



Project code: RH0069
Client: Hall McKnight
Date: June 2021

An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of a Proposed Development Site at 17–20 Merchants Road Lower, Galway.

Report Author: James Hession and Ivan Pawle
Planning Reference: In advance of an application for planning permission
Report Status: Final

CONTENTS	Page
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1 INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Site location	4
1.2 Proposed development	4
1.3 Study area	4
2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY	6
2.1 Objectives	6
2.2 Desktop Study Methodology	6
2.3 Field Inspection Methodology	7
2.4 Methodology used for assessing baseline value of sites	7
2.5 Type of impacts	8
2.6 Methodology used for assessing magnitude of impacts	8
2.7 Methodology used for assessing significance level of impacts	10
2.8 Difficulties experienced during compilation of assessment	10
3 BASELINE/RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT	11
3.1 Designated archaeological sites	11
3.2 Designated architectural heritage sites	11
3.3 Areas of archaeological potential	12
3.4 Archaeological and historical context	13
3.5 Cartographic evidence	15
3.6 Recent excavations	16
4 IMPACT STATEMENT	17
4.1 Description of the site	17
4.2 Description of the proposed development	18
4.3 Impact assessment	18
5 MITIGATION STRATEGY	19
6 CONCLUSIONS	20
6.1 Summary of archaeological findings	20
6.2 Recommendations	20
6.3 Residual impacts	20
7 BIBLIOGRAPHY	21

FIGURES

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Cultural Heritage sites within 150 m radius of proposed development site
Figure 3	RMP map with proposed development site
Figure 4	Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) Map 5 Galway City c. 1200–c. 1900
Figure 5	First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site
Figure 6	Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site

PLATES

Plate 1	General exterior picture of properties No. 17-20 facing S
Plate 2	General exterior picture of properties No. 17-20 facing ENE
Plate 3	No. 17, northern property boundary wall facing N
Plate 4	No. 17, southern property boundary wall facing WNW
Plate 5	No. 18, back workshop area facing ESE
Plate 6	No. 17, view from the back door to the back yard, facing ESE

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Inventory of identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area
Appendix 2	Previous archaeological investigations
Appendix 3	Legislative and policy framework
Appendix 4	Terms and definitions used

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential, archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment of the proposed development site at 17–20 Merchants Road Lower, Galway, to identify the impact of the proposed development on this environment and to propose mitigation measures to reduce any impacts on said environment.

These works were undertaken for Hall McKnight Architects on behalf of Galway City Council in advance of an application for planning permission.

The proposed development consists of a five-storey mixed use development at 17–20 Merchants Road Lower. The development will include social housing on the upper levels with a cultural centre and café on the ground floor. On the roof level a community amenity and play area is also part of the plans. The existing properties within this development zone will be demolished to allow this new build.

The results of this impact assessment indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential (CH063). The site lies within the Zone of Archaeological Potential for the historic town of Galway (GA094-100) (CH061) and to the southeast the medieval city walls (GA094-100001) (CH062). This area was reclaimed and developed considerably in the 18th century, with the construction of the new docks. Analysis of historic mapping indicates that buildings were present along the frontage of the site from at least the early 19th century.

The proposed development will require ground reduction across the footprint of the site. This has the potential to result in the removal of archaeological material at the site including (but not limited to) any surviving remains of potential buildings that may have previously occupied the Merchants Road frontage of the site.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction (including the removal of groundslabs as part of demolitions), should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH) will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the NMS (DoHLGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

1 INTRODUCTION

This report details the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage issues that need to be addressed in respect of a proposed development at 17-20 Merchants Road Lower, Galway (ITM: 529768, 724937) (Figure 1). These works were undertaken for Hall McKnight Architects on behalf of Galway City Council.

This study has been undertaken in advance of an application for planning permission.

This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the following legislative procedures which are further detailed in Appendix 3:

- National Monuments Acts 1930-2004
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999
- Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts 2000-2001

It has also been undertaken in accordance with the policies set out in Chapter 8 of the Galway City Council Development Plan 2017–2023.

1.1 Site location

The proposed development at Nos 17–20 Merchants Road Lower is situated in the townland of Townparks, in the civil parish of St Nicholas, in the barony of Galway, in the city of Galway. It lies within the Zone of Archaeological Potential for Galway City (GA094-100) (CH061) and to the southeast of the medieval town wall (GA094-100001) (CH062) (Figures 2 and 3).

It is currently occupied by a terrace of 2 storey buildings and bounded to the north by Dock Street, to the west by Merchants Road Lower, to the south by no. 16 Merchants Road Lower and Picture Palas and to the east Glor na Mara residential Complex and a vacant site to the southeast.

1.2 Proposed development

Hall McKnight Architects on behalf of Galway City Council are developing plans for a five-storey mixed use development at the site of No.17–20 Merchants Road Lower in Galway. The development will include social housing on the upper levels with a cultural centre and café on the ground floor. On the roof level a community amenity and play area is also part of the plans. The existing properties within this development zone will be demolished to allow this new build to proceed.

1.3 Study area

The study area for this assessment has been defined in respect of two factors: 1.) the ability of sites/information sources to provide information pertaining to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, and 2.) the potential physical impact, as well as impact on setting, that the proposed scheme may have on sites of cultural heritage significance.

Taking these factors into account the study area has been defined as follows:

Subject	Study area
National Monuments and Recorded archaeological monuments (RMPs)	Within 150 m of proposed development site
Protected Structures and/or their curtilage	Within approx. 150 m proposed development site
Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAS)	Within approx. 150 m proposed development site
Structures recorded in the NIAH	Within approx. 150 m of proposed development site
Unregistered features of cultural heritage	Within proposed development site
Townland boundaries	Within proposed development site
Areas of archaeological potential	Within proposed development site
Previous Excavations	Within street bounding and adjacent to the proposed development site including Spanish Parade, St. Augustine Street and Dock Road
Topographical files	Within respective townland incorporated by the proposed development site

Table 1 – Dimensions of the study area

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment, evaluate the likely significant impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and provide mitigation measures, in accordance with the policies of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH), Galway City Council, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 and best practise guidelines, to ameliorate these impacts.

In order to provide a comprehensive assessment, an extensive desktop study in addition to a field inspection of the proposed development area was undertaken.

The scope and methodology for the baseline assessment has been devised with reference to the following guidelines:

- EirGrid (2015) 'Cultural Heritage Guidelines for Electricity Transmission Projects. A stand approach to archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact assessment of high voltage transmission projects.'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2002) 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2003) 'Advice notes on current practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2017) 'Draft Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)'
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DAHGI) (1999) 'Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage'
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2004) 'Architectural Heritage Guidelines'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes'

2.2 Desktop Study Methodology

The present assessment of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the proposed development area is based on a desktop study of a number of documentary and cartographic sources. The desktop study was further augmented by an examination of aerial photography as well as a field survey. The main sources consulted in completing the desktop study are listed here.

- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
- Galway City Development Plan 2017–2023
- National Museum of Ireland (NMI) Topographical Files
- Excavations Bulletin
- Galway City Archaeology GIS
- Aerial Photographs
- Cartographic Sources

2.3 *Field Inspection Methodology*

A field inspection of the proposed development site was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd on 12 April 2021 (Plates 1–6).

The primary purpose of a field inspection is to assess local topography in order to identify any potential low-visibility archaeological and/or historical sites that are not currently recorded and which may be impacted upon negatively by the proposed development. It is also the purpose of the field inspection to survey any known monuments or sites and to consider the relationship between them and the surrounding landscape, all of which need to be considered during the assessment process.

The methodology used during the field inspection involved recording the present land use as well as the existing topography for the entire area comprising the proposed development site. A photographic record and written description were compiled for any known and/or potential sites of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural significance.

2.4 *Methodology used for assessing baseline value of sites*

In order to categorise the baseline environment in a systemised manner, ‘baseline values’ have been assigned to each identified site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within the study area. The baseline value of a site is determined with reference to the ‘importance’ and ‘sensitivity’ of the site.

In accordance with NRA Guidelines, the importance of a site is determined based on the following criteria: legal status, condition, historical associations, amenity value, ritual value, specimen value, group value and rarity.

The sensitivity of a site is determined based on the presence of extant remains and/or the potential for associated sub-surface remains of the feature to be present *in situ*.

It should be noted that the National Monuments Act 1930-2004 does not differentiate between recorded archaeological sites on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity. In addition, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 2000 does not differentiate between Protected Structures or Areas of Architectural Conservation on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity either. Consequently, professional judgement has been exercised to rate these features based on their perceived importance and sensitivity in relation to physical impacts and impacts on setting.

Taking the above factors into consideration, the criteria that have been defined are provided in Table 2 below.

Subject	Baseline Value
- Recorded Archaeological Monuments - Protected Structures - Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	Very High
- Sites listed in the NIAH that are not Protected Structures - Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in good condition and/or which are regarded as constituting significant cultural heritage features - Unrecorded features of archaeological potential	High

Subject	Baseline Value
- Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in poor condition - Unregistered cultural heritage sites (not including built heritage sites) that comprise extant remains - Townland boundaries that comprise extant remains - Marshy/wetland areas	Medium/High
- Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains but where there is potential for associated subsurface evidence - Townland boundaries for which there are no extant remains	Medium/Low
- Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains and where there is little or no potential for associated subsurface evidence	Low

Table 2 – Baseline values of sites

Caution should be exercised when assessing the perceived significance of an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site as such categorisation is open to subjectivity. In addition, the perceived levels of importance as identified in this report are liable to future revision in the instance where new information, through the undertaking of further archaeological investigations, is provided.

2.5 Type of impacts

The following table lists the type of impacts that a proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource:

Type of Impacts	Definition
Direct	Direct impacts arise where an archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage feature or site is physically located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, whereby the removal of part, or all of the feature or site is thus required.
Indirect	Indirect impacts arise when an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage feature is not located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, and thus is not impacted directly. Such an impact could include impact on setting or impact on the zone of archaeological potential of site whereby the actual site itself is not physically affected.
Cumulative	The addition of many impacts to create a large, significant impact.
Undeterminable	Whereby the full consequence that the proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource is not known
Residual	The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.

Table 3 – Type of impacts

2.6 Methodology used for assessing magnitude of impacts

The methodology used to assess the magnitude of potential pre-mitigation impacts, as well as residual impacts, of the proposed development on the baseline environment is presented in Table 4 below.

Impact magnitude	Criteria
Severe	- Applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects. Reserved for adverse, negative effects only. These effects arise where an archaeology site is completely and irreversibly destroyed. - An impact that obliterates the architectural heritage of a structure or feature of national or international importance. These effects arise where an architectural structure or feature is completely and irreversibly destroyed by the proposed development. Mitigation is unlikely to remove adverse effects.
Major	- An impact which, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the environment. An impact like this would be where part of a site would be permanently impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological feature/site. - An impact that by its magnitude, duration or intensity alters the character and/or the setting of the architectural heritage. These effects arise where an aspect or aspects of the architectural heritage is/are permanently impacted upon leading to a loss of character and integrity in the architectural structure or feature. Appropriate mitigate is likely to reduce the impact - A beneficial or positive effect that permanently enhances or restores the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.
Moderate	- A medium impact arises where a change to a site/monument is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the archaeological integrity of the site is compromised and which is reversible. This arises where an archaeological feature can be incorporated into a modern-day development without damage and that all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible. - A medium impact to a site/monument may also arise when a site is fully or partly excavated under license and all recovered data is preserved by record. - An impact that results in a change to the architectural heritage which, although noticeable is not such that alters the integrity of the heritage. The change is likely to be consistent with existing and emerging trends. Impacts are probably reversible and may be of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation is very likely to reduce the impact. - A beneficial or positive effect that results in partial or temporary enhancement of the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.

Impact magnitude	Criteria
Minor	- An impact which causes changes in the character of the environment, such as visual impact, which are not high or very high and do not directly impact or affect an archaeological feature or monument. - An impact that causes some minor change in the character of architectural heritage of local or regional importance without affecting its integrity or sensitivities. Although noticeable, the effects do not directly impact on the architectural structure or feature. Impacts are reversible and of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation will reduce the impact. - A beneficial or positive effect that causes some minor or temporary enhancement of the character of an architectural heritage significance which, although positive, is unlikely to be readily noticeable.
Negligible	- An impact on archaeological features or monument capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences. - An impact on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measure merit but without noticeable consequences. - A beneficial or positive effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

Table 4 – Criteria used for rating magnitude of impacts

2.7 Methodology used for assessing significance level of impacts

The significance level of a construction or operation impact on a feature is assessed by combining the magnitude of the impact and baseline value of the feature. The matrix in Table 5.4 provides a guide to decision-making but is not a substitute for professional judgement and interpretation, particularly where the baseline value or impact magnitude levels are not clear or are borderline between categories. The permanence of the effects are also taken into account, with irreversible effects being more significant while temporary or reversible changes are likely to be less significant.

Magnitude of Impact	Baseline Value				
	Very High	High	Medium/High	Medium/Low	Low
Severe	Very significant	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
Major	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight
Moderate	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible
Minor	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Table 5 – Criteria for assessing significance level of impacts

2.8 Difficulties experienced during compilation of assessment

No significant difficulties were encountered during the preparation of this impact assessment.

3 BASELINE/RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

3.1 *Designated archaeological sites*

3.1.1 *Record of Monuments and Places (RMPs)*

Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments Act 1994 made provision the establishment and maintenance of a Record of Monuments & Places (RMP). Under this Act, each site recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places is granted statutory protection. When the owner or occupier of a property, or any other person proposes to carry out, or to cause, or to permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to a recorded archaeological monument they are required to give notice in writing to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage 2 months before commencing that work.

The proposed development site located within the Zone of Archaeological Potential for Galway City CH061), with a further ten recorded archaeological monuments incorporated by the study area (CH005–CH013 and CH062) please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These include Blake’s Castle (CH005), medieval fortifications (CH006) and the Red Earl’s Hall (CH010).

3.1.2 *National Monuments*

National monuments are broken into two categories; National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the state and National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of a local authority. Section 8 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954 provides for the publication of a list of monuments, the preservation, of which, are considered to be of national importance. Two months’ notice must be given to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage where work is proposed to be carried out at or in relation to any National Monument.

There are no National Monuments incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.1.3 *Sites with Preservation Orders*

The National Monuments Act 1930-2004 provide for the making of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders in respect of National Monuments. Under Section 8 of the National Monument Act 1930 (as amended) the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, can place a Preservation Order on a monument if, in the Ministers' opinion, it is a National Monument in danger of being or is actually being destroyed, injured or removed or is falling into decay through neglect. The Preservation Order ensures that the monument shall be safeguarded from destruction, alteration, injury, or removal, by any person or persons without the written consent of the Minister.

There are no sites with preservation orders incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.2 *Designated architectural heritage sites*

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000, and the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999, made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage.

3.2.1 *Record of Protected Structures*

The Galway City Council Development Plan 2017–2023 was consulted for schedules of Protected Structures. These are buildings that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, and/or technical point of view. Protected Structures receive statutory protection from injury or demolition under Section 57 (1) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000. Protected structure status does not exclude development or alteration but requires the developer to consult with the relevant planning authority to ensure that elements which make the structure significant are not lost during development.

There are 49 Protected Structures within the study area (CH005, CH010, CH012–CH021, CH023, CH024 and CH026–CH060), ranging from houses/ domestic dwellings and commercial buildings to the harbour (CH024) and Mayoralty House (CH018) (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). Four of these sites are also RMPs: Castles (CH005) and (CH010), the quays (CH012) and Pier (CH013) and a further eight are NIAH sites (CH017–CH021, CH023, CH024 and CH026). There are no protected structures within the proposed development area.

3.2.2 *Architectural Conservation Areas*

The Galway City Council Development Plan 2017–2023 was consulted for records relating to Architectural Conservation Areas ((hereinafter 'ACAs'). The stated objective of ACAs is to conserve and enhance the special character of the area, including traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscapes, landscape and setting.

There are four areas listed as ACAs within the study area (CH001–CH004) (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). There are no ACAs within the proposed development area.

3.2.3 *National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)*

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (hereinafter the 'NIAH') is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and was established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999. Its purpose is to identify, record and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently, as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

There are 14 structures listed in the NIAH within the study area (CH005, CH014–CH026) (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These include RMP, Castle (CH005), and protected structures (CH014–CH021, CH023, CH024 and CH026) comprising houses, stables, harbour walls, and a warehouse. There are no protected structures within the proposed development site.

3.3 *Areas of archaeological potential*

Analysis of historic mapping (see Section 3.5 below) indicates that buildings were present along the Merchants Road Lower frontage of the site from at least the early 19th century. No upstanding remains survive and it is likely that construction of the extant modern building would have impacted on any sub-surface remains. However, it is probable that structural remains survive within the proposed development site. As a result, the development site is considered to be an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) (CH063).

3.4 Archaeological and historical context

(after Bolger and Pawle 2019)

Prior to the establishment of the Anglo-Norman settlement at Galway in the thirteenth century there was a small fishing village there known as Baile an Sruthán, or town of the streams, so called because in winter the river would overflow its banks. Galway would have been an inconsiderable fishing village, situated on the east bank of the river Corrib, on the present site of St Nicholas' Collegiate Church. The modern-day city of Galway derives its name from a foreign colony alleged to have settled there at an early period. It is well known that amongst the early Irish, foreigners were called 'na Gall', hence Gaillimh was 'the place of the foreigners'. The first documentary evidence of a town dates to 1124 when, according to annalistic reference records, the Connacht men erected 'the Castle of 'Bun Gaillimhe' ('the Castle at the mouth of the river') for Turlough O'Connor, king of Connacht. The tower house at Merlin Park occupies the site of earlier fortifications built by O'Connor at Doughiska.

Galway is not mentioned in the annals again until the early thirteenth century when it was reported that Richard de Burgo erected a castle at the mouth of the river, possibly on the site of Turlough O'Connor's castle. Despite some fierce fighting with the local Irish families, the de Burgo firmly took control of the castle and the surrounding fertile land of Galway and Mayo in 1235. In 1247, the Annals mention the burning of the town and the de Burgo castle by the Irish in Connacht.

Although no record of a charter survives, it is assumed that the castle was granted by Walter de Burgo, who is credited with initialising the building of the town and which was in the process of being walled from 1272. The shape of the enclosed area was dictated largely by the configuration of the end of the ridge on which the settlement was sited. Richard de Burgo (the Red Earl) continued the walling of the town on into 1298. His name is linked with a large hall or residence at the rear of the Custom House on Flood Street. Warfare throughout Connacht during the first half of the fourteenth century contributed to the growth of the town, as a number of Welsh and Norman families sought protection against the resurgent Irish within the walls of Galway. These families heralded the commercial development of the city as a major sea-port and trade centre. The community dwelling within the walls were sufficiently affluent to afford a major building project at St Nicholas' Church, which was substantially enlarged around 1320. It is difficult to establish when the town became completely enclosed. In 1361, Edward III granted a charter to Galway, in aid of the enclosing of the town, this charter was renewed in 1374.

While on his first visit to Ireland in 1394-1395, Richard II accepted the submission of William de Burgo and pardoned and knighted him. Following this, the king granted a perpetual murage grant to the people of Galway to assist in enclosing the town within a stonewall and paving the streets, indicating that up to this time the town defences had remained somewhat incomplete. In early 1396 Galway was granted its first royal charter, raising its status to that of a royal borough and was, in effect, an attempt to remove it from the control of the local MacWilliam lord. The increase in status would have encouraged merchants and others to dwell in the town.

Galway's importance is reflected in the establishment of a mint there in 1461, by order of Edward IV, when he assumed the throne. Granting a further charter three years later, confirming all existing privileges and adding a new clause; the inhabitants had the right to exclude from the town anyone they chose. The town suffered a serious setback in 1473 when, according to the annals, the town was set alight. The full extent of the damage is unknown and the estimated destruction of the temporal wealth is difficult to ascertain.

Another charter, granted in 1484, by Richard III provided for autonomous control over the City's affairs by means of an annually elected Mayor and Burgesses. The town had through this achieved ecclesiastical and administrative independence. A small number of wealthy families, who were involved in the procurement of the new charter, formed an oligarchy and controlled the town's

administration. This close-knit group, who formed alliances by marriage, later became known as the 'Tribes of Galway'.

During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries Galway witnessed a considerable amount of building activity. The Franciscan order, which had been in residence in the city since the late thirteenth century, was joined by Dominican and Augustinian contingents, both of which constructed new residences. Merchant families erected lavish dwellings, such as Lynch's Castle, on Shop Street. St Nicholas's Church was enlarged by the addition of a new south aisle and the town defences also received attention during this period. Sections of the walls are recorded as being built, or more likely rebuilt. The increased traffic through the port led to the opening of a second gate onto the quays. A hospital or poorhouse was founded in 1505, followed by a hospice (outside the town walls) in 1542. Contemporary writers describe Galway as a compact and well laid-out town with fourteen ramparts, including Shoemakers and Penrices Towers, a corresponding number of gates and fourteen principal streets. The tower house at Doughiska dates to the fifteenth or sixteenth century and is recorded as having been in the possession of the Lynch family in 1574.

Cromwell landed in Ireland with his New Model Army, on behalf of the English Parliament, in 1649. Since the Irish Rebellion of 1641, Ireland had been mainly under the control of the Irish Confederate Catholics, who in 1649 signed an alliance with the English Royalist party, which had been defeated in the English Civil War. Cromwell's confiscations and transplantations resulted in the greatest change of land ownership that the country has known. Galway began to prepare for war. Aware of its vulnerability to the east side, they built two large bastions at either end of the east curtain wall in 1646-1647. The people of Galway began to prepare for a prolonged siege. Cromwell's forces arrived in Galway in July 1651 and began constructing a series of siege works in order to cut off all relief coming to it from the east. The principal siege works was at Bohermore, which in turn was flanked by another two smaller works. Terryland Castle was garrisoned by soldiers, but they abandoned the site and fled into town using the river to escape, without engaging with the enemy. The siege of the town lasted nine months, following which Cromwellian soldiers took possession of the fortifications, including Terryland. The conquering army lost little time in making their presence felt and immediately erected two new citadels within the town. Churches and abbeys were destroyed, and the beautiful mansions of the merchants were sacked. Vast numbers of people were dispossessed and made homeless, and clergy were exiled. The Lynch family were evicted from the tower house at Merlin Park in the 1650s.

During this period, the town witnessed the most excessive elements of Puritanism. Carvings of a devotional implication were condemned as superstition and were destroyed. The centuries of wealth and local control ended abruptly. Dereliction and decay followed in the wake of the town's surrender. The government disenfranchised the members of the Corporation, and the new settlers elected their own mayor and sheriffs.

The return of the Charles II to the throne in 1660 brought about a certain relaxation of the puritanical attitude and the friars and clergy returned to minister to the people. There was no such leniency in civil matters, however, with the corporation firmly in the control of Protestant settlers. The Clanricards did, however, regain most of their former land and possessions after the succession of Charles II.

When James II came to the throne in England in 1685, a number of Irish Catholics supported him and in return gained re-admittance to the corporation. The king's pro-catholic policies quickly alienated his subjects, and he was forced to flee to France. His Protestant daughter, Mary and her husband William, Prince of Orange, succeeded him. James II and his Jacobite supporters were determined to recover the throne and set about using Ireland as a stepping-stone. Following his defeat at the Battle of the Boyne, James II again fled to France and William III brought the war to the rest of the country. In 1691, at the Battle of Aughrim, the Williamites heavily defeated the Jacobite troops a second time. The Williamite

troops set out towards Galway. Although the people of Galway had prepared for another siege and had constructed new range of fortified earthwork outside the stone bastioned defences on the east side of the town, the defences were not complete. Terryland was once again garrisoned with troops who were a mix of French and Irish divisions. The foreign army attacked a fort on a ridge to the south of the town, took Terryland Castle and crossed the river. Following some intense negotiations, the town of Galway capitulated and finally surrendered.

At the dawn of the eighteenth century a small Protestant élite controlled the town, although much of the trade remained in the hands of the Catholic majority, who managed it through their extended family links throughout Europe and the New World. During this period new docks were developed, including the Long Walk promenade.

As the town developed and expanded into the nineteenth century, the commercial and landed classes began to move out to the suburbs to more comfortable accommodation. The town centre became the home of the poor who came to the urban centre in search of employment in the shops, warehouses and numerous mills. By 1818 the town had broken its own boundaries. Whole sections of the walls and fortifications were pulled down and the gates were entirely removed.

During the following centuries, Galway did not regain its former splendour and very little rebuilding of note took place. What remained of the town walls gradually decayed and was demolished and despite the growth in population there is a notable absence of Georgian architecture, so prevalent in other Irish cities.

3.5 Cartographic evidence

3.5.1 Down Survey (1656-1658)

This map shows the general location of the proposed development site, but no details of individual buildings can be discerned.

3.5.2 Irish Historic Towns Atlas (IHTA) Map 5 Galway City c. 1200–c. 1900

This maps depicts the layout of the medieval city. The proposed development site is situated to the southeast of the town wall. This area was reclaimed and developed considerably in the 18th century, with the construction of the new docks (Figure 4).

3.5.3 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch series (1838)

This map shows buildings fronting onto the Merchants Road Lower within the proposed development site. These have garden or yard areas to the rear of the buildings. The layout of New Dock Street does not extend past the site at this stage (Figure 5).

3.5.4 Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910-11)

This shows alterations to the buildings indicated on previous 19th century mapping. New Dock Street now runs to the northeast of the proposed development site (Figure 6).

3.5.5 Ordnance Survey Cassini 6-inch series

This shows the buildings within the proposed development site largely as they exist at present.

3.6 *Recent excavations*

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken at adjacent sites (see Appendix 2). The nearest investigations to the present site were those at Merchants Road Lower, to the southwest of the proposed development site. However, investigations at 15 and 16 Merchants Road Lower (Licence No 08E0752 ext.; Appendix 2) did not reveal any surviving archaeological remains predating the 18th century.

4 IMPACT STATEMENT

4.1 Description of the site

The proposed development is located at Nos 17–20 Merchants Road Lower, which is currently occupied by a terrace of 2 storey buildings. It is situated on the southern road frontage, to the southwest of the junction of New Dock Road and is bounded as follows; to the north by Dock Street, to the west by Merchants Road Lower, to the south by no. 16 Merchants Road Lower and Picture Palas and to the east Glor na Mara residential Complex and a vacant site to the southeast.

The existing buildings within the proposed development site appear to date to the mid-20th century, with garden areas to the rear and modern boundary walls. They are two-storey structures, currently in a dilapidated state. The interiors of Nos. 19 and 20 were not accessible at the time of the site visit but they appear structurally similar to Nos. 17 and 18. A small shed or workshop is located at the end of the garden of No. 18. No unregistered archaeological features were identified during the course of the site visit.

4.1.1 Past impacts on site

The construction of the standing buildings would have resulted in sub-surface disturbance within the footprint of the development site as a result of the insertion of their foundations; there would also have been disturbances for the insertion of services relating to this development.

4.1.2 Summary of baseline environment

Site Type	Summary
- RMPs - National Monuments - Sites with Preservation Orders - Sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments	There are eleven RMPs incorporated by the study area (CH005-013, 061 and 062). None are located within the proposed development site.
- Protected Structures	There are 49 Protected Structures incorporated by the study area. None are located within the proposed development site.
- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	There are four Architectural Conservation Areas incorporated by the study area.
- Sites Listed in the NIAH	There are 14 sites listed in the NIAH (CH005 and CH014-CH026) incorporated by the study area.
- Unregistered Cultural Heritage Sites	There are no unregistered cultural heritage sites incorporated by the study area.
- Areas/features of archaeological potential	The development site as a whole it is regarded as an area of archaeological potential (CH063).
- Townland boundaries	There are no townland boundaries within the development site.

Table 6 – Summary of baseline environment

4.2 Description of the proposed development

The proposed development works comprise five-storey mixed use development at the site of No.17–20 Merchants Road Lower in Galway. The development will include social housing on the upper levels with a cultural centre and café on the ground floor. On the roof level a community amenity and play area is also part of the plans. The existing properties within this development zone will be demolished to allow this new build to proceed.

4.3 Impact assessment

This section assesses the likely significant impacts that the proposed development will have on the baseline/receiving environment, prior to the implementation of any mitigation measures. The methodology used in ascertaining the baseline value of sites, the type, magnitude and significance level of impacts is set out in Section 2 above.

Mitigation measures to ameliorate these impacts and the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on each site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential are provided in Sections 5 and 6 below.

Most impacts are likely to be direct impacts as a result of sub-surface disturbance or construction works. Current ground level at the site varies from around 3.30 m OD to 3.65 m OD.

The construction of the new building will require the demolition of all existing structures on site. Ground reduction across the site is expected to be up to c. 1 m below present ground level to accommodate localised piled foundations (to a depth of c. 7 m to bedrock level) and the new ground slab, with localised deeper excavation for ground-beams and services also required.

All impacts that occur during the construction phase are likely to be direct impacts as a result of sub-surface disturbance or construction works.

CH No.	Impact Type	Description of Impact	Magnitude of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures
063	Direct	Impacts will occur as a result of: 1. Ground Reduction and Demolitions	Major	Medium/High	Moderate

Table 7 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude prior to mitigation

5 MITIGATION STRATEGY

The mitigation strategies outlined in this section detail the techniques to be adopted in order to ameliorate the impacts that the proposed development may have on features of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage within the study area during both the construction and operational phases of the scheme. The residual impacts that will remain once these mitigation measures have been implemented are identified in Section 9 further on.

The following mitigation measures proposed are subject to approval by Galway City Council and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The current policy of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is that preservation *in situ* of archaeological material is the preferred option. Where this cannot be achieved then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of all affected archaeological material.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction (including the removal of groundslabs as part of demolitions) should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH) will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the NMS (DoHLGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Summary of archaeological findings

The results of this impact assessment indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential (CH063). The proposed development site lies within the Zone of Archaeological Potential for the historic town of Galway (GA094-100) (CH061) and to the Southeast of the medieval city walls (GA094-100001) (CH062). Its proximity to the medieval centre of Galway indicates that there is potential to encounter surviving medieval features or deposits. In addition, historic mapping indicates the presence of buildings along the Merchants Road Lower frontage by the early 19th century. Subsurface remains of these structures could still survive within the development footprint.

6.2 Recommendations

The proposed development will require ground reduction across the development footprint. This has the potential to result in the removal of archaeological material at the site including (but not limited to) any surviving remains of the former buildings that previously occupied the Merchants Road Lower frontage of the site.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction (including the removal of groundslabs as part of demolitions) should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH) will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the NMS (DoHLGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

6.3 Residual impacts

CH No.	Impact Type	Magnitude of impact taking into account mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact after implementation of mitigation measures
063	Direct	Moderate	Medium /High	Slight

Table 8 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude after implementation of mitigation

Please note all the recommendations in this report are subject to approval of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bolger, T and Pawle, I 2019 *An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of a Proposed Development at Merlin Park, Co. Galway*. Unpublished Client Report by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DAHGI) 1999 *Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*, Stationery Office, Dublin

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2004 *Architectural Heritage Guidelines*. Stationery Office, Dublin

EirGrid 2015 *Cultural Heritage Guidelines for Electricity Transmission Projects. A stand approach to archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact assessment of high voltage transmission projects*. EirGrid, Dublin.

EPA 2002 *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements*. Environmental Protection Agency, Dublin

EPA 2003 *Advice notes on current practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)*. Environmental Protection Agency, Dublin

NRA 2005a *Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes*. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

NRA 2005b *Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes*. National Roads Authority, Dublin.

Electronic resources

Bennet, I. (ed.) 2017 *Excavations.ie, database of Irish excavation reports* [online]. Available <http://www.excavations.ie/> [Accessed: May 2021]

Heritage Maps 2017 *Galway City GIS* [online]. Available: <https://heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/DublinArchaeologyProject/index.html> [Accessed: May 2021]

National Monuments Service, 2017 *National monuments – map viewer* [online]. Available <http://webgis.archaeology.ie/historicenvironment/> [Accessed: May 2021]

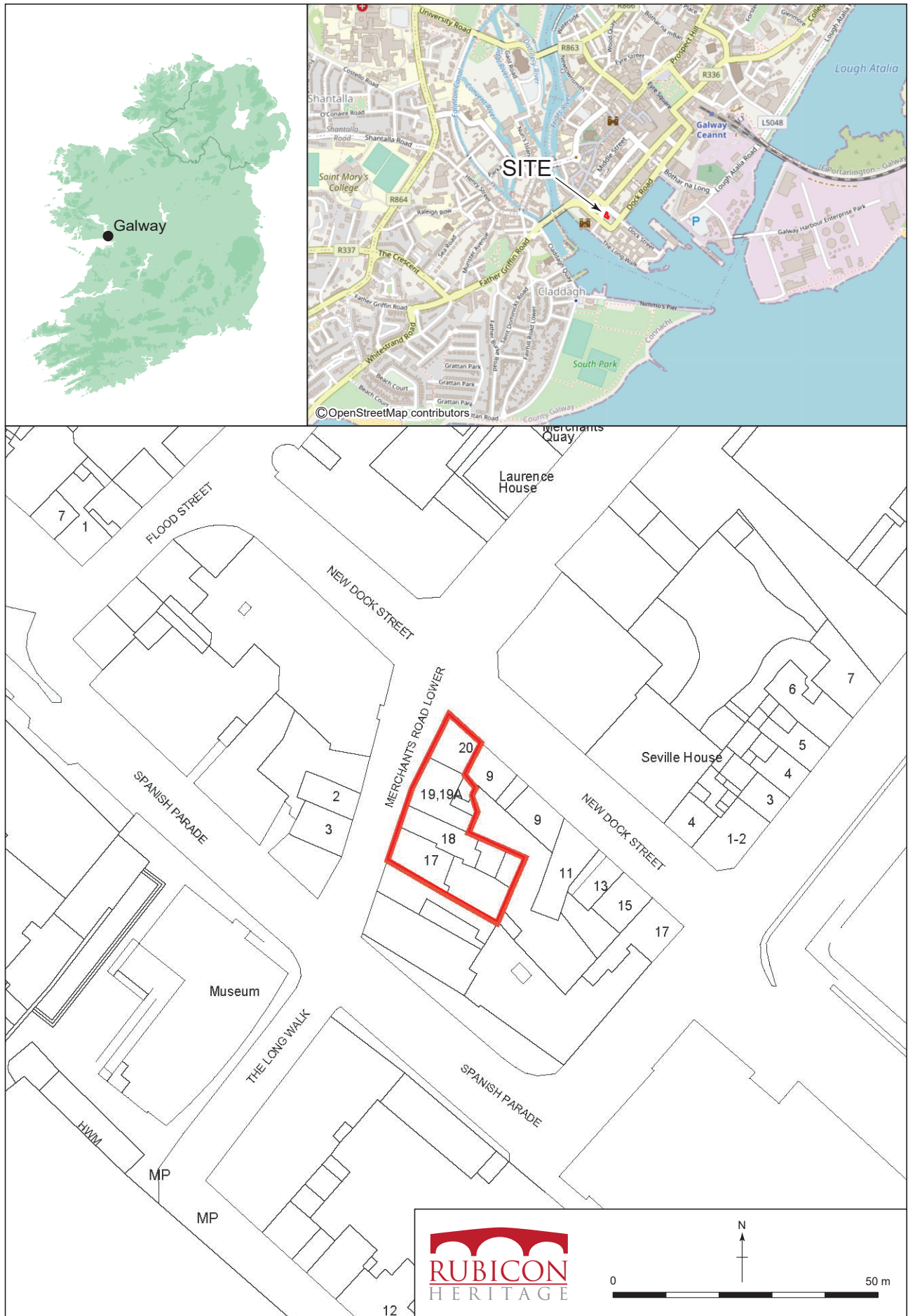


Figure 1 - Merchants Road Redevelopment, Galway: Site location.

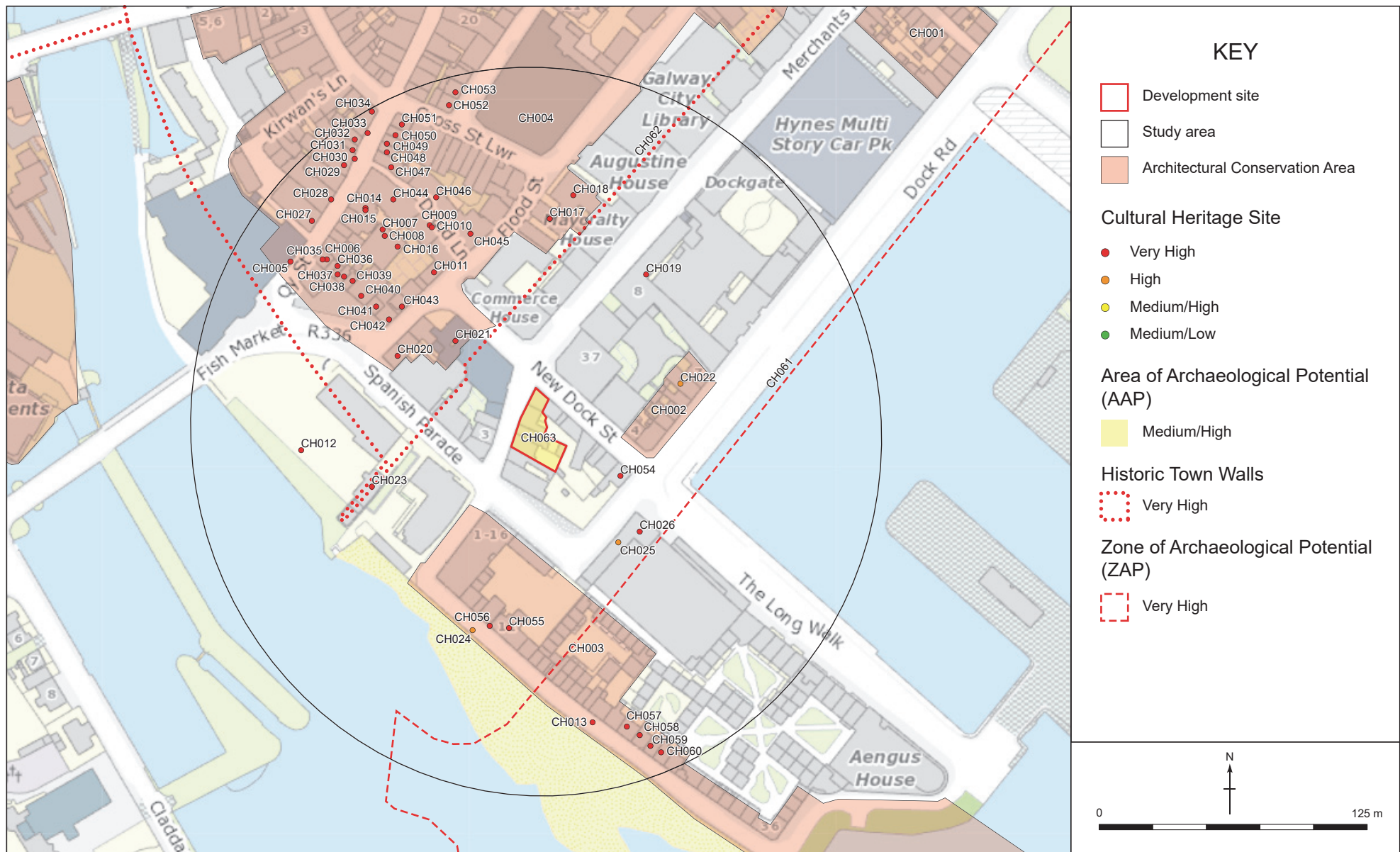




Figure 3 - RMP map with proposed development site.

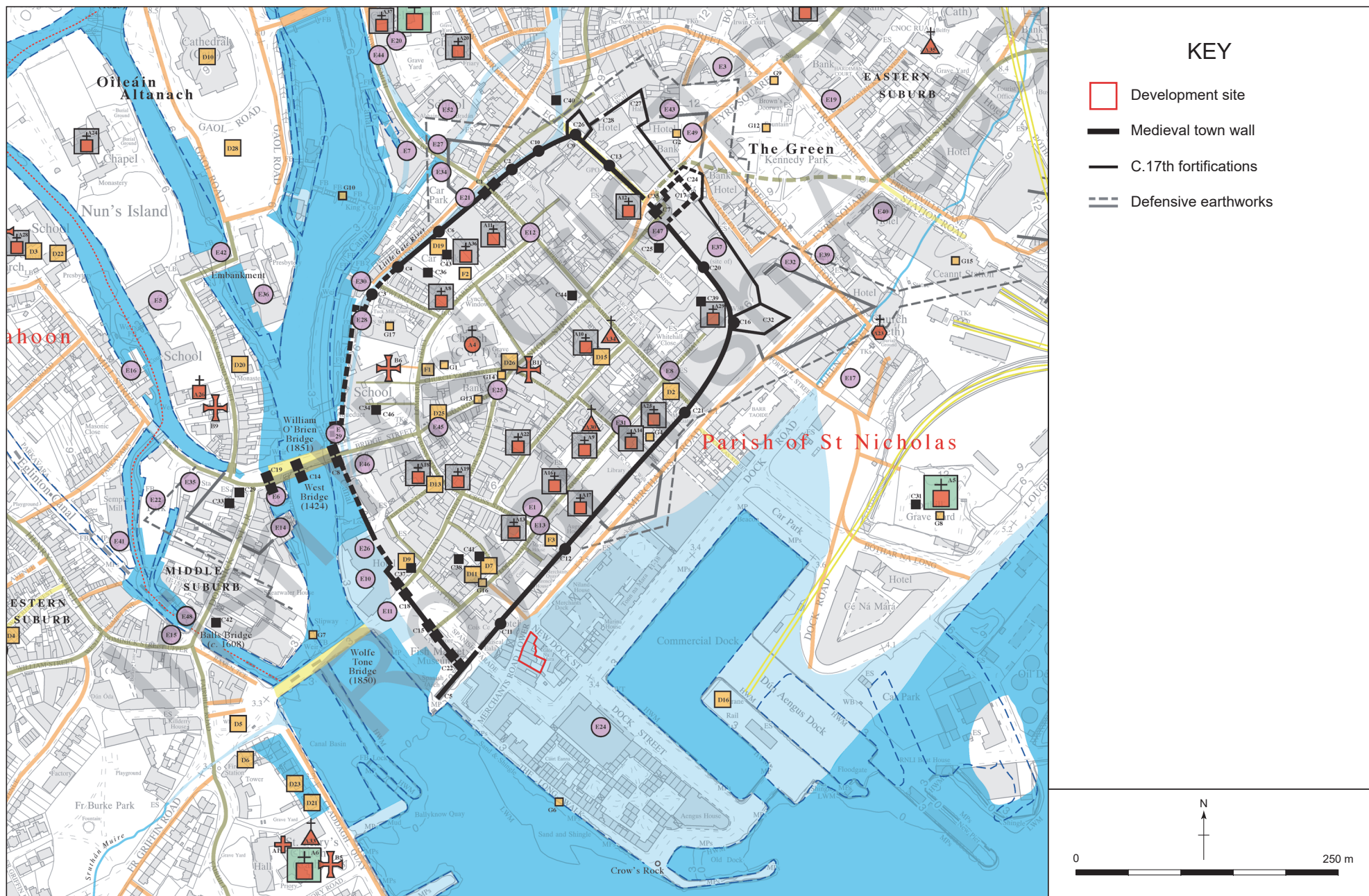




Figure 5 - First edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.

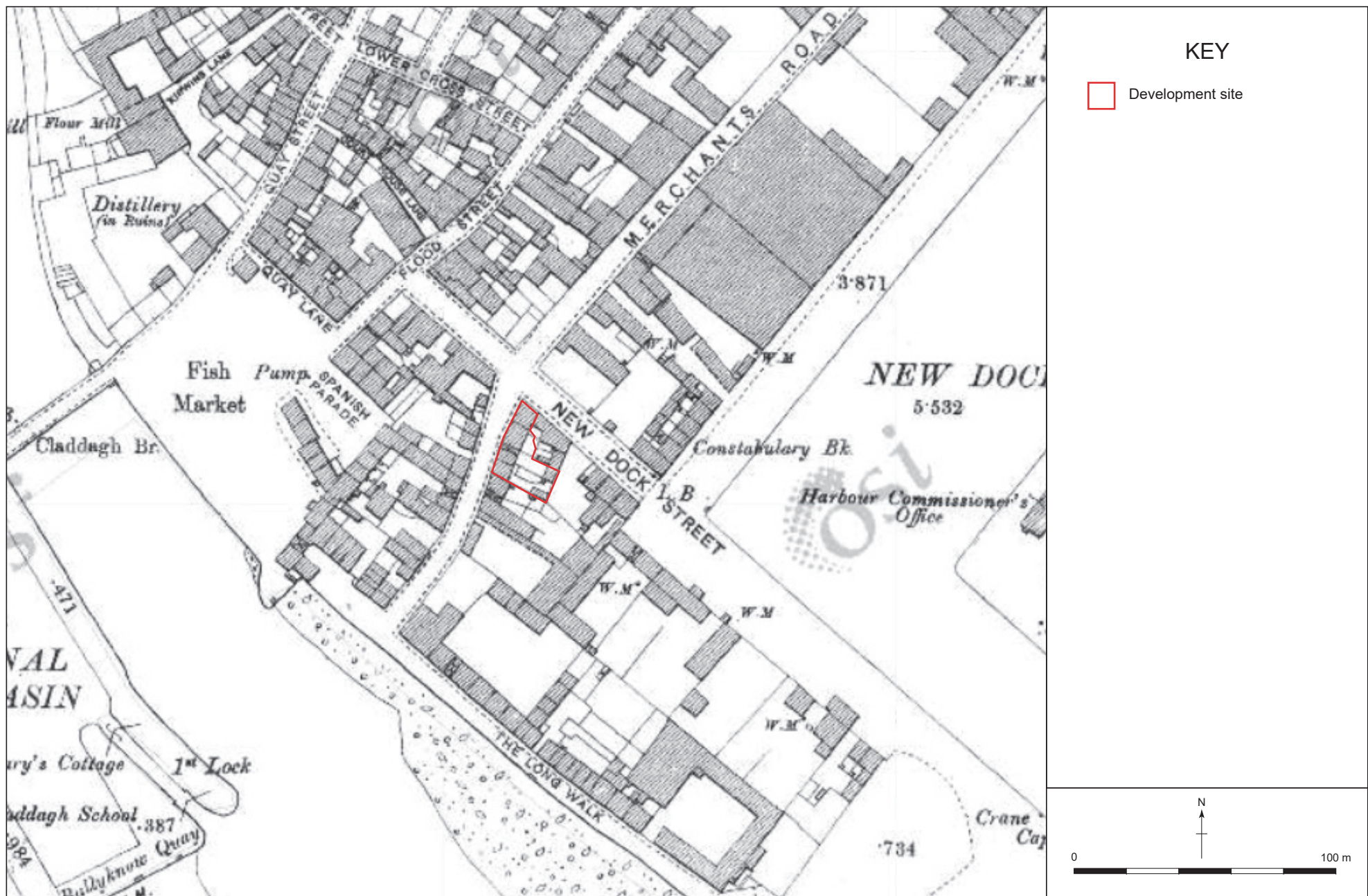


Figure 6 - Second edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.



Plate 1 - General exterior picture of properties No. 17-20, facing S



Plate 2 - General exterior picture of properties No. 17-20, facing ENE



Plate 3 - No. 17, northern property boundary wall, facing N



Plate 4 - No. 17, southern property boundary wall, facing WNW



Plate 5 - No. 18, back workshop area, facing ESE



Plate 6 - No. 17, view from the back door to the back yard, facing ESE

Appendix 1 – Inventory of identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH001	ACA	-	St. Nicholas Street	St. Nicholas Street Architectural Conservation Area	BALLINTOBER (ED KILCONNELL)	Very High	529957	725130
CH002	ACA	-	1-6 Dock Road	1-6 Dock Road Architectural Conservation Area	BALLINTOBER (ED KILCONNELL)	Very High	529830	724934
CH003	ACA	-	The Long Walk	The Long Walk Architectural Conservation Area	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529805	724801
CH004	ACA	-	City Core	City Core Architectural Conservation Area	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529838	725288
CH005	RMP NIAH PS	GA094 - 100044 - 303190 15 8116	Castle - tower house	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. Three-storey medieval tower house, built c.1470, having single-bay ground and first floors and two-bay second floor. Recent commercial buildings flanking to each side are recessed slightly from tower house elevation. Flat roof with crenelated parapet, with projecting machicolation on	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529659	725014

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				supporting corbels to top floor above entrance. Coursed roughly dressed limestone rubble walls. Square-headed window openings to upper floors, double-lights to top floor and single-light to first floor, having recent chamfered limestone block-and-start surrounds. East corner of first floor has cusped trefoil-headed windows to two sides, with tooled stone surrounds. Three-centred doorway to ground floor having limestone surround, some stones being replacement, dressed lintel stones, and replacement double-leaf timber door. Blake's Castle is a typical medieval, urban tower house. It preserves a number of key features, including the interesting and unusual trefoil-headed windows to one corner, and the restored machicolation to the roof level, formerly defending the doorway. During its history this building has functioned as a county jail, a store, as housing for an electrical transformer, and since the 1990s, a restaurant.				
CH006	RMP	GA094 - 100072 -	Fortification	Although the town of Galway owes its origin to the establishment of an Anglo-Norman castle in the early 13th century, the choice of site had already been made by the	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529676	725015

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				native Irish who, as early as 1124, are recorded as building a 'dún' or fortification at the mouth of the river Galway (now known as the River Corrib). This dún is variously named in the annals as 'Bun Gaillme' (1121), '[Caistel] Gaillme' (1124), '[Caislen] Bona Gaillme' (1128), '[Caislén] bona Gaillme' (1132), 'Dún nGaillme' (1149, 1161), '[Caisdel] Gaillmi' (1170), '[Caislen] Bona Gaillme' (1177), and '[Caislen] Bona Gaillmhe' (1230) which may be translated as the castle or fortification at the mouth of the river Galway (Prunty and Walsh 2016, 10). This dún was to figure in the fluctuating wars of Connacht and Munster and was demolished in 1132 and in 1149. Although again rebuilt it was burned in 1161. It seems to have been re-erected soon after for when the river suddenly went dry in 1178 the inhabitants of the dún collected many old articles from the river bed (Walsh 1996, 52). It is not mentioned again in the annals until 1230, when Richard de Burgo came to 'Caisleán Bhun na Gaillimhe' and fought with the O'Flaherty's there. This event is recounted in the annals of Lough Cé and Connacht and both entries specifically refer to the Connacht men as				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				being on the west side and the Anglo-Normans on the east side of the river. After a number of engagements and achieving no satisfaction de Burgo withdrew. Roderic O'Flaherty gives the following account of these events: 'Richard de Burgo . . . besieged Odo O'Flaherty, Lord of West Connaught, in the castle of Galway, on the east side of the river; and he being relieved on the west side by Odo, King of Connaught . . . the besiegers quitted the siege;' (O'Flaherty 1684, 32). This is the only reference which specifically indicates that the dún stood on the east side of the river. None of the other annalistic entries give any indication of the location of the Irish fortification. De Burgo had better success when he returned in 1232, for the annals record that he then erected a castle there (see GA094-100069-). It seems likely this was built on the site of the existing fortification as suggested by the excavator who uncovered what appears to be the part of the 13th-century de Burgo castle at Quay Lane in 2017 (Irish Times, 16 January 2018). The ITM coordinates provided for this record should only be considered as indicative of the general location of the				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				12th-century dún: to date, no definitive evidence has been found for this fortification.				
CH007	RMP	GA094 - 100070 -	Kiln - lime	The following summary has been derived from Delany (2004, 164-78) to which the reader is referred for a fuller account. Archaeological excavations undertaken at the Custom House during the period 1997-9 uncovered significant medieval structural remains including those of a high medieval hall (GA094-100041-), the eastern corner of a 13th-century castle (GA094-100069-), a limekiln (GA094-100070-) and a smelting works (GA094-100071-) that operated in the late and post-medieval periods. A very large quantity of artefacts (11,553) and environmental material was also recovered. The excavations were confined to two separate areas of the site. The eastern area, bordering on Druid Lane, comprised the hall, smelting works and an adjoining laneway; the area to the west was in a 19th-century warehouse building where the remains of the castle and kiln were uncovered. This limekiln was found inside the wall of the 13th-century castle (GA094-100069-)	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529702	725029

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				and clearly post-dated its destruction. The excavated remains of the kiln comprised the southern half of a circular, bowl-shaped structure in the eastern corner of the medieval castle. The kiln measured 3.5m in diameter at the top, narrowing to 3m at a depth of 1.25m, which was the limit of the excavation. The structure was faced internally with roughly coursed, red sandstone and green granite boulders and rubble. The enclosing wall was c. 0.65m thick, except on the east where it abutted the medieval castle wall. The external walling appeared to function as a revetment for the inner face of the structure, and there was no clearly defined outer face. The upper part of a square or rectangular opening (Wth 0.4m) was exposed at the limit of the excavation, in the southern part of the kiln. The flue (L 2.75m; Wth 0.85m) for this opening extended southward and across the top of the castle wall, which was much reduced in this area. A roughly built, boulder-and-rubble wall defined the south-eastern edge of the flue, but the north-western wall was missing apart from a couple of stones, which indicated its approximate line. In				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				general, the deposits in the kiln contained frequent inclusions of shell (mainly oyster) and animal and fish bone, as well as occasional bird bone. A substantial assemblage of high medieval pottery, mainly Redcliffe and Saintonge ware, was also found in these deposits. It seems likely that the disused kiln functioned as a dump for domestic refuse. The presence of ash and lime deposits is consistent with the identification of the structure as a limekiln.				
CH008	RMP	GA094 - 100069 -	Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle	The following summary has been derived from Delany (2004, 164-78) to which the reader is referred for a fuller account. Archaeological excavations undertaken at the Custom House during the period 1997-9 uncovered significant medieval structural remains including those of a high medieval hall (GA094-100041-), the eastern corner of a 13th-century castle (GA094-100069-), a limekiln (GA094-100070-) and a smelting works (GA094-100071-) that operated in the late and post-medieval periods. A very large quantity of artefacts (11,553) and environmental material was also recovered. The excavations were confined to two separate areas of the site. The eastern area,	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529703	725026

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				bordering on Druid Lane, comprised the hall, smelting works and an adjoining laneway; the area to the west was in a 19th-century warehouse building where the remains of the castle and kiln were uncovered. The first castle erected at Galway by the Anglo-Normans was built by Richard de Burgo in 1232 and destroyed by the Gaelic Irish in the following year. It was subsequently repaired or rebuilt, as it suffered a similar fate in 1247. Richard died in 1243 and was succeeded by his son Walter, whose death is recorded at the castle in 1271. This is the latest reference to the existence of the castle at Galway. Walter de Burgo was succeeded by his eldest son Richard, the 'Red Earl'. Documentary evidence indicates that he continued to enclose the developing town with defensive walls, a process that had been initiated under his father's direction. The historical evidence seems to suggest that the castle predates the hall (GA094-100041-) which is associated with the Red				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				Earl and was abandoned at around the time the hall was built. The remains of the 13th-century castle comprised the eastern corner of a substantial building. The south-eastern wall (T 1.75m; H 1m) comprised four courses of large, roughly hewn migmatite and granite boulders with a clay-bonded core of smaller stones. It had a pronounced external base-batter and preserved traces of possible lime render. The excavated portion was 6m long, but the wall clearly extended beyond the south-western limit of the site. The north-eastern end of this wall was abutted by a buttress (dims 2.2m by 1m) composed of migmatite and granite boulders and displaying a pronounced batter. The north-eastern return of the castle (T 1.25m; H 1.15m) comprised three courses of migmatite and granite boulders, which rested on two foundation courses of larger boulders forming a rough plinth (Wth 0.20m) at the base of the wall. This wall was built at an oblique angle to the south-eastern wall and did not have an external base-batter. The evidence suggests that the north-eastern wall may have been				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				partly rebuilt, possibly when the kiln (GA094-100070-) was constructed immediately inside this wall. Excavations undertaken to the south-west at Nos. 3-5 Quay Lane in 2017 uncovered what appear to be further remains of this castle (Galway Advertiser, 18 January 2018, p. 24; SMR file). (Prunty and Walsh 2016, 21)				
CH009	RMP	GA094 - 100071 -	Metalworking site	The following summary has been derived from Delany (2004, 164-78) to which the reader is referred for a fuller account. Archaeological excavations undertaken at the Custom House during the period 1997-9 uncovered significant medieval structural remains including those of a high medieval hall (GA094-100041-), the eastern corner of the 13th-century castle (GA094-100069-), a limekiln (GA094-100070-) and a smelting works (GA094-100071-) that operated in the late and post-medieval periods. A very large quantity of artefacts (11,553) and environmental material was also recovered. The excavations were confined to two separate areas of the site. The eastern area, bordering on Druid Lane, comprised the	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529724	725031

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				hall, smelting works and an adjoining laneway; the area to the west was in a 19th-century warehouse building where the remains of the castle and kiln were uncovered. The interior of the hall (GA094-100041-) was used an area for iron smelting in the late and post-medieval periods and two main phases of activity were distinguished. The first phase was represented by four pits, over 50 stake-holes and seven narrow holes or voids, the function of which could not be determined. All of these features were cut into medieval gravel deposits. At the base of one of these pits was an extremely compact deposit of iron slag indicating its use as a furnace pit, and it is assumed that the other two pits had a similar function. They may have been used as part of a smelting process whereby wrought iron was produced on a small scale directly from iron ore. The fourth, larger pit had been partially destroyed during the construction of the foundations of an adjacent business premises. There were large concentrations of stake-holes in the area south-west of the central stone				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				column of the hall and immediately inside the southern door but these did not form any readily identifiable structures. They may have supported small, temporary structures such as worktops or canopies. The second phase of activity was represented by a greater variety of features. These included pits, stake-holes, narrow holes, a collapsed stone structure, wooden objects, traces of clay-and-stone floors and small ironworking features and surfaces. The most notable discovery was a large cruciform anvil base situated in the northern part of the hall. All of these features were cut into accumulated industrial deposits and clearly represented an expansion of iron smelting on the site. Some stones showed evidence of staining which in conjunction with the iron filings discovered in the fill between them suggests that molten iron may have been hammered into shape on them. A collapsed stone structure may have been the remains of a furnace. The anvil was represented by regular cruciform-shaped depressions. The head and arms were of roughly equal dimensions (L 0.9m; Wth 0.55m), but the				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				shaft was longer, at 1.75m and open the bottom: these would have held substantial timber beams on which the anvil was fixed. Occasional clay-pipe stem fragments in the upper levels of the smelting works suggest that the operation may have continued into the early 17th century. However, these finds may have been intrusive, and the general absence of clay pipe and glass suggested to the excavator that the smelting works are more likely to be a 16th-century feature.				
CH010	RMP PS	GA094 - 100041 - 2501	Castle - hall-house	The following summary has been derived from Delany (2004, 164-78) to which the reader is referred for a fuller account. Archaeological excavations undertaken at the Custom House during the period 1997-9 uncovered significant medieval structural remains including those of a high medieval hall (GA094-100041-), the eastern corner of a 13th-century castle (GA094-100069-), a limekiln (GA094-100070-) and a smelting works (GA094-100071-) that operated in the late and post-medieval periods. A very large quantity of artefacts (11,553) and environmental material was also recovered. The excavations were confined to two separate	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very high	529725	725030

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				areas of the site. The eastern area, bordering on Druid Lane, comprised the hall, smelting works and an adjoining laneway; the area to the west was in a 19th-century warehouse building where the remains of the castle and kiln were uncovered. The remains of the medieval hall comprised sections of the buttressed north-eastern and south-western walls with opposing doorways and the remnants of three centrally placed, octagonal stone columns. Evidence for the gable walls was not uncovered as these lay outside the area available for excavation and, in consequence, the full extent of the building is unknown. It was in excess of 14m long and c. 7.7m wide internally. The north-eastern and south-western walls (T 0.95m; H 0.75–1.50m) were constructed of roughly hewn, angular, migmatite boulders and red sandstone with a rubble core and were faced in roughly arranged, alternate random courses of blocky boulders and smaller, angular stones. They rested on a roughly constructed plinth that projected 0.20m from the base of the wall. The				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				opposing doorways were both 1.90m wide internally, with the threshold 0.35m above the plinth. The jambs of the south-western door consisted of chamfered limestone blocks, and the basal stones had a rounded stop-chamfer. Both the jambs and the ingoing were bonded with a white gravel-and-lime mortar, similar to that used in the buttresses. The use of diagonal tooling on the jambs suggests a pre-14th-century date for this door, but it had clearly been altered at a later date. Only a single basal jamb of the north-eastern door survived. It was a dressed, chamfered limestone block with a stop-chamfer and diagonal tooling on all of its exposed faces. The ingoing was straight and formed of randomly coursed migmatite boulders and a roughly hewn limestone block. The mortar used in the doorway construction was similar to that used in the walls, suggesting that they were contemporaneous. A series of buttresses constructed of randomly coursed, roughly hewn migmatite boulders and limestone blocks had been built against the exterior walls of the hall. The buttresses measured 1.4m by				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				1.15m and rested on substantial boulder plinths. A white/grey gravel-and-lime mortar was common to all and there were also traces of lime render on each of them. The use of limestone and different mortar, and the fact that one of them slightly overlapped the eastern doorway, indicates that the buttresses belonged to a second phase of construction at the hall. The roof of the hall had been carried by a centrally aligned row of octagonal stone columns, three of which were uncovered during the excavation. The north-western one was the best preserved, with three surviving tiers. Only the base and foundation of the central column survived, and the one in the south-west was partly destroyed in the 19th/20th century. The punch-dressing on the columns suggests a 14th- or 15th-century date for them, and it is likely that they replaced earlier wooden supports, although no evidence of these was found during the excavation. Several areas of a crude and uneven stone floor were excavated in the interior of the hall. There were no surviving stratified layers in the hall. There was no indication as when				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				the hall went out of use but the interior was reused as a smelting area in the 16th century (see GA094-10071-). This structure may perhaps be identified with the stone house mentioned in an inquisition taken in 1333. In 1556 it was noted as ‘the ruined house called Erles stone’ and again, in 1636, as the old house called ‘Clogh-In-Early’. It is not depicted on any map of the city other than the mid-17th century pictorial map where it is represented as a church-like structure having large, round-headed windows and what appears to be a cross on its intact south-eastern gable: it is named in the map index as the ‘The old buildings of the illustrious Lord, Richard de Burgo, the Red Earl.’ A county courthouse was built on this site in 1686 and appears to have been built directly on the foundations of the medieval hall (Prunty and Walsh 2016, 25, 43). The progression from medieval hall to county courthouse to custom house uniquely indicates continuity of public ownership of this site from the 13th century to the present day.				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH011	RMP	GA094 - 100055 -	Ritual site - holy well	With reference to the Red Earl's Hall (GA094-100041-) Roderic O'Flaherty, writing in 1684, noted that 'The ruins of the earle's house called Clogh-an-hiarla, or the earl's stone, are still extant in Galway nigh the key, where there is a well dedicated to St Brendan, patron of Enagh-duin dioceses, wherein was Galway, whose feast, 16th May, usually kept holy by the key-street dwellers of old.' (Hardiman 1846, 33). This may be identified with that referred to in a property lease as the 'Earl's Well' in 1686 (Prunty and Walsh 2016, 38). Although the precise location of this well is unknown it would appear to have been in the general area of the present Custom House.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very high	529726	7250009
CH012	RMP PS	GA094 - 100058 - 8501	Quay	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very high	529664	724926
CH013	RMP PS	GA094 - 100060 -	Pier/Jetty	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very high	529800	724799

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
		8501		information for this record has not been uploaded.				
CH014	NIAH PS	303190 16 8113	House	Terraced three-bay four-storey semi-detached former house, built c.1840, now in use as restaurant and offices. Pitched artificial slate roof having coursed rubble limestone chimneystacks, and replacement metal rainwater goods. Coursed dressed limestone walls having rendered eaves course. Square-headed window openings with limestone sills and voussoirs with replacement uPVC windows to upper storeys. Ground floor has dressed stone voussoirs to two square-headed doorways and to round-headed doorway, latter giving access to upper floors, all with replacement timber framing. This building forms an impressive six-bay composition with its neighbour to the north-east. Its tall size, good-quality dressed stonework and its pleasing fenestration make it a landmark in the street.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529694	725039
CH015	NIAH PS	303190 17 8113	House	Terraced three-bay four-storey semi-detached former house, built c.1840, now in use as restaurant and offices. Pitched artificial slate roof having limestone chimneystacks and replacement metal	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529694	725038

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				rainwater goods. Coursed dressed limestone walls having rendered eaves course. Square-headed window openings with limestone sills and voussoirs, having replacement uPVC windows to upper floors and fixed timber window to ground floor. Round-headed former doorway, now window, and square-headed doorway, to ground floor, having limestone voussoirs and replacement glazed timber frames. This building forms an impressive six-bay composition with its neighbour to the south-west. Its tall size, good-quality dressed stonework and its pleasing fenestration make it a landmark in the street.				
CH016	NIAH PS	303190 18 4204	Stables	Attached three-bay, two-storey former stable block, built c.1860, having hipped artificial slate roof and replacement metal rainwater goods. Coursed rubble limestone walls having cut limestone eaves course. Camber-headed window openings to eastern bays, having limestone sills and voussoirs, with some red-brick to surrounds of windows to north-east bay. Replacement small-pane timber sliding sash windows throughout. Camber-	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529709	725021

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				headed carriage entrance having roughly dressed limestone voussoirs and surround with tooled limestone sill above belonging to former larger opening to first floor.				
CH017	NIAH PS	303190 19 4205	House	Detached three-bay three-storey former house, built c.1810, now in use as funeral home. Flat roof having rubble limestone chimneystack, replacement uPVC rainwater goods and rendered parapet with moulded render cornice. Coursed roughly dressed limestone walls having moulded stone cornice to front elevation. Square-headed window openings having raised reveals, limestone sills and voussoirs with replacement two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows to front elevation and replacement uPVC to south-west gable. Round-headed door opening having limestone voussoirs, double-leaf timber battened door and fanlight, and elliptical-arch door openings to gable with replacement timber glazed doors and having canopy over centre entrance. This late eighteenth-century house is notable for its pleasing proportions and fenestration. Its limestone walls are enhanced by the dressed voussoirs to the door and window openings and the	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529780	725034

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				building retains timber sash windows, albeit not original.				
CH018	NIAH PS	303190 20 9406	MAYORALTY HOUSE	Five-bay three-storey over half-basement freestanding former lord mayor's residence, built c.1760, having three-bay breakfront. Hipped slate roof having rendered chimneystacks, cast-iron rainwater goods, with rendered parapet to front elevation. Coursed dressed limestone walls having chamfered limestone coping to plinth over basement, raised limestone plat band above window head of ground floor, raised cut-stone quoins to corners, with moulded frieze and cornice to eaves. Channelled render to side elevations. Square-headed window openings having carved raised stone surrounds and moulded stone sills with double-light mullioned timber windows to basement having and replacement timber casement windows elsewhere. Carved limestone doorcase to square-headed entrance doorway having moulded stepped-profile surround, moulded segmental pediment and cornice, with double-leaf timber panelled door with overlight. Dressed limestone stepped approach with limestone parapet walls to it and to	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529791	725045

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				basement areas, with limestone copings and cast-iron railings. Square-headed window opening to north-east elevation having rendered reveals and replacement timber glazed door, side panels and single-pane overlight. This former lord mayor's residence is sited opposite the end of Cross Street Lower, at its junction with Flood Street and St Augustine Street. The building's design shows a clear aesthetic appreciation and exhibits details typical of grand buildings of its era. The raised ground floor and central breakfront exemplify the design and high quality is evident in the stonework of its façade, whose raised quoins and carved eaves course, and carved surrounds to the openings add decorative quality. Its segmental-headed carved stone doorcase provides a decorative focus, while the limestone mullions to the basement windows hark back to the medieval architecture of the city, connecting the two eras. The retention of the basement area and its walling and railings helps preserve the setting of this important eighteenth-century house.				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH019	NIAH PS	303190 21 5802	Warehouse	Eleven-bay five-storey former warehouse dated c.1820, with recently added attic storey, now converted into apartments and having two-storey limestone-fronted addition to north-east elevation. Recent hipped artificial slate roof having uPVC dormer windows, cast-iron and replacement uPVC rainwater goods. Roughly coursed limestone rubble walls having rendered eaves course and with squared quoins to corners. Slightly cambered square-headed window openings throughout having rendered sills and replacement uPVC windows. Red-brick block-and-start surrounds and red-brick voussoirs to upper floors of south-west gable and of three bays at south-west end of facade and dressed limestone voussoirs elsewhere. Elliptical-arched door former vehicular openings to ground floor having raised block and start limestone surrounds, voussoirs and keystones, triple keystone of main entrance having high relief date of 1820, initials 'DC', and coat of arms. Replacement timber fittings to entrances. Square-headed balcony doorways to upper floors have	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529825	725008

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				replacement uPVC doors and concrete balconies with cast-metal railings. This warehouse, typically located close to the docks, has now been converted to use as an apartment block. Its large scale makes it an important part of the streetscape and of the city's historic mercantile legacy.				
CH020	NIAH PS	303190 22 4201	House	Corner-sited three-storey house built c.1600, Flood Street (front) elevation having two bays and Spanish Parade elevation having three-bay second floor and two-bay ground and first floors. Now in use as restaurant. Pitched slate roof having rendered and rubble limestone chimneystacks, and replacement uPVC rainwater goods. Coursed roughly dressed limestone battered walls. Irregular fenestration with mainly square-headed window openings, those to Spanish Parade having limestone sills and replacement timber casement windows. Double-light ogee-headed window to middle of Spanish Parade elevation, with carved heads and replacement chamfered mullion. Pointed arch door opening to front elevation having carved chamfered block-and-start surround, high relief interlace motif to chamfer stops and replacement double-leaf	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529709	724970

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				timber glazed door. Square-headed door opening having limestone lintel and timber glazed door to side elevation. This building is one of the best surviving late medieval houses in Galway. It's well coursed and dressed stone walls also have a batter, characteristic of its date of construction. The survival of a carved doorway, ogee-headed window and tiny attic window, highlights its antiquity, as does the irregularity of the fenestration. Change over time is evident also in the relatively large and late windows.				
CH021	NIAH PS	303190 23 6701	House	Attached four-bay, three-storey house, built c.1860, now in use as hotel and having recent additions to rear and side and recent attic conversion with dormered hipped roof, rendered parapets and replacement metal rainwater goods. Roughly coursed limestone rubble walls having rendered eaves course and with dressed quoins to corners. Square-headed window openings having raised reveals, limestone sills and voussoirs and replacement six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows. Recent window boxes to first floor supported on corbels. Square-headed door opening having carved moulded limestone	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529736	724977

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				surround and replacement timber glazed door. Small yard to front of building forms corner of New Dock Street and Flood Street. This former residence has been converted to a hotel. A decorative focus is provided by the carved doorcase, and the building is enhanced by the continued use of timber sash windows. Its setting is enhanced by the unusual small yard to the front.				
CH022	NIAH	303190 24	House	End of terrace three-storey house, built c.1860, having two-bay upper floors and three-bay ground floor. Pitched slate roof with rendered chimneystack and replacement uPVC rainwater goods. Lined-and-ruled rendered walls having rendered eaves course, moulded rendered plinth and channelled render quoins. Square-headed window openings having raised moulded render surrounds, painted stone sills supported on painted stone brackets, with two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows having timber internal shutters. Elliptical-headed door opening having moulded render surround comprising pilasters, imposts and keystone, with timber panelled door and fanlight.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	High	529841	724957

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				This end of terrace house, overlooking Galway's docks, is one of a small number of its type remaining in the city centre. It has retained its original form, including moulded surrounds to the openings, and timber sliding sash windows.				
CH023	NIAH PS	303190 25 4003	House	Detached three-bay two-storey house with attic storey, built c.1800, having full-height projecting square-plan entrance bay and later flat roofed single-bay two-storey addition to south-west end of facade. City Wall forms boundary to small yard to rear, and south-west end of house is built onto and incorporates part of series of arches of medieval gateway. Pitched slate roof with pitched slate-hung dormer windows, rendered chimneystacks, cast-iron and replacement uPVC rainwater goods. Entrance projection has sprocketed hipped slate roof. Rendered walls having render plinth. Venetian-style window openings inserted in 1947 to end bays, having painted stone sills and round-headed two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows flanked by square-headed fixed timber three-pane windows. Round-headed window openings to projecting bay having painted stone sills and two-over-	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529697	724909

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				two pane timber sliding sash windows. Entrance doorway has carved limestone doorcase comprising panelled pilasters with plinths, supporting moulded lintel and open-bed pediment with plain fanlight, and having replacement timber panelled door. Square-headed door opening to addition has fluted flanking piers with plinths, one pier retaining finial comprising acanthus leaves and barley-sugar cone. Located adjoining the Spanish Arch, this building was built as a private residence. The two northern arches of the Spanish Arch wall are incorporated in the house. Clare Sheridan, a sculptress and cousin of Winston Churchill, lived in the house from 1948 to 1952 and converted one room into a private chapel. The house has a twentieth-century fenestration and finish and the doorcase was taken from Ardfry House.				
CH024	NIAH PS	303190 01 8501	Harbour/ dock/port	Banks of Lower Corrib River, canalised c.1750, following relatively straight course from Salmon Weir, southwards into Galway Bay. Three bridges cross this section of river, Salmon Weir Bridge, William O'Brien Bridge and Wolfe Tone Bridge. Banks consist of mixture of stone	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	High	529744	724842

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				rubble and limestone blockwork lining with several tributaries to western bank from mill races and Eglinton Canal at southern end of river. Also mill races to eastern bank north of William O'Brien Bridge. Mill races feeding into river enter it either via stone block construction weirs with remains of cast-iron fixings from now absent sluice mechanisms or through stone-lined channels, quality of which varies between finely constructed ashlar lining and rougher rubble and mortar work. Many mills associated with these races still stand and mainly concentrated on western bank where they are built right on river edge with walls acting as part of raised embankments which line length of river to protect against flooding. Other large feature of Lower Corrib is salmon trap comprising concrete piers with metal salmon traps between them. Modified during the mid-eighteenth century as part of the 'Drainage and navigations scheme of Loughs Carra, Corrib and Mask', the waterway of the Lower Corrib, also known as the 'Long Walk', was formerly the main artery for trade and maritime commerce in Galway				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				City. Interesting features include the salmon traps, various mill races and mills along the river, with the city's key bridges across it.				
CH025	NIAH	303190 31	House	End of terrace two-bay three-storey house, built 1837 and rebuilt c.1980, being one of five similar houses. Pitched artificial slate roof and replacement aluminium rainwater goods. Coursed roughly dressed limestone walls to lower floors, and more roughly coursed stonework to top floor. Square-headed window openings and segmental-headed door opening having tooled limestone block-and-start surrounds and voussoirs, doorway having keystone, replacement timber door and sidelights and windows having stone sills and replacement timber sliding sash windows. Step and plinths to entrance are recent. Decorative cast-metal railings to ground floor. Decorative cast-iron railings to ground floor. This house is part of a terrace of similar houses, sited opposite the south end of Spanish Parade. The stonework of the walling is of good quality and the finer work to the window and door openings adds aesthetic appeal.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	High	529812	724883

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH026	NIAH PS	303190 32 6703	Office	Attached five-bay single-storey building façade, built c.1920, having recent limestone and glass office block built within footprint of rest of building. Coursed red-brick walls having moulded limestone plinth and sill courses and with limestone panelled pilasters to corners having moulded plinths supporting limestone architrave and frieze with moulded string course and cornice. Segmental pediment to centre of roof with moulded limestone coping, carved limestone keystone and with decorative round limestone panel to centre. Segmental-headed window openings having moulded limestone surrounds and decorative keystones, with replacement uPVC windows. Round-headed door openings to end bays set into ashlar limestone surrounds and flanked by Tuscan columns with moulded limestone archivolt having keystones with interlace motif, and replacement timber panelled doors with plain fanlights and limestone steps. Only the façade survives of this former steamship office, located at the western corner of the commercial dock. It is notable	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529822	724888

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				for the use of brick, rare in the city, and the wealth of carved limestone detail which adds significantly to this increasingly changing part of Galway.				
CH027	PS	8118	16, 18 Quay Street	4 Bay 4 Storey with Dormer Commercial Building. Medieval fabric, pillar in bar with carvings, internal medieval carvings and panelling.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529669	725033
CH028	PS	8111	14 Quay Street	2 Bay 2 Storey with Dormer Commercial Building. Medieval fabric	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529678	725043
CH029	PS	8110	10, 12 Quay Street	Part of 5 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric, medieval walling to front façade.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529684	725059
CH030	PS	8107	8 Quay Street	Part of 5 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529689	725062
CH031	PS	8105	6 Quay Street	Part of 5 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529688	725066
CH032	PS	8103	4 Quay Street	Part of Multi Bay, 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric throughout including corbels, beams and fireplaces.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529689	725071
CH033	PS	8101	2 Quay Street	Part of Multi Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529695	725074

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				Medieval fabric including window, corbels, beams, fireplace and walling.				
CH034	PS	2810	17 Cross Street Upper	Part of 3 Multi Bay Storey corner Commercial Building. Medieval fabric including windows and ariel windows. C19th bar, attic gable window.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529697	725084
CH035	PS	8000	1 Quay Lane	4 Bay, 2 Storey Building. Medieval Fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529674	725015
CH036	PS	8001	2 Quay Lane	Single Bay, 2 Storey with Dormer Building. Re-used Medieval Fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529681	725012
CH037	PS	8002	3 Quay Lane	Single Bay, 2 Storey with Dormer Building. Re-used Medieval Fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529681	725008
CH038	PS	8003	4 Quay Lane	Single Bay 2 Storey with Dormer Building. Re-used Medieval Fabric	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529684	725007
CH039	PS	8004	5 Quay Lane	Single Bay 2 Storey with Dormer Residential Building. Re-used Medieval Fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529688	725005
CH040	PS	8005	6 Quay Lane	3 Bay 3 Storey with Attic Commercial Building. Site of St. Bridget's Well to rear. Contains medieval fabric and fireplace.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529692	724998

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH041	PS	8006	7 Quay Lane	2 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Cross inscribed under modern shopfront. Medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529699	724993
CH042	PS	4202	1 Flood Street	2 Bay 3 Storey corner Commercial Building. 4 Stone carvings, fireplace and medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529705	724987
CH043	PS	4203	2 Flood Street	2 Bay 3 Storey with Dormer Residential Building. Stone carvings, chimney.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529711	724993
CH044	PS	8112	11, 13 Quay Street	4 Bay 2 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529707	725043
CH045	PS	4207	Lowstrand House, Flood Street	4 Bay 3 Storey Corner Commercial Building.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529743	725027
CH046	PS	2502	Theatre, Courthouse Lane	8 Bay 2 Storey Theatre. Medieval walling. Part of corn drying kiln excavated. Former warehouse.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529727	725044
CH047	PS	8109	9 Quay Street	Single Bay 3 Storey corner Commercial Building. Medieval fabric, slate hood over first floor on side elevation. 1816 stone plaque on side elevation.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529706	725058
CH048	PS	8106	7 Quay Street	Part of 4 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529704	725065

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH049	PS	8104	5 Quay Street	Part of 4 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Medieval fabric, limestone moulded dripstone to first floor level.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529704	725069
CH050	PS	8102	3 Quay Street	Part of 4 Bay 3 Storey Commercial Building. Late medieval fabric includes remains of mullioned windows.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529708	725073
CH051	PS	8119	1 Quay Street	2 Bay 3 Storey Corner Commercial Building. Medieval fabric.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529711	725078
CH052	PS	6111	44 Middle Street	3 Bay 2 Storey Corner Commercial Building. Former dwelling house now public house.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529733	725087
CH053	PS	6110	42 Middle Street	2 Bay, 2 Storey Commercial Building. Former dwelling house, now part of public house.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529736	725093
CH054	PS	6702	17 New Dock Street	2 Bay 3 Storey Residential Building (excluding extensions).	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529813	724914
CH055	PS	5101	11, 12, 13 The Long Walk	5 Bay 2 Storey Residential Building. Part of Streetscape.	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529761	724843
CH056	PS	5102	The Long Walk	C19th Stone Bollards and Limestone Kerbing	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529752	724844

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH057	PS	5103	24 The Long Walk	2 Bay 2 Storey Residential Building	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529816	724797
CH058	PS	5104	25 The Long Walk	2 Bay 2 Storey Residential Building	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529822	724793
CH059	PS	5105	26 The Long Walk	2 Bay 2 Storey Residential Building	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529827	724788
CH060	PS	5106	27 The Long Walk	2 Bay 2 Storey Residential Building	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529832	724785
CH061	AAP	-	Cartographic evidence	Houses marked on 1 st Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch series mapping (1838)	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Medium / Low	529771	724936
CH061	RMP	GA09 4-100	Zone of Archaeological Potential	Zone of Archaeological Potential for the historic town of Galway	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529828	725278
CH062	RMP	GA09 4-100001	Town Defences	Medieval town wall	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Very High	529828	725278
CH063	AAP	-	Proposed Development	Proposed Development at 17-20 Merchants Road	TOWNPARKS (Galway By., St. Nicholas Par.)	Medium / High	529773	724939

Note: The abbreviations that have been used for the ‘Category’ section are as follows:

RMP:	Recorded archaeological monument
PS:	Protected Structure
NIAH:	Site recorded in NIAH
ACA:	Architectural Conservation Area
UBH:	Unregistered built heritage site
UCH (1):	Unregistered cultural heritage site that comprises extant remains
UCH (2):	Unregistered cultural heritage site that does not comprise extant remains
TB:	Townland boundary
AAP:	Area/feature of archaeological potential

Appendix 2 Previous archaeological investigations

The Excavations Bulletin is an annual account of all excavations carried out under license. The database is available online at www.excavations.ie and includes excavations from 1985 to present. This database was consulted as part of the desktop research for this report to establish if any archaeological investigations had been carried out within the study area. The database produced one result for archaeological excavations undertaken within the study area.

1987:20

County: Galway **Site name:** Merchant's Road, Townparks

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** -

Author: Gerry Walsh

Site type: Late medieval town defences

ITM: E 529966m, N 725429m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.274563, -9.050025

In early 1987 the archaeological potential of a two-and-a-half-acre site lying between Merchant's Road and Quay St/Middle St/William St., situated within the north-east corner of the designated area of Galway city, had to be assessed in advance of redevelopment work. The line of the medieval town wall formed the western boundary of the site; thus, virtually all of the site lay outside the town wall. After trial-trenching was completed in April 1987, an excavation proper was started on 17 June and finished on 11 September 1987. As the excavation progressed, it was revealed that 2m plus of modern debris had built up on the site owing to relatively recent land reclamation. Because of this, most of the contexts were of a disturbed nature. The excavation was funded by Galway Corporation with some input from the then owner of the site, Thos. McDonogh Ltd, Galway.

The most important features uncovered were two walls and the foundations of a possible third, a corner bastion, the continuation of the city wall and the remains of the late medieval outer city wall. The walls and foundations of the diamond-shaped bastion which was built in 1646 stand up to 2.3m high and 3.1 m (avg.) wide, while the towers survive to a height of c. 3m. These two towers (exact date unknown) are the only visible remains of the original 16 early defensive towers which surrounded the medieval city of Galway. In later medieval times the eastern defences of the city were strengthened by the addition of four massive bastions and an outer revetment wall. The corner bastion which was revealed during the course of the excavation was the largest of these. Part of the outer revetment wall and its foundation which joined these bastions was also uncovered. The number and range of finds recovered were minimal in relation to the area excavated and the substantial structural remains which had survived.

A total of 43 sherds of medieval pottery were found, virtually all from disturbed contexts. Most of the other pottery found belongs to the post-medieval period. Some is of local manufacture, but the bulk consists of North Devon sgraffito and gravel-tempered wares, Staffordshire slipware, stonewares and some Spanish imports. Twenty-seven clay pipe bowls and 235 stem fragments, most of which came from disturbed contexts, were found. They date from the late 17th to the 19th century and are English, Dutch and Irish in origin. Other finds include two tokens, a bronze needle, a decorated bone scoop, a perforated polished bone disc, the remains of 5 human skulls and some post-medieval glass, wood, leather and iron objects. It is hoped to publish the excavation report in the Galway Historical and Archaeological Journal.

1988:26

County: Galway **Site name:** 'Spanish Arch', Townparks

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** -

Author: Markus Casey

Site type: Urban medieval

ITM: E 529666m, N 724929m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270031, -9.054411

A half-acre site became available for redevelopment in the area around the 'Spanish Arch', Galway City and Galway Corporation funded an excavation on part of the site in order to determine its archaeological potential. The excavation took place over a period of 20 weeks during the summer.

The site covers an area which included the south-western corner of the medieval quayside. The town walls were mostly pulled down during the 18th and 19th centuries, and much of the land outside them was reclaimed in the early 19th century. Before the excavation started, all that could be seen above the ground was a 25m length of the outer face of the southern curtain wall and the 'Spanish Arch', which was thought to be part of a 16th century extension of the wall.

A total of 17 trial trenches were dug in all open parts of the site. A further 50m of the southern curtain wall was uncovered, as was a 15m length of the western wall. The wall is built of random coursed ashlar limestone masonry along the outer face, and it has a rubble core. It averages 3.1m thick and survived from only 50mm below the present ground surface to a depth of 2.65m. It stands on a crude plinth of limestone and granite, which in turn stands on the estuarine gravel.

Two sea gates lead through the wall, one from the sea which until the 18th century ran along the outer face of the curtain wall and the other from the river which ran along the outside of the western wall. These had been blocked up in the 16th century, when an extension was built out onto the river, creating a harbour along the eastern banks of the Corrib. Outside the wall lay redeposited material laid down mainly in the early 19th century when the area was being reclaimed. Most of it was archaeologically sterile and no trace of the quayside as depicted on the 1651 map of the city was found.

Inside the wall were the remains of up to four levels of a cobbled roadway which ran around the perimeter of the 'Spanish Parade', the main marketplace for the city in the Middle Ages. The earliest of these is well preserved and was constructed with a steep camber and drains which ran along the sides and exited through the sea gates. This road pre-dates the blocking-up of the sea gates which probably occurred in the middle of the 16th century. The base of a small turret which can be seen on the 1651 map was also uncovered, as were traces of stone steps that led up to the wall-walk. There was no trace of the corner tower which stood at the southwestern return of the two walls before the 16th century extension was built.

Beneath the cobbled roadway were levels containing much environmental material and many fragments of worked wood. Nearby, 1.5m beneath the roadway, lay a short length of walling, possibly part of the original quay wall or the earliest wall that surrounds the town. These features have not yet been dated securely, but they may pre-date the building of the curtain walls in the 13th and 14th centuries.

Finds consisted mainly of late-medieval and post-medieval pottery, with blackware and tin glazed earthenwares predominating. Stoneware, gravel-tempered ware, sgraffito and slipwares were also found as was some late medieval glass. Other finds included leather, wood and metal objects and some medieval cut stone fragments.

In all about 30% of the total area expected to contain material of archaeological value has been excavated. The excavation will continue in 1989.

1990:063

County: Galway **Site name:** Quay Street, Townparks, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** -

Author: Marcus Casey

Site type: Urban medieval/post-medieval

ITM: E 529466m, N 725029m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270903, -9.057430

In 1990 a vacant site in Galway city centre was earmarked for a possible hotel development. As the site is within the ‘designated area’ of the city, an archaeological investigation was necessary in order to comply with conditions of planning permission. The excavation took place over four months in the summer of 1990 and was funded by the owners of the site, Thomas McDonagh & Sons, Ltd., Merchant’s Road, Galway.

The site, almost two acres in extent, had been most recently used as a fertilizer store, and most of the 18th- and 19th-century buildings had been demolished several years previously. One wall of a late medieval towerhouse still remained standing and fragments of late medieval cut stone set in some of the boundary wall of the site suggested that the area was one of potential archaeological interest. Cartographic evidence supported this, with several 17th-century and later maps showing two mills and the curtain wall running through the site.

About two thirds of the site was covered with redeposited material and was archaeologically sterile. The earliest evidence of activity consisted of layers of peaty infill material containing scattered deposits of medieval French pottery. Remains of the medieval city wall were uncovered, as were parts of the two mills, one possibly dating to the 15th century. The lower foundations of the towerhouse were exposed but no associated deposits remained in situ. The construction of a canal removed a 45 m length of the wall from the northern end of the site and elsewhere the city wall foundations existed only intermittently as much of the area was badly disturbed by the construction of later mills and related structures and by a 19th-century distillery.

Organic material and metal objects were not well represented and most of the material recovered consisted of late medieval and post medieval imported French and English pottery.

1992:091

County: Galway **Site name:** Spanish Parade, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** -

Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: Medieval urban

ITM: E 529666m, N 724729m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.268234, -9.054367

Pre-development archaeological assessment of the Spanish Parade site took place between 24th August and 11th September 1992. The site measured 24m north—south and 23.5m east—west. Three trial trenches (15m x 1.5m) were excavated in order to assess the archaeological potential of the area.

The inner face of the medieval town wall ran north-east/ south-west along the southern boundary of the site. The wall face is composed of roughly-coursed limestone, rhyolite, sandstone and granite masonry and contains some very large boulders as well as numerous small packing stones. The wall survives to an average height of 2.15m and it rests on a compacted sand and gravel base. Archaeological deposits survived between 0.5m and 2.5m below the modern ground level. Compacted organic clay deposits were located at a depth of c. 1m. These may represent primary landfills deposited here sometime after the construction of the medieval town wall. The only dateable finds recovered were 2 unstratified sherds of late medieval Saintonge pottery.

The town wall is abutted by 2 substantial wall foundations, representing the east and west building lines of medieval and/or post-medieval house sites. These wall foundations were located in each of the

3 trial trenches and are similar in their method of construction. The eastern building line consists of a foundation composed of limestone and rhyolite boulders which are set in a light yellowish brown sticky daub. The western building line survives to a greater height, consisting of 2–4 courses of worked limestone masonry, with a narrow plinth, 0.2m wide, beneath which is a foundation similar to that on the east side. The remains of a rubbish pit, 2.15m x 2.15m, were also located. The edge of the pit is defined by the town wall on its south-east side and by the house wall foundation on its south-west side. The pit contained a substantial quantity of post-medieval pottery, mainly of Irish and English manufacture. Continental imports were represented by 3 sherds of westerwald pottery.

NOTE: No excavations or demolition work were undertaken in the south-east corner of the site, pending the removal of an oil tank from the adjoining property.

1997:198

County: Galway **Site name:** CUSTOM HOUSE, COURT HOUSE LANE, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 94:100 **Licence number:** 97E0082

Author: Gerry Walsh

Site type: Urban medieval

ITM: E 537266m, N 710251m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.139090, -8.937606

Pre-development testing was undertaken on the site of a proposed extension to the Custom House off Court House Lane, Galway, between 18 and 26 March 1997.

It is generally believed that the area in and around the Custom House was the location of the original Dún or earthen fortress called Bun Ghaillimhe, built c. 1124. In 1232 a new and more substantial building, a stone castle, was built on the site of the Bun Ghaillimhe by Richard de Burgo. In 1271 Richard de Burgo, the Red Earl of Ulster, inherited Galway Castle from his father, Walter de Burgo.

A sketch-map of Galway by Barnaby Gooche, dated to 1583, shows a two-storeyed, gabled and crenellated building with two ground-floor doors located in the general area of the present-day Custom House. The 1651 pictorial map of Galway shows a rectangular open-roofed church-type building with a base batter and/or buttresses on the site of the Custom House. The building is described as 'the old castle of the most illustrious Lord, Richard de Burgo, the Red Earl'.

Two test-trenches were excavated by machine in the areas of proposed ground disturbance. Trench 1 was located in the carpark on the line of the proposed underground duct, which is due to run towards the existing warehouse. Trench 2 was also located in the carpark and on the line of the west wall of the proposed new office block immediately outside the existing store and boiler-house; it was excavated first.

A 14.2m stretch of wall, 2.4m thick and over 1m high, was uncovered in Trench 2. The south-eastern end of the wall probably runs under the Custom House as far as Flood Street. The top of the remains of the wall were less than 0.3m below the present tarmac level. It was also evident that the wall had at least two skins. The outer was 1m thick while the inner was 1.4m thick. The core of the outer skin consisted of small, heavily mortared migmatite stones. Where evident, the wall faces and cores consisted of migmatite and red sandstone/granite stones, the type of stone usually found in medieval buildings and walls in Galway City. Generally speaking, limestone is the predominant building stone used in post-medieval buildings in Galway. A rough, heavily mortared rubble foundation projected 0.16m out from the base of the wall.

The entire western half of Trench 2 was taken up by part of the wall. Up to 0.8m of modern fill was

excavated by machine in the eastern half of the trench outside the wall. Underlying the modern fill was a dark brown/black sticky clay (C2).

C2 and all the layers below it seem to be stratified and undisturbed. C2 was very organic and contained a large amount of seashells, especially oyster. A large number of animal bones, charcoal, clay pipes, pieces of iron and slag, copper and post-medieval pottery were observed in it. Some of this material was recovered by hand, while most of the context is still in situ. The top of C2 tended to rise upwards from north-west to south-east in Trench 2.

A test-pit was hand-excavated through C2 and down to the natural subsoil outside the wall in the north-eastern corner of the trench. It measured 1.3m x 0.5m and was 0.52m deep from the bottom of C2 to the top of the orange natural gravel. Nine different stratified contexts were observed in the pit. The stratigraphical sequence from the top towards the bottom was as follows. Underlying C2 was a light brown sticky clay, 0.03m thick, which produced shell, brick, iron slag and some animal bone. Under this was a black clay, very rich in charcoal, 0.07m thick. Some light brown streaky lenses were evident through this layer. It produced iron slag, wood, iron, shell and some animal bone. Next came a black, charcoal-laden layer, 0.18m thick, which produced iron, iron slag, oyster shells, part of an animal skeleton, post-medieval(?) pottery and some animal bone. Underneath again was a grey brown sticky clay, 0.06m thick, which produced charcoal, iron slag and some animal bone. Large lumps of iron and iron slag were recovered abutting the wall face at the bottom of this layer. Below this was a sterile, sticky yellow clay, 0.04m thick. Under this was a thin black layer, 0.02m thick, which produced no small finds. Next was a dark brown peat, 0.07m thick, which produced some animal bone and burnt stones which resemble a type of stoneware pottery. Under this was a grey stony layer, 0.02m thick, which produced two sherds of French Saintonge pottery. This overlay a sticky brown clay, 0.04m thick, under which was a natural sticky orange gravel, 0.1m thick, overlying a natural brown dry clay and gravel layer, 0.09m thick.

Trench 1, which was 2m wide, ran in a westerly direction for a distance of 7.5m from the western edge of Trench 2. The eastern end of the trench exposed the inner edge of a wall and a possible entrance. The top of the wall remains at the eastern end of the trench were only 0.1m below the tarmac in the carpark. Up to 0.6m of modern fill was excavated by machine down to a brown dauby clay layer, 0.2m thick. The two modern service pipes which cut across Trench 1 also cut through this modern fill layer in Trench 2.

A second test-pit was hand-excavated through the clay layer at the western end of Trench 2. The layer produced an abundance of oyster shells, iron slag, large pieces of iron, some animal bones and a possible sherd of crude pottery. Underlying it was a black, dauby, charcoal-rich clay, 0.16m thick, which produced blackened and burnt animal bones and shells. Underlying this was a brown dauby clay, 0.15m thick, which produced a fragment of a copper/bronze plaque and some animal bone and shell. It lay directly on top of a layer of large cobbles, some of which were up to 0.35m in size. Initially it appeared that the cobbles may have represented a floor level within the 13th-century castle and therefore no further excavation took place. However, having lifted one cobble, a further layer of midden material was present beneath it. The depth of stratigraphy beneath these cobbles is still unknown.

It would appear that substantial and important remains of the 13th-century de Burgo castle have been uncovered. The proposed extension to the Custom House and associated developments will affect the archaeological structures and the rich stratified archaeological layers which are now known to exist on site. It was recommended that all areas should be archaeologically excavated, recorded and resolved before any construction work commenced on site (see below, No. 199).

1997:199

County: Galway **Site name:** CUSTOM HOUSE, COURT HOUSE LANE/FLOOD STREET, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 94:100 **Licence number:** 97E0082

Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: Urban medieval

ITM: E 529737m, N 725007m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270743, -9.053362

Archaeological excavation was undertaken in advance of a proposed extension to the Custom House, Flood Street, Galway, between 19 May and 7 November 1997. The excavation uncovered substantial remains of a medieval hall, a late medieval ironworks, part of a late medieval courtyard and two post-medieval stone-lined pits.

The medieval hall

The excavated remains of the medieval hall comprise portions of the heavily buttressed north-east and south-west walls, with opposing doorways at the south-east end of the building, and the remains of three centrally located octagonal stone columns. The walls are composed of randomly coursed, roughly hewn, angular migmatite boulders facing a mortared rubble core. They survive to an average height of 1m and are 0.95m thick.

There are opposing doorways at the south-east end of the excavated remains. The jambstones of the south door are dressed and chamfered limestone blocks and the basal stones feature a rounded stop-chamfer. The use of diagonal tooling on the jambstones suggests a 13th-century date for this door but there is also evidence of later alterations. The east door, of which only a single basal jambstone survives, bears no such evidence of alterations and is clearly an original feature of the building.

The walls are abutted by a series of buttresses built of randomly coursed, roughly hewn migmatite boulders and limestone blocks. The use of limestone and the different mortar type, as opposed to that used in the construction of the walls, suggest that the buttresses, or at least portions of them, belong to a second phase of construction at the site. One of the buttresses, however, would appear to pre-date the others and may be an original feature of the building.

The roof of the building was carried on a centrally aligned row of octagonal stone columns, and the remains of three of these were excavated. The column at the north-west is the best preserved, with three tiers surviving, each comprising four chamfered and punch-dressed limestone blocks. The punch dressing on the stones suggests that the columns are 14th- or 15th-century insertions. It is likely that the original roof structure was supported by large timber posts, but no clear evidence for these was found. The columns and the buttresses bear traces of an external lime rendering.

Traces of crudely built stone surfaces, composed of angular migmatite boulders and cobbles, may represent the remains of a stone floor within the medieval hall.

Late medieval and post-medieval features

Following its abandonment in the late medieval period, the hall was reused as an ironworking site. The initial phase of the ironworks is represented by a series of pits and stake-holes which were cut into the underlying medieval gravel deposits. The second phase of ironworking activity probably represents an expansion of the operation coinciding with improvements in ironworking technology. The features excavated included a cruciform-shaped stone-lined feature (possibly an anvil base), a decayed wooden

structure, stone-lined work areas, pits and numerous stake-holes. The Phase 2 features were cut into thick industrial deposits which had obviously accumulated over a considerable period of time.

A roughly rectangular area of cobbled paving (10m north-west/south-east by 2.7m north-east/south-west) was exposed on the south-west side of the hall. The surface is composed of a layer of large limestone cobbles mixed with the occasional migmatite cobble. Smaller stones are wedged between the larger cobbles, the whole generally achieving an even upper surface. The courtyard displays a general downward slope from north-west to south-east and contains a well-defined stone-lined drain.

Two stone-lined pits were also excavated on the south-west side of the medieval hall. Pit 1 (1.54m x 1.35m) is cut through the south-east end of the cobbled courtyard. Loosely built uncoursed drystone walling defines its south-east, south-west and part of its north-east sides. The north-west side of the pit is defined by deposits which occur beneath the paved courtyard. Pit 2 (2.7m x 1.25m) is situated directly outside the south door of the medieval hall, and two buttress faces form its north-west and south-east walls. The blocked south door and part of the south-west wall of the medieval hall form the north-east wall, and a crudely built, uncoursed drystone wall forms its south-east face.

The east corner of a medieval/late medieval structure was exposed at the west end of the site, and part of a post-medieval wall foundation, extending north-west/south-east, was exposed at the south end.

The finds

A substantial quantity and wide range of finds were recovered. These include approximately 5000 metal, pottery, bone, glass and stone artefacts and large quantities of metalworking by-products and animal and fish bone. Decayed wooden structures, shell middens and significant charcoal and iron slag deposits contributed to the wealth and variety of archaeological material on the site. The level of preservation of the archaeological material was also quite good.

Hundreds of pottery sherds, mainly imported French Saintonge wares, were recovered from the medieval deposits associated with the hall. Other finds from this period include several copper pins. The late medieval period, as defined by the ironworks and the paved courtyard, was well represented by the substantial quantities of imported French, German and Iberian pottery wares. The industrial deposits from the ironworks also produced numerous stone tiles and corroded iron and copper artefacts, including nails, buttons, rivets, buckles, knives and keys. However, the post-medieval pits contained the richest archaeological deposits and produced a wide variety of 17th- and early 18th-century finds. These included wine bottles, glass goblets, glass beads, three clay pipe fragments, iron, copper, gold and lead objects, a bone bead, ceramic roof tiles and large quantities of pottery. The pottery mainly comprises imported English types, especially North Devon and Staffordshire wares, but also includes local wares and some Continental imports. The clay pipe collection includes several elongated stems and numerous decorated and stamped bowls and stems. The most spectacular of the metal finds is the small gold cuff-link or fastener which was excavated from Pit 1. Stone artefacts were found at most excavation levels and include quernstone fragments, dressed stone blocks, architectural fragments, a worked stone ball and, unusually, a couple of flint flakes and possible stone axes. The latter artefacts may hint at a settlement pre-dating the medieval hall.

Conclusion

The excavated remains can be clearly identified with the ruinous building depicted on the 1651 Pictorial Map of Galway, which shows a heavily buttressed rectangular ruin, with large round-headed windows and a gable surmounted by a cross. In the accompanying Elenchus this building is described as Illusmi D. Ricardi de Burgo Comitiss Russi Vetera Aedificia – 'the old buildings of the illustrious Lord Richard de Burgho, the Red Earl'. This building is undoubtedly the Red Earl's stone house, which is referred to

in documents of the 16th and 17th centuries. Following the completion of archaeological excavations at the site, that building can now be identified as a 13th-century hall. It is the oldest building to be excavated within the medieval walls of Galway and is therefore of great importance to our understanding of the origins of the medieval town.

The excavation also uncovered evidence for a second-phase refurbishment of the building in the 14th or 15th century. This is suggested by the second-phase buttressing, the doorway alterations and the insertion of octagonal stone columns. The building was probably finally abandoned in the 15th or early 16th century, but it was subsequently reused as an ironworking site. The portion of late medieval courtyard on the south-west side of the hall would appear to be contemporary with the ironworks. The two stone-lined pits are 17th-century insertions and are most likely associated with the dwellings which were situated to the south-west of the site.

1997:203

County: Galway **Site name:** NEW DOCK STREET, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 97E0215

Author: Neil O'Flanagan

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529766m, N 724929m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270903, -9.057430

The site assessment in June 1997 comprised two machine-cut trenches but recovered only modern material and sterile gravels. No archaeological material was recovered.

1998:248

County: Galway **Site name:** FLOOD STREET/NEW DOCK STREET, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 97E0377

Author: Fiona Rooney

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529779m, N 724974m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270447, -9.052734

The site at Flood Street/New Dock Street lies inside the town walls of Galway and falls within the zone of archaeological potential as depicted in the Urban Archaeological Survey.

Pre-development testing in the form of trial-trenches was undertaken, and numerous wall foundations and cobble levels of possible archaeological significance were revealed. Based on these findings, it was recommended by Dúchas The Heritage Service that full excavation be carried out in the areas where there was a high concentration of piles.

The excavation revealed a number of archaeological features, the remains of the town wall along the south-east boundary of the site being the most significant. The area where the wall was revealed was excavated to a depth of 1.3m. It was constructed of roughly coursed limestone masonry, with a solid core of rubble and mortar. The wall sloped from a maximum height of 1m at the north-east to 0.5m at the south-west. It was 1.24m wide, although it is likely to have extended further below the wall of the adjacent building.

Abutting this wall, the foundations of a further wall were revealed, which may have represented a medieval/post-medieval structure. The town wall and the associated features, foundation walls and cobble surfaces, were not fully excavated as consultations with Dúchas The Heritage Service resulted in the foundation layout being changed to facilitate the archaeological features uncovered. A 300mm

buffer zone comprising a layer of terram, covered with hard-core, was placed between the bottom of the ground-beam and the ground surface, to facilitate preservation in situ.

1999:293

County: Galway **Site name:** CUSTOM HOUSE, FLOOD STREET/COURTHOUSE LANE, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 94:100 **Licence number:** 97E0082 ext.

Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: Medieval castle, limekiln and building

ITM: E 529681m, N 725597m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.276036, -9.054333

A second season of excavation was undertaken at this site from 8 February to 21 May 1999. The site is c. 10m south-west of the medieval hall that was excavated by this writer in 1997, under the same licence (Excavations 1997, 66-9). The excavation took place inside a warehouse complex comprising a large 18th- or early 19th-century warehouse building with a mid-19th-century addition at its north end. Most of the excavation work was concentrated inside the mid-19th-century warehouse building, which is due to be incorporated into the proposed new development at this site. The roof of the warehouse was removed before the commencement of the excavation. The main excavated features comprised portions of a medieval castle, a medieval limekiln and a late medieval building.

Medieval castle

The most significant feature of the excavation was a substantial wall (1m high, 1.75m thick) with a pronounced external base batter and traces of internal and external lime rendering. The wall is composed of four courses of large, roughly hewn migmatite and granite boulders (average dimensions 0.45m x 0.3m) and has a clay-bonded core of smaller stones. The excavated portion of this wall extends 6m north-east/south-west, but the wall clearly extends beyond the south-west limit of the excavation. This wall represents part of the south-east wall of a substantial building, possibly the original Anglo-Norman castle at Galway, which is said to have been built c. 1232 and is mentioned in a document recording the death of Walter de Burgho in 1271. The north-east end of the wall was abutted by a buttress (2.2m x 1m) composed of migmatite and granite boulders. A north-east return (1.15m high, 1.25m thick) was encountered, but it was not clearly established whether this represents the original castle wall return. This wall is composed of three courses of unhewn migmatite and granite boulders (average dimensions 0.27m x 0.3m) and rests on two foundation courses of larger boulders that form a rough plinth (average width 0.2m) at the base of the wall. The return is built at an oblique angle to the south-east wall and does not have an external base batter. Furthermore, the internal face of the north-east wall partially abutted that of the south-east wall. It seems likely therefore that the north-east castle wall was substantially rebuilt in the late medieval period.

Medieval limekiln

Part of a large bowl-shaped limekiln (diameter 3.5m) was found immediately inside the castle walls. The kiln was internally faced with angular migmatite and granite stones (average dimensions 0.2m x 0.12m), some of which were heat-fractured. A flue opening was found at the south-east, and the stone-lined access to the flue extended across the top of the south-east castle wall. The rebuilt north-east castle wall partially overlay the kiln at north-west. The kiln was excavated to a depth of 1m and was filled with a series of domestic refuse dumps, which contained substantial quantities of animal bone, shells and medieval pottery sherds. Lime deposits were encountered at the limit of excavation.

Late medieval building

The north-east castle wall was abutted along its entire excavated length by a late medieval wall (0.75m thick) composed of small, unhewn migmatite, limestone and granite boulders. Excavation indicated that the wall was composed of four courses, and each was separated by a layer of silty clay that yielded sherds of medieval pottery wares. The wall appears to represent the south-west wall of a large building indicated on the 1641 Pictorial Map of Galway. The unusual orientation of the building suggests that it pre-dates the other dwellings indicated on this map. The wall extended 10m from the north limit of the excavation, and a possible return was encountered at its south-east end.

Medieval stratigraphy and finds

Late medieval deposits were encountered immediately below the cobbled floor of the mid-19th-century warehouse. These deposits sealed the excavated features and overlay a series of stratified medieval layers that yielded a large quantity of small finds. The finds comprised several hundred sherds of medieval pottery, mainly imported French Saintonge wares, and assorted iron and copper artefacts that have not been identified to date. The pottery is significant as it represents the only substantial assemblage of medieval pottery from early Anglo-Norman Galway. The 13th century is well represented by numerous sherds of polychrome Saintonge wares.

Post-medieval features

The existing ground levels inside the large 18th/early 19th-century warehouse building were reduced by c. 0.5m in order to facilitate the laying of new concrete floors.

Several post-medieval features including cobbled floors, stone paving and wall footings were encountered during ground reduction in this area. The finds comprised numerous pottery sherds, mainly imported 17th- and early 18th-century English wares, clay pipes and assorted glass fragments (wine bottles etc.) It was also established that late/post-medieval fabric is incorporated in some of the existing warehouse walls and that some of the walls are built directly on late/post-medieval wall footings.

2001:500

County: Galway **Site name:** Galway City and suburbs

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 01E0458

Author: Markus Casey

Site type: Monitoring

ITM: E 529516m, N 724990m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270559, -9.056672

Monitoring took place of the replacement of water pipes within Galway city and suburbs. No previously undisturbed levels were interfered with.

2008:550

County: Galway **Site name:** 15 Merchants Road Lower, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094–100 **Licence number:** 08E0752

Author: Richard Crumlish

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 529757m, N 724924m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.269998, -9.053046

Pre-development testing was carried out on 23 and 24 September 2008 at a site at No. 15 Lower Merchants Road, Galway. The proposed development site was located within the zone of archaeological significance for Galway city (GA094–100). The location was just outside the medieval town wall, in an area reclaimed from Galway Bay during the post-medieval period. The proposed development consisted of the demolition of a house (dating to the 19th century) and the construction of a building comprising three cinemas, a café/bar area, a bookshop/display/archive area, ancillary office and storage space.

The testing consisted of the excavation (by machine) of three trenches located to best cover the area of the proposed development, which was accessible. The trenches measured 3.8–3.9m, 5.7–5.9m and 6m long respectively, 1.2–1.6m wide and 1.4–1.6m deep. Testing revealed evidence of modern activity associated with the 19th-century dwelling on the site, i.e. concrete over cobbles, a red-brick surface, a rubble wall foundation, a stone flag surface and rubble fill. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed. As no natural undisturbed layers were reached during the test excavation and as the proposed groundworks would exceed 4m in depth, it was recommended that an archaeologist monitor all groundworks associated with the proposed development.

2009:398

County: Galway **Site name:** 15 MERCHANTS ROAD LOWER, GALWAY

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094–100 **Licence number:** 08E0752 ext.

Author: Richard Crumlish

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529757m, N 724924m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.269998, -9.053046

Monitoring of groundworks at a development at No. 15 Lower Merchants Road, Galway, began on 30 October 2009 and is continuing on an intermittent basis. The development consists of the construction of an arthouse cinema in a building of four floors over a basement. The monitoring was recommended following pre-development testing of the site in September 2008 (Excavations 2008, No. 550, 08E0752), which was necessary due to the site's location within the constraint for Galway. The development is located outside the medieval town wall in an area which was reclaimed from Galway Bay during the post-medieval period.

Thus far, nothing of archaeological significance has been uncovered.

2010:339

County: Galway **Site name:** 15 Merchants Road Lower, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094–100 **Licence number:** 08E0752 ext.

Author: Richard Crumlish

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529757m, N 724924m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.269998, -9.053046

Monitoring of groundworks at a development at No. 15 Lower Merchants Road, Galway, continued in 2010 with the excavation of a number of trial holes at the site. The project has been subject to delay due to a number of factors and may resume in 2011. The development consists of the construction of an art house cinema in a building of four floors over a basement. The monitoring was recommended following pre-development testing of the site by the author in September 2008 (Excavations 2008, No. 550, 08E0752), which was necessary due to the site's location within the constraint area for Galway. The development is located outside the medieval town wall in an area which was reclaimed from Galway Bay during the post-medieval period.

The trial holes were excavated on 30 March and 17 August 2010. Below the concrete on the surface were rubble fill and a modern boundary wall, above what appears to be the original ground level prior to the post-medieval backfilling of the area. This layer contained shell and pebbles and was found at 2–2.4m below the present surface. Below it, at 2.7–3.8m below the surface, was loose sand and gravel. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered.

2012:272

County: Galway **Site name:** Augustine Street and Flood Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 12E75

Author: Declan Moore

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529793m, N 725068m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.271294, -9.052537

Monitoring was carried out at Augustine Street and Flood Street within the Historic core of Galway (GA094-100) in February and March 2012. Groundworks involved the laying of approx. 140m of a gas main in open cut trenching along Augustine Street and Flood Street terminating at the corner of Courthouse Lane. The trench dimensions were approximately 1m deep by 0.45m wide. Generally, the stratigraphy below the modern layers (0.3m) consisted of a mix of builders' fill with sand gravel and frequent small stones (0.3m). This overlay a composite layer of dark grey silty sand with occasional animal bone fragments and frequent oyster, mussel and periwinkle shell. There were no finds recovered from this layer. Along Augustine Street excavation exposed a variety of modern services including water, electricity and sewerage. On the southern side of Flood Street, the trench ran parallel to an old stone-lined culvert. The line terminated at the junction of Courthouse Lane; all the deposits exposed in this area were modern.

The only feature of significance was a stone foundation found opposite No. 12 Augustine Street (between the Mountain Trail Bike Shop and Galway Town Homes) near the centre of the northern carriageway. The foundation was a rubble-built heavily mortared wall 0.7m in width that continued to the base of the trench. The wall was orientated north-west by south-east and was found 0.45m below the road surface. A disturbed cobbled surface was found to the south-west of wall extending 1.5m along the trench. The cobbles were poorly sorted and were previously impacted on by a nearby service installation. Following an inspection by Hugh Carey, Archaeologist with the National Monuments Service, the wall was preserved *in situ*. No further finds or features were found during the course of the project.

2012:275

County: Galway **Site name:** 15 Merchants Road Lower, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094-100 **Licence number:** 08E0752 ext.

Author: Richard Crumlish

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529757m, N 724924m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.269998, -9.053046

Monitoring of groundworks was carried out over a number of periods in 2009, 2010 and up to August 2012 at No. 15 Lower Merchants Road in Galway City (*Excavations* 2009, No. 398, *Excavations* 2010, No. 339). The development consisted of the demolition of an existing house and the construction of a three-screen cinema. Pre-development testing of the site was undertaken in September 2008 (*Excavations* 2008, No. 550) and revealed evidence of modern activity associated with the existing 19th-century dwelling. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered, however, safety issues meant the test

trenches did not exceed 1.6m deep and as no natural undisturbed layers were in evidence and the proposed excavation would exceed 5m it was recommended that monitoring of groundworks be undertaken.

The pre-development testing and subsequent monitoring were necessary due to location of the site within the constraint for Galway (GA094-100), albeit outside the line of the medieval town wall. The development site was located on the corner of Lower Merchants Road and Spanish Parade, in an area reclaimed from Galway Bay during the post-medieval period.

The area to be reduced measured 22m long (north-west/south-east) and 11m wide. Apart from the foundations of the 19th-century building, rubble fill was found over the entire site area and measured up to 2m thick. It contained red/yellow brick, modern pottery sherds, modern glass fragments, tile, slate, mortar, wire, metal and oyster shell fragments. Below the rubble fill was a grey/black friable sandy silt loam which contained oyster shells and measured up to 1.2m thick. A roughly coursed mortared rubble wall/foundation was found along the south-west side of the site below the rubble fill. It was located along the line of the south-west boundary wall of No. 15 Lower Merchants Road and appeared to have been contemporary with the filling up of the site in the 18th century. Two natural deposits, a grey/black loose sand and gravel and a grey plastic boulder clay, were visible as high as 2.7m and c. 4m below the surface respectively. Below them was bedrock, visible as high as 3.5m below the surface.

Evidence of 18th/19th-century activity on the site, much of it associated with the building, which was demolished, was uncovered during the groundworks. Otherwise, nothing of archaeological significance was revealed within the development site. None of the modern artefacts recovered during the monitoring were retained.

As part of the development a 125mm duct was laid from the Custom House on Flood Street, along New Dock Road and Lower Merchants Road to the development site. It was located beside an existing ESB cable and the existing gas main. Quite a number of other services/ducts were found along various sections of the trench, which measured 0.6-0.7m wide and 0.8-0.9m deep. Below the tarmac, quarried stone/gravel and rubble fill, was a mid-dark brown friable silt loam which contained occasional animal bone fragments and oyster shell, and which was not fully excavated. A section of the town wall was uncovered at 20.02m from the northern corner of the adjacent House Hotel, at 0.4-0.72m below the surface. It was constructed of rubble and crossed the trench in a north-north-east/south-south-west direction. The wall was covered in terram and sand prior to the laying of the duct above it. The existing ESB service was located directly on top of the wall. A stone culvert was also uncovered near the north-west side of Flood Street, running in the same direction as the street, at 0.4-0.6m below the surface. It was 0.4m wide internally and appeared to be constructed of mortared rubble. An opening was made on either side of the culvert through which the ducting was laid.

Monitoring of groundworks on a related proposed development at the adjacent No. 16 Lower Merchants Road, is due to take place in 2013.

2013:060

County: Galway **Site name:** 16 Merchants Road Lower, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094-100 **Licence number:** 08E752 EXT.

Author: Richard Crumlish

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529765m, N 724927m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.269789, -9.052325

Monitoring of groundworks at a development at No. 16 Lower Merchants Road in Galway City was carried out on 17 and 18 June and 17 September 2013. The development consisted of the demolition of a house and shed and the construction of a new house in its place. The site is within the constraint for Galway GA094-100), albeit outside the line of the medieval town wall. This part of Galway was reclaimed from Galway Bay during the post-medieval period.

The development was part of the adjacent Solas Galway Picture Place project at No. 15 Lower Merchants Road where monitoring of groundworks under Licence No. 08E752? (Ext.) had been undertaken. The monitoring of groundworks at the adjacent site revealed evidence from the post-medieval and modern periods, much of it related to the early 19th-century building (No. 15, which was part of the same terrace as No. 16) which was demolished prior to the development commencing. The building at No. 16 consisted of a 2-bay, 2-storey late Georgian dwelling, part of a terrace on Lower Merchants Road, dating to c. 1830. To the rear of the house was a flat roofed extension, a back yard and a shed.

The proposed groundworks consisted of reduction in levels over the entire site, including those for a raft foundation for the new dwelling and for a foundation for a new shed. Monitoring of groundworks revealed evidence of modern activity associated with the early 19th-century building which stood on the site. Nothing of archaeological significance was in evidence.

2016:048

County: Galway **Site name:** Druid Lane/Flood Street, Galway

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA094-100041- **Licence number:** 14E0414

Author: Billy Quinn

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 529718m, N 725014m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.270799, -9.053651

Monitoring took place along a 22m open-cut trench extending from the vehicle access entrance to Custom House towards the offices of Dúchas na Gaillimhe near the entrance to the Red Earl's Hall (GA094-100041-) within the Historic core of Galway (GA094-100) in March 2014 on behalf of Bord Gáis Networks. Groundworks involved the lifting of existing paving cobbles and the machine excavation of modern gravel aggregates along a trench that ran north-west/south-east from Flood Street into the courtyard of Custom House and turned 90° to run north-east/south-west to the offices of Dúchas na Gaillimhe. The stratigraphy below the paving cobbles consisted of fill for modern services, bedding sand (0.4m) overlying gravel (0.6m) which, in places, lay on a dark brown silty clay with frequent inclusions of oyster shell, animal bone and charcoal flecks at the base of the trench (0.7-0.8m deep). This layer was exposed but not impacted upon by the groundworks. No finds or features were found during the course of the excavation of the gas main trench.

Appendix 3 Legislative and Policy framework

EIA Legislation

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/31/EC requires that certain developments be assessed for likely environmental effects before planning permission can be granted. This original directive and its amendments were consolidated informally in EIA Directive 2011/92/EU and further amended 2014/52/EU.

Directive 2014/52/EU that among other factors, information is to be provided on:

‘cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects’ (Annex IV, Section 3)

Each of these assets is addressed within this assessment report.

Cultural Heritage Legislation

Archaeological Monuments/Sites

Archaeological heritage is protected primarily under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004. Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act defines the word ‘monument’ as including:

‘any artificial or partly artificial building, structure, or erection whether above or below the surface of the ground and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground and any cave, stone, or other natural product whether forming part of or attached to or not attached to the ground which has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the ground) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position and any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, but does not include any building which is for the time being habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes’

Under the 1994 Act, provision was made for a Record of Monuments & Places (RMP). The RMP is a revised set of SMR (Sites and Monuments Record) maps, on which newly-discovered sites have been added and locations which proved not to be of antiquity have been de-listed by the National Monuments Service.

In effect, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide a statutory basis for:

- Protection of sites and monuments (RMPs)
- Sites with Preservation Orders
- Ownership and Guardianship of National Monuments
- Register of Historic Monuments (pre-dating 1700AD)
- Licensing of archaeological excavations
- Licensing of Detection Devices
- Protection of archaeological objects
- Protection of wrecks and underwater heritage (more than 100 years old)

In relation to proposed works at or in the vicinity of a recorded archaeological monument, Section 12 (3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states:

‘When the owner or occupier (not being the Commissioners) of a monument or place which has been recorded [in the Record of Monuments and Places] or any person proposes to carry out, or to cause or

permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to such monument or place, he shall give notice in writing of his proposal to carry out the work to the Commissioners and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Commissioners, commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice.'

Archaeological artefacts

Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act (amended) defines an archaeological object as (in summary) any chattel in a manufactured or partly manufactured state or an unmanufactured state but with an archaeological or historical association. This includes ancient human, animal or plant remains.

Section 9 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states that any such artefact recovered during archaeological investigations should be taken into possession by the licensed archaeological director and held on behalf of the state until such a time as they are deposited accordingly subsequent to consultation with the National Museum of Ireland.

Architectural Sites

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999 and Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage. The former Act has helped to provide for a forum for the strengthening of architectural heritage protection as it called for the creation of a National Inventory of Architectural Heritage which is used by local authorities for compiling the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) is set out in each respective county's Development Plan and provides statutory protection for these monuments.

Section 1 (1) of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999 states:

'architectural heritage means all—

- (a) structures and buildings together with their settings and attendant grounds, fixtures and fittings,
- (b) groups of such structures and buildings, and
- (c) sites, which are of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest"

The 1999 Act was replaced by the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 where the conditions relating to the protection of architectural heritage are set out in Part IV of the Act. Section 57 (1) of the 2000 Act states that:

'...the carrying out of works to a protected structure, or a proposed protected structure, shall be exempted development only if those works would not materially affect the character of –

- (a) the structure, or
- (b) any element of the structure which contributes to its special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest'

Policy Framework

Galway City Council Development Plan 2017–2023

8 Built Heritage and Urban Design

Policy 8.2 Built Heritage - Record of Protected Structures

- Encourage the protection and enhancement of structures listed in the Record of Protected Structures.
- Ensure new development enhances the character or setting of a protected structure.
- Avoid protected structures becoming endangered by neglect or otherwise by taking appropriate action in good time.
- Consider the inclusion in the Record of Protected Structure of buildings and structures of special interest.
- Consult with the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs regarding any planning applications relating to protected structures and national monuments.
- Implement proactive measures to encourage the conservation of protected structures.

Policy 8.3 Built Heritage – Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)

- Encourage the protection and enhancement of the character and special interest of designated Architectural Conservation Areas.
- Prepare and implement management plans for the conservation and enhancement of designated Architectural Conservation Areas.
- Complete the Eyre Square Architectural Conservation Area Management Plan.
- Ensure that developments within Architectural Conservation Areas enhance the character and special interest of the Architectural Conservation Areas.

Policy 8.4 Vernacular Heritage

- Encourage the rehabilitation, renovation and re-use of existing structures that contribute to the character of the city.
- Increase public awareness of the vernacular heritage of the city through publication of the Survey and Inventory of Galway City's Thatched Buildings.

Policy 8.5 Archaeology

- Protect the archaeological heritage of the city.
- Ensure that proposed development within the designated city centre Zone of Archaeological Potential is not detrimental to the character of an archaeological site or its setting.
- Have regard to the archaeological recommendations of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Rural, Regional and Gaeltacht Affairs on any planning applications.
- Endorse the sustainable use of archaeological heritage as an educational and cultural resource and promote public awareness of the archaeological heritage of the city.
- Require the surveying, recording or excavation of archaeological heritage during the development process where appropriate.
- Seek the preservation in-situ or, at a minimum, preservation by record of archaeological sites/monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places.
- Ensure that any development proposal with potential to impact on archaeological heritage includes for an archaeological assessment. This includes within terrestrial, riverine, inter-tidal and sub-tidal environments.
- Promote the protection of the varied industrial heritage of the city and encourage greater appreciation and public awareness of this heritage.

Policy 8.6 Galway City Walls

- Secure preservation in-situ of the historic medieval city walls and seek to protect and enhance their settings.
- Support the implementation of recommendations set out in the Galway City Walls Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan (2013).
- Progress the implementation of the Outline Architectural Plan and Design Approach for the section of city wall at Fishmarket.

Policy 8.7 Urban Design

- Encourage high quality urban design in all developments.
- Improve qualitative design standards through the application of design guidelines and standards of the Development Plan, in particular the Galway Shop Front and Signage Design Guidelines (2012) and Design Guidelines: Canopies (2011).
- Ensure that high quality urban design contributes to successful urban regeneration in the city.
- Encourage innovation in architecture and promote energy efficiency and green design.
- Prepare Local Area Plans for Ardaun, Murrough and the Headford Road Area (south of the Bodkin junction) which provide an urban design framework to contribute to the development of sustainable and vibrant living and working environments.
- Encourage the use of design statements and masterplans/framework plans for large-scale development where appropriate.
- Prepare a public realm strategy to guide the enhancement, management, use and development of the public domain in collaboration with all stakeholders.
- Proposals for buildings which are taller than the prevailing benchmark heights will only be considered where they do not have an adverse impact on the context of historic buildings, Architectural Conservation Areas, residential amenity or impinge upon strategic views.
- Explore the potential for improvements to the environment of the city centre street network that can be delivered through implementation of the traffic management measures and the introduction of the Cross-City Link as proposed in the Galway Transport Strategy and integrate with the strategy for the public realm.

Appendix 4 Terms and definitions used

The following sets out the definitions of the terms which are used throughout the report:

- (i) The phrase ‘cultural heritage’ is a generic term used in reference to a multitude of cultural, archaeological and architectural sites and monuments. The term ‘cultural heritage’, in compliance with Section 2(1) of the Heritage Act (1995), is used throughout this report in relation to archaeological objects, features, monuments and landscapes as well as all structures and buildings which are considered to be of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest.

For the purpose of this assessment, each identified cultural heritage site is assigned a unique cultural heritage number with the prefix ‘CH’.

- (ii) A feature recorded in the ‘Record of Monuments and Places’ (RMP) refers to a recorded archaeological site that is granted statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1930-2004. When reference is made to the distance between an RMP and the proposed development site (see below), this relates to the minimal distance separating the site from the known edge of the RMP. Where the edge of the RMP is not precisely known, the distance relates to that which separates the site from the boundary of the RMP zone of archaeological potential as represented on the respective RMP map; where this is applied, it is stated accordingly.
- (iii) An ‘area of archaeological potential’ refers to an area of ground that is deemed to constitute one where archaeological sites, features or objects may be present in consequence of location, association with identified/recorded archaeological sites and/or identifiable characteristics.
- (iv) The term ‘proposed development site’ refers to the defined area of land within which the proposed development, including access tracks etc, may be constructed.
- (v) In relation to the term ‘study area’ please see Section 1.3 above.
- (vi) The term ‘receiving environment’ refers to the broader landscape within which the study area is situated. Examination of the site’s receiving environment allows the study area to be analysed in its wider cultural context.
- (vii) The terms ‘baseline environment’ and ‘cultural heritage resource’ refer to the existing, identifiable environment against which potential impacts of the proposed scheme may be measured.