CLONMEL TOWN WALLS

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Executive Summary

The Clonmel town walls are of great significance historically and archaeologically. They help to create a distinctive urban quarter of quality and potential.

In the course of preparation of the plan, it has emerged that the traces of another tower on the north wall survive. A new alignment for the early town wall circuit is proposed, based on analysis of the fabric.

Measures will be put in place for an improved understanding and awareness and for enhanced access. Achieving that aim has the following elements:

- Formulating a clear vision for the future of the walls
- Establishing a comprehensive programme of repair and maintenance
- Ensuring the protection of archaeological potential around the historic perimeter
- Adopting integrated measures for the presentation of the monument
- Exploiting the potential of the extant walls to enhance enjoyment of the public realm of the town by adopting integrated measures to increase knowledge and awareness.
- This includes a proposal for access to one tower and for a new route from Gordon Place.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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1   INTRODUCTION

Clonmel Borough Council, in partnership with the Heritage Council, through the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN), has commissioned a Conservation and Management Plan for the Clonmel Town Walls. The Council issued a brief and appointed Margaret Quinlan Architects to prepare the Plan.

The key objective of the Conservation Management Plan as described in the brief is: *"to assist the various agencies and groups responsible for the conservation and management of the Clonmel Town Walls in formulating, planning and implementing a successful conservation and management programme for this unique national monument".*

The brief required that a Conservation Management Plan be prepared in the strategic context of the following statutory and non-statutory documents:

- Fáilte Ireland Tourism Development Strategy 2007 – 2013
- Irish Walled Towns Network 3 Year Action Plan 2007 – 2009
- The Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008
- South Tipperary County Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development 2002
- National Policy on Town Defences
- National Monuments Acts
- Planning and Development Acts

1.1   BACKGROUND

The Irish Walled Towns Network

The Heritage Council established the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) in April 2005. Its aim is to unite and co-ordinate the strategic efforts of Local Authorities involved in the management, conservation and enhancement of historic walled towns in Ireland, both north and south.

The Irish Walled Towns Network is formally linked to the international Walled Towns Friendship Circle (WTFC), the international association for the sustainable development of walled towns, walled cities and fortified historic towns.

The Irish Walled Towns Network seeks to ensure that Ireland's unique cultural and archaeological heritage, in relation to its walled and fortified towns and cities, is protected and managed in a sustainable and appropriate manner in the long term. The Network is committed to operate in accordance with the WTFC's Mission Statement and international conservation 'Best Practice' *(ITWN website)*.

The Irish Walled Towns Network will formulate a national programme for the preparation and implementation of Conservation and Management Plans (including Signage Strategies) for Walled Towns to include the Walls and Environs. The Plans will ensure that relevant policies are included within statutory development plans and strategies at a regional, county and local level. These Plans should include an economic and tourism-development context which sets out their contribution to the economic development of the area and surrounding region. Conservation Plans will be prepared in accordance with ICOMOS' Bruges Resolutions, which have specific relevance "*to historic towns where distinctive qualities and value are deemed as being worthy of retention and enhancement" (ITWN Action Plan 2005 – 2008).*

1.2   THE CONSULTANCY TEAM

The consultancy team consisted of:

Margaret Quinlan	Project Director
Professor Loughlin Kealy	Project Consultant
Mary Hanna,	Project Manager
Dave Pollock	Archaeologist
David Kelly	Conservation Engineer
John Feehan	Ecologist

1.3   METHODOLOGY

The upstanding portions in the northwest part of the walled circuit were surveyed and photographed. For the buried remains, all licensed excavation reports were examined, assembled into a coherent whole and analysed. The project methodology consisted of:

- Background research and analysis: desk studies were carried out on existing documentary and map sources. These are listed in Appendix 5.
- Comparison of the data in the various sources (including maps) to establish as accurately as possible the original line of the town walls and identify where there may be buried remains.
- A detailed drawn survey of the walls.
- A condition survey of the walls. This information is contained in the Gazetteer.
- The establishment of the significance of Clonmel Town Walls, both in the national context and in the context of the history and culture of Clonmel.
- The identification of the main issues affecting the cultural significance of the town walls.
- The formulation of policies to fulfil the objectives of the brief.
- Preparation of a gazetteer to set out the repair, conservation and maintenance of the remaining upstanding walls and towers.
- Consultation took place with the owners, or owners' representatives, of properties adjoining the upstanding remains.
- Because of the short eight-week timescale it was agreed with Clonmel Borough Council that consultation would be confined to the adjoining owners.

1.4   THE STATUTORY CONTEXT

The town defences of Clonmel, both buried and upstanding, are protected by the National Monuments Acts 1930 – 2004. Where listed as protected structures, or lying within the curtilage of protected structures, or within architectural conservation areas, the defences are also protected under the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 – 2002.

2 UNDERSTANDING THE MONUMENT

2.1 SUMMARY HISTORY OF THE CLONMEL TOWN WALLS

An English traveller, Philip Luckombe, described the town as the eighteenth century was drawing to a close:

> *"Clonmell is very ancient, being built before the invasion of the Danes. It consists of four cross streets, formerly fortified strongly with a square wall. The streets lead to each of the gates. The market house, the only uniform building I saw in the whole town, is indeed very neatly built, mostly of marble, in the best taste; but lessens the passage of the main street. There is a very spacious bridge over the Suire, just out of the gate, to the right, of twenty arches." (1780)*

The earliest surviving reference to the town of Clonmel is in the royal accounts of 1211-12 (Pipe Roll 14 John, see Henry 2007, 07E0133, 2). The earliest reference to the main street (O'Connell Street) is c. 1350 (as King's Street), Bridge Street 1388, Mary Street 1502, and Gladstone Street (Lough Street) 1532 (Bradley 1985, 45). The parish church is mentioned as early as 1228, when Stephen of Lexington preached a sermon there (Bradley 1985, 47). The Franciscan Friary was founded in 1269.

The earliest murage grant (licence to collect taxes to pay for town wall building or repair) is from 1298, to run for ten years. "Further grants were made in 1316, 1319, 1356, 1364 and 1409." (Bradley 1985, 47). Thomas points out that some of these grants specified "stone walls" (Thomas 1992, 52). A grant of 1463 provided for tolls to be "expended on the diligent care of the southern gate, and reparation of the bridge and walls of the town" (CPCR II 211, in Thomas 1992, 52).

A charter of Henry V (1413-22) refers to "lately constructed great walls, towers, and fortifications" and a charter of 1608 refers to the ancient borough "fortified from the time of its foundations by forts and walls... for the amendment and repair whereof great and frequent costs are expended" (Thomas 1992, 52).

Of the 17th-century maps of Clonmel which have survived, the Down Survey map of 1657 is of lesser value, with a stylised circuit of wall and little detail. The Goubet map of 1690 (NLI MS. 2742) specifically records the town defences, showing the locations of gatehouses and towers, and outworks for added defence.

Despite its lack of detail, the Down map corroborates the number of towers on the walls, and shows defences at the bridge and an internal wall cordoning off the southeast corner of the town. The internal wall may enclose the citadel, built in 1652 on the former friary site (Burke, 168) and demolished in 1673, before the 1690 Goubet map. There are few details of the citadel, except that a garrison of 60 was recommended for it in 1659 (Kerrigan 1995, 101). Goubet shows ravelins (pointed earthworks) at the main landward gates, midway along the east side of the town, and at the two northern corners of St Mary's churchyard. A report of October 1690 notes that Brigadier Elnberger of the Williamite Danish contingent constructed "six ravelins with counterscarp" at Clonmel (Kerrigan 1995, 127).

In 1650 Cromwell laid siege to the town. The walls suffered heavy damage and all accounts concur that the north wall was breached. Shee and Watson suggest that the north wall may have been later rebuilt on a different line. The original wall may have continued in a straight line from east to west. Goubet's map shows the wall turning

southward along Mary Street. Analysis of all the information gathered in the course of this Plan has established the probability that the original line of the north wall ran west from the northeast corner to the west interval tower. It was also established that part of the bastion at the northeast corner of the Old St. Mary's churchyard survives within the grounds of No. 1 Bolton Street.

During the revolution of 1688–90, Clonmel was held for James II. Six weeks after the Battle of the Boyne, Clonmel surrendered to the forces of William III (see Bassett). The northwest tower was used as a magazine during the 1798 rebellion and this use continued until 1805. The West Gate was rebuilt in 1831.
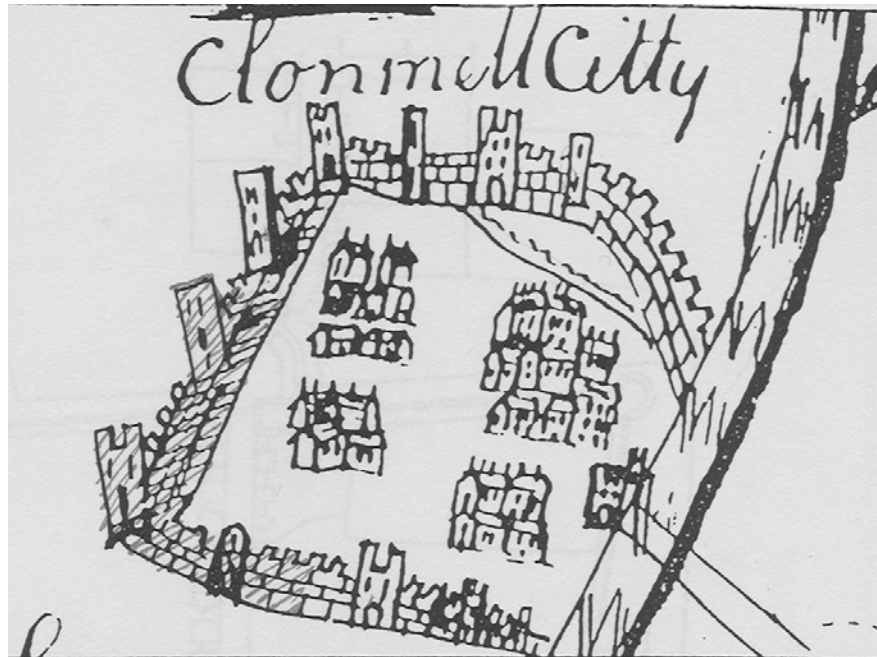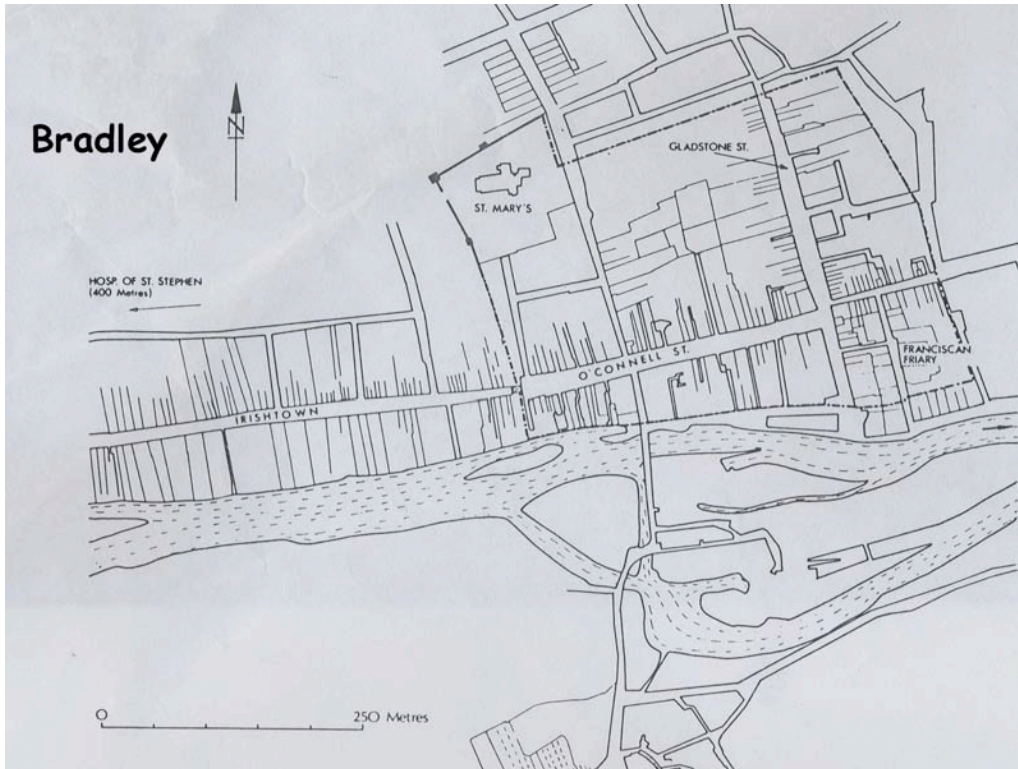

Clonmel, from the Down Survey of 1657, showing the walls, gates and towers
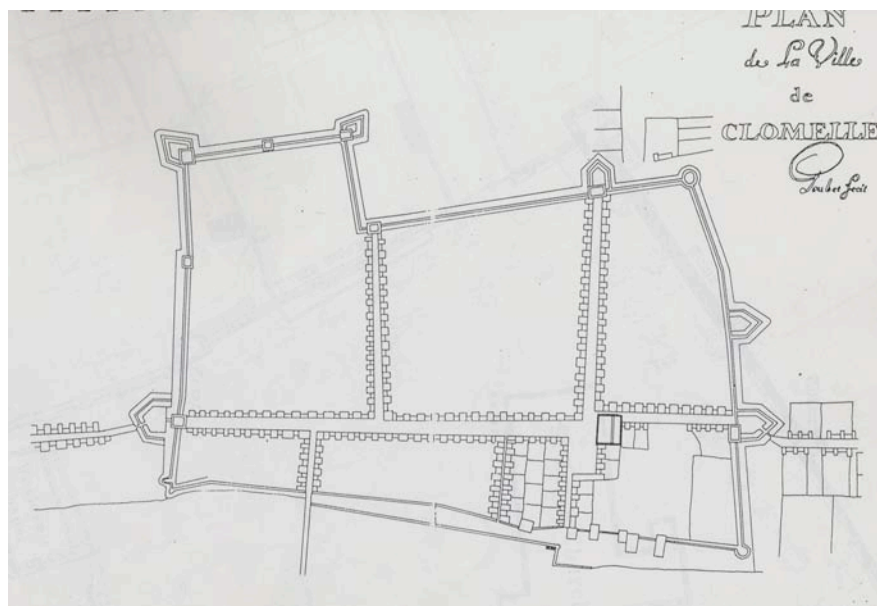
Goubet map showing the line of town defences in 1690

Shee and Watson map showing the line of the town walls, with the suggested line of the pre-1650 north wall shown dotted

Map by John Bradley showing line of town walls

2.2 KEY DATES

Year

1205-06	Clonmel was granted to William de Burgo, whose son Richard probably founded the town
1225	Henry III granted Richard de Burgo the right to hold an annual fair in the town
1228	First mention of the parish church (Old St. Mary's)
1265	Otho de Grandison was granted the manor of Clonmel and also appointed sheriff
1265	A Franciscan Friary was founded in Clonmel (also suggested, a date of 1269)
1269	A Dominican friary was founded in Clonmel
1298	A murage grant was made by Edward I to finance the building of the town wall
1316	A further murage grant was made
1319	A further murage grant was made
1328	Clonmel became the headquarters of the County Palatine, an administrative area controlled by the Earls of Ormond
1335	A further murage grant was made
1338	The manor of Clonmel was sold to Maurice Fitzgerald, 1st Earl of Desmond
1364	A further murage grant was made
1371	A licence was granted to elect a Sovereign of Clonmel
1408	King Henry IV authorised a long-term murage grant for no less than 30 years
1516	Clonmel was besieged by the Earl of Kildare and the town surrendered to him
c. 1531	The manor of Clonmel was conveyed as a dowry to the Butlers of Ormond by a Fitzgerald bride
1608	King James I inaugurated the Corporation of Clonmel
1609	Charter granted by James I
1647	The Supreme Council of the Confederation of Kilkenny assembled in Clonmel
1650	Cromwell laid siege to the town
1662	The Palatinate was restored to the Duke of Ormond by the restored king, Charles II
1665	500 families were brought from Canterbury by the Duke of Ormond to initiate a woollen industry in the town
1667	500 families of the Walloons were invited over from Canterbury
1688–90	Clonmel was held for James II
1690	Clonmel surrendered to the forces of William III
1691	Walls repaired and strengthened
1712	The County Palatine was extinguished by Act of Parliament
1831	West Gate rebuilt
1960/70s	Walls repaired along north range
2002–05	West range repaired under Urban & Village Renewal Conservation Grant scheme

2.3   DESCRIPTION OF THE CLONMEL TOWN WALLS

Upstanding and buried remains

Aerial photograph showing line of upstanding and buried remains

Line of upstanding and buried remains with excavation locations shown. See Appendix 3 for summary reports

The walled town of Clonmel is almost rectangular in plan, but with a small additional rectangle at the northwest corner, around St Mary's parish church. The medieval main street (present O'Connell Street/Mitchell Street) overlooks the river Suir on the south side of the rectangle, and the main medieval cross street (Gladstone Street/Sarsfield Street) is close to the east side. The medieval parish church is unusually distant from the main streets of the town. We are of the opinion that it was probably not enclosed by the early circuit of town wall and there may be surviving buried remains on an alignment previously not considered.

General Construction

Changes can be seen in the structure of the wall, both in the surviving pieces above ground and in the buried fragments unearthed during recent archaeological excavations. Most changes reflect different phases of construction and repair, but some represent changes of mason or a change of quarry supplying material during a single project.

Excavations (E000531, 92E005545) have shown that the wall on the east side of the town was built with a ditch in front and a rampart behind. The face of the wall rose from the base of the wide flat ditch, and the back of the wall dug raggedly into the bank, but was faced as it rose above it. The wall on the west side of the town, from the river to St Mary's churchyard, may have been similar. A ditch is recorded here and is shown on the late 17th-century plan (Goubet 1690). A short surviving length of the wall, at the south end of St Mary's churchyard, shows no obvious sign of a rampart behind. It has two ground-level embrasures (alcoves) for defending archers, but there is plenty of space for a bank between them, and the ground has not been investigated.

Further north the wall is quite different. Most is relatively thin, with continuous vaulting behind it to carry a wallwalk. A short length near the northwest corner was built to full thickness without vaults, but the vaulted lengths to each side appear to be contemporary, suggesting the design was changed to economise on stone.

Construction on the north side of St Mary's churchyard progressed from west to east, changing from full thickness to thin wall, and pausing briefly at an interval tower or bastion, before continuing. The (largely) vaulted wall around the churchyard appears to be an addition to an earlier circuit, an extension to the original rectangle. There is no suggestion of a former ditch in front of the vaulted wall, nor a rampart behind.

The large corner tower (northwest tower) was built in one stage with bands of different stone in the walls, representing changes of quarry. The towers to the south and east were built at the same time, but as bastions, with a platform just above the parapet of the adjacent wall. Sometime later they were completed as towers.

The eastern limb of wall around the churchyard has been removed, but a fragment of the contemporary northeast corner bastion or tower may have survived to suggest its former line. The extension would have rejoined the original circuit in Mary Street.

None of the original north wall has survived above ground. At the far eastern end a few courses of stone were found during investigations ahead of the cinema (92E0021). In Mary Street a "*rampart*" with stone facing was found during sewerage works in the early 20th century (Lyons 1936), and recently a small patch of "*unbonded rubble wall*" was found during investigations ahead of a daycare centre (07E0850). No indication of a rampart and ditch has been found on the north side of the town. The original wall was probably freestanding, similar to the more recent wall around the churchyard.

A tower or bastion at the east end of the original north wall, horseshoe-shaped rather than rectangular, was investigated (E000531, 92E00021) and found to tie into the town wall (with ditch) running south to the river.
The wall beside the river has been found by excavation in several places. This side of the town was partly protected by the river and there is no suggestion of a ditch and rampart. The wall appears to be fairly continuous (where found by excavation), but is probably punctured by numerous entries connecting the quay with the town. The wall on this side of the town may be more recent than the rest of the circuit.

Upstanding walls

Most of the upstanding town wall at Clonmel is in the northwest corner, around the graveyard of Old St Mary's Church (the medieval parish church serving the town). Here we have a rectangular corner tower, two rectangular/subrectangular interval towers, and the likely stump of a north corner tower. Part of another tower or bastion can be seen in the cinema at the former northeast corner of the walled town. Fragments of town wall may have been incorporated into buildings, but otherwise the *in situ* remains are below present ground level.
Archaeological excavations carried out over the last twenty years have exposed lengths of town wall on the south side (beside the river), and on the east side, but little if any of the wall has been rediscovered on the north side between St Mary's churchyard and the cinema. The badly damaged remains of a circular tower were found at the southeast corner of the town, and a thickening of the south wall may represent a former small tower overlooking the riverside quay.

Three different lengths of wall can be identified in the northwest corner:
- South of the western interval tower the wall is thick, with two surviving embrasures. At least one has a blocked loop.
- From the interval tower north to the Magazine Tower, in the corner, the wall has been thinner, with continuous and contemporary vaulting behind to carry the wallwalk.
- The wall on both sides of the northern interval tower is similarly vaulted, but a length of wall east of the Magazine Tower is solid, with no suggestion of vaulting replaced.

The solid wall with embrasures south of the western interval tower may be part of an early wall circuit, which turned east immediately before the site of the tower. The stump of this wall limb may survive at the southeast corner of the tower, with a loop (now blocked) covering the wallface. This loop is associated with the completion of the tower, which postdates the extension of the wall around St Mary's churchyard (see above), and suggests the retention of the old wall after the extension was added.

A stone-faced rampart was found during drainage works in Mary Street (Lyons 1936). The rampart may have been a wall, with mortared facing stones and a core of stone with clay bonding, as found in Dowd's Lane (see below). The reported alignment of this wall is inconveniently squint to the hypothetical line of the early enclosure, but the position is good. Perhaps the quoted alignment, along the axis of the church, was intended to pinpoint the position of the rampart under the street rather than give its alignment. The width of the rampart, 4.5m, is excessive for a freestanding town wall, but the remains may have included part of a wall converging from the north (enclosing the churchyard), or the tower shown by Goubet (1690) over the Mary Street gate.

The vaulted wall may have been restricted to the churchyard extension. Elsewhere the excavated evidence suggests only solid or single-faced walls to the east and south (see below). A length of Waterford city wall, part of the late medieval extension to the southwest, has a similar run of vaulting to support a wallwalk, but each vaulted recess has a lintelled, splayed loop (O'Keeffe 1995, 38). The Clonmel wall is unusual to have few or no firing positions in the recesses.

The run of solid wall east of the Magazine Tower may be the first length of wall built around the churchyard. The solid form may have been considered too expensive in materials to continue. There is some suggestion that construction of the wall around the churchyard commenced at the Magazine Tower. A vertical break in construction, and change of materials, suggests the vault immediately south of the tower was finished before the one beside it.

Although a wallwalk can be seen on most of the town wall around the St Mary's churchyard, most of this is a repair. The medieval parapet has largely disappeared, in some places removed entirely, in others replaced.

A short length of original parapet can be found beside the western interval tower, where the post-medieval stairs up the outside of the wall has braced the old structure. The crenellated parapet is represented by three or four blocked merlons (openings) between the upstanding crennelles. The remains may be from more than one phase of parapet, and there is a suggestion (one side only) of a splayed loop between merlons. None of the crenelles appear to have the characteristic stepped outline associated with late medieval Irish battlements, but the stepped tops may have been removed when the gaps between were blocked. An elaborate stepped parapet is shown on St Mary's Church in the Daniel Grose watercolour of the late 18th or early 19th century (in Stalley 1991, 96), and the same form may have topped the walls and towers enclosing the churchyard. A piece of the enclosing wall, with its characteristic vaulting, is shown in the background of Grose's picture, but without any parapet.

Walls, buried remains

Excavated wall remains have been found on the east and south sides of the town.
On the south side, close to the river, a reasonable height of wall has generally survived below ground level.

At Bridge Street/Grubbs Quay the town wall was found along the south edge of the site, up to 1.8m high and 1.3m wide (95E211). At No. 35-6 O'Connell Street, the wallstump stood over 1m high, on a plinth more than 3m below ground level. The wall was 0.9-0.95m wide above the plinth (96E112).

At Old Quay the town wall was inaccessible at or beyond the southern limit of the site, but a three-sided structure of mortared rubble may have been attached to the inside of the wall (93E131).

Excavations on the Sarsfield Street/Quays corner site failed to find the wall, but the discovery of an abutment with cutwater suggests that the entire site would have been in the river during the medieval period (93E094).
The town wall was not exposed during investigations at No. 43-4 O'Connell St, but the excavation was particularly small and potentially too shallow (96E095).

Excavations in Dowd's Lane in 1992 found a length of the east wall, enclosing the Franciscan Friary. The wall was 1.8-1.9m in width and faced only on the outside; the inside appears to have been set into a bank. Beyond the wall, to the east, a ditch was partly investigated. A short length of undated wall (F17), less than 2m from the inside edge of the town wall and parallel, might be contemporary (Opie 1995, Henry 1995).
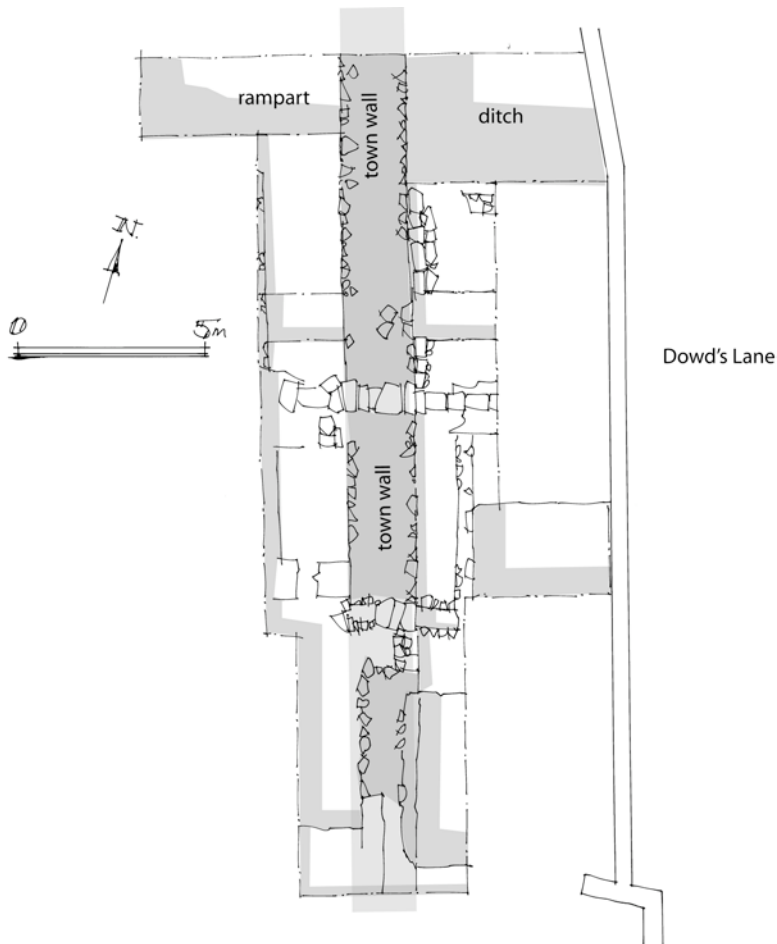
Dowd's Lane, plan with cut through rampart and ditch at north end (after Opie 1996, 163).
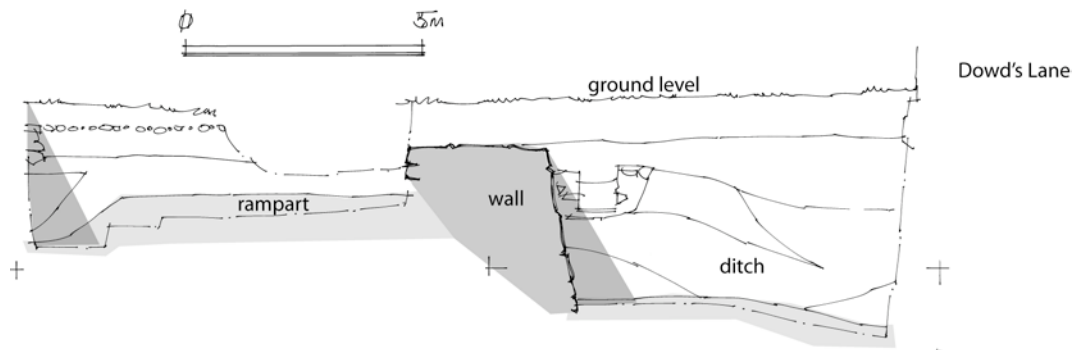
Dowd's Lane, section through wall and ditch (Compilation, after Opie 1996, 164-5).

A short length of wall was cut away during the investigations to reveal, "no trace of mortar in the core of the wall. Intermixed with the stones was a high content of yellowish brown clay. The clay was coarse, loose, and had a high content of very small angular stones" (Henry 1995, 169). Clay bonding is often associated with very late medieval stonework, of the 16th or 17th century, but is probably considerably earlier in this case. (A recently rediscovered tall fragment of Waterford City Wall is similarly clay bonded, and may date to the 13th century [Pollock, forthcoming].)

Two years earlier and further north, the town wall was exposed by trial trenching where it had been expected, under a prominent land boundary. The surviving remains were below ground, standing up to 2.2m high and 2m wide. It had a slight batter but no plinth on the outside face. There is no mention of an inside face in the summary report. The excavator wrote, "the wall had a surviving width of 2m though it had been disturbed in the area and may originally have been wider", suggesting a ragged inside edge which would match the wall remains in Dowd's Lane (E000531.)

The town wall was found immediately around the northeast corner of the walled town, beside Kickham Street, in 1991. The wall had an average thickness of 1.75m, and a depth of 2-3 courses (E000634).

A trial excavation was carried out in 2005 to the rear of No. 7 Morton Street (05E0667). The boundary wall behind the property is the line labelled "town wall" in the 1815 and 1832 surveys (Chaloner and Leahy), but the trench was cut 1m from the foot of the wall, and cut to 1.3m below ground level without reaching subsoil. The deep soil may be ditch fill, but a sherd of late pottery near the base of the trench suggests the ground was raised, or ditch infilled, in the 19th century.

A much larger development site was investigated in 2007 nearby, at No. 4 Morton Street (07E0850), with disappointing results. The site straddles the likely line of the town wall, but three parallel trenches cut across the line found very little of interest. No ditch was intercepted , and the only likely medieval wall was a fragmentary piece 0.5m high but only 0.75m thick (wall F4), and that in only one of the three trenches. The excavators concluded, "the town wall, which is likely to have extended from east to west through the site, was not uncovered

during testing, it may have partially or totally or completely been removed during previous construction work associated with construction of the orphanage" (Doolan & Keily 2007, 9).

The fragment is described as "un-bonded rubble wall, resting on subsoil, no foundation. Possibly truncated by C5 [recent wall with concrete foundation] to N. Not dated." The fabric resembles the core of the town wall investigated in Dowd's Lane, Clonmel (see above), and the foundation of the town wall on the east side of Fethard, Co. Tipperary. During recent conservation work in Fethard the thick mortared wall on the east side of the town was found to overlie a drystone base with a ragged face (Pollock 2008, 4).

Unfortunately, the precise position of the wall fragment on the Morton Street site is not recorded, but it is described as "*near N end of T[rench] 1",* which is compatible with a location on the likely wall line (Doonan & Keily 2007, 8).

Although the position of the wall is far from proven in the Morton Street area, the alignment is potentially given by a pair of outlying ditches found on the north side of the street in 2007 (07E0133). Bases of a pair of ditches, one apparently a recut of the other, were found under a deep topsoil under the former parochial hall. The ditches produced a few early post-medieval pottery sherds and a single medieval sherd, suggesting that one or other was probably open during Cromwell's siege, but not as a defensive or siege work. The ditches were probably a field boundary, an open drain with an adjacent bank and hedge. The importance of the boundary is that it was almost certainly aligned with the town wall, c. 25m to the south. The line of the boundary is parallel with Morton Street, and parallel with the boundary wall labelled "town wall" on Chaloner's 1815 MS map and Leahy's 1832 survey. The discovery of the ditches corroborates the early 19th-century maps.

Gates

The medieval town gates have not survived above ground. The present West Gate is an elegant creation of the early/mid- 19th century, on the site of the medieval gate. A report of a contemporary newspaper account of the West Gate relates:

> *The Westgate, long deemed a dangerous and difficult passage, is about to be taken down, in order that a building, somewhat similar construction, but finished in an excellent style of architecture, and giving much additional room, may be erected on its foundation. We have seen the plan of it, from which we perceive, that it is the intention of the gentlemen who have undertaken the accomplishment of the project, to widen the gate upwards of 9 feet, giving a footpath at one side – that the arch will be five feet higher than its present elevation – and that, should funds permit, a clock is to be placed over the archway at either side. The building will be cut stone, and while it will be calculated to add much to the beauty of that end of the town, it will also be found extremely necessary and useful.*
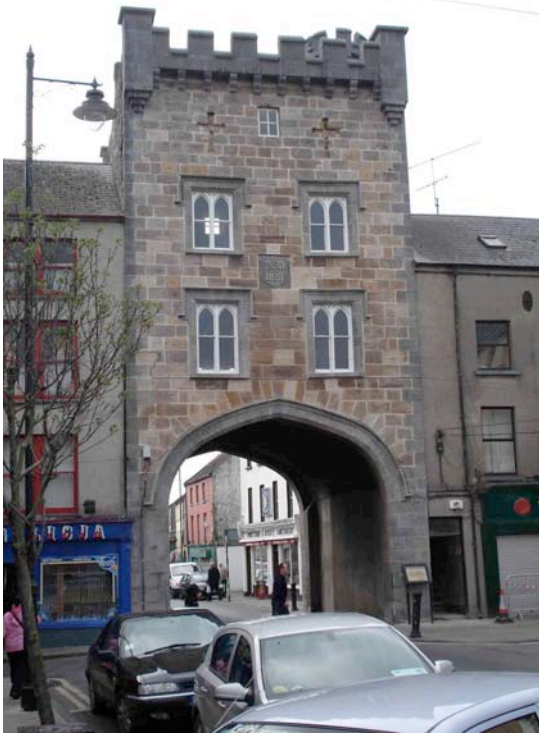
West Gate from east

West gate from west
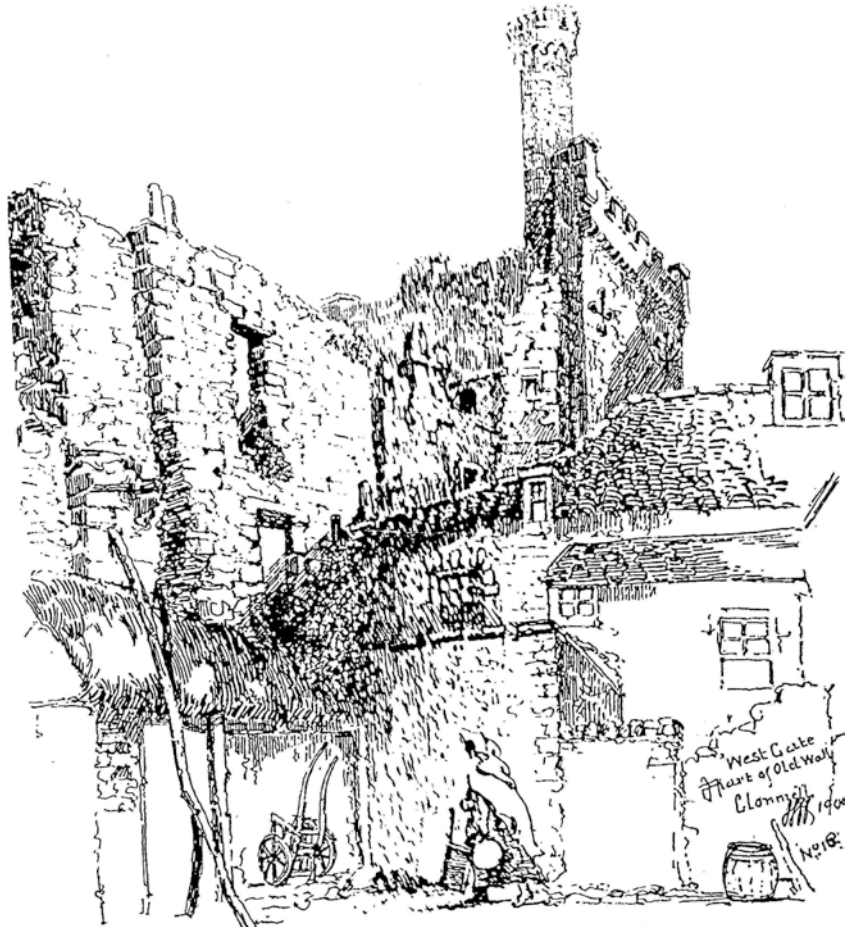
Fleming's drawing of the West Gate (1909)

Goubet's plan of 1690 shows three gates with towers above, the West Gate and two north gates. The building at the Mary Street gate is relatively small, similar in size to the interval towers in St Mary's churchyard, and possibly contemporary with them.

The east gate has a tower beside it, similar to the surviving north gate of Fethard, Co. Tipperary. The Watergate, through the south wall of the town, appears to be overlooked by at least one tower or bastion. No tower or bastion is shown at the other south gate, at the end of Bridge Street, but excavations in the early 20th century found a vaulted chamber beside the street, suggesting a tower over or beside the entry (Lyons 1936). A narrow entry to a laneway is shown between the two south gates on the Goubet map; a similar entry was exposed during excavations on the line of the south wall (95E211).

Towers

The towers around St Mary's churchyard are rectangular/subrectangular, the fragmentary structure on the northeast corner of the town (in the cinema) is horseshoe-shaped, and the more fragmentary underground remains on the southeast corner are from a circular tower.

The western interval tower is at a change of wall line and wall thickness. The west (external) side was much altered for use as a post-medieval garden feature.[1] The east side is largely intact. None of the fabric on the outside is obscured by render.

The ground floor has been altered by
  · the insertion of two late doorways with semicircular brick heads
  · quarrying into the wall fabric to increase the floor area
  · the insertion of a suspended level ceiling

The walls have been extensively plastered and replastered following the alterations, masking an original (presumed) ground-level entry from the east, probably in the southeast corner. The two doorways may replace two of three original loops. A third loop probably faced north along the face of the town wall, but its position is masked by late plaster inside. A fourth loop probably faced east. The splayed inside is entirely masked by late plaster, but the blocked slit can be seen on the churchyard (east) face of the tower.

The suspended ceiling has largely fallen or been removed, exposing an original vaulted ceiling built in two sections. Both sections have used plank centring, but the western piece is earlier, and springs from a lower level.

The first floor is currently entered from a flight of 19th-century steps attached to the external (west-facing side) of the tower. As on the ground floor, original openings have been altered. An original ogee window has survived, facing east, but the three likely loops facing west, north and south have been replaced with the large post-medieval openings. The ceiling is vaulted in one piece; this vault used wicker centring.

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1 .   The work was carried out in the early 19th century to convert the tower into a gazebo. Michael Ahern has drawn attention to an annotated sketch where it is named as Joseph Grubb Benjamin's Castle. Joseph (1768-1844) lived in Gordon street on the south side and his garden was on the outside of the town walls.

An original doorway at the southeast corner of the chamber leads down steps to a passage now blocked, which formerly led onto the wallwalk south of the tower, and to a small chamber with a loop facing east, perhaps the top of a stairs passage leading down to the ground floor. Spiral stairs lead up to the corner of an open storey above. Only the low stump of a parapet wall has survived, over drainage spouts to east and west. The profile of the original parapet is unknown.

The exterior of the tower has a similar fabric on the east side from bottom to top (a platey sandstone, almost stacked like brick), but the fabric on the west side is banded at ground floor level, with a conspicuous stripe of limestone across the tower and across the end of the thick wall to the south and the thinner wall to the north. The banding suggests contemporary construction of tower and walls to each side, but this is probably misleading (see below).
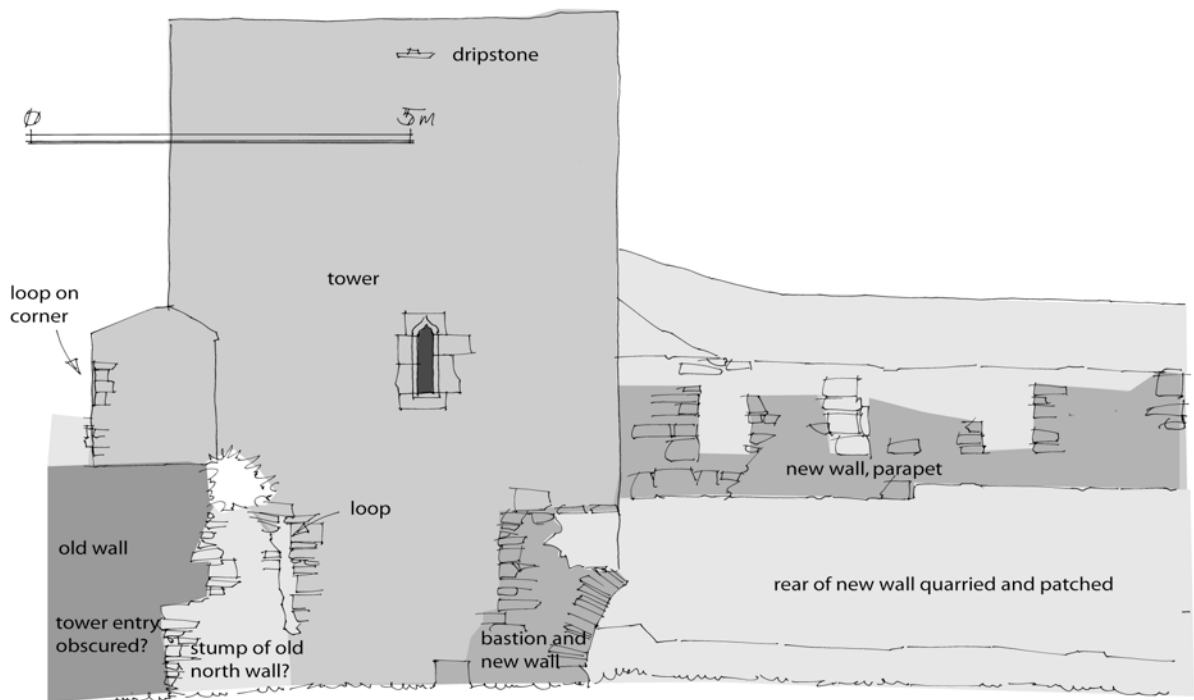

Internal (east-facing) elevation of western interval tower
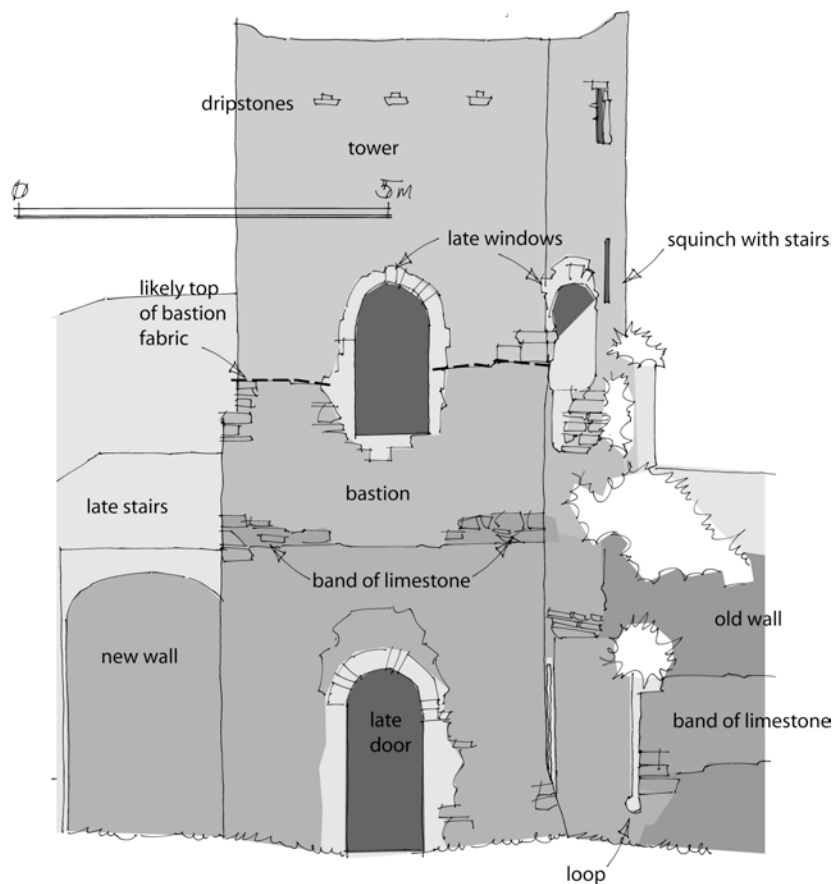
Exernal (west-facing) elevation of western interval tower

The development of the tower is unusual, because construction appears to have been in two distinct stages. The initial structure probably comprised the west side of the building and a contemporary length of wall running north, associated with alterations to a pre-existing length of wall running south. The initial structure would have formed a bastion projecting beyond the wall line, with three ground-level loops under a narrow vault carrying the wallwalk up and over. This work is characterised by the bands of different stone in the fabric. Banding on the west wallface of the thicker town wall, immediately south of the bastion, suggests a refacing of the wall, increasing its thickness. Similar thickening took place on the late medieval Waterford City Wall at Grady's Yard (Pollock 2002, 9).
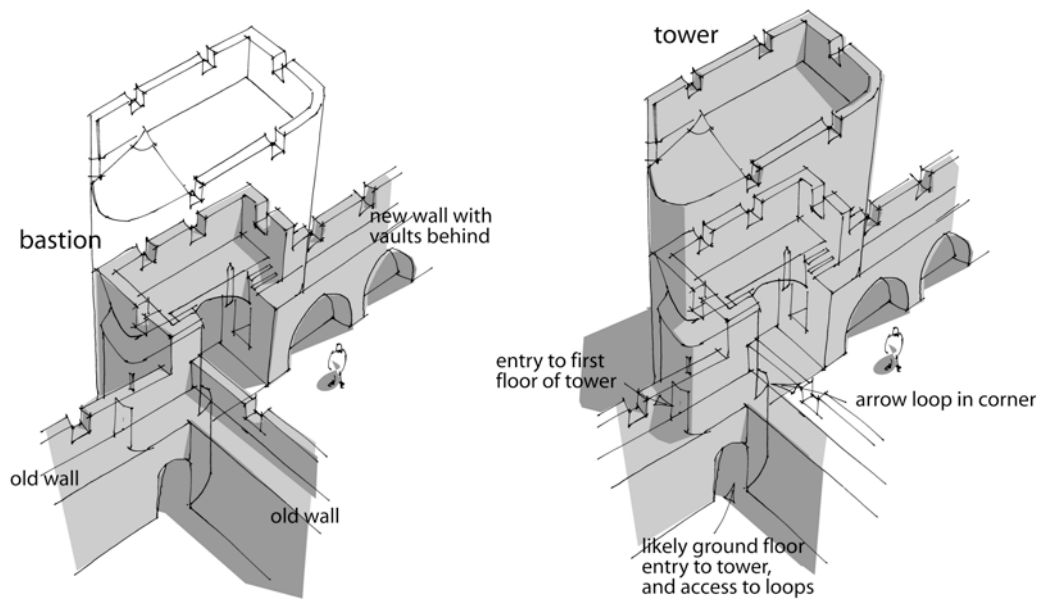
Cutaway sketch of western interval tower showing possible development. Crenellations were probably more elaborate.

It is unclear how much, if any, of the bastion was enclosed with timberwork.

The bastion was converted to a tower with the construction of the remaining section of vault over the ground floor, the construction of a vaulted storey above, and walling to parapet level. The east wall of the tower is entirely of this phase, and includes a loop facing east. The position of the loop is particularly well-suited to covering the face of a wall running east, now represented only by a stump.

The position of the loop and the staggered arrangement of the town wall north and south of the tower suggest the corner of a walled enclosure, onto which the bastion and new run of wall was added.

Dateable features on the tower comprise an ogee window at first floor level, rounded corners, a wicker-centred first floor vault and plank-centred ground floor vault. The window form and wicker centring are typically late medieval but can be found on earlier buildings. The window is cut from sandstone, a popular material for mouldings through the high medieval period but gradually losing popularity to the harder limestone from the late 13th century (conspicuous at Gowran Church, Co. Kilkenny, c. 1280 [Leask 1960, 116]).

Rounded corners can be found on late medieval rectangular buildings, but are rare or unknown on high medieval buildings. Most rectangular tower houses in Ireland (15th to early 17th century) have sharp corners, but a few have rounded corners (Grange, Co. Kildare; Donore, Co. Meath). A surviving fragment of corner tower on the bawn at Grange Castle has similar rounded corners (Pollock 1998, 5), and the Beach Tower, on Waterford City Wall, has one rounded corner (O'Keeffe 1995, 42).

The plank centring under vaults can be early or late, and is often found alongside wicker centring (e.g. in embrasures at the late medieval Barryscourt Castle, Co. Cork, where the chamber vaults were wicker-centred). Essentially the dateable features on the tower fit the wide timeframe from the mid-15th century to the late 16th century. The tower may have been built at any time within the period. The construction of the initial bastion must have been slightly earlier, but no earlier than the mid-15th century.

The northwest tower occupies the northwest angle of the present walled circuit. It was used as a magazine from some time after Cromwell's bombardment to the start of the 19th century (Shee & Watson, 20).
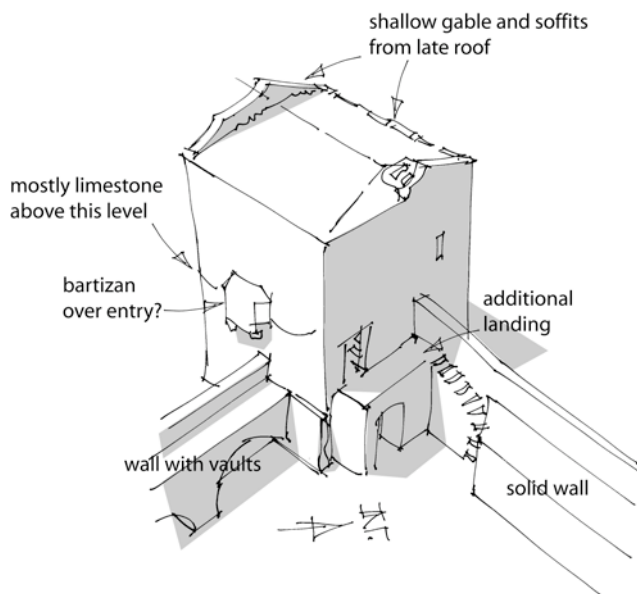
Oblique sketch of north west tower

The ground floor is a rectangular chamber under a shallow barrel vault, plank-centred. Embrasures to east and west have original short loops in the shape of narrow crosses. The embrasure to the south has been partly filled in, obscuring a likely doorway (under a bartizan on the outside) or loop, and the embrasure to the north has an inserted fireplace. The floors of the north and east embrasures have been broken away, and a strip of stonework can be seen in the floor, parallel with and 0.75m from the north wall.

An original ground-level corner entry into the chamber has been widened, perhaps to allow access for an artillery piece on a field carriage. The removal of the steps below the north and east embrasures may also be for artillery access, but neither of the cross loops facing east or north appears to have been modified for the muzzle of a gun.

The entry to the ground floor has been roughly cut back, damaging the voussoirs at the start of the passage and cutting away part of the tower corner and part of the stonework against its south side. The entry has subsequently been extended and narrowed considerably with the addition of a short extra piece of passage, below a new stairs and landing for the first floor entry to the tower. The ground floor was then heavily plastered.

The first floor entry to the tower is in the southeast corner, from the outdoor landing over the ground floor passage. The door position (but not size) is original, predating the present landing.
A rectangular chamber with a high wicker-centred vaulted ceiling is entered from the outside door, past a mural stairs climbing to a parapet level above.

An original splayed loop in the west wall has been largely removed and replaced with an opening for a timber window frame.

The north wall probably had a similar central loop, but a fireplace has been inserted, with a recess to one side and a new loop to the other. The fireplace and chimney have since been blocked, and the loop has been badly damaged.

A fireplace has been inserted in the south wall, probably when the one in the north wall was decommissioned. The south fireplace is in the vicinity of a garderobe (lavatory) or bartizan on the outside wall, and must have damaged the recess. The doorways from the chamber to the mural stairs and to the outside landing have both been altered. No drawbar holes or hinge arrangements can now be seen.

The mural stairs rises in a straight flight, past a small splayed loop, to a turn on the northeast corner of the tower. The level above is very overgrown, with remains of gable walls c. 0.5m thick. at the east and west ends, and the remains of a soffit course of slabs along the north side The stone in the west gable is unlike the stone below it, and the pitch of the roof is unusually shallow for a roof earlier than the 18th or 19th century. The fragmentary gables and soffits are probably relatively recent, replacing an original parapet.

The exterior of the tower is mortared rubble with quoined sandstone corners. The rubble is mixed, predominantly of sandstone, to the first floor openings, and thereafter is predominantly of limestone. The change of stone represents a change of supply during a single phase of building, rather than a hiatus during construction.

An original first floor outshot in the south wall is probably a bartizan (defensive overhang) rather than a more utilitarian garderobe. It probably overhung a doorway in the south wall of the tower.

The development of the tower is straightforward. It appears to be abutted by the town wall heading south, and although its relationship with the wall running east is unclear, there is no suggestion that the tower was associated with an earlier wall or rampart.

The narrow ground-floor entry and thick plaster inside is probably associated with use as a magazine, from the late 17th century. The earlier widened entry passage, and particularly the rough cutting around the door, may be expedient work associated with Hugh Dubh O'Neill's defence of the town against Cromwell, but the reason for the widening is unclear.

Dateable features on this tower are scarce. The cross loops are short, and late medieval. The first floor wicker-centred vaulting is similarly late medieval, similar to the first floor vaults in the neighbouring interval towers. The tower has no ogee windows and no rounded corners, and thus does not match the interval towers to each side, but has plank-centred vaulting on the ground floor, in common with its neighbours, and has a large quantity of limestone rubble in its fabric, similar to the smaller quantity in the initial stage of the tower to the south. The Magazine Tower was probably built in one stage, during the first stage of work on the interval towers to each side.

The north interval tower is very similar to the west interval tower, and was similarly built in two stages.

The ground floor has a small chamber entered at ground level from the south, with three damaged and blocked loops facing northeast and west. A fourth loop, facing south, and the door, are later. An original narrow

vault, plank-centred, spanned the splay of the north loop and part of the loops to each side. At some stage the vault was extended, over plank centring, to bring all three loops under a vaulted roof, but without a mortared stone rear wall. At a later stage a mortared stone wall, with a doorway and loop facing south, was built and corbelled in to meet the vault.

The first floor has a small chamber with a wicker-centred vault overhead, entered from the wallwalk to the west. A door entering from the wallwalk to the east appears to be a late insert. A loop (blocked) faces west along the front of the wall, another faces east along the wallface, and an opening faces north. A window in the opening, made from reassembled pieces of a cusped window, in limestone, probably replaces an original splayed loop.

An ogee window, in sandstone, is original to the south wall of the tower.

An outside stair leads from the wallwalk outside the tower to a platform over the first floor chamber. The present steps are replacements, reusing post-medieval window sills or kerb stones (with drafted margins). The platform is overgrown, but fragments of the parapet wall can be seen.

The exterior of the tower is overgrown on the north side, masking likely squinches and any indications of an original parapet embedded in the side of the stair rising to the top of the tower. The fabric of the south wall is mostly of one build, of squared sandstone rubble. The fabric, round corners and first floor ogee window are similar to the other interval tower, but the sharp ground floor corner and rebate at wallwalk level are different. Both the corner and rebate are associated with converting the bastion to a tower.
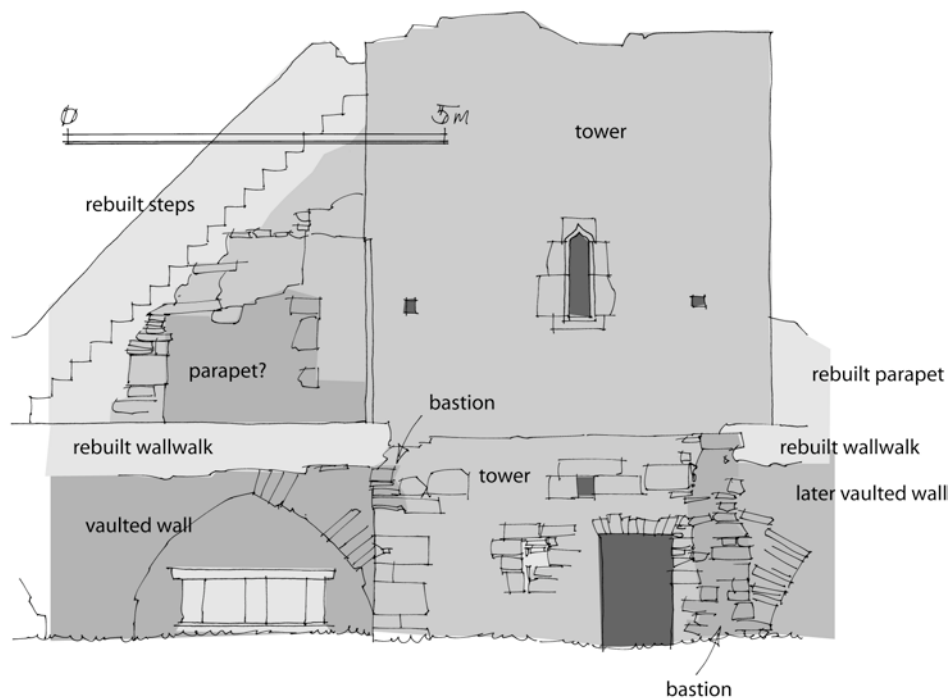
South elevation of north interval tower

The development of this interval tower is similar to the development of the other. The original building was a narrow vaulted structure projecting north of the town wall, raising the wallwalk slightly over the firing positions. The narrow vault was probably widened at a very early stage, perhaps before the first vault had set, to provide a larger platform above and better protection for the firing positions below. Similar stone and mortar was used in both vaults.

The sides of the bastion continued back beyond the edge of the widened vault. The south end of one side is masked by the later tower build, but the other can be seen, reused as the southeast corner of the tower. The vaulted town wall appears to abut the corner, suggesting that the bastion was built ahead of the town wall to its east. A pre-existing hedge or wall may have been the temporary town defence east of the bastion, before the present vaulted run was constructed.
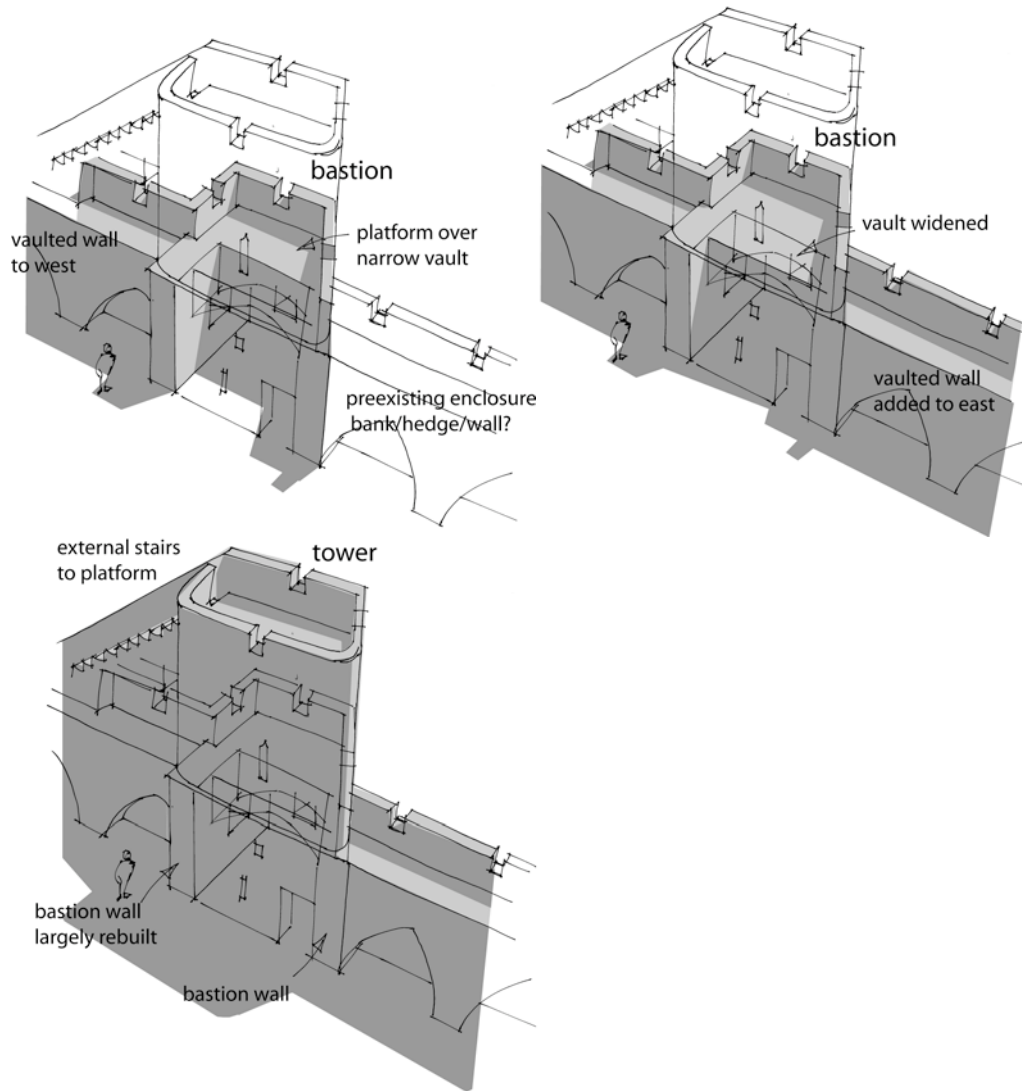

Cutaway sketch of north interval tower showing possible development. Crenellations were probably more elaborate.

At some point, perhaps as part of an original design, the bastion was fully enclosed with masonry and raised as a tower. The ground floor footprint of the bastion was slightly increased, setting the new south wall beyond the vault. The new wall was corbelled in to meet the vault, producing a rebate on the outside. Above this rebate the new tower had rounded corners.

Dateable features on this tower are similar to those on the other interval tower. The first floor ogee window, in sandstone, the first floor wicker centring, and the rounded corners, are all similar, suggesting construction between the mid- 15th century and late 16th century.

The two interval towers are very similar, both with an initial bastion stage prior to the construction of a full masonry tower, and were probably under construction at the same time, at both stages.

The north corner tower/bastion, on the northeast corner of St Mary's churchyard, may not have been totally removed. Although there is no indication of such a tower or bastion from the churchyard, there is an apparent stagger in the line of the outside wallface at an appropriate point, close to the back wall of the nearest building on Bolton Street. This part of the town wall is particularly overgrown, but the wall appears to step north c. 1.5m. The outshot has a rough base batter, suggesting a medieval defensive structure.
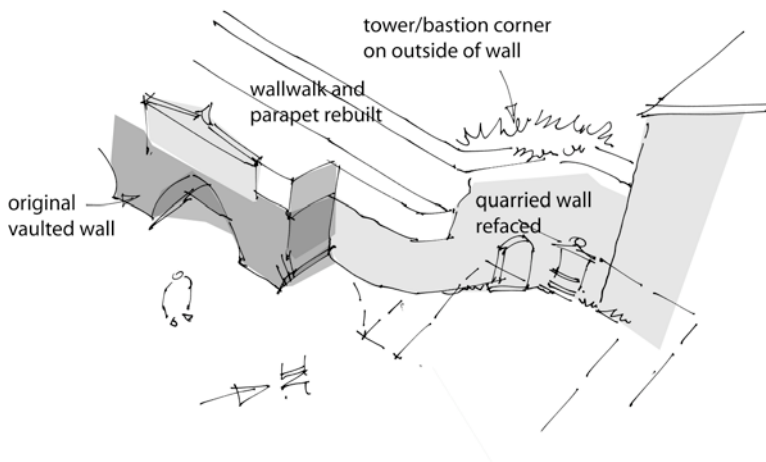

Oblique sketch of likely site of north tower/bastion

The inside (south side) of the town wall has been sheared away at this point and the wallcore has been tidily refaced with small stones and rendered. One of the vaults behind the wall, and any remains of the tower or bastion at the end of it, have been removed above ground. The oblique line of the refaced wall is shown on the Chaloner MS map of 1815.

The northeast corner tower or bastion was horseshoe-shaped. Half has survived, to the top of ground floor level, and it is unclear whether or not the building had a vault, with or without a roofed chamber overhead. A summary report on investigations in the vicinity in 1990 states:

> The base of the tower was also uncovered for a short distance. The original foundations were built on a thin layer of gravel which overlay boulder clay. The foundations extended to a depth of 1.2m below the ground, and refacing occurred on some areas of the outer face. With both the wall and the tower, a noticeable change in masonry occurred between the surviving remains above ground and the foundations below (E000531).
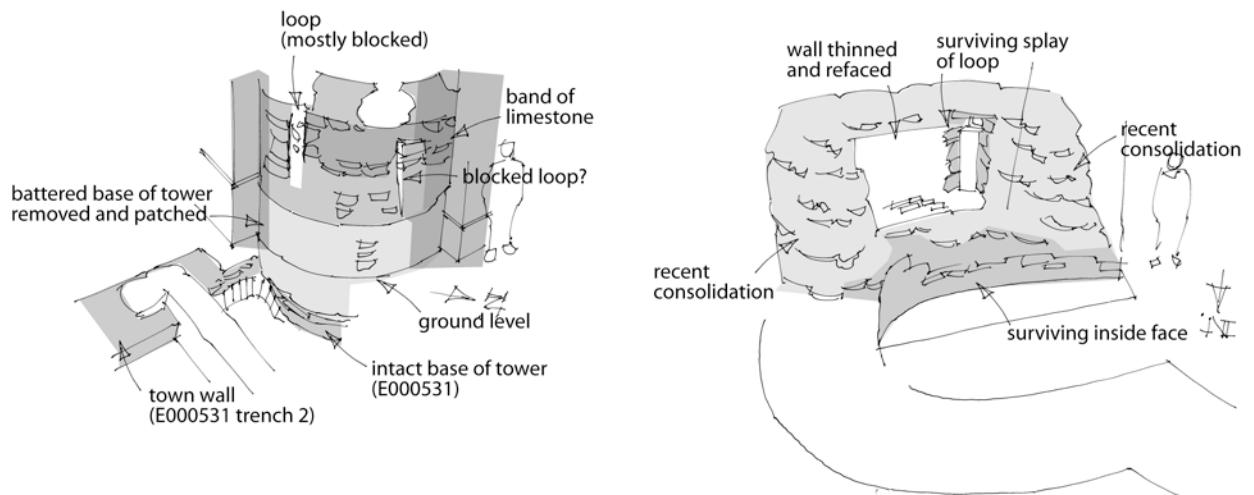
*Oblique sketches of northeast tower/bastion remains.*

A summary report on further work states, "the tower is open-backed and subcircular in plan. The tower wall, where uncovered, had an average thickness of 1.75m and survived to a depth of c. 1.35m. There were no surviving features in the segments excavated inside the tower." (92E0021). (Unfortunately no plan of the structure could be found. The full report, with plans, is currently unavailable at the National Monuments Archive.)

The fabric on the outside is partly obscured by a roughcast render, potentially post-medieval. The fabric towards the base is late patching, replacing robbed fabric, perhaps an original base batter. Above this the stonework is banded (with a conspicuous strip of limestone) but the banding appears to be from a single building phase.

One or two tall loops are visible on the outside, but only one can be seen on the inside. The other may have been obscured by refacing in rubble and brick, post-medieval work associated with thinning the fabric. Only part of the internal splay on the other loop has survived the thinning.

A similar structure was investigated at the corner of the town wall of Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. The Dungarvan bastion was single-storied under a crenellated wallwalk (shown on two surviving illustrations) and was built no earlier than the late 16th century (Pollock 1996, 26-8). A similar bastion/tower has survived almost intact on the 17th-century garden wall at Lismore Castle, but the loops are conspicuously smaller. The late medieval Halfmoon Tower on Waterford City Wall is similar in plan and stands three storeys high with a parapet above, but has a solid rear wall.

The southeast corner tower was found by excavation in 1992 (92E132). Although the structure was badly damaged, enough survived of its northwest side to show it was circular, in excess of 7m in diameter. Unfortunately the concentric inside of the tower wall could not be identified, and only one limb (running north) of the adjoining town wall was found (Scully 1996). The scale and position of the tower is not unlike Waterford's Watch Tower, a late medieval building of four storeys with parapet (O'Keeffe 1995, 25).
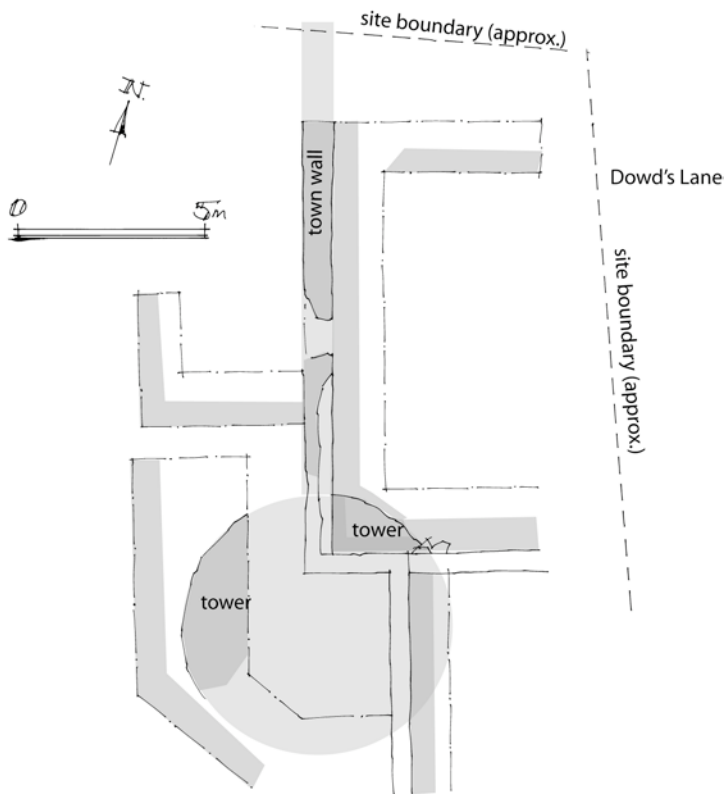
Southeast tower, New Quay/Dowd's Lane (after Scully 1996).

A curved structure attached to the inside of the south wall close to the Bridge Gate may have been a turret (95E0211).

A pedestrian entry through the south wall was found during excavations in 1996. The entry was considered to be original to the length of wall, with a threshold at the level of the wall plinth, c. 3.5m below ground level. The entry was 0.87m wide between the dressed sandstone jambs, with iron hinges, a circular bolthole and a square drawbar hole (96E0112). The bolthole probably replaced the drawbar hole.
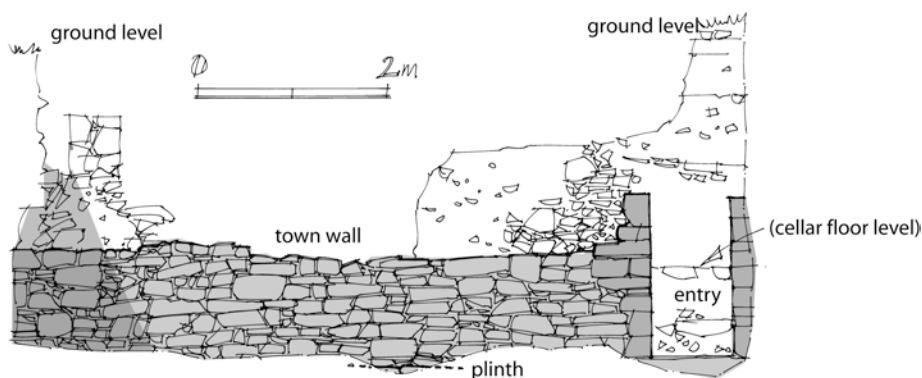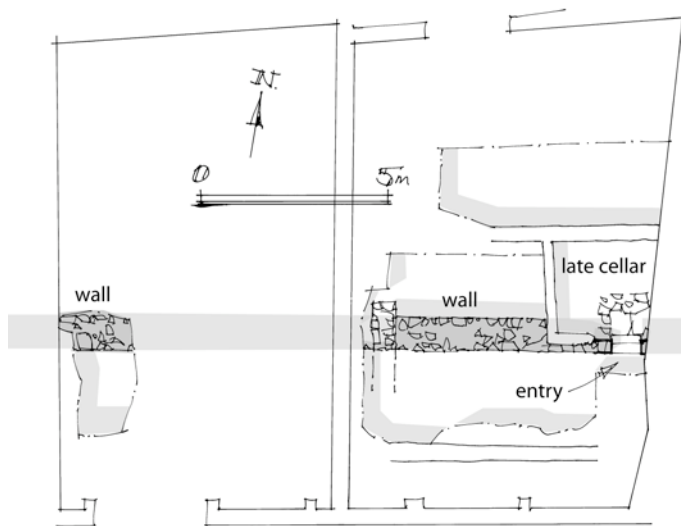
Entry through town wall on south side, 35-6 O'Connell Street (After Henry 96E0112).

Ramparts and ditches

Medieval town defences traditionally included a cut ditch and upcast bank. The bank was normally capped with a timber wall or fence in front of a path, or revetted with a stone wall. In some cases a ditch-and-bank with palisade was modified with the addition of a stone face and removal of the woodwork (e.g. Waterford, see Hurley 1997, 20-3).

Ramparts were also added to the rear (and occasionally the front) of walls to reduce the damage from artillery bombardment and provide a line of defence behind a breached wall. Such ramparts were built at Dungarvan Castle, Co. Waterford, in the 17th (or perhaps 16th) century (Pollock 1998a, 15), and might be expected at Clonmel, as a defence against Cromwell's artillery.

There is clear archaeological evidence for a ditch-and-rampart along the line of Dowd's Lane. The excavators found a ditch recorded as 3.15m deep below present ground level, and at least 5.5m wide (the outside edge was beyond the site). The real depth of the ditch would have been considerably less, around 1.5m from contemporary ground level, with a bank standing approximately 1m high beside it. Bank material was an orange-red sandy clay when first encountered (Opie 1995, 158), but where it was sectioned several layers were recorded and it is unclear where in the sandwich one should look for the old ground surface under the rampart. The reddish-brown clay over sandy gravel with stone are probably the natural strata below the rampart, and the old ground surface is probably at the base of the overlying yellowish brown sandy silt, c. 0.7m below the surviving top of the wall, c. 1.5m above the base of the ditch (Henry 1995, 169-72).

Because the town wall was built to the base of the ditch, without cutting into a depth of accumulated silt, one can be reasonably confident that the wall is an original revetment, contemporary with the ditch and rampart.

Further north, and well beyond the friary precinct, there are suggestions of a similar arrangement of revetted bank and ditch. Excavations in 1990 found a wall with a neat outside (east side) face 2.2m high below ground but no tidy

inside (west side) face (E000531). The excavator thought the inside face had been disturbed, but the wall survived at 2m thick and is unlikely to have been any thicker. The thickness of wall close to present ground level and the ragged west side matches the wall in Dowd's Lane, and the 2.2m height of wallface below ground on the outside is excessive unless it is lining the side of a ditch. The wall here appears to revet the side of a ditch and rampart.

Immediately around the corner, on the north side of Clonmel, excavated wall remains had an average thickness of 1.75m but survived only 2-3 courses high (E000634).
According to the excavator, "there was evidence to suggest the possible existence of a ditch outside the town wall" but the ground was badly disturbed by later activity. Certainly, there was not the same arrangement here as on the east side of the town; the 2-3 surviving courses of wall could not have lined the inside of a ditch. If there had been a ditch here, its excavation predated or postdated the building of the wall.

If there was a ditch and rampart further west on the north side of Clonmel the information should have come to light during investigations ahead of a recent development at No. 4 Morton Street (07E0850). The ditch would have been considerable, and should have been intercepted by trial trenches. There is no record of depth to subsoil in the excavated trenches, but it is very unlikely that an infilled ditch would have escaped the notice of the supervising archaeologist. We must take it that there was no medieval or early post-medieval defensive ditch outside the wall (or that the wall was further to the north (as Lyons maintained, 1936).

There is no indication that the vaulted wall around St Mary's churchyard was built into an upstanding rampart, nor that there has been a substantial ditch outside the wall. Goubet's late 17th-century map appears to show a ditch around most of the town circuit, but the ditch on the north side, beside Morton Street, is now in doubt, and this doubt can be followed around St Mary's churchyard as far as the western interval tower. Here the wall changes to a more solid structure, with a few embrasures, and here Goubet's ditch doubles in width.

Although there is no indication of a ditch outside the likely town wall extension at St Mary's churchyard, there is every chance that a considerable enclosure surrounded the parish church before the wall was built. Part of this enclosure may have remained standing after the north interval bastion was built, before the vaulted wall was continued to the east, but we do not know for how long. It is unclear whether the progress of the new wall was interrupted for a few weeks or decades, and it is unclear whether the new circuit followed the old church precinct or cut a neater line.

The unusual street plan immediately north of the Gladstone Street/Morton Street/Kickham Street junction has attracted interest from those tracing the town wall. Some have suggested that William Street/Catherine Street follows the line of the medieval town wall, and that Morton Street/Kickham Street represents a late contraction of the walled town (Lyons 1936; Shee & Watson 1992), but this is unlikely. More plausible is the theory that Catherine Street follows the line of a late medieval outwork at the north gate, and the stagger in the line of Gladstone Street represents the detour of the main road through the flank of the 1690 ravelin (Thomas 1992, 53). William Street probably follows a field boundary.

Test excavations in the angle of Catherine Street and Gladstone Street in 2001 were inconclusive. Although a good deal of the site was opened up, and cut to c. 0.7m down, the trenches generally did not reach the base of a post-medieval garden soil. Subsoil was apparently exposed in the base of Trench 1, but as there were no overlying remains of the road running north (no edge of metalling, no adjacent drainage ditch) it is possible that the exposed subsoil was upcast from the 1690 earthworks, sealing medieval levels below. The results of trench 4, which was partly cut to almost twice the depth of the other trenches, are unclear (01E0110, Ryan & Tierney 2001.)

When the site was redeveloped in 2007, the cut for a raft foundation was monitored. The cut was 0.5 to 0.7m deep and did not reach subsoil; a damaged layer of redeposited subsoil in the southeast corner of the site (beside Catherine Street) was probably the subfloor for a relatively recent building rather than the upcast bank from 1690 (07E0147, Lennon 2007.)

North-east corner turret incorporated into modern development

3.   STATEMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The extant walls of the town of Clonmel are a significant fragment of what was once a comprehensive system of fortifications. Their origins derive from the early Anglo-Norman settlement of the southeast of Ireland. Constructed and altered over several centuries from the 13th to the 17th, their utility for defensive purposes ended with the Williamite peace of the early 18th century. Since then they have decayed to the extent that only one-sixth of the circuit remains above ground. What remains visible now is an evocative reminder of what went before. Fortunately the upstanding section is mostly concentrated in an area which is contained by the graveyard of the medieval church, where there is quiet and greenery, with little modern intrusion and space to appreciate the inner face of the walls. In terms of the natural environment, they offer typical urban vegetation.

Clonmel Town Walls belong to a group of over 50 towns and cities in Ireland that had defensive walls built during the medieval period. They have a cultural significance of national importance. The significance of the extant walls can be summarised as follows:

a)   They represent an important physical documentation of the fortified town as it evolved from the medieval to the early modern period. The importance of the surviving structure is enhanced by the fact that physical evidence of that aspect of the town's existence is scarce.

b)   They are key elements of an historic quarter that retains a unique character on the periphery of the historic core. While recent developments have resulted in some erosion, the atmosphere of this part of the town, the sense of scale and enclosure, the openings into the green space of the churchyard, all create an urban quarter of quality and potential that is distinctive within the town. The walls have a major value as elements in the urban landscape.

c)   They enclose the churchyard of Old St. Mary's, which is a space of considerable quality and historic interest. The churchyard face of the wall has been elaborated with the installation of graveslabs and memorials. The adjacent areas of the churchyard retain an air of other-worldliness, a place apart from the activity of the town.

d)   The extant remains are survivals of fortifications that played an important part in Irish history in the 17th century. The successful defence of the town against the forces of Cromwell had an importance far exceeding that of the event and its immediate consequences: it became part of the folklore of resistance that was to help shape subsequent development towards independence. The successful resistance is still a source of immense local pride.

e)   The walls and the areas of the town from which the walls have disappeared comprise a significant archaeological resource into the future.

The survival of defensive systems and town walls is important to many European settlements, and their historic cores as defined by their walls continue to be recognized as key entities, and are considered a mark of the identity of those places. Particular planning provisions are made in recognition of their importance for the sense of place of their citizens, underpinning an awareness of continuity with the town's history.

In that respect the full extent of the circuit of the Clonmel Town Walls remains to be identified in the streetscape of the town, and the existence of the circuit (whether above ground or below) needs to be acknowledged through

supportive planning policies.

Historic towns and urban areas present themselves as layered documentation of the past. International charters and conventions have established the significance of such remains and the need for protection, presentation and integration into planning and urban design strategies. Of particular relevance are the ICOMOS Charter for the Protection of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington 1987), the ICOMOS Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage (Lausanne 1990), the Burra Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (1988-1999) and the Convention for the Protection of the European Architectural Heritage (Grenada 1985, ratified by Ireland in 1996).

4. VULNERABILITY OF THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CLONMEL TOWN WALLS

The town of Clonmel retains a centre of historic and architectural quality. However, the circuit of the walls no longer comprises a significant boundary of the town centre. This loss of the boundary marker has occurred over time. Progressive changes in the alignment of the quays, in demands for space close to the town core, in reconstruction of decayed areas, and latterly, in the interests of urban renewal, have all contributed to the displacement of the standing remains as elements of the town's character. Sometimes incorporated into later developments, more often removed as obstructions, their loss reflected an historic lack of appreciation of the importance of the physical remains, even as their symbolic importance continued to be a factor in local consciousness.

The significance of Clonmel Town Walls is vulnerable in the following ways:

a) The fragmentary nature of extant remains

The most coherent stretch of the walls forms the north and west boundary of the churchyard of Old St. Mary's. While this segment of wall is recognised as contributing to the quality of this historic space, its relationship to the former circuit of the town is not at all apparent. It is small in relation to the extent of the former circuit and not seen to relate to other fragments or even to the reconstructed West Gate nearby.

b) Uncertainty about location and hidden elements

Consideration of the extant physical fabric of the walls, undertaken as part of this study, has raised some questions concerning the precise alignment of the northern stretch of the walls and about the phases of construction. In addition, from time to time, in the course of various investigations, sections of below-ground wall have been revealed. As yet it is not possible to form an entirely coherent and definitive picture of the wall as a whole. There is little doubt that additional physical evidence still exists, hidden within later fabric and below ground.

c) Lack of knowledge, awareness and understanding

Given the progressive displacement of most of the circuit, public awareness of the circuit as a whole and of the possible existence of the wall below ground in specific locations remains underdeveloped. It is also the case that public concern for the conservation of such remains is a fairly recent phenomenon. No doubt, in some minds, such survivals are a problem to be concealed and removed. There is a task here to be addressed: public support is a vital ingredient in introducing such urban conservation measures as will be necessary in any policy framework directed towards protecting remains and creating greater legibility of the walled circuit. An indicator of the lack of understanding is the fact that in the the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008 in the archaeology section, there is no mention of the town walls. More significantly, neither are they shown on the map indicating the key development sites in the central area of the town (see Appendix 2).

d) Physical deterioration of the extant fabric

Repair measures have been taken from time to time to arrest the deterioration of the fabric of the extant walls. The Borough Council has recently completed a stone repair project on the West Gate. However, it is clear that

additional work is required. As set out elsewhere in this document, parts of the walls display loss of mortar, extensive and damaging vegetation growth and loose masonry. Some repairs/reconstructions carried out in the mid-twentieth century are problematic and, while not immediately at risk, may have to be attended to in the longer term. A phased programme of repair needs to be put in place. Some antisocial behaviour is affecting the fabric of the upstanding walls and their immediate environment.

e) Location and access

As pointed out earlier, the major stretches of surviving walls are somewhat remote from the main streets of the town. Only a small stretch is visible from a public thoroughfare. The major section forms the west and north boundaries of Old St. Mary's churchyard. Although most of the west range is accessible to the public from two sides, the churchyard is removed from the town centre and is not a public space in frequent use, while the other access is via a cul-de-sac, otherwise giving access to private houses.

There has been serious anti-social behaviour in the churchyard in the past. In more recent times, due to vigilance on behalf of the church and the prompt response of the gardaí, this problem has been much reduced. Antisocial behaviour threatens the significance of the walls in three ways:

· damage to the fabric – graffiti, dislodged stone, scratched stonework, broken headstones

· the reluctance of the townspeople and their families to fully enjoy the amenity of the walls in the presence of such behaviour

· the potential of access being restricted with the gates being locked for longer periods in order to control such behaviour

f) Dispersed ownership

With regard to the extant walls, the contrast between the inner face and the outer is marked. The inner face is to the churchyard and visible along its length. One section of the outer face is visible from a public space, namely a carpark off Gordon Place. The remainder of the outer face comprises the boundary of many private properties. In the case of sections that are no longer standing, the putative lines of the wall impinge on very many properties, institutional, commercial and residential.

Summary

The significance of Clonmel Town Walls arises from the fact that they document an important aspect of the town's history; that they are fragments of a much greater circuit that has largely disappeared; that they characterise an urban area of genuine quality and potential; and that they represent a key element of local identity and consciousness.

The vulnerability of the significance of Clonmel Town Walls arises from a range of factors:

· the fragmentary nature of the extant remains

· uncertainty about precise location and the existence of hidden elements

· lack of knowledge, awareness and understanding

· the physical deterioration of the extant fabric

· the peripherality of location

· circumstances of access and dispersed ownership.

It will be necessary to establish a shared vision for the future of the walls, an integrated planning and urban design strategy that encompasses conservation of the remains, protection of archaeological potential and presentation of the monument. The contention of this Plan is that there is considerable potential to enhance the role of the extant remains within the town for the enjoyment of citizens and visitors alike.

5 POLICIES

The overall policy aims for the Clonmel Town Walls can be summarised as follows:

The historical significance of Clonmel Town Walls will be acknowledged and the primary objective of any intervention will be the conservation and repair of the monument in its present state and its present setting.

The central aim of the policies set out in this Conservation Plan is to acknowledge the historical significance of Clonmel Town Walls and to protect the extant remains of the town walls above ground through establishing an integrated, supportive framework that encompasses architectural conservation, planning and urban design measures, and that addresses development issues within and around the perimeter of the historic walls circuit. The walls will be regarded as a composite whole with buried and upstanding remains protected and enhanced by measures adopted in the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008.

Measures will be put in place for an improved understanding and awareness and for enhanced access.

Achieving that aim has the following elements:
- Formulating a clear vision for the future of the walls
- Establishing a comprehensive programme of repair and maintenance
- Ensuring the protection of archaeological potential around the historic perimeter
- Adopting integrated measures for the presentation of the monument
- Exploiting the potential of the extant walls to enhance enjoyment of the public realm of the town by adopting integrated measures to increase knowledge and awareness

Policy A   Formulate a vision for the future of the walls

A1   Create an integrated strategy for the future of the formerly enclosed historic heart of the town, and for the protection and setting of surviving structural and archaeological remains of the town walls that once enclosed it, providing them both with a strong and consistent identity. This policy should be a key element of the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008 objectives.

A2   Ensure that Clonmel Borough Council actively undertakes the overall guardianship and care of the surviving sections of the monument, as a civic amenity of cultural and historic significance, and that it actively seeks to continue to protect its associated archaeological resource.

Policy B   Establish a comprehensive programme of repair and maintenance

The conservation works are shown on the Gazeteer and in Appendix 1.

(Note: A full schedule of works cannot be prepared until the vegetation is cleared and the condition assessed)

B1   Ensure that all conservation and repair work is carried out with reference to the principles outlined in the ICOMOS Venice, Lausanne and Burra Charters, adopting minimum intervention as a guiding principle, and ruling out any conjectural restoration.

B2   Ensure that all conservation works are carried out by suitably experienced personnel under the supervision of an appropriately accredited conservation architect.

B3   Ensure that conservation work retains historical interventions and additions to fabric where these do not compromise the integrity of the monument.

B4   Ensure that all works undertaken are informed by a clear understanding of the monument, are preceded by

appropriate investigations and are appropriately recorded.

B5   Develop an ongoing programme for structural maintenance and repair as detailed below.

B6   Develop a regimen for the regular monitoring of all sections, especially those not open to casual scrutiny and screened access.

B7   Liaise with rector of Old St. Mary's Church regarding the graves, headstones and condition of trees.

B8   Liaise with other adjoining owners re: access, state of repair and the condition of trees and vegetation on their properties.

B9   Carry out an inventory of flora and fauna and a bat survey of the towers.

Policy C   Protect archaeological potential around the historic perimeter

The survival of defensive systems and town walls is important to many European settlements, and their historic cores continue to be recognised as key entities and are considered a mark of the identity of those places. Particular planning provisions are made in recognition of their importance for the sense of place of their citizens, underpinning a sense of continuity with the town's history.

In that respect the circuit of the Clonmel Town Walls remains to be identified in the streetscape of the town and the walls' existence acknowledged through supportive planning policies.

C1   Ensure that works in the vicinity of the historic perimeter are carried out in compliance with statutory requirements for the protection of monuments and associated archaeological remains.

C2   Ensure that works in the vicinity of the circuit that entail disturbance to the ground are carried out under archaeological supervision.

C3   Ensure that any below-ground remains uncovered are conserved *in situ*, that their location and composition is adequately recorded and that appropriate measures are taken to ensure public knowledge of their presence.

C4   Encourage research in relation to the walled circuit and historic core of the town and support presentation of the outcomes through publication and exhibition.

**Policy D   Adopt integrated measures for the protection and presentation of the monument**

Within the context of the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008 for the town, prepare a focused strategic plan for enhancing the physical and visual identity of the historic town with a realistic, phased implementation measures and timetables.

The strategic plan will:

D1   Protect views and prospects of the outstanding remains.

D2   Set out guidelines for developments taking place in the vicinity of the walled circuit which will encourage appropriate alignment of new building.

D3   Discourage bridging of the buried remains by new developments.

D4   Incorporate, where possible, the alignment of the walls within the design and finishes of new buildings, especially those to which the public have access. Where this is done, it will be marked by a designed, standard information marker showing the town wall logo and the location on a key plan.

Proposed Protected Views   Policy D1
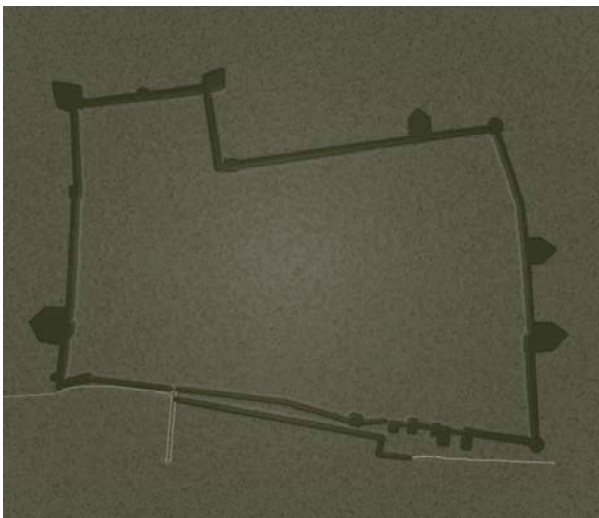
Proposed bronze Clonmel logo based on Goubet map

Dublin City Wall street marker

Proposed Clonmel marker

Proposed town wall logo and markers   Policy D4

D5   Ensure that all maps and documents in the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2008 and all maps of services issued by the local authority and service providers will incorporate the line of the town wall circuit above and below ground.

D6   Maintain narrowing of the streets at the points of the historic gates.

D7   Designate an Area of Special Planning Control as the appropriate planning mechanism for determining future change to the urban environment within the perimeter of the historic town wall circuit.

D8   Consider the preparation of an Area Action Plan for the northern and western ranges where conservation action is required in relation to the physical integrity of the wall and the land uses in its vicinity. The Plan will establish development criteria for properties in the immediate vicinity of these sections of the wall.

Policy E   Exploit the potential of the extant walls to enhance enjoyment of the public realm of the town by adopting integrated measures to increase knowledge and awareness and to aid the presentation of the monument

Access to the internal face of the town walls is from Old St Mary's churchyard. At present, the churchyard is accessible on weekdays from 7.30am to approximately 7pm. The Anne Street entrance is open from 9.30am - 4.30pm approximately on weekdays. This provides a most pleasant through-route for townspeople.
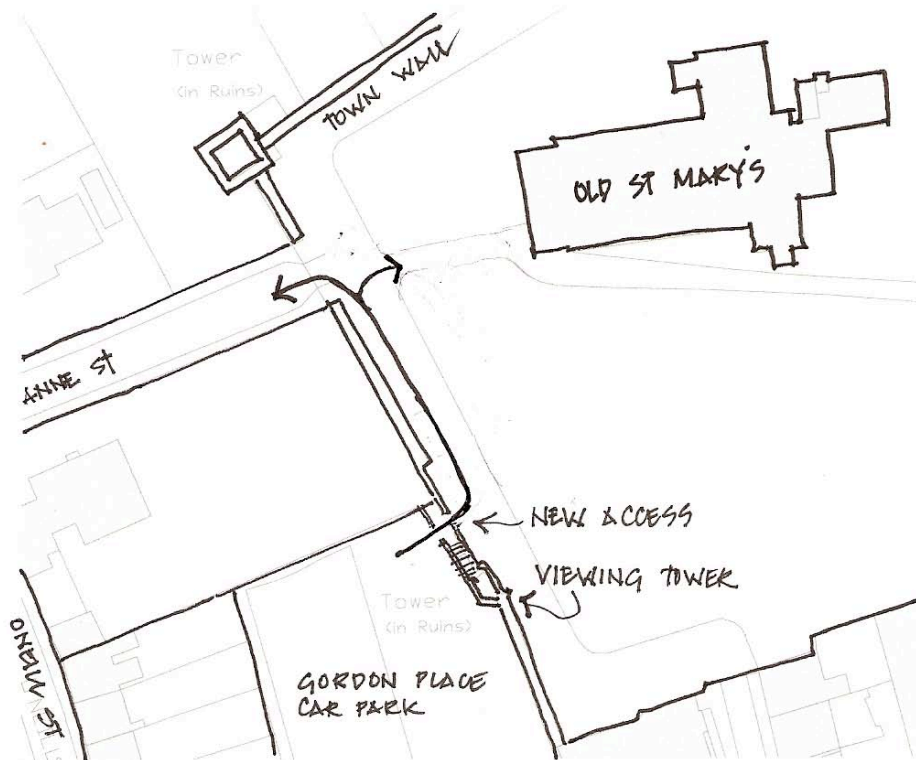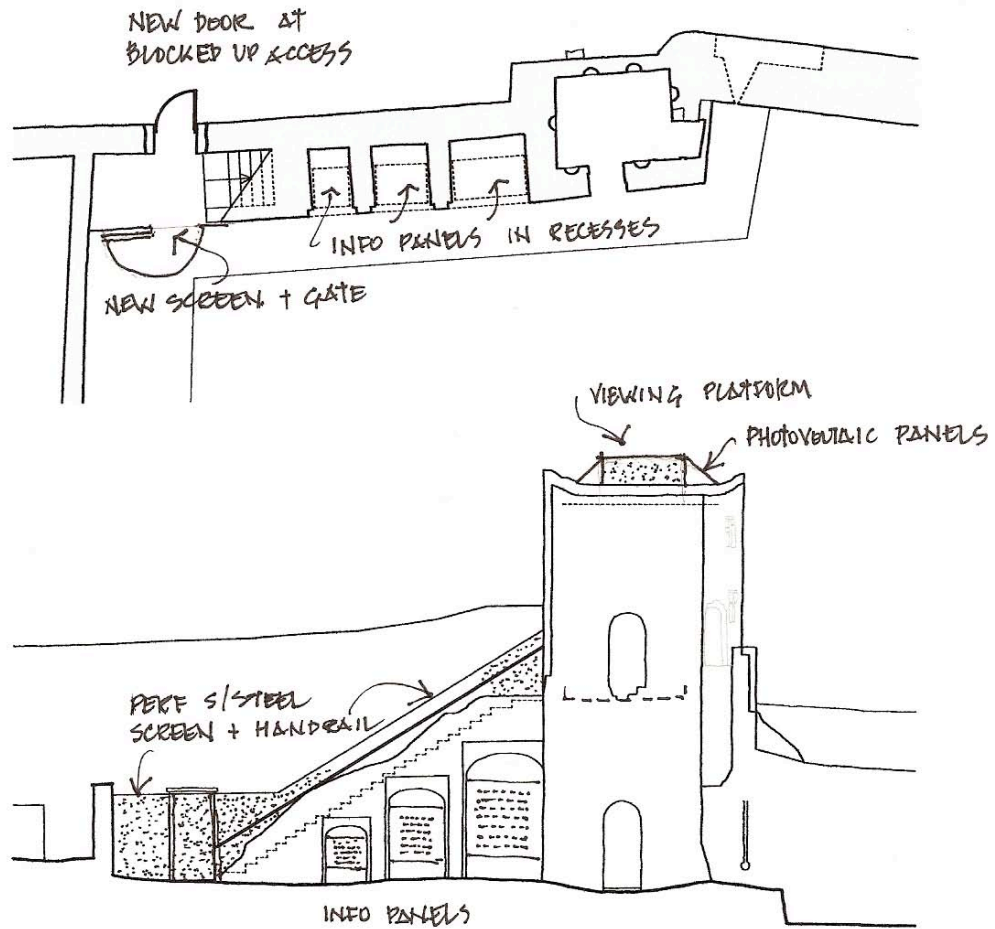
There is access to most of the external west face from the Gordon Place carpark. Access to the remainder of the west face and the north face is not possible, as private gardens adjoin the wall.

In consideration of access to the wallwalks, the visual impact of necessary safety measures, taken in conjunction with intermittent nuisance experienced by adjoining owners, has been taken into account. Public access to the wallwalks is not recommended.

E1   Consider the possible adaptation of the western intermediate tower as a public amenity and liaise with the Rector and Vestry of Old St. Mary's Church in connection with this. It is proposed that this tower be used as a viewing tower accessed from the car park. The use of this tower has a number of benefits:

- It does not infringe on the privacy of the adjoining owners.
- The tower itself has undergone many alterations since its construction, having been adapted in the early 19th century for use as a garden house.
- Its integrity is not compromised.

It is proposed that the external stairway be put into repair and protective railings at ground level, to stairs and at roof level be provided. The ground and intermediate floors have the potential to be used as a small exhibition area. A forged iron handrail and repairs would allow the mural stairs to be used by active members of the public in controlled numbers. Design and install permanent weatherproof display panels in the recesses under the external stairway.

E2   Consider the re-opening of an old gateway, probably 19th-century, to allow access on a controlled basis to the churchyard and interior of the walls. This also overcomes the access problem from Gordon Place car-park to Anne Street, O'Neill Street and other areas outside the wall.

E3   Create an archive of all material collected in relation to the town walls and particularly the records of archaeological excavation. Maintain and update the archive with targeted excavations in relation to new developments.

NEW DOOR AT
BLOCKED UP ACCESS

INFO PANELS IN RECESSES

NEW SCREEN + GATE

VIEWING PLATFORM

PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS

PERF S/STEEL
SCREEN + HANDRAIL

INFO PANELS

Tower
(in Ruins)

TOWN WALL

OLD ST MARY'S

ANNE ST

ST MARY ST

NEW ACCESS

VIEWING TOWER

Tower
(in Ruins)

GORDON PLACE
CAR PARK

Sketch to illustrate access proposal to west intermediate tower   **Policy E1**

E4   Prepare interpretative material for the walled town circuit to include historical information and links to key buildings within the town .

E5   Design an exhibition on the town walls for a display within the town. The interpretative material within this document could form the basis of an exhibition. Liaise with the museum, the county and town libraries, Fáilte Ireland and the rector of Old St Mary's to establish a venue or a rota of venues.

E6   Develop information panels at suitable locations around the perimeter and in conjunction with presented sections. A consistent graphic design should be adopted with regard to signage, information panels, publications, leaflets and maps.

E7   Mark the 'gateways' and wall crossing points by inserting a designed stone band into the street surface. Mark the known position of lost or hidden sections of the wall wherever the opportunity arises.

E8   Create a dedicated section on Clonmel Borough Council website where information on the town walls is accessible directly or via links to appropriate websites.

E9   Liaise with rector of Old St Mary's re existing database on the burials in the churchyard and publicising this in conjunction with the walls material.

E10   Consider the use of photo-voltaic cells at tower rooftop levels to light exhibition material and to provide possible floodlighting to the walls in a sustainable manner. The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is currently preparing floodlighting guidelines.

E11   Design a simply landscaped area between carpark and walls at Gordon Place using appropriate materials such as mesh-reinforced grassed paths, suitable for universal access. Consider the use of wild-flower meadow elsewhere in car-park to be mown twice a year.

E12   Engage in active liaison with local interest groups, the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Heritage Council, the National Museum of Ireland, Irish Walled Towns Network and the international Walled Towns Friendship Circle.

E13   Engage with schools in the area and encourage school projects and participation in such as the flora and fauna inventory.

Views looking southwest and north from intermediate west tower, the proposed viewing point

Policy E1
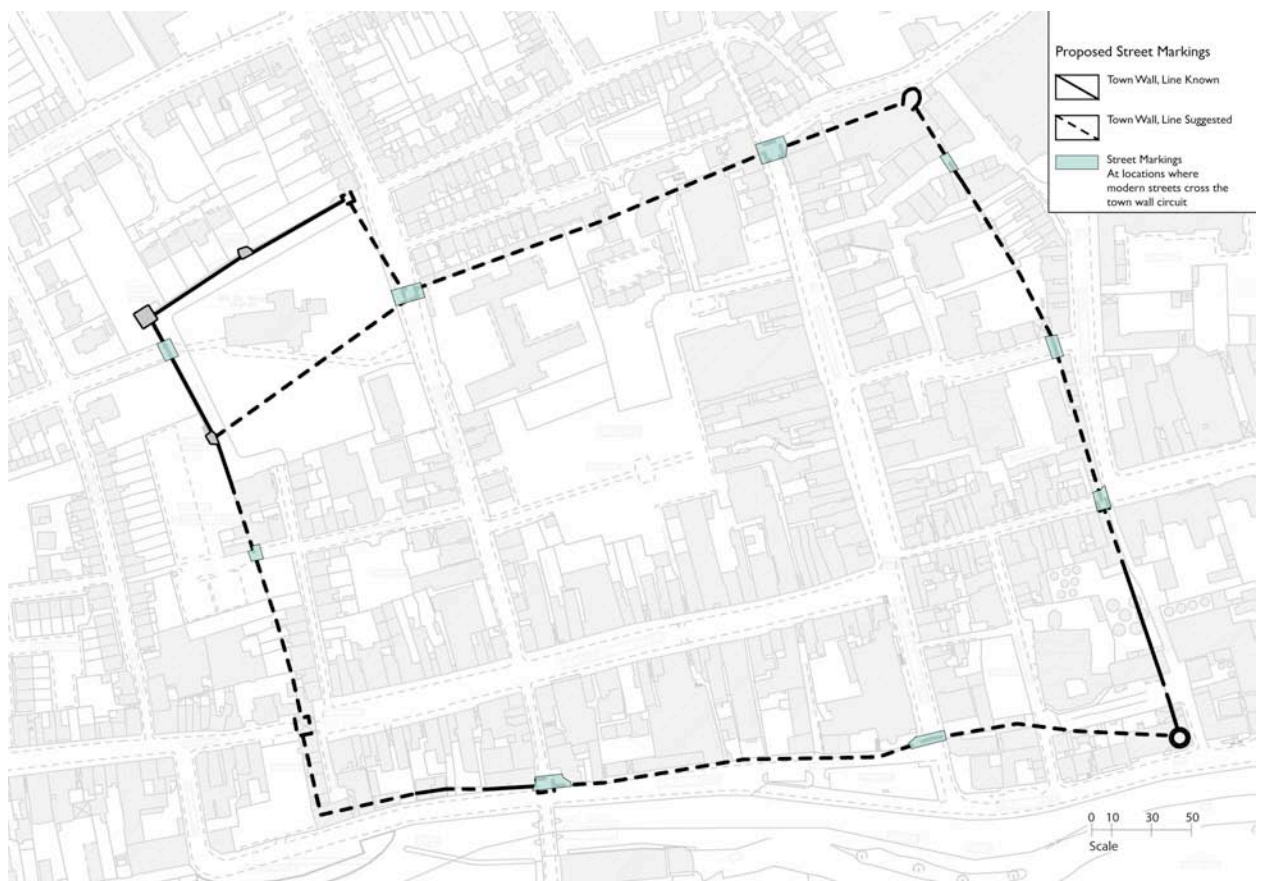
Proposed location of markers in streets to indicate crossing points of old walled town

Policy E7

6   IMPLEMENTATION

a) Adoption

The overriding priority is for Clonmel Borough Council to adopt the Conservation and Management Plan and its recommendations.

b) Consultation with adjoining owners

Consult with adjoining owners and the rector of Old St. Mary's about the conservation, repair and maintenance of the walls and gravestones, access proposals and opening times.

c) Repairs

Provide an annual budget and implement the recommendations on priority repairs. Assess the condition of concealed masonry as a priority. Carry out inventory of flora and fauna.

d) Maintenance

Provide an annual budget for maintenance. Arrange for regular inspections, Create a dossier in which a copy of this Plan, together with all relevant information is held.

e) Digital map of walls

A digital map of the town walls, both upstanding and buried, has been provided. This is to be incorporated into the local authority's Map Info GIS. Clonmel Borough Council should ensure all service providers have information on the walled circuit.

f) Review of Conservation Management Plan

Carry out a quinquennial review of the Conservation and Management Plan.
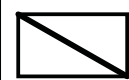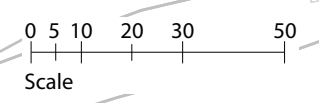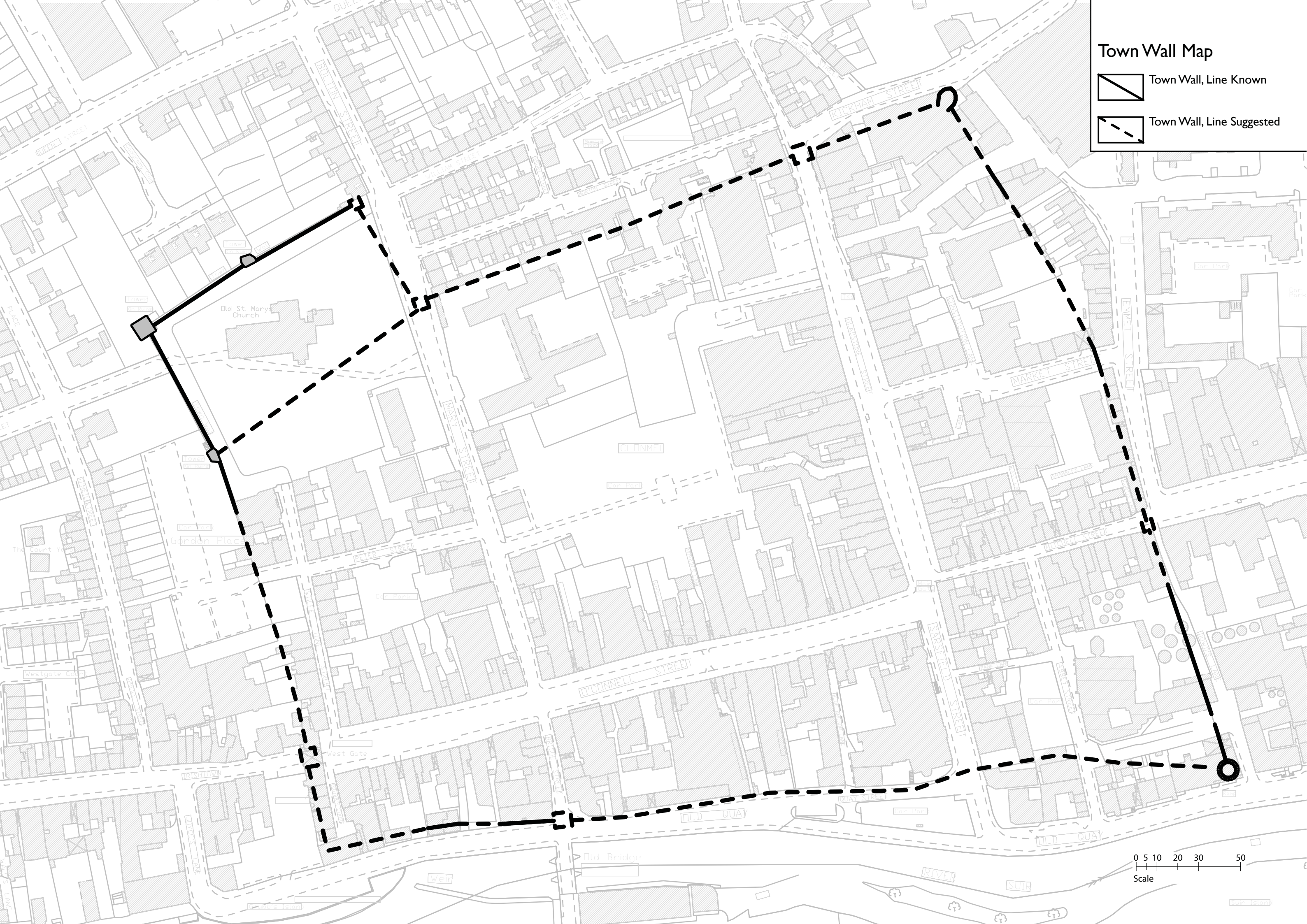
g) Presentation

Provide for exhibition and visitor guide material and signage in the town directing visitors to the walls.

GAZETEER

Upstanding remains at St Mary's Churchyard

Town Wall Map

Town Wall, Line Known

Town Wall, Line Suggested

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 1 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Montini, Queen Street to North.
Railings to base of tower to control access. Lean- to structures on the outer wall of the tower. This area was formerly stabling for CIE draught horses

CONDITION:

The tower is in need of structural repair. Strong growth of ivy + other vegetation causing further damage. Opes + walled tops appear to be unstable. Wall top to east in poor repair. Flight of rough stone steps to wall walk access in poor repair.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry after removal + repair as necessary. Repair window openings on north side. Flaunch all wall tops and replace eaves stones on top of tower walls. Remove plaster from south wall of tower. Fit grilles to access openings + mesh to window openings.
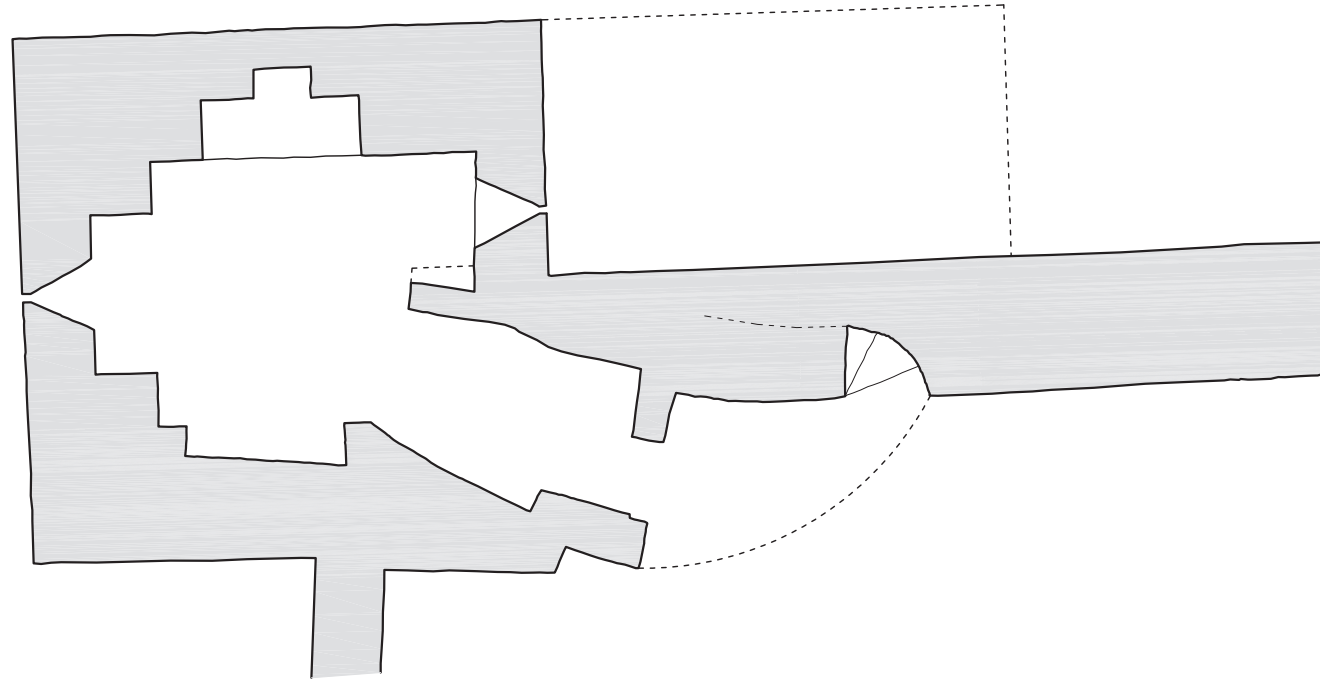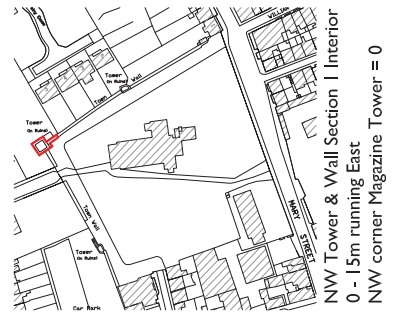
PRIORITY:

Urgent: Clip back ivy to assess condition. Treat, remove + repair masonry, including wall-tops and openings.

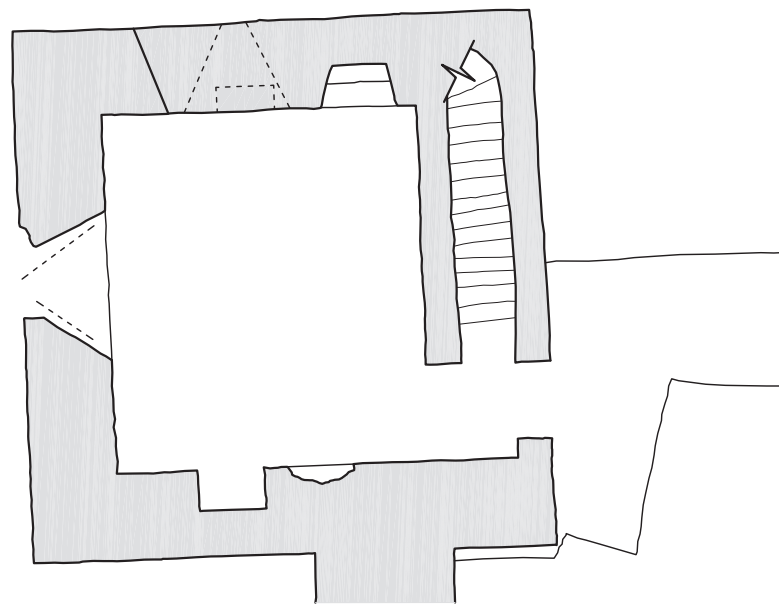**Medium-term:** Removal of plaster from demolished lean-to.

OTHER:

The adjoining owners have experienced serious antisocial behaviour including stones being pushed off the wall top into their property. The gated access to the rear of the Queen Street property is in daily use by the owners.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

0   5   10   15

ELEVATION 1:100 (vegitation shown in green)

0   5   10   15

UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 2 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Nos 3,4,5 Coolgreaney Close to North.
Length of solid wall from tower to vaulted section.
Burials within arches. Limestone string course over
arch @ 50m and plaster to intrados.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable structural condition.
Repaired mid 20c when stone was wrongly
bedded in patch repairs and along parapet.
Cement-based strap pointing was used.
Vegetation starting to reestablish on wall walk.
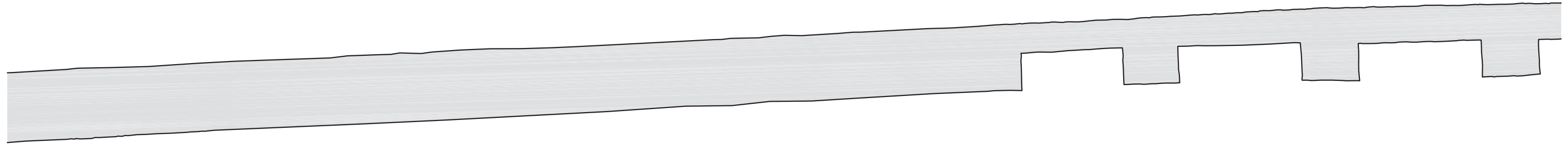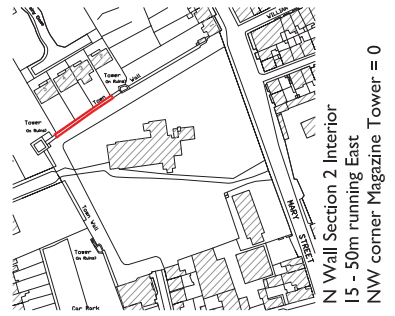
ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard
for access for repair, treatment and removal of
vegetation and repair of graves close to wall.
Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation
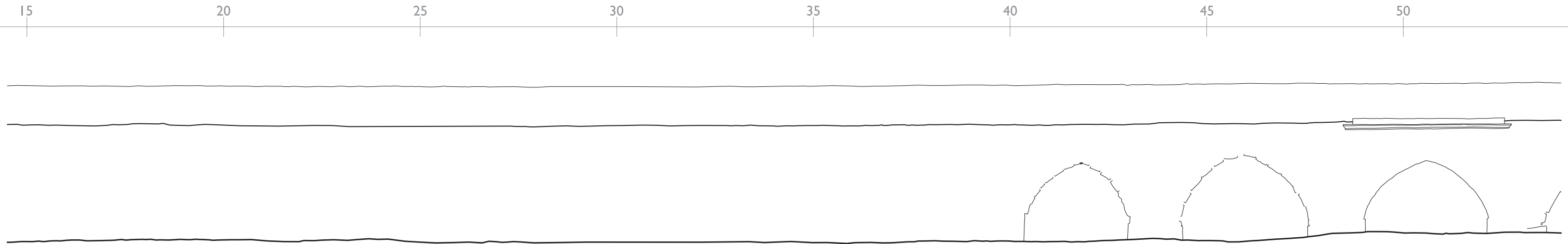is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing
stones.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition.
Treat and remove. Repair masonry, including wall-tops.
Point empty joints.

Medium-term: Remove cement-based strap
pointing + repoint.

OTHER:

Some graves and headstones close to walls
have been damaged with loose stone lying on
ground. Generally, headstones and kerbs should
be reset to reestablish the dignity of the place.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

15   20   25   30   35   40   45   50

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
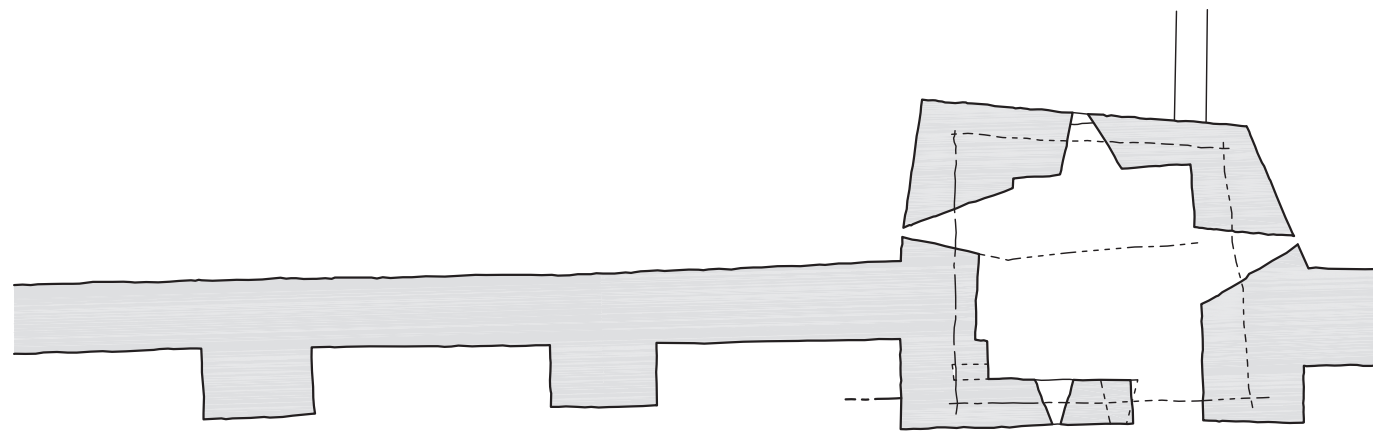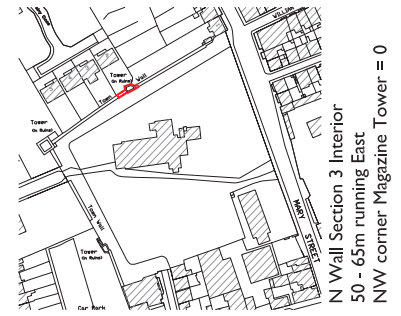See Gazeteer Section 3 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Nos 2 Coolgreaney Close and 1 Bolton Street to North.
Vaulted length of wall with tower accessed from ground and from wall walk. Burials within arches.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable structural condition. Repaired mid 20c when stone was wrongly bedded in patch repairs and along parapet. Cement-based strap pointing was used. Limestone treads inserted on steps to top level tower. Vegetation starting to reestablish on wall walk, steps and top of tower. Tower needs pointing.. East face of tower has extensive ivy growth
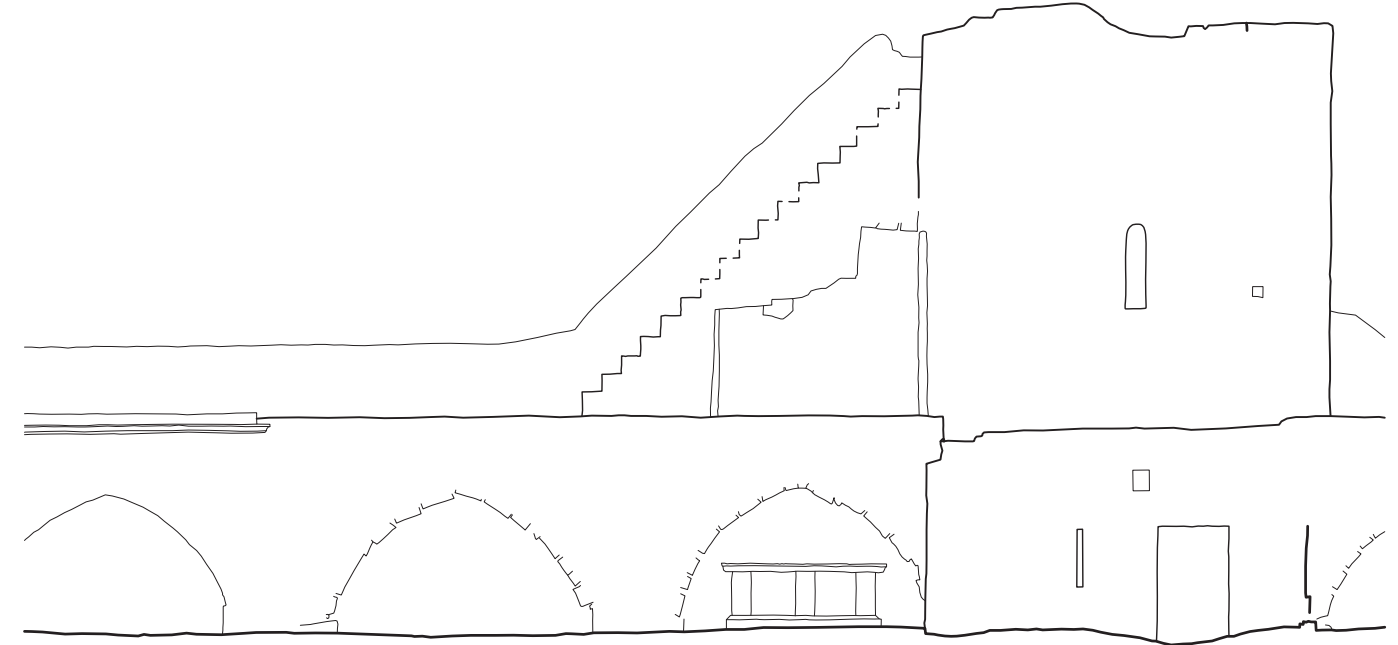
ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment /removal of vegetation/ repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing stones. Fit opening/lockable access grilles.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess wall condition. Treat and remove. Repair masonry, including wall-tops. Flaunch top tower, Point empty joints.

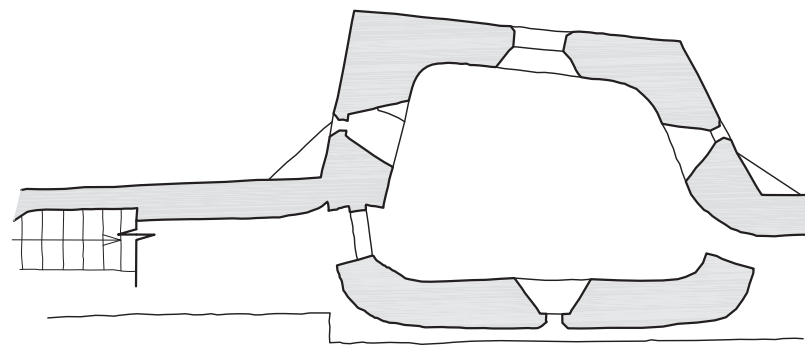**Medium-term:** Remove cement-based strap pointing + repoint.

OTHER:

Some graves and headstones close to walls have been damaged with loose stone lying on ground. Generally, headstones and kerbs should be reset to reestablish the dignity of the place.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 50 | 55 | 60 | 65 |

ELEVATION 1:100

| 50 | 55 | 60 | 65 |

UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
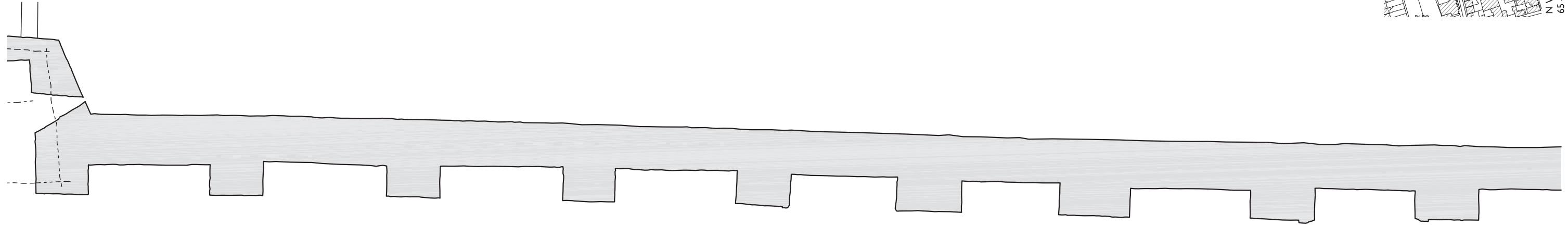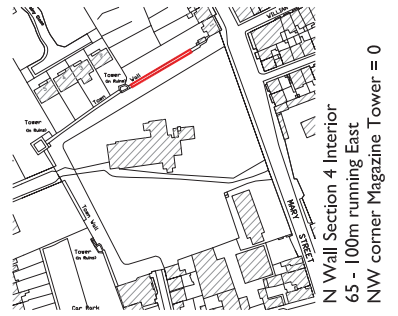See Gazeteer Section 4 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
No 1 Bolton St to North.
Length of vaulted wall. Burials within arches. One bay rendered with limestone pediment and box tomb to front @ 85m. Another with decorative render on intrados @ 100m.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable structural condition. Repaired mid 20c when stone was wrongly bedded in patch repairs and in totally rebuilt parapet. Cement-based strap pointing was used. Vegetation starting to reestablish. Empty joints.
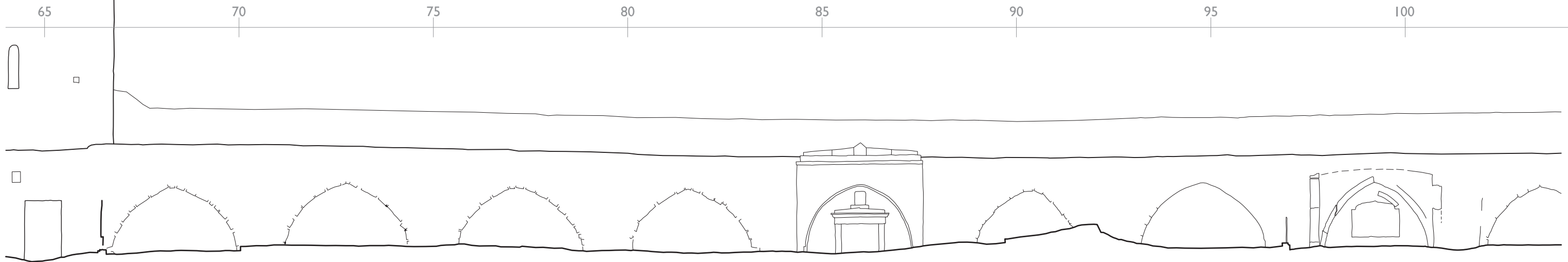
ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing stones.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition. Treat and remove vegetation. Repair masonry, including wall-tops. Point empty joints.

Medium-term: Remove cement-based strap pointing + repoint.

OTHER:

Tree stump @ 92m should be removed. Some graves and headstones close to walls have been damaged with loose stone lying on ground. Generally, headstones and kerbs should be reset to reestablish the dignity of the place.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 65 | 70 | 75 | 80 | 85 | 90 | 95 | 100 |

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3

See Gazeteer Section 5 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
No 1 Bolton St to North.
Length of vaulted wall. End bay sheared off. Burials within arches. One bay rendered with pediment @ 113m. Trace of tower/bastion in adjoining garden. Wall rebuilt at Bolton St end at change of direction.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable structural condition. Repaired mid 20c when stone was wrongly bedded in patch repairs and in totally rebuilt parapet. Cement-based strap pointing was used. Vegetation starting to reestablish. Empty joints.

ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing stones.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition. Treat and remove vegetation. Repair masonry, including wall-tops. Point empty joints.

Medium-term: Remove cement-based strap pointing + repoint.

OTHER:

Some graves and headstones close to walls have been damaged with loose stone lying on ground. Generally, headstones and kerbs should be reset to reestablish the dignity of the place.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

100	105	110	115	120	125

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 6 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Montini, Queen Street to North and West.
Old St Mary's churchyard to East and South.
Length of vaulted wall from NW tower. Burials within arches. Straight joints in wall @13m.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable condition. The wall top has loose masonry with strong growth of vegetation. Empty joints.

ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing stones.
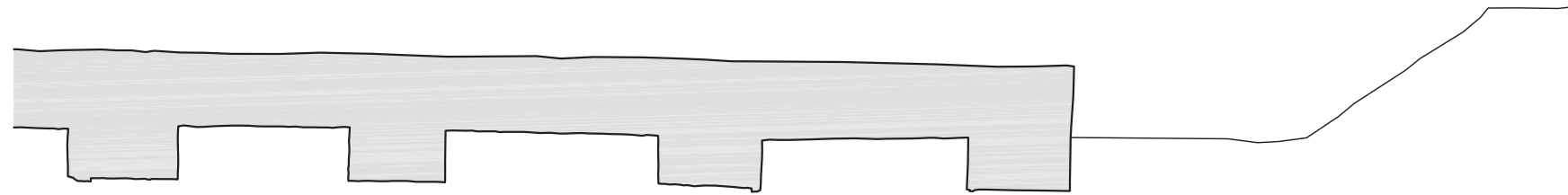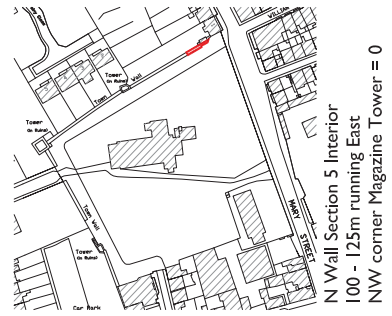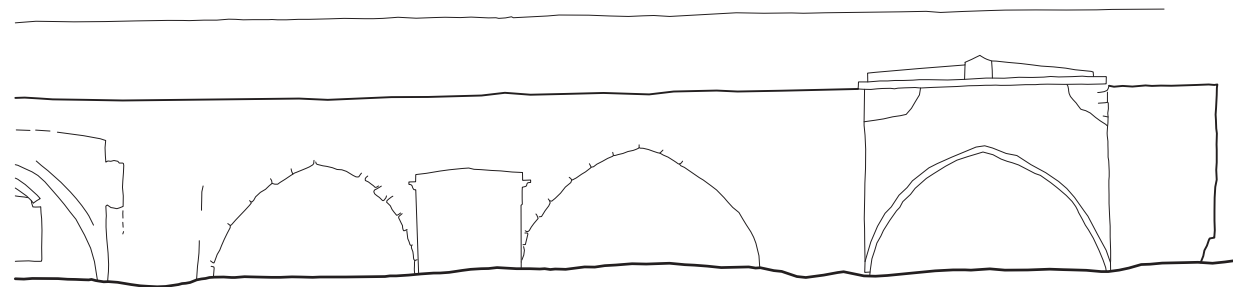
PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition. Treat and remove vegetation. Repair masonry, including wall-tops. Point empty joints.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Some loose stone lying on ground.
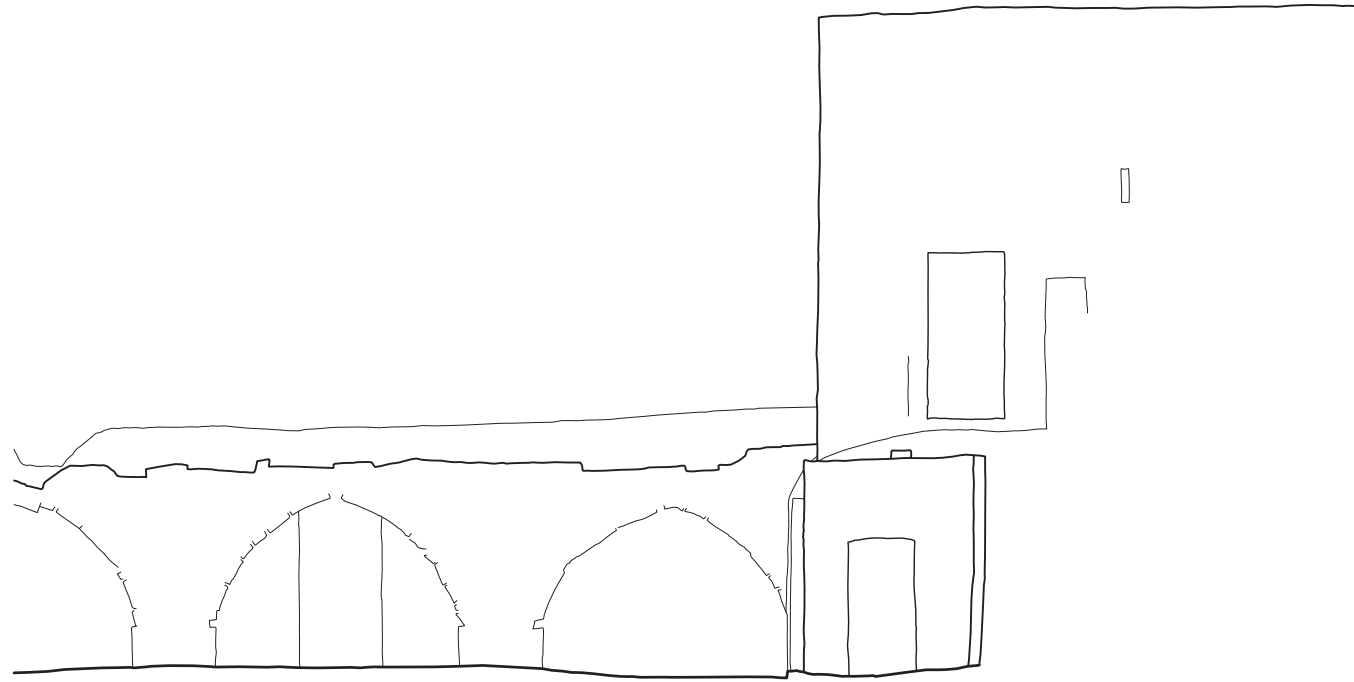
ELEVATION 1:100

15　　10　　5　　0

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

15　　10　　5　　0

UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 7 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Anne Street and Myrtle Lodge to West.
Length of vaulted wall from NW tower. 19th c
entrance @ 18m – 28m with limestone piers and
railings. Arch @ 18m sheared off with support wall
built. Burials within arches.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable condition. Repair
work in places within last 10 years. The wall
top has loose masonry with strong growth
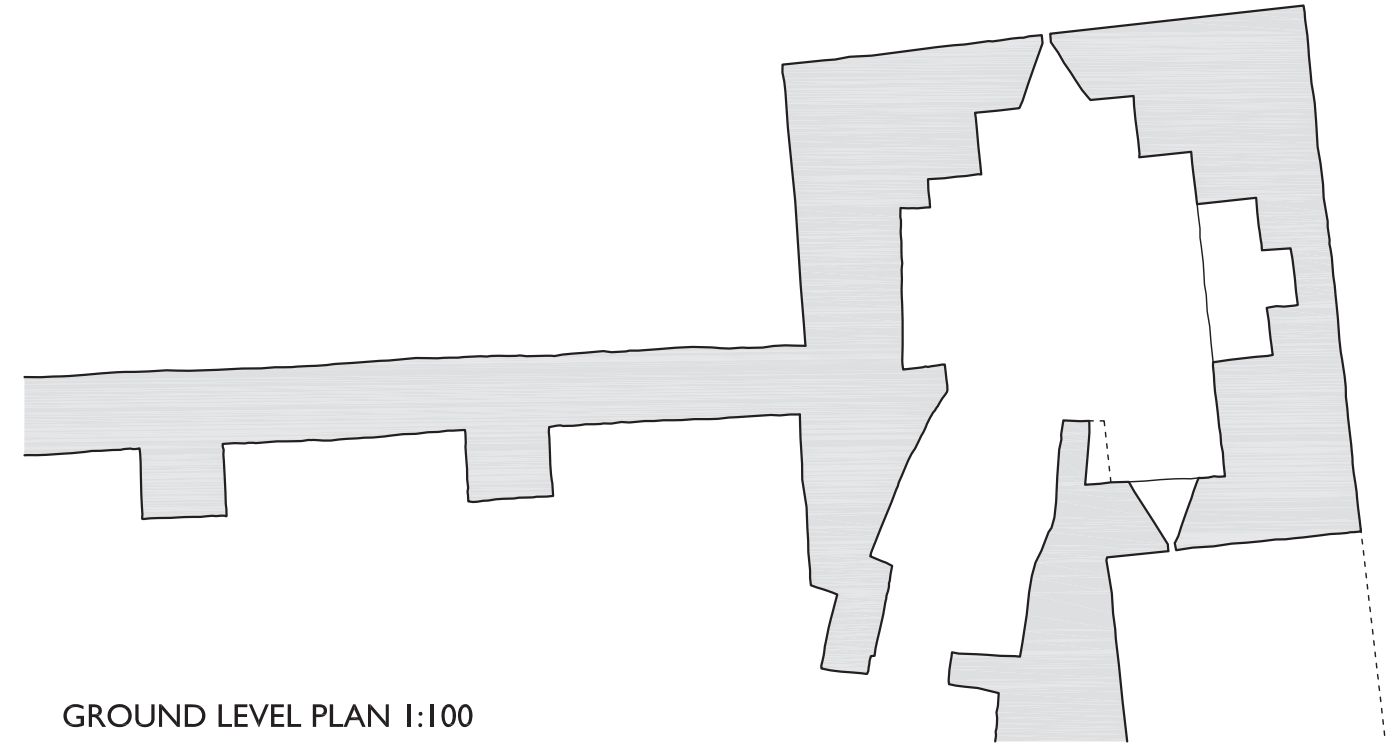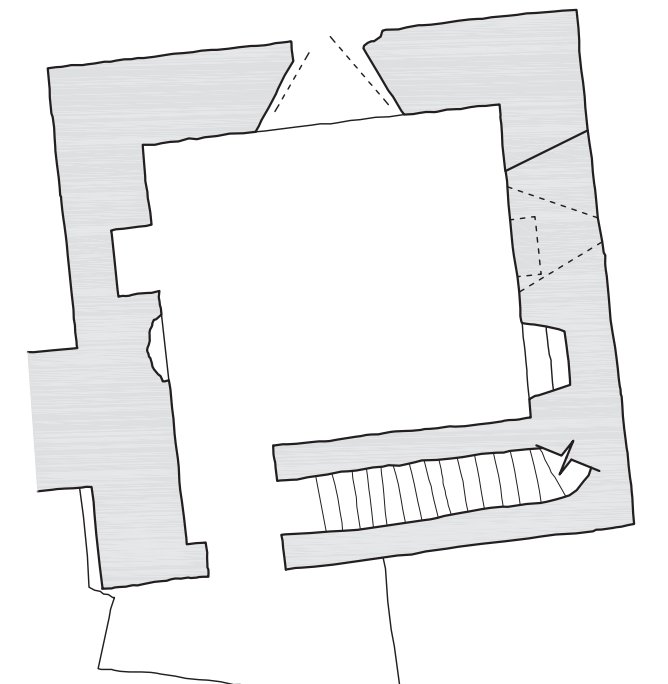of vegetation. Capstone on pier unstable

ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for
access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation
and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition
of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as
necessary. Rebed stones on wall top + flaunch.. Repair
capstone

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair masonry,
including wall-tops. Point where necessary. Repair capstone

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed
urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Arch @ 40m with fine granite headstone
+ moulded intrados with limestone ashlar
behind. Some surviving render on other
bays.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 50 | 45 | 40 | 35 | 30 | 25 | 20 | 15 |

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 8 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Myrtle Lodge and part Gordon Place car park to West.
Length of vaulted wall without parapet to 55m. Length of higher wall with traces of original parapet height from 55m with vaults sheared off. Traces of door/gate ope @ 62m

CONDITION:

The wall is in fairly good condition. Repair/repointing to higher section within last 10 years. Vegetation is becoming reestablished along historic construction joints – wall walk + original parapet level.
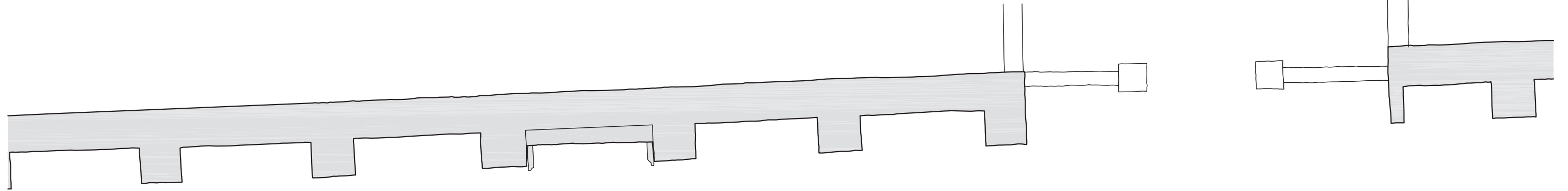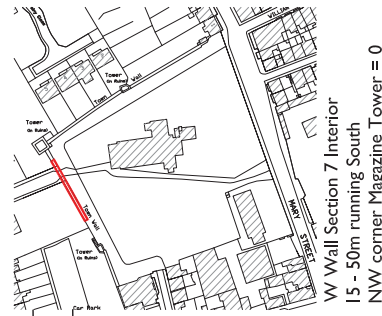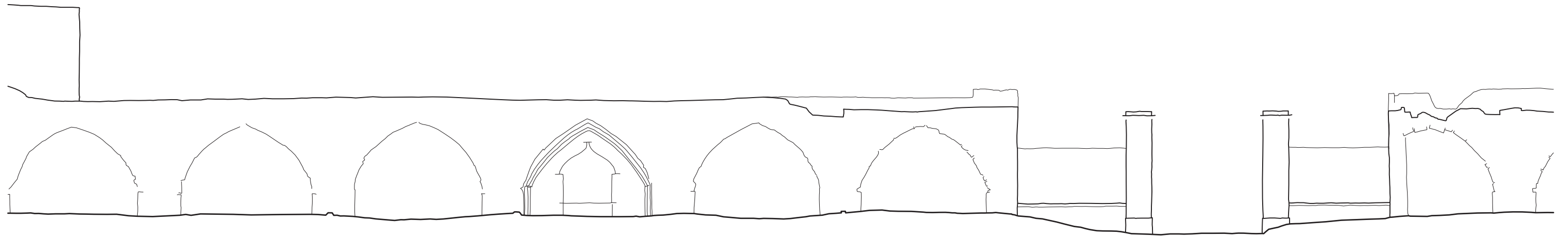
ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair mortar where necessary.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Length of wall with traces of original parapet survives 55m to west tower. Traces of merlins visible. Ht over original parapet raised probably 19th c .- vaults probably robbed to increase original height over.
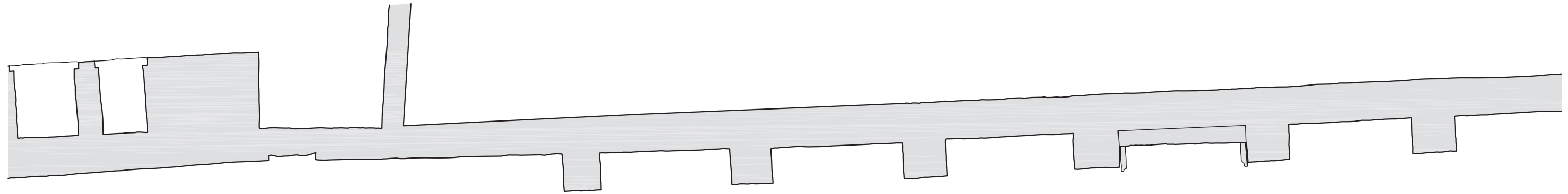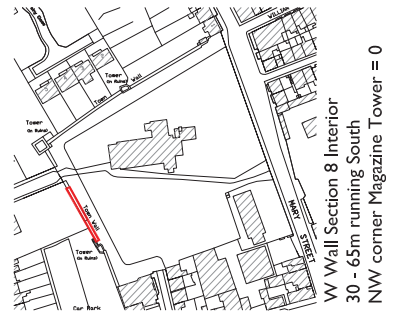
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

65   60   55   50   45   40   35   30
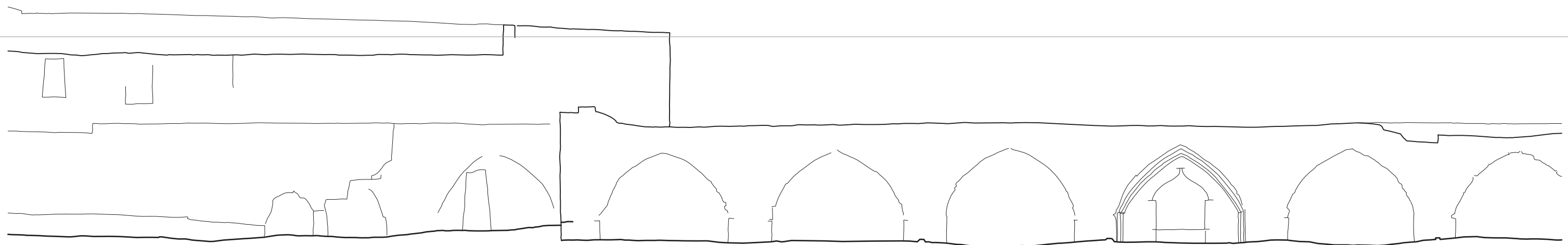
ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 9 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Gordon Place car park to West.
West intermediate tower and walls. Vault sheared off at north corner of tower. Water stone survives.

CONDITION:

The wall is in fairly good condition. Repair/repointing to higher section within last 10 years. Vegetation is becoming reestablished in places. Wall tops of tower has loose masonry.

ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair mortar where necessary.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Tower marks change of direction and probably the northern limit of original circuit.
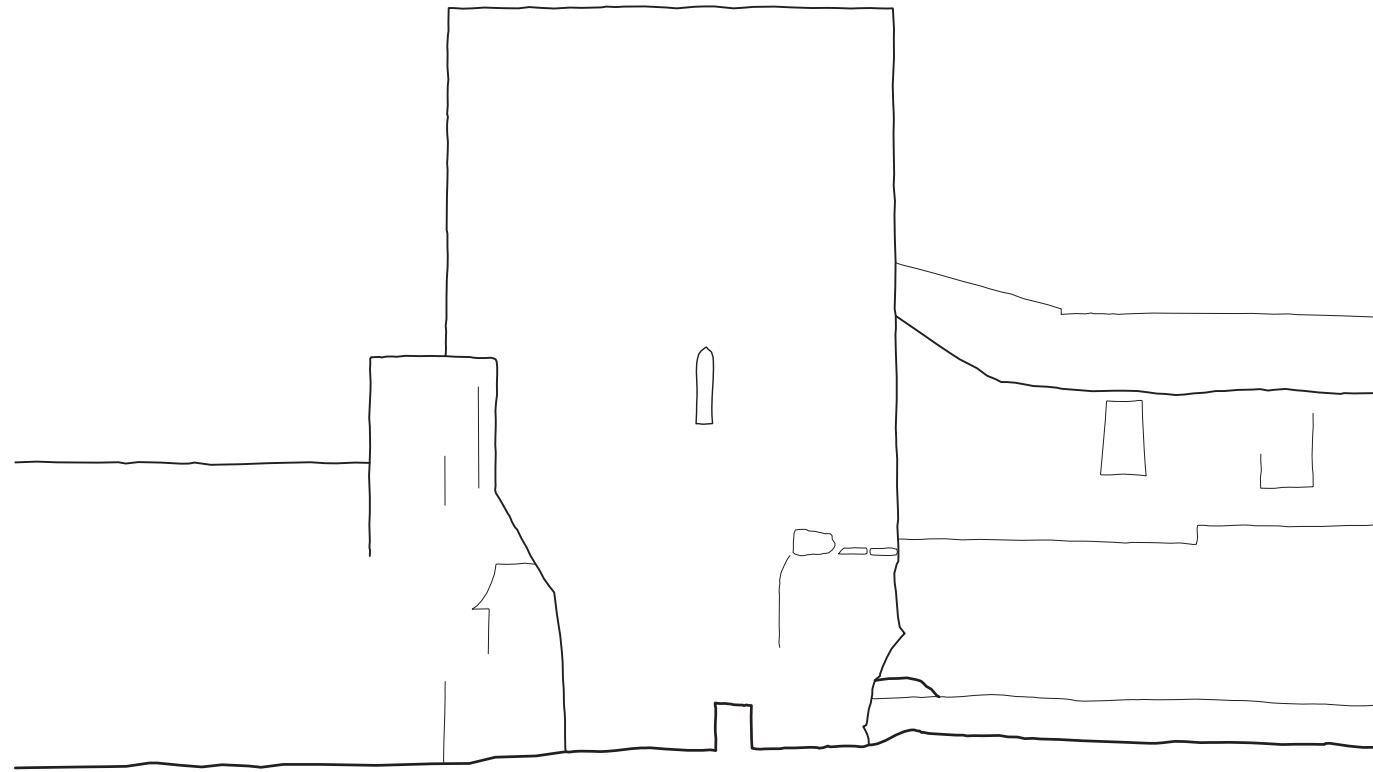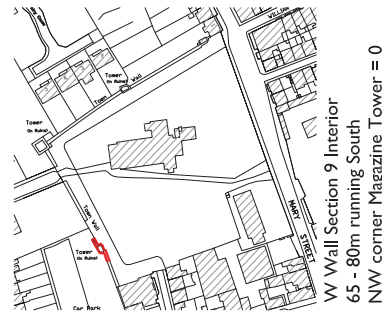
ELEVATION 1:100

80	75	70	65
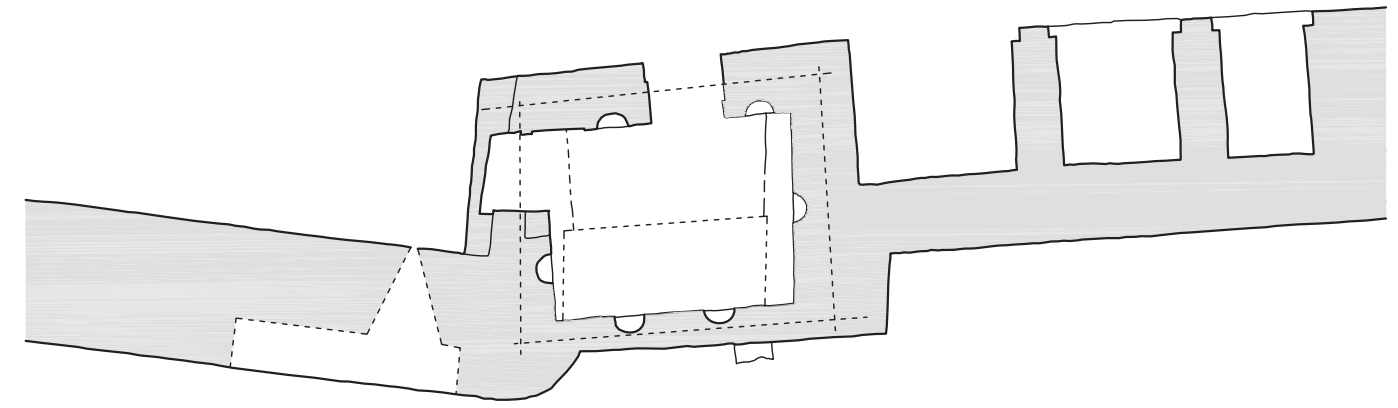
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

80	75	70	65
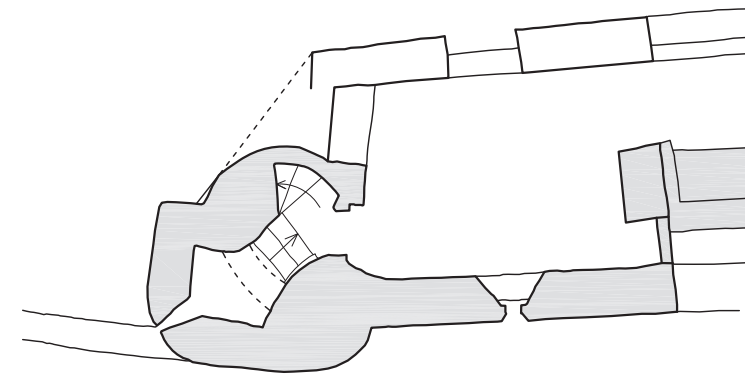
UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 10 Exterior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East. Gordon Place car park to West. Length of wall without parapet from tower to corner. Two vaulted bays. Traces of blocked-up loops @ 77m + 90m

CONDITION:

The wall is in fairly good condition. Repair/repointing within last 10 years. Some vegetation regrowth.

ACTION:

Liaise with representative of owners of churchyard for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation and repair of graves close to wall. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair mortar where necessary.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Mature lime trees in this section. Evidence of anti=social behaviour in corner.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100
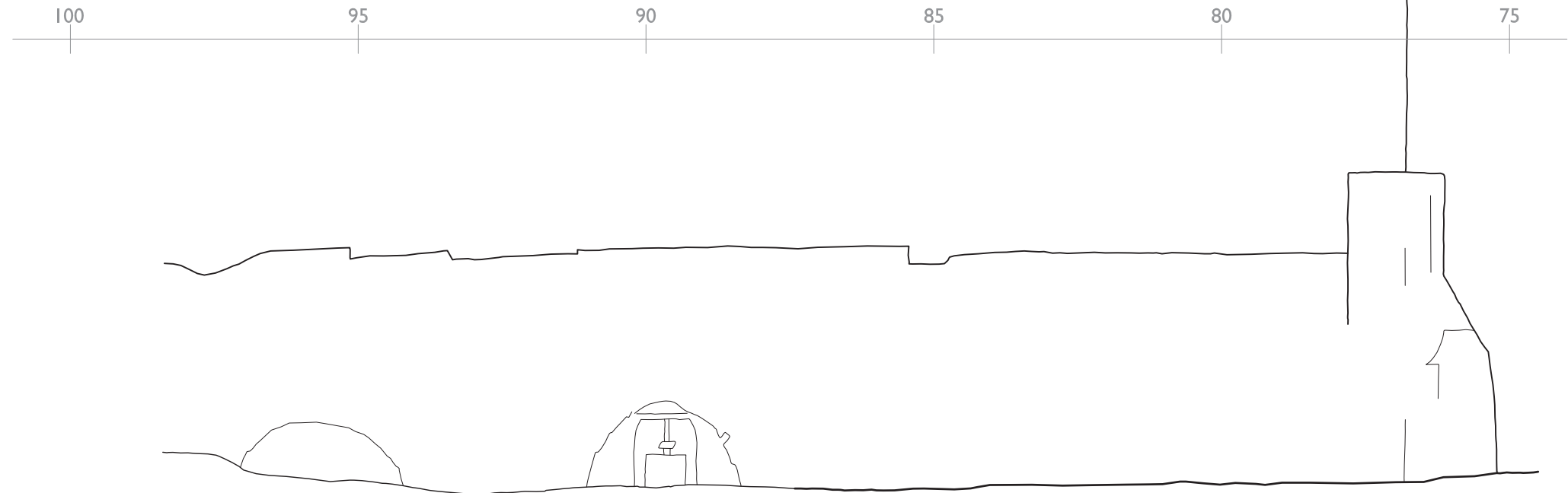
| 100 | 95 | 90 | 85 | 80 | 75 |

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 1 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Montini, Queen Street to North.
There are lean to structures on the outer wall of
the tower. This area was formerly stabling for draught
horses for CIE.. Loop at ground level

CONDITION:

The tower is in need of structural repair. Strong
ivy + other vegetation growth are causing
further damage. Opes + walled tops appear
to be unstable. Wall top to east in poor repair.
Flight of rough stone steps to wall walk access
in poor repair.

ACTION:

Liaise with owner of Montini, Queen Street for access for repair,
treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of
masonry after removal + repair as necessary. Repair window
openings on north side. Flaunch all wall tops and replace eaves
stones on top of tower walls. Remove plaster from south wall of
tower. Fit grilles to access openings + mesh to window openings.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Clip back ivy to assess condition.
Treat, remove + repair masonry, including
wall-tops and openings.

Medium-term: Removal of plaster from
demolished lean-to.

OTHER:

The adjoining owners have experienced
serious antisocial behaviour including
stones being pushed off the wall top into
their property. The gated access to the rear
of the Queen Street property is in daily use
by the owners.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

ELEVATION 1:100

15   10   5   0

UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 6 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Nos 3,4,5 Coolgreaney Close to North.
Length of wall, solid to 40m, vaulted thereafter. Ground levels vary. Birch trees and rockery in No 4. Recess in wall in No 3.

CONDITION:

Assessment not possible. The wall is covered in vegetation, ivy close cropped in No 5, very heavy in No 4 and becoming reestablished in No 3. There are some missing stones in this length and a bulging section in No 4.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access for treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Replace missing stones.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition. Treat and remove. Repair masonry, inc rebuild of bulges Point empty joints.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Wall-tops repairs should be carried out from interior.

N Wall Section 2 Exterior
15 - 50m running East
NW corner Magazine Tower = 0

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 50 | 45 | 40 | 35 | 30 | 25 | 20 | 15 |
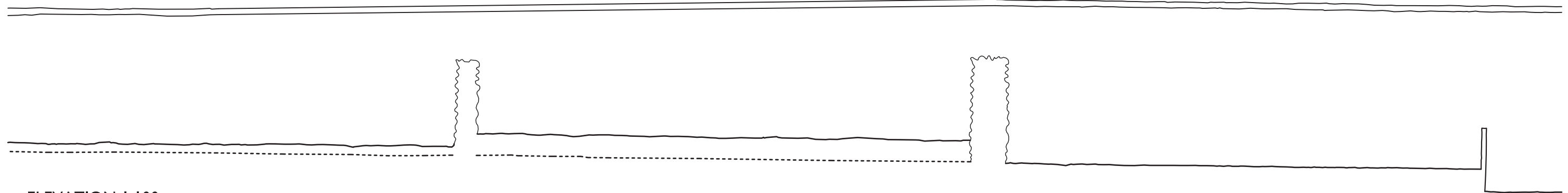
ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 3 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
Nos 2 Coolgreaney Close to North.
North intermediate tower with wall. Upper part of
wall may have been rebuilt mid 20thc.

CONDITION:

Assessment not possible. The tower and wall
are covered in vegetation, mainly vigorous ivy.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access for treatment and removal
of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry when
vegetation is removed and repair as necessary.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Cut back vegetation to assess condition. Treat
and remove. Repair masonry.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed
urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Wall-tops repairs should be carried
out from interior.
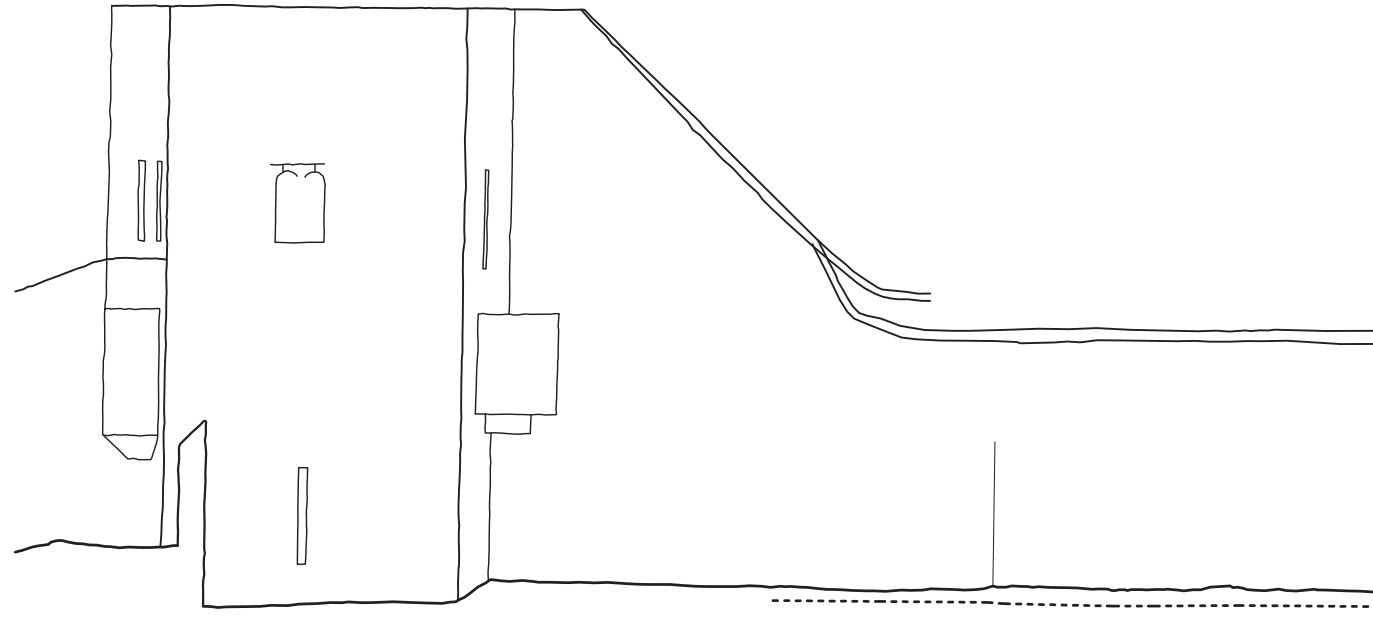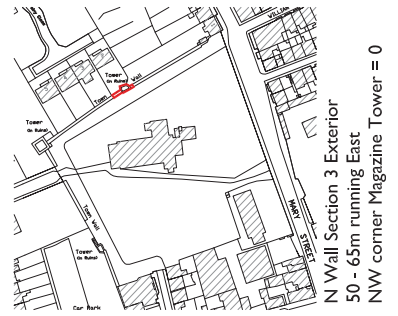
ELEVATION 1:100

65   60   55   50
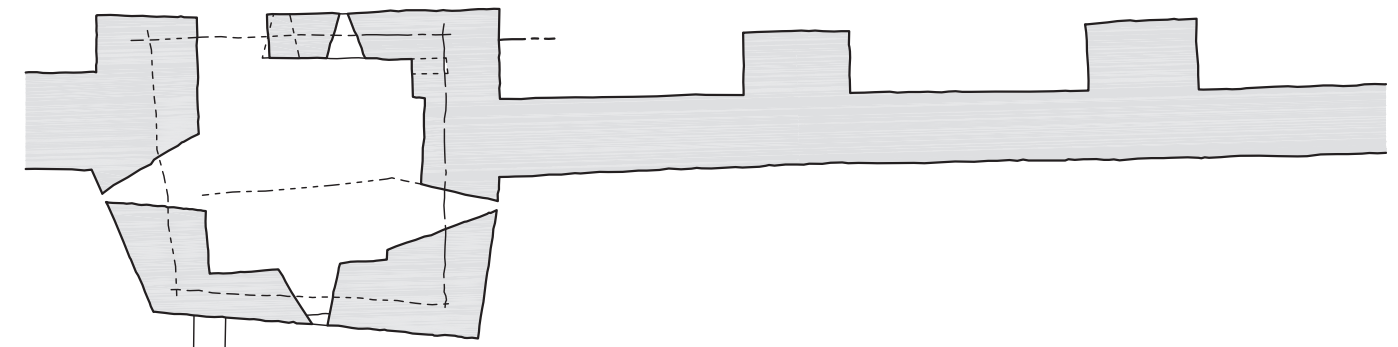
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

65   60   55   50
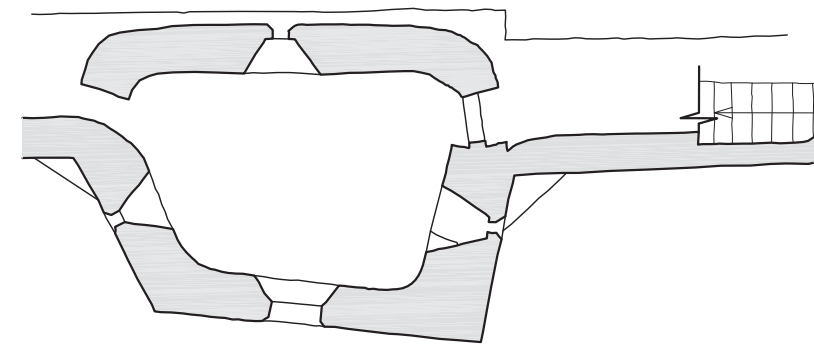
UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 4 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
No 1 Bolton St to North.
North of tower bounds No 1. Upper part of wall was rebuilt mid 20thc.

CONDITION:

Assessment of lower level not possible because of vegetation. Upper level rebuilt with stone wrongly bedded but in good structural condition.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access to assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is trimmed.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Trim vegetation to assess condition. Some vegetation planted. See below. Treat and remove, if possible.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Vegetation not all ivy. Some is shrubbery and may have been planted. Closer inspection required with consent of owner before decisions are made.
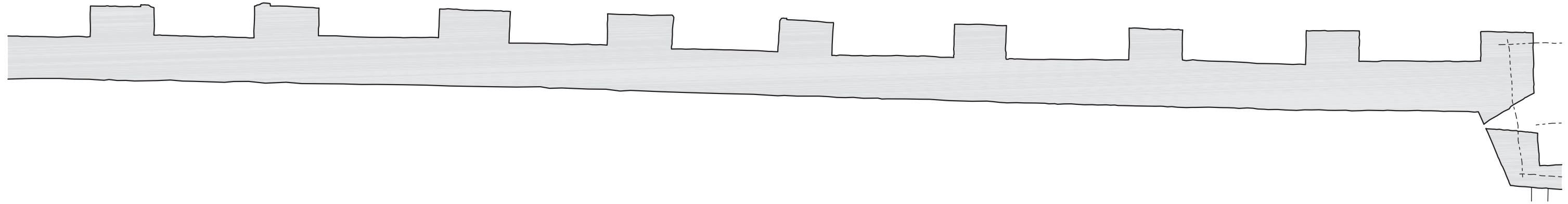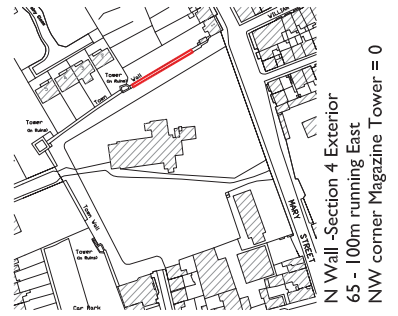
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 100 | 95 | 90 | 85 | 80 | 75 | 70 | 65 |

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 5 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to South.
No 1 Bolton St to North.
North of tower bounds No 1. Upper part of wall was rebuilt mid 20thc. Trace of probable tower/bastion with batter adjoining house. Lean-tos against wall.

CONDITION:

Full assessment not possible because of vegetation and access. Masonry at upper levels appears to be loose. Joints fairly empty.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access to assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is trimmed.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Trim vegetation to assess condition. Some vegetation planted. See below. Treat and remove, if possible. Treat and remove ivy. Carry out necessary repairs and point.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Access difficult to tower/bastion structure because of house extension. Advisable to access from churchyard.
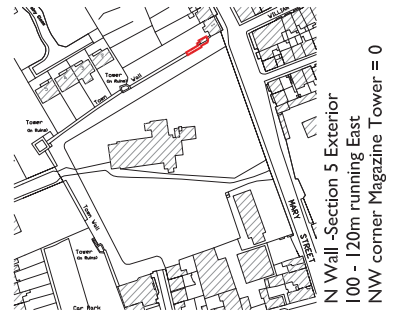
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100
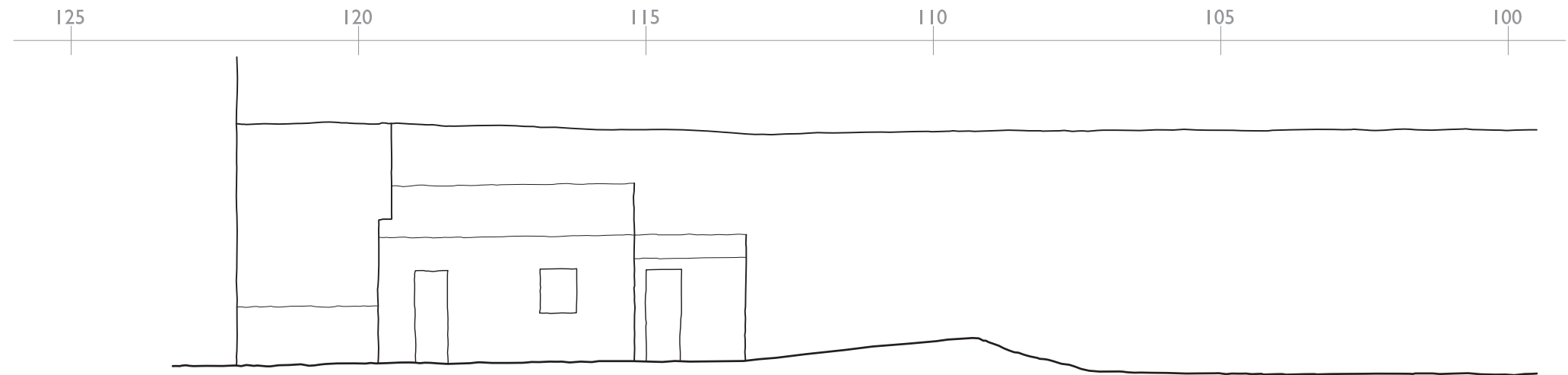
| 125 | 120 | 115 | 110 | 105 | 100 |

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 6 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Montini, Queen Street to North and West.
This area was formerly stabling for draught horses
for CIE. Old St Mary's churchyard to east and south.
Length of vaulted wall from NW tower. Burials within
arches. Straight joints in wall @13m.

CONDITION:

Tower as North Section 1.
The tower is in need of structural repair. Strong
growth of ivy + other vegetation causing
further damage. Opes + walled tops appear to
be unstable .
Wall pointing and tops requires attention.

ACTION:

As North Section 1.
Liaise with owners for access for repair, treatment
and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of
masonry after removal + repair as necessary. Repair
window openings on north side. Flaunch all wall
tops and replace eaves stones on top of tower walls.
Remove plaster from south wall of tower. Fit grilles to
access openings + mesh to window openings.

PRIORITY:

As North Section 1.
Urgent: Clip back ivy to assess condition. Treat, remove +
repair masonry, including wall-tops and openings.

Medium-term: Removal of plaster from demolished
lean-to.

OTHER:

Straight joints from gate/door in wall.
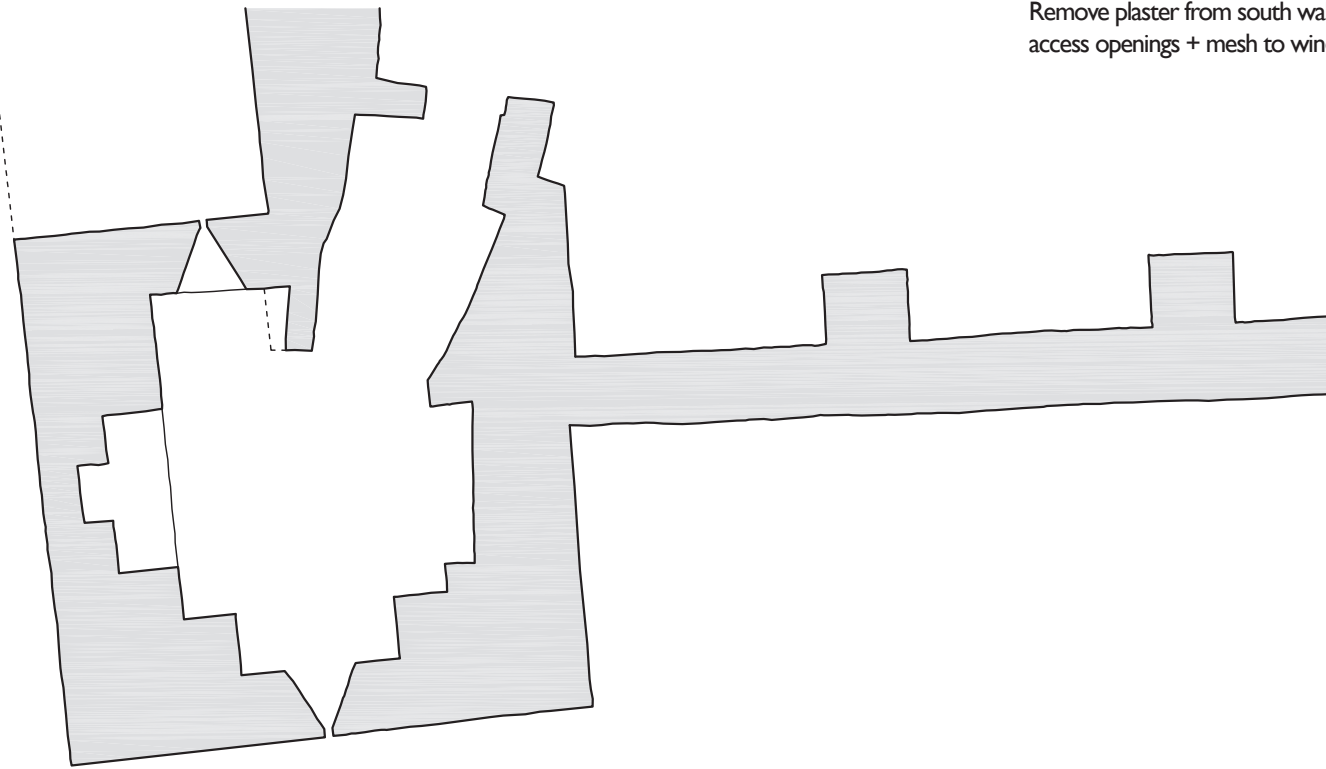
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100
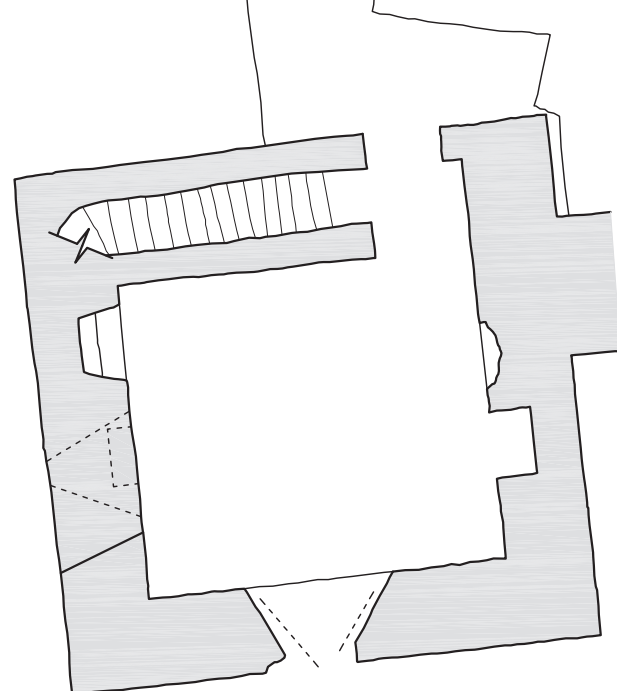
0   5   10   15

ELEVATION 1:100

0   5   10   15

UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 7 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Anne Street and Myrtle Lodge to West.
19th c entrance @ 18m – 28m with limestone piers and railings.

CONDITION:

Assessment in Myrtle Lodge not possible because of vegetation. Repairs likely to be required. Missing stones noted.

ACTION:

Liaise with owners for access for repair, treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Rebed capstone on north gate-pier.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair masonry, including wall-tops. Point where necessary.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Ivy growth very vigorous. Large stems likely.
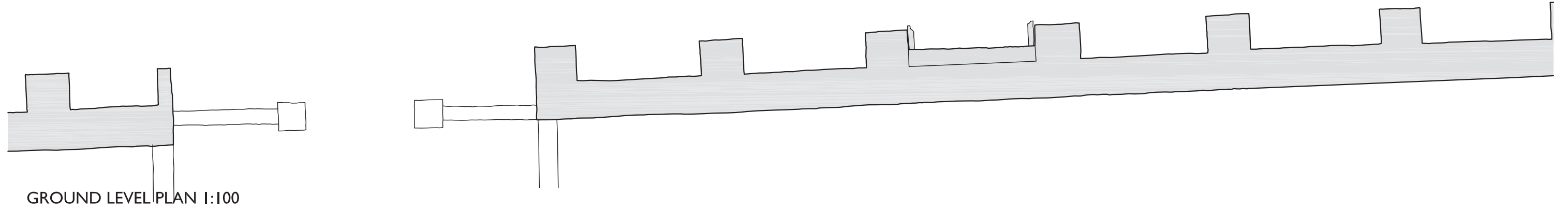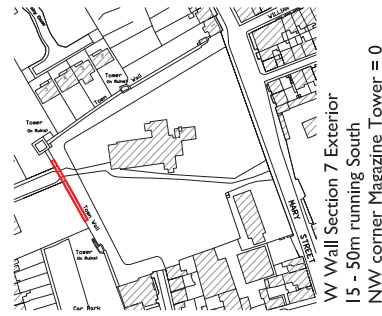
GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

15   20   25   30   35   40   45   50

ELEVATION 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 8 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Gordon Place car park to West.
Flight of steps supported by 3 no arched recesses to west intermediate tower adapted to 19thc garden folly. Trace of gate/door ope in wall now blocked.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable condition.
Vegetation is becoming reestablished in places. Flight of steps in very poor condition.

ACTION:

Treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary. Repair flight of steps by rebedding and replacing missing stone. Extent of repair depends on decision re access.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Replace missing stone. Repair mortar where necessary. Repair stair.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Easi-fix fencing erected at present to prevent access.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 | 55 | 60 | 65 |

ELEVATION 1:100
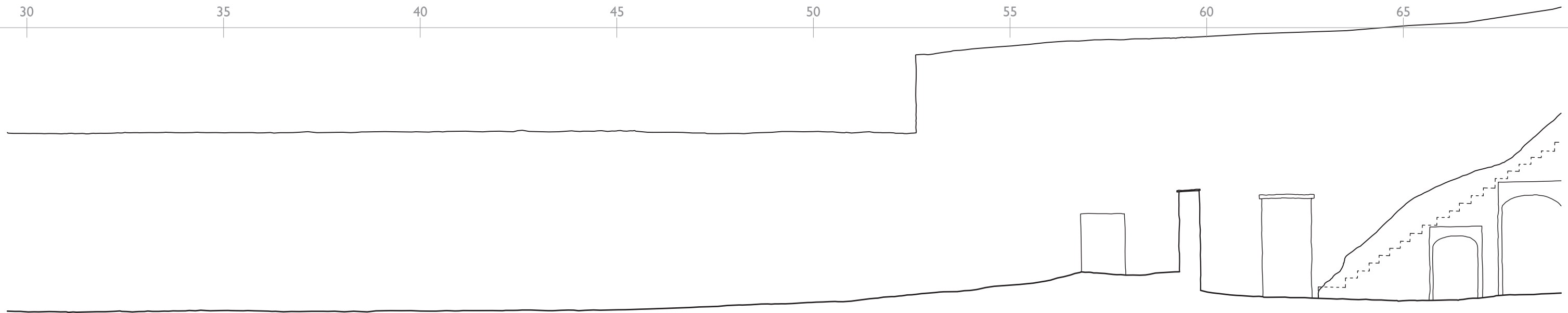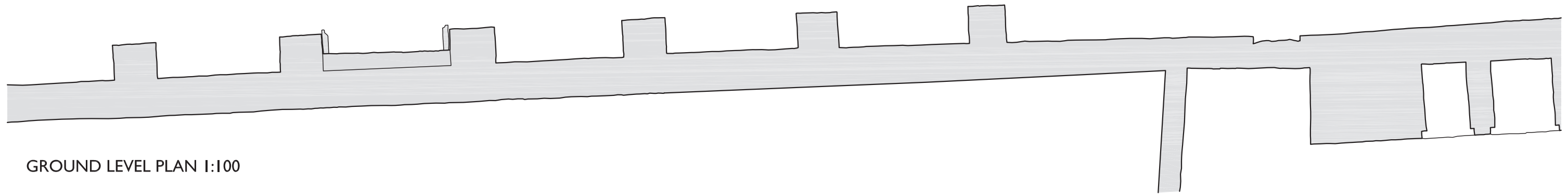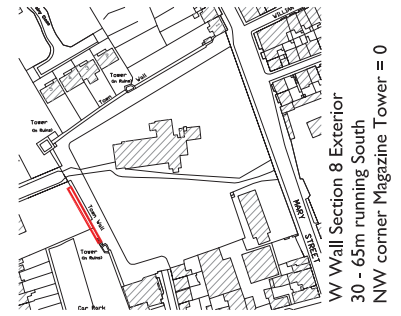
DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 9 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Gordon Place car park to West.
West intermediate tower and walls. Outer faces of tower and interior altered in 19c to adapt to garden folly. Round-headed opes inserted. Water stone survives.

CONDITION:

The wall is in fairly good condition. Repair/repointing carried out within the last 10 years. Vegetation is becoming reestablished in places. Wall tops of tower have some loose masonry.

ACTION:

Treatment and removal of vegetation. Repair as necessary. Clear roof of growth and replace mortar. Flaunch wall-tops. Other actions depend on decision re access.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair mortar where necessary. Flaunch wall tops.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Tower marks change of direction and probably the northern limit of original circuit.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

65   70   75   80

ELEVATION 1:100

65   70   75   80
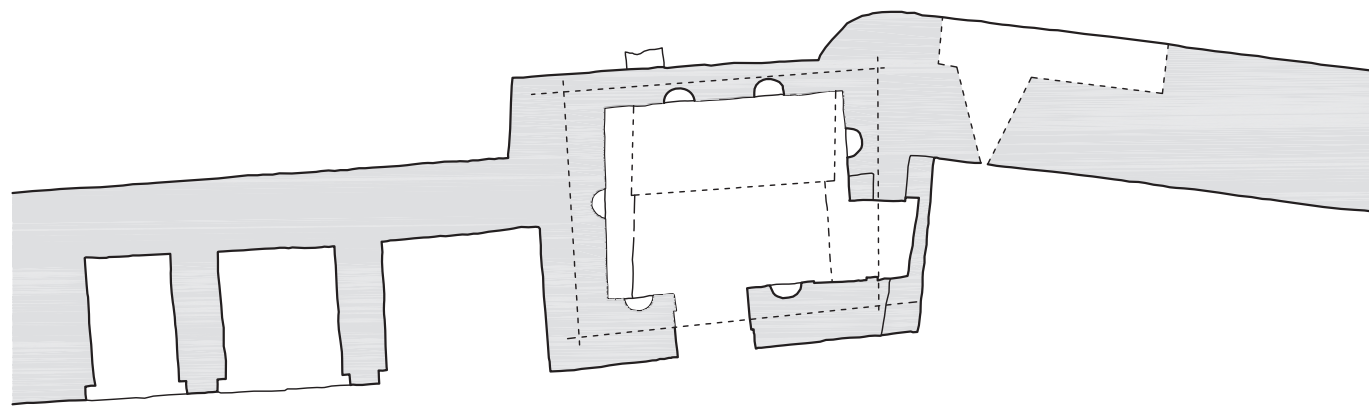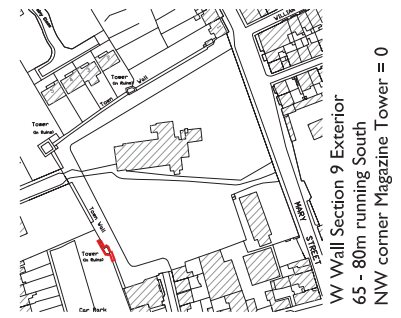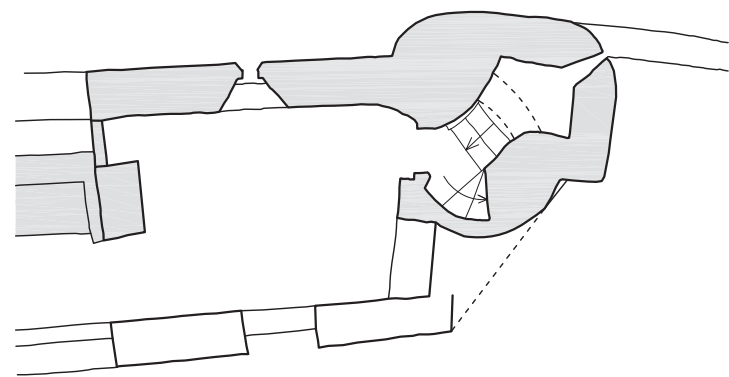
UPPER LEVEL PLAN 1:100

DESCRIPTION: See Text Section 2.3
See Gazeteer Section 10 Interior

Old St Mary's churchyard to East.
Gordon Place car park to West.
Length of wall without parapet from tower to its southern limit at rear of Peter Street properties @ c.113m. This section represents the early wall circuit turning east immediately before the tower. The wall has been raised and there appears to be a ledge on the outside.

CONDITION:

The wall is in reasonable condition but there is a lot of vegetation rooted on the ledge.

ACTION:

Treatment and removal of vegetation. Assess the condition of masonry when vegetation is removed and repair as necessary.

PRIORITY:

Urgent: Treat and remove vegetation. Repair mortar where necessary. Flaunch wall-top and ledge.

Medium-term: Any masonry repairs not deemed urgent following assessment.

OTHER:

Recent plaster on rear of White Memorial Theatre is out of character. Consider screen planting.

GROUND LEVEL PLAN 1:100

| 80 | 85 | 90 | 95 | 100 | 105 | 110 | 115 |

ELEVATION 1:100
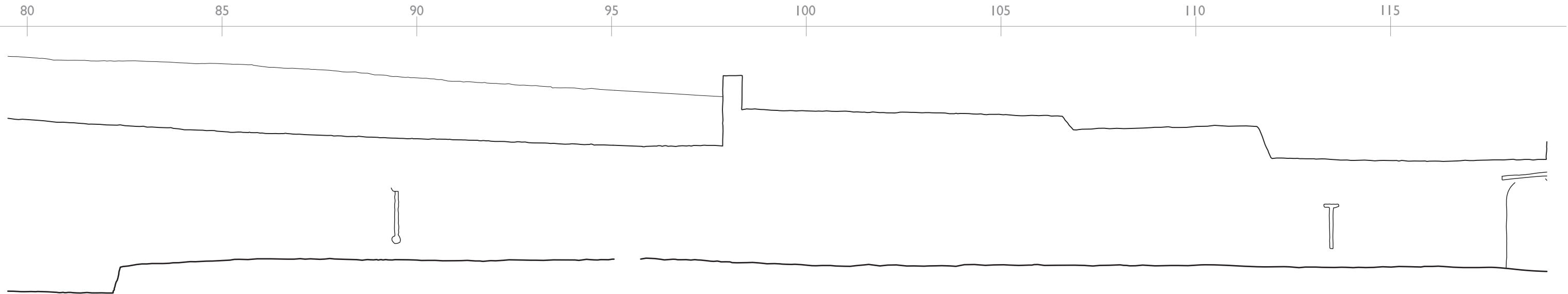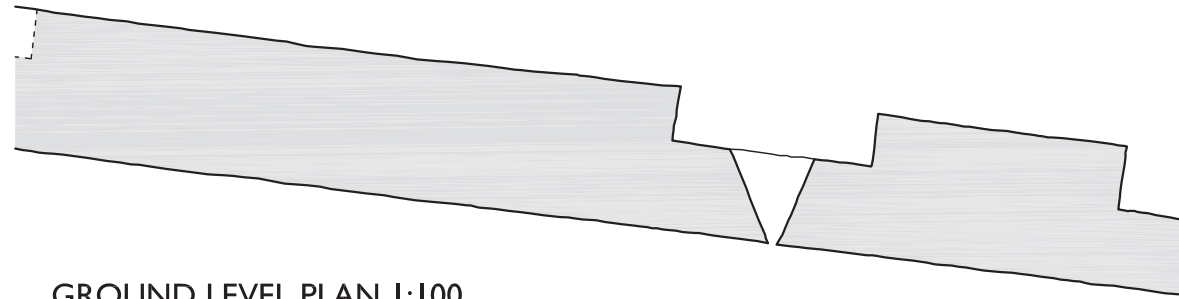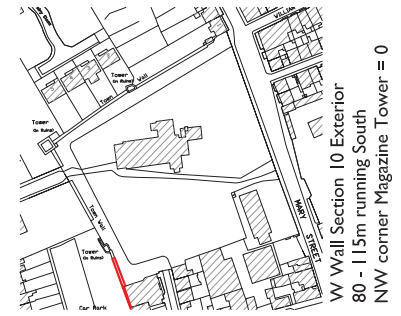
APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 CONSERVATION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE AND COSTS

Summary

The key issues are:

· The control of vegetation

· The use of lime mortar in all repairs

· The effective disposal of water from walltops

All works should be carried out in accordance with the advice and guidance being published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government on the conservation of ruined masonry structures.

Vegetation

The recommended procedure in dealing with vegetation is:

a) Cutting back of heavy ivy and other growth by contractor or local authority's own outdoor staff

b) Assessment of masonry by a conservation professional

c) Remove vegetation and carry out all masonry repairs. It is essential that the cutting back, assessment and repairs be carried out in a continuous operation as cutting back in itself encourages growth

Masonry

The main problems associated with the masonry are:

a) Missing stones – these should be replaced with matching stones to stop water ingress

b) Loose stones – any loose stones should be rebedded in a lime mortar

c) Cracks and vertical joints – should be stitched within the bedding joint with stainless steel ties

Pointing

The mortar mix for pointing will be designed to suit the appropriate application and the weather conditions at the time of use. It will be based on an analysis of the existing mortar.

Cementitious pointing is injurious to stone and increases water movement. The stone in the town walls is mainly sandstone and this type of stone is badly affected by cement. Remove cementitious pointing from a trial area and assess the level of damage caused by the removal. Decide on the approach to be taken.

Flaunching

Tower roofs and wall tops:

a) Clean off

b) Remove the growth and vegetation

c) Fill all voids with lime mortar flaunching

d) Clear outlets to waterstones to ensure effective drainage

Gate piers

Repair gate capstone to the north of the Anne Street entrance, which is displaced and loose and constitutes a hazard.

Headstones and arcade recesses

a) Liaise with the rector of Old St. Mary's Church re: headstones and ownership

b) Maintain decorative arcade recesses to prevent deterioration

c) Seal the edges of surviving decorative plasterwork and pin back into position where required

d) Kerbstones should be set into position to prevent theft

e) Replace ferrous fixings associated with the headstones.

Protect openings to towers

Fit all access openings with secure grilles which are openable for maintenance. Present grilles are welded in place. Fit special mesh to window openings.

Maintenance

a) Establish a regular inspection regime at twice-yearly intervals, treat any emerging vegetation

b) Record by photograph

c) Treatment of vegetation may need to be revisited

d) Repair any mortar voids

COST BREAKDOWN

(Note: These are based on approximate quantities; VAT and preliminaries are included. Estimates are based on what is obvious at present. The condition of masonry concealed behind ivy or vegetation cannot be assessed.)

	Euro
Dealing with vegetation	42,000.00
Masonry repairs	12,000.00
Repointing	31,000.00
Tower repairs	55,000.00
Replace security grilles	7,000.00
Professional fees for repairs	12,000.00
	_____
	159,000.00
Allowance for additional works associated with public access to west interval tower	20,000.00
	_____
	179,000.00

APPENDIX 2 THE CLONMEL AND ENVIRONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2008 - EXTRACTS

Policy BH.5:

Archaeology

The town's archaeological assets will be protected through the development management process (in-situ where practicable or as a minimum, preservation by record) comprising all monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places. The Council will also seek to protect, where practicable, the setting of and access to sites.

4.5.2 When considering applications for planning permission for development on or in the vicinity of archaeological sties or monuments, the Council will seek the advice of DoEHLG, The Heritage Council and An Taisce. The Council may also request that archaeological field evaluation take place as part of the application or before development proposals are implemented, particularly in or adjacent to the Zone of Archaeological Potential, where there is evidence that archaeological remains are present.

4.1.12 The Clonmel Integrated Urban Strategy (2003) sets out comprehensive Development Briefs that provide a clear guide to developers and the public on the potential of these key redevelopment opportunities. The sites are located mainly within the Central Area and at Irishtown and Davis Road, comprising in total approximately 18 hectares of commercial development land.

4.1.13 The location of these sites in relation to the Central Area is shown below, and the current status of each is given in Appendix 4 of this Plan. Due to changing circumstances it is likely that some of them will come forward for redevelopment during the Plan period, and the Council considers it reasonable and in principle desirable to accommodate such schemes in order to further stimulate investment and commercial confidence in the town centre. The refurbishment and re-use of derelict and under-utilised properties will also be actively encouraged. Such redevelopment schemes need not be restricted solely to retail uses. An element of office or residential uses may be appropriate, but it is essential that retail is the predominant use, particularly on the ground floor.

Figure 4:
Key Redevelopment Sites in relation to the Central Area
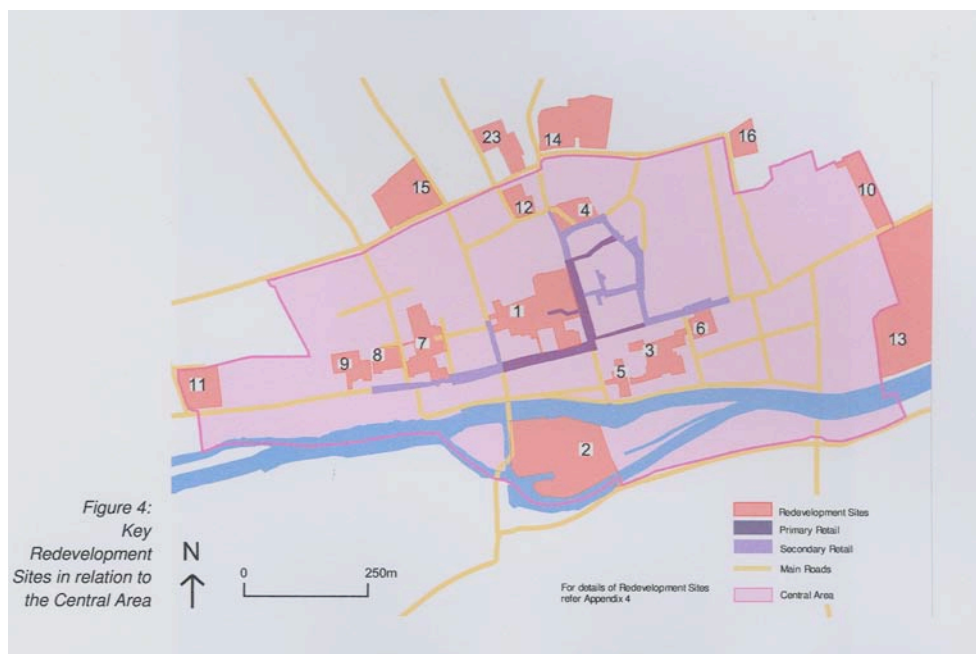
Policy TC.4:

Commercial Uses

Retail uses will be expected to remain the predominant activity at ground floor level throughout the Central Area, and in particular in the primary shopping areas of O'Connell Street; Gladstone Street; Mitchell Street; and The Market Place Shopping Centre. Non-retail commercial uses will generally be supported on upper floors of properties situated in the primary shopping streets. The loss of existing commercial uses within and adjacent to the Central Area will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that the proposed alternative use will be of comparable benefit to the vitality and viability of the area.

APPENDIX 3 EXCAVATION SUMMARIES

The following summary reports refer to archaeological excavations on or near the line of the town wall around Clonmel. The summary reports have been taken from www.excavations.ie, and describe excavations undertaken up to 2005. Excavation reports as recent as 2007 have been consulted at the National Monuments Archive, 51 St Stephens Green, Dublin 2, and are listed at the end of the summaries. More recent reports are generally not available.

Emmet Street, Burgagery Lands -West, Clonmel

Urban/medieval

S203225

Clonmel Corporation funded a 3 week trial excavation to sample the archaeological potential of an area prior to redevelopment. The excavation began on the 8 January and was expected to reveal the eastern boundary wall of the medieval town as it ran south to the River Suir.

A consolidated area of derelict buildings and yards made up the excavation site. They had been purchased by Clonmel Corporation and are located within the centre of the modern town.

A continuous property boundary runs roughly north-south through this area and was thought to follow the line of the medieval town wall, though surviving remains above ground appeared to be modern. The poor remains of a tower were attached to the wall at north. It had been pebble-dashed externally and incorporated into two later boundaries. Internally an embrasure appeared to contain a blocked-up arrow loop.

Four trial trenches were examined in the vicinity of this boundary and the town wall appeared directly below present ground level. It had an outer face of roughly coursed, unmortared limestone with a mortared rubble core. There was evidence for a slight batter but it had no apparent plinth. The wall was built on or near boulder clay. In places it had been robbed of facing stones and core material, then re-used in the construction of two stone-walled pits built onto the outer edge of the wall. They appeared to be a modern feature. The wall had a surviving width of 2m though it had been disturbed in the area and may originally have been wider. It had a maximum height of 2.2m. There was no clear evidence for an outer ditch. The base of the tower was also uncovered for a short distance. The original foundations were built on a thin layer of gravel which overlay boulder clay. The foundations extended to a depth of 1.2m below the ground, and refacing occurred on some areas of the outer face. With both the wall and the tower a noticeable change in masonry occurred between the surviving remains above ground and the foundations below.

The south-east corner of a substantial structure, possibly medieval, was also uncovered just inside the town wall. A sherd of sgraffito ware was removed from a stratified layer just below the upper levels of modern fill suggesting that the underlying layers pre-date the 16th-17th century. Finds however were limited and, apart from modern pottery, those that did occur were unstratified.

Suzanne Zajac, Carrowgarve, Crossmolina, Co. Mayo.

Kickham Street, Clonmel

Town wall

S203225

Investigations were conducted between the 2nd and 21st December 1991 in the area of Kickham St., Clonmel. This is on the north side of Clonmel, on the presumed line of the town wall.

Remains of the north-west tower and a portion of the town wall were uncovered. The tower is open backed and subcircular in plan. The tower wall, where uncovered, had an average thickness of c. 1.75m and survived to a depth of c. 1.35m. There were no surviving features in the segments excavated inside the tower.

The town wall survived to a lesser degree, being frequently cut by later features. The portions uncovered had an average thickness of 1.75m and depth of 2-3 courses (0.25m-0.3m). There was evidence to suggest the possible existence of a ditch outside the town wall, however due to later incursions a clear cross-section was not achieved. Further work is envisaged.

John Channing, 58 Marley Court, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14.

92E0055?

Dowd's Lane, Clonmel

Medieval/post-medieval urban

S203225

A trial excavation was carried out at Dowd's Lane, Clonmel, in the spring of 1992. The site is located at the south-east corner of the walled town. The manor of Clonmel was granted to William de Burgo some time before his death in 1205 - 06. The earliest written reference to the town is in the Pipe Roll of 14 John (1211-12). The building of the town fortifications commenced in 1298 and continued piecemeal into the 13th and 14th centuries. In 1269 the Franciscan Order acquired an area of land in the south-east corner of the walled town and built a friary and associated buildings on the site. The site of the excavation is situated in the north-east area of the former precinct of the friary. The area excavated occurred approximately 20m inside the town wall.

The trial excavation sought to establish the nature of activity in an area that was in medieval times part of the precinct of the friary. Two trial trenches were opened. The 1st trench extended in an east-west direction through the northern part of the site. It measured 9.2m in length and 3m in width. The 2nd trench also extended in an east-west direction and was 14.4m long and 2.65m wide. The trenches were 5.6m apart. The trial excavation provided no conclusive evidence for medieval activity on the site.

The archaeological evidence indicated that the only remaining signs of human activity on the site dated predominantly to the post-medieval period. However, objects of medieval date were uncovered. A copper alloy strap tag dating to between the 13th and 15th centuries was uncovered in a disturbed layer that contained bone, oyster shell and pottery of the post-medieval period and the early 20th century. An unstratified Saintonge strap handle fragment of medieval date was uncovered in an undisturbed layer of dark reddish brown silty clay. It was the only archaeological find from this layer. The earliest archaeological levels pre-dated the late 17th century. The earliest level consisted of a rubble type fill with a high content of broken slate, stones and crushed lime mortar. There was evidence for burning immediately above this layer. The rubble deposit and the layer of burning was confined to a limited area in the south-east corner of Trench 1 and were sealed by deposits dating to the late 17th or early 18th century. In a different part of the trench, in a level overlying the layer of burning, there was a layer of

cobbles. The layer that sealed the cobbles contained pottery dating to between the late 17th and early 18th century. It also occurred beneath the cobbles but it contained no dateable finds at this level. In the middle of the trench, overlying the cobbles, there was a limited area of stone paving. This area of paving appears to have been a street or yard. There were no dateable finds from the layer of sand, gravel and mortar it rested on. The layer that sealed the paving dated to the post-medieval period. Only limited areas of the cobbles and paving were apparent as both features extended underneath the sides of the trench. In the northern and eastern parts of the trench there was no clear archaeological stratification. Instead there were deposits of fill with a high content of stone, slate, brick and pieces of mortar and almost no dateable finds.

In the 2nd trench extensive disturbance made it almost impossible for archaeological layers to survive. For example, a wall foundation, 0.55m deep and 0.56m wide, extended through the centre of the entire length of the trench. At the western end there was the remains of an industrial chimney/flue which extended to a depth of 1.5m. The chimney would appear to be associated with brewing-related activities that occurred on the site from the early 1800s to the 1960s. In the middle of the trench there was a stone chamber-like structure. It extended to at least a depth of 2.95m. The chamber was full of rubble. The finds from the rubble included animal bone, clay pipes and pottery dating to the 18th and 19th centuries. Two unstratified sherds of late medieval pottery were uncovered from an undisturbed dark reddish brown clay.

Although archaeological deposits were limited on this site, the discovery of a large quantity of post-medieval pottery suggests that much of the activity on the site was post-Cromwellian in date and would appear to have occurred during the time that the friary was abandoned between the early 1540s and the late 1700s.

Mary Henry, 1 Wolfe Tone St, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

92E0055?

Dowd's Lane, Clonmel

Medieval urban

S203225

Archaeological excavations were carried out at Dowd's Lane, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, between 6th -24th July 1992, with a further week of monitoring between 20th-24thJuly. As the site was known to be occupied by the old medieval town wall of Clonmel, archaeological excavations were carried out prior to development. The site lies within the south-east sector of what was the medieval town.

Trench A

This was specifically excavated along the line of the town wall. The wall lay 0.3m-0.8m beneath ground level and extended the length of the cutting running approx. north-south for a distance of 22.75m. The width varied between 1.8m-1.9m and the depth from 2.1m-2.5m. It was constructed from limestone and a small amount of sandstone with a well defined outer face. The inner face was rougher and less well defined and narrowed towards the base. Traces of lime mortar were noted. Removal of the wall revealed a core of rough, uncut limestone and sandstone intermixed with a coarse, loose clay and small stones. In general, the wall appeared to be well built and in good condition. However at its southern end, the outer/ditch face had been replaced with redbrick. The wall was also disturbed by 2 stone-built drains which appeared 18th/19th century in date on evidence of the finds.

Trench B

This trench ran west-east away from the town wall. Excavation revealed a large flat bottomed ditch, 3.15m deep and at least 5.5m wide, outside the town wall. As the ditch ran out under the road the total width could not be established. Both the ditch and the wall were cut into the natural riverine gravels of the site. A layer of fill appeared to represent original ditch fill while the lack of tip lines suggested this involved one major episode of infilling rather than a gradual filling in over time. The finds from this layer suggest a late 17th- or 18th-century date for this. This in turn suggests the need for defences had waned by then plus a new need to expand outside the town walls by the 18th century.

Trench C

This trench ran east-west away from the town wall. Excavation revealed the existence of an interior bank built up from the natural subsoil of the site. The way the wall was built against this subsoil and narrowed towards its base also suggests that it was built on or against a pre-existing bank.

A few sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the site. Two of these were found wedged against the town wall, sitting slightly above the natural, bank material, suggesting a medieval context for the origins of the wall. Historical evidence also suggests the building of the wall commenced from 1298 onwards when permission was given to raise taxes to finance the building of defences.

Hilary Opie, 1 Granite Hall, Rosmeen Gardens, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

92E0132

5-7 New Quay, Clonmel

Medieval urban

S200220

Investigations at New Quay, Clonmel exposed a section of the town wall. This survived to a maximum height of 2.5m near the northern limit of the site. The wall was roughly coursed with a slight batter at the base. The stones were undressed, but the wall was well faced on the eastern side and some patches of render were evident. The core was of rubble.

The site is situated close to the south-eastern boundary of the medieval town, however, no trace of the western return of the wall was found. The extra-mural ditch was not very distinctive. Horizontal layers of silt and stoney material abutted the wall, and this area may have been subject to frequent flooding. Intra-mural layers were examined, and found to be undisturbed garden-type soil. The location of a Franciscan Friary adjacent to this part of the town wall may account for the absence of structural remains, the area, perhaps, being used for cultivation over a long period of time.

Recommendations were made for a full recording of the extant wall, and to the architect of the proposed development, suggesting that the wall might be displayed at least in part, as a feature of the future edifice.

Orla M B. Scully, 1 Strand Street, Tramore, Co. Waterford.

92E0132

5-7 New Quay, Clonmel

Urban medieval

S200220

Further to investigations at New Quay to discover the location of the town wall of Clonmel (Excavations 1992, 58), a further series of test trenches was excavated to locate the tower at the south-east corner of the walled town. Substantial remains of this tower were located and planned. The diameter of the tower is over 7m. No evidence for the western return of the wall remained.

The results of this testing and of recent excavations in Clonmel, are to be published by B. Ó Ríordáin in the Tipperary Journal 1994.

Orla Scully, 1 Strand St., Tramore, Co. Waterford.

93E0131

Old Quay, Clonmel

Urban medieval

S202223

SMR 83:19

A trial excavation was carried out at a site fronting the Old Quay, Clonmel. The site appears to be located immediately inside the medieval town wall (the exact line of the town wall along this part of the quays in unknown).

The investigation revealed extensive archaeological deposits at substantial depths throughout much of the site. An organic spread, which occurred at an average depth of 1.4m below modern ground level, dated to the late-medieval/early post-medieval period. The organic spread was rich in material typical of human occupation in a town. The inclusions of partially rotted twigs, fragments of wood, small pieces of charcoal, economic related plant remains, hazelnut shells, fish bones, sea shells, animal bones, leather and pottery, provides an insight into the nature of human subsistence during the medieval period in Clonmel. The presence of an extensive organic spread suggests that part of the site was used as a dumping ground for human and occupational waste.

However, it is worth bearing in mind the close proximity of the site to the river Suir. It is possible that some of the organic spread may have been washed upstream and dumped along part of the Old Quay. The presence of a small quantity of water-rolled pebbles and small stones in the organic spread is worth noting and may suggest that some of the material was washed upstream. The results from the archaeobotanical assessment of samples of the organic spread confirmed that there were areas under cultivation, areas of grassland and waste ground within the confines of the medieval town.

Overlying the organic spread, particularly along the river front, there were extensive layers and lenses of compact and impervious redeposited clays of varying hues. The deposits were, by and large, archaeologically sterile. On rare occasions small pieces of charcoal and traces of crushed mortar were found in some of the redeposited soils.

All of the redeposited clays occurred beneath the walls that were found on the site. The archaeological finds from the layers overlying the walls indicate that the walls predate the late 16th/early 17th centuries.

Most of the walls were of similar construction. They were built of uncut pieces of sandstone of varying shapes and sizes. The walls were bonded with a very hard and compact mortar. The walls may have been associated with the industrial buildings that once stood on the site.

All of the Old Quay was dominated by mills in the 1700s and 1800s.

Mary Henry, 34 Queen St., Clonmel.

93E0112

Town Hall, Parnell St., Clonmel

Urban

S202223

SMR 83:19

A rescue excavation was carried out in the courtyard of the Town Hall, Parnell St., Clonmel, in mid-summer 1993. The Town Hall is currently undergoing a major renovation and an extension has just recently been completed.

As part of the building project, several trenches were dug to accommodate the laying of service pipes. While digging one of the trenches, the contractor to the building project uncovered some human bone. In light of the possible significance of the find and its location (the site is only 30m to the east of the medieval walled town) an emergency excavation was undertaken.

A total of 23 articulated human skeletal remains were found. The disarticulated skeletal remains consisted of scattered fragments of bone of three individuals which were disturbed by the building of a wall that extended through part of the site. The burials were in pits and the majority were buried in groups of two or more. Three individuals had separate graves and were unassociated with other burials. All of the remains were laid out in an ordered fashion and were aligned east-west. A majority faced east.

It was possible to determine the gender of a large number of the deceased. The sex and age of 15 individuals could be determined. They were all male adults, between the ages of 18 and 45. Two of the individuals died in their teens. It was not possible to identify the sex of two of the individuals. The other six examples were probably males.

The dental records for 16 individuals were available. There was evidence from the teeth to indicate there was clay pipe smoking. For example, on the teeth of five individuals, the characteristic wear pattern associated with "pipe smoker's clench" was present. There was also tobacco staining on the teeth of several individuals. A large number of clay pipe stem fragments and bowls were found with the skeletal remains.

Other finds included the discovery of two pistol balls in the thoraxes of two burials. Three spherical buttons were found beside one of the skeletons. The buttons may have been fashionable in the middle years of the 17th century and it has been suggested that they were used in great numbers on male and female costume. A large quantity of sherds of pottery was found.

The evidence that emerged from the excavation suggests that the remains were buried some time after the mid 1600s.

Mary Henry, 84 Queen St., Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

93E0094

Sarsfield St./Quays, Clonmel

Post-medieval urban

S202223

SMR 83:19

The site is located at the southern end of Sarsfield St. It fronts the Quays. The line of the town wall appears to have extended through the site. Documentary records also indicate that a bastion, ie a quadrangular fortification, occurred at the southern end of Sarsfield St. The bastion seems to have commanded the town wall and to have defended the entrance to the port.

The archaeological investigations confirmed that the town wall had been demolished. There were no structures present to confirm the existence of a bastion on the site. However, other findings emerged.

Organic layers were found at depths of between 1.6m and 2.1m. The layers, which were very dark in colour and had a strong organic smell, contained human and occupational waste. The finds included animal bones, charcoal, oyster shells, hazelnut shells, blackberries, broken clay pipes, sherds of pottery, strands of leather and other occupational waste. The results from the archaeobotanical assessment confirmed the existence of annual weeds from disturbed ground, including waste areas and cultivated land, within the town.

The archaeological evidence dated the organic deposits to the late 1600s and the early 1700s.

The remains of a millrace-like feature were found in the north-west corner of the site. The find was not surprising, given the close proximity of the site to the river front. By the end of the 17th century, Clonmel was experiencing the start of a period of peace and economic prosperity. For example, in 1667 the woollen industry was introduced to Clonmel. Approximately 500 families of Belgian Walloons came to the town to work in the woollen mills. Further industrial development occurred, particularly along the Quays, in the 18th century. Several corn mills were constructed by the mid 1700s.

The millrace had been substantially altered by the building of several additional walls. The feature was 4m long and 3.5m wide. It was built of sandstone. The arched openings occurred in the eastern and western faces. Along its eastern face there was a cutwater. A series of latter walls abutted the millrace.

The dating evidence suggests that the millrace dated to before the end of the 17th century. The millrace was retained by the developer.

Mary Henry, 34 Queen St., Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

95E211

Bridge St./ Grubb's Quay, Clonmel

Medieval urban

S202223

SMR 83:19

The archaeological excavation commenced on 2 October 1995 and was completed on 2 November 1995. The purpose of the excavation was to establish the presence/absence of archaeological deposits and structures before the construction of a four-storey apartment block.

The site is located along Clonmel's riverfront in the south-western part of the medieval walled town. The line of the medieval town wall extended along the southern part of the site.

The excavation established the line and the extent of part of the southern section of the medieval town wall. It also confirmed that at least part of the town wall extended along the riverfront. The wall was in a reasonable state of preservation. It was randomly coursed and constructed of undressed pieces of sandstone and rubble masonry and bonded with a quite soluble, fine estuarine sand mortar. The wall was 1.3m wide and standing to a max. height

of 1.8m. It was built on very compact, naturally deposited estuarine gravels. It was not possible to obtain an overall view of the wall as its outer face coincided with the southern edge of the site. However, as in other parts of the town, the medieval wall was somewhat disturbed. There was substantial building activity along its inner face. The remains of a curved structure incorporated part of the inner face of the town wall. The curved structure may have been the remains of an intermural fortification defending the wall along the River Suir.

The presence of the medieval town wall along the riverfront would suggest that there was no need for a town ditch in this part of the town and that the River Suir acted as the second line of defence along the southern side of the medieval town.

There was a very extensive medieval organic deposit throughout much of the site. The organic spread, which occurred at depths of between 2.5m and 4.7m below modern ground level, was sealed with impervious clays. Subsequent building activity on the site avoided the destruction of the deposit. The deposition of the organic deposit occurred after the construction of the town wall. It was very dark and became black following oxidation. It had a strong lingering organic smell, a clayey sand composition, was very compressed and resembled peat in texture. It had a high humic content, including a high content of plant remains, waste and refuse with remnants of food. Other finds included a large amount of wood including twigs and small branches, an assortment of animal bone, fragments of oyster shell, occasional hazelnut shells, and several fragments of shoe and boot leather. A total of 24 sherds of medieval pottery were found in the deposit. The deposit represents the archaeological remains of a dumping ground for waste and occupational refuse inside the line of the town wall and to the rear of the properties fronting the main medieval street.

Mary Henry, 1 Jervis Place, Clonmel, Co .Tipperary.

95E247
Richmond Mill, Emmet St., Clonmel
Medieval urban mill
S203228
On 6 November 1995 the cutting of an elevator shaft against the north side of the mill was monitored. A 2m depth was excavated, but failed to reach the base of a recent gravel deposit in a deliberate and extensive cut against the wall of the mill. The cut and infill is associated with the recently built shopping precinct.
Dave Pollock, Rathduff, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.

95E29
Morton St./William St./Short St., Clonmel
Medieval urban
S202223
SMR 83:19
The trial excavation was carried out at Morton St., Clonmel, in late March 1995. Its purpose was to assess the archaeological significance of the site in advance of building works. The site is located in the northern part of the medieval town and c. 20m to the north of the line of the medieval town wall.

There was no trace of medieval strata or features. The evidence indicated that much of the activity on the site dates to the post-medieval and the modern periods. There were extensive deposits of disturbed garden material dating back to the post-medieval period. The remains of a cess-pit were also found on the site. It contained a very dark, sticky and smelly fill. The finds from the pit included oyster shells, a small quantity of animal bone, a large quantity of post-medieval pottery and some fragmented clay pipes. Nothing else of interest was found on the site.

Mary Henry, 1 Jervis Place, Clonmel, Co .Tipperary.

96E0084

Richmond House, Kickham Street, Clonmel

Medieval/post-medieval cultivation

S200225

SMR 83:19

Probable medieval cultivation furrows cutting gravel subsoil underlie 0.4-0.45m of later cultivation soil. There is no indication of buildings on site before Richmond House.

Dave Pollock, Rathduff, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.

96E112

35-36 O'Connell Street, Clonmel

Urban medieval

S220223

SMR 83:19

The site was located inside the medieval walled town of Clonmel. The work was carried out in advance of the construction of an apartment block. The purpose of the excavation to the rear of 35-36 O'Connell Street, the main medieval street in Clonmel, was to establish the nature of archaeological remains on the site prior to development.

The excavation confirmed the presence of the medieval town wall, which extended along the former riverfront. It ran through the site in an approximate east-west direction and occurred c. 2m below modern ground level. It was well constructed and in a good stare of preservation. It was 0.9-0.95m wide and stood to a maximum height of 1.2m. It was built of uncut blocks of sandstone, randomly coursed, with a solid core of rubble and mortar. It was well faced and had a slight batter along both faces. The wall had been built on a foundation plinth on compact estuarine gravels.

It was possible to rest the site outside the medieval wall. This area was reclaimed from the River Suir in recent times. There was no evidence remaining to indicate that there ever was a town ditch outside the medieval wall. The River Suit acted as the final line of defence for the town along the south circuit and that negated the need for a ditch.

A narrow sally-port was found in the town wall. It was 0.87m wide and survived to a height of 1.8m. All that survived were two dressed sandstone piers, a flat smooth step at the base of the piers, two iron hinges, a circular bolt-receiver and a square opening, for a possible draw-bar. The gateway provided minor access through the town wall to the river.

Although the excavation area inside the line of the town wall was confined, it was nevertheless possible to open a trench on this part of the site. Medieval deposits were found at a depth of 3.2m below modern ground level on the town side of the town wall. The depth of the deposits and the overlying sealant, a reddish-brown impervious clayey sand, enabled their survival. The deposits, of dark grey silty sand, remained undisturbed during the course of the test excavation and were protected from development works. They consisted of waste material dumped behind the houses fronting the main medieval street. Weeds of disturbed ground, animal and fish bones, shell fragments, charcoal, wood-chippings and twigs were represented in the organic spread. Fourteenth-century pottery was also found. The deposits may be part of infill to raise ground levels after the town wall had been built. The construction of the town wall in Clonmel dates mainly from the fourteenth century.

Mary Henry, I Jervis Place, Clonmel Co. Tipperary.

96E095

43-44 O'Connell Street, Clonmel

Urban medieval/post-medieval

S220223

SMR 83:19

The site was located within the medieval walled town of Clonmel. A new warehouse was planned for an area to the rear of 43-44 O'Connell Street, the main medieval street in Clonmel. Only minimal ground disturbance was caused by the installation of a goods lift. It was only necessary to hand-excavate an area measuring 3.5m by 2.75m and 0.6m deep prior to the commencement of development works.

Nothing of archaeological significance was found. A layer of concrete and an underlying thin layer of rubble overlay the remains of a relatively modern cobbled yard. The cobbles occurred 0.4m below modern ground level and were set in a bed of very finely crushed red brick.

Mary Henry, I Jervis Place, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

97E0201

GRUBB'S COURT, CLONMEL

Urban medieval/post-medieval

22026 12237

SMR 83:19

Prior to the commencement of archaeological works, the owner of the site carried out an unauthorised excavation to depths of between 1m and 1.2m below modern ground level.

The site is located in the south-west corner of the town of Clonmel. The west line of the medieval town wall extends along the site's western boundary.

The east side of the town wall was exposed during the unauthorised excavation works. The wall occurred 1.2m below modern ground level. It was in a poor state of preservation and had in places been quite disturbed owing to the presence of a service pipe and the building of later walls on its surface. A relatively modern rubble wall overlay its surface. Two rubble walls abutted its east side. The town wall was built of unworked sandstone, randomly coursed, and was poorly faced on its east side. It displayed a noticeable outward tilt. Buildings were built off the wall, thus explaining its tilt.

An organic spread was uncovered in the part of the site furthest from the town wall. It occurred at a depth of 2m below ground level and covered an area measuring 3.1m by 2.2m. It ranged in thickness from 0.15m to 0.4m and consisted of a dark brown to black peat-like fibrous material. It was quite compact in situ and had a very high humic content. However, there were no traces of human habitation finds. A yellowish-brown, sterile redeposited boulder clay, 1m thick, sealed the organic spread.

In the part of the site between the town wall and the organic spread there were post-medieval deposits. The upper 1m of the deposits had been removed without archaeological supervision. The post-medieval deposits extended to the boulder clay, which occurred at depths of between 2m and 2.2m below modern ground level.

Mary Henry, 1 Jervis Place, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

96E0381

11–12 MARY STREET, CLONMEL

Urban

Ahead of the refurbishment of adjoining houses, two test-pits were cut by hand in January 1997. A depth of 0.8m of 19th-century till overlay garden soil. The till and soil may overlie late medieval/post-medieval town defences, but excavation (and new foundations and drains) did not penetrate the 19th-century garden soil.

Jo Moran, Arbour Hill, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.

00E0512

WEST GATE, CLONMEL

Urban medieval

S202225

Three trenches were excavated on this site, which is directly outside of the medieval walled town and within several metres of the West Gate to the town. The area being developed is small, c. 6m by 8m, and ground reduction will be minimal on the site. A backfilled basement was located in the north-eastern part of the site, and thus no archaeological deposits survived here. Seventeenth-century deposits were revealed at a height of 17.73m OD. Medieval pottery was recovered but was from a previously disturbed deposit and associated with 18th- and possibly 19th-century finds. Additional work will be required should development proceed.

Avril Purcell, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin. Tipperary

01E0110

Disney's Yard, Gladstone Street Upper, Clonmel

Urban

S204225

The erection of a two-storey building was planned for this site. Clonmel Corporation imposed initial conditions on the development that necessitated a standing building survey and archaeological testing. A number of historical documents suggested that the North Gate of the town wall was once located on this site. There was no definitive evidence for this theory.

Four test-trenches were dug, three at the base of existing walls and the fourth extending towards the centre of the site.

Two of the walls investigated (Walls 1 and 2) consisted of two phases of construction. The earliest phase was most likely representative of 17th-century activity, which was contemporary with the pit features. A sealed doorway was located within the lower courses of Wall 1.

A number of pit features were uncovered. They were irregular in morphology and their surface layers varied between grey and black silty clays. Frequent amounts of bone, charred bone and post-medieval pottery were uncovered on the surface of these features. The pits were not excavated. A small number of sgraffito ware and other medieval pottery sherds were uncovered in a substantial layer of garden soil.

Mitigation measures were proposed, suggesting that levels of archaeology be recognised and that no construction works directly affect archaeological remains.

Michael Tierney and Margot Ryan, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Unit 2F, Dungarvan Business Park, Shandon, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

02E0889

75 O'Connell Street, Clonmel

Urban post-medieval

S26721722

SMR 83:19

As part of an assessment related to the proposed development of 75 and 76 O'Connell Street, Clonmel, testing was carried out in June 2002 at the rear of the former site of a house. The Urban Archaeological Survey (Farrelly and Fitzpatrick 1993) indicates that this property may have been the site of an earlier, medieval structure known as Clonmel Castle. Two linear trenches (c. 14m by 1.2m) aligned north–south were opened by a track machine using a flat bucket. Testing established the presence of several post-medieval structures preserved beneath the concrete yard. The stratification in both trenches was severely disturbed, and several dumps of builder's rubble were encountered throughout the site.

Most of the features were uncovered in Trench 1. The two lower courses and foundation footing of a stone wall were discovered in the southern end of the trench; the southern end of the wall ran under the baulk. It was oriented north–south, and the exposed section was 3.7m long, 0.6m wide and 0.4m high. The wall was constructed of limestone bonded with a compact, brownish-white mortar. A stone-lined circular well lay 5m north of this wall. The opening of the well was sealed by four stone stabs that rested on iron rods. The well had an internal diameter of 1.4m and was constructed of sandstones bonded with a sand-based mortar. The uppermost 0.5m (six courses) was visible, but below this depth the well was filled with clay. A dump of mortar, similar to that bonding the stone wall, lay 1.1m north of the well. This deposit was 0.25m deep. A compact clay surface was discovered in the northern extremity of Trench 1 at 0.85m below the current ground surface. It measured 7m by 0.45m. Two sherds of North Devonshire sgraffito ware were embedded in the deposit. The proposed development will not impinge on layers below a depth of 0.8m.

A wall, visible in the northern baulk, was encountered in Trench 2. It was aligned east–west and comprised three courses of stones and red brick bonded with a white sandy mortar.

The clay surface was the only feature of possible medieval date encountered during testing. The rest of the features relate to post-medieval occupation. No evidence of a medieval castle or urban tower-house was encountered.

Reference

Farrelly, J. and Fitzpatrick, L. 1993 Urban Archaeological Survey: County Tipperary, South Riding. Unpublished, Office of Public Works.

Marion Dowd, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Unit 2F, Dungarvan Business Park, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

Tipperary
03E0057
18 O'Connell Street, Clonmel
No archaeological significance
22026 12237
SMR 83:19
Monitoring was undertaken of all ground disturbance associated with the extension to an existing bakery, as the development lies within the zone of archaeological potential for the town of Clonmel. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered.

Anne Marie Lennon, for Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd, 17 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

03E1613
CLONMEL
Urban
22026 12237
SMR 83:19
Monitoring was undertaken within the confines of the zone of archaeological potential for the town of Clonmel as part of the Clonmel Broadband scheme. Cable laying for the scheme extended through areas within the walled town. Two areas were of particular sensitivity, West Gate and East Gate. To avoid hitting either gate or the associated town wall, the trench for the cable was kept very shallow (0.35-0.4m) and steel plates were laid to give appropriate protective cover over the cabling.

Apart from an area in Irishtown, to the west of the West Gate, the vast majority of monitoring was within the confines of the medieval town. The lack of medieval material revealed in the course of the works was surprising. It was a deliberate policy to raise the levels in areas of gates, town walls and town ditches to avoid hitting such features, and accordingly such features were not encountered.

When considering the width of the West Gate, it is evidently far narrower than the present road width. It is therefore possible that any medieval frontages would have been projected nearer to the middle of the road. This should have resulted in the discovery of a number of medieval foundations - possibly occupation layers and surfaces - but did not. A reason for this may be gleaned from the number of culverts and cellars that were

identified during monitoring. Post-medieval deposits were discovered in the form of wall surfaces, culverts and cellars, all of which were encountered at a shallow depth. This high incidence would suggest considerable groundworks in the post-medieval (especially Victorian) period, resulting in extensive removal of medieval layers to facilitate the construction of the above works. Added to this is the considerable modern ground disturbance encountered in the vast majority of trenches. This is conclusively manifest in the vast quantities of modern brick and rubble uncovered along parts of the route.

Mary Henry, Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd, 17 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

04E1189

MORTON STREET, CLONMEL

Urban post-medieval

22026 12237

SMR 83:19

An assessment was requested before construction of council housing and an office/meeting room at Morton Street. Test-trenches revealed post-medieval disturbance and nothing of archaeological significance.

Emma Devine, Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd, 17 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

04E01463

15 WOLFE TONE STREET, CLONMEL

Urban medieval

22026 12237

SMR 83:19

Monitoring was undertaken to the rear of No. 15 Wolfe Street, Clonmel. Works were undertaken pursuant to granted planning permission to excavate a fire exit opening into the basement of the property. Wolfe Tone Street is inside the medieval walled town of Clonmel. The area monitored measured 3.8m by 1.8m and 2.4m deep. The upper 1m of ground comprised loose infill with building rubble beneath. In the northern part of the excavated area a wall was encountered extending north-south along the eastern baulk of the excavation edge and continuing beneath its northern baulk. Part of the wall had been highly disturbed. It was found 1.83m below ground level and had an exposed height of 1.3m and measured 0.2m wide. Constructed of random coursed sandstone with a rubble core, it was bonded with a highly silicate clay with water-rolled pebbles. This bonding agent appears to be very similar to localised riverine deposits on the banks of the River Suir. It was only possible to view its west face, which comprised stones measuring 0.2-0.25m long by 0.1-0.15m deep. A dark-greyish-brown loamy clay was deposited on the western side of the wall. It was quite gritty and contained small flecks of charcoal. This material was very loose and resembled a well-worked, organic-rich garden soil. It sealed a stone rubble layer with frequent voids in between the stone. The wall was preserved in situ, as it was strongly suspected to be of medieval date. It was thought to be the remains of a medieval stone house within the walled town where the wealthier English settlers lived.

Mary Henry, Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd, 17 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

05E0667

7 MORTON STREET, CLONMEL

Urban post-medieval

22026 12237

SMR 83:19

Testing works were undertaken at No. 7 Morton Street as part of further information for planning permission to renovate a listed house. The site is just to the north of the line of the town wall. Cartographic evidence suggested that the rear of the site, where the testing took place, was possibly on the alignment of the medieval town wall/town ditch. No evidence was found to suggest the presence of the town wall on the site. Equally, no evidence emerged for a town ditch, although test excavations ceased at 1.3m in depth. It was also noticeable that no sealed context pertaining to the post-medieval period, let alone the medieval period, was discovered within the test-trench. There was little evidence in the trench of any activity at the rear of the site prior to the 1830s. However, the testing area was limited and the town ditch may be located between the test-trench and the town wall to the south.

Mary Henry, Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd, 17 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

Relevant excavations undertaken since 2005:

Exc no.	Site Address	Excavator
06E0340 7	Sarsfield Street, Clonmel	Anne-marie Lennon
07E0133	Morton Street, Clonmel	Mary Henry
07E0147	Upper Gladstone Street, Clonmel	Anne-Marie Lennon
07E0850 4	Moreton Street, Clonmel	Jacinta Keily
08E0008	Market Street, Clonmel	Mary Henry

Excavations under Ministerial Consent:

E3951	Town Walls, Clonmel	Mary Henry
E4010	Town Walls, Clonmel	Bernice Molloy

APPENDIX 4   CONTEMPORARY ACCOUNTS OF THE SIEGE

Extract from the *"Tercentenary of the Siege of Clonmel 1650 - 1950, Souvenir Record",* an article entitled The Defenders of Clonmel by Philip O'Connell M.Sc., Ph.D., pages 26 – 33 inclusive. These accounts, which include a contribution from the poet, John Milton,, deal with the major event in the history of the town walls and are of considerable interest. They are reproduced here to make them more accessible.

1. A CROMWELLIAN CHAPLAIN'S NARRATIVE

[Headed "Letters from Ireland," the following paragraph appears in the *Perfect Diurnal*, London, May 9 to 13, 1650].
"Mr Lloyd, Chaplain to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland [Cromwell], came to Ireland with letters from his Lordship. He informs that the army were set down before Clonmel, that the great guns were planted and that his Excellency intended to fall upon the place very suddenly, and then come to England. The enemy in Clonmel are in number about two thousand foot, all Ulsters, and six score horse. On Saturday was sevennight, the Lord Lieutenant came before Clonmel, and the Tuesday following the great guns were brought down before it."

2. WHITELOCKE'S ACCOUNT.

[Bulstrode Whitelocke (1605 -1675), a native of London, was a member of the Commonwealth Council of State; in 1648 he was appointed as one of the four Commissioners of the Great Seal.
A detailed account of his English and Irish military campaigns is recorded in his voluminous work entitled:
Memorials of the English Affairs from the Beginning of the Reign of Charles I to the Happy Restoration of Charles II, first published in 1682; second edition, 1732.
The following is extracted from a letter dated Clonmel, 10th (recte 19th) May, 1650.]
"This day [19th May] we entered Clonmel, which was quit by the enemy the last night, after a tedious storm [i.e., attack] which continued four hours. Our men kept close to the breach, which they had entered, all the time, save only one accidental retreat in the storm. We lost in this storm Colonel Cullum and some other officers, with divers private soldiers, and others wounded.

The enemy had made many great preparations within by a transverse or crosswork, and to beat our men off as they entered; but afterwards many of them stole out of the town, and left some few with the inhabitants, to make conditions. In the morning our forces pursued and killed all they could light upon."
"From Clonmel [we heard] that Colonel Reynolds is waiting upon the motions of [Lord] Castlehaven with 1,500 horse and dragoons.
That they found in Clonmel the stoutest enemy that ever was found by the army in Ireland, and that there was never seen so hot a storm of so long continuance, and so gallantly defended, neither in England nor Ireland."

3. CROMWELL'S LETTER.

[From the Report of the "Several Proceedings in Parliament," 23rd May to 6th June, 1650.]
"Yesterday we stormed Clonmel, to which work both officers and soldiers did as much and more than could be expected. We had, with our guns, made a breach in their works, where after a hot fight we gave back a while; but presently charged up to the same ground again. But the enemy had made themselves exceeding strong, by double-works and transverse, which were worse to enter than the breach; when we came up to it, they had cross-works,

and were strongly flanked from the houses within their works. The enemy defended themselves against us that day, until towards the evening, our men all the while keeping up close to their breach; and many on both sides were slain. At night the enemy drew out on the other side, and marched away undiscovered to us, and the inhabitants of Clonmel sent out for a parley. Upon which articles were agreed on before we knew the enemy was gone.

After the signing of the conditions we discovered the enemy to be gone, and very early this morning pursued them, and fell upon their rear of stragglers and killed above 200 besides those we slew in the storm. And on our party we had slain, Colonel Cullum, Capt. Jordan, Capt. Humphreys, and some others, and Lieut.- Colonel Grey, Lieut.- Colonel Lee, and some others are wounded. We entered Clonmel this morning, and have kept our conditions with them; the place is considerable, and very advantageous to the reducing of these parts wholly to the Parliament of England."

[Note.—In the Index of Will Abstracts in the Genealogical Office, Dublin," recently published by the Irish Manuscripts Commission, is the following entry : —" Lieut.- Col. John Grey, lying wounded in Clonmel, 1650" (Analecta Hibernica, 17, 255).]

4. SIR LEWIS DYVE'S ACCOUNT.

[Sir Lewis Dyve (1599-1669), a native of Bedfordshire, was a Royalist agent who came to Ireland in 1650 to serve under Ormonde. in Pepys' Diary, where he is described as a great gambler, is told an interesting story of his escape after the execution of Charles I. The following reference to the Siege of Clonmel occurs in a letter, dated 1650, addressed from Hague to the Marquis of Newcastle.]

"The next enterprise Cromwell went in hand with, was to take Clonmell which was kept by Major-General Hugh O'Neale who behaved himself so discreetly, and gallantly, in defending it that Cromwell lost near upon 2,500 men before it, and had notwithstanding gone away without it, if they within had had store of powder; but their small proportion being spent, the Governor with his soldiers was fain to go out of the town on the other side of the river by night towards Waterford, and, leave the townsmen to make conditions for themselves; which they did the next morning, the enemy not knowing but the garrison was still in town till the conditions were signed. Thus the loss of this place, and several other garrisons, for want of ammunition, was another effect of the disobedience of the towns."

5. ARTICLES OF SURRENDER.

[The Articles of Surrender, dated 18th May, 1650, agreed upon between Cromwell and the Commissioners - Michael White and Nicholas Betts - representing the citizens of Clonmel. From the Gilbert Collection.]

1. That the said town and garrison of Clonmel, with the arms, ammunition, and other furniture of war that are now therein shall be surrendered and delivered up into the hands of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant by eight of the clock this morning.

2. That in consideration thereof the inhabitants of the said town shall be protected [as to] their lives and estates, from all plunder and violence of the soldiery, and shall have the same rights, liberty, and protection as other subjects under the authority of the Parliament of England have or ought to have and enjoy within the dominion of Ireland.

6. GEORGE BATES' ACCOUNT.

[From the "Rise and Progress of the Late Troubles, etc.", by George Bates, M.D., printed in London, 1685.]

"Next upon the stage of war succeeds Clonmell, a considerable well-peopled town and walled round, lying upon the Suir four leagues [*sic*] from Waterford. This place was defended by Hugh Boy-O Neal with a garrison of two thousand foot and a hundred horse; whose reputation was much heightened by his pains and assiduity as having caused considerable works to be made for the security of the place. Hither does Cromwell now convert the stress of the war; and having encamped and strongly entrenched himself, he sends two thousand five hundred horse, under the command of Reynolds and Theophilus Jones, the brother of the late Jones, to hinder the Lord-Lieutenant's levies and to reduce towns everywhere as occasions did present.

In the meantime the siege of Clonmel is carried on; and though the garrison bravely defended it, and had beat off the enemy in a fierce assault, with the loss of Colonel Culham, and many others; yet fearing, since there was no hope of relief, that they would at length fall as sacrifices, under the bloody hands of Cromwell, packing up bag and baggage, about midnight they desert the town and secure themselves by flight. The Mayor and townspeople, destitute of defence, without mentioning the departure of the garrison, desire a cessation and parley; and upon condition of saving their houses from being plundered and of liberty of living as they had formerly done, they very willingly open their gates.

But [in] the morning discovering the trick, Cromwell was vexed and sends some troops to pursue the garrison in the rear. But they were before got out of reach, having in the night past the hills and the most difficult ways; but the Cromwellians overtaking many stragglers who, by reason of their wounds or other hindrances, stayed behind, among them there were not a few women, put them all without mercy to the sword."

7. LUDLOW'S ACCOUNT.

[Edmund Ludlow, born about 1617, was a native of Wiltshire; he served in the Cromwellian army both in England and Ireland, and in his Memoirs describes his several campaigns. After the Restoration he escaped to France, and in 1662 went to Vevey, Switzerland, where he died in 1692. His Memoirs (3 vols.) were published at Vevey in 1699; later editions appeared in 1751 and 1771.]

"Youghal, Cork and Kinsale were delivered to the forces of the Parliament by the contrivance of some officers and well - affected persons in those places, and thereupon the Lieutenant-General sent a detachment, under the command of Lord Broghil, to their assistance in case anything should be attempted by [Lord] Inchiquin, or any other, to their disturbance; while he with the rest of the army marched towards Clonmel. Being upon his march thither, he was met by the Corporation of Featherd [Fethard], with a tender of their submission, wherewith the Lieutenant-General was so satisfied, the army being far advanced into the enemy's quarters, and having no place of refreshment, that he promised to maintain them, in the enjoyment of their privileges. Having left our sick men here, he marched and sat down before Clonmel, one side of which was served by a river, and the rest of the town encompassed with a wall that was well furnished with men to defend it. Our guns having made a breach in the wall, a detachment of our men were ordered to storm; but the enemy by the means of some houses that stood near, and earthworks cast up within the wall, made good their breach till night parted the dispute; when the enemy perceiving our resolve to reduce the place, beat a parley and sent out Commissioners to treat. Articles were agreed and signed on both sides, whereby it was concluded that the town, with all the arms and ammunition

therein, should be delivered up the next morning to such of our forces as should be appointed to receive the same. After this agreement was made and signed, the General was informed that Colonel Hugh O'Neal, Governor of the place, with all the garrison, had marched out at the beginning of the night towards Waterford before the Commissioners came out to treat. It somewhat troubled the commanders to be thus over-reached; but conditions being granted, they thought it their duty to keep them with the town."

8. ACCOUNT ASCRIBED TO SECRETARY CLIFFE.

[Cliffe was Secretary to Ireton. The following narrative, stated to have been written by him, appears in the Appendix to the History of the Irish Rebellion: Dublin, 1743.]

"About the middle of April he [Cromwell] drew his army before Clonmel, a garrison [which] the Irish then much depended on, having manned it very well, and having placed an old surly Spanish soldier to be governor of it, one Hugh O'Neal. After the army had been before it about three weeks from the middle of April (a time armies do not usually attempt places of strength, as that place so manned and governed in appearance was), they made their approaches, wherein there was difficulty and daily hazard, and after raised their battery where the guns performed their business very well and had made fair breach in the wall about three of the clock in the afternoon, disabling all the flankers that did any way annoy the breach so that the soldiers stood safe on it, but the drawing the men to the breach was some what offensive which caused some loss; Ni notwithstanding that hazard the men went on courageously and gained the breach. The lot fell on one Colonel Culin to lead them on, and very stoutly he behaved himself in it having several captains of horse (the foot not being so well satisfied that the horse, especially in storms, did not run equal hazards with them) to go on now with they in the storm, which they did with equal courage; but the breach being made on the wall at the end of a great street, and the enemy having cast a work across the street and filled the houses, which had large windows, so full of men that they stormed and got over the breach, betwixt it and their work, coud not be able (the enemy playing out of the windows thick upon them) to stay there long to force their way over their works into the town, but were forced to retreat again to the breach where they met with some difficulty to get upon the wall again, most being pulled up by the hand before they could get back on the top of the breach, by which there was some loss; and Colonel Culin and several officers were killed, and such as escaped were quitting and leaving the breach, which occasioned the Major-General to go to them to the breach and desired them to stand their ground on the breach, where they stood safe enough from the enemy's shot, on which encouragement they did stand and make good the breach; and that night was given direction to bring some of the guns from the battery and to place them on the breach to force the next day a passage through the houses into the town; and after that direction was given, the General went to his tent in the camp, and about twelve o'clock at night some of the officers came from the breach, that the soldiers kept and maintained, and sent word from some of the guards to the General and acquainted him that some of the persons had called on them, that if a safe conduct might be given to some of the town, they would come out and treat for a surrender immediately on notice a safe conduct was sent them; but two of the town, before the safe conduct could come to them, had taken the word and promise of the officers of the out-guard that was nearest to them, for their safety, and so came along with them to the General at the camp, who thereupon treated and made articles with them before he understood or suspected that the great soldier, Hugh O'Neal, and all his officers and soldiers, were run away out of the town over the bridge on the Sure, that is on the further side of the town, and were all run towards Waterford. Yet the General told the persons that treated with him and had agreed on

conditions, or at least had promised them to him, for the articles were not signed before he understood, and taxed with O'Neal's being run away, which being put to them they could not deny, yet he signed their articles and gave them the conditions they had agreed on, and immediately sent a party of horse to follow them; but the Irish were got so far that they could not overtake them; for it was supposed they began to run away as soon as it was dark, and the party of horse drew off, that, all the day, the storm was, stood by that bridge over the Sure, on the County of Waterford side, and long before these persons that treated came out of the town to treat. And the next morning the army marched into the town of Clonmel, where a garrison was settled and Colonel Sankey made governor of the town and county."

9. A BRITISH OFFICER'S NARRATIVE.

[The manuscript entitled *History of the Warr in Ireland from 1641 to 1653* has a lengthy account written by an unnamed officer who served in the regiment of Sir John Clotworthy. Father Edmund Hogan, S.J., who edited the work in 1873 from the transcript now preserved at Clongoweswood College conjectures that the original was compiled about 1685, and that the author may have been a Captain Mulholland. The transcript, which is superscribed "Dublin Residence of the Society of Jesus 1752," appears to have been made about 1750; later it was in the possession of the venerable Father Thomas Betagh, S.J. (born at Kells, Co. Meath, in 1738; died in Dublin, 1811), a member of a once influential north Meath family which lost everything, save *fides intrepida*, in the Cromwellian usurpation.

The *History* preserves many details not elsewhere recorded; and the context reveals occasionally the writer's Irish sympathies, but indirectly expressed.]

"Seeing now that all is calm in Ulster, and gone to their quarters, and that [the] Ulster army is returned 'from the Lord- Lieutenant from Leinster, let us see what is doing there and in Munster. As for the latter, it seems most of them of the English is revolted from the Lord - Lieutenant and the Lord Inchiquin, and joined with Cromwell's party, and headed by the Lord Broghill (afterwards made Earl of Orrery by the king at his restoration), and surrendered their garrisons to Cromwell's disposing. On which the Lord - Lieutenant commanded Major - General Hugh Duff O'Neill with an Ulster regiment, of which one Tirlagh Oge O'Neill Mac Henry of the Fews was Colonel, and about one hundred horse under the command of _____ to go and garrison in Clonmell a considerable place then as affairs stood, and [it was] much feared that Cromwell had a design upon it - which commands were accomplished by Hugh Duff O'Neill. Then Cromwell hearing the Lord-Lieutenant's forces [were] dispersed, took his opportunity of taking towns and castles without any great opposition, and sent two or three regiments of horse and foot before him to block up Clonmel at [a] distance, which was done a month before [he] himself appeared before it, who, as soon as he came, drew close to it and then sent his summons to Hugh Duff to surrender it on good quarters and conditions.

To which answer was made, that he was of another resolution than to give up the town on quarters or conditions, till he was reduced to a lower station, and so wished him to do his best. On which Cromwell fell to his work and planted his cannons, at which time and before several resolute sallies were made out, and sometimes with good success and sometimes not. At this play they were like sons of Mars, till a long breach was made near one of the gates but proved not level enough till night fell.

Within two hours after, the Major-General [O'Neill] sent out two hundred chosen men and officers, with a good guide, through byways from a place of the wall next the river that was neglected by the besiegers, and fell on the

backs of those in a fort not fully finished, behind them, and cut them all off before any relief came; on which immediately the next gate was opened for them and [they] got in safe with the loss of half a dozen. The number killed in the fort was about sixty, being one of their companies.

After this Hugh Duff did set all men and maids to work, townsmen and soldiers, only those on duty attending the breach and the walls - to draw dunghills, mortar, stones and timber, and made a long lane a man's height and about eighty yards length on both sides up from the breach, with a foot bank at the back of it; and caused [to be] placed engines on both side of the same, and two guns at the end of it invisible opposite to the breach, and so ordered all things against a storm [i.e., attack.]

Which storm was about eight o'clock in the morning in the month of January [recte May] and [the English] entered without any opposition; and but few [were] to be seen in the town till they so entered, and the lane was crammed full with horsemen armed with helmets, back breast swords, musquetoons and pistols. On which those in the front seeing themselves in a pound, and could not make their way further, cried out, "Halt! Halt! "On which those entering behind at the breach thought by those words that all those of the garrison were running away, and cried out "Advance! Advance! as fast as those before cried " Halt ! Halt!" and so advanced till they trust forwards those before them, till that pound or lane was full and could hold no more.

Then suddenly rushes a resolute party of pike [men] and musquetteers to the breach, and scoured off and knocked back those entering. At which instance Hugh Duff's men within fell on those in the pound with shots, pikes, scythes, stones, and casting of great long pieces of timber with the engines amongst them; and then two guns firing at them from the end of the pound, slaughtering them by the middle or knees with chained bullets, that in less than an hour's time about a thousand men were killed in that pound, being a top one another.

At this time Cromwell was on horseback at the gate, with his guard, expecting the gates to be opened by those [who had] entered, until he saw those in the breach beaten back and heard the cannons going off within. Then he fell off as much vexed as ever he was since he first put on a helmet against the king, for such a repulse he did not usually meet with.

The siege, at [a] distance and close, being about five or six weeks, and by several sallies out and on the walls several of those within were lost, but many wounded and sick, on which the Major-General consulted with his officers, [and seeing] that their ammunition was gone, concluded to leave the town without Cromwell's leave, and so at nightfall he imported the same to the Mayor, one Whyte, and advised him after he was gone half a dozen miles off as he might guess, to send privately out to Cromwell for licence to speak to him about conditions for the town; but not to make mention of himself on any account till he had done. After which advice to the Mayor he marched away with his men about two hours after nightfall and passed over the river undiscovered by a guard of horse that lay at the other side of the bridge, and [he] made no great halt till he reached to a town called Ballynasack, twelve miles from Clonmell, where he refreshed his men and then marched to Limerick [recte Waterford.]

Then the Mayor, according as he was advised, about twelve o'clock at night sent out to Cromwell very privately for a conduct to wait upon his Excellency; which forthwith was sent to him, and an officer to conduct him from the wall to Cromwell's tent, who after some course compliments was not long capitulating, when he got good conditions for the town, such in a manner as they desired.

After which Cromwell asked him if Hugh O'Neill knew of his coming out, to which he answered he did not, for that he was gone two hours after night fell with all his men, at which Cromwell stared and frowned at him, and

said, "You knave, have you served me so and did not tell me so before." To which the Mayor replied, if his Excellency had demanded the question he would tell him. Then he asked him what that [Hugh] Duff O'Neill was; to which the Mayor answered that he was an oversea soldier, born in Spain; on which Cromwell said, 'G—d-——n you and your oversea! "and desired the Mayor to give the paper back again. To which the other answered that he hoped his Excellency would not break his conditions or take them from him, which was not the repute his Excellency had but to perform whatsoever he had promised. On which Cromwell was somewhat calm, but said in a fury, "By G— above he would follow that Hugh Duff O'Neill wheresoever he went."

Then the Mayor delivered the, keys of the gates to Cromwell, who immediately commanded guards on them, and next morning himself entered where he saw his men [who had been] killed in the pound, notwithstanding which and his fury that Hugh Duff went off as he did, he kept his conditions with the town.

This relation I had not only from some officers and soldiers of the besiegers, but also from the besieged, and that certainly Cromwell lost at the siege and storm about fifteen hundred men, being more than he lost by all the towns he stormed and took before [and] since he came to Ireland.

At this siege Cromwell was sent for by the Parliament of England to repair to them with all haste, to be general of an army to be raised to go into Scotland, hearing that the king was come or to come thither, and so [he] stayed no longer than to get Clonmell."

[Topographical note.—I was informed by the late Mr. J. F. McCarthy of Clonmel, who had made a careful study of the topography of the district, that the place named Ballynasack is the present Ballynaspick in the district of Rathgormack, Co. Waterford.]

10. ACCOUNT IN "APHORISMICAL DISCOVERY."

[The Irish writer of the Aphorismical Discovery - a series of commentaries on the Confederate Wars - gives in his quaint and vigorous style a graphic account of the siege. The original in the archaic style of the period does not make easy reading or interpretation, and I have made a few slight alterations where necessary. The text is lengthy, and only a few extracts are possible here.]

"My Lord Cromwell tumbling and tossing, hammering the former motives into his brains, hitting upon no settled resolution though his army was both strong and numerous with the accession of daily relief, his management martial, his attempts various and valiant, his camp plentiful of both provision, means and all other necessaries conducing to his intent. Yet the dexter deportment of his antagonist [O'Neill] did frustrate and avoid all and singular the former abiliments in such manner that the Lord Cromwell must study some device other than the strength of the body of his army; he now remembers that sparing [i.e., bribery] is not beseeming his honour, now a prince, no private man to fish in the muddy waters of distracted Ireland, is by a golden bait, he intends, instead of pike and musket to use silver spears as better weapons, and to charge his guns not with brazen bullets but with treasure."

[The writer then goes on to relate in great detail how Major Fennell, "an ambitious and covetous traitor," agreed, to surrender the town to Cromwell for five hundred pounds; how "the bargain was made and the conditions accepted"; how the plot was discovered by O'Neill who took full advantage of the situation; and how 500 Cromwellians were massacred as they entered. He then describes Cromwell's keen disappointment at the failure of the plot, and his determination to make a great final assault.]

"My Lord Cromwell certified of this preposterous issue of his late bargain with Fennel! was mightily troubled in mind and therefore did send for other armies and great ordnance which having come did plant his ordnance against the town wail, with continual thundering of shot, made a great breach for both horse and foot assailable. The Major-General [O'Neill] all this while was not idle, and he caused a counterscarp to be made, with a large ditch right opposite to the said breach. Then began the assault very fiercely and courageously, the defenders (as if invincible, which was the same phrase that Cromwell himself gave them) opposed so manly that three several times they beat the enemy back. The adverse General [Cromwell] observing the mortality of his men, the breach so large, and they so often repulsed by a handful of men in respect of his multitude, determined to lose all at once or win the garland. Commanding therefore both horse and foot, pell mell, that such a heap in such an occasion was seldom seen, that by the very throng several of them perished, advancing forward unawares (both opposition and assault being so furious and hot), not observing either ditch or counterscarp fell headlong into the said ditch from whence there was no redemption or possibility of recovery but there were massacred and butchered. Their seconds and comrades seeing what happened, retired, neither the threats of the General nor the bloody swords of inferior officers was sufficient enough to keep them from turning tail to the assault and turned to the camp leaving Major-General O'Neill in the possession of a bloody wall."

[The author then relates how Cromwell was quite unprepared for this repulse; and how the defeat of his hitherto unbeaten troops filled him with dismay. The final scenes and the plunder of the town are then described.]

"Troubled in mind [Cromwell was] without rest or sleep all that night. Very early next morning walking solitarily abroad in sight of the town [he] saw no signs of sentries on the walls. The army then entered, and the inhabitants were pillaged, riffled, and plundered without respect of persons or mercy of degree."

[Sir John T. Gilbert remarks that 'the accounts compiled by the author of Aphorismical Discovery have a high historical value and reveal an intimate knowledge of the personalities and circumstances of the time.]

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II.

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LORD DEPUTY AND COUNCIL TO CROMWELL.

[In the State Papers of Mr. John Milton (edited by Nickolls, London, 1743) is a letter, dated 10th July, 1651, from the "Lord Deputy and Council of Officers in Ireland to the Lord General Cromwell," which has a reference to the Siege. John Milton (1608-1674), better known to students of English literature as the author of Paradise Lost, was appointed in March, 1649, one of the Commonwealth Secretaries of State. In his correspondence he expresses (ostensibly, at least) a fanatical admiration for Cromwell whose Secretary he was during the Commonwealth period. How he contrived to escape execution after the Restoration remains one of the enigmas of that confused period. The extract here quoted is couched in the sycophantic style so characteristic of Milton's political letters. For a transcript of the letter, which is among the collected papers of the late Canon W. P. Burke, author of the History of Clonmel, I am indebted to his nephew, Senator Denis E. Burke, Clonmel.]

"We need not tell you what condition we were in when the Lord Lieutenant [Cromwell] left us . . . . the calling away of a man so superlatively useful - soe owned by God was none of the smallest of our trials especially if you consider the time of doing this which was before supplies of either men or money (both so much wanted at that time) came to us as also immediately upon that sore breach made up by the Lord upon us at Clonmell; which was the heaviest of that kind we ever underwent either in England or here."

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