

Carlingford

Historic Town Walls
County Louth

Conservation & Management Plan



Louth
Heritage
Forum

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Louth County Council, in partnership with the Heritage Council through the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN), has commissioned a Conservation and Management Plan for the monument and site of Carlingford Historic Town Walls. This monument includes the walls and all other defences surviving above and below the ground surface, including other adjacent medieval structures in and around the town walls. Consideration is given to the town as a whole, and both its landscape and regional setting.

Louth County Council and the Heritage Council (administrator of the Irish Walled Towns Network) are currently in a position to co-ordinate the planning for the future conservation and management of Carlingford Town Walls. This is to be undertaken in a planned and systematic way and in accordance with recognised international best practice, hence the necessity for the overall framework of a Conservation and Management Plan.

The conservation and management project is being undertaken in close collaboration between Louth County Council and the Heritage Council, with Oxford Archaeology (OA) developing the plan to the requirements of the two councils.

The primary objectives of the Conservation and Management Plan, as specified in the brief, are to significantly improve the local understanding and awareness of the monument and its significance, promote the recognition and protection of the monument (at both a local and international level), put in place an effective conservation and management scheme for the monument, give guidance and prioritisation for repairs/works and conservation of the monument, inform any planning requirements and put forward any relevant recommendations in relation to an improvement in the presentation of the monument in the short, medium and long term.

Carlingford

Carlingford, as a port town in Uriel (Louth) is of interest for its earlier medieval prominence as part of the de Lacy inheritance, and its re-establishment in the 16th century as a parliamentary corporation. While it has several medieval monuments of interest and im-

portance, remains of the defences are a less obvious aspect of the town. The re-assessment of walled towns is an important part of their historical understanding and interpretation, and must play an important part in economic development, tourism and local educational projects. A plan for the historic defences of Carlingford represents an interesting opportunity to address a number of issues in relation to the understanding, conservation and presentation of a key aspect of the medieval town.

Designations

The town of Carlingford is on the Record of Monuments and Places, and is protected under the National Monuments Act (1930-2004). Individual buildings are protected as National Monuments and/or Protected Structures (under the Planning and Development Act, 2000). Carlingford Castle is a National Monument in State care.

Louth County Council's County Development Plan 2003-9 (as emended July 2006) includes policies on the Built Environment [§2.5], with designated areas of Special Archaeological Interest that include Carlingford [AR3]. Protected Structures are noted in Appendix 3, and include the major monuments in Carlingford, while it is noted that the full county inventory has not yet been completed. Architectural Conservation Areas nominated in the plan include Carlingford (maps in Appendix 2). Policies for protection of archaeology and built heritage are given at P2.9, and Development Guidelines for Carlingford are given in Appendix 2.5.

The Development Plan also gives extensive care to the natural environment [§2.4]. Natural Heritage Areas noted for designation by the National Parks and Wildlife Service include Carlingford Lough [NH452] and Carlingford Mountains [NH453]. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) have been established under the EC Habitats Directive (1992) to conserve habitats and species of European significance, and these include Carlingford Lough and Carlingford Mountain. Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the EC Birds Directive (1979) have been nominated, including Carlingford Lough (452). Important sites of geological interest nominated for designation as Natural Heritage Areas include Carlingford [G9].



The Carlingford Local Area Plan (September 2002) also includes important assessments, policies and development guidelines, and shows the extent of the central Conservation Area and surrounding Green Belt.

Issues and Threats

The history, development and archaeological potential of Carlingford are not fully understood at present. The surviving elements are fragile, and subject to diminution from continuing development near to the line of the Walls. A site of this nature naturally raises questions of public access and presentation, and the impact of increased visitor access.

The Conservation Plan

This Conservation Plan has been written in order to:

- Describe the site and explain its setting, its current protected status and its historical context, with a Gazetteer of the elements that make up the site;
- Assess the significance of the remains, their landscape and ecological context;
- Assess the vulnerability of the site; and
- Provide policies and actions to protect that significance.

Policies for the site will aid the following:

- The protection and conservation of the standing remains and buried features and views within and without;
- The conservation of the entire site and its wider landscape, through sympathetic management of land usage and visitor access;
- The archaeological and research potential of the site;
- Improved access and understanding.

Objectives

It is anticipated that the Conservation Plan will be of use for:

- Developing a wider local, regional, and national understanding of the site and its significance;
- Promoting the recognition and protection of the site;
- Encouraging management schemes for effective maintenance;
- Informing conservation repairs/works, and enhancement;
- Protecting the setting through effective land management;
- Improving access and facilitating improved visitor management to the site.

In addition, the Conservation Plan brings together the documentation relating to the site found in local records,

historical mapping and national documents. The data can then be disseminated in a manageable form.

1.2 BASIS AND STRUCTURE OF THIS PLAN

Background to Conservation Plans

The underlying principles of the plan are derived from The Conservation Plan (James Semple Kerr, 1996). It also takes into account the series of international charters summarised in the Guide to International Conservation Charters (Historic Scotland, 1997), the principal ones being:

- International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (The Venice Charter 1964)
 - UNESCO Recommendations, (1976)
 - Congress on European Architectural Heritage (Council of Europe, 1975)
 - Valetta Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage January 1992 (European Treaty Series 143)
 - Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (referred to as the Burra Charter November 1999).
- Guidance has also been sought from sources such as Commissioning a Conservation Plan (English Heritage, 1998) and in Conservation Plans for Historic Places (Heritage Lottery Fund, 1998), Conservation Management Plans (HLF 2005) and Informed Conservation (Kate Clark, English Heritage, 2001), as well as through other Conservation Plans produced by the Heritage Council of Ireland.

Structure of the Conservation & Management plan

This Conservation Plan follows a four-part structure:

Part I — Significance [Sections 2 - 5] summarises the evidence for the monument and its historical development. It identifies key phases of development/evolution and sets out the elements of significance for each of these and for the monument's overall significance.

Part II — Issues and Policies [Sections 6 - 8] develops principles for protecting and enhancing the elements of significance and making it accessible to public understanding and enjoyment, and sets out the policies.

Part III — Implementation [Section 9] sets out a possible means of implementation of the Conservation & Management Plan.

Part IV — Gazetteer [Appendix B] is a descriptive schedule of individual elements of the site

The Appendices provide: (A) Bibliography and list of sources; (B) Gazetteer; and (C) Table of Archaeological Events.



PART I: SIGNIFICANCE

2.0 UNDERSTANDING THE MONUMENT

2.1 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

The primary object is the town walls of Carlingford, including the remains of the walls and all other defences surviving above and below the ground surface. This includes the standing lengths of wall on the west side of Carlingford, the 'Tholsel' gate, the Castle, and the remains of two other town 'castles', the Mint and Taaffe's Castle. The topography and fabric of the town is indivisible from the defences, and there are a number of historic buildings within the town, of medieval or post-medieval date, including the town's parish church, and the remains of the medieval Dominican friary. The town has to be considered in its landscape and regional setting, which are both striking and historically significant, in addition to being an important aspect of their interest to visitors and tourists.

2.2 SOURCES AND PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Given its history in a relatively marginal position, and its demotion from corporate status in the 19th century, Carlingford is not so well provided with primary sources for its history, and relies more on chance references and documentary survivals. These have yet to be brought together in a single detailed study. National records in London and Dublin were consulted, together with a wide range of bibliographical material. Information on the excavations in Carlingford has been garnered from the National Monuments Service of the DEHLG in Dublin and numerous individual contractors.

Carlingford receives mention in Thomas Wright's pioneering work *Louthiana* (1748), a remarkable antiquarian study that provided plans of stone and earthwork castles in Louth, and has a plan and view of 'The King's Castle'. Daniel Grose's *Antiquities of Ireland* (1797) published a rather more competent view of the castle and friary, with some interesting historical notes. Carlingford, and more generally County Louth, has been fortunate in its historians. The *County Louth Archaeological and Historical Journal*, first issued in 1904, has established itself as one of the most learned and informative of Ireland's county journals. Early 20th-century guides to Louth by Tempest are important for recording local knowledge. The first



detailed study of the medieval town was Bradley's contribution to the urban survey of Louth, which contributed to the *County Louth Survey and Gazetteer* published more recently. A popular account of more than usual value is Gosling's *Antiquarian Guide*, while aspects of recent research have found their way into the displays of the Carlingford Heritage Centre.

Although there is not yet a Louth volume in the *County 'History and Society' series*, there is one for County Down (Proudfoot 1997). The recently published *Historic Towns Atlas for Dundalk* is also important for understanding the regional character.

The archaeology of Louth has also been well handled: 'Louth was chosen as the first region to be studied when the Office of Public Works established the 'Archaeological Survey of Ireland' in 1963. As a result, it was been the first county in the Republic of Ireland to have a Sites & Monuments Record, an Archaeological Inventory and a detailed Archaeological Survey published, in 1984, 1986 and 1991, respectively.' The archaeological survey contains detailed measured surveys of the major monuments in Carlingford.



3.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

3.1 SETTING AND CONTEXT

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Carlingford has more than once found itself as a frontier town, both as being on the edge of the late medieval Pale, and most recently with the Northern Ireland boundary dividing Carlingford Lough. Geographically it sits in the boundary zone between the Louth plains and the mountains, isolated from the rest of Louth by its own mountains, and perched on a tight spot between mountain and water. Carlingford could be said to be protecting the northern approach to the Cooley peninsula, a miniature representative of the rich coastal plains of Louth, as may be reflected by its figuring in the famous epic poem *An Táin Bó Cuailgne* 'Cattle Raid of Cooley'.

The first key to Carlingford's existence is the lough, always important as a safe haven and centre for fishing fleets. Second was its location on the coastal route to Ulster – either on the coast road to Newry or by ferry across Carlingford Lough to Greencastle and so by coast to Dundrum. The castle and town controlled the coast road (by blocking it at the narrowest point) and provided the ferry. Carlingford Lough was often seen as the traditional boundary of Ulster, though Carlingford was sometimes treated as being part of that Earldom, and its port (along with Dundalk) grouped with Ulster ports under Carrickfergus. With the bypassing of the town by a newly-opened road from Dundalk to Newry in c.1600 the town was set on a course of gradual decline that finally led to the abolition of the Corporation in 1840. The subsequent coming of the railway and establishment of a port at Greenore could not fully relieve the loss of the herring fishery.

THE URBAN CONTEXT

Carlingford lies on the very edge of what may be termed the eastern urban province of medieval Ireland, the combined area of the watershed of the rivers between the Liffey, Boyne and Castletown in counties Dublin, Meath and Louth. This was a low-lying area of great arable wealth, being suitable for wheat production, and comprised the heartland of the Norman settlement that later came to constitute the Pale. It is next to and faces the North-East province centred on Lough Neagh, the barley and oat lands of the earldom of Ulster. The majority of medieval towns in these areas were founded by the

Norman colonists and their descendants. Whereas the traditional Irish economy does not appear to have always required towns as market centres there were vibrant 'central places' at monasteries and cathedrals before the Norman invasion (Butlin 1977). The main originator of urban growth was rather the Viking coastal settlement on rivers with adequate seaports, which established the main trading towns that were to continue into later times as the backbone of the urban network.

Anglo-Norman rule was established with the construction of castles, around which the major towns (such as Dundalk and Drogheda) grew, and a network of smaller towns established by the new landowners. It is important to remember that in Ireland, as elsewhere throughout these islands, there was always a hierarchy of urban settlements. At the top was a network of prominent walled and chartered cities and boroughs, provincial or county centres with recognisable urban characteristics in their size and topography. A neat measure of the successful towns of the early 13th century (throughout Europe) is the extent of the mission of the mendicant friars. Bradley (1985) has suggested a list of some 56 Irish towns in the major category, of which Carlingford, Dundalk, Ardee and Drogheda (Uriel), are the examples from County Louth (and all except Carlingford had early friaries).



3.2 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

MEDIEVAL HISTORY, 12TH – 14TH CENTURIES

As is often the case with Norman foundations, the early history of Carlingford is somewhat obscure, and it is not always clear whether the town and castle were always a single entity. As Bradley has shown, Carlingford Lough is mentioned first, as the site of a naval encounter with the Viking fleet in 852, and then the 'ferry of Carlingford' occurs in a grant of 1185 by John de Courcy to Downpatrick Priory. Grants of land within the Irish kingdom of Airghialla (Uriel) were made by Prince John (as Lord of Ireland) on his visit in 1185, who seems on this occasion to have divided the land between Gilbert Pipard and Bertram de Verdon. However, it was only on the death of King Murchadh O Cearbhaill in 1189 that John issued charters of confirmation. The town was already in existence in 1189/92 when Peter Pipard (the lord of Ardee) was granted 'four burgages in Carlingford' with a fishery by Prince John. The grant of 1189/91 to Bertram de Verdon (John's seneschal, and the founder of Dundalk) is not detailed, but apparently included the baronies of Upper and Lower Dundalk – the latter including the Cooley Peninsula and Carlingford. His son Thomas de Verdon granted half his land in c.1195 to his sister Lescelina de Verdun, who married Hugh de Lacy (from 1205 earl of Ulster) and this comprised much of the Cooley peninsula, including Carlingford. It is most likely de Lacy who built the castle, for there was a well-recorded visit of King John to Carlingford on his energetic trip to Ireland in July 1210, when he seized Hugh de Lacy's castle (which remained in royal hands until 1226) and carried out repairs; he apparently granted the barony of lower Dundalk to Nicholas de Verdun; again, on return from John's trip to Ulster he stopped again at Carlingford in August.

In 1217 William de Lacy was told to surrender Carlingford castle to the Justiciar; on the dismissal of Geoffrey Marsh [de Marisco] in 1221 the castle was surrendered to Henry III, and in 1227 Hugh de Lacy's [Earl of Ulster] lands were restored to him by Henry III, including Carlingford. The town must have been well established with streets, harbour and market place. A fair at Carlingford was granted in 1227 to Hugh de Lacy, in August for 13 days after the feast of the Assumption. Hugh granted Carlingford Castle (and no doubt the borough with it) to his daughter Matilda on her marriage to David Baron of Naas 1229, and she held it on the Earl's death in 1242.

The Castle was repaired in 1260/61 Pipe Roll (?then under the crown); In c.1280 she gave to her daughter Matilda, wife of John le Botiler, 'the castle of Carlingford and all the land I had in free marriage in Cooley and Uriel'. Matilda Botiler's granted the castle and town of Carlingford to her grandson William de London in 1304, and a year later his son William sold the manor of Carlingford and all lands in Cooley and Omeath to Richard de Burgo, Earl of Ulster.

Richard, the 'Red Earl' is reputed to have founded the Dominican priory in Carlingford in 1305, though this was perhaps effected by the Dominican Bishops of Armagh (1307-22), Walter and Roland Joyce. The parish church was appropriated to the Hospitallers in Dublin in 1327. The castle was still reckoned as being of the earldom of Ulster on the death of Richard de Burgh in 1326. In 1326 Carlingford was granted the right to levy a murage tax for six years to repair walls, though it is very unlikely that this was the first occasion that the town was defended.

PORT/TRADE

The function of Carlingford as a market town for the immediate locality will have been one of its main supports. The grant of a fair in 1227 implies an existing market, and the grant to Lionel Earl of Ulster in 1358 of a Tuesday market and a fair must be a change of day, etc. As a port Carlingford was paying a modest amount of customs in late 13th century, but was also flourishing as a local fishing port, and was listed in 1282 with Carrickfergus and Coleraine as one of the ports of Ulster, though an inquiry of 1374 into the Butler (Ormond) prise of wine was directed to the Drogheda, Dundalk and Carlingford. An extraordinary record of a 1334 cargo of plate, tapestries, cloth, books, armour and spices may be household goods of Elizabeth Countess of Ulster. The importance of Carlingford Lough for fishermen from elsewhere is shown by a letter of King Henry IV of England to James King of Scotland about some fishermen from Somerset who were attacked by a Spanish ship while fishing at Carlingford and taken to Scotland where they were imprisoned.



LATE MEDIEVAL 14TH – 16TH CENTURIES

The intermittent violence of life on the frontier in County Louth has been well described by Brendan Smith, and especially the complex and shifting patterns of alliance and violence between the national or local authorities, the English or Anglo-Irish settlers and the Gaelic Irish. The ecclesiastical position was especially interesting, with the diocese of Armagh comprising large Irish and English areas within its boundaries, and on occasions it would seem from entries in Bishop's registers that Carlingford served as neutral territory. Carlingford seems to have been rather marginal to the life of the county, but features as a place of entry, or passage, being accessible by sea and on the coast road towards Ulster. Thus Carlingford was plundered and burnt by the Lord Nithsdale with 500 Scots in 1388, against whom the service of Carlingford was raised, and in 1392 O'Neill led an army against Dundalk and the whole Cooley peninsula was wasted and destroyed. The new Lieutenant, the Duke of Lancaster, landed at Carlingford in August 1408 and proceeded to Dublin. An arrangement made later that year by John Dartas, the King's Constable of Carlingford and Green Castle with John Dowdall to lease the castles shows that the two castles were still linked by a ferry, garrisoned, and kept in repair, while the expected profits from warfare and prisoners were to be shared.

For all its tendency towards Ulster, Carlingford was seen as being at the northern extremity of the Pale, as shown by a complaint of the inhabitants of Carlingford and Cooley in March 1410:

The town and lordship are situated on the frontier of the marches of County Louth in a valley between the sea and the mountains... and are cut off from the rest of the county by high mountains and wooded passes as well as by the arm of the sea flowing backwards and forwards, so they are not able to be helped against the Irish and Scots and on account of that they are often burned and devastated.

Perhaps as a result of this the town was granted, in 1410, a quittance of subsidies, tallages etc until the coming of age of the Lord of the Town. In 1415 the new Lieutenant, Sir John Talbot, proclaimed the royal service at Carlingford in commencing his campaign against the Irish, and in 1423 an indulgence was granted for repairs

to the Dominican Church after damage by enemies and robbers. The parish church is often referred to in Bishops' registers, for example the induction of Thomas Waleys (Walshe) as priest in 1361, and the order to the town bailiffs to arrest a heretic in 1369 until it could be decided whether 'he should walk in light or shadows', and a grant of tithes to the same vicar in 1375. In 1411 the Archbishop withheld part of the rectorial income of the church from the Kilmainham Hospitallers in Dublin who had failed to repair the chancel; his own income included the tithe of fish in Carlingford. There is a reflection of the activities of church courts in notes of cases on perjury and unpaid debts, while John White a townsman was admonished for having imprisoned the wife of one of the Bishop's servants for debt. The vicar in 1471 left to become a friar and caused a vacancy. Christopher Dowdall's will of 1485 included bequests to 'the church of the Holy Trinity in Carlingford, the parish church of St Mary of Carlingford, and the chapel of St Michael there'. An examination of the validity of a marriage in 1494 turned on whether witnesses could recall the couple marrying in front of the church or not. On at least two occasions it was the Dominican Priory and not the parish church that was the chosen location for the church's dealings with the Gaelic Irish: the examination of Hugh MacGuinness in 1496 and the absolution granted to Patrick O'Hanlon by the Archbishop in 1494.

Records like these, and the evidence of a continuing land-market in the Dowdall Deeds, show that the town was surviving at a time when others were disappearing, and was even flourishing. Another market was granted in 1450, and in 1467 the rights of mintage were extended to Drogheda and Carlingford, 'though coins of the latter mint have still to be found'. The continued maintenance of the castle would have been a factor in supporting urban life and, along with Poyning's Law, the parliament of 1494/5 made provision for the constables of the King's castles in Ireland (including Carlingford) to be Englishmen born in England. Along with the castle the walls were being maintained, and in 1501 a further murage was granted for 24 years for fortifying the town with a stone wall. The loss of the original murage charters leaves us without the details of the tolls from which it was collected, but the chance survival of a notice from c.1800 of the 'Toll or Custom' paid 'according to charter for time immemorial to the Sovereign of the town' gives a list of



tolls on grain, meat, fish and drink that may reflect the terms of the murage, being similar to other such lists (if not just ordinary market tolls).

The customs of the ports from Carlingford to Carrickfergus were let in 1505 by the Deputy Lieutenant, and must have still been worth collecting.

A survey of crown lands in 1540 described the 'manor of Carlingford' as 'ancient demesne of the king'; the 'capital messuage' of the manor was 'a certain old castle situate on a branch of the sea' which was by a port resorted to by fishermen for herrings in September and October, who paid customs of a 'castle mease' of herrings when the catch was abundant, and other port dues. The castle was (as always in these surveys) utterly ruined and needing repair, but very necessary for protection from 'Hanlans, Magynness, Adneles and other fierce Irishmen' threatening the area. There was a small park of one acre near the castle, the 'Porter's Park', and the Constable of the castle had 50 acres of arable called Mollaghtye. The bailiffs, burgesses and community of Carlingford paid the Constable £4 a year for the 'fee-farm' of the town. This was a fixed sum paid to the crown in return for the borough's financial independence; its appearance at Carlingford, and the claim of 'ancient demesne' status almost suggest that the town was a royal foundation.

The dissolution of the monasteries in 1540 saw the seizure of monastic land, while the institutions themselves often carried on regardless. The surveys of confiscated lands show that the Hospitallers of Kilmainham owned two thirds of the rectorial tithes in the parish church, and of the fish 'caught on the river of Carlingford'; the other third belonged to the Archbishop of Armagh. The roof of the Franciscan church in Drogheda was carried off to repair Carlingford Castle and others, but the Carlingford Dominican house was described as being a 'strong mansion' in good repair, 'on every side strongly fortified, and will be a very sure defence for the town in case of rebellions', while the church was stated to be 'reserved for the accommodation of those who resort to the place in large numbers with the fleet of ships every year to catch herrings and other fish.' The precinct contained a church, belfry, chapter house, dormitory, hall, kitchen, and other buildings, and was leased in July 1541 to Martin Scryne of Carlingford for £5, but was then granted in 1552 to Sir Nicholas Bagenal.



16TH – 17TH CENTURIES

The royal manor of Carlingford was granted to Sir Nicholas Bagenal in April 1552 as part of a large and growing estate in Louth and Down. A surviving rental of 1575 includes the castle and friary, but few other properties apart from manorial interests of uncertain value, and the town's £4 fee farm. As would be expected of any medieval borough that had survived into the Elizabethan period, Carlingford was granted a charter of incorporation in 1571 as two bailiffs, burgesses and community, with customs similar to those of Drogheda. It may be that the absence of a mayor was related to the relationship of the town to Bagenal as lord of the manor. Under James I there was a further grant of a slightly more elevated status as Sovereign, burgesses and community, with a coroner and two MPs. According to Camden, Carlingford was 'a port also of good request and resort'. Dundalk remained an active port as Carlingford declined, both to be overshadowed by Drogheda and Belfast.

Carlingford played a minor role in the 17th-century wars, but a role that demonstrated the continuing importance of the town, especially for import and storage of government supplies. The arrival of Lord Mountjoy as Deputy in 1600 led to his military campaign in Ulster. He passed through Carlingford in October 1600, but only because the Moyry pass was strongly defended, and according to Moryson he placed a large garrison at Carlingford; it was the death of Cranmer, Mountjoy's secretary, at Carlingford that led



to Moryson's promotion to that post. Of greater moment was his opening of the Moyry pass in 1601, created by cutting down trees, building causeways and defended by a small artillery keep at Moyry. The manuscript map of the pass by Richard Bartlett 1602/3 shows Carlingford as a walled town, as does Norden's map of c.1610.

In the Confederacy period Carlingford was seized with Dundalk and Drogheda by the Ulster insurgents, but was retaken by a stratagem. According to a contemporary newsletter, with the approach of Lord Conway and the Scots commander General Munro:

the Towne and Castle of Carlingford was taken by a Ship that came from Knockfergus, their policy was to put up Spanish colours, which the rebels discerning, sent a fisher-boate with ten or twelve of their Commanders to goe aboard the Ship, supposing that some Ammunition was come unto them; but the Captaine of the Ship instead of showing them any such Commodities, clapt them up under the decks, and so landing his Muskietiers, they took the Towne, which they of the Castle soone perceiving, fled away, and left them both unto our forces.'

After Cromwell took Drogheda in September 1649 a force under Col. Venables was sent to take Dundalk and Carlingford, which surrendered under articles allowing the garrison to withdraw to Newry. The 'Down Survey' of 1657 is not very informative for Carlingford, and shows boundaries similar to those appearing on the earliest OS maps. After the Restoration of King Charles in 1660, the Bagenal lands were returned to them, and Viscount Dungannon was granted a patent for the remaining lands in the town (and its commons).

During the Williamite wars Carlingford was reputedly burned by the Duke of Berwick on the retreat of King James, and was then used as a maritime base for the Duke of Schomberg's Army encamped near Dundalk (with hospital ships moored in the Lough for his wounded). The 1696 edition of Camden's *Britannia* was able to describe Carlingford as a 'pretty famous harbour'. The church was apparently rebuilt in around 1700, judging from a belated reward given to its builder.



A CORPORATION IN DECLINE 18TH – 19TH CENTURIES

Carlingford was in decline in the eighteenth century, marked as early as 1726 when the Custom House was transferred from Carlingford to Newry, while Newry was also to be linked with a new canal to Lough Neagh opened in 1743. The Bagenal estates in Cooley passed to the Earls of Anglesey after 1715, who owned much land around the town, but little inside it, and may have derived little profit from it; an early 19th-century estate survey referred to the manorial rights in Carlingford 'so far as the same are existing or exercisable'. The parliamentary interest was in the hands of Blayney Townley Balfour in the mid 18th century, and in cultivating the votes he spent the modest sum of 2s 6d a head in entertaining 93 electors (plus a further outlay to defray the cost of purloined tableware). So perhaps it is not so curious that while the corporation gradually withered away, the parliamentary seats retained their value; when they were abolished at the Union in 1800 no less than £15,000 was paid in compensation to the Marquess of Downshire and Mr Ross Balfour Moore for their loss of interest. The Moore family nonetheless maintained a close hold on the corporation in its declining years, providing chief office-holders (the Sovereign) almost without interruption for over a century, a record probably without parallel in these islands:



Chris Moore, Sovereign intermittently (1724-1742)
 Ross Moore, Sovereign intermittently (1731-1788)
 William Moore, Sovereign (1790-1802; 1805-1814)
 Ross Balfour Moore, Sovereign (1802-1804)
 Edward Frances Moore, Sovereign (1815-1833).

By the time that the parliamentary commission on municipal corporations held its inquiry at Carlingford in October 1833 the borough had all but ceased to operate, and was found to be in 'irrevocable decay'. In the 1831 census there had been a total population of 1319 (614 male, 705 female), making 280 families (34 in agriculture and 84 in trade) occupying 254 houses (plus 31 uninhabited). There were only five burgesses at the last election in 1828, of whom only one was resident, and there were no living Freeman, the last having been admitted in 1754. The only borough record was a volume of 'Acts of Assembly' dating from 1698. There was no corporate property beyond the commons, but the 'greater part' of the property had been 'lost by usurpation and through neglect of the corporation' [740]. The inhabitants reported that there were two commons, north and south. The south common, c.200 acres of rock and scanty pasture that was still made use of had been mostly encroached on for more than twenty years. No part of the north common had been used for many years, having been leased to Mr Stannus (prior to 1709) and then appropriated.

IN CONCLUSION THE INQUIRY FOUND:

'The town presents a very miserable appearance. It is inhabited chiefly by persons who make a livelihood by fishing; they are represented as being too poor even to maintain a school in the town, and it was suggested as one of the purposes to which a fund to be derived from enclosing the commons should be applied.' The corporation was accordingly abolished by the Municipal Reform Act of 1840.

19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

Continuing decline in the 19th century (the population scarcely rose above 1,000) was partially alleviated by quarrying and export of fine building limestone and the coming of the railway in 1876 (following an Act of 1863), harbour improvements at Carlingford in 1887, and the construction of a deep-water port at Greenore in 1863-7. The port of Carlingford participated in the 19th-century herring fishery in Ulster waters, which flourished until the First World War, and Carlingford was in its own right renowned for its oysters in the 19th century, exported to Liverpool and Dublin. Greenore port, first contemplated in 1846 as an admiralty dock, was completed in 1867 at a cost of £120,000, and continues today in active use. The railway was opened from Dundalk to Greenore in 1873, and extended to Newry through Carlingford in 1876. There was a ferry to Greencastle in the 19th century, and to Holyhead from 1873 until 1951. The railway closed in January 1952 and was officially abandoned in December 1953.

3.3 KEY DEVELOPMENT PHASES

Phase I Prehistoric- Early Medieval Carlingford

Phase II The Medieval Town

Phase III Early Modern

Phase IV 19th-century Carlingford

Phase V Modern Carlingford



4.0 SITE DESCRIPTION & ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

4.1 SETTING AND CONTEXT

The present civil parish of Carlingford, representing most of the land in Cooley not held by the church, contains fifty townlands, extending across the Cooley peninsula, though the borough occupied the two townlands of Carlingford Liberties and Commons. The Liberties includes north common (largely rough pasture still on the Ordnance Survey OS 6" map) and a narrow coastal belt of road and settlement. The Commons was a large area south and east of the town.

The location of the town cannot be better described than it was by Bradley:

'The town is situated at the foot of Slieve Foy along a narrow ledge of land where the mountain slope meets the sea. The medieval town lay between the castle, on the north, and the parish church, on the south, with its long axis aligned north-south, accommodating itself to the narrow corridor of low ground. Both the castle and church are on high points but it is the castle built on a rock outcrop projecting into Carlingford Lough and forming a sheltered harbour which dominates the town. The medieval parish church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is sited on top of a ridge which may be partly added to by burials. Two mountain streams run into the lough at this point and would appear to have formed the town's water supply. Isaac Butler, who visited Carlingford in 1744 records that the northernmost stream gave its name to 'Spout Gate' at the west end of River Street where the stream still flows in an open conduit beside the street. Its course would suggest that it ran down the centre of the Market Street to the Harbour. The southern stream supplied the Dominican friary and probably operated its mill. The present quay front is not the original one and is the result of mid-nineteenth century reclamation made in order to construct the railway station, which is now disused. The old railway line now functions as a road.'

4.2 THE MEDIEVAL TOWN: TOPOGRAPHY AND BUILDINGS

Carlingford has a slightly unusual town plan for Norman planned towns in Ireland, though one that is not unusual for port towns elsewhere. There are two main parallel streets, crossed by a market place that accommodates the above-mentioned stream. The two streets approach



the town from the south and south-east, converge on the market place, then run together as far as the castle, where they join into a single road to the north. Beyond them, to the east, was a further line, the old shoreline, rather obscured by the arrival of the railway, but visible in old views of the town. It may be conjectured that the main street (Tholsel Street) was at one time the shoreline, and that the town has migrated across the road, thus creating a series of parallel blocks of properties. This is entirely characteristic of seaside and riverside towns (e.g. in England; King's Lynn, Dover, Hull and London).

The tenement blocks (or burgage plots) are at their most regular between the parallel streets, and are rather less regular as they climb the hill, and in the wider areas south of the market place. The best guide to the historic street pattern is to be found in the manuscript sheets of the Ordnance Survey plan of the town in the 1830s, which shows a pattern not dissimilar from that of today (or rather, that of a decade ago). The Tholsel gate, the one remaining town gate, leads onto the main street, now known as Tholsel Street, where one of the medieval stone houses, the fancifully named 'Mint', stands. The church (which may pre-date the town) sits awkwardly on the edge of the town, but may mark the edge of the primary defensive line, while the Dominican Friary, an early 14th-century latecomer may have given occasion for a southward extension of the defences.





The remains of the defences (described in detail in the Gazetteer) are limited to a few lengths of standing wall (most impressively near the north-west corner), but the entire outline can now be traced, with some degree of certainty, as low walls and current property bounds. The castle limits the north end of the town, and recent excavations have located the north gate and thus the line of the north wall. The Norden plan of c.1610 clearly shows a tower at the north-west corner (and no sea-front defences). The west line of the walls passes in an almost straight line southwards towards the lost Spout Gate and continues beyond towards what may have been the primary south-west corner of the town (in line with

the south wall of the churchyard). From here the existing property boundaries, in part marked by a standing wall, curve south-eastward, around what may have been the west part of the Dominican precinct. Where they reach the road the wall was reputed to be the town wall, according to 18th-century plans on property deeds of Christ Church, Dublin. The seaward return is uncertain (as is the return east from the Tholsel on the inner line. A formal sea defence was perhaps not thought necessary (or was formed by a near-continuous line of back walls), but the location of Taaffe's castle provided the appearance of a well-defended seafront.

4.3 THE MEDIEVAL TOWN: ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW INTRODUCTION

Since 1991 over forty licences have been issued for archaeological work within the Town and Liberties of Carlingford. The majority of these were either for pre-development test-trenching or monitoring of ground works for new dwellings or extensions to existing dwellings or businesses.

Most of the licensed works are summarised in the on-line Database of Irish Excavation Reports: <http://www.excavations.ie/Pages/HomePage.php>, having been published in the annual volumes, e.g. Isabel Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2003: Summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland* (Wordwell Press, 2006). The references quoted are to the summaries therein followed by the excavation licence number where known. Some attempt has been made to locate original reports and illustrations, though this has proved a difficult task, despite the ready cooperation of many of the archaeologists concerned and the Department in Dublin (DEHLG). The results have been tabulated and mapped (see Appendix III), and it was thought useful to provide a descriptive overview of the discoveries.

DESCRIPTION

The largest programme of works was test-trenching necessitated by the installation of a new sewerage and drainage scheme and laying of telecom cables, all in 1998 (98E0161). There were two phases of trenching: the first comprising the opening of eleven trenches mostly in the central part of the town and the second of thirty-five test trenches throughout the town and east of the town around Shore Road, some of which led to rescue excavation of significant archaeological features and deposits. Many sites have shown nothing of archaeological significance, with natural deposits close to the surface, whereas others have revealed substantial surviving medieval deposits including remains of the town walls and other structures. Earlier shore gravels and seashore structures have also been uncovered. Overall the archaeological investigations have given windows into the development of the medieval and later settlement patterns and defences and a picture of the varying zones of archaeological survival and potential within the town.

Of the sites with no archaeology, and natural deposits near the surface, a large proportion are situated along Back Lane on the west side of the northern part of the

town. Here the land starts to rise up to the west line of the town wall and beyond to the lower pasture slopes of Slieve Foye mountain. Natural boulder clay was exposed close to the surface in at least two investigations in this area with no surviving archaeological deposits (1996:260 & 1997:368 [97E0064]). Trenching in 1997 immediately outside the medieval town, west of the town wall and south of River Street in an area now being highly developed has also shown that the natural gravels lie close to the surface here and no archaeological deposits were found (1997:369 [97E0018]).

The west side of the south end of the town also appears to have been little developed, and exhibits a lack of significant archaeology, but for opposing topographic reasons. Some areas here are low lying and were formerly marshy, the land only sloping up to the west beyond the line of the town wall. Trenching west of Dundalk Street in 1996 (1996:261[96E305]), just east of the probable line of the wall, showed substantial made-up ground but revealed no significant archaeological deposits or finds. However investigations have also shown that in certain locations there is survival of a considerable depth of significant medieval archaeology which potentially contains a great deal of information about the development of the medieval townscape.

The testing for the main drainage (1998:419[98E0161]) works revealed a substantial ditch and a later wall with gateway and cobbled road at the north end of Newry Street. These features were dated to the 13th/14th centuries by build-up deposits against the wall and probably represented the east end of the northern line of the defences and a north gate into the medieval town almost exactly where Bradley predicted it would be. The wall survived to a height of over two metres, below the ground, with associated medieval deposits.



Earlier work (1994:166[94E187]) in this area, on a site on the west side of Newry Street, just south of the site of the north wall and gate and therefore within the medieval town, revealed potential medieval deposits with survival of organic material. Up to one metre depth of post-medieval material had overlain parts of the site and in one corner below this was a 15th-17th century layer which in turn overlay 0.5m of late medieval or early post-medieval garden soil. Below the garden soil was a peaty layer 0.3m thick which sat upon the natural gravels. This layer contained branches and possible wattles and may represent medieval occupation with evidence of structures that stood along Newry Street.

On the east side of the town work has revealed shore gravels and beach deposits at a relatively shallow depth below the present town (Louth Arch & Hist Journ. 1992 92E0036). Ten metres east of Tholsel Street, opposite the Mint, a four metre wide structure, possibly a medieval breakwater or sea defence of some kind, was excavated. The structure had a north terminus with an earlier cobbled surface adjacent to it and a small square stone structure to the west which may have been a holding tank for fish.

On the west side of Tholsel Street test trenching on a site between the Tholsel and the Mint revealed that properties here are cut into a natural gravel ridge to the west and no archaeological deposits were found on that side of the site; the gravel being exposed at ground level (1998:Ad6 [97E0141]). On the east of the site, in the four metres adjacent to the street there was up to about one metre of deposits which consisted mostly of modern and post-medieval rubble; however a floor level at 0.5m depth, at the south end of the site, contained some 13th/14th century sherds of local ware.

Rescue excavations at Taaffe's castle (1998:419[part of 98E0161]) necessitated by the main drainage scheme uncovered two north-south walls south of the building. The eastern one was at the south-east corner and presumably connected to the existing stub of wall arch in this location. Both walls showed tight jointing and appeared to show exposure to the sea on their eastern faces. It was therefore suggested that the western one was earlier and the eastern one was contemporary with the castle and both had served the

dual function of sea wall and bawn wall. Earlier trenching (1995:191[95E122]) had revealed much about the construction of the building itself.

Beach gravels were also seen relatively close to the surface outside the east gate of Holy Trinity Church in 1999 (part of 98E0161) during monitoring of the ongoing main drainage scheme. Four young male adult human skeletons, all with sword cuts on their skulls, were found in two shallow graves cut into the gravel. These are thought to have been late medieval or early post-medieval infantry men struck from horseback. The church itself sits on a mound rising quite steeply from street level. Work here related to refurbishment of the church as the heritage centre (1992:133[92E0037]) has unsurprisingly revealed late medieval/post-medieval inhumations within and adjacent to the church building but so far no earlier archaeology has been exposed beneath the burial deposits.

Work in the centre of Carlingford at the market square (1996:262[96E260]) has shown up to 1m of deposits above natural gravels but these consisted of post-medieval demolition deposits. Another site in this locale did not reach natural at 0.7m and at that depth the deposits were of post-medieval date (1996:263[96E322]).

POTENTIAL OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS

There is considerable variation in the existence and survival of archaeological deposits within the town of Carlingford which is due largely to the settlement and land use pattern being influenced by the topographical situation: namely, that the town is on the sea shore at the foot of mountain slopes.

Therefore on the west side of the town particularly west of Back Lane, where the land starts to rise noticeably, the natural is close to the surface and there are few archaeological deposits. This is because the slope would have made development more difficult and the settlement was concentrated nearer Tholsel Street, Newry Street and the shoreline.

Around Newry Street, especially at the north end, near the Castle, considerable medieval deposits and structures have been found. The Railway cutting has truncated a strip of deposits between the town and the





castle but most of the town area is west of this. The Castle is probably one of the main reasons for Carlingford's early growth, if not existence, and settlement may have been concentrated adjacent to it in early medieval times.

The market square, which may have been thought to have been an early focus of settlement and activity, has deposits of one metre including post-medieval demolition deposits deep but no evidence yet of any medieval activity. This is probably because no investigations have reached the medieval deposits due to the depth of later deposits and not due to lack of medieval activity.

On the eastern side of the town, on the medieval sea shore and east of Tholsel Street, earlier shore gravels and some medieval structures survive. The gravels are not deep and there is not a great depth of deposits. The area would seem to have been claimed from the sea and developed from the mid to late medieval periods.

There are possible traces of medieval deposits immediately west of Tholsel Street but the natural here rises to the west forming a gravel ridge.

The work that has been done has revealed a large amount of information about the development of the town. The deposits towards the north-east, around Castle Hill and Newry Street, seem to offer the greatest potential for survival of further important evidence of not only the town defences but may possibly contain medieval occupation layers with organic remains including timber from buildings.

The extensive work undertaken, and the brief nature of many of the existing reports means that there remains potential for further study of the discoveries, and in particular the finds. It would be desirable to bring these together in a single monographic account of the archaeology of Carlingford.



5.0 ASSESSMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

BASIS OF THE ASSESSMENT

The assessment of significance reflects the cultural and ecological aspects of the monument as a whole, particularly in relation to medieval walled towns in Ireland, while also assessing the sections of the site individually. Significance in other terms are taken into consideration, including an academic context and other values that visitors or users of the land may assign to the monument and its historical perspective.

The components of the settlement are assessed individually, thus providing a detailed framework before being considered in a wider setting. This will be used to identify key elements and to highlight specific areas for consideration.

LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Initially, an assessment is made on the significance of the monument at three levels: national, regional and local. The monument can also be considered from four major aspects: intrinsic architectural interest, intrinsic historical interest, historical association, and group (overall) value.

Other factors considered include: the monument's ability to characterise a period; the rarity of survival; the extent of documentation; association with other monuments; survival of archaeological potential above and below ground; its fragility/vulnerability; and diversity.

Less tangible, but still vital to the significance of the monument, are the social and spiritual qualities which it represents. These can be formulated in the following fields: representative value (the ability to demonstrate social or cultural developments); historical continuity; literary and artistic values; formal, visual and aesthetic qualities; the evidence of social history themes; contemporary communal values; and the power to communicate values and significance.

DEGREES OF SIGNIFICANCE

Measures for assessing the significance of Carlingford in its various aspects have been based on all the above criteria where they have seemed relevant. The degrees of significance adopted here are:

Outstanding Significance: elements of the monument which are of key national or international significance, as among the best (or the only surviving example) of an important class of monument, or outstanding representatives of important social or cultural phenomena, or are of very major regional or local significance.

Considerable Significance: elements which constitute good and representative examples of an important class of monument (or the only example locally), or have a particular significance through association, although surviving examples may be relatively common on a national scale, or are major contributors to the overall significance of the monument.

Moderate Significance: elements which contribute to the character and understanding of the monument, or which provide an historical or cultural context for features of individually greater significance.

Low Significance: elements which are of individually low value in general terms, or have little or no significance in promoting understanding or appreciation of the monument, without being actually intrusive.

Uncertain Significance: elements which have potential to be significant (e.g. buried archaeological remains) but where it is not possible to be certain on the evidence currently available.

Intrusive: items which are visually intrusive or which obscure understanding of significant elements or values of the monument. Recommendations may be made on removal or other methods of mitigation.

5.2 STATEMENT OF OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE

The overall significance of Carlingford can be defined as follows:

Carlingford is of outstanding significance as a medieval defended town with its castle, walls and other buildings demonstrating the life and trade of the town in a spectacular natural setting.

The significance of Carlingford is also expressed here as



key phases of significance (§5.3) and the key elements of significance (§5.4), along with the individual assessments made in the Gazetteer.

5.3 KEY PERIODS OF SIGNIFICANCE

PHASE I: PREHISTORIC-

EARLY MEDIEVAL CARLINGFORD

While the area around Carlingford is of Considerable Significance for its early archaeology, this has not yet been shown for the town itself, though there must be potential for early phases of occupation to be discovered. Low Significance.

PHASE II: THE MEDIEVAL TOWN

The medieval town survives with key buildings intact, and its topography and setting clearly visible. Together with the historical context, and archaeological discoveries and remaining potential, this is of Outstanding Significance.

PHASE III: EARLY MODERN

The early modern period was important for the survival of the town, though it has left few obvious traces, and was of Moderate Significance.

PHASE IV: 19TH-CENTURY CARLINGFORD

The 19th century saw the disappearance of the corporation, and the arrival of the railway and Greenore Docks. These were Intrusive, despite the benefit they brought, although many buildings of this period now create the character of the town, and therefore the phase is of Moderate Significance.

PHASE V: MODERN CARLINGFORD

From the point of view of the medieval town and defences, the development of the town, however desirable socially and economically, has occurred at the expense of historic fabric, leading to destruction and loss in places, and an impact on the appearance and setting of the town that can only be seen as Intrusive.

5.4 KEY ELEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

SETTING AND CONTEXT

The natural and landscape setting of Carlingford is of considerable significance. The landscape of mountain and sea lough is of natural beauty and historic significance for the general setting of the town, as the land and sea routes are significant for the historic

development of the town. There are a number of key views of the town that are significant for the appreciation of its setting, including views across the town from the castle looking south, and from the south of the town looking north-west, and views from the harbour towards the mountains. The town can also be seen in the wider context of the Cooley peninsula as a key element of the medieval landscape that supported the town.

ECOLOGY

The ecology of the mountain and harbour are of considerable significance for understanding the landscape history of the site, and for the biodiversity value they represent.

THE CASTLE

The surviving remains of Carlingford Castle are of considerable significance as a key element in the origins of Carlingford as a defended site on a narrow coastal pass.

THE MEDIEVAL TOWN PLAN

The street plan of Carlingford is of considerable significance for preserving the medieval topography of the town, which represents a slightly unusual layout of parallel streets aligned along the shore.

MEDIEVAL TOWN WALLS

The medieval town walls are of considerable significance for defining the area of medieval settlement, for the surviving elements (west wall and Tholsel), especially the juxtaposition of the wall and mountainside showing the urban/rural divide in a dramatic manner, and also for the potential for further discovery below ground.

MEDIEVAL BUILDINGS IN THE TOWN

The Friary, Holy Trinity Church, Tholsel, Mint and Taaffe's Castle (and King John's Castle) together form an exceptional group of medieval structures demonstrating the variety of urban building in a relatively small town, and are therefore of Outstanding Significance.

ARCHAEOLOGY

The evidence of past discoveries suggests there is an exceptional potential for discovery of buried remains of the medieval town in some places, with a quality of survival partly arising from the lack of later destructive activity. This is of considerable significance.



PART II: ISSUES AND POLICIES

6. CONSERVATION POLICY AIMS

DOCUMENTATION

Although discontinuous, the documentary record of the site from the 13th to the 17th century is of moderate quality and significance, compared with other places.

6.1 This section of the Conservation Plan proposes policies to protect and, where possible, to enhance the significance of the monument as it has been identified and described above. The proposed policies are intended both to meet immediate needs and to provide for the long term. The underlying objective is to ensure that what is significant and valuable in the monument survives for the use and enjoyment of the future, whatever the present priorities may seem to be. In implementing the policies, it is important that a balance is maintained between conservation, continued farming use, and public expectation from the monument.

The proposed policies are intended to provide a framework for decision making and a benchmark against which to assess proposals for change. Specifically they aim to:

- Preserve and protect the significance of Carlingford for the benefit of present and future generations.
- Establish an effective conservation philosophy for the monument.
- Provide guidance for a sympathetic management regime.
- Consider how public access can be assured and appreciation of the monument enhanced through schemes of interpretation.
- Define policies to help guide the care and maintenance of the monument.
- Provide guidance on the treatment of features which are intrusive or detrimental to an understanding of the monument.
- Identify elements of significance which have suffered erosion, and which may be restored to understanding.



7 ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES & POLICIES

7.1 AIMS AND APPROACHES

7.1.1 The aim in identifying issues and proposing action to meet them is to promote the protection, conservation, appropriate uses and future management of the monument buildings in a manner which retains their significance. The overall purpose is to ensure that what is valuable about Carlingford survives for the benefit of future generations, as well as serving the needs of the present.

7.1.2 The plan seeks to place information and understanding as the key to effective protection, conservation and enhancement, so that decision-making is an informed process.

7.2 UNDERSTANDING

7.2.1 Current Understanding: The wall is partly visible and well-understood, but there remain areas of uncertainty about the route of the wall (and possible changes in the defensive circuit over time). This information is not easily available to planners and residents, which has resulted in loss and damage. It is essential that the line and significance of the wall is well understood by residents, planners and developers.

7.2.2 The history and archaeology of Carlingford is not fully understood, and more research needs to be done on the town, and on locating scattered sources that can illuminate its past.

7.2.3 Archaeological Potential: Although the major monuments have been well studied and surveyed, the standing remains of defences still have potential for research and investigation, as do the buried remains of the walls and gates. Some of the other, older buildings in the town are likely to preserve elements of historic fabric hidden by later rebuilding, and likewise have potential for research and investigation.

7.2.4 The results of previous excavations have been considered, and it is clear that the sites reported briefly or in summary deserve further study and proper publications, perhaps best achieved by bringing the results together in a single monograph.

7.2.5 Historical Potential: Further study of local and national records would yield valuable information about the history of Carlingford. The lost records of the Corporation should be sought and searches for relevant

material should be made in the Anglesey estate records in PRONI.

Policies for information, recording and research

Policy 1: Information, recording & research

To promote understanding of Carlingford's Town Walls through developing existing knowledge, further recording and research, and making knowledge available in an accessible form, in order to ensure their preservation.

Policy 1.1:

To create a formal heritage record for Carlingford, distinct from working files and records of current transactions, to include a record of all interventions in the monument.

- Provide clear mapping of the defence zone for planners and residents
- Create a definitive collection of archaeological reports for Carlingford
- Survey the most significant remains
- Publish the results of previous excavations.

Policy 1.2

To promote future research, with a planned agenda for investigations and an ability to respond to opportunities.

- Adopt a research agenda for Carlingford
- Ensure that work on or near the walls is informed by prior investigation
- Seek opportunities for archaeological investigation of the line of the wall
- Record future repair and maintenance works
- Carry out further investigation in historical and archive sources.

7.3 PROTECTION

SURVIVAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITION

7.3.1 The defences of Carlingford have been diminished through neglect and processes of rebuilding, gradual alteration and demolition. Despite the protected status of Carlingford destruction and damage has taken place recently to the fabric, environs, and setting of the defences.

7.3.2 The surviving parts of the defences are in various stages of repair, ranging from reasonable maintenance to benign neglect. The condition of the Castle and major monuments is reasonable, though there is concern regarding the works being undertaken at Taaffe's Castle.

7.3.3 The walls have a varied rate of survival, from greater or lesser standing remains to buried foundations. They are at risk from adjacent building works, gardening and



landscaping activities. The standing remains are in need of maintenance or at least monitoring of their condition.

7.3.4 The physical remains of the walls comprises both the walls and their setting, and there is a need more vigorously to protect the fabric and setting of the monument from inappropriate development nearby (while recognising that they are an urban monument in a changing built environment).

DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES & PROTECTION OF CARLINGFORD

7.3.5 Despite the existence of development studies and planning guidance for Carlingford, the recent decade of development has changed the character of the historic town in a manner that can only be regretted. The remarkable setting of the historic town between mountain and seashore, and the key role of the defences in expressing the change from town to country has been diminished through allowing tall buildings near the walls, and building in the green areas outside the walls, that have had a serious impact on the historic skyline and visible relation between the historic town and its rural setting.

7.3.6 Despite Carlingford Lough's designation at local, national, and international levels for its significance, the harbour is at risk from development pressure, where there is further potential to damage the historic maritime character of the town (including the tidal harbour) as well as the marine environment.

PROTECTION OF CARLINGFORD HERITAGE COLLECTIONS

7.3.7 The Carlingford Lough Heritage Centre provides an admirable display for understanding the locality and providing orientation for visitors. It does not hold archaeological or historical collections but there are extensive collections of materials and records recovered in recent archaeological works in Carlingford that need to be collected and curated.

7.3.8 Archaeological records are the essential prime material that needs to be available for future interrogation and study. They are often retained by the commercial contractors, and need to be collected lest they become damaged or lost, and placed in a secure store. They have similar, though not identical, needs to archaeological finds, which are also at risk.

POLICIES FOR PROTECTION

POLICY 2: PROTECTION

To place the conservation of Carlingford and its defences, and the protection of its setting at the heart of future planning and management.

Policy 2.1: To protect the historic fabric and character of the historic defences within Carlingford, and the surviving evidence for their former use and functions.

- Stringent controls on development near the defences or affecting their setting
- No development on the line of the defences.

Policy 2.2: To initiate repair programmes for standing elements, and encourage careful maintenance and monitoring.

- Encourage partnership repair programme with owners of walls
- Provide guidance on good practice for maintenance
- Seek to engage with state and private owners regarding repairs and curation of major monuments (Castle, Taaffe's Caste, Tholsel, etc.).

Policy 2.3: To encourage awareness of the fragility of buried remains (e.g. in gardens), and to protect them from damage.

- Provide guidance on good practice for maintenance.

Policy 2.4:

To minimise risk to the historic fabric of the monument from normal public use and administrative operations.

- Provide physical protection where appropriate, e.g. Tholsel gate.
- Ensure that public services and infrastructure works outwith planning control do not cause damage to the monument.

Policy 2.5: To protect the skyline and rural setting of the walled medieval town, and its historic relationship to Carlingford Lough.

- Re-affirm Green Belt area in Local Plan
- Designate protected harbour zone.

Policy 2.6: To identify collections of materials from Carlingford excavations and bring them into an appropriate curatorial regime.

- Identify contractors with written records and finds
- Liaison between Louth County Museum, Louth Archives and Carlingford Heritage Centre about appropriate locations for long-term storage of materials.



7.4 CONSERVATION

REPAIR NEEDS AND A PHILOSOPHY OF CONSERVATION

7.4.1 Works on the defences of Carlingford should endeavour to protect historic character and significance. Works should avoid unconsidered change and loss of significance through over-restoration, and should seek minimal and reversible approaches. Appropriate traditional materials and mortars should be used.

7.4.2 Works should be informed by full understanding of the fabric, and a full record of condition before and after should be made, if necessary by an archaeologist, to record any discoveries.

7.4.3 Works should be undertaken by specialist contractors with experience of historic fabric repairs.

POLICIES FOR CONSERVATION, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

Policy 3: Conservation, repair & maintenance

To implement effective regimes for maintenance and repair, protecting significance and historic integrity and observing exemplary standards of conservation practice.

Policy 3.1: To ensure regular and effective programmes of structural maintenance, with planned monitoring, inspection, conservation and repair.

- Monitor and investigate cracks and failures.
- Investigate the need for localised stone repair/fixing.
- Remove tree and shrub growth, and discourage re-growth, and ivy.

Policy 3.2: To ensure that all works, whether new works, conservation or repair, are informed by a clear and detailed understanding of the monument, are preceded by appropriate investigations of the historic fabric, and are fully recorded.

- Establish a cycle of monitoring and maintenance.
- Investigate, survey, and record parts of monument prior to and during works.
- Ensure repairs are recorded and logged for the walls as a single maintenance archive for the monument to inform future management decisions.

Policy 3.3: To carry out all works in accordance with the highest standards of conservation, retaining significance,

avoiding loss of fabric, and adhering to historical accuracy in design, materials and workmanship.

- Employ experienced firms to design and carry out works.
- Ensure that clearance and maintenance is carried out under supervision.
- Where possible allowed a reasonable level of non-destructive plant growth.



7.5 ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

IMPROVING LEGIBILITY AND ACCESS

7.5.1 There are many opportunities for enhancing the appearance of the defences, and their context and setting.

7.5.2 Access to the defences would require the establishment of footpaths and viewing points, sometimes in partnership with private landowners. The principle of the buffer zone of public access required for a recent development should be followed elsewhere. Clearing of the wall zone would require some landscaping, and subsequent maintenance.

7.5.3 Access to Carlingford Castle could be improved with rebuilt steps and a viewing point, and if necessary safety works to make access less hazardous. The means of promoting public access to privately owned Taaffe's Castle should be explored, either by public acquisition or agreement with the owner. Means of obtaining better access to The Mint (which could be roofed) and the upper stage of the Tholsel should be investigated.

7.5.4 Lost features such as the town gates could be marked out in paving, possibly following non-destructive investigation of their location and character; the line of the lost north walls could similarly be identified in the paving. With the north gate, there might be opportunities for recreating a landmark 'entry feature' to celebrate the site of the gate.

Policy 4.2 To enhance public appreciation of the defences and their setting wherever possible by removing or ameliorating visually intrusive elements, or those which conceal or confuse understanding.

- To improve the setting of features e.g. Civil Defence buildings below the Castle, and housing built near the town walls.

Policy 4.3 To enhance understanding of the historic monument, where appropriate by repairing past damage, and seeking to re-create key elements which have been lost.

- To replace or mark out lost or damaged features North Gate, Spout Gate, and north walls
- Consider revealing lost and buried elements of the western wall circuit.

POLICIES FOR ENHANCEMENT & IMPROVEMENT

Policy 4 To enhance the historic character and visual qualities of the monument, where appropriate, by restoring eroded elements or indicating lost features, and removing intrusive elements.

Policy 4.1 To improve public access so as to minimise impact on the monument

- To maintain good and equal means of access for visitors
- To provide new means of access to the walls, by creation of paths and landscaping
- To improve access to Carlingford Castle, Taaffe's Castle, The Mint and Tholsel.



7.6 VISITOR ISSUES

VISITOR ACCESS IN CARLINGFORD

7.6.1 Visitors to Carlingford may enjoy the Heritage Centre and walking through the streets of Carlingford, but the lack of access to monuments such as the Castle, Taaffe's Castle and the interior of the Mint and Tholsel is frustrating for the curious.

7.6.2 Even if made aware of the walls, access to a perimeter walk is not obvious to the visitor, and the understanding that a view from the mountainside brings is not being promoted.

VISITORS TO LOUTH AND DOWN

7.6.3 Carlingford is but one of a large number of prehistoric and medieval antiquities in a region of outstanding natural beauty, and has the potential to feature in a broad-cross-border promotion of (at least) Louth, Armagh, and Down.

7.6.4 Carlingford was historically linked with Greencastle, and other places around Carlingford Lough, which gives potential for a maritime aspect to tourism.

7.6.5 Carlingford is an outlying element in the Anglo-Norman settlement of County Louth, and can be seen in the context of Drogheda, Mellifont, and numerous other sites not necessarily in state care but nonetheless interesting.

7.6.6 As the object of the great epic of early Irish literature, *An Táin Bó Cuailnge*, the early archaeology of the Cooley peninsula and environs is another subject for promotion (as has been done with a recent coloured guide leaflet issued with 'Archaeology Ireland').

7.6.7 The geology of the Gullion-Carlingford area is also of great potential for visitors and walkers, and is well-presented in the Louth Museum, but could become more of a focus of tourist attention.

PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION & INFORMATION

7.6.8 Visitors to Carlingford Heritage Centre will discover much about Carlingford, and it is important that the Antiquarian Guide is kept in print, and updated.

7.6.9 There is also a need for information outside, both for modest signage of historic features, and also for clear mapping for the visitor that indicates the medieval town and its defences. There may be scope for online information, or extending the existing online services.

7.6.10 The educational potential of the medieval and later town of Carlingford is immense, especially as seen in the broader context outlined above. The opportunities

to tell through walks, facts sheets, music/song, sean-nachie/livinghistory initiatives the impact of the development of Carlingford both in terms of residents within and beyond the Pale should be explored.

POLICIES FOR ACCESS AND INTERPRETATION

Policy 5: To encourage public understanding and enjoyment of the site and its setting, promoting a high degree of physical and intellectual access and meeting the needs of a broad variety of users.

Policy 5.1: To ensure that enjoyment and understanding of the monument are open and accessible to all.

- Ensure that public access to the walls is enhanced not diminished.
- Improve mapping and signage to historic features in the town
- Ensure opportunities for equal access for the mobility impaired, and provision of other means of understanding where this is not possible.

Policy 5.2: To promote Carlingford in its wider region of county and cross-border landscape and antiquities, with tourist trails and promotion.

- Link between historic sites (e.g. castles and medieval towns) in region
- Promotion of natural and geological environs of Carlingford and its harbour
- Highlight early Irish landscape and the Cooley peninsula context of the *Táin Bó Cuailnge*.

Policy 5.3: To develop interpretation to encourage understanding of the principal features of the monument, and facilitate access to information.

- Mark the line of the defences on town maps and tourist literature
- Provide modest signage to identify sites
- Consider developing new materials and media.

Policy 5.4: To develop a specific initiative to link historical and ecological understanding of conservation to maximise sustainable usage of Carlingford's environs for both residents and visitors to the area.

Policy 5.5 To develop the range of educational provision for schools and other groups, as an important element in interpretation and the promotion of access.

- Develop a defences walk as part of an educational/tourist trail of the historic town.



PART III: FUTURE MANAGEMENT

8. MANAGEMENT PLAN

8.1 INTRODUCTION

8.1.1 The management of the Carlingford Town Walls will necessarily rely on a combination of official encouragement and sponsorship, partnership with landowners, and the enthusiasm of local interest groups.

8.1.2 The conservation policies outlined in the Plan were adopted by Louth County Council on 31st March 2008 and will be promoted as the basis for future management, though they will need to be approved by the appropriate committees, and there may be advantage also in securing the agreement and support of related statutory and other bodies and authorities. This process of agreement may require further consultation to resolve any remaining concerns and secure full support.

8.2 RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SITE

8.2.1 Carlingford Town Walls fall under several landownerships, and although the walls at one time will have belonged to the Corporation (and the County Council as its successor body) no trace of public ownership now remains, except for the individual monuments in state care. The means of effecting works of conservation and enhancement can thus only be by consent and partnership agreements.

8.2.2 Responsibilities can be summarised as follows:

WHO CAN DO WHAT FOR CARLINGFORD?

LANDOWNERS AND INHABITANTS

- Care and concern for remains
- Vigilance against unsympathetic change

LOCAL AUTHORITY

- Responsible planning guidance and enforcement
- Encouragement of best practice
- Facilitate enhancement (and obtain grants)

THE STATE

- Maintain and promote State monuments
- Encourage public access
- Promote across-border heritage tourism

8.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

8.3.1 The aims of the management plan is to promote the protection, conservation, appropriate uses and future management of the site and buildings in a manner which retains their significance. The overall purpose is to ensure that what is valuable about Carlingford survives for the benefit of future generations as well as serving the needs of the present (7.1.1 above).

8.3.2 The objectives can be summarised as follows:

WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR CARLINGFORD?

UNDERSTANDING

- Revise town plan and visitor map
- Further historical and archaeological research
- Collect and publish results of excavations in Carlingford

PROTECTION

- Protection of fabric
- Protection from development damage
- Effective repair and maintenance
- Protection of buried remains
- Minimise risk from traffic
- Protect green setting of walls and harbour setting of town
- Protect records and archaeological finds
- Conservation
- Ensure maintenance and repair of remains
- All works informed by understanding
- All works carried out to proper standards

ENHANCEMENT

- Improved public access to walls, castles and historic buildings
- Improving the setting of historic structures
- Revealing or setting out location of lost features (gates)

VISITOR ISSUES

- Develop town trail and access to walls
- Improve signage
- Establish viewpoints for significant views
- Improve access to King John's Castle and Mint
- Access to Taaffe's Castle?
- Additional resources for Heritage Centre
- Promote Carlingford in the context of medieval Louth/Down, and its natural setting
- Promote across-border heritage tourism



8.4 WORKS PROGRAMME

8.4.1 The potential works of conservation and enhancement of the Town Walls can be considered in three areas:

- A: Information and Access
- B: Presentation and Interpretation
- C: Fabric and Structural Works

8.4.2 The works are here set out as a scheme of actions for the short, medium, and long term, as shown in the following tables.

8.5 RESEARCH AGENDA

8.5.1 A research agenda should not be too prescriptive, or obstruct the development of new ideas and possible avenues of investigation. However, it may be useful to record what seems at this stage to be the range of issues that could be addressed by historical and archaeological investigations. These are shown in the following table, arranged under subject headings:

CARLINGFORD RESEARCH TOPICS

HISTORICAL INVESTIGATIONS

- Anglesey family estates and archives (PRONI)
- Moore/Ross archives
- Corporation records
- Early maps of the area
- Decline of harbour and fishery
- Visits by artists and antiquaries
- Estates, settlements and boundaries in Cooley
- Urban network in Counties Louth and Down
- Architectural investigations
- Survey of remaining defences
- Domestic architecture of Carlingford

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

- Character of defences (walls, gates, ditches)
- Extent of urban settlement and suburbs
- Development of seashore and harbour
- Evidence for decline and abandonment
- Evidence of economic activity of town
- Environmental evidence from wet and dry deposits

8.6. REVIEW

8.6.1 The Plan itself will need to be reviewed at regular intervals (every five years would probably be sufficient) to reflect increased knowledge, altered circumstances, changes in legislation or guidance, and the changing aspirations of the principal bodies and partners involved. The review process itself will need to be co-ordinated between the bodies.



Appendix B: Carlingford Gazetteer

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1.01 Overall Setting and Visual Context

SUMMARY

Carlingford has a striking and historically important setting between mountains and sea, reflecting the reasons for the town's location.



CARLINGFORD TOWN WALLS

DESCRIPTION

Carlingford sits in the boundary zone between the Louth plains and the mountains, isolated from Louth by its own mountains, and perched between mountain and water. As described by Bradley: 'The town is situated at the foot of Slieve Foye along a narrow ledge of land where the mountain slope meets the sea. The medieval town lay between the castle, on the north, and the parish church, on the south, with its long axis aligned north-south, accommodating itself to the narrow corridor of low ground. Both the castle and church are on high points but it is the castle built on a rock outcrop projecting into Carlingford Lough and forming a sheltered harbour which dominates the town.'



The town features in a series of key views, available to the visitor as they were to early artists and photographers. These include views of the town from the castle, and views of the town from various points in the harbour, and more distant views from the mountain. The more historically important views are of the town seen against

the mountain backdrop, showing the relation of the town and castle to the narrow pass by the water's edge. These occur both next to the defences, and from higher up the mountain

Views out from Carlingford across the Lough to County Down are also of importance for the appreciation of the natural setting and historic context of the town, including the appearance of the harbour at different stages of the tides.

Views out from Carlingford across the Lough to County Down are also of importance for the appreciation of the natural setting and historic context of the town, including the appearance of the harbour at different stages of the tides.

STATUS

The views are an important part of the town, and visual aspects have been discussed in planning documents for Carlingford, but largely ignored in the granting of permissions for new development.

SIGNIFICANCE

The views of Carlingford in its setting are of Considerable importance for the character of the historic town. There are few medieval towns (certainly in these islands) where the relationship of town, defences and countryside can be appreciated in such a way.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Key views have been compromised by modern development, impacting on the historic skyline of the town as seen from the harbour, by allowing tall buildings to be built next to the defences.
- Development near the west walls, and the creation of a new road, and culverting of the historic stream have also had a negative impact on the setting of the defences and the historic town.

POLICIES/RECOMMENDATIONS

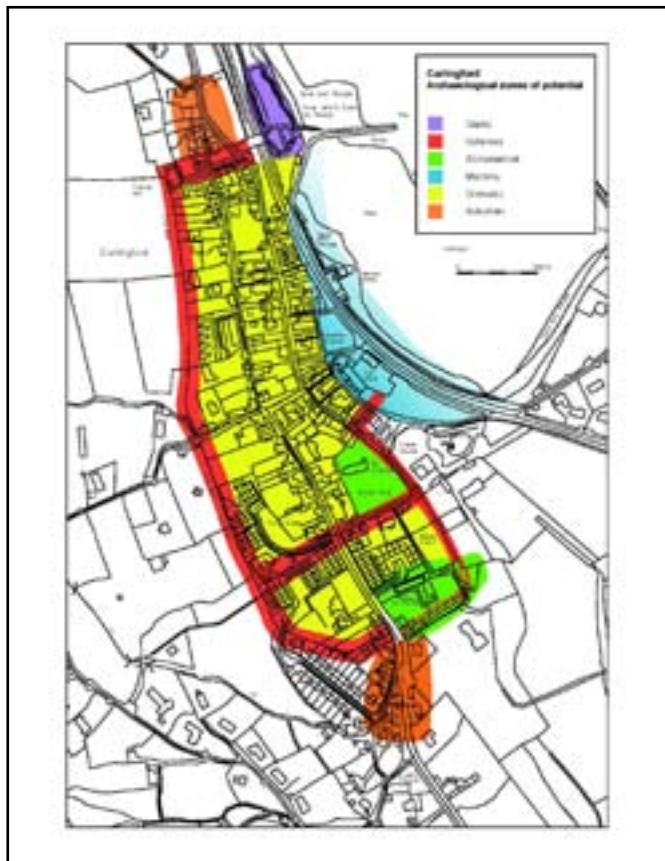
Stringent planning controls are required before more damage is done to the setting of the historic town.



1.02 Boundaries and Designations

SUMMARY

The natural and cultural aspects of Carlingford and its environs are well protected by designations and policies at local and national level.



DESCRIPTION

The town of Carlingford is on the Record of Monuments and Places, and is protected under the National Monuments Act (1930-2004). Individual buildings are National Monuments or Protected Structures under the Planning and Development Act (2000). Carlingford Castle is a National Monument in state care.

Louth County Council Development Plan 2003-9 (as amended July 2006) includes policies on the Built Environment [§2.5], with designated areas of Special Archaeological Interest that include Carlingford [AR3]. Protected Structures are noted in Appendix 3, and include the major monuments in Carlingford, while it is noted that the full county inventory has not yet been completed. Architectural Conservation Areas nominated in the plan include Carlingford (maps in Appendix 2). Policies for

protection of archaeology and built heritage are given at P2.9, and Development Guidelines for Carlingford are given in Appendix 2.5

The Development Plan also gives extensive care to the natural environment [§2.4]. Natural Heritage Areas noted for designation by the National parks and Wildlife Service include Carlingford Lough [NH452] and Carlingford Mountains [NH453]. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) have been established under the EC Habitat Directive (1992) to conserve habitats and species of European significance, and these include Carlingford Lough and Carlingford Mountain. Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the EC Birds Directive have been nominated, including Carlingford Lough (452). Important sites of geological interest nominated for designation as Natural Heritage Areas include Carlingford [G9].

The Carlingford Area Local Plan (September 2002) also includes important assessments, policies and development guidelines, and shows the extent of the central Conservation Area and surrounding Green Belt.

STATUS

As above

Significance

The designations mostly reflect the significance of Carlingford and its environs.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The historic buildings of Carlingford have yet to be assessed and listed
- The designation of the historic centre is adequate, but it would be advantageous also to have a more detailed mapping of different components within the town, showing defensive, secular, and religious zones.
- The plan designations (and green belt mapping) do not seem to have effectively preserved the town from the effects of development pressure in the last decade. If this continues the historic character of Carlingford will be even more severely compromised, if not destroyed.



1.03 Carlingford Castle

SUMMARY

A late 12th or early 13th century castle built on a rock outcrop in a strong defensive position on the shore of the Lough. Consisting of keepless curtain wall and towers with a later internal division creating a large hall covering the east half of the castle and a courtyard in the west half.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The castle is thought by Bradley to have been established by John De Courcy prior to his being outlawed in 1205 and subsequently granted to the de Lacys but was not referred to until 1210 when monies were spent on its repair by King John. The king made payments to carpenters, quarriers, ditchers and miners suggesting he strengthened the defences (Orpen 1911-20, ii, 252). Repairs were again effected in 1262 and there are records of the transportation of quarried stone and mortar (Orpen 1911-20, ii, 279).

Gosling considers that Hugh de Lacy was probably the builder of the castle between 1195, when he acquired the eastern part of the peninsula as part of a marriage settlement to Lescelina daughter of Bertram de Verdon, and King John's visit in 1210. He further points out that King John's visit almost certainly took place because the castle was already in existence and John was not the initial builder as local tradition has had it.

The castle was sold by De Lacy's heir in 1305 to Richard de Burgh, Earl of Ulster. The castle reverted to the crown when William de Burgh was murdered in 1333 and was subsequently occupied by a series of royal constables (Bradley). According to Tempest (1983 84) Edward Loundres was appointed constable in 1388 when the castle was described as out of repair and unsafe and in 1400 Henry IV granted licence to a Gernon constable to take corn and tithes within the Lordship of Cooley for the victualling of Greencastle and Carlingford Castle.

In 1408 Janico Dartas was the constable (McNeil and Otway-Ruthven 1960, No. 371). In 1495 the castle is mentioned in a law enacting that "only able and sufficient persons of the realm of England" should be constables (Tempest 85). In the 1540s the castle was repaired with lead from the Drogehdha friary (White). In 1649 the castle was surrendered to Lord Inchiquin and in the following year handed over to Sir Charles Coote and Col. Venables (Tempest 85).

The castle was repaired by Lord Anglesey prior to being taken into the care of the Office of Public Works.



DESCRIPTION

The castle was not open when visited and the following description is largely summarised from the detailed version in the Louth Archaeological Survey.

The castle is constructed of roughly coursed limestone blocks and greywacke, has a D-shaped curtain wall with a rectangular gate-building at the west side, and a north-south internal cross wall. The type of gateway and the shape of the tower at the south-west angle suggest a slightly earlier date, and possibly around the turn of the twelfth century would be more appropriate for the W half of the structure. The east portion is considerably later, probably dating to c. 1262: this is based on a record in a Pipe Roll (Cassidy 1983, 3) which states that a payment was made for quarrying and transport of stone to Carlingford and Greencastle.



1.03 Carlingford Castle

The west or courtyard portion of the castle is polygonal and roughly D-shaped. At the west side are the remains of a rectangular gate-tower which must have had a centrally-pierced narrow entranceway c. 1.7m wide. Its south portion has been destroyed and built over by a modern wall. The north tower has the remains of a stairwell in its north-east angle and has evidence for a barrel vault over the ground-floor level at its west end. Entrance to both gate-towers was gained through doorways in their east walls.

There is an almost square projecting tower in the south-west angle which has an embrasure and slit open in each of its three existing walls at ground level. At first-floor level the tower becomes five-sided in plan. Its original entrance was at first floor level in the north-east angle where there is a narrow doorway of dressed sandstone. It has a pointed arch over the doorway with the remains of plank centring in the entrance passage. The access way at ground level has obviously been broken out at a later stage. The quoins in this tower are mainly of sandstone but this is not repeated in the other angles of the castle.

The cross wall is 3.3m thick at the base. It is clearly a later insertion as it blocks earlier openings in the north and south walls and its south end is not bonded in. The first floor timbers of the hall would have been supported on the cross wall and on corbels in the east wall. A spiral stair in the north-east angle leading to a mural passage and the first floor of the hall.

There is a barrel-vaulted basement in the south-east of the castle with wicker centring still in place. The curtain wall has gone in the south-east angle but there may have been a projecting tower as the remnant of the east wall splays out here. The area within the south-east angle appears to have been rebuilt in the late medieval period, with various dividing walls with fireplaces at ground and first floor level and the remains of a first floor arcade. The dressing of the arcade and the dressing and existence of the fireplaces suggest a mid-to-late 16th century date.

A doorway in the east wall at basement level leading to an external platform are probably post-medieval additions which may represent a gun-port and gun-platform.

STATUS

National Monument in the care of the Office of Public Works. County Louth recorded monument No. LH005-04202-SMR 5:27 (Buckley -County Louth Archaeological Inventory No. 1111) Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

The surviving remains of Carlingford Castle are of considerable significance as a key element in the origins of Carlingford as a defended site on a narrow coastal pass and together with the Churches, Tholsel, Mint and Taaffe's Castle forms a group of medieval structures demonstrating the variety of urban building in a relatively small town, and are therefore of Outstanding Significance

CONDITION

The ruins were conserved by the Office of Public Works in the 1950s and are in reasonably good order. Repairs are marked by a membrane interfacing between the new and the historic fabric. It is thought that Lord Anglesey carried out some repair work prior to this and the work from this phase may be bonded directly to the historic fabric.

There are some modern walls which cut across or are additional to the historic fabric rather than being repairs or rebuilds of that fabric.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The exterior of the castle is accessible but the gate to the interior was locked.
- Access to the castle (steps and a safety rail) could be improved.
- There is a single information board but otherwise there are no interpretative/visitor facilities, much more could be made of this heritage resource.
- The 19th century railway cutting, now a road, has further isolated the castle from the town.
- Some recent paint graffiti was present.
- A modern wall has been built diagonally across the site of the lost south entrance tower which has resulted in changing the appearance of the west aspect and blocking off the original entrance. This means the original layout and topography of the monument cannot easily be fully understood or experienced by the modern visitor.



1.04 Taaffe's Castle

SUMMARY

Substantial remains of a c16th century four storey fortified tower house with a later 16th century two-storeyed north annexe.

There are several conservation issues/threats including adjacent development work, current development work on the building and vegetation and water damage.



Historical Background

Very little is known of the history of this building. It is a fortified tower house and this type of structure was the favoured residence of the country gentry and some of the urban merchant classes during the late medieval and early post-medieval period from about 1450 to 1650.

Gosling notes that it may have belonged at one time to Nicholas Taaffe, Earl of Carlingford killed in 1690 at the Battle of the Boyne.

These houses with their emphasis on defence would have the living quarters in the upper floors and storerooms on the ground and lower floors.

DESCRIPTION

The structure was viewed externally but the interior was not accessible. The description below is based on external visual inspection combined with the description and plans in the Louth Archaeological Survey which incorporate survey work by Ms B. Cassidy for a BA thesis at Queen's University Belfast.

Taaffe's Castle comprises the substantial surviving masonry shell of a rectangular tower house of four storeys with a later rectangular two-storey extension abutting the north wall. The original block has a stair tower in the south-west corner which projects to the west and an upper wall

walk. The extension has a parapet with crenellations.

Both parts are built of roughly coursed limestone and greywacke rubble. The rubble varies from large boulders to small, thin, levelling slate-like pieces.



Occasional squared dressed blocks are incorporated and these are probably reused. The tower has large stone quoins which are finely dressed on their outer faces, the extension has similar quoins to the north but these are of slightly lower quality.

The tower has a two-centred arched door in the west end of the south wall. The slightly crude arch consists of nine plain dressed voussoirs, this would appear to be a later insertion with the original door, now blocked, being in the west wall with a machicolation at parapet level above it. Most of the early window openings in the tower, which are either narrow slits or narrow single light windows, have good dressed stone surrounds. Some of the slits have a plain chamfer and some of the slits and windows have round heads and hollow chamfers. Another window has a flat head and hollow chamfer. One window in the second floor on the east elevation is more decorative and has a moulded cusped ogee head with moulded spandrels and a square moulded drip mould, this possibly denotes a higher status room, perhaps the main living area. There is a slit window in the north-east corner angle at first floor level with an ogee head, this has been partly covered by the later extension. There is a chimney stack supported on corbels in the North wall of the tower.



1.04 Taaffe's Castle

The ground floor contains a passage along the west side entered by the present door and formerly by the now blocked west door. The passage leads to spiral steps in the north-west corner accessing the first floor. The main ground floor room is not accessible from the passage and must have had a separate door or doors in the north and/or east wall where there are now modern doorways.



The first floor has a barrel vaulted ceiling. It also has a small chamber to the west above the lower passage but this is off the main room and separated from the spiral stairs which continue up in the north-west corner to the second floor. There is a mural garderobe chamber in the north-east corner which has the ogee headed slit mentioned above and a fireplace in the north wall.

The second floor is similar with garderobe and fireplace in the same disposition but has stairs leading up to the third floor in the projecting south-west corner and a small west chamber between the two stairwells with a slit looking west.

The third floor which was supported on corbels has the same garderobe position but no fireplace. The stairs continue up in the south-west and there is a west chamber that extends to the north-west corner with slits to north and west.

There was a pitched roof and there are remnants of the gable walls. There was parapet probably with crenellations but these have gone and the parapet wall only survives to near full height on the north. The parapets of the tower

and extension project slightly with a string course of flat stones which corbel the projection and with drain holes spaced frequently along the base of the parapet walls.

On the tower roof level the west end part of the structure with the stairs and a small chamber rose above the parapet, the wall walk was accessed from the stairs in the south-west and extended around the south, east and north sides between the parapet and the roof.



The later two-storey extension has been simply abutted to the east end of the north wall so its east wall is flush with the tower east wall. Most of the original windows have been replaced with large rectangular openings in the east wall probably dating to the 18th century. The north wall is largely original with some stone dressed slits. The west wall has a blocked opening with a two-centred arch at first floor level thought to be the original door to this block. There is a projecting stack on corbels in the north wall like that in the tower north wall. The base of the north parapet projects at higher level than the parapets on the east and west. There was no access and no evidence visible from the exterior for this but the survey drawings and existence of crenellations imply there was probably a pitched roof and wall walk as in the tower.



1.04 Taaffe's Castle

At the south east corner of the tower there are no lower quoins but the remains of a bonded wall which projected to the south and, according to the Louth survey, contains evidence of an arch and wall walk. The evidence of the arch is not now clear but the scar of the wall walk supported on stone voussoirs in the south tower wall is clear. This has been interpreted as the bawn wall of the castle and as such it may by default have therefore played a part in the seashore defence of the town even if not part of a systematic municipal defence.

In the painting Carlingford Castle by Henry Brocas Senior c. 1800 (cover of Gosling) there is a wall extending south from the south-east corner of the castle however there is no arch in this wall adjacent to the tower and Brocas shows what appears to be an opening in the angle of the corner immediately above the wall with some sort of corner projection above it. It might make sense to have an access opening or a defensive slit onto the wall walk but there is no clear evidence for this or the projection above it in the actual fabric although there is a large repair patch near this area.

A pencil drawing of Taaffe's Castle from the North-East in the collection of Ordnance Survey letters in the R.I.A., Dublin (reproduced in CLAHJ Vol. XII.2 1950) clearly shows the wall with arch at the south-east corner with a projecting machicolation over it. The drawing also shows two builds of wall of differing heights adjoining the building to the north and a further section of wall with three openings beyond the arch to the south adjoining the gable end of another building.

STATUS

Privately owned, not inhabited. Currently building work is being undertaken. SMR 5:28

(Buckley -County Louth Archaeological Inventory No. 1113)

Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

An iconic, commanding and prominent structure in the townscape comprising the almost complete shell of a late medieval urban tower house and extension on the

former shoreline. Of importance for the economic and social history and late medieval development of Carlingford. The history of the house is virtually unknown but some archaeological work has enhanced understanding of the construction and physical development.

CONDITION

Poor, there are large cracks in the structure on the south, water damage and vegetation growing in the masonry.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

There are several conservation issues/threats arising from the current development work, inappropriate repairs in unsympathetic materials and vegetation and water damage and accumulation of rubbish within the structure. Issues include:

- How should it be repaired/conserved
- How should it be used
- How should it be interpreted/explained for visitors, if at all
 - there is a heritage plaque at present on the south wall.
- Currently building work is taking place for night club or restaurant use. Local people have expressed opinions that this is an inappropriate use.
- Would the castle best be looked after in state care?



1.05 The Mint

SUMMARY

The masonry shell of a fortified urban tower house of three storeys forming a parallelogram in plan and incorporating part of an earlier structure in the east wall.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Little historical information is known about The Mint. It is so named because it has been thought to be the site of a mint mentioned as being licensed in Carlingford in 1467. There is no evidence that the mint was in this building or indeed that a mint was ever actually established and produced coinage and the existing building may date from after 1467.

DESCRIPTION

An urban tower house built of roughly coursed limestone rubble and greywacke, a parallelogram in plan with an angled projection incorporating the garderobe at the south end of the West wall (measuring internally 7.1 m by 6.1 m). It was three storeys high with crenellated parapet and wall walk. The entrance is through a doorway at ground-floor level at the South end of the East wall and there is a blocked door at the North end of the West wall.

There are three windows in the east wall ground floor with hood mouldings and ogee-headed arches of smoothly-dressed limestone. The spandrels are highly decorated with broad interlace, and also figures of a horse and the bust of a man. In the east wall there are two double-light windows with stone mullions and transoms at first-floor level with window seats. The south one is blocked from the outside and the north one has a hood moulding and pointed arched lights with interlace decoration.

At the second-floor level there is a central window with twin lights and two-stone rounded arches. with hood moulding but no decoration. The jamb and sill stones on all the eastern windows are decorated with deep punch-marks, sometimes making geometrical designs, mostly of lozenge or wheel-like patterns.

There is a large machicolation, c.1.2 m wide, resting on double sandstone corbels directly over the doorway and extending down from the battlements to about 2 m



above the top of the doorway. The door has a rough stone surround excepting for the lower north jamb which is of dressed chamfered jamb stones with punched geometric designs.

The floor of the second storey was carried on corbels set into the walls just above the level of the windows of the ground floor. Large beam holes can be seen above the second-floor level, and were used to carry the roof. In the south-west corner there is a garderobe with a semicircular recess and the remains of seating lit by a slit in the west wall with an ogee-headed arch of limestone. The chute for the garderobe can be seen at the base of the south wall.

At ground-floor level in the west wall there is a recess and a small window of hammer dressed limestone at the south end and a blocked door at the north end. At first-floor level there is another window directly over that on the ground floor with a two-centred arch of limestone with glazing bar holes, and a flat-arched embrasure with single lintel plus window seats. Over the blocked doorway there is a large window with a round arched head with a flat lintel and flat arch over. The North wall has only one window, at second floor level and rectangular in shape.



1.05 The Mint

There is a well-preserved, wide, wall-walk with stepped crenellations and irregularly-spaced small openings in the parapets, which Leask (1948, 307) interprets as pistol loops and the Louth Survey considers were more likely for muskets. The parapet is offset slightly with a base course of greywacke slabs with drainage holes above as at Taaffe's Castle.

The south wall incorporates the pitched north gable wall of an earlier building. Elements of the east wall of the earlier building, including a blocked window with round moulded head and jambs and a blocked doorway with moulded jambs, are incorporated into a later building and are now exposed on Tholsel street. Possibly this southern building was the family's previous house which was still in use when the tower was built onto its northern end.

Bradley considers that the style of the windows suggests a mid-to-late 16th century date for construction of the building.

STATUS

National Monument in the care of the Office of Public Works. SMR 5:0203 (Buckley -County Louth Archaeological Inventory No. 1112) Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

Less commanding than Taaffe's Castle but a nonetheless important example of a late-medieval urban tower house. The Mint also incorporates elements of an earlier building so represents adaptation and development within the townscape as well as perhaps a change in the economy and status of an individual or family.

CONDITION

Generally good, there is some vegetation getting a hold on the upper walls.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Access: currently locked with a grating over the doorway, East and North walls are accessible. The South and West walls are within a locked private yard connected with the adventure centre.

- Should the building be open to the public or used in some way? Could the building be roofed with a light-weight structure and used as an open exhibition space?
- Interpretation: there is an information board inside which is visible through one of the east windows grilles but this is not ideal.
- Vegetation - not bad like the Taaffe's castle but some plants are establishing themselves on the upper walls



1.06 Historic Houses

SUMMARY

The Watch House is possibly the lower portion of a Tower House now a private dwelling and under no present threat of redevelopment. The 'medieval house' just behind it on the West side of Back Lane is a surviving gable wall, famous for a carved head, and part of a front wall of an ancient house with development currently taking place in immediate proximity. There is a probability that other houses in Carlingford contain medieval remains.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This 'Watch House' is a private residence but once housed the local lifeboat and is thought to be the remaining lower part of a tower house such as Taaffe's Castle or The Mint (Gosling 1992).

DESCRIPTION

The Watch House stands towards the north end of Newry Street and is now rendered and painted with a pitched roof but has a large arched double doorway in its East wall. The base of the East wall has a pronounced batter and this and the arched doorway to the basement are the only indications from the outside that it is not a standard house.

The 'medieval house' in Back Lane consists of a thick pitched south gable wall, which survives as it has later cottages built against it to the south, and a small part of the upper East return and the full ground floor portion of the East wall to the street and a return West at the North end which may be the lower part of the North gable. The east wall has a doorway with a flat lintel at the South end.

The house would have consisted of two main stories with a pitched roof. The South gable wall is higher than the abutting cottages and in the upper section on the north-east side is a carved stone human face famously known locally as 'Charles de Gaulle' probably because of a projecting slate and stone above, protecting it from the elements and giving the appearance of the crown and peak of a French kepi.

Test trenching of the adjacent development site and a survey of the late medieval house, was carried out in 2005 (see Appendix C No. 38)

STATUS

A privately owned dwelling and a privately owned ruin. Both structures have heritage plaques. Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley).

SIGNIFICANCE

Urban tower houses are not as common as those in rural settings so the Watch House is significant for this reason. Its full significance is uncertain because the interior has not been seen and the exterior has been rendered and painted, therefore it is not known what early or interesting features may survive in the fabric and indeed how much of the early fabric survives and how



much is later alteration. As a former lifeboat house and watch house it is obviously also of historical and social significance to the town and its maritime heritage.

The ruined house is significant as part of one of only two known surviving medieval or late medieval houses that are not fortified towers in Carlingford. The other being incorporated within The Mint and the building South of it (§1.05). Again the full significance of this structure is uncertain without further investigation and survey.

CONDITION

The Watch House is a private house, lived in, well kept and in good order. No ancient fabric is visible as the building is rendered and painted. Whether the rendering and painting has affected the fabric is unknown.

The 'medieval house' is a ruin and some of the upper stones of the gable and east return look a little precarious and perhaps in need of consolidation to prevent any decay of the structure. The east face of the east wall is whitewashed but the gable is unpainted stone.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- There is currently new development occurring immediately north of the ruined house with scaffolding adjacent to the north wall which may be part of the medieval gable.
- There is heavy vegetation on the top of the South gable which may be loosening the stonework and some of the upper stonework appears in need of stabilisation/consolidation.
- This site may be under threat of development, some archaeological work has been undertaken in this area in advance of development and it is likely that some significant below ground deposits survive in the vicinity of the ruined house.
- The Watch House might look more in keeping with its historic origins if without the present surface treatments but this is a conservation issue which would need expert advice and of course discussion and cooperation with the owner.



1.07 Holy Trinity Church

SUMMARY

A former church with a square tower built on a mound south-east of the town centre. The church has a walled churchyard which abuts the Tholsel and on the east side was adjacent to the former shoreline. The current nave is largely the result of rebuilding in 1804 but exhibits remnants of earlier fabric. The tower is thought to be earlier in origin and has a later extension to the parapet

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The church may be on an ancient ecclesiastical site, but there has been a church in Carlingford since at least 1237 when the churches of Carlingford and Rooksey are mentioned in a deed, their profits being granted by Hugh de Lacy to St Andrew's church in Scotland. A church of the Holy Trinity existed in Carlingford in 1485, as testified by the will of Christopher Dowdall, who left a bequest to this and also to the church of St Mary and Chapel of St Michael. Supposing the former to be the present Holy Trinity the location of the latter two is uncertain. The status of these medieval places of worship is also unclear but it seems likely that the present Holy Trinity was the main parish church. There are numerous references to the church (and its tithes) in the late medieval Bishops' registers of Armagh.

The church was rebuilt in the late 17th century, and there was extensive rebuilding of the nave c1804 (Gosling). Half the tower has been rebuilt. Holy Trinity was a Church of Ireland place of worship until the mid 1970s and was leased by the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust in 1991.

Excavations during restoration for use as a Heritage Centre in 1992 (licence no. 92E0037) uncovered burials under the floorboards. Twenty inhumations were excavated with no evidence of coffins and radiocarbon dates were obtained with ranges of AD 1517-1666 and 1442-1650. Rescue excavation resulting from monitoring of sewage and telecom scheme trenches in 1999 (licence no. 98E0161) recovered four skeletons of young male adults with sword cuts to their skulls in beach gravel outside the east gate to the church, three in one cut and one in a single grave. These have been interpreted as Infantrymen cut down from horseback in late medieval or early post-medieval conflict.

Description

The church is not described in the Louth archaeological survey. The following description is from visual inspection as part of the present study.

The building consists of a square west tower and rectangular nave extending east from it, there is no distinct chancel section.



The nave has a pitched roof clad in slates and the walls are rendered. There is a large round headed window in the east end with a dripmould and label stops. The window is divided into three pointed lights and glazed with modern stained glass. There are five regularly spaced pointed arched windows in either side, these have stone sills but the surrounds are rendered like the walls. The windows have wooden frames and Y shaped wooden mullions bars imitating stone tracery and are glazed with small diamond panes. All these windows were probably inserted in the c1804 restorations. The second window from the west in the south wall cuts an earlier stone door surround which has been left exposed. This has a chamfered two-centred arch which Gosling dates to the 16th or 17th centuries but which looks earlier, being medieval and probably of the 14th or 15th centuries. The church is currently entered by a round headed door in the south wall of the tower, the arch consists of numerous stone voussoirs. The doorway is fitted with a later wooden frame and door, with a radially-glazed fanlight in the tympanum of the arch, all perhaps dating from the c1804 works.



1.07 Holy Trinity Church

The tower is solidly constructed of random stone rubble with dressed stone quoins. The lower wall on the south side is steeply battered (sloped) below the springing line of the door arch. The west wall has a horizontal offset about halfway up with dressed stone coping. The tower masonry shows clear indications of a substantial rebuild on the west side. There are rectangular louvered belfry lights in the south, north and west walls of the tower, possibly inserted later or remodelled, with straight heads and stone sills below earlier crude segmental stone arches. The east wall has a small early belfry light with a dressed stone surround with a cusped head. There is also a plain slit in the west wall above the offset and below the belfry light. A crude string course marks the base of the original tower parapet with drainage holes above. This is similar to the arrangement seen at Taaffe's Castle and the Dominican friary but the parapet does not project. Above this is a later, projecting, crenellated parapet with a stone moulded plinth course. Each side has a central merlon with a slit and there are stepped corner pinnacles all being coped in dressed stone.

The earliest dated headstone in the graveyard is from 1703 but there are two earlier examples which may date to the 15th century. (Gleeson 1995)

STATUS

Former church now run by Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust as Holy Trinity Heritage Centre which is open to the public with displays about local history, and is available for hire for weddings, concerts, small conferences etc. The fees from these events help keep it maintained, staffed and open for the public. The building has been leased by the Trust from the Church of Ireland since 1991. The church and tower are omitted from the archaeological survey of County Louth.

SIGNIFICANCE

This was probably the main medieval parish church and therefore highly significant to the history of the town. It is in a prominent location and good defensive position on a mound near the shoreline with a strong crenellated tower and a substantial churchyard wall that may have been part of, or may have augmented, the town defences.

CONDITION

The fabric is in good condition having been converted to use as a heritage centre and is in daily use and regularly maintained.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The building is well maintained and used for heritage and community purposes
- At present there seems to be no serious issues or threats apart from possible below ground works on services which would need to be archaeologically monitored as previously.
- Lack of funding for the Heritage Trust would be a possible threat to the future of the building and its role in the community and this should hopefully be supported by local authority and/or other appropriate funding.



1.08 Dominican Friary

SUMMARY

Substantial ruins of the medieval Dominican Friary church and elements of the claustral buildings survive in the south-east quarter of the town. The remains were conserved by the OPW in 1993 and are open to the public.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The friary, dedicated to St Malachy, is thought probably to have been founded by Richard de Burgh or Burgo Earl of Ulster at around the time he acquired the castle in 1305. In 1423 an indulgence was granted to raise funds to repair damage to the church caused by robbers (Bradley quoting Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 223). The building was fortified at this time and battlements added to the church walls (site information board).

According to Tempest (1983) a merchant of Dundalk named Scryne leased the friary after the dissolution but in 1552 it was granted Sir Nicholas Bagnall, Marshall of Ireland who lived in Carlingford before going to Newry. Tempest also states that in 1670 there was a contest between the Dominicans and Franciscans for the right to take over the friary. The dispute was settled by Oliver Plunkett in favour of the Dominicans who later abandoned the site in the 18th century when they moved to their present location in Dundalk. A detailed history of the Dominicans in medieval and post-medieval Carlingford has been published (Curran 1968).

The site was depicted by Grose (1791) who shows it in much the same condition as it is today.

The Friary (a house of friars) is sometimes referred to as Carlingford Abbey, though technically as a friary ruled by a prior it should be called a Priory; to avoid confusion it will be referred to as a Friary throughout this document.

DESCRIPTION

The remains consist of the roofless nave and chancel of the church with central tower and parts of what was probably the domestic range to the south. The church is constructed of roughly coursed limestone and greywacke.

The chancel has a large east window, three windows in the north wall and one in the south wall. The east window has a two centred arch and no surviving tracery. The north win-

dows are largely blocked, two have pointed arched heads the other has been altered to a flat arch. The south chancel window has a flat arch, matching that on the north.



The tower is a later addition thought to be of the first half of the fourteenth century. It is a standard friary tower, a narrow rectangle in plan, and has a stair turret in the south-east corner. The large tower arches are two-centred and the pitch line of the roof is visible on the east and west tower walls. The upper floors of the tower were accessed from the south range via a now blocked doorway in the south wall of the tower.

The nave has three high splayed windows with shallow segmental arches in the south wall, those in the north side have been blocked and replaced with similar lower openings. The outer face of the south wall of the nave has three rows of putlog holes, the central row is immediately above a moulded stone string course. There is also a row of larger square holes below the string course which have been interpreted as beam holes for the cloister walk roof (Louth Archaeological Survey). The west gable wall of the nave has a central doorway (previously blocked but now open) with a two centred arch with a moulded hood and label stops. Above this the west window has been blocked and the top of the pointed arch is visible in the outer face of the wall. At the top of the wall is a central machicolation carried on two corbels. Either side of this are stepped crenellations and then corner turrets also crenellated. These features of a defensive character are thought to be later additions and may date from around 1423 when the indulgence was granted to raise the money to repair damage done to the church by robbers.



1.08 Dominican Friary

The cloister lay on the south side of the church, and the north gable of the east range is visible on the chancel wall, and toothing for the west range on the nave. At the end of the east range, about 20m south of the church are remains incorporating two phases of building. On the west the earlier structure is the gabled south end of the cloister east range. This probably consisted of the dormitory range and the chapter house adjacent to the church. The footings of the demolished parts of the east and west walls of this range have also been exposed. The standing gable and walls are of similar rubble construction to the church and incorporate some similar shallow arched windows.

A later building is abutted to the east side of the earlier range and appears to be a defensive tower in style, and was possibly the Prior's lodging. It has both rectangular windows and slits, fireplaces and window seats. The building appears from the floor beam sockets to be of three storeys with an upper string course and parapet with drainage holes. This structure is probably a later medieval addition which may date to the time of the defensive alterations to the church.

South and south-east of the ruins are the remains of a water course and mill building which even if not incorporating medieval material, are probably on the site of the medieval Friary mill (B1.09).

STATUS

County Louth recorded monument No. LH005-04213.
The monument is in the care of the Commissioners of Public Works and freely open to the public.
Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

Very significant standing remains of a Dominican Friary that is important to the history of medieval Carlingford and the region but not historically or archaeologically understood in any depth. Excavations were undertaken in 1993 funded by the OPW in conjunction with the conservation works.



CONDITION

The ruins have been conserved and landscaped, there is public access to the site and an information board at the entrance. The conservation work was part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

The condition of the surviving remains is very good following the conservation and consolidation works, the site gives the appearance of being regularly maintained and cared for.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Recent paint graffiti on the east wall of the church and adjacent boundary wall.
- There is scope for more information boards or a plan to explain the layout.
- Further historical research and archaeological survey may help provide better understanding and interpretation of this site and its significance.

1.09 The Water Mill

SUMMARY

The remains of a ruined mill building and waterwheel survive east of the Friary. The ruins are probably on the site of the medieval mill belonging to the friary, if not remnants of the actual medieval mill building itself. The mill is thought to have been used to grind corn for the townspeople as well as for the Dominican community. It continued in operation into the 19th century, to which period the surviving cast-iron wheel rim dates.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Pipe Roll of King John for 1211-12 lists payments for a mill and mill-pond at Carlingford.

If this refers to this mill, and the Friary was not founded until 1305 as thought, then the mill pre-dates the Friary. In 1540 the dissolution inventory of possessions of the Friary mentions the mill so it was at that time in the ownership of the religious house. The mill is thought to have been the only watermill in Carlingford in medieval times. It was probably operated by the Dominicans who would have charged multure for grinding non-monastic corn. The mill and mill pond are shown on the Ordnance Survey large scale town plan.

DESCRIPTION

The remains of the mill are situated 50 m east of the Friary church adjacent to a path and built into a slope, as is common with watermills, to achieve the drop of water to power the wheel. The building is overgrown and roofless and consists of a small, rectangular plan structure of random stone rubble with large, roughly-squared quoins. The east and west walls have gables for a ridge roof. Adjacent to the east gable is the half buried cast-iron rim of the wheel with forged grooves for the wooden buckets and wheel spokes.

South of the Friary is the overgrown and recently infilled and remnant of the mill pond and adjacent to it a stone lined channel where a stream still runs for part of the length, fed by the stream and culvert coming from under the road to the west.



STATUS

There is a heritage plaque affixed to the ruin but the site is not included in the Louth Archaeological survey

SIGNIFICANCE

Significant as the site of the medieval mill associated with the Friary representing an industrial process of economic importance. Also possibly significant in terms of the relationship of the Friars to the townspeople and their economic interaction.

CONDITION

Ruinous and overgrown.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Overgrown and subject to slight vandalism (paint daubed).
- In private ownership.
- The site could certainly be improved in terms of presentation, preservation and interpretation.
- The building has probably not been fully recorded.
- Archaeological investigation may determine the age of the present fabric and the position and layout of the medieval mill.



2.01 Site of North Gate

SUMMARY

There would have been a north gate to the town giving access to the northern shore of the Lough and the route to Omeath and Newry. Archaeological excavations in 1998 revealed evidence of a substantial wall with a gateway and road and defensive ditch.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Isaac Butler, in his journal for 1744, recorded the following information regarding the defences of Carlingford, '...it has been walled, the West and North gate with some of the wall remain still.' There is no reference to the North gate on the 1835 OS manuscript or printed maps but this is not a reliable guide as to its survival at that time. The Town walls are not referred to on the maps either and the line of the wall, including the upstanding sections which may have been more extensive then and are not differentiated, is marked with a line like all the property boundaries.

DESCRIPTION

There are no known standing remains.

The precise line of the wall is not certain at the north end of the town but it has been generally presumed to link with the castle defences and run almost directly west from the castle. Gosling had previously postulated that the site of the gate was at the top of Newry Street where the road bends to the west and archaeological investigation appears to have confirmed this.

Test-trenching in 1998 at the top of Newry Street uncovered a 3.5 m wide east-to-west ditch cut into the natural gravel and a later wall and gateway. The wall which was 0.1 m below the existing road consisted of stone bonded with lime mortar and was set on large stone footings. The wall had an intact height of 2.2 m and a width of 1-1.05 m at its top. The gateway through the wall was 2.15 m in width. A set of steps were set into the south side of the wall and these may have led to a wall walk or upper room. In the eastern portion of wall was a relieving arch, 0.65 m below the top of the wall and 1.45 m in width and height, which the excavator thought may have been constructed to allow the flow of spring water.



There was a cobbled gateway running through the wall with a line of large boulders along its eastern edge. A north-to-south stone and clay wall 6.5 m long, 1.5 m wide at the base and 1 m wide at the top, (height not specified), overlay the boulders and abutted the masonry wall. (which side of town wall not specified).

The pottery finds from the ditch suggested a 13th or 14th century date for the ditch infilling and the wall and gateway may be of around the same date as deposits containing similar pottery lay against the southern side of the wall.

STATUS

Buried remains.

Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

The buried remains revealed by excavation are of considerable significance in showing the existence and position of a northern wall, ditch, gate and roadway and imply that there is great potential for further archaeological survival of elements of the medieval defences.

CONDITION

Now backfilled and beneath road.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Buried site, could be at risk from future developments or roadworks.
- Possibly some interpretation should mark the site.



2.02 Line of North Wall

SUMMARY

Previously the line of the north wall had been uncertain but archaeological excavations in 1998 revealed evidence of a substantial wall with a gateway and road and defensive ditch at the top of Newry Street.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There are no known specific historical references to the northern wall circuit, but it is shown on early maps.

DESCRIPTION

There are no standing remains, however evidence of the town wall, with a gateway and ditch, was uncovered in 1998 on the east side of the town at the top of Newry Street about 50 m east of the castle (see 2.01 above for fuller description). If the north circuit originally ran fairly directly west from the Castle to the known line of the west wall it would be approximately 150 m in length.

There is no further evidence of the rest of the northern circuit. East of the excavation the former railway (now road) cutting has removed all evidence and to the west the line of the wall, and any buried remains, lie under later houses and street surfaces.

However if the wall continued on the line of the excavated section its west end would be situated in the near vicinity of the boundary between the property known as Georgina's Bakehouse and a new development to the north. It has been reported that an old substantial stone wall on this boundary was unfortunately demolished during the development because it was considered unsafe (pers. comm. Georgina Finegan, Fergus Flynn Rogers) and it has been replaced with a plain breeze block wall. This wall is 25 m north of the best surviving section of defensive wall on the west circuit.

Another former boundary wall roughly parallel to the demolished wall and about 20m to the north has also been removed above ground (pers. comm. GF). Two stone boundary walls still survive approximately 10 m and 20 m north of this, the northern one is broken at its western end where it adjoins a lane and appears to have originally continued on the west side of the lane and around the side and back of the new development where there is much

rubble and the base of a wall 0.70 m wide. However these are probably later property boundary walls outside the medieval wall circuit.



STATUS

Below ground archaeological remains.

Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

Below ground remains of considerable significance and archaeological deposits which have given evidence for the form and dating of part of the northern defences including the wall with gateway and extramural ditch and other associated structures and deposits.

CONDITION

The excavated remains are now backfilled and beneath the road. The survival of these implies good potential for survival of the rest of the north defences and associated archaeological deposits below ground.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The survival of a 2.2 m high wall below ground here has implications for the possible survival of substantial sections of the wall on other parts of the north circuit and elsewhere.
- The below ground remains could be at risk from future developments and roadworks unless specifically protected (and marked out on site).
- Some garden and property walls in this area which may be related to the line of the Town Wall have been removed without being recorded due to property development and landscaping of gardens etc. There appears to be little protection for these structures which may also be of some age and significance in themselves and constitute part of the vernacular character of Carlingford regardless of possible connection with the defensive circuit.



2.03 Western Wall: North End

SUMMARY

The best surviving run of wall is a 26m length of two abutting builds, situated at the north end of the west defensive circuit. Here the stone rubble wall survives to full height with four musket loops. On the west side a hardcore trackway has recently been created at the foot of the sloping grazing meadows and any trace of the former extramural ditch has gone. On the east side the wall revetts a steep bank marking the west boundary of the gardens of properties along Back Lane.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 1326 Edward II granted a charter to the Bailiffs of Carlingford to levy murage for the building of a town wall. The surviving wall has small double splayed openings which have been interpreted as musket loops suggesting that this section of wall is 15th century or later in date (Gosling 1992). Early maps, possibly fanciful, show the north and west walls meeting with a tower (e.g. Norden 1610).

DESCRIPTION

The main surviving fragment of full height town wall is located towards the northern end of the western wall line. It currently forms the boundary between the gardens of three properties off Back Lane on the east side and the pasture land sloping up towards Slieve Foye to the west. A track-way with a steep bank on the west has recently been formed along the west side of the wall and this may have removed any evidence of an extramural ditch as seen elsewhere.

The structure is approximately 26m long and 2.0m to 2.7m high on its exterior (west facing) elevation from current ground level and about 4m high on the inner (east) face. The upper part of the wall is from 0.7 to 0.8m thick.

The wall is constructed of rough uncoursed stone rubble containing several differing types of stone bonded with lime mortar and roughly dressed to form a face. The top of the wall is coped with a ridge consisting of similar rubble to the main structure. The west face of the wall below the ridge is flush down to ground level and the east side is flush below the ridge down to a 0.3 m offset step or parapet walk, 1.9 m below the top of the wall. Below this main step which extends along the length of the surviving wall the wall

continues for over 2 m (at the north end) to ground level with 2 or 3 lesser irregular offsets. If the west face of the wall continues below ground without offsets the wall would be about 1.5 m thick at inner ground level.



Both ends of the surviving fragment are roughly broken showing the wall once continued in both directions. There are two separate builds represented in this wall. Approximately 6m from the southern end is a straight joint and slight offset. The 20m northern section of wall has large quoins at this end and is offset slightly to the west. The southern section (c. five metres long) does not have quoins on the west side and appears to be later, having been built against the existing terminus of the northern section.

The wall contains four double-splayed embrasures which have been interpreted as musket loops. Three are in the northern build and one in the southern section. They are from 5-6m apart and about 1m above current ground level on the west. They are about 0.35m high and wide in the west face of the wall and the sides splay in below small slab lintels to narrow openings about 0.15 m wide within the wall.

The construction method of the wall gives little clue to its age, however the loops do appear to have been constructed for musket use and probably therefore date from the time when muskets were relatively commonly available and enough existed in Carlingford to form a viable defensive force (i.e. 16th-17th century).



2.03 Western Wall: North End

STATUS

Recorded Monument LH005-04201-Town Defences SMR 5:0204. Archaeological Inventory of County Louth No.1167. Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

This stretch is of considerable significance as the main and best full height surviving section of town wall and the only section known to have musket loops. This represents the main evidence for the appearance of the medieval walls and arrangement of the defences. This length of wall is also of significance for standing directly next to open countryside, and expressing a relationship rarely now to be seen in medieval towns.

CONDITION

The Condition of the wall is generally good although some repointing has occurred. Apparently the wall was repaired as part of the FAS scheme about nine years ago (pers. comm. Ann Hrugb). There are frequent patches of lichen on the stones on the west face of the wall and some vegetation rooting into crevices in the stones particularly in the coping at the north end. On the east side the wall fabric is not particularly affected by gardening activities. The end of the garden at the north is largely left alone but the wall is free of vegetation excepting a large established tree which has partly grown over the foot of the wall but does not appear to have caused any disturbance to the wall fabric itself.

The central garden is more neglected and overgrown near the wall and there is vegetation growing along the main offset. The wall in the south end garden is kept free of vegetation and the residents plan to deck the area adjacent to the wall as this gives a fine view over the town and harbour but do not envisage this affecting the historic fabric.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The current adjacent residents respect the wall and their activities do not appear to have affected it adversely; however future change in use or ownership and residents could potentially affect the condition of the wall.
- The re-scarping of the land on the west to form a track and embankment has been deleterious to the setting of the wall and its historic relationship to the mountainside.



- Access to this stretch of wall for locals and visitors is an issue if it is desired for it to become a more prominent feature of any tourist/ heritage walk or tour because it is on private land on both sides.
- If it is to be more accessible then provision of information and presentation of the site needs to be addressed.
- The owner of the land to the west stated that he was amenable to discussion about public access to the wall and although he had not yet replaced the gate to the lane behind the wall, was considering adding a stile when he does and possibly a seat to make it into a small amenity area.
- The residents of the two properties visited east of the wall expressed no concern if access was open to the west side of the wall.
- It is extremely unlikely at present that if the area behind the wall was openly accessible that visitor numbers would be large enough to constitute any threat to the wall fabric.
- The condition of the wall and repair of any loose masonry could become a health and safety issue if the wall is to be openly accessible.
- The roots of shrubby vegetation could penetrate into the gaps between stones, loosening the mortar and gradually weakening the structure, if not removed or controlled.



2.04 Western Wall: North of Spout Gate

SUMMARY

A 250 m long stretch of the western wall between the site of Spout Gate on River Lane and the standing wall (B2.03). This incorporates several different elements, including a five metre long fragment of standing wall, three metres in height. Other sections include overgrown surviving masonry up to one metre high, a line of rubble along the hedge line, a hedge line with no wall evidence and an enclosure or extension to the west built of stone probably reused from the town wall.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

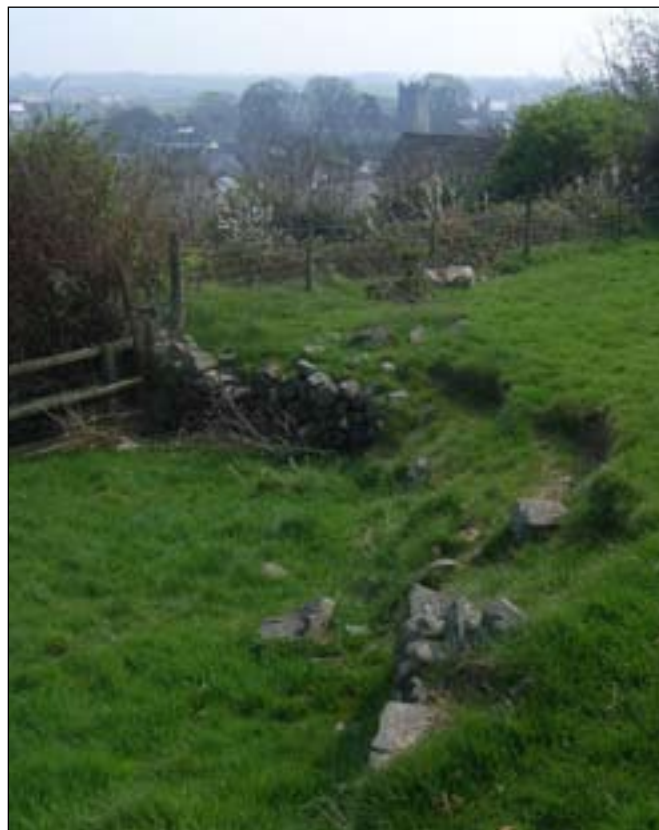
In 1326 Edward II granted a charter to the Bailiffs of Carlingford to levy murage for the building of a town wall. A wall round the town is shown on early maps.

DESCRIPTION

Between the south end of the best surviving wall fragment (B2.03) and the site of Spout Gate (B2.05) is a 250 m long stretch of the west wall circuit with remnants of surviving masonry and a steep bank marking the division between private gardens to the east and pastureland to the west. All the land adjacent to the west side of the wall, north of River Lane, is in the same hands and there is one modern dwelling west of the wall here.

The wall line can be divided into sub-sections largely corresponding to the plots to the east and partially reflecting the treatment of the wall remains by different owners and developments over the years. These sub-sections have been given letters and these are marked on the plan showing the location of gazetteer items.

[A] Immediately south of the standing wall (B2.03) are two modern properties with a total boundary to the wall of about 50 m. Along most of this section there is no wall upstanding from ground level on the west, but there is a steep drop to the east of one to two metres, which probably consists of the lower revetting part of the wall, but this was overgrown and not seen from the east. Some odd stones were visible and for a stretch of 15 m near the north end there was surviving wall remnants up to 0.7m high from ground level on the west. The masonry was overgrown with ivy and the rest of the section with bramble and thorn. This section has been scarped externally to make the road.



[B] The next property to the south has a 25 m frontage where the wall has been removed and the bank sloped from the field into the garden. The wall here had been rebuilt at either end of the property projecting into the field at right angles to the wall line and then returning to create a small terraced area. This is shown on the 1836 OS map as the site of a track or roadway running from the pasture onto the plot and down to Back Lane. The wall was therefore dismantled and realigned to allow for a trackway by 1836. The track no longer exists and there is a wire fence in place; the terrace remains have recently been landscaped and removed.

[C] The next two properties are narrow and have a combined frontage to the wall line of c30 m. Both boundaries are overgrown with brambles and have a drop of one metre to the east, there is a single course of stones visible to the south end of this stretch of wall line.

[D] Next is a new development of five blocks (unfinished and uninhabited at the time of inspection) with a 50 m boundary to the wall line. East of the line of the wall the slope has been planted and landscaped as part of the development; there are some remnants of masonry visible and some well



2.04 Western Wall: North of Spout Gate

established hedgerow trees. The land slopes down below the wall line to a drop into the back yards of the properties which have access steps to the slope.

[E] Next to the south is a modern dwelling on an L-shaped plot with a long c85 m boundary to the west reaching down to River Lane. The first 40 m has a thorn hedge with up to 0.5 m high masonry below it. There is a drop of about one metre to the east for 30 m then the land on the west slopes down steeply and south of this the land either side of the wall is roughly on the same level. In the centre of this stretch is a five metre long fragment of standing wall about three metres high and 0.7 m thick, this appears similar to the upstanding wall to the north and is probably a remnant of the late medieval town wall. It is covered in ivy and impossible to investigate closely for evidence of gun loops etc., and was not viewed from the east side which is occupied by a private garden.

[F] From this point the wall curves slightly to the east. A stone rubble wall about one metre high abuts the south end of the high fragment and is therefore later, perhaps a rebuilt boundary on the line of the defensive wall. This masonry continues towards River Street with an offset 23 m from the road showing there are at least two phases of this section, but as elsewhere the surviving fabric is highly overgrown and largely obscured by ivy and other vegetation so detailed assessment and interpretation was not possible. This run ends just a few metres north of River Lane and there is possibly a pier or higher section of wall at this end but it is totally obscured by vegetation.

STATUS

Recorded Monument LH005-04201-Town Defences

SMR 5:0204. Archaeological Inventory of County Louth No.1167. Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley). Land to either side is privately owned, ownership of surviving fabric not known.

SIGNIFICANCE

The whole section is of considerable significance as containing remnants of town wall and later boundary wall on the line of the town wall. The short standing section three metres in height is probably a surviving section of late

medieval wall similar to the long section further north but without the drop and offset on the east side.

The realigned section shows the subsequent use and reuse of the wall in relation to the changing needs, agricultural rather than the defensive, of the community in the post-medieval period.

CONDITION

The surviving masonry toward the south end is extremely overgrown and almost completely hidden beneath foliage and its condition could only be fully assessed with some vegetation clearance.

Further north there is just a line of rubble along the hedge line.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Vegetation covering the southern part of the wall is probably causing loosening and deterioration of the masonry and is obscuring the actual condition and nature of the surviving structure.
- Recent landscaping of the stream from the mountain adjacent to southern end of section.
- The land west of the whole section is in the hands of one owner who is a member of Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust and is amenable to discussing policies for access, presentation etc.
- The sections reduced almost to a line of rubble are vulnerable and probably being continually eroded by the removal of the odd stone for use in garden landscaping especially in the vicinity of new developments.
- The threat of further future development as the town expands west of the wall line and also as properties along Back Lane are extended or redeveloped.
- Vulnerability to the actions of owners/residents e.g, landscaping gardens, terracing etc.



2.05 Site of Spout Gate (River Lane)

SUMMARY

The site on River Lane of the western gate of the walled town, which gave access to the grazing lands on the lower slopes of Slieve Foye. It derived its name from the mountain stream which enters the town here. Nothing survives of the gate itself above ground but the stream still flows through a stone culvert under River Lane in line with wall remnants to the north and south marking this as almost certainly the site of the historic gate described in 1744.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The gate was mentioned by Isaac Butler in 1744 and he described how it took its name from a small arch where ‘..runs a stream of water from the mountain’. Gosling (1992) states that it was apparently still intact in 1818 (but does not give the source of this information) and that it is not marked on the 1836 OS map.

The town sheep dip was formerly against the town wall immediately south of the gate, and to the west there was a later gate across the road of which the north pier survives in an existing wall and the south pier has been removed sometime since c. 1900 (when both were shown in a print). This secondary gate, possibly in conjunction with adjoining walls, probably served to hold the sheep gathered in from the pastures for the annual sheep dipping (pers. comm. Ian McQuillan and Owen Woods).

DESCRIPTION

The stream from the mountain runs down a slope from the north where it has been recently been piped and landscaped with a surface overflow channel. The water issues at the base of the slope then flows through a rough voussoired stone arch under River Lane issuing further east on the south side to run alongside the road down to the market square. There is a small rendered cottage on the north side of the road and on the south side a short low piece of later stone wall adjoining the remnant of the town wall which continues to the south. There are new housing developments in progress north and south of the road west of the line of the town wall and site of the gate.

There is no evidence of the gate itself but the culvert under the road is probably the one mentioned by Butler in 1744.



STATUS

Within the Carlingford zone of archaeological potential (Bradley). The site is marked by a heritage plaque on a cottage on River Street near the presumed site of the gate.

SIGNIFICANCE

Of moderate significance as the site of a Town Gate that has a historical reference and of which below ground remains may survive. The site is located by the presence of wall fragments to north and south and the historic culvert carrying the road over the stream. This gate gave access to the pasture slopes on the foothills of Slieve Foye and was the location of the town sheep dip and thus had an economic and social significance, as well as a defensive function.

CONDITION

There are no upstanding remains of the gate.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- There is new development currently being undertaken to either side of the road immediately west of the gate site, contractors' vehicles and increased traffic may be a threat to any possible archaeological remains.
- Road works and service trenches relating to the housing developments may also impact on any below ground remains.



2.06 Western Wall: South of Spout Gate

SUMMARY

The line of the wall continues south of River Street south-south-east, with a possible ditch, for about 230m before appearing to curve to the east to join Dundalk Street opposite the Friary ruins.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

[A] The first 110 m of wall line South of River Lane is highly overgrown with brambles, ivy and rough foliage but there appears to be the base of wall masonry upstanding to 0.5m or so along most of this stretch.

There is a road for a new housing development west of the wall with a few metres of rough ground between it and the wall then there is a slope down to the wall which becomes steeper and deeper further south. In places there appears to be a depression immediately west of the wall which may represent the remnant of an extramural defensive ditch. The slope of the land may be partly enhanced by the ditch and partly by terracing for a former house and for the road and present housing development.

Some builders' equipment and debris was deposited in this area at the time of inspection. The developer stated that the area would be tidied up and that a strip along the wall was reserved for access as a planning condition. The former stone built sheep dip is situated against the wall line immediately south of River Lane but this was overgrown and within the builders' compound at the time of inspection.

There is a drop of one metre or more on the east side of the wall line, the first 25 m on this side is at the back of a yard belonging to the Victualler's shop in the Market Square. The rest of this section is adjacent on the east side to a new development and then a council estate (Trinity Close). In both cases a fence or block wall runs about 3m east of the wall and separates it off from the yards and gardens.

[B] The next section of wall was not accessed from the west because it was fenced-off and landowners have not been identified or approached.

[C] From the east a 1m high stone wall was visible behind the health centre off Trinity Close.



STATUS

Recorded Monument LH005-04201-Town Defences SMR 5:0204. Buckley AICL No.1167. Within the Carlingford zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

The northern part of this section is of considerable significance as containing remnants of town wall and possible surviving evidence of the defensive extramural ditch, the rest of the section is similarly significant in having various levels of surviving masonry which may relate to phases of town wall or later property boundaries on the line of the town wall.

CONDITION

The masonry is currently, almost completely overgrown with rough vegetation, including quite large trees, shrubs, ivy and brambles, making it very difficult to ascertain the nature and condition of the masonry. The roots of the encroaching vegetation must have penetrated and loosened the masonry and will continue to do damage unless controlled or removed.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The vegetation covering the wall is obscuring and damaging the surviving masonry.
- At the time of inspection the external (west) side of the north part of this stretch was a building site and builders' equipment and materials had been placed near to parts of the wall and there was risk of spoil from the site being dumped near the wall and filling in the remnants of the extramural ditch.



2.07 Possible (Northern) Line of South Wall

SUMMARY

This is the possible line of the South wall, west of Dundalk Street as posited by Bradley (Urban Archaeology Survey) which would continue the line of the south churchyard wall westwards to form a complete south circuit. This appears to be largely hypothetical with no confirmed surviving fabric above ground or below ground investigation to support it, though it fits the urban topography and disposition of tenements shown on early maps. Some existing walls near this line may however contain early or reused material.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

An old view of the wall looking west from behind what is now St Oliver's Estate and Trinity Close does appear to show a possible change in build in the west wall at this point but this has not yet been examined closely in the field. Some documentary evidence may suggest that the western wall south of this line was a friary enclosure. In which case it is possible that an earlier south town wall line would exist and that the town defences may have been later extended by incorporating the wall around the friary enclosure west of Dundalk Street and a wall around the main friary site east of the street.

DESCRIPTION

This possible wall line lies beneath the Health Centre and the entrance to Trinity Close. If there was a wall here it implies that there would have been a South Gate on Dundalk Street where this line and the projected line of the churchyard wall meet the road.

On the north side of the east end of Trinity Close, there is a short low section of old rubble walling along the road verge which returns north at its western end. This is part of a property boundary which at its east end is on Bradley's putative wall line but runs west at an acute angle to that line.

The south boundary of the Trinity Close estate dividing it from St Oliver's estate consists of a low terrace revetted with a dry rubble wall, on the north side, and a modern mesh fence. The line of this is parallel to and a short distance south of the putative wall line. The revetting wall looks like a modern construction but is probably made of reused



stone from former nearby structures and it might possibly be on the line of a former wall. The terrace might though be modern and result from levelling for the construction of the modern estates and this process may have removed any former upstanding evidence of the town wall if it existed in this area.

STATUS

Within the Carlingford zone of archaeological potential (Bradley).

SIGNIFICANCE

This area is of uncertain significance until further investigation confirms the presence or absence of evidence for a wall and possible South Gate.

CONDITION

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Further investigation would be necessary to uncover evidence for this putative wall line.



2.08 South-West Wall

SUMMARY

This curving section may have been a separate phase or possibly associated with the Dominican Friary, but this is not known for certain, it includes a three metres high upstanding section of old stone wall. Gosling (1992) and Bradley do not define the line of the wall in this area but indicate the town wall as returning east (section 2.07) before the beginning of this section.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There is some evidence that there was a secondary or outer circuit of walls on the south side of the town. A plan on a lease of a property belonging to Christ Church, Dublin indicates part of the southern wall of the close opposite the Dominican Friary as 'Town Wall' [NLI, Plans]. Unless this was misplaced antiquarian enthusiasm, it may reflect a genuine local tradition that the close (presumably an outer precinct of the priory) formed part of the defences.

An old postcard view of the wall in this area looking west from behind what is now St Oliver's Estate and Trinity Close does appear to show that the higher section to the south is a different phase to the rest. This may be a later phase of Town Wall or may relate to land held by the Friary, an inventory of 1540 (White 1943) mentions 'A park or close' of 1 _ acres in addition to the main precinct of the same size. (N.B. customary acres varied greatly depending on local usage).

DESCRIPTION

This section has been divided into several sub-section for ease of description and interpretation starting at the north end.

[A] From the east a one metre high stone wall was visible behind the health centre off Trinity Close and this seemed to continue with little differentiation from the last part of the previous section but was heavily covered in vegetation. If the town wall had returned east at this point and the south-west wall was connected with the Friary a change in build would be expected as seen on the postcard, but closer investigation would be needed to reveal this and the wall may of course have been rebuilt.



[B] South of this a three metre high section of wall was seen behind No 11 St Olivers Estate (which is a council owned house). This extended behind the gardens of most of the row (Nos. 11-16) but was largely covered in ivy. The south end was simply broken off, the top of the wall was overgrown so could not be compared with the standing wall to the north. The construction of random rubble and the height and thickness of the wall are similar to the other sections of high standing wall.

Here the ground level on the west is slightly lower than the east. West of the wall the land was unused and neglected with rubbish tipped against the wall (tipped from the east side) and the wall was ivy covered. No loopholes were seen in this section but it was so overgrown with clinging ivy that detailed assessment was impossible.

[C] Between the south end of the upstanding fragment and the adjacent roadway a low bank and hedge marked the wall line.

[D] On the south side of the estate road the curving property boundary that may represent the old wall line was not accessible but the northern part of it seen from the road consisted of stone rubble construction and was around two metres in height.

[E] The south section could not be examined closely but garden walls on this line were not of great height and appeared to be rendered, whether the render covered any old fabric is unknown.



2.08 South-West Wall

STATUS

Recorded Monument LH005-04201-Town Defences
SMR 5:0204, Buckley AICL No.1167

SIGNIFICANCE

The full height fragment is of considerable significance as a possible surviving late medieval boundary wall or defensive wall. The entire section may be a later extension of the defensive circuit and may have enclosed Town or perhaps Friary property.

CONDITION

The full height masonry at the north end was at the time of inspection almost completely overgrown with rough vegetation including quite large trees and shrubs and ivy and brambles making it very difficult to ascertain the nature and condition of the masonry. The roots of the encroaching vegetation must have penetrated and loosened the masonry and will continue to do damage unless controlled or removed.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The vegetation covering the wall is obscuring and damaging the surviving masonry.
- Rubbish is being dumped against the south west end of the high upstanding fragment. Other parts of this fragment constitute garden walls which may be susceptible to adverse management practices.
- Closer investigation of the upstanding section is required to ascertain its nature and whether it has any defensive loops like the northern section. Inspection of the rest of the section is necessary to establish the nature of the existing boundary walls on this line.
- If the wall did curve round to Dundalk Street opposite the Friary there may have been a South Gate of some form in this area.



2.09 Line of Friary Walls

SUMMARY

The town defences may here have been supplied by the Friary precinct. The Friary ruins occupy the area east of Dundalk Street and south of the churchyard therefore it is likely that there may have been no town wall as such in this quadrant and the defensive circuit would have used the Friary precinct wall in the same way that the churchyard wall possibly fulfilled this function immediately to the north.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The description of the house from an inventory of 1540 (White 1943, 245) implies that there was a defensive circuit to the monastic precinct, "The house is a strong mansion needing no expenditure on repairs, but on every side strongly fortified, and will be a very sure defence for the town in case of attack through rebellions of those living close by."

DESCRIPTION

There appear to be no definitely identified standing remains of the Friary wall but archaeological testing may have located it in one area. There was probably a wall along the east side of Dundalk Street separating the Friary precinct from the street, and this would probably have returned east along Church Street opposite the churchyard wall and at some point returned south, possibly opposite the south-east corner of the churchyard. The wall may then have returned again somewhere in the vicinity of the Mill and possibly followed the north side of the Mill pond back to Dundalk Street.

There are some property boundary walls north-east of the Friary which may be on the line of, or even contain fabric relating to, the historic friary walls but further investigation would be required to understand this area.

If the road south of the church and north of the Friary (Church Lane) existed in medieval times which seems likely it would therefore constitute another entrance into the Town which may have had a gate structure of some sort.



Archaeological testing on Dundalk Street in 2005 revealed a Medieval wall which is thought to be the boundary of the Friary. Unfortunately the report and exact location of the wall found are not yet available (see Appendix C, No. 36).

STATUS

Possible below ground remains.

SIGNIFICANCE

Survival of below ground remains is of considerable significance and implies good potential for further archaeological survival of friary walls and other structures.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Opportunities for further archaeological investigation could be sought and field and historical research undertaken to uncover more evidence for the friary defences or other historic walls in this area.



2.10 Churchyard Walls

SUMMARY

The walls which form the south and east churchyard boundary may have been part of the town's defensive circuit. They are of two main phases, the lower build being wide and substantial enough to have been part of the town wall. The north wall appears to be a revetting wall where the town development has cut into the hill on which the church is built, however this wall is bonded into the Tholsel and is abutted by the east wall. This may therefore represent an earlier circuit which did not encompass the church.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There are no known specific historical references to this section of wall. The drawing of Carlingford on the 1624 map implies the existence of a complete landward defensive circuit and also appears to show a defensive wall on the shoreline with a tower at the south-east corner of the defences. This sketch shows two buildings with crosses immediately south and south-east of the town and if these (as is thought) represent the Dominican Friary and a ruined chapel then the church is presumably within the walls. However this is a schematic representation of limited value.

DESCRIPTION

There are walls on all sides of the churchyard, those on the south and east comprise the main outer wall fronting onto the road with the two main gates to the churchyard, one on the east and one on the south. The east wall appears to abut the north wall which is between the churchyard and the town and acts as a revetting wall with a much higher ground level on the churchyard side.

The north wall extends west from the south-west corner of the Tholsel and the lower part of it is bonded to the Tholsel fabric and possibly contemporary. The east wall abuts the north wall just a metre or so west of the Tholsel.

The churchyard is higher than the road on the east and south as well but the differential is not as great as on the north and west. The land rises steeply to the church itself which appears to be built on a natural rise but the height of the churchyard in places near the walls must have been augmented by the burials, so the differential in height may have been less when the walls were first built.



The east and south wall is of random uncoursed rubble about 3m high. The upper metre or so is a later addition in darker stone. On the south side the lower part appears to be of one phase, on the east the lower part, in places, appears to be of two phases with a straight joint between, but the two phases are of similar height, build and material. There is also a long stretch covered in later render on the east face of the wall, north of the east gate.

The walls curve in towards the openings and both have later square stone gate piers with flat capping, the south gate piers look very recent. On the south entrance, particularly on the east side, the lower stretch of wall curving in to the gate looks as though it may be a later addition or rebuild.

From the interior it can be seen that there is a deep offset of c.0.3-0.4m between the lower and upper phases on the south wall and a similar but slightly narrower offset on the east. This implies that the lower phase is a very substantial and relatively earlier wall that could be a candidate for having been part of the medieval town defences at one time.

No gun loops or slits were seen in the east or south churchyard walls, the north and west walls which comprise garden and property boundaries were not fully accessed on their north and west faces.

The north end of the west side of the churchyard south of the church, is defined by the rear wall of the former D'Arcy grain store now the Kingfisher Bistro which is mainly of c.18th century date. This abuts the west churchyard wall which is about 1.5m high on the churchyard side with an offset near the top similar to that on the south but not so deep. Built



2.10 Churchyard Walls

up on the north end of this wall is the east wall of a former lean-to structure that abutted the 'grain store'. On the west side a section of wall is visible just south of the grain store and it is about 4m high on this side, consisting of random uncoursed rubble. There is a stone corbel projecting in the section below the wall of the former lean-to which contains a blocked former opening in its gable.

The south end of this wall is abutted on its west side by the wall of a small building fronting on to the road. This wall contains four slit windows and is of coursed rubble, it is different in character to the early walls seen and although it may be on the line of a former defensive wall it appears to have been constructed as a small barn wall with ventilation slits and not adapted from a different former function. The west churchyard wall forms the east wall of this building and has been heightened for the purpose with the addition of a single slit like those in the adjoining wall.

STATUS

Uncertain, possibly a recorded monument if considered part of the town defences but possibly not protected.

Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley).

SIGNIFICANCE

Further investigation is probably needed to understand the date and phasing and full significance of the various elements of the churchyard walls. Possibly of considerable significance if the lower portions are remnants of a medieval defensive circuit.

CONDITION

Generally good, in good repair with no major problems or issues in the elements seen.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- The south and east walls are probably safe as they are the under auspices of the church and the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust who use the church. Elements of the north and west walls, facing private property that has not been accessed, may be at risk.
- The rendered section of east face of east wall may be considered to be detracting from the appearance of the rest of the wall and may unwittingly be causing damage to the fabric beneath.



2.11 The Tholsel

SUMMARY

Gatehouse at South-east edge of town giving access to the main street where the town wall adjoined the churchyard adjacent to the former shoreline. The name implies it was used to collect tolls, possibly murage. The structure has two storeys with a single chamber over the gate with a modern pitched roof and a small chamber on the ground floor, east of the gate arch. The openings have iron grates and there is no public access at present.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The name Tholsel is not uncommon in Ireland and refers to a structure where tolls or customs dues were collected but these are generally found in market places in the centres of towns (Gosling 1992, 62). The Tholsel in Carlingford is a gatehouse in form but may well have been used for the collection of customs on goods or tolls on people entering the town. There is documentary evidence of murage tolls being levied in Carlingford from as early as 1326 and they may have been collected here and at the other gates. However the name itself may have been conferred at a later date with no genuine historic basis. Gosling queries the name but also claims that the gate warden's duties would include collecting taxes on goods entering the town.

It is presumed by various authors that the structure was of at least three storeys with a crenellated parapet and a reconstruction drawing on these lines is exhibited in the Heritage Centre. However there seems to be no specific historic evidence for the former appearance of the building. The present roof structure was possibly provided by Lord Anglesey in the early 19th century.

The building is said to have been used as the Sessions House in the 17th century where the sovereign and burgesses met. Local tradition also claims (somewhat improbably) that a parliament met here and made laws for the Pale and that it was used as the town gaol in the 18th century. Was there perhaps another 'tholsel' or market hall of greater size in Carlingford?

DESCRIPTION

The interior of the building was not accessible and the following description is based on that in the County Louth Archaeological Survey.



A rectangular gatehouse built of limestone and greywacke rubble, roughly coursed, with dressed stone quoins. It has a flattened barrel-vaulted entranceway with a segmental arch of small greywacke slabs and keystone. It is thought to have been originally of three storeys possibly with a crenellated parapet but the third storey has gone and a modern slate covered pitched roof spans the first floor chamber.

There is a small rectangular barrel-vaulted chamber at ground level (c. 1.5 m by 3m) east of the gate arch with a flat arched door on the north under the steps to the first floor. The first-floor level is reached by the steps built against a wall extending north from the north-east corner which lead to a doorway at the east end of the north wall. The original access to this level is thought to have been from a spiral stairwell, part of which was discernible to the Louth Survey just above the entrance to the small rectangular chamber but was not clear on recent inspection.

The upper portion of the north-east corner has clearly been rebuilt and an early window head inserted. The north wall has an upper opening with a two-centred arch which is thought to be a later alteration with no original dressed stone remaining. The south wall also has an opening with a two-centred arch, but it has an original window jamb on its west side of hammer-dressed limestone with glazing bar holes and is chamfered. There is a plain slit at the east end of the south wall which lit a garderobe in the south-east corner, the remnants of which, with a rectangular chute, survive.



2.11 The Tholsel



The west wall also has plain lintelled loops at first- and second-floor level (the current upper gable wall), a cubby-hole at first-floor level in the west corner, and a single splayed opening at first-floor level in the north wall. The building has been much altered with early medieval dressed stone from another building reused to repair this one.

STATUS

County Louth recorded monument No. LH005-04202-SMR 5:0205. (Buckley-County Louth Archaeological Inventory No. 1171). Privately owned. Heritage plaque. Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley).

SIGNIFICANCE

Of considerable significance in itself as the only surviving Town gate in Carlingford and one of only a small number in Ireland and of significance as a part of the defensive circuit with a possible economic as well as defensive function.

CONDITION

Generally in good condition, with a sound roof.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Currently not used.
- Appeared in good condition with solid roof but containing a build-up of bird droppings in the upper floor and vegetation at the east end. Some woody species are possibly getting hold on the gable parapet.
- Could possibly be open to public and upper chamber used for display, interpretation or other purpose.
- In private ownership, the owners should be approached for discussions about the future use, display and upkeep of the property
- Currently has a heritage plaque with limited information, this could be expanded or augmented with interpretative display panels.



2.12 Line of South-East Wall

SUMMARY

The line of any wall between the Tholsel and the sea shore is uncertain, if it ever existed at all. Bradley proposes a short length of wall running east from the Tholsel to the sea shore but there is no physical evidence of a wall running directly east from the Tholsel. Archaeological evidence suggests that the medieval shore line was just east of Tholsel Street, opposite The Mint, and it seems possible that the sea also came up to the east side of the Tholsel and the defence line/shore line extended north-west directly from the Tholsel and there was no return of the wall to the east but this is by no means certain.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There are no known specific historical references to this section of the defences. The drawing of Carlingford on the 1624 map implies the existence of a complete landward defensive circuit and also appears to show a defensive wall on the shoreline with a tower at the south-east corner of the defences. However this is a schematic sketch, the accuracy of which is dubious, and is countered by Norden's 1610 map, which shows no wall.

DESCRIPTION

This section is the putative short section of wall running east from the Tholsel towards the shoreline as marked on the map accompanying Bradley's survey etc. This is marked as running behind the properties south-east of the Tholsel (and this area was not accessible when visited). There is a ruined stone building in this proximity but it was not accessible for close examination. The east side of the Tholsel itself is exposed and there are no present walls or evidence of former walls running directly east from it.

There is a short section of wall running south from the south-east corner of the Tholsel which clearly abuts it and is later, and this is marked as modern on the plan in the Louth survey. There is also a wall running north-west from the north-east corner which in its lower levels, bonds to, and may be contemporary with the Tholsel, this wall has the stairs to the Tholsel built against its western face, and a lean-to building against its eastern face.

The plan in the Louth survey shows a small extent of this wall adjacent to the Tholsel as medieval and the rest as modern, the division between old and modern could not be confirmed by the present survey especially with the lean-to building obscuring most of the east side of the wall.

This would imply that the defensive wall or ran north-west along the east side of Tholsel Street from the Tholsel for



an unknown distance. Further north excavation has uncovered a possible medieval shoreline with a feature interpreted as a breakwater roughly in line with the wall extending north from the Tholsel, if this was the shoreline in the medieval period then it is possible that the Tholsel itself was roughly on the shore line and that there was no wall extending east of the Tholsel but rather a wall and perhaps other forms of sea defence structure running north-west from the Tholsel towards Taaffe's Castle.

NB The Louth survey mentions a second remnant of up-standing wall with loops south-east of the Tholsel, but it is unclear exactly where this is supposed to be located and it was not identified during recent inspection.

STATUS

The wall attached to the Tholsel should have the same status as the Tholsel itself: County Louth recorded monument No. LH005-04202- SMR 5:0205 (Buckley-County Louth Archaeological Inventory No. 1171). Within the zone of archaeological potential (Bradley)

SIGNIFICANCE

Difficult to judge significance as full line of this wall is unknown. The short piece of wall attached to the Tholsel is probably of considerable significance if it was part of the early defensive circuit.

CONDITION

The wall extending north from the Tholsel is in fair condition but somewhat damp & overgrown with moss & lichens etc.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Line of wall north of Tholsel uncertain.
- The wall may or may not have returned east and the defences may have taken a different form along the shoreline which was much further west than at present.



2.13 Sea-Shore Defences

SUMMARY

There is no certainty that there were any formal seaward defences in Carlingford except those provided by individual buildings. A painting of c. 1800 and a 19th century drawing shows a seashore wall north and south of Taaffe's Castle incorporating the east wall of the tower house itself and the gable ends of buildings south of it. At the north end this wall joins a smaller wall linking to Carlingford (King John's) Castle. There is a surviving stub of the wall joining the south side of Taaffe's Castle and there is a small section of wall bonded to the north side of the Tholsel which may have extended further north. Evidence of medieval shore gravels and a possible breakwater structure have been excavated 10m east of Tholsel Street.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Norden's map of the escheated counties of Ulster, c.1610 (British Library Cotton Augustus I.ii.44) includes a sketch of Carlingford that shows the castle, with a wall running west from the castle to a corner tower then a west wall running south to a second tower from whence the wall returns east or south-east towards the shore and then returns for a short distance north ending at a building that may represent the Tholsel. Along the shoreline between this building and the Castle no defences are shown. This seems reasonably conclusive, at the hand of an able surveyor, but the 1624 sketch map which, although only schematic, does show a wall extending along the shoreline of the town with a rounded tower or bastion in the south-east corner and a tall square tower in the north-east corner where King John's castle would be. Although the castle does not conform to this shape or proportion and the sketch must not be taken as an accurate representation of the town, it does suggest the possibility of the existence of a shoreline defence at this date.

The watercolour Carlingford Castle by Henry Brocas Senior c.1800 (National Gallery of Ireland) shows a wall extending south from the south-east corner of Taaffe's Castle, however there is no arch in this wall adjacent to the tower in the painting although possible evidence of an arch is found in the surviving stub of this wall. The painting shows a small cottage across the line of the wall with its end gable wall projecting east of the wall. Between the wall and the beach is a low bank and trackway. The main access into the town appears to be a wide opening in the wall immediately north of Taaffe's Castle. The north side of this opening appears



to be broken open and may be the remains of a former arch. North of this, the wall continues at the back of the beach with a couple of smaller openings in it until it joins a building that straddles the line of the wall. This structure is narrow and tall with a pitched roof and small windows and may be a former corner tower, however the form is repeated in the depiction of the buildings west of the wall within the town. A lower wall returns east at this point for a short distance before returning north up the slope of the rock on which stands Carlingford Castle and joins the south-east corner of the castle.

A pencil drawing of Taaffe's Castle from the north-east in the collection of Ordnance Survey letters in the R.I.A., Dublin (reproduced in CLAHJ Vol. XII.2 1950) clearly shows the wall with arch at the south-east corner with a projecting machicolation over it, south of this is a further section of wall with three openings and this abutts or adjoins the north-east corner of two-storey gabled building. The drawing also shows a wall extending north from the north-east corner of Taaffe's Castle with sections of two different heights both with a sloping ridge or coping course.

The various sections of wall and east walls of buildings combine to create a continuous seaward wall at the back of the beach, with boats drawn up on the foreshore a short way off.

DESCRIPTION

Very little of any former seashore defences remains. There is a stub of the wall extending south from Taaffe's castle with the possible remnants of an arch, but no other definite



2.13 Sea-Shore Defences



ancient wall fabric south of Taaffe's Castle apart from the wall extending north from the Tholsel. That wall, although containing much modern material, including the present Tholsel steps does appear to bond to the Tholsel and is possibly contemporary in origin.

The wall attached to Taaffe's Castle is thought by many to have been the bawn wall of the Castle and therefore a discrete structure. However it is possible that this may have formed part of the sea-shore wall and may have incorporated or joined an earlier wall or have had later structures built onto it. Brocas's painting implies there were various phases to the limited amount of wall depicted south of Taaffe's castle.

Some walls survive north of Taaffe's Castle which are slightly east of the line of the tower house and probably later than the extension and would therefore date to the late 16th century or later. These therefore may represent post-medieval property boundaries and defences against the sea rather than a systematic defence against attack or invasion.

There are no known remains of the town defences between the Tholsel and Taaffe's Castle walls and although the historic evidence suggests there may have been a later wall here there is archaeological evidence that may show the beach nearly reached Tholsel Street with a breakwater but no sign of a wall west of it.

The excavation (Gleeson and Moore 1992) behind buildings on the east side of Tholsel Street, opposite the Mint, uncovered a structure over 4m wide parallel to and about

10m east of Tholsel Street. This was interpreted as some form of 'breakwater' or sea defence to protect the Mint area from tidal erosion. There were shore gravel deposits both sides of the structure, those to the west covered by later landfill those on the east (seaward) by an orange clay deposit. The structure itself was composed of two outer lines of large stones with a slaty gravel fill and was therefore not substantial enough to have been a wall foundation. There was a north terminus to this structure within the excavation trench, with an earlier cobbled surface to the north of it. The structure was east of a line from the Tholsel to Taaffe's Castle and if it there was a medieval sea defence in this location it does imply there may not have been a wall to the east at that time. However the excavations were limited and further investigation would be needed to establish the nature, and phasing of the seashore defences.

SIGNIFICANCE

Back walls of properties in this area are probably of moderate significance in possibly forming a late medieval/post-medieval defence of sorts.

CONDITION

The few surviving walls in this area are currently in reasonable condition.

ISSUES/VULNERABILITY

- Taaffe's castle is being developed
- Walls north of Taaffe's Castle have had garage entrances made in them and there are applications for more such interventions.
- The whole area is under threat from pressure of development.



Appendix A: Bibliography and Sources

ABBREVIATIONS

BAR	British Archaeological Reports
CLAHJ	Journal of the County Louth Archaeological (& Historical) Society
IMC	Irish Manuscripts Commission
JRSAI	Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
PRIA	Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy

GENERAL SOURCES

Gwynn and Hadcock (1970)	Medieval Religious Houses Ireland (repr. 1988)
Leask, H.G.	Irish Castles (1941 and later edns)
Leask, H.G.	Irish Churches and Monastic Buildings III. Medieval Gothic, the last Phases (1960, repr. 1985)
Lewis, S	A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland (1837)
Orpen, G.H.	Ireland under the Normans (repr 2005)
Ordnance Survey	Map of Monastic Ireland (2nd edition, 1979)
Sweetman, David	Medieval Castles of Ireland. 2nd edition, The Boydell Press, Woodbridge. (2000)

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Graham, B J (1977)	'The Towns of Medieval Ireland' in R A Butlin (ed), <i>The Development of the Irish Town</i> , 28-60
Graham, B (1979)	'The Evolution of Urbanization in Medieval Ireland' <i>Journal of Historical Geography</i> vol. 5, 2, 111-25
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Graham, B J (1988)	'The Definition and Classification of Medieval Irish Towns' <i>Irish Geography</i> vol XXI, 20-32
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Potterton, M (2005)	<i>Medieval Trim. History and Archaeology</i>
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Appendix A: Bibliography and Sources

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Appendix A: Bibliography and Sources

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Appendix B: Table of Archaeological Work in Carlingford

INTRODUCTION

OA has been asked to provide a summary of archaeological activity in Carlingford. Since 1991 over forty licences have been issued for archaeological work within the Town and Liberties of Carlingford. The majority of these were either for pre-development test-trenching or monitoring of ground works for new dwellings or extensions to existing dwellings or businesses.

Most of the licensed works are summarised in the online Database of Irish Excavation Reports: <http://www.excavations.ie/Pages/HomePage.php>, having been published in the annual volumes, e.g. Isabel Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2003: Summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland* (Wordwell Press, 2006). The references quoted are to the summaries therein followed by the excavation licence number where known. Isabel Bennett also kindly supplied summaries for 2004 and 2005 work in Carlingford that had not yet published on the database.

Some attempt has been made to locate original reports and illustrations, though this has proved a difficult task despite the ready cooperation of many archaeologists and the Department in Dublin (DEHLG). Eoghain Grant of the department kindly provided a table of licensed work in Carlingford on which the following table is based and which has been augmented with the information from the excavations database and from site reports where these were obtained from the department, with permission from the licensed archaeologist.

The results for forty sites in or adjacent to the historic walled town have been tabulated and mapped (see overleaf) those in the newer developments on the east side of Carlingford and further afield within the Liberties have been excluded. There remain eight sites whose location has yet to be clarified.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 1

Licence No: 91E0056

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1991:093

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Liberties of Carlingford (Site in field north of priory church)

Excavator and Organisation: Cassidy Beth. Archaeological Development Services, Dublin.

Site Type: Medieval Priory Precinct

Archaeological works: Trial trenching in advance of development

Development type:

Description/Results: Testing in field north of priory church, no archaeology.

OA Event No. 2

Licence No: 92E0036

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1992:134

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Tholsel Street

Excavator and Organisation: Gleeson Carol for Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing. March 1992

Development type: Mixed commercial and residential development

Description/Results: On the east side of the town work revealed shore gravels and beach deposits at a relatively shallow depth below the present town. Ten metres east of Tholsel Street opposite the Mint a 4m wide structure possibly a medieval breakwater was excavated. The structure had a north terminus with an earlier cobbled surface adjacent to it and a small square stone structure to the west which may have been a holding tank for fish.(published in CLAHJ 1992)

OA Event No. 3

Licence No: 92E0037

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1992:133

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Holy Trinity Church

Excavator and Organisation: Gleeson Carol. for Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust

Site Type: Medieval Church Site

Archaeological works: Excavation of service cable trenches. March-April; 1992

Development type: Service cable trenches.

Description/Results: Cable ducts along internal north and south walls revealed 20 late medieval/post-medieval inhumations within the church building but no earlier archaeology was exposed beneath the burial deposits. C14 date ranges of 1517-1666 & 1442-1650.

OA Event No. 4

Licence No: 93E0064

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1993:154

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Dominican Priory

Excavator and Organisation: Channing John. Dublin

Site Type: Medieval Dominican Priory

Archaeological works: Excavations in and around the Priory church in advance of conservation. April -May 1993. Funded by OPW

Development type: Conservation work

Description/Results: Excavations connected to the conservation of the priory. Post-med burials.

Tower appears to be later addition, south wall of which partly sits over a foundation plinth which may be related to an earlier structure.

OA Event No. 5

Licence No: 93E0189

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1994:165

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Ghan House

Excavator and Organisation: Gibbons Erin. Dublin

Site Type: Post Medieval Culvert

Archaeological works: Rescue excavation of recently exposed underground passage. Dec 1993

Development type: Excavation of front lawn to create ornamental pond.

Description/Results: Work during construction of ornamental pond at Ghan House revealed 18th century midden and c17th century stone lined and covered watercourse and reservoir.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 6

Licence No: 94E0063

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1994:167

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Tholsel Street

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald. Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing. May 1994. Monitoring of foundation trenches. October 1994

Development type: Proposed residential development.

Description/Results: Site next to the Tholsel revealed a wall adjoining Tholsel on south which rested on Tholsel foundations and another building further west (see 1835 map) prob both late med or post med date.

OA Event No. 7

Licence No: 94E0187

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1994:166 & 1995:190

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Newry Street

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda.

Site Type: MURban Medieval (Near Castle)

Archaeological works: Trial trenching Dec 94 & Excavation of 7m x 6m trench, Jan 95.

Development type: Proposed residential development

Description/Results: Work in 1994 in this area on a site on the west side of Newry Street just inside the then supposed line of the north wall revealed potential medieval deposits with survival of organic material. Up to 1m depth of post-medieval material had overlain parts of the site and in one corner below this was a 15th-17th century layer which in turn overlay 0.5m of late medieval or early post-medieval garden soil. Below the garden soil was a peaty layer 0.3m thick which sat upon the natural gravels. This layer contained branches and possible wattles and may represent medieval occupation with evidence of structures that stood along Newry Street. The further excavation revealed a steep slope 4m from east edge of site this may have been part of a ditch aligned SE/NW at least 2m deep and poss up to 8m wide of which the peaty layer may be primary fill this had one sherd of 13th/14th pottery.

OA Event No. 8

Licence No: 95E0069

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1995:189

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, March 95

Development type: Proposed new dwelling

Description/Results: No archaeology, any stratigraphy presumably destroyed by construction of earlier now demolished building. Natural gravel exposed over entire site.

OA Event No. 9

Licence No: 95E0122

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1995:191

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Taafes Castle

Excavator and Organisation: Moore Dermot. For ADS Ltd

Site Type: Late Medieval Towerhouse

Archaeological works: Pre-development trial-trenching, 7 trenches, June-July 1995

Development type: Restoration project

Description/Results: Seven Trenches within and around Taaffe's castle revealed much about the construction of the building itself and nature and extent of archaeological deposits.

OA Event No. 10

Licence No: 95E0234

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1995:188

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Liberties of Carlingford

Excavator and Organisation: Campbell Kieran

Site Type: Castle Environs (80m NW Of Castle)

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching

Development type: New dwelling

Description/Results: No archaeology revealed, natural not reached, site had been built up with modern deposits.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 11

Licence No: 96E0260

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1996:262

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Deirdre

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, 2 trenches. September 1996.

Development type: Proposed Development

Description/Results: Work in the centre of Carlingford at the market square has shown up to 1m of deposits above natural gravels but these consisted of post-medieval demolition deposits. Another site in this locale did not reach natural at 0.7m and at the depth the deposits were of post-medieval date.

OA Event No. 12

Licence No: 96E0305

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1996:261

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: West of Dundalk Street

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, 6 trenches. October 1996

Development type: Proposed housing development

Description/Results: Trenching west of Dundalk Street, east of the probable wall line, showed substantial made-up ground but revealed no significant archaeological deposits or finds.

OA Event No. 13

Licence No: 96E0315

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1996:264

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Station Road

Excavator and Organisation: Campbell Kieran. Drogheda

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Three test pits

Development type: Proposed development of three townhouses

Description/Results: Rubble deposits prob connected with construction of railway, and possibly old metallised quay surface.

OA Event No. 14

Licence No: 96E0322

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1996:263

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Carlingford Arms, Newry Street/corner of Market square.

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Deirdre, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, 2 trenches. November 1996

Development type: Proposed extension of Carlingford Arms PH

Description/Results: Two trenches did not reach natural at 0.7m and at this depth the deposits were of post-medieval date.

OA Event No. 15

Licence No: 97E0018

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1997:369

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: River Street.

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, 7 trenches. January 1997

Development type: Proposed housing development

Description/Results: Trenching in 1997 immediately outside the medieval town, west of the town wall and south of River Street in an area now being highly developed has also shown that the natural gravels lie close to the surface here and no archaeological deposits were found.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 16

Licence No: 97E0064

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1997:368

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Back Lane

Excavator and Organisation: MMurphy Deirdre Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Trial -trenching, 4 trenches. March 1997

Development type: Proposed new dwellings

Description/Results: No archaeological stratigraphy, the site had been previously ploughed. Natural boulder clay was exposed close to the surface with no surviving archaeological deposits.

OA Event No. 17

Licence No: 97E0141

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1998:Ad6

Planning Reference (if known): 96/735

Site Name /Location: Tholsel Street

Excavator and Organisation: Campbell Kieran

Site Type: Medieval/P-M Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing. January 1998

Development type: Demolition of existing building and construction of three shops with apartments

Description/Results: On the west side of Tholsel Street test trenching on a site between the Tholsel and the Mint revealed that properties here are cut into a natural gravel ridge to the west and no archaeological deposits were found on that side of the site; the gravel being exposed at ground level.

OA Event No. 18

Licence No: 98E0161

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1998:419 & 1999:549 & 1999:553

Planning Reference (if known): Not Known

Site Name /Location: Carlingford Drainage & Sewerage Scheme

Excavator and Organisation: Moore Dermot G. Archaeological Development Services, Dublin. For Louth County Council

Site Type: Medieval Town

Archaeological works: Monitoring, Test-trenching and Rescue Excavation.

Development type: Main Drainage & Sewerage Scheme

Description/Results: Phase 1 was 11 trenches in centre of town and revealed old stream culvert and a few walls.

Phase 2 was 35 trenches through the town and east of town round shore road, most trenches had no archaeology with the important exceptions of Nos 4 and 5 with the town wall and gate etc., and Nos 18-19 at Taaffe's and a few others.

The testing for the main drainage works revealed a substantial ditch and a later wall with gateway and cobbled road at the north end of Newry Street. These features were dated to the 13th/14th centuries by build-up deposits against the wall and probably represented the east end of the north circuit of the defences and a north gate into the medieval town. The wall survived to a height of over 2m below the ground with associated medieval deposits. Rescue excavations at Taaffe's castle (trenches 18-19) uncovered two north-south walls south of the building. Both walls showed tight jointing and appeared to show exposure to the sea on their eastern faces. It was suggested that the western one was earlier and the eastern one was contemporary with the castle and both had served the dual function of sea wall and bawn wall. Beach gravels were also seen relatively close to the surface outside the east gate of Holy Trinity Church four young male adult human skeletons all with sword cuts on their skulls were found in two shallow graves cut into the gravel. These are thought to have been late medieval or early post-medieval infantrymen struck from horseback.

OA Event No. 19

Licence No: 99E0066

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No:

Planning Reference (if known): 96/430

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street (west side).

Excavator and Organisation: Ó Drisceoil Cólín

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Extension to retail unit

Description/Results: No details available



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 20

Licence No: 99E0234

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1999:550

Planning Reference (if known): 97/883

Site Name /Location: Castle Hill

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Donald, Archaeological Development Services, Dublin

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing. 2 Trenches

Development type: Proposed construction of a terraced and a mews house

Description/Results: We have report but no location plan. Two trenches no dated finds, old garden soils not dated.

OA Event No. 21

Licence No: 99E0299

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1999:551

Planning Reference (if known):

Site Name /Location: Castle Hill

Excavator and Organisation: Meenan Rosanne.

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-planning Test-trenching. 3 Trenches

Development type: Proposed new dwelling

Description/Results: We do not have report or location plan. No archaeology

OA Event No. 22

Licence No: 99E0421

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1999:552

Planning Reference (if known): 99/422

Site Name /Location: Castle Hill

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Deirdre, Archaeological Development Services, Dublin

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing. 3 Trenches. August 1999

Development type: Proposed residential development

Description/Results: We have report but not location plan. No archaeology, modern garden soil.

OA Event No. 23

Licence No: 99E0686

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 1999:554

Planning Reference (if known): 99/496

Site Name /Location: Holy Trinity Heritage Centre (former Church of the Holy Trinity)

Excavator and Organisation: Bermingham Nora, Archaeological Development Services, Dublin

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Monitoring of Groundworks

Development type: Kitchen extension

Description/Results: We do not have report or location plan. Holy trinity kitchen extension, late or post-med burials

OA Event No. 24

Licence No: 00E0706

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2000:647

Planning Reference (if known): 95/602

Site Name /Location: Castle Hill.

Excavator and Organisation: Murphy Deirdre, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Medieval Urban

Archaeological works: Monitoring of Development Works

Development type: Proposed new house

Description/Results: We have report but no location plan. 17th-18th century clay layer overlay natural, no archaeological features.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 25

Licence No: 00E0743

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2000:645

Planning Reference (if known): 95/602

Site Name /Location: Back Lane

Excavator and Organisation: Halpin, Eoin, Archaeological Development Services, Belfast

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Monitoring of topsoil removal

Development type: Proposed development

Description/Results: We do not have report or location plan. Topsoil over subsoil on steep slope. No archaeology

OA Event No. 26

Licence No: 01E0281

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2001:837 & 2002:1296

Planning Reference (if known): 99/1499

Site Name /Location: Newry Street/Back Lane

Excavator and Organisation: Clarke Linda. Murphy Donald, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Urban Medieval

Archaeological works: Test-trenching, April 2001 (3 trenches) followed by further trenching (5) April 2002

Development type: Proposed development of nine town houses

Description/Results: We Have a copy of this report and location plan. Site known as the herb garden, adjacent to the ruined med house with sculpted head, 8 trenches. Post-med garden soils, ?residual med pottery. Recording of walls. [Same site as No. 40]

OA Event No. 27

Licence No: 01E0488

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2001:838

Planning Reference (if known): 00/623

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street (West side of).

Excavator and Organisation: Conway Malachy Archaeological Consultancy Services,

Site Type: Within ZAP

Archaeological works: Test-trenching. 1 trench.

Development type: Extension and conversion of existing terrace

Description/Results: No significant archaeology revealed, trench to depth of old yard surface at 0.7m.

OA Event No. 28

Licence No: 02E0240

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2002:2090

Planning Reference (if known): 01/1075

Site Name /Location: Market Square

Excavator and Organisation: Shanahan Brian

Site Type: Within ZAP (Lh005:042)

Archaeological works: Monitoring of Groundworks

Development type: Extensions and alterations to existing Retail Unit (pharmacy).

Description/Results: Report and summary not available, registered too late to be included in 2002 database.

OA Event No. 29

Licence No: 02E1795

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2002:1297

Planning Reference (if known): 00/962

Site Name /Location: River Street

Excavator and Organisation: Corcoran Eoin Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Proposed development of 17 dwellings

Description/Results: Report and summary not available. Following information from National Monuments section; Site of proposed dev of 17 houses near town wall. Four trenches no archaeology.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 30

Licence No: 02E1797

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2003:1228

Planning Reference (if known):

Site Name /Location: Back Lane

Excavator and Organisation: Corcoran Eoin, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type: Urban

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Holiday unit & parking

Description/Results: Nothing of archaeological significance noted during testing.

OA Event No. 31

Licence No: 03E0108

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2003:1229

Planning Reference (if known): 02/1361

Site Name /Location: P.J. O'Hares Bar Tholsel Street .

Excavator and Organisation: Linnane Stephen

Site Type: Urban Medieval

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Proposed new extension to public house & demolition of kitchen etc.

Description/Results: Findings show land once sloped steeply from the Mint area to this area on east of Tholsel street and that the medieval waterfront may have been located here.

OA Event No. 32

Licence No: 03E0812

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2003:1227

Planning Reference (if known):

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street

Excavator and Organisation: O'Carroll Ellen

Site Type: Urban Medieval

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Pre-planning

Description/Results: Report and summary not available. Following information from National Monuments section; Nothing of archaeological significance noted.

OA Event No. 33

Licence No: 04E0210

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No:

Planning Reference (if known): 03/174

Site Name /Location: Carlingford, Louth

Excavator and Organisation: Campbell Kieran

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Proposed development of 14 houses in terraced blocks and demolition of derelict house etc.

Description/Results: The same site was the subject of licences 97E0018 and 02E1795 this seems to have been a further programme of test trenching but the results are not known.

OA Event No. 34

Licence No: 04E1323

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2004:1074

Planning Reference (if known):

Site Name /Location: Dundalk Street/Dublin Street

Excavator and Organisation: Sweetman P. David, Roestown, Drumree, Co. Meath.

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type:

Description/Results: Report and location plan not available. Site just inside the line of the town walls at the west side of the town. The area was intensively cultivated by private gardens and heavily covered in trees and scrub. Nothing of archaeological significance was found.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 35

Licence No: 04E1710

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No:

Planning Reference (if known):

Site Name /Location: Tholsel St.

Excavator and Organisation: Campbell Kieran

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type:

Description/Results: Report and summary not available.

OA Event No. 36

Licence No: 05E0237

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No:

Planning Reference (if known): 00/701

Site Name /Location: Dundalk St. (east side near Friary)

Excavator and Organisation: Elder Stuart

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Proposed development of four dwelling houses.

Description/Results: Following information from National Monuments section; Medieval wall found, probably boundary of priory. No further work necessary bar monitoring of placement of teram and foam over wall and building up over this. There should be no impact to the archaeology.

OA Event No. 37

Licence No: 05E0407

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2005:1025

Planning Reference (if known): 04/1674

Site Name /Location: Tholsel/Dundalk St.

Excavator and Organisation: Sweetman P. David, Roestown, Drumree, Co. Meath

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development testing

Development type: Demolition of existing activity hall, etc. and the construction of 2 apartments & retail units etc.

Description/Results: Test trenching on a site south-west of The Mint with access from Dundalk Street produced nothing of archaeological interest. The area appears to have been artificially built-up in the 2nd half of the 18th century.

OA Event No. 38

Licence No: 05E0483

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2005:1022

Planning Reference (if known): 04/1374

Site Name /Location: Back Lane.

Excavator and Organisation: Elliott Ruth, On behalf of Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Pre-development test-trenching. 2 trenches May 2005

Development type: Proposed housing development of 2 semi detached three storey dwellings.

Description/Results: Test trenching found two layers of garden soil overlying the former plough-zone soil above natural. A large modern rubbish pit along the southern side of the site. No archaeological finds or features were uncovered. Survey of late medieval house, which adjoins the site to the north, was carried out by John Stirland. The house was at least two storeys high and lay within its own burgage plot. A high-pitched south gable wall survives with a carved human head in late medieval style. The proposed development will have limited visual and no physical impact on the gable of the late medieval house.

OA Event No. 39

Licence No: 05E0536

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2005:1024

Planning Reference (if known): 04/1515

Site Name /Location: Castle Hill

Excavator and Organisation: Walsh Fintan, Dave Bayley, Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, Dun Laoghaire.

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Monitoring and test trenching. 5 trenches August 2005

Development type: Proposed development of three houses

Description/Results: Five test trenches were excavated within the area of proposed development on 17 August 2005. Monitoring of the demolition of an existing structure in the south-west corner of the site, adjacent to the suggested line of the medieval town wall, was also undertaken. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed.



Appendix B: Chronological Table of Licensed Archaeological Work undertaken in or near Carlingford Historic Walled Town.

OA Event No. 40

Licence No: 05E1371

Database of Irish Excav Ref. No: 2005:1023

Planning Reference (if known): 03/473

Site Name /Location: Back Lane/Newry St.

Excavator and Organisation: Russell Ian (Ian R. Russell, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Drogheda,

Site Type:

Archaeological works: Monitoring of topsoil stripping and excavation of foundation trenches

Development type: Proposed residential development 6no. 2 storey town houses & 2no. 3 storey town houses

Description/Results: Monitoring was conducted on the site of a proposed residential development at Back Lane/Newry Street, Carlingford. Two assessments previously carried out within the site had identified a number of post-medieval stone walls. Coarse black garden soil measured a maximum of 0.35m in thickness and lay directly above the natural orange gravelly and stony clay. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed and no finds were recovered. [Same site as No. 26]



