by a low sub-rectangular platform (possibly a bailey) on its east side. The flat top of the mound is 16m north-south x 24m east-west. It is quite precipitous on its south and west faces with a more gentle gradient to the north and east. While it is tempting to classify the mound as a motte, it must be considered that it is unimpressive in size and has a non-strategic location in its immediate landscape offering only limited views of the hinterland. The ridge which it occupies is 42. 80m in length north-south. Nothing of the former stone castle which is first mentioned in 1441 is visible. The castle earthworks and the bailey are separted from each other by a berm or trackway 4m wide outside of which there is a ditch 6m wide runnning north-south. At a distance of 28.70m east of the mound and within the bailey area there is a a quartz and limestone conglomerate standing stone, 58cm in height, 30cm wide at its base and 22cm thick. The antiquity of this stone is dubious. Soil erosion around its base suggests that it may have been erected as a scratching

Plate 33: Motte (possible), Killenaule

post for cattle. In addition, if the platform in which it is set is a bailey it is unlikely that a prehistoric standing stone would have remained *in situ* during its construction. The possible bailey measures 16m north-south x 24m east-west and rises to a height of 1.05m above the ditch on the west side and 1.15m above the surrounding field level.

[1]Hassett, J.J. (ed.), 1990, 26-27.
[2]*Ibid.*
3*COD,* vol. 3, 1413-1509, 246-7.

General References
Hassett, J.J. (ed.), 1990, 26-27.
Holland, P., Tipperary S.R. County Museum Field Report 4/11/1987.
Down Survey 1655-58.

16: 4   Well (possible)

Maps: Designated 'Well' on O.S. current ed. 6 inch map. Not recorded on 1st ed. 6 inch 1840

Siting: This well lies within the east bank of a fast-moving stream and northwest of the site of Killenaule castle. It is almost totally obscured by hawthorn, elderberry and ivy which over-hangs it.

Desciption: There is no historical or cartographic evidence to suggest that this well is of any antiquity. Its close proximity to Killenaule castle however, may indicate an association between the two. Alternatively it may be a late landscape feature of the Waldron Estate, created along with the osiery and summer house which are marked on the 1st ed. 1840 map. The well which is not named is in a very ruinous condition. It comprises a gentle spring partially covered with limestone dry-stone walling. The mouth of the well is 50cm x 75cm. Two large regular shaped stones lying nearby in the stream may have functioned as lintels at the head of the well. There are no deposits to indicate any religious activity, it was clearly for domestic use. Three large pieces of a lugged iron skillet were found within the spring well.

16: 5 Well (possible) 'Toberavoher'

Maps: Not marked on O.S. 1st ed., 1840 6 inch map. Marked and designated 'Toberavoher' covered well on current ed. sheet no. 54.

Siting: Toberavoher is situated at the southern end of a large gently sloping meadow formerly accessible via a narrow trackway running east from Bailey Street on the northern side of the town. The trackway is now barely discernible.

Description: The name Toberavoher obviously derives from the Irish - Tobar an bhothair 'well of the road'. Despite this appellation there is no tradition of any religious pilgrimage to the well or any historical references to suggest its antiquity or otherwise.
Toberavoher lies on the north side of a choked stream with a second well now covered adjoining it on the south side.
They are separated from each other by a drystone wall running east-west. Access from one to the other is via a narrow stile. Toberavoher was heavily overgrown with hawthorn and briars on the date visited. It is a small rectangular well enclosed on its north and south sides by drystone limestone walling and capped with a large flagstone lintel 8cm thick. It is 58cm deep from ground surface to base and the overall height from lintel to base is 1m. The well opening, 90cm wide, is on the west side and is accessed via a single step leading down from the south side.

KILSHEELAN

Cíll / Coíll Síóheán meaning church or wood of the faíry híll

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

c.1192 Prince John[1]/Henry II granted the de Burghs the Manor of Kilsheelan.[2]

1230s Richard de Burgh was granted the right to have 'warrens' in his demesne of Kilsheelan.[3]

1281 Richard de Burgh exchanged Kilsheelan for lands in Ulster and Otto de Grandison was granted the Manor of Kilsheelan because of his services to the king.[4]

1345 Adam, son of Philp de Maydwell, granted one plot of land in the tenement of Kilsheelan 'which lies between the cemetery of the said town and the River Suire'.[5]

1359 The Reeve and community of Kilsheelan were fined 20d for the assize of bread and ale.[6]

1432 The Reeve and community of Kilsheelan were summoned to the Seneschal's Court in Clonmel.[7]

1570 Philip Wale of Newtown granted the tenement called 'Gareynyvonisioge' containing an acre in the town and fields of Kilsheelan.[8]

Also in this year the rectory of Kilsheelan was granted to Sir Thomas Butler by Edward I.[9]

[1]Power, P.C., 1989, 15.
[2]Count de la Poer, 1899, 116-19.
[3]*Ibid.*
[4]*Ibid.*
[5]Calendar Ormond Deeds, 1413-1509, appendix p.365.
[6]Calendar Ormond Deeds, 1350-1413, 38.
[7]*Ibid.*, 1413-1509, 95.
[8]*Op. cit.*, 1547-1584, 190.
[9]*Ibid.*, 169.

General References
Count de la Poer, 1909, 271.
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 174.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Motte
2 Church and Graveyard

17: 1 Motte

Siting: Situated at the junction of the main road and the bridge road, on the north bank of the river Suir, guarding the fording point there.

Historical Note: The manor of Kilsheelan was granted to William de Burgh by Henry II (died 1189). It is likely therefore that the motte was erected here in the late twelfth century.

General Description: The motte is a compact pudding-bowl shape, *c*.7.7m in diameter at the crest and c.6m high. It is grass-covered and well kept. The motte is steepest on its south and west sides, the north and east faces having slipped. A grotto was created here in 1946. In order to construct it an area 8m x 5m and

Plate 34: Motte, Kilsheelan

3.4m deep, the north-west face of the mound was excavated. There is also a small hollowed out area, 6.1m east-west x 4.4m north-south and 1m deep on the top of the motte at the south-east face. According to Power,[1] there was an accompanying bailey but there is no surviving evidence of this or any enclosing earthworks. The north and west sides of the motte are enclosed by a low stone wall.

[1]Power, P.C., 1989, 15.

General References
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 174.
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.I, 60 (161-62).
O.P.W. files.

17: 2 Church and Graveyard

Siting: This is located c.170m east of Kilsheelan village, south of the main road and immediately north of the River Suir.

Historical Note: Kilsheelan church as the name suggests may have been dedicated to or founded by Sillan who was either the Abbot of Bangor or a saint honoured in the Irish martyrologies.[1] There is a seventeenth century reference to this church which describes it as "a little Church unroofed".[2]

Plate 35: Chancel arch, Kilsheelan Romanesque church

Description: The church is aligned east-west with a richly decorated, though much worn romanesque doorway placed centrally in the north wall of the nave. The interior of the nave measures 12.85m x 6.32m, with walls c.0.8m thick and the chancel was c.3.8m wide. The masonry is composed of large blocks of sandstone and limestone, irregularly coursed, with small flat pinning stones inserted at intervals to give the impression of regular coursing. The quoin stones are all of sandstone and roughly dressed with pocking. Of the chancel, only the simple round-headed archway and a short length of the western end of its south wall remains upstanding. The east gable and north wall of the chancel have long since collapsed. Most of the southern wall of the nave has collasped and has been roughly re-assembled to a height of 1.5m and the internal face of the western end of the north wall has been buttressed recently. The only original ope in the building is in the south wall of the nave. Of this, only the eastern jambs of the embrasure, which are beautifully cut and moulded survive, and these are in a very vulnerable condition. While the church dates to the twelfth century it has

121

been subjected to numerous alterations. It is likely that the doorway was originally in the west wall of the nave and a number of features such as the capitals in the north-east and south-east angles of the nave may have been re-positioned. The west gable has a bell-cote, garderobe chute and ogee-headed window indicating a fifteenth century date or later for this gable.

Plate 36: Detail of arch of Romanesque doorway, Kilsheelan church

Grave-slab: A seventeenth century slab was noted in the interior of the nave. It is planted upright in the ground and much of the upper part has been broken off. The portion which survives is 0.66m x 0.68m and 0.6m deep. It is decorated with a six-armed cross with pointed terminals and there is a sun and moon motif on either side of the shaft. The back of the slab was reused in 1792 for the burial of Judith Connell.

[1]Power, Rev.P., 1907, 304-06.
[2]Simington, R.C.(ed.), 1931, 278.

General References
Killanin, Lord and Duignan, M., 1967, 174.
Leask, H.G., 1955, Vol.I., 83.
O'Flanagan, Rev., M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.I, 58-60 (159-61).
Power, Rev. P., 1938, 65, Pl.VI.
Shee, E. and Watson, S.J., 1975, 58-59.

MULLINAHONE

Mailleann na hUamham meaning the mill of the cave, from a cave near the village, through which a small river runs.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Castle
2 Ringfort
3 Enclosure (possible)
4 Chapel (site)

18: 1 Castle

Siting: The keep is situated at the rear of Mr. Michael Cahill's public house (Castle View), on the east side of Carrick Street.

Historical Note: Despite the impressive appearance of this thirteenth century keep, records are silent with regard to its origins and history. By tradition it is ascribed to the Knights Templar and designated 'St. John's Monastery 'Chapel (site of)' on the O.S. maps. It was visited by John O'Donovan during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in the 1840s and he described it as a large square castle, three stories high, lit by several large much-ruined windows. At that time the west wall had already been reduced to the height at which it remains today.

Description: It is a strong rectangular three-storey structure 17.30m E-W x 13.50m N-S externally, and 12.20m E-W x 8.85m N-S internally, with a small stair-turret 3m square at its northwest corner. It was built upon an impressive outcrop of limestone which stands at a height of 1m over present ground level. The outcrop was revealed by the robbing-out of the base batter of the keep (see plate 38). The north, east, and south walls survive to their full height while the west wall stands only to 1st floor level. Average wall thickness is c.1.50m above the batter. The walls are composed of randomly coursed limestone rubble with larger roughly shaped limestone quoins. No cut or dressed stone was employed in the building. The once formidable base batter which has been robbed-out throughout its course, commences at a height of 3.50m over present ground level and projects out approximately 1.40m.
As in the majority of early keeps, the entrance was placed well above ground level and the doorway in this instance appears to be in the east wall at first floor level. It is round-headed, its arch composed of rough wedge-shaped voussoirs with impressions of plank-centering on the soffit. The surviving fenestration concentrates at first floor level with no windows above this. They comprise large un-cut round-headed windows and roughly hewn rectangular loops. A series of dripstone aperatures are visible in the top masonry courses of the east and south walls.
While the general condition of the keep is fair, its entire southwest corner has collapsed leaving the upper masonry of the western end of the south wall hanging precariously and there are several large breaches in the corresponding

ivy-clad north wall. The interior is filled with rubble, debris and dead foliage, the build-up of which obscures the ground floor masonry of the keep. None of the

Plate 37: Mullinahone castle

floors survive. It is possible that the ground floor was vaulted with a small undercroft just beneath it, lit by the rectangular loops which are still in place in the north and south walls. Internally there are two large corbels at roof level projecting out of both the north and south walls which may have supported roof trusses. The deep, straight-sided window embrasures are in very poor condition with most of their side and facing stones having collapsed. Second floor joist holes are visible in all four walls and the remains of coursing in the north and south walls at the same level.

In 1861, Mr. John Dunne of Garryicken found within the castle what was

described as a small flat stone, having on one side a mould for casting a crucifix accompanied by the mould for a round object decorated with a cross. On the reverse there was another mould for casting a larger round object.[1]

[1]Graves, Rev. J., 1861, 308.
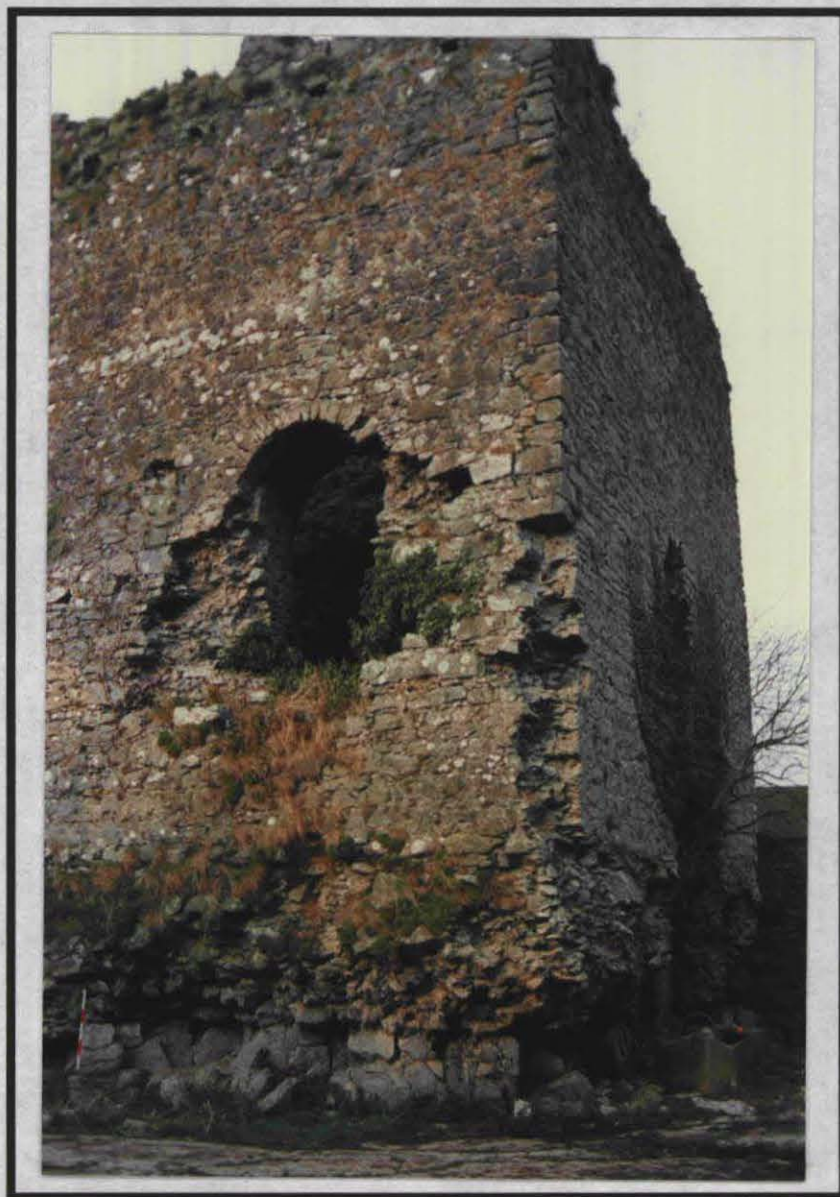
Plate 38: Mullinahone castle with base batter
and quoin stones robbed.

18: 2 Ringfort

Siting: The ringfort is situated on a gentle north-facing slope, at the junction of four fields, immediately southeast of St. Michael's Church, on the east side of the town. The land on which it is located combines marsh and some recent reclaimation, particularly to the south. A stream flows in a southeast-northwest

direction to the southwest of the site and there are three springs in the field immediately to the south. The view is quite limited with the best aspect to the north.

Description: The site comprises the very badly denuded remains of a roughly circular univallate ringfort 28.20m north-south x 30.50m east-west. The bank which is sparsely covered with hawthorns and briars is composed of earth with a high stone content and is best preserved at north-northwest and at south. Elsewhere it is barely discernible. At north-northwest it is 0.80m in height over the interior and 1m over the surrounding field level. The width of 9m here, is somewhat augmented by the considerable amount of slip both internally and externally. The ditch which encloses the bank is now only in evidence from east through south to west. At southeast it is 4m wide, but again its size has been exaggerated by the thread of horses and cattle. It appears that apart from erosion by livestock, that the bank and ditch on the east side has been mechanically removed.

18: 3 Enclosure (possible)

Siting: Situated at the southwestern end of a large field on the southeast side of the town.

Description: A Geological Survey of Ireland aerial photograph reveals a possible univallate enclosure with suggestions of a ditch on its north side.[1]

[1]G.S.I. S. 618/617, 16-4-1974.

18: 4 Chapel (site)

Siting: Situated *c.* 25m southeast of Mullinahone castle and east of Carrick Street.

Description: This site is marked on the 1st edition of the 6" Ordnance Survey map in gothic as St. John's Chapel and at that time it was in a ruinous condition. No trace of it is visible today.

TIPPERARY

*Tiobraíd rann meaning well of Ara from the
ancient territory in which it was situated*

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

c.1300 An Augustinian monastery was founded in Tipperary in the reign of Henry III.[1]

1329 The town was burnt by Brien O'Brien.[2]

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 34 (101-02)
[2]*Ibid.*

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORY

1 Augustinian Abbey (site)
2 Castle 'King John's Castle'
3 Church (site) and Graveyard
4 Holy Well 'St. Bridget's Well' or 'Toberbreen'
5 Holy Well 'Tiobrad Aran'
6 Town Defences
7 School (site)

Unlocated Sites:
Hospital (possible/site)
Watermill

20: 1 Augustinian Abbey (site)

Siting: Located in the south-east junction of Abbey Street and Railway Road.

Historical Note: A friary was founded here in c.1300 by Stephen Butler, an ancestor of the earls of Carrick-on-Suir, although another source states an earlier foundation date during the reign of Henry III (1216-1272).[1] In 1539 the friary was surrendered by the then prior, Lonough O'Cuyrke. At this time the friary's possessions included "a church, chapter-house, dormitory hall, two chambers, store, kitchen, stable, cemetery and garden, all in a ruins".[2] The jurors appraisal was probably exaggerated to reduce the value of the property as one of the jurors subsequently gained possession of the abbey.[3] The jurors also stated that "the church had been the parish church from time immemorial".[4] In the 1680's the abbey was demolished and the materials were used to build an Erasmus Smith Grammar School.[5] Only a semi-pointed arch with a soffit rib carried by pointed corbels survived. This was c.4.8m high, c.2.5m wide and c.1.2m thick, with a small portion of walling on either side.[6] In 1958 an attempt was made to move the arch, however, this only resulted in its total "collapse and disintegration".[7]

Description: No trace of this abbey survives above ground.

[1]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970 (1988 reprint), 302.
[2]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 34 (101-02).
[3]Quane, M., 1960, 40.
[4]Gwynn, A. and Hadcock, R.N., 1970 (1988 reprint), 302.
[5]Quane, M., 1960, 42.
[6]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 34 -35(103).
[7]Quane, M., 1960, 75.
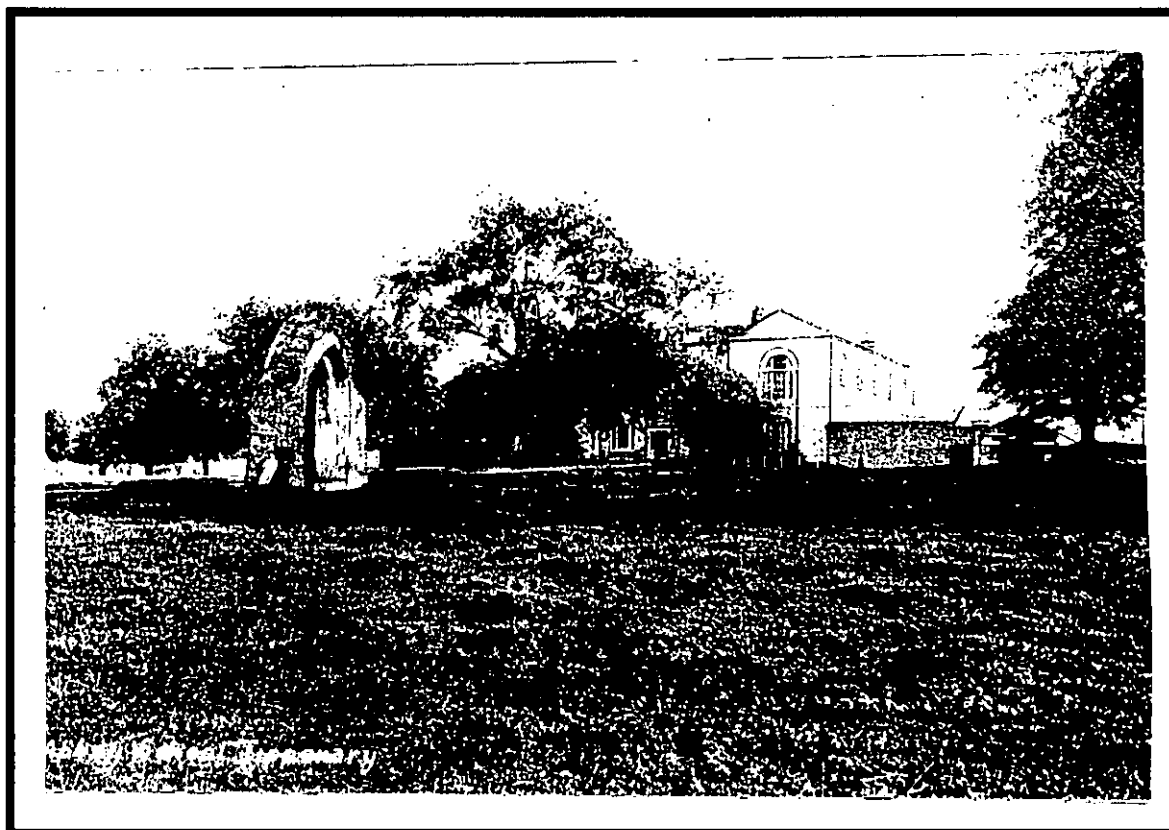
Plate 39: Arch of Augustinian Abbey, Tipperary (demolished 1958)

20: 2 Castle (possible/site) 'King John's Castle'

Siting: Located south of the town, c.100m west of the Clonmel Road and c.100m north-east of the Arra river.

Historical Background: There is very little information on this site. It's name "King John's Castle" would suggest that it was erected early in the late twelfth/early thirteenth century, however, there is no evidence to substantiate this claim. It could also have been part of the town defences, acting as a south-east corner tower on the town circuit but this is also speculative.

TIPPERARY

Description: The curving earthworks marked on the Ordnance Survey map are no longer extant. Recent corporation housing and warehouses constructed since 1954 now occupy the site.

General References
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 35(103).

20: 3   Church (site) and Graveyard

Siting: Located in the centre of the town, immediately north of John Street.

Description: The present Protestant church on this site dates to 1832. Nothing above ground survives of the medieval church, there are no apparent medieval architectural fragments or pre-1700 graveslabs in the graveyard.

General References
O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 35(103).

20: 4   Holy Well 'St. Bridget's Well' or 'Toberbreen'

Siting: Located at the east end of the town, in the yard of corporation houses on the south side of Father Matthew Street

Plate 40: Holy Well 'St. Bridget's', Tipperary

Description: This deep, circular well is enclosed by roughly cut and dressed limestone. At the time of the inspection repairs and renovations were being carried out. These involved covering the well with a modern wooden canopy propped on metal stays. The enclosing wall above ground level, c. 0.5m high and 0.5m thick, is entirely rebuilt. The internal diameter of the well is 1.8m.

20: 5 Holy Well 'Tiobrad Aran'

Siting: Located on the north bank of the River Ara, at the rear of a house which fronts onto Main Street, very near Bridge Lane.[1]

Description: According to the Ordnance Survey letters the town derived its name from this well.[2] In c.1830 the well was closed up.[3] Locals informed us that a bakery had been built upon the well.

[1]O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (ed.), 1930, Vol.III, 33-34 (99-100).
[2]Ibid.
[3]Ibid.

20: 6 Town Defences

Siting: The location and extent of the town defences is unknown. Thomas suggests a rectangular circuit, encompassing an area of c.15 hectares, which ran along the northern boundary of the Protestant church and continued parallel to Mitchell Street, turning south immediately east of and parallel to Blind Street down to King John's castle. The supposed western defences run southward from the western boundary of the Protestant church. The river Arra may have formed some part of the southern defences.

Historical Background: Two murage grants are known for the town walls. The first dates to 1300 and was for a duration of ten years while the subsequent grant in 1310 was for only three years. According to Thomas[1] this second murage grant implies that the construction of the town wall was well under way by 1310 and it was expected that only a short term grant was needed to complete it.

Description: There are no indications, either from map sources or physical, to support the documentary evidence.

[1]Thomas, A., 1992, Vol.II, 194-95.

20: 7 School (site)

Siting: Located on the east side of Railway Road.

Historical Background: In 1669 a royal charter granted Erasmus Smith "several parcells of abby land, with the old abby, in Tipperary...to hold ye premisses to ye uses of his charity".[1] This charity was the establishment of a free grammar school. Construction of the school began in 1680 when the old abbey was demolished to provide building materials. In 1690 the school was closed as the building was taken over as a headquarters by the Willamite army.

Unfortunately, in 1691 it was burned down and it was not until 1702 that a new school was completed.[2] This late seventeenth/early eighteenth building survived for over a hundred years when in 1820 a new school replaced it. The 'Father Humphreys Memorial School' that is present today, opened in 1955, was partly built on the old Abbey School.[3]

Description: There is no trace of this structure above ground.

[1]Quane, M., 1960, 41.
[2]Bourke, M., 1989, 86.
[3]*Op. cit.*, 1960, 75.

UNLOCATED SITES

Hospital (possible/site)

Siting: Immediately north of the town there is a townland called Spital-Land. What concerns us is a small parcel of this townland at the very eastern end of the town, north of Father Matthew Street.

Description: The name 'Spital' suggests the presence of a hospital. In the Civil Survey there is a reference to 'the Spittle in Tippary being twenty acres arable [which] did belong to the Earle of Corke within the towne of Tippary'.[1] So perhaps by the seventeenth century the hospital had disappeared and only the memory of it was retained in the townland name.

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.II, 37.

Watermill

Siting: Situated in the townland of Bohercrow, which lies to the northwest Tipperary town.

Description: The Civil Survey refers to a 'mill seate with some thatcht houses' in this townland, the property of Derby Ryan.[1]

[1]Simington, R.C. (ed.), 1934, Vol.II, 37.

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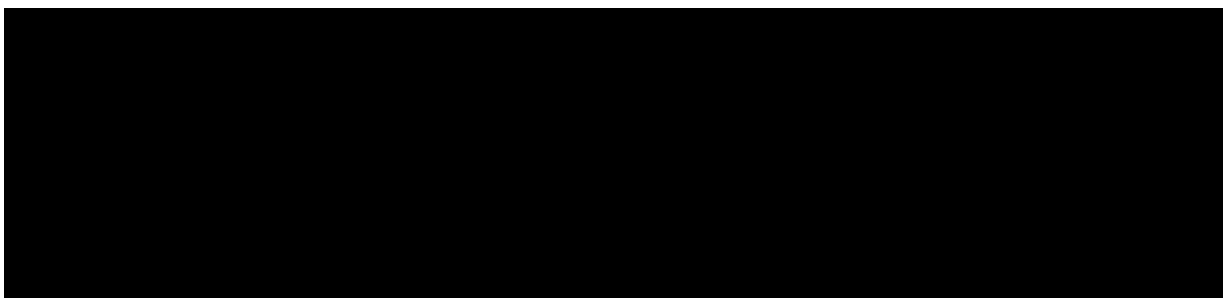
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Abbreviations:

CHAS   Clonmel Historical & Archaeological Society

COD   Calendar of Ormond Deeds

ITA   Irish Tourist Association

JBS   Journal of the Butler Society

JRSAI   Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

NLI   National Library Ireland

NMAJ   North Munster Antiquarian Journal

OKR   Old Kilkenny Review

PRIA   Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy

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Glossary of Architectural & Decorative Terms

Term	Explanation	Example
Aegricane	Ram's/Goat's head or skull	On a large stoup in the yard of Franciscan Friary, Clonmel.
Amphisbaena	African Snake	Architecural fragment housed in undercroft of Vicars Choral
Arch ring	Stones forming the rim of an arch	Ardfinnan bridge
Aumbry	Cupboard within a wall, usually for housing sacred vessels	St. Nicholas' Church, Clonmel
Barbican	An outwork defending the entrance to a castle	Cahir Castle
Batter	The inclined face of a wall. The stronger inclination at the foot of a wall is called a base batter	St. Mary's ecclesiastical towerhouse, Clonmel
Bawn	Enclosing defensive wall around castle/ abbey	Ormond Castle, Carrick-on-Suir
Bellcote	Small gabled or roofed accomodation for a bell/bells	West gable, St. Nicholas' church, Clonmel
Blind Arcade	A series of arches applied to the surface of a wall	North & South walls, 3rd floor Fethard Castle
Broach Stop	A pared-off stop set against a chamfer to create a right-angle	Common feature at the termini of doorway/window/ niche chamfers

Bullaun	Hollowed-out stone basin	Cahir Abbey, graveyard.
Buttress	Masonry feature built against a wall to give additional strength	Northeast corner of St. Molleran's Friary Church, Carrick-on-Suir
Capital	Crowning member of a column or pilaster	West doorway St. Molleran's Friary Church, Carrick-on-Suir
Capstone	The crowning feature of a wall/pier	Commonplace feature of bridge parapets in particular
Centering	The temporary support on which an arch is constructed	Wicker-work centering on 5th floor vault of Franciscan Friary Tower, Clonmel. Also plank centering on soffit of sally-port town wall, Cashel
Chamfer	The narrow plane formed when an arris of stone is cut away, usually at a 45 degree angle	Commonplace on cut-stone windows & doorways
Chancel/Choir	East end of Church set apart for officiating clergy	Commonplace from the 12th century.
Chapterhouse	Place of assembly for abbot/prior & monks, usually in east range	Augustinian Abbey Fethard & Cahir Abbey.
Claustral Buildings	Buildings ancillary to an abbey church	Cahir Abbey
Corbel	A projecting block of stone or wood supporting a floor, overhanging building, parapet etc.	Commonplace feature of medieval & early modern buildings

Crenellation	A parapet comprising vertical blocks of masonry alternating with regular openings, Generally found on towerhouses, crossing-towers and bawn walls	Grant's Castle, Cashel.
Crocket Finial	An ornament comprising regularly placed, hook-shaped leafy knobs, usually surmounting a gable, pinnacle, or canopy	Yard of Franciscan Friary, Clonmel
Cutwater	Projections, generally triangular on the upstream/downstream end of a bridge pier, to divert floating objects	Ardfinnan bridge
Dogtooth	Ornament found in series, comprising a small pyramid, formed by four leaves meeting at a central point	South capital, west doorway, St. Molleran's Friary Church, Carrick-on-Suir
Dripstone	Grooved and angled drainage stone on exterior upper masonry courses of building	Particularly fine decorative example on northwest face, Quirke's castle.
Fleur-de-lys	Ornament in the form of a stylized lily	Commonly features on cross terminals of medieval graveslabs
Garderobe	Medieval latrine delivering down through a mural shaft	South wall of ruined domestic building, west of Collet's Lane, Clonmel
Groin-rib Vault	The intersection at right angles of two tunnel vaults of identical shape. The curved	Crossing-tower, Cathedral, Rock of Cashel.

	intersections are called groins.	
Hood-moulding	Moulding projecting above & outlining a doorway, window or archway	1st floor rear window of No. 58 O'Connell St., Clonmel
Imperforate Ringed Cross	A cross-head in which the spandrels between the arms of the cross and the cross ring are not broken through	Emly
Knop	An ornamental knob	Usually features on the shaft of a cross on a medieval graveslab
Lady Chapel	Any chapel with an altar to the Virgin Mary	South of the chancel of Augustinian Priory church, Fethard
Loops	of various types including musket loop with splayed sides, cross loop, & loop with circular shot hole at base or at upper and lower ends.	2nd floor , internal west wall Fethard Castle with shot holes occur in Clonmel town wall
Machicolation	An opening between the corbels of a parapet of an early castle or towerhouse, through which intruders could be assailed.	Cahir Castle
Mortar	A generally small circular stone vessel with luggs	On site of Francisan Friary, Cashel
Mason's mark	A symbol, monogram or initial incised in stonework by the mason responsible for the construction of a building	Augustinian Priory church, Fethard
Mullion	Vertical member	Ormond Castle,

	between the lights in a window	Carrick-on-Suir
Mural-passage	A passage created in the thickness of a wall	Common-place feature of castles
Mural Tower	A defensive tower/s usually placed at the vulnerable angles of a town wall	Cashel & Clonmel town walls
Murder-hole	An apperture in a floor or vault usually above the main entrance to a castle or at the entrances to upper floors through which intruders could be fired upon	Excellent network of murder-holes guarding the 2nd floor chamber of the Archbishop's Palace, Rock of Cashel
Nave	Main body of church west of the chancel for use of congregation	Commonplace from twelfth century.
Oculus	Circular window	West wall, 2nd floor chamber, Archbishop's Palace, Rock of Cashel
Ogee-head	The head of a window/ arch comprising a double curve formed of a convex and a concave element	Upper two lights of the east window, Cahir old Parish Church
Parapet	A low wall placed at the edge of a sudden drop.	Golden bridge
Pinning Stones	Small stones used to fill irregularities in masonry	Common feature of town wall masonry in particular
Piscina	A basin provided with a drain, used for washing the sacred vessels	Fethard Castle, west wall, 2nd floor
Portcullis	Defensive feature of castle entrance, comprising iron gateway made to	Cahir Castle

	slide up and down	
Quatrefoil	Openwork tracery comprising 4-lobed motif	In wall spandrels, above lancets, of the Cathedral, Rock of Cashel
Refectory	Dining-hall in a monastery	Possible remains at Cahir Abbey.
Refuge	A recess in the parapet wall	The bridge at Carrick-on-Suir
Relieving Arch	A roughly constructed arch placed above a doorway/window to relieve it of its superincumbent weight	Common-place
Reticulated Tracery	An open net-like pattern of ogee-shaped stone-work in the upper part of Gothic windows	East window, Dominican Priory, Cashel
Sally-Port	A back-door or minor entrance through a defense. Generally found in a town wall	Intact example at northwest end of Cashel town wall
Sarcophagus	Sepulchral chest	Cormac's Chapel, Rock of Cashel
Sheela-na-gig	Sexually explicit female/male exhibitionist carving	Town wall & Augustinian Priory, Fethard
Spandrel	Triangular space (sometimes cusped), between an arch & its containing rectangle, or between arches	Common feature of fenestration
Springer	The first stone of an arch where it rises from its supports	Commonplace

Squinch	A diagonally placed section of masonry (more usually an arch) fitted onto a round or polygonal structure in order to adapt it to a square plan	Ground floor of octagonal tower, St. Mary's C of I, Clonmel
Stiff-leaf	A type of foliage decoration usually confined to capitals and ornamental bosses	Bosse incorporated into masonry of porch of Convent School, Cashel (originally from Franciscan Friary)
Stop	The terminus of a hood-moulding or chamfer. See also broach-stop above	Returned stops on the window hood-mouldings of Ormond Castle Carrick-on-Suir
Switchline Tracery	Open pattern of window stonework in which each mullion divides into branches which are parallel to each other and to the arch of the window	West gable, Dominican Priory, Cashel
Tenon	A projecting piece of stone or wood , fitting into a socket (mortice)	St. Patrick's Cross, Rock of Cashel.
Transept	Transverse portion of an cross-shaped church	Cathedral, Rock of Cashel
Trefoil	Three-lobed or three-leaved motif	Common-place in window tracery, architectural sculpture & graveslabs
Triforium	An arcaded wall-passage	Cathedral, Rock of Cashel

Tympanum	The triangular or segmental portion of the face of a pediment, or filling the head of an arch.	Cormac's Chapel, Rock of Cashel.
Undercroft	A vaulted room below an upper chamber	Vicars Choral, Rock of Cashel
Vault	Stone ceiling, generally lofty	Semi-pointed vault over 1st floor of Archbishop's Towerhouse, Cashel.
Volute	Spiral Scroll	Volute brackets on composite memorial in grounds of St. John's C of I, Cashel
Voussoir	Each of the wedge-shaped stones forming an arch	Common-place
Wall-walk	A walkway positioned outside the roof and behind the parapet of a castle or church (also called alure)	Quirke's Castle, Cashel

Map 1: Location of Urban Centres in the Urban Archaeological Survey, County Tipperary, South Riding.

KEY

- **Site upstanding** (red)
- **Site destroyed above ground level** (yellow)
- **Possible site** (blue)
- **Possible site destroyed above ground level** (blue/yellow hatched)
- **Zones of Archaeological Potential** (green dash-dot line)

Ardfinnan

Ardfinnan Castle

Ardfinnan

Weir

Liable to Flooding

Weir

Sluice

Factory

Factory

Tennis Ground

ES

Presby

School

Church (Catholic)

F A R R

FE.

0   200m

Map 2: ARDFINNAN. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- Zones of Archaeological Potential

Castle (in Ruins)

Bansha Castle

Tank

Mill (Disused)

Bansha Bridge
B.M.223·9

Const.Bk.

Signal Post

Bansha

Well

Rectory

Church

R.C. Church

P.O.

Public Hall

Curates' House

School

Dispy.

S T

1·008
1·543
·568
·308
·378
·778
2·810
·257
·279
·507
1·155
1·990
B.M.230·9
1·854
234
·578
·729
·968
·519
·906
·418
221
·626
·329
·327
·864
·933
·559
·368
1·102
·902
224
·343
·868
1·804
31·024
5·029
221
·388
254
137
232
237
436
378
·220
Sl.
·310
2·746
217
·491
459
1·197
·220
·384
·448
·409
220
·829
3·356
·964
6·225
5·800
S.P
1·378
1·450
715
5·192
W.M.S
242·6
Chy.
Cont.Ho.

Map 3: Bansha. Zone of Archaeaological Potential.

0   200m

Map 4: CAHIR. Limit of Development Plan Boundary and index to maps outlining

0   1km

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- Zones of Archaeological Potential

CAHER

Map 5a: CAHIR. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

0   200m

CAHER

Gas Works

MOUNTAIN ROAD

ABBEY STREET

LOWER ABBEY STREET

New Bridge

Mill RACE

BRIDGE STREET

BARRACK STREET

Road

Lodge

Salmon Gap

Weir

Caher Mills (Corn)

Caher Castle (in Ruins)

Castle Cottage

Caher Lodge

Well

CASTLE STREET

THE MALL

THE SQUARE

Post Office

Town Hall

Bank

Hotel

Market Ho.

MARKET PLACE

MARKET STREET

Parochial Ho.

Church (in Ruins)

Grave Yd.

Pound

OLD CHURCH STREET

CHURCH STREET

St. Paul's Church

School

Bellevue Cottage

Station

Suirvale Creamery

Apsley House

Dispensary

WELLINGTON STREET

Wellington Ho.

CHAPEL STREET

School

Convent (Sisters of Mercy)

Ball Court

Limerick 38

Goods Shed

Foot Bridge

Salmon Gap

0   200m

MAP 5b: CAHIR. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 6: CARRICK-ON-SUIR. Limit of Urban District Boundary highlighting the Zones of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- 🟥 Site upstanding
- 🟨 Site destroyed above ground level
- 🟦 Possible site
- 🟦/🟨 Possible site destroyed above ground level
- –·–·– Zones of Archaeological Potential

Map 7: CARRICK-ON-SUIR. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

CARRICK-ON-SUIR

0   200m

Map 8: CASHEL. Limit of Urban District Boundary and index to maps outlining the Zones of Archaeological Potential.

Map 9a: CASHEL: Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- Zones of Archaeological Potential

KEY

Site upstanding

Site destroyed above ground level

Possible site

Possible site destroyed above ground level

Zones of Archaeological Potential

ST. FRANCIS ABBEY

Convent

Catholic Church

Chapel

CATHEDRAL

Chapter House and Library

Grave Yard

City Wall

COUNTY HOSPITAL

Nurses' Home

Treacy Villas

Dean Ryan Terrace

Ball Alley

School

Indaville

Lower Gate Square

Wesley Sq.

Bank Place

Main Street

The Palace

New Line

Map 9b: CASHEL. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

0   200m

KEY

–·–·–·– Limit of Borough Boundary

———— Zone of Archaeological Potential

0   1km

Map 10: CLONMEL. Limit of Borough Boundary highlighting and index to maps outlining the Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 11a: CLONMEL. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

🟥	**Site upstanding**
🟨	**Site destroyed above ground level**
🟦	**Possible site**
▨	**Possible site destroyed above ground level**
⋯⋯	**Zones of Archaeological Potential**

St. Mary's Cath. Church

Warehouse

10·802

·347

Creamer

Little Island House

Little Island

Stretches Island

Suir

Island

Spring Garden

GREEN LANE

4·094

Lodge

The Cedars

Mill

Weir

Suir Island House

Weir

21

Spring Garden

Weirview Villas

16

Stairmount

OLD BRIDGE

9·454

St. Nicholas Terrace

2·755

3·933

5

Templenaplagh

St. Nicholas's Ch. (in Ruins)

GLEBE

1·897

1·089

St. Kevin's Ter.

·413

1·769

Wall ·498

·503

Boheranisha

·511

1·142

·273

SCROTHEA EAST

1·274

·651

Woodbine Cottage

Roaring Spring

1·061

C o W

0   200m

Map 11b: CLONMEL. Zones of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- ■ Site upstanding (red)
- ■ Site destroyed above ground level (yellow)
- ■ Possible site (blue)
- ▨ Possible site destroyed above ground level (blue/yellow hatched)
- —·— Zones of Archaeological Potential (green dashed)

Map 11c: CLONMEL. Zones of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- Zones of Archaeological Potential

E M L Y
IMLEACH

Tennis Ground

Sports Ground
1·65

Telephone Exchange

1·79

111·9

111·8

111·3

School

112·5

·86

·25

St. Peter's Well
(Site of)
6 or 8

·25

·93

Emly
Imleach

P.O.

BM 116·73

115·7

Emly House
1·45

a b
c d
e
f
g
Church
(Catholic)

Cathedral
(Site of)

St. Ailbe's Well

Grave Yard
·67

Stone Cross

1·91

5·939

·37

·26

1

·09

·298

1·208

Well

1·469

2·88

·42

1·46

8·303

4·666

10kv

10kv

1

3·9⁰⁷

·01

·01

·55

2·51

2·47

9·115

369

380

·45

·26

0   200m

Map 12: EMLY. Zone of Archaeological Potential

Map 13. FETHARD. Limit of Development Plan Boundary highlighting the Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

🟥	Site upstanding
🟨	Site destroyed above ground level
🟦	Possible site
🟦🟨	Possible site destroyed above ground level
─ ─ ─	Zones of Archaeological Potential

Drill Ground

FETHARD

Convent (Presentation)

Holy Trinity R.C.Church

Military Barracks

School

FAIR GREEN

Friary

Augustinian Abbey

Chapel

Holy Trinity Church

Grave Yd.

Monastery (in Ruins)

Town Wall

Condensed Milk Factory

Saw Mill

Weir

Mill Dam

Flour Mill

Map 14: FETHARD. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

0   200m

KEY

- Site upstanding
- Site destroyed above ground level
- Possible site
- Possible site destroyed above ground level
- — · — Zones of Archaeological Potential

BAURSTOOKEEN
Barr an Stuaicín

Grave Yard

Church (Cath)

Sports Ground

Club House

School

Presbytery

Hall

Pearse Park

C O M E R F O R D ' S - L(
Lota an Chomartúnaigh

Castle (In Ruins)

GS Station

Castle (In Ruins)

RIVER SUIR
An tSi-

Golden
An Gabhailín

SPITAL-LAN
(E·D·Golden)
Fearann an

0   200m

Map 15: GOLDEN. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Toberavoher
5 *Well (Covered)*

7·28

1·908

5·278

·437

·140

·357

B.M.544·0

2·078

·507

8·

·660

·546

·638

2·061

·Pump

1·020

4·616

8·007

·729

·530

2·491

Presbytery

School

e n s a n d y

5·675

2·864

St. Mary's R. C. Church

·562

·310

·916

Well 4

Castle Site of 2

2·853 3

538

536

533

1·609

Grave Yard

·383

·294

3

·411

Court Ho.

Cons. Bk.

RIVER STREET

523

520

526

B.M.523·3

·428

·1·881

1·415

·440

Killenaule

Church 1 *Grave Yd*

·567

1·243

·466

Creamery

16·006

1·256

·495

14·328

1·202

1·864

749

2·260

1·643

1·657

·368

·432

1·448

·613

·778

2·302

354

·359

·564

419

Smithy

2·630

623

·615

582

·407

B.M.591·0

Well 601

1·152

B.M.540·1

Creamery

0   200m

Map 16: KILLENAULE. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

🟥	Site upstanding
🟨	Site destroyed above ground level
🟦	Possible site
▨	Possible site destroyed above ground level
● ▬ ●	Zones of Archaeological Potential

Map 17: KILSHEELAN. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- ■ Site upstanding (red)
- ■ Site destroyed above ground level (yellow)
- ■ Possible site (blue)
- ◩ Possible site destroyed above ground level (blue/yellow hatched)
- ‒·‒ Zones of Archaeological Potential (green)

Mullinahone

St. Michael's R.C. Church

Grave Yard

Creamery

St. John's Monastery (in Ruins)

Chapel (Site of)

Constabulary Bk.

Well

Court Ho.

Saw Mills

Quarries

Springs

Lime K Disuse

M U L L I N A

0   200m

Map 18: MULLINAHONE. Zone of Archaeological Potential.

Map 20: TIPPERARY: Zone of Archaeological Potential.

KEY

- ■ (red) Site upstanding
- ■ (yellow) Site destroyed above ground level
- ■ (blue) Possible site
- ▨ (blue/yellow hatched) Possible site destroyed above ground level
- ••• (green dashed) Zones of Archaeological Potential