
Appendix L – Archaeological Desktop Assessment (John Cronin & Associates)

Archaeological Desktop Assessment
**Nore River Facilities, Collegepark,
Johns Street, Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny**

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1. Introduction

John Cronin and Associates have been commissioned by **Ailtiri** to compile an archaeological desktop assessment of a proposed development at Johns Street, Collegepark, Kilkenny, County Kilkenny. The proposed development consists of a new water sports activity centre on c. 0.32 hectares of greenfield and brownfield land. The proposed development site is located on a bend of the River Nore which forms its southern boundary (**Figure 1**).

This report presents summary details on the locations of recorded elements of the archaeological resource within the environs of the subject site. The study area for this assessment comprised the internal area of the proposed development site combined with the lands extending for approximately 200m from the outer boundary of the site (study area). There are 46 recorded archaeological sites within the study area. **The western development boundary coincides with the projected line of a lost section of the Kilkenny Town Defences (KK019-026001-) which is a designated National Monument. The development will also encroach slightly on the Zone of Notification of a 12th/ 13th century Dovecote (KK019-026238-).**

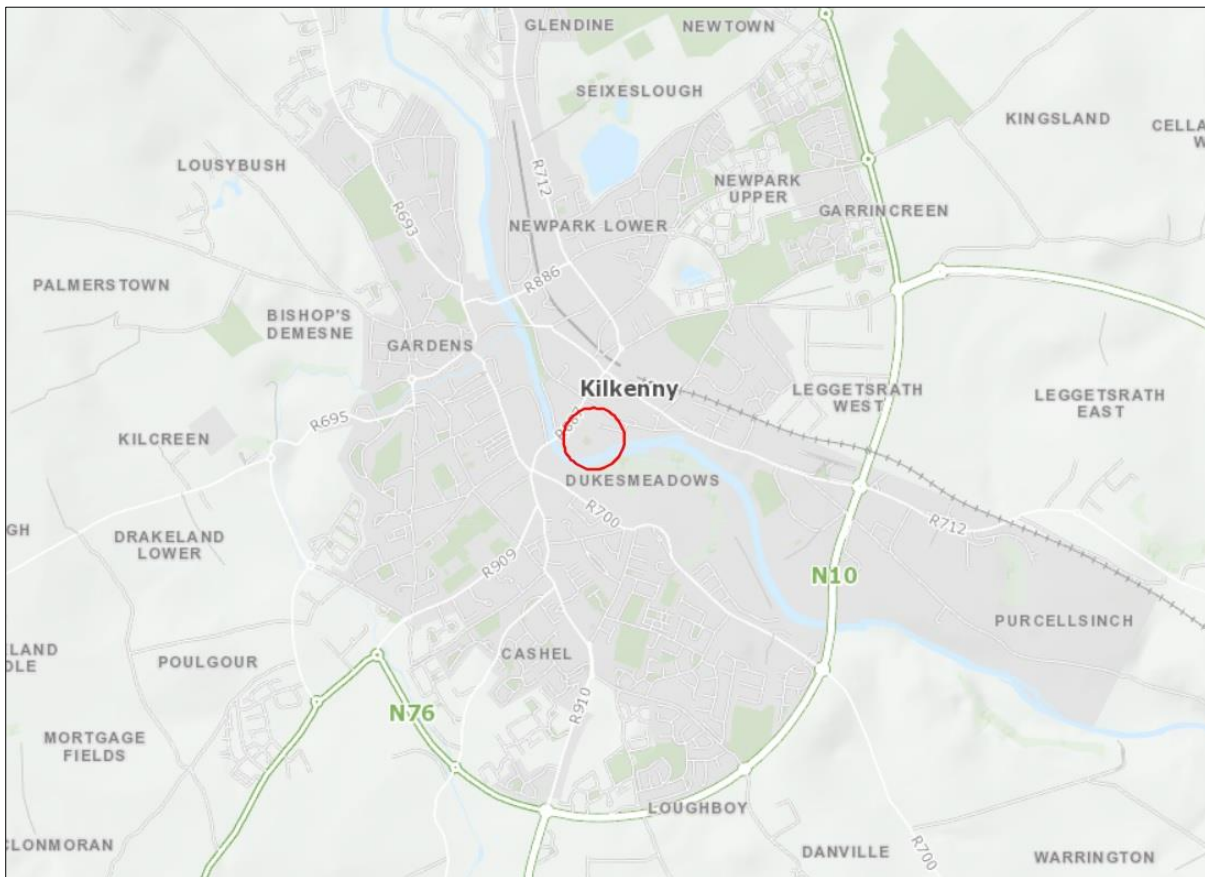


Figure 1: General location of development area (red circle) (Source: Government of Ireland)

This assessment was prepared by John Cronin & Associates and is based on a programme of desktop research.

2. Methodology

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Counties Kilkenny, published by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI), was the principal sources for identifying known archaeological constraints. The *Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027* was consulted to review the planning authority's policies and objectives designed for the protection of the archaeological resource and historic landscapes.

In addition, the following sources were consulted to assess the potential for the presence of unrecorded archaeological sites within, and in vicinity to, proposed work areas:

- *Archaeological Survey of Ireland*: Since the publication of the original county SMRs and RMPs, the ASI has continued to record and add entries to the Sites and Monuments Record. In addition, the ASI has developed an online database and web viewer known as 'Historic Environment Viewer'. This has been developed to "enhance the user's experience by facilitating access to the database of the National Monuments Service Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) in a seamless one stop point of access for both data resources" (Source: www.archaeology.ie).
- *Database of Irish excavation reports*: This database contains summary accounts of all licensed archaeological excavations carried out in Ireland (North and South) from 1969 to 2023.
- *Historical publications and cartographic sources*: various published sources and historical maps were consulted as part of the assessment.
- *Aerial imagery*: available online aerial imagery of the study area was consulted to determine if any traces of unrecorded, sub-surface archaeological sites were evident within the proposed development area.

3. Context

The subject site is located within the townland of Collegepark, in the Civil Parish of St Patrick's, John Street, Kilkenny, County Kilkenny (**Figure 2**). The underlying geology of this area comprises Crinoidal wackestone/packstone limestone of the Ballyadams Formation, and the underlying subsoil consists of gravels derived from limestones (Source: Geological Survey Ireland). The proposed development area, c.0.32 hectares in total, is located within lands currently in use as car parks and landscaped parkland. The site is situated on a bend of the River Nore which forms its southern boundary, and is bounded to the north and southwest by existing car parks, parkland to the east and the walled rear plots of properties along John Street to the northwest.



Figure 2: Detailed location of the subject site, outlined in red (Source: OpenStreetMap)

Legal & Policy Framework

The management and protection of cultural heritage in Ireland is achieved through a framework of national laws and policies which are in accordance with the provisions of the Valetta Treaty (1995) (formally the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1992) ratified by Ireland in 1997; the European Convention on the Protection of Architectural Heritage (Granada Convention, 1985), ratified by Ireland in 1997; and the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003, ratified by Ireland in 2015.

The administration of national policy in relation to archaeological heritage management is the responsibility of the National Monuments Service (NMS) which is currently based in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 was signed into law on October 13th, 2023. This Act repeals the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 and replaces those Acts with provisions for the protection of protection of archaeological and historical heritage. Amongst other measures, this Act gives the Minister (currently the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) the power to prescribe classes of relevant things of archaeological interest to be known as prescribed monuments and includes requirements for the reporting of the finds of such prescribed monuments to the Minister. The Act also establishes a Register of Monuments and procedures for the Minister to enter certain prescribed monuments and relevant things of relevant interest into this register which provides a legal mechanism for the formal designation of monuments under the Act.

The Act also includes transitional provisions applicable to the “Record of Monuments and Places” established and maintained under Section 12 of the National Monuments Act of 1994 and the “Register of Historic Monuments” established and maintained under Section 5 of the National Monuments Act of 1987. The Minister may by notice published in *Iris Oifigiúil*, specify a date on and from which the Register of Monuments will supersede the Register of Historic Monuments and the Record of Monuments and Places and following that date those relevant enactments shall cease to apply.

The archaeological baseline environment appraised as part of this assessment is based on current archaeological datasets published on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage's online Historic Environment Viewer at the time of writing in March 2024.

The *Kilkenny City and County Council Development Plan 2021-2027* includes the following objectives in relation to the protection of the archaeological resource:

Objective 9C *To protect archaeological sites and monuments (including their setting), underwater archaeology, and archaeological objects, including those that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, and in the Urban Archaeological Survey of County Kilkenny or newly discovered sub-surface and underwater archaeological remains.*

In addition, the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027 contains the following relevant Development Management Requirements:

- *To endeavour to preserve in situ all archaeological monuments, whether on land or underwater, listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), and any newly discovered archaeological sites, features, or objects by requiring that archaeological remains are identified and fully considered at the very earliest stages of the development process and that schemes are designed to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage.*
- *To require archaeological assessment, surveys, test excavation and/or monitoring for planning applications in areas of archaeological importance if a development proposal is likely to impact upon in-situ archaeological monuments, their setting and archaeological remains.*
- *To ensure that development within the vicinity of a Recorded Monument is sited and designed appropriately so that it does not seriously detract from the setting of the feature or its zone of archaeological potential. Where upstanding remains of a Recorded*

Monument exist a visual impact assessment may be required to fully determine the effect of any proposed development.

- To require the retention of surviving medieval plots and street patterns and to facilitate the recording of evidence of ancient boundaries, layouts etc. in the course of development.*
- To safeguard the importance of significant archaeological landscapes from developments that would unduly sever or disrupt the relationship, connectivity and/or inter-visibility between sites.*

The Development Plan contains the following statement regarding the Walled Town of Kilkenny:

The Kilkenny City walls, built during the medieval period, would have historically formed a defensive line around the medieval town. Today, the walls are part-standing and part-buried. Town defences are considered to be monuments for the purposes of the National Monuments Acts, 1930-2004. The Council will support the National Policy on Town Defences which sets out national policy for the protection, preservation and conservation of the defences of towns and cities.

The National Policy on Town Defences states:

All works that will impact on the fabric of town or city defences, or any ground disturbance in proximity to the defences in local authority or the Minister's ownership or guardianship, or that have been the subject of a preservation order, are subject to a requirement for Ministerial Consent from the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. It is advisable to consult with the National Monuments Service and the Architectural Heritage Advisory Unit of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government at an early stage when planning works. Many structures associated with town defences may also be protected structures and/or located within an architectural conservation area and planning permission may be required. The local authority archaeological and conservation officers should be consulted.

In considering applications for Ministerial Consent for works affecting town defences, it shall be the policy of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government:

- To seek the protection and preservation in-situ of these national monuments including the town walls, embankments and ditches, gates, bastions or ancillary fortifications or portions thereof;*
- To seek the preservation of important views and prospects inside and outside the walls so as to preserve the setting of the monuments and to increase the appreciation of the circuit and character of the walled town. The Department may require a satisfactory buffer area to be established between any new development and the town defences in order to ensure the preservation and enhancement of the amenity associated with the presence of town defences within the historic urban pattern;*
- To require any proposals for works to town defences to be preceded by a detailed measured survey of the monuments so as to have an appropriately detailed record;*
- To provide pre-planning advice to developers where town defences are close to or included in their proposal site;*
- To require the involvement of qualified and experienced conservation professionals in the detailed design and overseeing of works to town defences;*

- *Not to favour new roads crossing the wall or the line of the wall or the formation of any new openings in the wall;*
- *To favour the minimal intervention necessary to the authentic fabric of the monument and avoidance of unnecessary reconstruction;*
- *To require good quality, context-sensitive design for development proposals affecting the upstanding town defences that would not detract from the character of the town defences or their setting by reason of the location, scale, bulk or detailing;*
- *To encourage the enhancement of the setting of town defences including the pedestrianisation of town gates where this can be achieved without requiring new roads to be opened through the circuit of the walls. To encourage also the improvement of signage and public utilities structures, etc. where these affect the visual amenity of the defences;*

Archaeological and historical context

There are a total of 46 archaeological sites published by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland within a 200m study area surrounding the subject site. Two sites (Town defences KK019-026001-, Dovecote KK019-026238-) are located within or in close proximity to the proposed development boundary (**Figure 3, Table 1**). Please see **Appendix 1** for full descriptions. The subject site is located within the Area of Archaeological Potential associated with the historic city of Kilkenny as defined in the Kilkenny City and Council Development Plan 2021-2027 (**Figure 4**).

The western boundary of the proposed development coincides with the projected line of the medieval town wall (KK019-026001-) which once enclosed the suburb of Saint John's (**Figure 5 and 6**). Although no upstanding remains of the town defences have survived along this section it is possible that sub-surface elements may survive within the boundary of the site. All town defences are designated National Monuments. The development will also encroach into the immediate surrounding of one recorded site, a 12th/ 13th century Dovecote (KK019-026238-) excavated in 2003 (01E0821). The centrepiece of this structure, which has an outer diameter of c. 9m, is located at ITM 650669/655823 (**Figure 7**).

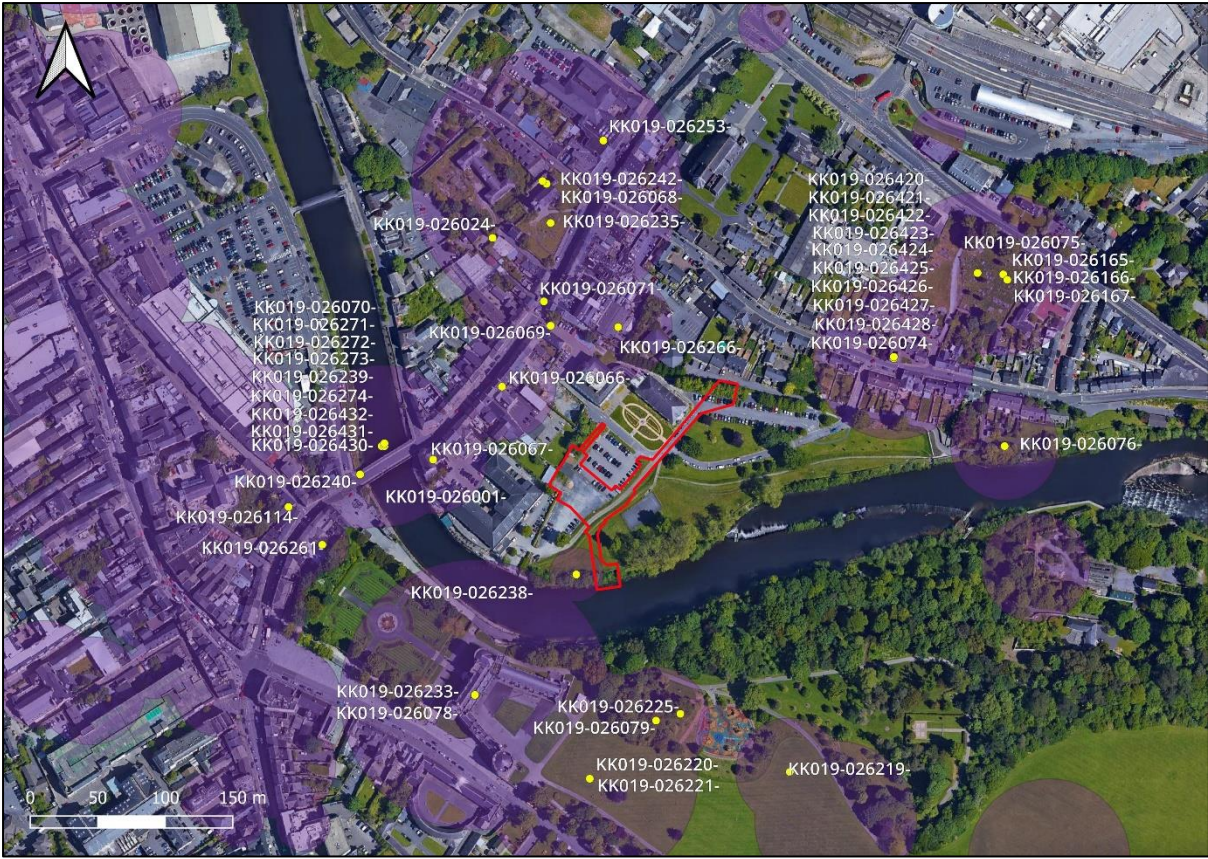


Figure 3: Recorded archaeological sites (yellow dots) and their zones of notification (purple) within the study area, subject boundary defined by red line (Source: Government of Ireland)

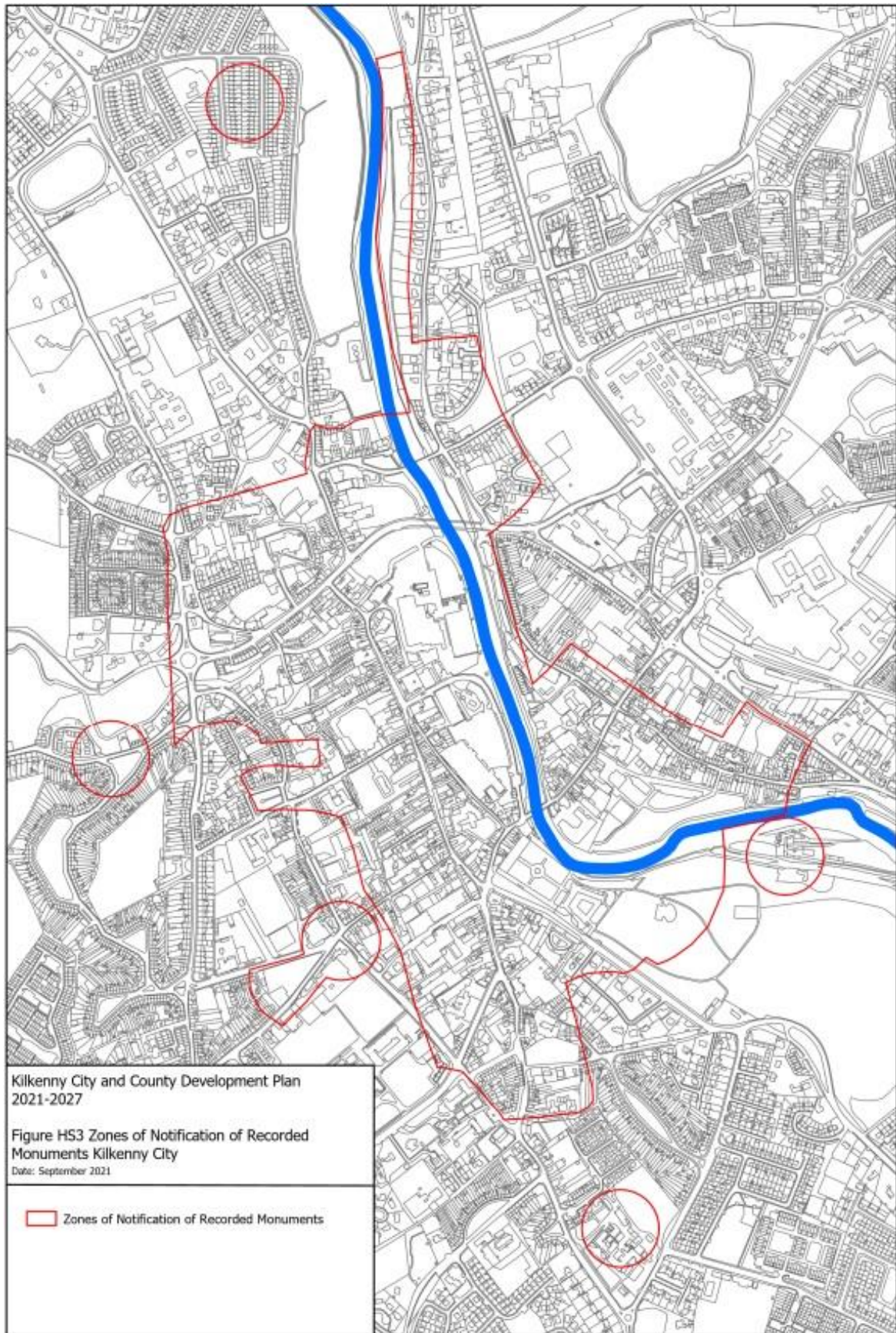


Figure 4: Area of Archaeological Potential, Kilkenny (Source: Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021 - 2027)

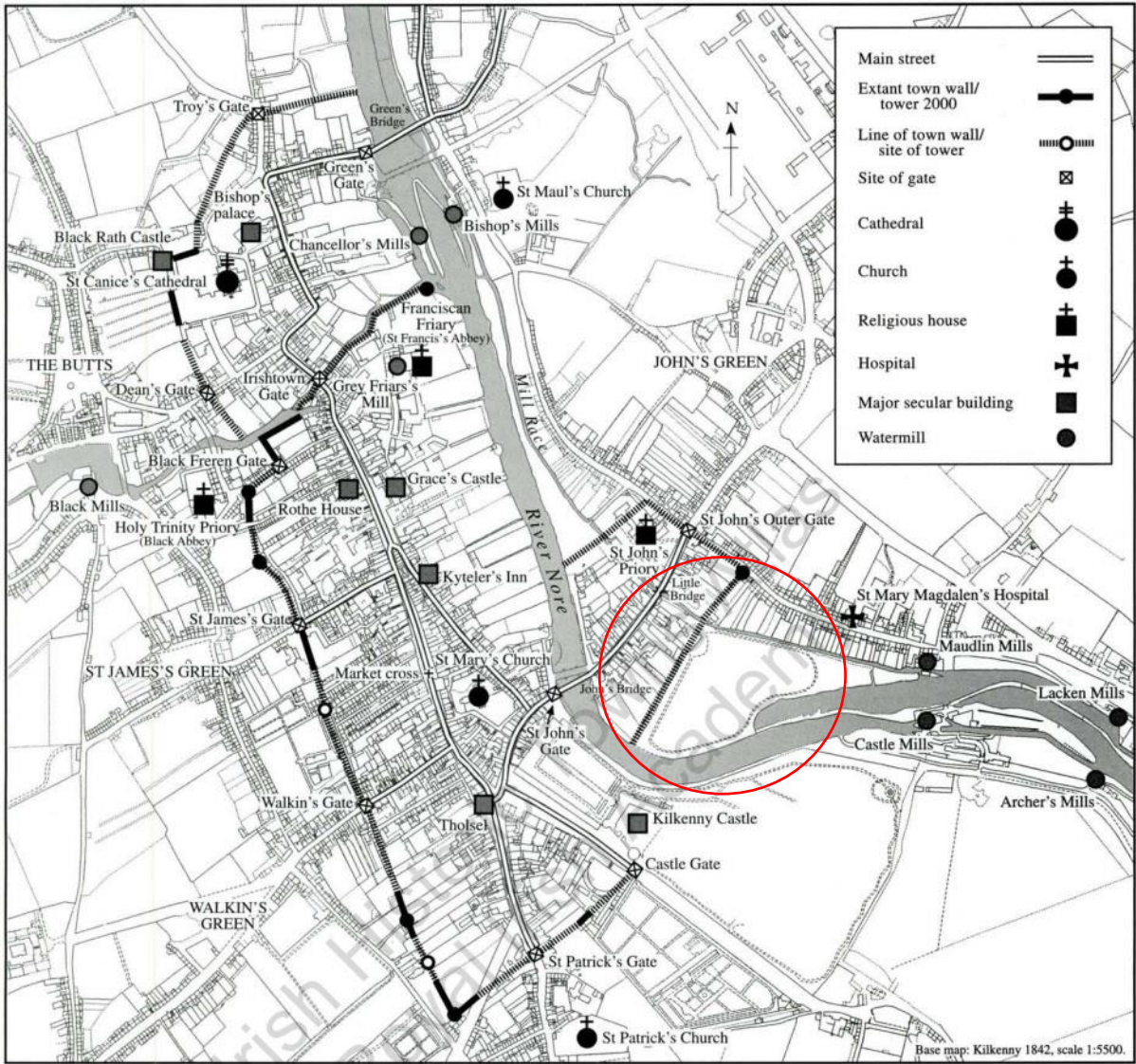


Figure 5: Map of Kilkenny town wall. Subject site within red circle (Source: Kilkenny Irish Town Atlas 10, Royal Irish Academy)

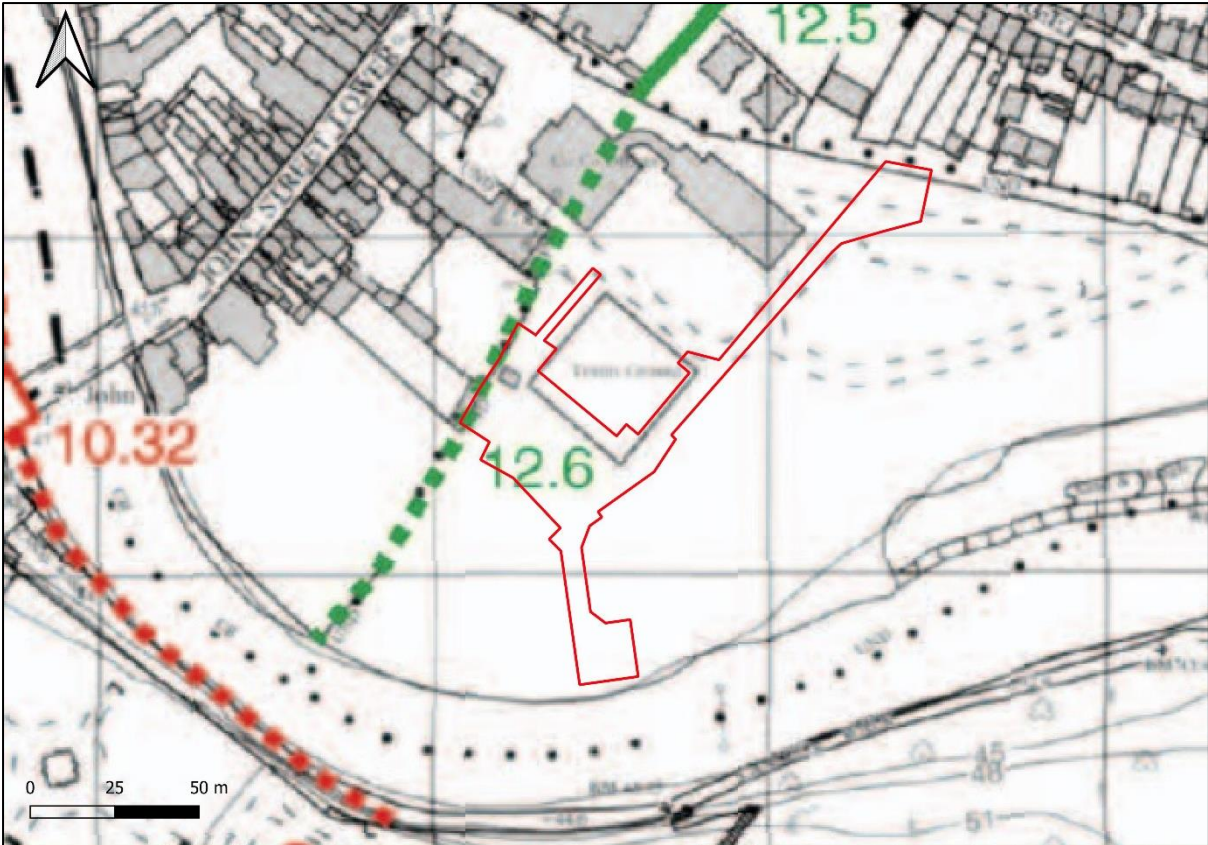


Figure 6: Detail showing projected location of town walls (green) in relation to subject site (solid red line)
 (Source: *Kilkenny City Walls Conservation Plan, Heritage Council*)

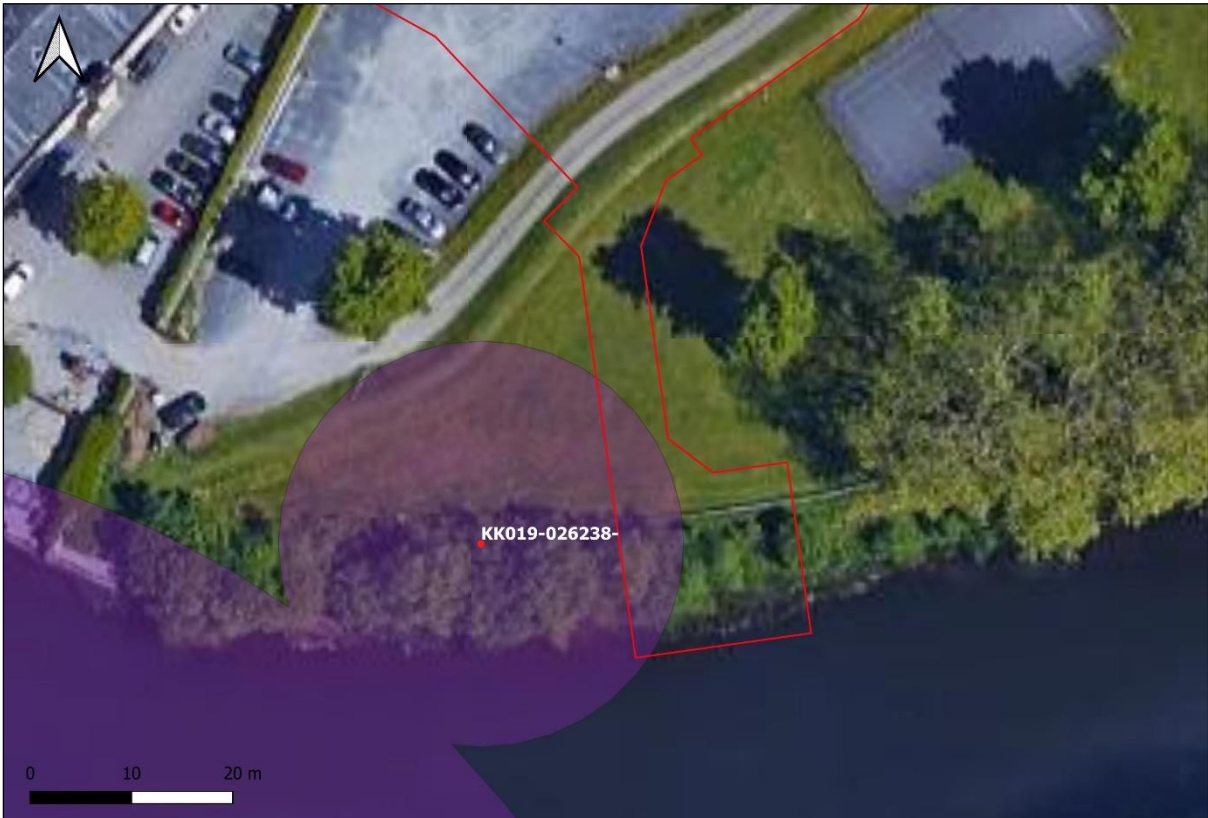


Figure 7: Recorded archaeological site (red dot) and ZoN (purple), subject site defined by red line
 (Source: *Government of Ireland*)

Table 1: Archaeological sites within 200m of the subject site

SMR No.	Class	Townland	Easting	Northing
KK019-026001	Town defences	Collegepark, Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Patrick's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Canice Par.), Bishopsmeadows (Crannagh By., Kilkenny Rural ED), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650201	656315
KK019-026024-	House - 16th/17th century	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650807	656072
KK019-026066-	House - 16th/17th century	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650814	655962
KK019-026067-	House - 16th/17th century	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650763	655908
KK019-026068-	Religious house - Augustinian canons	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650847	656112
KK019-026069-	House - 16th/17th century	Collegepark	650850	656007
KK019-026070-	Bridge	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650725	655918
KK019-026071-	Bridge	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650845	656025
KK019-026074-	Tower house	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655983
KK019-026075-	Church	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651166	656046
KK019-026076-	Water mill - unclassified	Collegepark, Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651186	655918
KK019-026078-	Castle - Anglo-Norman	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650794	655734
KK019-026079-	Bowling green	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650928	655715
KK019-026114-	House - 16th/17th century	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650656	655873
KK019-026165-	Graveyard	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651185	656045
KK019-026166-	Graveslab	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651188	656041
KK019-026167-	Graveslab	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651188	656041
KK019-026219-	Stable	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	651027	655677
KK019-026220-	Fortification	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650879	655672

SMR No.	Class	Townland	Easting	Northing
KK019-026221-	Walled garden	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650879	655672
KK019-026225-	Designed landscape - summer house	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650946	655720
KK019-026233-	Castle - ringwork	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650794	655734
KK019-026235-	Graveyard	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650850	656083
KK019-026238-	Dovecote	Collegepark	650869	655823
KK019-026239-	Bridge	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655918
KK019-026240-	Weir - fish	Dukesmeadows (Shillelogher By., St. Patrick's Par.)	650709	655897
KK019-026242-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650844	656114
KK019-026253-	Excavation - miscellaneous	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650889	656144
KK019-026261-	Well	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650681	655845
KK019-026266-	Water mill - vertical-wheeled	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	650900	656006
KK019-026420-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026421-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026422-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026423-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026424-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026425-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026426-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026428-	Graveslab (present location)	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)	651104	655984
KK019-026430-	Graveslab	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920
KK019-026431-	Graveslab	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920

<i>SMR No.</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>Townland</i>	<i>Easting</i>	<i>Northing</i>
KK019-026432-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920
KK019-026271-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920
KK019-026273-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920
KK019-026274-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920
KK019-026272-	Tomb - effigial	Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.)	650727	655920

Early prehistoric period

Traditionally, the earliest recorded evidence for human settlement in Ireland dated to the Mesolithic period (7000–4000 BC) when groups of hunter-gatherers arrived on the island. However, recent evidence in the form of a butchered bear patella found in Alice and Gwendoline Cave near Ennis in County Clare now suggests that humans were present in Ireland during the Palaeolithic period between 12,800 to 12,600 cal BC (Dowd and Carden, 2016, 161). The Mesolithic settlers did not construct any settlements or monuments that leave any above ground traces although their presence in an area can often be identified by scatters of worked flints in ploughed fields and rivers. The Neolithic period (4000-2400 BC) began with the arrival and establishment of agriculture as the principal form of economic subsistence, which resulted in more permanent settlement patterns. As a consequence of the more settled nature of agrarian life, new site-types, such as more substantial rectangular timber houses and various types of megalithic tombs, begin to appear in the archaeological record during this period. While archaeological monitoring of works on the River Nore have produced finds from the Mesolithic and Neolithic in the form of flints and a polished stone axe there are no recorded sites dating to either period within the study area.

Late prehistoric period

Metalworking arrived in Ireland with the advent of the Bronze Age period (c. 2400–500 BC). This period was also associated with the construction of new monument types such as standing stones, stone rows, stone circles and fulachta fia. Fulacht fia translates as cooking places of the wild (or of deer), they are often interpreted as the remains of cooking sites and are the most numerous archaeological site type in Ireland, radiocarbon dating of excavated examples has generally produced dates in the Bronze Age (c.2400-500BC). The development of new burial practices saw the construction of funerary monuments such as cairns, barrows, boulder burials and cists. The later first millennium BC and the early centuries AD comprise the Irish Iron Age, which is the most obscure period in the Irish archaeological record. While there is general agreement that the introduction of an iron technology was a significant factor in the eventual demise of bronzeworking on a large scale, but how, why and when this came about in Ireland is far from clear. A post and wattle fish weir (KK019-026240-) found in the River Nore at Saint John's Bridge

produced radiocarbon dates of 755-400 BC and 755-403 BC, placing it in the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age transition period.

Early medieval period

The early medieval period began with the introduction of Christianity and continued up to the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the late 12th century (c. 400–1169 AD). While this period saw the emergence of the first phases of urbanisation around the larger monasteries and the Hiberno-Norse ports, the dominant settlement pattern was still rural-based and founded on a small-scale agricultural economy centred around enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts. These comprise circular enclosures delimited by concentric banks and ditches and are the most widespread archaeological field monuments in the Irish landscape. They were formerly known by the names rath/lios, which still form some of the most common Irish place name elements. The ecclesiastical sites dedicated to St Canice and St Patrick were established at Kilkenny during the 5th century, however there are no recorded monuments dating to this period within the study area.

Late medieval (AD 1169 – 1550)

The arrival and conquest of large parts of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans in the late 12th century marks the advent of the late medieval period. This period saw the continuing expansion of Irish urbanisation as many of the port cities developed into international trading centres and numerous villages and towns developed as local or regional market centres, including Kilkenny where a castle, constructed by Richard de Clare, Earl of Leinster, known as Strongbow is recorded in 1173. The settlement was later developed under William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, who granted it privileges in 1207. Marshal also founded St John's Priory in 1211 adjacent to the bridge on the eastern bank of the River Nore where a suburb grew up around it. The suburb was later enclosed as part of the town defences. Most of the sites within the study area date to this period, including a dovecot (KK019-026238-), an Augustinian priory (KK019-026068-) and its graveyard (KK019-026235-), two castles (KK019-026078-, KK019-026233-), a walled garden (KK019-026221-), several effigies (KK019-026242-, KK019-026432-, KK019-026271-, KK019-026273, KK019-026274-, KK019-026272-) and graveslabs (KK019-026430-, KK019-026431-) some of which were found in the River Nore at the site of a late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-). A vertical watermill (KK019-026266-) is also located adjacent to the town wall of St John's (KK019-026001-) which enclosed the medieval suburb.

Post-medieval to early modern

The centuries following 1550 AD are referred to as the post-medieval period, which is generally considered to continue until the development of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century. This period saw the development of both high and low status rural housing stocks and dispersed agricultural settlements consisting of single-storey thatched cottages with associated farm buildings, which began to be replaced by two-storey farmhouses during the late 19th century. The medieval suburb of St John's is mentioned in Cromwell's account of the Siege of Kilkenny in 1650. There are several 16th/17th century houses within the study area, predominantly along John Street, (KK019-026024-, KK019-026066-, KK019-026067-, KK019-026069- and KK019-026114-), as well as a 17th century stable (KK019-026219-), fortification (KK019-026220-) summer house (KK019-026225-) and bowling green (KK019-026079-) within the grounds of Kilkenny Castle. In addition to these sites there is also a circular limestone well (KK019-026261-) and bridge (KK019-026239-) likely dating from this period within the study area.

Stray finds

Consultation of the topographical files held by the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) did not reveal any stray finds recorded from the townland of Collegepark.

Placenames database

The Placenames Database of Ireland (available at www.logainm.ie) which provides translations of the Irish origins of townland names was consulted. Townlands are the smallest unit of land division in the Irish landscape, and many may preserve early Gaelic territorial boundaries that pre-date the Anglo-Norman conquest. The boundaries and nomenclature of the Irish townlands were recorded and standardised by the Ordnance Survey in the 19th-century. The Irish roots of townland names often refer to natural topographical features, but some name elements may also give an indication of the presence of past human activity within the townland, e.g., dun, lios or rath indicate the presence of a ringfort while temple, saggart, termon or kill record an association with a church site. The subject site is located within the townland of Collegepark derived from the Irish pairc meaning field. The townland name refers to Kilkenny College founded by the Duke of Ormonde in 1684 at Seix House immediately north of the subject site (IHTA 10, p. 22)

Cartographic review

The detail on historic cartographic sources demonstrates the nature of past settlements and land use patterns in recent centuries and can also highlight the impacts of modern developments and agricultural practices. This information can aid in the identification of the location and extent of unrecorded or partially levelled features of archaeological or architectural heritage interest. The cartographic sources examined for the study areas include the Down Survey (c.1655), John Rocque's Map of Kilkenny (1758) first edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map (1839-40) and the 25-inch Ordnance Survey map (1900).

The Down Survey map from c.1655 (**Figure 8**) records the forfeited lands of Kilkenny following the city's surrender in 1650. The townland of Collegepark is depicted as a triangular parcel but unnamed. A small rectangular building is shown at the southern tip of this parcel on the bank of the River Nore. John Rocque's map of Kilkenny from 1758 (**Figure 9**) shows the subject site as located within a triangular orchard or park landscape covered by trees. The north-western margin of the site extends towards the rear plots of houses along John Street which are separated from the orchard by a wall.

On the first edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map, the subject site is located within an orchard. The tree cover appears less dense than that depicted on Rocque's map from 1758. The north-western margin of the site extends within the rear plots of houses along John Street which are divided from the orchard by a wall (**Figure 10**). The 25-inch OS map depicts a reduction in the number of trees and the addition of a footpath which circles the field. A rectangular enclosure or playing field is depicted at the centre of the proposed development (**Figure 11**).

A review of modern aerial imagery shows that the northern portion of the site has been subject to modern disturbance through the construction of a car park and flood protection berm. Flood relief works have also impacted on the bank of the River Nore to the south (**Figure 12 and 13**).

There were **no indications of previously unknown archaeological sites** from this cartographic review.



Figure 8: Extract from the Down Survey (c.1655) (Source: Trinity College, Dublin)

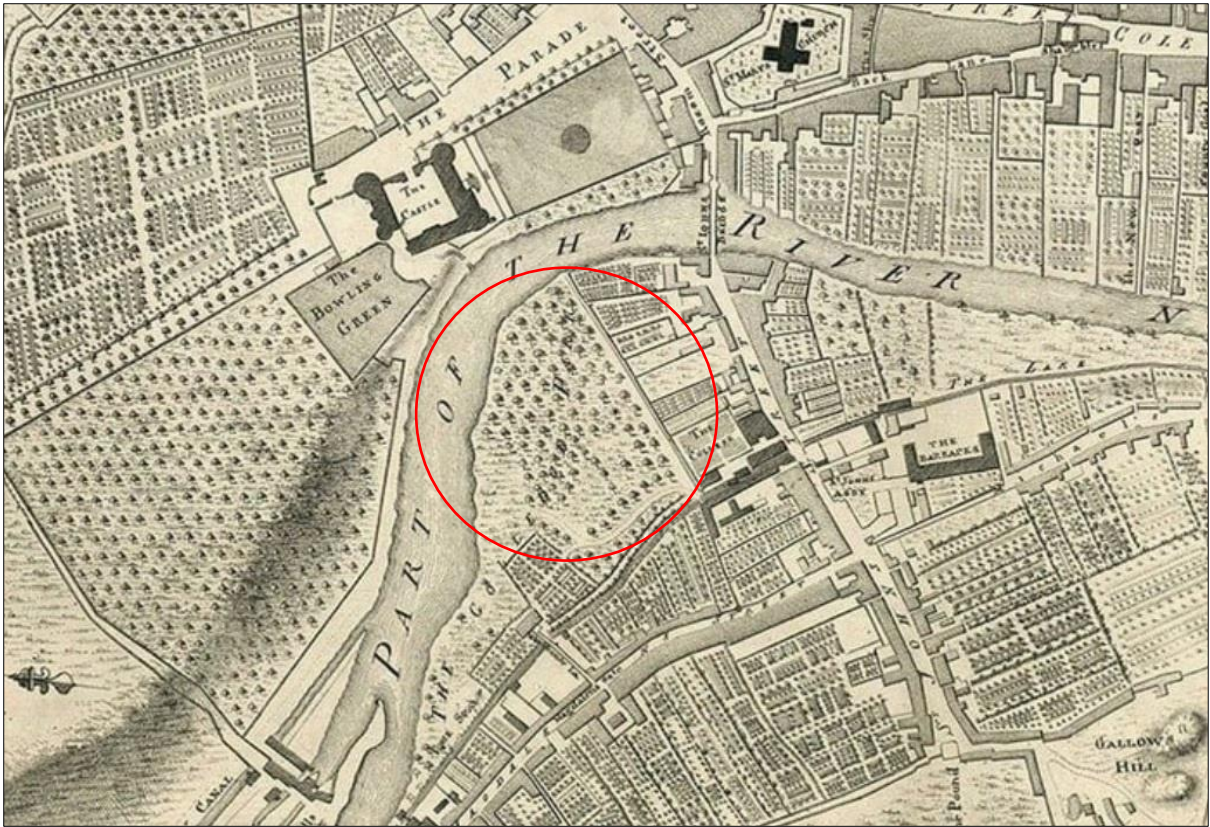


Figure 9: Extract from John Rocque's map of Kilkenny (1758)

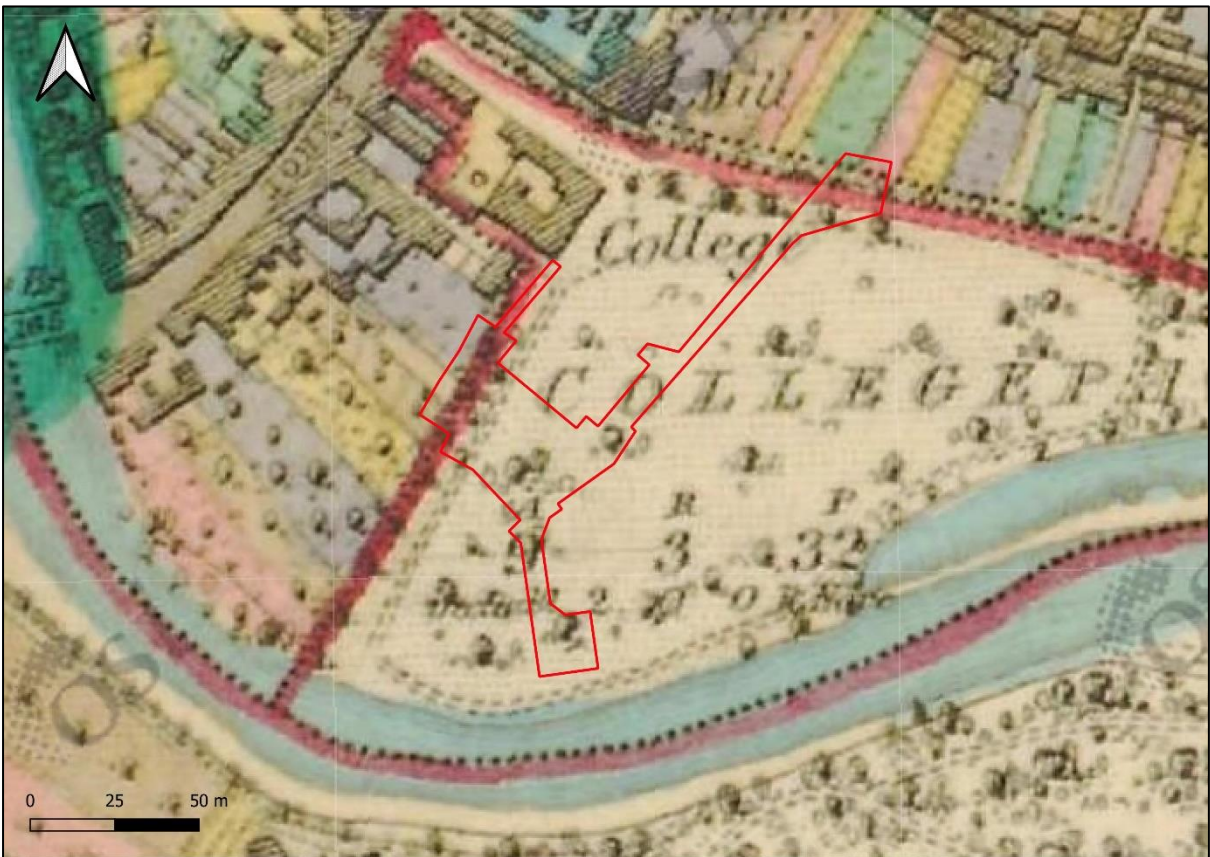


Figure 10: Extract from the first edition 6-inch OS map (1839-40) (Source: Government of Ireland)

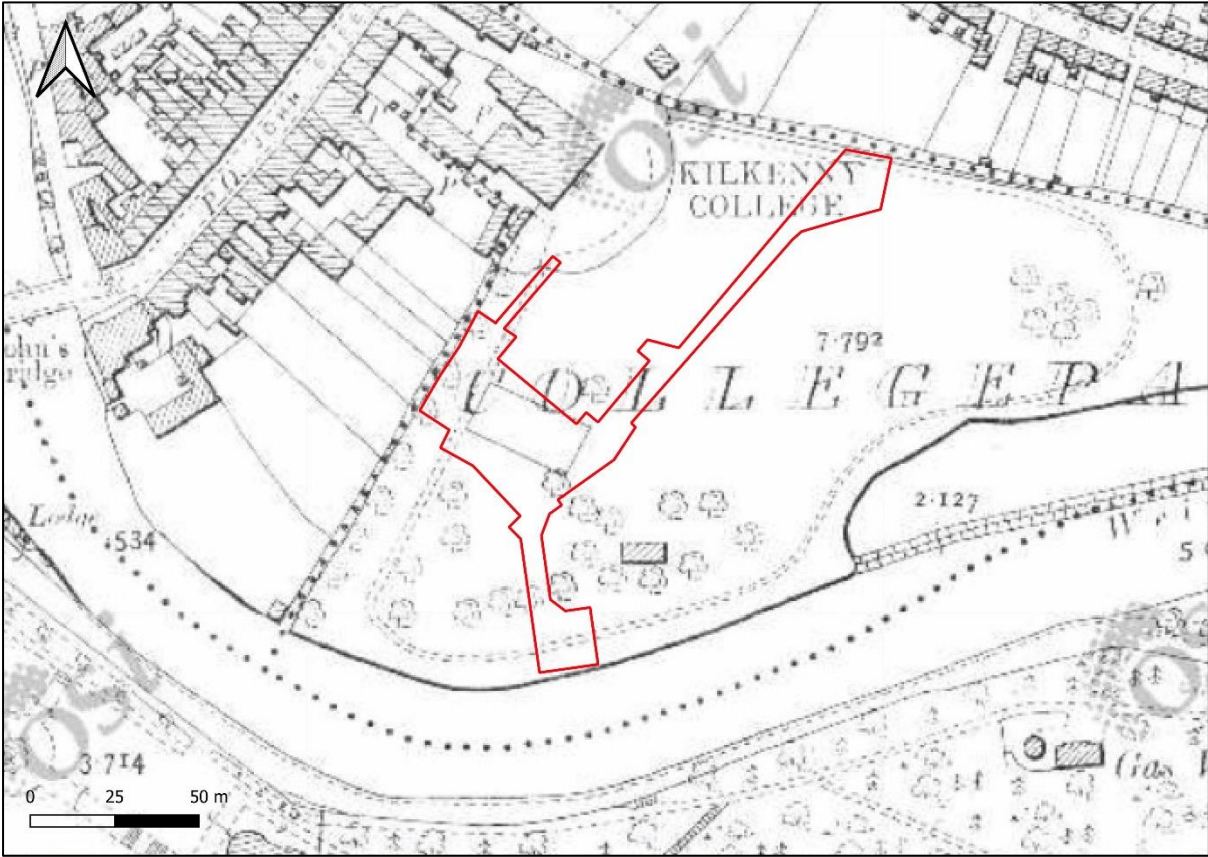


Figure 11: Extract from the 25-inch OS map (1900) (Source: Government of Ireland)



Figure 12: Aerial view showing land use within subject site 2000-2005 (Source: MapGenie)

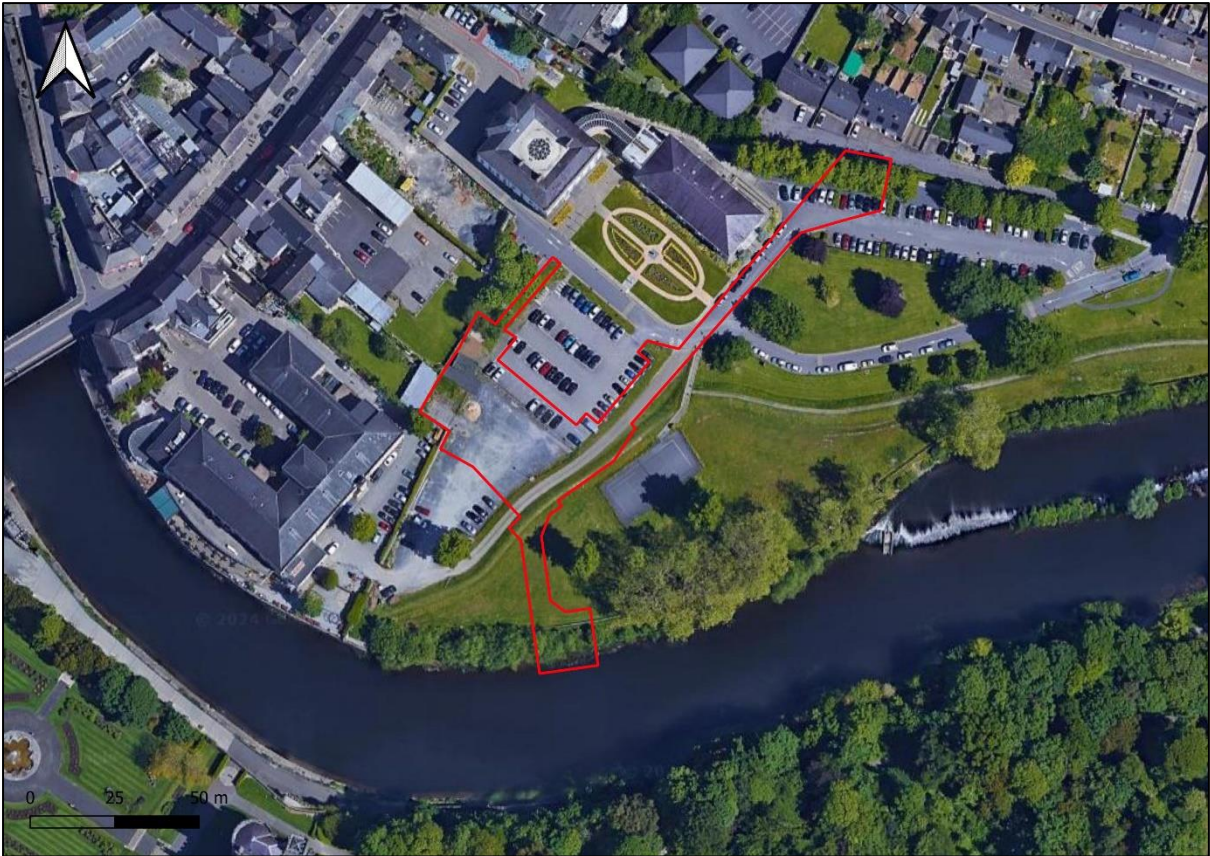


Figure 13: Aerial view showing current land use within subject site (Source: Google Maps)

The Excavations Database

The Excavation Database contains summary accounts of all licensed archaeological investigations carried out in Ireland (North and South) from 1969 to present. The database gives access to over 27,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including year, county, site type, grid reference, license number, Sites and Monuments Record number and author. A review of the townland of Collegepark and adjacent townlands within the study area revealed that several licensed archaeological excavations have taken place within the boundary of the development and its immediate vicinity, see **Figure 14** and **Appendix 2** for further details.

Of particular interest is a programme of archaeological test trenching undertaken ahead of the River Nore (Kilkenny City) Drainage Scheme (Licence no. 00E0405). Trenches 6–8 were excavated on the banks of the river in Collegepark townland to the rear of the River Court Hotel and County Council buildings. The trenches were 6m long, 2m wide and between 2.2m and 3m deep. No features were identified but several sherds of 17th-century pottery and one sherd of medieval coarseware was recovered from the river gravel deposits. Subsequent archaeological monitoring of the flood relief scheme identified a circular masonry structure immediately west of the subject site. Upon excavation the structure, interpreted as a medieval dovecote, was found to rest on timber posts driven into the riverine deposits. Finds included sherds of 13th/14th century Kilkenny type pottery and one sherd of 15th/16th century German stoneware (01E0821, KK019-026238-, KKAP-077).

A programme of archaeological test trenching was carried out at Collegepark by H. King in 1991 ahead of the development of the new council offices. Two trial trenches were located within the proposed development area, however no archaeological features were found (**Figure 14**, KKAP-094).

Previous archaeological surveys of Kilkenny describe how the line of the defences is thought to be represented by the garden wall of premises in Nos 77-84 John Street and by a line of trees within the carpark of the River Court Hotel (Bradley 2000, Munby and Tyler 2005). A programme of archaeological testing and monitoring (95E0053) during the construction of River Court Hotel identified segments of a wall and ditch which were interpreted as part the town defences. In 1995, test trenching behind 88-9 John Street (within the present hotel carpark) did not uncover any evidence of the town defences and proved that the southern boundary wall was not medieval in origin. Subsequent archaeological testing in 1998 identified a 0.43m wide and 1.7m high sub-surface section of wall c. 24m east of No. 85 John Street. The wall, which had a battered base and acted as a revetment along the western side of a waterlogged ditch, was interpreted by the excavator as the remains of the town wall. Monitoring of construction of the River Court Hotel in 1999 also identified a 3m wide and 3m deep ditch, located 11m behind Nos 87-89 John Street, on the same alignment with that found behind No. 85. However, despite these findings, the precise alignment of the town ditch in relation to the proposed development boundary has not yet been fully established.

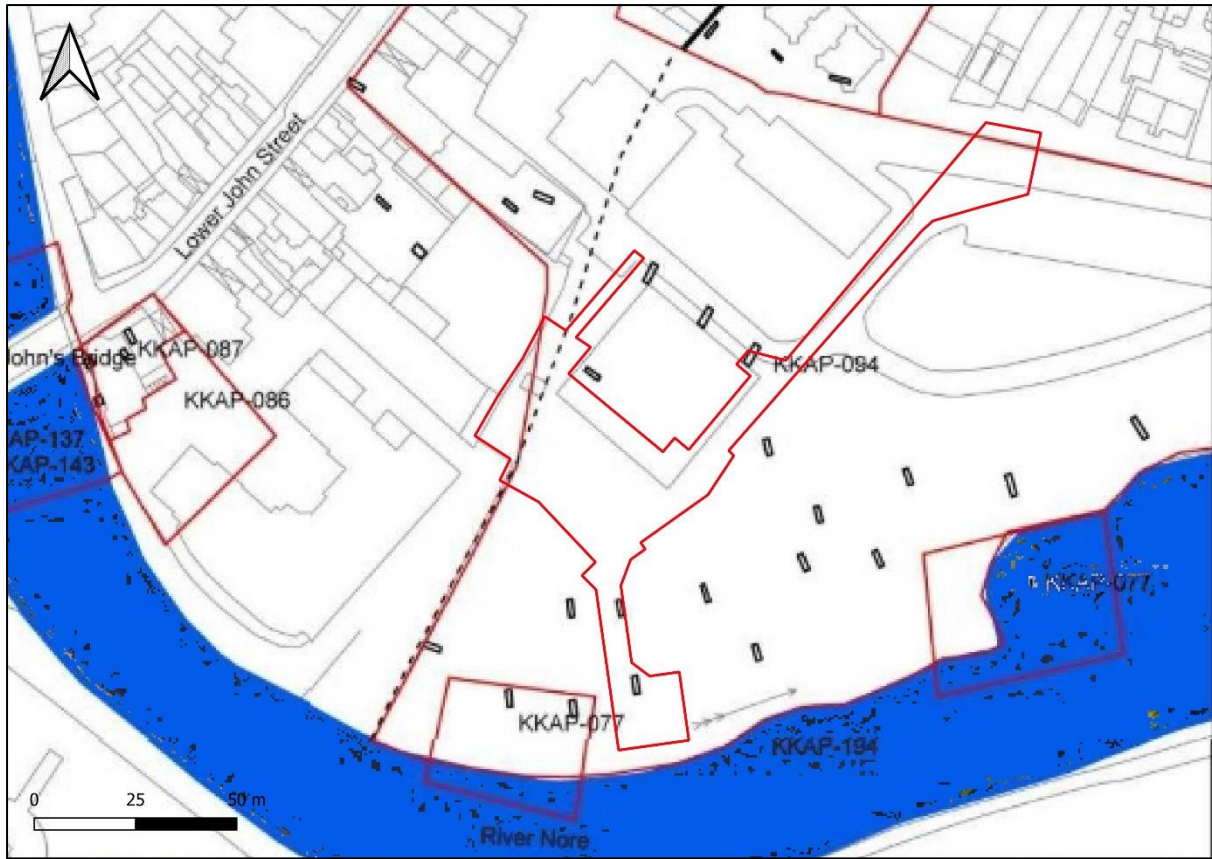


Figure 14: Extract from Kilkenny Archaeological Project map (Figure 54) showing previous archaeological investigations in vicinity of subject site (Source: Kilkenny Archaeological Project)

4. Conclusions and recommendations

The proposed development site is located within the ***Kilkenny Area of Archaeological Potential*** as defined by the County Kilkenny Development Plan 2021-2027. This desktop assessment has concluded that the subject site has been ***subject to moderate modern disturbance and development within its northern portion*** which is currently in use as a car park. The southern portion of the site consists of a greenfield area under grass on the eastern bank of the River Nore and extends into the river itself. The riverbank has previously been developed at this location as part of flood alleviation works which were subject to archaeological mitigation. An underwater survey is therefore not considered necessary in relation to this development.

The northwest portion of the development has the potential to encroach on the projected line of the medieval town defences of Kilkenny (KK019-026001-), a National Monument. While this area has been subject to moderate modern disturbance, and the precise location of the wall is unknown, there is a potential for remains of the town defences to be present within the boundary of the proposed development. Any works at or in proximity to a National Monument in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, or a Local Authority, will require Ministerial Consent as per Section 14 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) which remains in force until the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 commence.

The proposed development will also encroach on the Zone of Notification of a recorded monument, Dovecote (KK019-026238-), identified and excavated during the River Nore flood alleviation scheme in 2003. The proposed development layout has been designed to avoid a direct impact on this feature. It is proposed to establish an 11m buffer zone from the outer edge of Dovecote (KK019-026238-) to the development boundary in order to protect the archaeological site from any direct impact. The Historic Environment Viewer records a further 28 archaeological sites within the 200m study area surrounding the site boundary, while the wider landscape around the proposed scheme contains a large number of archaeological excavations dating from the late prehistoric period onwards.

In summary, the subject lands can be considered to possess a ***high archaeological potential***. As such, in the absence of any mitigation measures, there is the potential for ***direct and indirect impacts*** to recorded and unrecorded archaeological heritage resources should the proposed development proceed subject to no mitigation measures.

It is recommended that any future development at this site is subject to ***a programme of licenced archaeological monitoring***, carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist in areas where ground reduction will be required. It is strongly advised that adequate time is allocated to allow for the evaluation and mitigation of any archaeological features that may be identified. Also, notification of any proposed works must be submitted to the National Monuments Service at least two months prior to commencement of works. Should the proposed mitigation measures be followed as recommended, this shall provide for either the avoidance of any archaeological resource or the proper and adequate recording of this resource (including presently unknown potential archaeological features).

Please note all recommendations are subject to approval from the National Monuments Service and the Planning Authority.

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Appendix 1: SMR inventory

SMR No: KK019-026001

Class: Town defences

Townland: Collegepark, Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Patrick's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Mary's Par.), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. Canice Par.), Bishopsmeadows (Crannagh By., Kilkenny Rural ED), Gardens (Kilkenny City By., St. John's Par.)

Description: The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research purposes please make an appointment in advance with the Archive Unit (open Fridays 10.00 am – 5.00 pm), Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, The Custom House, Dublin 1 D01W6X0 or email nmarchive@chg.gov.ie. See attached photographs: KK019-026001-01 Talbot's Tower KK019-026001-02 A 15th/16th-century stretch of the town wall of the Hightown was recorded by Cólín Ó Drisceoil (07E0366) on the S bank of the river Breagh at No. 6 Watergate Street KK019-026001-03 A 15th/16th-century stretch of the town wall of the Hightown was recorded by Cólín Ó Drisceoil (07E0366) on the S bank of the river Breagh at No. 6 Watergate Street KK019-026001-04 Profile of town wall on Abbey Street, E-facing section (E38330)

SMR No: KK019-026238-

Class: Dovecote

Townland: Collegepark

Description: The foundations of a circular 12th/13th-century masonry structure (ext. diam. 8.5m – 9m), possibly a dovecote, excavated by Ian Doyle (01E0821) at College Park on the N bank of the River Nore 75m N of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-) (Doyle & O'Meara 2004, unpublished; Doyle 2005, 32-42). In 1375 a dovecote in 'a great park opposite the gate of the castle' was noted and in 1391-3 'dove-cots' formed part of the property at Kilkenny Castle that was assigned by Hugh le Despenser to James Butler, third earl of Ormond (Curtis 1934, vol. 2, no. 201, 141; no. 207, 145). 'One pigeon house' formed part of the estate of the Manor of Kilkenny as noted in a 1546 inquisition of James Butler, earl of Ormond (Curtis 1937, vol. 4, no. 361, 302). A 1537 document also refers to a dovecote situated within a meadow in the ward of St John's on the north bank of the Nore: 'The Verdyt of the Commoners of the Town of Kilkenny', '...they present that to the same Castell belong ... a garden at Saynt Johnes, and a culverhouse [dovecote] in the medowes aforesaid' (Hore and Graves 1880, 129). The 'medowes' can be identified as the College Park for in the deed whereby the Duke of Ormonde in 1684 endowed the school at Kilkenny, he gives to it 'all ye large mansion house in Kilkenny, now made use of for a school-house, &c., and meadow thereto adjoining, connionly called Pigeon-house meadow' (Hore and Graves 1870, 129). The structure, as excavated, had been partially robbed out on the S (river) side. The stepped wall (Wth 1m x H 1 m) of the masonry tower at foundation level was built on a raft of oak piles, driven into the underlying river silts to stabilise the structure. A single fragment of 13th/14th-century pottery was recovered from the underlying river silt, and radiocarbon dating of a sample of an oak pile returned a determination of AD 1163-1278. A possible trampled mortar floor surface identified within the structure was dated to the 15th/16th century by a fragment of early German stoneware. The remains were sealed with a layer of mixed mortar, rubble and alluvium. It appeared likely that the structure was destroyed by the 17th century. This would explain its absence from the documentary record, and later its absence from Rocque's 1758 map of Kilkenny. Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 11 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026024-
Class: House 16th/17th century
Townland: Gardens
Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026066-
Class: House 16th/17th century
Townland: Gardens
Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026067-
Class: House 16th/17th century
Townland: Collegepark
Description: Nos. 88-89 John Street, known as 'Bridge House' (NIAH 12000151), on the SE side of John's Bridge, on the E bank of the River Nore. The house was built in the mid-18th century as a dower house for the widow of the second Duke of Ormonde, who, along with her son the Earl of Arran, remodelled a late 16th/early 17th-century stone mansion house, much of which still remains. The Bridge House was a centre for social life in the city during the Georgian and Victorian periods when Sir Walter Scott and Maria Edgeworth were guests in the heydays of the famous Kilkenny Theatre. The house contains many of its Georgian fixtures and fittings, including fine fireplaces and a stucco ceiling that adorn what were regarded at the time as some of 'the finest rooms in Kilkenny'. During the Civil War (1922-3) the house was attacked and bullet holes can be still seen on the outside wall. The Bridge House has a fine 18th-century façade but much of the fabric of the three other main walls of No. 89 is of late 16th/early 17th-century date to second-floor level. A gable with several of the original hood-moulded window surrounds is incorporated into the rear S wall of the existing building (Farrelly et al 1993, 52). Archaeological investigations (95E0053; 01E1212) have also identified upstanding late 16th/early-17th century fabric in the N, S and E walls of No. 88 and test-excavations have identified the foundations of the original front W wall foundations (Wth 0.9m) (Gowen 1995, unpublished; 1996, 49-50; O'Donovan 1998, unpublished; 2000, 116-17; Hayden 2002, unpublished; 2003, unpublished test trenching and monitoring; 2003, unpublished monitoring; 2005, 268-9). A basement level for No. 88, with arched entrances in its N and S walls, may belong to an earlier phase of construction than the late 16th/early 17th-century house. It has been suggested by Alan Hayden that it may have been associated with a structure that was sited at the E end of the medieval St John's bridge, which was downriver of the present bridge crossing (Hayden 2002, 5, unpublished). Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 22 March 2022

SMR No: KK019-026068-
Class: Religious house – Augustinian canons
Townland: Gardens
Description: The priory of the Augustinian canons of St John the Evangelist occupied much of the medieval walled suburb of St John's which was located on the E bank of the River Nore. It consisted of an area of c. 2 acres within a walled precinct, currently defined by Back Lane to the N, the town wall/Michael Street to the E, John Street to the S and the mill-stream 'the Little River', c. 25m E of the Carnegie Library on John's Quay, to the W. There were several gateways into the precinct, including St Michael's Gate at the W end of Michael Street, Cart Gate mid-way along Back Lane and it is likely that there was also an entrance from John's Street (Bradley 2011, 336, 340). The priory was founded by the earl of Pembroke William Marshal to replace the earlier, possibly pre-Anglo-Norman, St. John the Evangelist's Hospital, which is thought to have been sited around

Green's Bridge to the N (Egan 1884, 260-3; Carrigan 1905, Vol. 3, 243; Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 182; Farrelly et al. 1993, 62; Bradley 2000, 13; Bradley 2011, 318-19). The precise foundation date of St John's is not known but it would appear that its new lands were allocated by 1211 and its original grant was confirmed by a charter from William Marshal the younger c. 1223 (McNeill 1931, 63; Ledwich 1781, 528-9; Bradley 2005, 65 n. 9). In the charter, the younger Marshal granted to the Augustinian brothers the site, 'in honour of God and St John the Evangelist and to sustain the poor and indigent'. The church consisted of a nave and chancel in the 13th century, with a tower at the junction which may have been built slightly later (Bradley 2011, 331). A Lady Chapel was added to the priory church in 1290 and in 1325 the priory was substantially rebuilt; the bell tower collapsed in 1329-1330 and was probably rebuilt in the 15th century (Bradley 2000, 13; Bradley 2011, 319, 331-2). Place's c. 1698 drawing of Kilkenny, from the SW, shows St John's with a long nave, with a series of what appear to be lancet windows, a substantial tower and a chancel (Bradley 2011, 331). Following the surrender of the priory to the commissioners in March 1540 its property and lands were granted to the Corporation and citizens of Kilkenny and like the rest of the city's monastic holdings these were subsequently parcelled out amongst the ruling oligarchy (White 1943, 178; Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 182; Bradley 2011, 322). The precinct and its possessions in the town were described at this time as follows: 'a church, belfry and cemetery, a hall, dormitory, six chambers, a kitchen, store, granary, two orchards, three gardens and sundry other closes, containing four acres, within the precincts of the priory; also ... twenty four messuages, thirty-three gardens, one hundred acres of arable land, twenty of pasture, ten of meadow and ten of wood; a water-mill, a pigeon house, and 3s annual rent, with the appurtenances in Kilkenny, of the yearly value, beside all reprises, of 14s 4d. ...' (Archdall 1786, 370). Its total holdings at the Dissolution amounted to over 240 acres, a grange, ten messuages, 40 gardens, the Maudlin mill, a wood called 'Chanons grove' with 200 acres of land adjoining and a further 200 acres in Drakelands as well as an interest in eight churches (Egan 1884, 262; Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 182). In 1615 the nave and chancel of St John's priory was in ruins and by 1628, when it is recorded in a rental roll, its precinct and lands were in the ownership predominantly of the Rothe, Archdekin, Shee and Langton merchant families (Ledwich 1781, 403-4; Bradley 2011, 328-31). The rental (reprinted by Edward Ledwich) provides information on some of the buildings that occupied the site at this time: 'two chambers in the cloister of St. John's and orchard near the cloyster', 'the cart gate, castle, and out stall in St. John's cloyster', 'the bake-house at St. John's and the Prior's fires', 'chapter house within the cloyster' and 'rooms from the entry of St. John's Abbey towards the outer St. John's gate' (Ledwich 1781, 403-4). Analysis of the rental and Kilkenny Corporation leases, as well as a limited amount of information yielded from archaeological excavations, allows the general layout of the main priory precinct after the Dissolution, and by extension much of its medieval layout, to be reconstructed (Bradley 2011, 331-43). The church, positioned just S of centre, dominated the precinct. The chapter house was located immediately N of the crossing tower and the cloister occupied the position immediately N of the nave (ibid. 332). The W range of the cloister housed the prior's chambers at ground-floor level and the dorter or dormitory of the canons on the first-floor (ibid. 334). Portion of the rib-vaulted ground-floor of the NE angle of the W range survives. Within a pointed arched recess there is a pointed doorway, now blocked up, exiting to the N, and another, also blocked up, exiting to the E, to the former cloister. The N range may have originally housed the kitchen and rectory, however, post the Dissolution the kitchen and rectory occupied only the NW angle of the cloister, extending northward, with a stable in the central part of this range and a chamber attached to the E (ibid. 333). A bake-house, brew house and barn were located in the N portion of the precinct, with a lime-kiln in the NE angle (ibid. 335-8). The vicar occupied a chamber immediately W of the church and S of this there was a hospital, possibly at 19-21 John Street Lower, which was sited in the SW corner of the precinct (ibid. 338-9). There were also gardens within the precinct to supply

the needs of the kitchen and the infirmary (ibid. 340-41). The graveyard (KK019-026235-) is located S of the church. Bradley (2011, 333) mentions that there are several references in the 16th century, 'to at least six houses, two of one bay, one of two bays, and two of four bays, between the churchyard [graveyard] and the street, none of which survive above ground level, as well as a house adjoining St Michael's Gate on the E side. The priory also owned property outside the boundary of the precinct, including orchards immediately to the W (ibid. 334, 341-3). In 1645 a Jesuit chapel and college were briefly established at the priory but in the late 17th-century much of the nave of the church, with its two square towers, and many of the domestic buildings were levelled and the materials used to construct a military barracks, which was in turn converted into an asylum in 1818 (Bradley 2000, 22; Clohosey 1946-7, 62). Today, most of the chancel, the Lady Chapel (incorporated into the present St John's C of I church in 1817), a fragment of the nave, as well as parts of the W range survive above ground level (Farrelly et al. 1993, 58). The priory church is constructed of limestone rubble roughly coursed and is orientated NE-SW (described as E-W for convenience). A late 18th-century illustration by Wheatley (<https://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000550645>; accessed 5 April 2022), viewed from the E, shows the E gable and the E end of the S wall of the roofless chancel with the E gable and S wall of the roofless Lady Chapel in the foreground. The E gable of another smaller building is depicted projecting from the W end of the S wall of the Lady Chapel. The chancel survives as depicted. It has a clasping buttress on the NE and SE angle. The E gable is dominated by two sets of graded three-light cusped trefoil-pointed windows, the central window of each set being higher. Externally the window heads have hood-mouldings with decorative label-stops, including head-stops. There are two relieving arches, one over each tripartite arrangement. Centrally placed in the gable above these windows is a quartrefoil window and above this there is a narrow flat-headed single-light window with external chamfer. Internally both tripartite arrangements are set within moulded rear-arches carried on banded shafts. Leask (1966, vol. 2, 109) suggests that the E window grouping is stylistically too early.

SMR No: KK019-026069-

Class: House 16th/17th century

Townland: Colleegepark

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026070-

Class: Bridge

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026071-

Class: Bridge

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026074-

Class: Tower house

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026075-

Class: Church

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026076-

Class: Water mill

Townland: Collegepark, Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026078-

Class: Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: Kilkenny Castle is sited on the S side of the city of Kilkenny, on a glaciofluvial terrace of limestone gravels and boulder clay on the south bank of a meander in the river Nore, 12m above the level of the river. The present castle, largely rebuilt in the early 19th century and comprising three wings to the N, W and S, corresponds generally with the Inner Ward of the early 13th-century masonry castle built by William Marshal, earl of Pembroke and lord of Leinster (d. 1219). Between 1207 and 1213 the earl was 'in exile' at Kilkenny Castle from the royal court of King John, and this period saw the creation of Kilkenny as the de facto political capital of the lordship of Leinster and, commensurate with its new-found standing in the urban hierarchy, a largescale expansion of the adjoining town (Crouch 2017, 39; Bradley 2000, 2). On the death of William Marshal the elder in 1219 his first son William gained seisin of the castle and town of Kilkenny and four years later he issued an extended charter to the burgesses (McNeill 1931, 71-4; Crouch 2015, 275-6). Following the younger William's death in 1230 the castle and town were assigned, in succession, to the estates of his four younger brothers, who famously all died without male issue. In the ensuing partition of Leinster in 1247 the castle and town passed to the third son of the younger Isabel Marshal, Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford (Orpen 1920, vol. 3, 325). The de Clares retained the castle until the fourth Earl of Gloucester died in 1314, at which time it descended to the le Despencers, Barons le Despencer, who in 1391 sold their Kilkenny estate to James Butler, the third Earl of Ormond (Carrigan 1905, vol. 2, 171; vol. 3, 49, 51; Curtis 1932, vol. 2, no. 297). The castle was to remain in the Butler family until 1967 when it was sold to the state. The castle is now a National Historic Property in the care of the Office of Public Works. The historical record is not particularly illuminating regarding the overall plan of the original 13th century masonry castle built by William Marshal. The earliest reference directly linking the earl with the castle is in his 1207 charter to Kilkenny, which refers to 'the bailiffs of my castle' and to the provision that 'no burgess shall have to face a lawsuit in the castle' (Bradley and Murtagh 2017, 246-7). In 1210 the Marshal quartered King John's enormous army and hosted a 'most lavish reception' for the king at his castle, at the beginning of the king's two-month campaign to restore royal authority over the barons in Ireland (Holden et al 2004, 14258-60). The account of King John at Kilkenny Castle includes a reference to a gate-building at the castle. The only other contemporary record of the Marshal at Kilkenny Castle is contained in the Histoire de Guillaume de Maréchal, which was written shortly after the death of the earl in 1219 and contains an account of its defence in 1208 by his wife Isabel de Clare from a siege by a coalition of his Leinster vassals and Meiler fitz Henry (Holden et al. 2004, vol.2, 13528-13550, 13820-4). Isabel is said to have defended the castle from its 'battlements', perhaps an indication that a masonry castle was in place by this time. The Histoire also includes a reference to the earl describing to King John the arrival of William de Briouze to the 'walls of my castle' at Kilkenny earlier in 1210, another possible reference to a stone castle (Holden et al. 2004, 14296). There are occasional written allusions to individual buildings in the 13th and early 14th century, for example an exchequer is mentioned in 1269 (Sweetman 1877, no. 861), and a prison in 1305,

1308 and 1325 (Sweetman 1877, no. 384; Williams 2007, 52-3, 171n), but the first description of the castle to contain information on its overall plan is the 1307 extent of the estate of Joan countess of Gloucester and Hertford: '...the said Joan held in the vill of Kilkenny on the day of her death a castle in which there are a hall, four towers, a chapel, a moat [mota], and other divers houses necessary to the castle, wherefrom nothing can be received a year ... there are in that vill 5 ½ acres of lands of demesne, whereof they extend each acre at 12 d. per year; there are also 5 ½ acres of meadow under the castle, which they extend at 20s. per year; and 7 acres of meadow near le Gibbethule, which they extend at 14s. a year, to wit. 2s. each acre; there are also 5 acres of pasture lying in portions, which they extend at 5s. a year. Total 44s. 6d. ... There is a garden under the castle, the fruit with the herbage of which they extend at 6s. 8d. a year.' (Sweetman 1886, no. 653). The description in the 1307 extent of the original masonry castle as having had 'four towers' has been central to all prior interpretations of its plan as a quadrilateral enclosure with corner towers. Various four-sided castle plans have been suggested heretofore, including wedge, square, rectangular, quadrangular and trapezium layouts, and the most recent interpretation by Ben Murtagh has suggested it was of pentagonal plan (Murtagh 2018, 259, 261, fig. 7). Ben Murtagh's comprehensive study of the Inner Ward of the standing castle, and his archaeological excavations at the site, have revealed a great deal of information about the plan and architecture of the original masonry castle attributed to the elder William Marshal. Surviving standing remains include intermittent stretches of curtain wall between three of the original circular towers, at the NW, SW and SE angles, as well as defensive plunging arrow loops and their round-headed embrasures (Murtagh 1993, 1110-1; 2017, 173-7; 2018, 257-64). Sub-surface structural remains relating to this phase of the castle have also been revealed in excavations, including stretches of curtain wall which had been constructed along the ridge of the rampart for the earlier earth-and-timber castle, two sally-ports, garderobe chutes and medieval floor levels (Murtagh 2018, 291-5). Inside (to the W) of the demolished E curtain wall excavation showed that the ground level was raised by c. 2m above the natural glacial substratum to c. 56.2m OD probably during construction of the Marshal castle by spreading out the redeposited glacial clay of the truncated ramparts of the earlier earth-and-timber castle (E627 and 99E481: Cuttings 19, 25, 26, 27). Portions of the substantial stone-lined moat that surrounded the castle have been revealed on the S and W sides of the castle. There may not have been a moat on the N, with instead the steep escarpment to the River Nore acting as a 'natural moat'. Excavations by Patrick Neary outside, SW, of the SE tower on The Parade revealed two sections of the curving top of the counterscarp of the S castle moat revetted with a sloping stone wall (top 55.33m OD) at a distance of 10.15m out from the tower (Neary 2010, figure 20, plates 21-4). Ben Murtagh's excavation (E627: Cutting 16) of the same section of moat, in the angle of the SE tower and the S curtain wall, reached a depth of c. 4.6m (c. 50.7m OD) below the level of the top of the excavated counterscarp (c. 5.5m below present ground level) but the base was apparently not reached (Murtagh 2018, 293, figure 6). The inner (N) edge of the fosse was also revetted by a substantial base-batter which supported the curtain wall above and incorporated a sally-port and garderobe chute outlet. Excavation of the moat in the Rose Garden, outside the W wing, (E627: cutting 10), also revealed a 5.5m thick base-batter incorporating a sally-port (Murtagh 1993, 1111, figure 3). At this location, the bottom of the fosse was revealed at a depth of 6.5m (48.75m OD) below present ground level, i.e. c. 2m below the base as revealed outside the SW curtain. The width of the moat on this side of the castle is unknown. The missing fourth (E) wing of the castle, which was demolished in the late 18th-century, originally housed the main gate-building of the castle. Archaeological excavations (15E590)

SMR No: KK019-026079-

Class: Bowling green

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026114-

Class: House 16th / 17th century

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026165-

Class: Graveyard

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026166-

Class: Graveslab

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026167-

Class: Graveslab

Townland: Gardens

Description: No information available

SMR No: KK019-026219-

Class: Stable

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: Outside of the outer ward defences to the E of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-), a large mid-17th century stable and grain stand identified in a 2010 geophysical survey (Gimson 2010, unpublished; Ó Drisceoil 2020, unpublished). The 1654-6 Civil Survey records a large stable and a hay stand in a yard outside the 'outergate' of the castle: 'The greate Stable being a dubble building devided into two parts ye back part all in one in wch are Beames laid to make Lofts wch if repaired would hold 2000 barells of wheat (96 feet [c. 29m] x 38 feet [c. 11.6m]). Belonging to ye aforesaid Castle Is a plot of ground neere ye said Stable where ye Publique Store of hey was kept Cont 40 perches small Measure' (Simington 1934, vol. 6, 534-5). In 1719 moneys were assigned by Kilkenny Corporation 'for repairing the castle stables...' (Corporation Minutes 20.01.1719 (p. 114)). Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 11 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026225-

Class: Designed landscape – summer house

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: Located c. 70m NE of the NE wing of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-) in an area presently under woodland. In 1680 the first Duke of Ormond had an elaborate waterhouse and banqueting hall constructed adjoining the bowling green (KK019-026079-) of the castle. It had been removed by the time of Rocque's 1758 survey. Dineley, writing in 1681 described it as follows: '...Bowling green, Gardens Walks Orchards & a delightfull Waterhouse adjoining to the B Green, which with an Engine of curious artifice by the help of one horse furnisheth all the Offices of the Castle with that necessary Element. This Waterhouse hath a pleasant summer banqueting room, floor'd and lin'd with white & black marble which abounds here, with a painted skye roof wth Angels, in this is seen a fountaine of black marble in the shape of a large cup, with a ject d'eau or throw of water in the middle ariseing, mounts into the hollow of a Ducall Crown, which but

hangs over it, and descends again at several dropping places round this I have touch'd off on the other side the following leaf' (Dineley 1681, 202; see Costello 2016, 146-7). The manuscripts of the Marquess of Ormond record that construction of the waterhouse included the following, 'On Monday and Tuesday next the marble piers by the grotto will be got up, which could not be carried through the bowling green until the dry weather came in. I believe the like were not seen in this kingdom heretofore' (Falkiner 1908, vol. 5, 292). The waterhouse is clearly depicted as an elaborate circular turret topped off with a statue on a 1681 view by Thomas Dineley and on the 1699 Francis Place and 1708 Henry Pratt views. (Ó Drisceoil 2020, unpublished). Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 11 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026220-

Class: Fortification

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: Outside the original main gatehouse of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-), a possible 17th-century fortification was identified in a 2010 geophysical survey of the parkland to E of the castle (Gimson 2010, unpublished; Ó Drisceoil 2020, unpublished). The 1654-6 Civil Survey records a masonry-built 'Mount' outside the main castle gatehouse, 'Wth out ye gate a Mount all built wth stone (32 feet [c. 10m] x 30 feet [c. 9m])' (Simington 1934, vol. 6, 534-5). This may have been some form of Confederate-era bastion that defended the E approach to the castle. A rubble spread and possible structural remains identified in the geophysical survey 45m outside, E of, the castle gatehouse may represent its sub-surface remains (Gimson 2010, unpublished; Ó Drisceoil 2020, unpublished). Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 11 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026221-

Class: Walled garden

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: Medieval walled garden associated with the Shirehall Castle (KK019-026222-) located c.180m SE of the SE wing of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-) and identified in a 2010 geophysical survey of the parkland to E of the castle (Gimson 2010, unpublished; Ó Drisceoil 2020, unpublished). A castle in the Outer Ward known as the 'Shirehall garden' is referred to in 15th century documents. The shire hall was one of the castle's administrative buildings and was used by the sheriff and for the seignorial assizes (Mills 1957, unpublished). The Kilkenny shirehall can be placed, on the basis of a 1435 grant to William Boyd, in the area to the E of the main castle, and probably in the Outer Ward, which was also the usual location for the castle shire hall: 'Indenture made on the 22nd day of April in the 13th year of Henry VI witnesses that James, Earl of Ormond, has granted to William Boyd of Kilkenny all his land outside "le Shirehall-gardyne," from the gate of same garden by measures and bounds between that garden and the garden of said William and the water of the Nore in length, and between the wall of the Earl's garden and the common road by which you go from said William's messuage to the Earl's castle. To have and to hold for the term of twenty years, rendering yearly therefor twelve pence silver. And said William and his heirs shall build on the land aforesaid and return it at the end of the term to the Earl or his heirs "styf and stanche" (Curtis 1935, vol. 3, no. 124, 114). In 1435 the custody of the 'castle called 'le Shirhall gardeyne' was granted by James, earl of Ormond to Walter Glerne (ibid., no. 125, 114). In 1449 the 'Shirehall gardyne' is again referred to: 'Indenture between James, Earl of Ormonde and Walter Glerne 'gentilman' in which he grants to Walter 'the two messuages near Kilkenny and 'le Shirehall gardyne' there in which John Mesioun and Thomas McRebir lately dwelt' (ibid., no. 172, 165-6). The Shirehall castle can also probably be correlated with the 'little Castle wth out outergate' referred to in the 1654-6 Civil Survey (Simington 1942, vol. 6, 534-5). It may also be the castle that is marked on the Down Survey county map and on the barony of

Kilkenny liberties and Parish of St Patrick and Canice maps as being located outside (E of) the castle and Town Wall and directly S of the Ormonde mills, which would place it somewhere in the parkland to the E of the castle. The maps show it in the townland of 'Danceing Meadow and other Small Inclosyers', which is denoted as commonage in the parish terrier. The castle was probably cleared along with the rest of the outer ward at the time of the first Duke of Ormonde's remodelling of the castle (Bradley 2006, 107). By 1750 the name of the townland had changed to its current denomination, Dukesmeadows. The 2010 geophysical survey identified what is probably the Shirehall castle and an adjoining large enclosed garden that probably gave it the name the 'Shirehall garden', situated between the possible barbican gate (KK019-026216-) and the road to the Castle Mills to its E. The castle can be identified in the geophysics with a rectangular masonry structure (dims. 13m x 11m) and an adjoining rubble spread situated 160m E of the main gatehouse of Kilkenny Castle (KK019-026078-). Situated directly to its E the survey identified a rectangular walled enclosure (dims 66m E-W x 56m N-S) adjoining the N side of the 'Common Road' (KK019-026218-). The N and E sides of the enclosure appear to be defined by very thick 4-6m wide walls, which might suggest they were truncated to the level of their base-batters. Inside the enclosure the geophysics identified garden soils and what may be a formal garden layout with a central path and yard surface. Compiled by: C  il  n    Drisceoil Date of upload: 11 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026239-

Class: Bridge

Townland: Gardens

Description: Abutments and collapsed sections of the 1772 St John's Bridge excavated by Ian Doyle (01E0980) immediately upstream/N of the current bridge crossing (NIAH 12000229), completed 1910, over the River Nore in Kilkenny City. The 1772 bridge replaced a succession of medieval bridges, the latest (KK019-026070-) of which was destroyed, along with most of the bridges on the Nore, by the 'Great Flood' of 1763 (Doyle 2003, 8-12). The 18th-century bridge was a three-arch masonry structure (L 45m) with a slightly humped profile, designed by George Smith and built by the contractor William Colles. Two of the bridge piers (L 12m x Wth 4m) were recorded in the excavation. Both piers were built on raft foundations of timber and masonry and the timber shuttering in which the pier bases were constructed was also present. A series of adjacent softwood timbers were interpreted as the remains of a temporary bridge erected in the immediate aftermath of the 1763 flood. These timbers, many of which retained forged iron shoes, formed three parallel lines driven into the river bed. A collection of 13th/14th-century grave slabs, probably taken from nearby St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-), were recovered from the river gravels around the piers of the 18th-century bridge where they had been placed to protect the piers (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). Part of an abutment of the 18th-century bridge survives today on the E bank of the river but most of the masonry abutments were removed during the Kilkenny Flood Relief Scheme. The remains of the late 16th-century St John's Bridge (KK019-026070-) and an Iron Age post-and-wattle fish-trap (KK019-026240-) were also recorded below the current John's Bridge. Compiled by: C  il  n    Drisceoil Date of upload: 12 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026240-

Class: Weir - fish

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: A post and wattle structure, probably a fishtrap, excavated by Ian Doyle as part of the Kilkenny Flood Relief scheme on the W bank of the Nore directly underneath the existing John's Bridge (NIAH 12000229) and adjacent an abutment of the preceding 1772 bridge (KK019-

026070-) (Doyle 2004, 28-9; 2006, 271-2). Two collapsed post-and-wattle fences, probably representing a N-S orientated V-shaped fishtrap (estimated total dims. L 4.8m x W 1m), were exposed and excavated. Two timber samples from the structure produced radiocarbon dates of 755-400 BC and 755-403 BC. The structure continued beneath the W bank. Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 12 November 2020

SMR No: KK019-026253-

Class: Excavation -miscellaneous

Townland: Gardens

Description: Medieval pits to rear of 26-9 John Street upper, 40m outside (NW of) the site of St John's Gate and within a suburb of the medieval town that developed in the 13th century. Test excavations in advance of development of the existing 'Kilford Arms' hotel development by Ken Hanley (00E0711) revealed two pits, furrow cuts and a possible fosse, all of which produced Kilkenny-type 13th/14th-century medieval pottery (Hanley 2000, unpublished; 2002, 179; 2002, 179-80).

SMR No: KK019-026261-

Class: Well

Townland: Gardens

Description: A drystone-walled well at the rear of an early 19th-century house at No.4 Rose Inn Street (NIAH 12000149), excavated by Simon Ó Faoláin (01E0466) (Ó Faoláin 2002, unpublished; 2004, 283). The well (int. diam. c.1.1m) was constructed of roughly dressed limestone blocks with occasional red bricks in the upper courses. A lead pipe had been inserted into the well and it was sealed by a raft of timber planks. No evidence for its dating was found. The upper two courses (c.0.5m) of the well were removed under archaeological supervision and the remainder of it is preserved under the concrete floor of an extension to No. 4 Rose Inn Street. Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 14 December 2020

SMR No: KK019-026266-

Class: Water mill - vertical-wheeled

Townland: Gardens

Description: Mill building depicted on the 1758 John Rocque map of Kilkenny and the 1st ed. (1839) OS 6-inch map, at the rear of 68-69 John Street. The mill is on the N side of the medieval millrace (KK019-026077-) and abuts the NW (internal) face of the town wall (KK019-026001-) of St John's. Archaeological test excavation by Bernice Molloy (01E1031) identified the remains of a mill building comprising a limestone and red brick wall foundation and an upstanding red brick wall which projected from the face of the town wall (Molloy 2001, unpublished; 2003, 215). Much of its fabric remains preserved in situ. Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 14 December 2020

SMR No: KK019-026233-

Class: Castle - ringwork

Townland: Dukesmeadows

Description: According to the Annals of Tigernach, in 1173 the 'foreigners' in the 'castle [caislen] of Kilkenny' were attacked by the combined armies of Domhnall Ó Briain, the king of north Munster, and Conchobhar Ua Conchobair, the son of the 'king of Ireland' Ruaidrí Ua Conchobair (Annals of Tigernach T1173.10). The castle was abandoned and 'the town was breached after the Foreigners left it, and the whole district was plundered. That reduction was a grief to the Foreigners of Ireland'. Orpen identified the 'castle of Kilkenny' that was the attacked as probably

a motte in the area of the present Kilkenny Castle (Orpen 1909, 316-7; 1911, vol. 1, 332, 376-7). After Strongbow's death in 1176 the lordship of Leinster, including whatever settlement then existed at Kilkenny, was placed into royal custody, pending the marriage or majority of his heiress Isabel de Clare (Orpen 1911, vol. 2, 5). Nothing is recorded about the castle, or adjoining borough, between c. 1175 and 1192, which might, as Adrian Empey has suggested, imply they had been abandoned, but this is far from certain (Empey 2017, 64). Mac Gilla Pátraic dominance in the area, and in most of central Ossory, continued until around 1190, when William Marshal, earl of Pembroke, who had married Isabel de Clare in 1189, eventually gained seisin from a reluctant King John of his wife's inheritance in Leinster (Carrigan 1905, vol. 3, 47; Bradley and Murtagh 2017, 217). This broadly coincides with the statement, as recorded by James Ware in his 'Annals', that in 1192 'in Leinster the castle of Kilkenny was built and another at Kilfeacle in Munster' (Ware 1705, 33). At Kilkenny Castle the earliest phase of settlement uncovered thus far in excavations is a 'sod building' with contemporary metalworking activity, that was excavated by Ben Murtagh in 1992-3 beneath the central, W, wing of the castle (E627, Cutting 1e) (Murtagh 1993, 1108; 2018, 293). Sherds of 'local cooking ware' pottery from in and around the 'sod building' have been compared with Leinster Cooking Ware pottery, which based on current dating of the pottery type, would place the structure and its associated metalworking horizon no earlier than the late 12th century and therefore probably belonging to the early Anglo-Norman occupation of the site (Murtagh 1993, 1114; Ó Floinn 1988; Bradley 2000a, 1; McCutcheon 2006, 36). As no close identification of the pottery has yet been published and no scientific dating of the structure has been undertaken, its precise chronology remains poorly understood. It is possible that the pottery in question is the same 10th-12th-century coarse cooking ware pottery that has been found in the Hiberno-Norse towns of Waterford, Wexford and Cork, although to date none of the excavated early medieval sites in and around Kilkenny have produced this particular ware (McCutcheon and Meenan 2011, 95-6). The 'sod building' was sealed beneath an earthwork rampart of an earth-and-timber castle that preceded the masonry castle built by William Marshal in the early 13th century. Sections of this rampart and fosse have been uncovered in excavations at a number of locations within the S half of the Inner Ward of Kilkenny Castle (Murtagh 1993, 1108-10; 2017, 173; 2018, 292-3). Where it survived most intact, under the W wing (E627:Cutting 1), the rampart stood to a height of 3m above the old ground level and was c. 7m wide (as excavated), comprising of layers of redeposited boulder clay derived, presumably, from the digging of the surrounding fosse (Murtagh 1993, 1108-10, fig. 3). Determining the physical form of the original castle enclosure is complicated by its possible recutting when the masonry castle was subsequently constructed and because of the limited amount of excavation undertaken, particularly on its N half. The excavations have determined that the masonry castle followed the same general layout as the earth-and-timber castle, and this is demonstrably the case for the S half of the castle (Murtagh 1993, 1108, 1111; Murtagh 2017, 177, fig. 5.40; see Bradley 2000, 2). Whether the same applies to the N half of the castle, however, remains unclear. The earth-and-timber castle, as excavated, has been regarded by Ben Murtagh as 'a ringwork, built by Earl Strongbow and burnt down in 1173' or a ringwork castle that succeeded the original motte and bailey castle built by Strongbow (Murtagh 1993, 1108; 2017, 173; 2018, 292). An alternative scenario is that it represents the former bailey of the motte and bailey castle, which Orpen suggests may have been still standing on the site in the early 1300s (Orpen 1909, 316-7).
Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 4 April 2021

SMR No: KK019-026235-

Class: Graveyard

Townland: Gardens

Description: Graveyard of the 13th-century Augustinian priory of St. John the Evangelist (KK019-026068-) presently occupying the walled area (0.5 acres) to S and E of the priory church and is defined by Michael Street in E, Barrack Lane in W and John Street in S. An archaeological excavation (C000414), carried out by Claire Walsh in 2019 of an area (L 27m; Wth 1.8m) running N-S on Barrack Lane, uncovered the skeletal remains of c. 150 individuals (Claire Walsh pers. comm.). The burials were all in simple pits and orientated E-W with their heads to the W. The burials have been dated to the medieval period, possibly the 13th and 14th centuries. Compiled by: Cólín Ó Drisceoil Date of upload: 4 April 2022

SMR No: KK019-026242-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: In a recess in the N wall of the roofless chancel of St John's Priory, Kilkenny (KK019-026068----). An effigial tomb (chest dims. L 2.21m; Wth 1.3m; H 0.72m; mensa H 0.11m) with the effigy of a knight (L 1.39m; Wth 0.7m; H 0.2m) and his wife (L 2.3m; Wth 0.5m; H 0.33m) on separate slabs. The knight is badly damaged, the head and feet are missing. Hunt (1974, vol. 1, 194-5; vol. 2, 155, 289) describes the armour as being, 'of Ossory type with a few minor differences. The trunk is protected by the usual pair of plates, the skirt of the habergeon appearing beneath. The arms are of plate, but the cowters are smaller than the usual Kilkenny variety and have a small rondel over the cubitus. There are articulating plates above and below. The gauntlets have short tight cuffs pointed below with fluting in chevron form on the back of the hands, giving the pieces a gothic appearance. The leg defences also have a more gothic feeling than the type, with a pronounced keel down the cuisses and greaves and are of a narrower and more elegant form than is usual. The poleyns are of simple outline, articulating twice above and below. The neck and shoulders are protected by a pisane, with besagews on the shoulder points. The sword hangs across the body from a strap over the right shoulder, as at Gowran. The hilt has a drooping cross, with disproportionately large disc-like terminations, and a small ovate pommel'. The figure of the woman is well preserved. She is described by Hunt (ibid. 195) as wearing, 'a long gown with tubular folds and with a V-neck. The tight sleeves are buttoned nearly to the shoulder. The gown is belted with a wide girdle ornamented with quatrefoils, and over the gown she wears a mantle thrown far back from the shoulders to mid-arm. On her head is a heart-shaped head-dress, the central kerchief decorated with leafage, below which a finely pleated barbe falls from either side and beneath her chin suggesting that she was a widow. On the folds of her dress is an inscription, which is continued upon the mensa of the tomb and of her husband's tomb'. The inscription, in raised Black Letter script, is transcribed by Carrigan (1905, vol. 3, 256) as, 'Hic ja... Purcell quondam..... Obiit [] die m..... Hic jacet et Johanna Purcell uxor eius q[ui] obiit vi die me[n]sis [] A. D. mcccc' and translated as, 'Here lies ... Purcell formerly died.... Here also lies Johanna Purcell his wife who died the 6th of [] A. D. 1500'. The front panel of the tomb is carved with seven ogee-headed niches with decorated spandrels. Each niche contains the figure of an apostle, with their names carved on either side of their heads. Described by Hunt (ibid. 195; vol. 2, 289), 'On the dexter stands St Peter holding two keys in his right hand and a book in his left, a loop of his gown held under the left arm. This figure is partly carved on the return of the dexter end-slab. The second niche has a figure of St Andrew holding his saltire cross in both hands. The third niche contains a figure of St James Major with his pilgrim's hat, staff and purse. The central niche contains the figure of St John holding a chalice in his left hand and with his right extended on his breast. The fifth figure is St Thomas with a spear held in the right hand angularly across the body. The next figure is St James Minor with a saw in this right hand and book in his left and the last niche has a figure of St Philip holding a cloth before him, with both hands, containing five loaves'. 'The end-slab at the feet is carved with two niches containing figures of St Bartholomew

and St Simon, each carved with their names on a scroll behind their heads and with their respective attributes, a flesher's knife and a pole-axe or sparth' (ibid., vol. 2, 290). 'The head-end is carved on the dexter side with the figure of an archbishop blessing and holding a cross-staff and with decorated pointed mitre under a canopy with foliage. Unfortunately, he has no label. On the sinister is a broad panel carved with a Crucifixion, Christ crucified with a voluminous perizonium flaring out on either side between the figures of Our Lady and St John. The Virgin has a pleated gown with a large veil and clasped hands, St John on the sinister in a gown of the same pleated form with a cloak, holding one end in the right hand as if to wipe away his tears. Above the arms of the cross are four rectangles carved in relief with roses and quatrefoil floral decoration' (ibid., vol. 2, 291). This effigial tomb can be attributed to the O'Tunney workshop (ibid. 195-6). Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 6 April 2022

SMR No: KK019-026420-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Portion of a limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2277) was found mortared into the base of one of the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 8-9). It consists of a rectangular fragment (L 1.2m; Wth 0.54-0.58m; T 0.25m), tapering towards the base (ibid. 11; 14). Both sides of the top of the slab, as well as the base of the slab, are missing (ibid.). It is decorated with a four-armed incised cross with fleur-de-lis terminals, though the dexter terminal is broken off (ibid.). The cross-head has an open lozenge-shaped centre (ibid.). Stylistically this graveslab dates to the 13th/14th century.

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026421-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. A limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2272/2273) consists of two adjoining fragments of a tapering slab (total dims. L 1.42m; Wth 1.02m; T 0.2m), the top and lower sinister side of which is missing (ibid. 12, 15). It is decorated with an incised floriated cross and, though most of the cross-head is missing with only three fleur-de-lis terminals surviving, enough survives to infer that this was an eight-armed, interlaced cross (ibid.). Below the cross-head the shaft opens into a double-ringed

circle (ibid.). The cross-shaft rests on a stepped cross-base, only the dexter side of which survives (ibid.). There is Lombardic script along the sinister edge in Norman French which possibly reads, 'SABENL' (ibid.). This graveslab has been dated to the mid-14th century (ibid. 12).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026422-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Portion of a limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2276) which consists of rectangular fragment (L 0.61m; Wth 0.32m; T 0.24m) which appears to have been cut, possibly for reuse as a building stone (ibid. 13, 14). Of the incised cross-head only the centre and sinister arm side survives, indicating that it was a simple three-armed cross with trefoil terminals (ibid.). From either side of the lower portion of the cross-shaft there springs a foliate design consisting of a stem with lobed terminal and a leaf, though that on the dexter side is truncated (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century.

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026423-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Fragment of a limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2275) which has been cut and reused as a building stone, it has mortar accretions (ibid. 13, 14). Only portion of the incised cross survives, the circular centre as well as the sinister and lower arm of a four-armed cross with fleur-de-lis terminals, within a double-lined circle (ibid.). There is a circular knop on the cross-shaft below the cross-head (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026424-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. A tapering limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2274) was found beneath the remains of the one of the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 8-9). The slab (L 1.62m; Wth 0.4m; T 0.2m) is broken into six pieces, with the top of the slab missing, though most of the cross-head is visible (ibid. 12-13). It is decorated with an eight-armed cross in raised relief, however, the cross has been deliberately defaced, with only the rough outline remaining (ibid.). The cross-head had fleur-de-lis terminals and the cross terminates in a three-armed floriated cross beneath a barred knob (ibid.). There are two lines of Lombardic inscription, in Latin, along the upper surface of the dexter side (ibid. 12). It reads, 'HIC JACET EMMA VXOR THOME DE WAWIL ORATE PRO ANIMA EIUS', which translates as, 'Here lies Emma wife of Thomas De Wawil Pray for their souls' (ibid. 12-13). This has been dated to the 14th century (ibid. 13).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026425-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. A limestone sub-rectangular graveslab (01E0980: 2252/2262) which is broken in two roughly down the middle (total dims. L 1.83m; Wth 0.67m; T 0.14m), one end of the slab is broken off (ibid. 11, 16). It is very heavily water worn and pitted and is perforated through at one point, with no decoration or inscription visible (ibid.). It has rounded double bevelled edges and may have been the lid of a chest tomb (ibid.). The slab possibly dates to the 14th century (ibid. 11).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026426-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-

026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Fragment of a limestone tapering graveslab (01E0980: 2313) which consists of the central portion of the slab, the head and base of which are missing (ibid. 11, 15). The slab (L 0.7m; Wth 0.45m; T 0.23m), with bevelled edges, is heavily water worn and only the rough outline of the base of the cross-head, formerly in relief, are visible (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026427-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Fragment of a tapering limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2315), with bevelled edges, the top and bottom of which are missing (ibid. 12, 15-16). The slab (L 0.7m; Wth 0.45m; T 0.23m) was decorated with a cross in relief, however, the upper surface is heavily water worn and only the rough outline of the cross survives (ibid.). It is decorated with a plain centred four-armed cross, the form of the terminals is not discernible (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. *Old Kilkenny Review* 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026428-

Class: Graveslab (present location)

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). Currently stored in Magdalan tower (KK019-026074-), Maudlin St, Kilkenny. Fragment of a limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2312) which consists of the central portion of the slab (L 0.69m; Wth 0.28m; T 0.2m), with one side missing (ibid. 15). It is decorated with an incised cross-shaft (ibid.). White gritty lime mortar accretions are visible on the slab (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.).

References: Doyle, I.W. and O'Meara, B. 2004 Medieval grave slabs recovered from the River Nore, St John's Bridge, Kilkenny City. Old Kilkenny Review 56, 6-20.

SMR No: KK019-026430-

Class: Graveslab

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). The current location of this graveslab fragment is unknown. Fragment of a limestone graveslab (01E0980: 2310), only a piece (L 0.51m; Wth 0.32m; T 0.09m) of the upper portion survives (ibid. 14). It has been recut, the upper surface lightly punch dressed and it has light grey gritty mortar accretions on the undecorated face (ibid.). It is decorated with a plain centred incised cross, with only one trefoil terminal surviving (ibid.). Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.). Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 16 January 2023

SMR No: KK019-026432-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: Thirteen graveslabs were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E980) carried out in 2001-2003 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Doyle and O'Meara 2004, 6-20). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge (ibid. 7). It is suggested that the graveslabs were deliberately cleared from a graveyard, possibly belonging to either St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W or to St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) c. 200m to the NE, and used as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge (ibid. 16-19). The current location of this graveslab fragment is unknown. Fragment of a limestone incised effigial tomb (01E0980: 2321), only a sub-rectangular portion (L 0.43m; Wth 0.22m; T 0.1m) of which survives (ibid. 13, 16). It was decorated with a person in a long pleated gown, however, only, 'the shoed foot, and the lower part (?hem, two vertical pleats and a fold)', remain. Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century (ibid.). Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 16 January 2023

SMR No: KK019-026271-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: Five partial funerary monuments were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E0036) carried out in 2001 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Brady 2004, unpublished). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge. Brady (ibid. 22) suggests that these monuments were deliberately defaced and dumped in the river by iconoclasts during the Reformation in the 1540s. The closest church is St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W, with St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) a little further, being c. 200m to the NE. Doyle and O'Meara (2004, 16-19) contend that these monuments may have been seen as a convenient supply of stone, and were deliberately reused as part of the rubble needed to form a

protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge. An effigial tomb (overall dims. L 2.27m; Wth 0.65m; T 0.11m), described by Brady (ibid. 45) as a, 'Knightly sarcophagus lid of limestone in three pieces. Defaced raised decoration shows a figure in outline only, perhaps robed rather than in armour, resting on a pillow stone, and equipped with a sword. The tip of the scabbard remains intact, and in this detail the stonework is smooth. The long sides of the slab retain an ornate vine scrollwork that forms interlocking fleur de lys. A tendril wraps around the head end to suggest that originally the entire side edge was so decorated. The scrollwork is partly eroded on the left side but is intact on the right side. Date: mid-thirteenth century'. Brady (ibid. 22, 44) compares the elaborate decoration on the sides with that of the bishops' effigies in Ferns (Hunt 1974, vol. 1, 237-8 (catalogue no. 262); vol. 2, plate 65) and Kildare (ibid., vol. 1, 160-61 (catalogue no. 87); vol. 2, plate 69), as well as the tomb of Longespée, the Earl of Salisbury (c. 1230-40) in Salisbury Cathedral. This slab is currently in storage with the National Museum of Ireland (see OF018-204----). Reference: Brady, N. 2004 Archaeological investigation and excavation John's Bridge, Kilkenny: River Nore flood alleviation scheme. Excavation licence no. 01E0036. The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd. Unpublished final report. Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 17 January 2023

SMR No: KK019-026273-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: Five partial funerary monuments were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E0036) carried out in 2001 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Brady 2004, unpublished). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge. Brady (ibid. 22) suggests that these monuments were deliberately defaced and dumped in the river by iconoclasts during the Reformation in the 1540s. The closest church is St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W, with St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) a little further, being c. 200m to the NE. Doyle and O'Meara (2004, 16-19) contend that these monuments may have been seen as a convenient supply of stone, and were deliberately reused as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge. Fragment of an effigial tomb (L 1.43m; Wth 0.83m; T 0.3m), described by Brady (ibid. 45) as a, 'sculpted panel, possibly side-stone of sarcophagus tomb. Defaced outline of saint/angel framed beneath a gabled canopy. Octagonal column rises on left side with smaller (now headless) angel figure in upper left corner'. Other effigies carved within architectural canopies include that of a layman in Cashel, Co. Tipperary (TS061-025080-) (Hunt 1974, vol. 1, 224-5 (catalogue no. 234); vol. 2, plate 37) and a bishop at Ferns (Hunt 1974, vol. 1, 237-8 (catalogue no. 262); vol. 2, plate 65). This slab is currently in storage with the National Museum of Ireland (see OF018-206----). Reference: Brady, N. 2004 Archaeological investigation and excavation John's Bridge, Kilkenny: River Nore flood alleviation scheme. Excavation licence no. 01E0036. The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd. Unpublished final report. Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 17 January 2023

SMR No: KK019-026274-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: Five partial funerary monuments were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E0036) carried out in 2001 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Brady 2004, unpublished). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge. Brady (ibid. 22) suggests that these monuments were deliberately defaced and dumped in the river by iconoclasts during the

Reformation in the 1540s. The closest church is St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W, with St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) a little further, being c. 200m to the NE. Doyle and O'Meara (2004, 16-19) contend that these monuments may have been seen as a convenient supply of stone, and were deliberately reused as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge. An effigial tomb (L 1.62m; Wth 0.58m; T 0.15m), described by Brady (ibid., 46) as an, 'eroded and much fragmented tapered effigial slab in four large fragments and a fifth fragment that is shattered into six pieces. The head and foot portions do not survive. A rounded edge and groove runs along both long sides. The slab is tapered from head to foot. Further details, and whether it had an image on its surface do not survive'. Stylistically this dates to the 13th/14th century. This slab is currently in storage with the National Museum of Ireland (see OF018-207----). Reference: Brady, N. 2004 Archaeological investigation and excavation John's Bridge, Kilkenny: River Nore flood alleviation scheme. Excavation licence no. 01E0036. The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd. Unpublished final report. Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 17 January 2023

SMR No: KK019-026272-

Class: Tomb - effigial

Townland: Gardens

Description: Five partial funerary monuments were recovered from the River Nore during the archaeological excavations (01E0036) carried out in 2001 as part of the River Nore Drainage Scheme (Brady 2004, unpublished). These were found associated with the late medieval bridge (KK019-026070-), immediately N of the current John's Bridge. Brady (ibid. 22) suggests that these monuments were deliberately defaced and dumped in the river by iconoclasts during the Reformation in the 1540s. The closest church is St Mary's parish church (KK019-026115-) c. 100m to the W, with St John's Priory (KK019-026068-) a little further, being c. 200m to the NE. Doyle and O'Meara (2004, 16-19) contend that these monuments may have been seen as a convenient supply of stone, and were deliberately reused as part of the rubble needed to form a protective apron for the piers of the late medieval bridge. An effigial tomb (overall dims. L 1.92m; Wth 0.49m; T 0.3m), described by Brady (ibid 45.) as a, 'Knighly sarcophagus lid of limestone in two pieces, tapering slightly from shoulders to feet. The figure's head is missing, but details of the shoulders and left side reveal a well executed smooth sculpture that describe a knight dressed in a cloth tunic and wearing a cloak. The remains of a sword scabbard survive at the lower left side. Details of the feet do not survive, as the slab has been repaired in antiquity and mismatching masonry inserted here. The upper surface of the figure is defaced. It is likely that his area would have been occupied with a shield that would have shown the heraldic arms. Date: fourteenth century'. This slab is currently in storage with the National Museum of Ireland (see OF018-205--). Reference: Brady, N. 2004 Archaeological investigation and excavation John's Bridge, Kilkenny: River Nore flood alleviation scheme. Excavation licence no. 01E0036. The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd. Unpublished final report. Compiled by: Jean Farrelly Date of upload: 17 January 2023

Appendix 2: Excavations.ie summaries

<i>Name</i>	<i>Licence & Author</i>	<i>Summary</i>
Kilkenny, Banks of the River Nore	Ian W. Doyle 01E0821	<p>During 2003 the River Nore (Kilkenny City) Drainage Scheme commenced widening the existing banks of the Nore as it passed through Kilkenny city. During the monitoring of river widening, archaeological material was uncovered at four locations along the left, or eastern, bank of the river. The remains included post-and-wattle fences adjacent to the swimming pool and Peace Park on John's Quay/Mayor's Walk, the remains of a circular stone tower downstream of John's Bridge in College Park, and the northern landfall of Ormonde Weir, also in College Park.</p> <p>John's Quay</p> <p>A deposit of rough cobbles and pebbles, possibly representing the remains of a pathway to the water's edge, was uncovered at Site A (50677 56299). The limited remains were revealed at the southern end of the area examined and measured 2.5m east-west by 1.7m as exposed. A post-and-wattle fence was constructed across the area examined. This fence was exposed for a length of 10m north-south, with a height of 0.5-0.9m. This fence post was constructed against the eastern side of the stone bank to the southern end of the site and appeared to terminate at this point. This suggests that they may be contemporary. A horizontal timber beam, which measured 4.3m north-south by 0.25m thick, was exposed against the western side of the wattle. This may have been placed there to give additional strength.</p> <p>Following the partial collapse outwards of the post-and-wattle fence, the area surrounding it silted over. This silting was represented by a deposit of dark-grey, fine clayey silt alluvium, with occasional peaty inclusions and almost no stones. The deposit was recorded over an area measuring 20m north-south by 2m, as exposed. Artefacts recovered from this material included 18th-20th-century pottery and glass. Subsequent to this, three rows of stakes were made to the west of the wattle fence. It was not possible to establish with certainty which stake row was earlier or later than another. These stakes were sealed by modern overburden.</p> <p>Monitoring of the removal of riverbank along Mayor's Walk, on the eastern bank of the river, exposed additional stretches of post-and-wattle fences (50683 56335). The area examined was located downstream of Green's Bridge and was 60m to the north of the area described above. The earliest activity recorded was a collapsed post-and-wattle fence, which measured 6.05m north-south by 0.68m. Some 0.2m to the west of the collapsed fence, a timber beam, which measured 5.61m north-south by 0.26m, was revealed. Seven stakes were found to pin this beam into place.</p> <p>A second post-and-wattle fence was located some 0.95m to the south-west. This fence measured 7.04m north-south, with a maximum depth of 0.64m. An additional fence was also uncovered, which measured 10.6m north-south and ran across the eastern edge of the site.</p>

<i>Name</i>	<i>Licence & Author</i>	<i>Summary</i>
		<p>The fences uncovered at John's Quay remain undated at the time of writing, but it is hoped that post-excavation analysis will assist in this. Nevertheless, the fences represent attempts at reclaiming ground from the River Nore.</p> <p>College Park</p> <p>Investigations commenced in August 2003 when a masonry structure was uncovered during the monitoring of river-widening works. The site was located within the County Council grounds in College Park townland, between the adjacent hotel and the eastern arm of Ormonde Weir. The structure was found on the riverbank directly opposite Kilkenny Castle. The remains consisted of a circular masonry tower founded on wooden posts driven into the riverine silts (50917 55777).</p> <p>The earliest deposit exposed on the site was a light to mid-grey compact riverine silt. A single sherd of Kilkenny-type pottery recovered from this layer can be dated to the 13th to 14th centuries. This silt was sealed by a thick deposit of light to mid-orangey-brown, gravelly, silty sand. Two sherds of Kilkenny-type pottery were recovered from this layer, suggesting a medieval date (or later) for its deposition.</p> <p>In order to construct the masonry tower, a cut was excavated into this riverbank material. This vertical-sided cut was only visible against the inner face of the tower wall for a maximum depth of 0.18m. Within the construction cut, a 2.5m-wide deposit of unbonded rubble stone was placed. This was interpreted as a foundation layer, to form the base for the masonry structure. No trace of a construction cut was detected on the exterior face of the structure and it is likely that the continual scouring out and redeposition of riverbank material by the river caused the removal of this. Some 140 wooden posts were revealed at the southern part of the site, adjacent to the river. These posts were visible, as a part of the masonry fabric had been removed during antiquity and immediately prior to discovery when the riverbank was mechanically graded. The stakes formed an arc, which measured 2.5m in width, and these posts indicated the complete circumference of the tower structure. The stakes were between 0.42 and 0.82m long and were driven into riverine deposits. The tops of the stakes corresponded to the base of the unmortared rubble foundation deposit. The stakes were intended to consolidate the riverbank and acted like a mini-pile support structure under the masonry wall. The presence of these posts under the surviving masonry could not be determined, as it was preserved in situ.</p> <p>The main body of masonry wall was most complete at the northern part of the structure. At this point the wall survived to a maximum height of 1m on top of the foundation layer. The exterior face of this wall was stepped, with a maximum of three steps recorded over the foundation. The lowest course was made up of roughly faced, uncoursed, random rubble limestone blocks between 0.1 and 0.3m in size. This step protruded 0.4m from the base of the next step. Above this a second step, 0.3m high and protruding 0.4m, was composed of a mixture of large, roughly squared, and small flat, roughly faced, limestone blocks. The larger stones (0.3–0.6m) formed the main part</p>

Name	Licence & Author	Summary
		<p>of the step, with the flat stones creating a level top. The uppermost visible step was very worn and probably incomplete, being a maximum of 0.25m in height by a maximum of 1m in width, and comprised large roughly squared and faced limestone blocks. The internal face of the masonry wall did not demonstrate the same stepping or variation in coursing. The foundation layer was visible internally as a rough, unfaced, heavily mortared course 0.4m high, corresponding with the bottom step on the outside. This appears to have been built up against the edge of the construction cut. The wall fabric was bonded with a compact light-grey to white lime-based mortar with occasional burned-shell fragments. Analysis of the mortar revealed it was feebly to moderately hydraulic. The structure had an internal diameter of approximately 5m.</p> <p>A thin lens of mortar was noted abutting the inside wall of the structure. This lens appeared to indicate the point where the internal masonry of the wall changed from the rough and heavily mortared portion built up against the construction cut to the faced masonry visible above ground. Accordingly the mortar layer appeared to indicate the construction period ground surface and the mortar may be contemporary with this activity. The mortar lens was 0.1m thick and extended from the wall into the interior of the structure by over 1.1m. A single sherd of what appears to be 15th/16th-century German stoneware (C. McCutcheon, pers. comm.) was recovered from this deposit.</p> <p>Later activity on this site included the infilling of the area immediately to the west of the structure. This appears to have happened in the post-medieval period. No evidence for demolition rubble was encountered, although robbing and episodic flooding by the river may have removed some of the debris from such demolition. The structure does not appear on any historic mapping or illustration of this area. A preliminary assessment of the date of the structure suggests an early post-medieval date, perhaps during the 15th–16th centuries. This is suggested on the basis of the pottery evidence. A radiocarbon determination from a timber post is expected. The role or function of the structure is open to interpretation. No indication of an adjoining wall, such as would be expected with a mural tower, was uncovered. Indeed, the very location of the tower at the margins of the river, in an area of what was essentially flood-plain, is somewhat enigmatic. The tower may have had a defensive function, given its location directly opposite Kilkenny Castle, or alternatively a more mundane role as a dovecote may be suggested. Indeed, placename evidence may suggest the latter (J. Bradley, pers. comm.). Following excavation and recording, the structure was covered with a protective membrane and backfilled. It now survives in situ beneath the redesigned rock armour.</p> <p>Ormonde Weir</p> <p>As part of the river-widening works carried out on the eastern bank of the River Nore, a considerable amount of riverbank material was removed at College Park. This work revealed part of the weir that crossed the river from Ormonde mills (51021 55800). Ormonde Weir forms part of the Ormonde</p>

Name	Licence & Author	Summary
		<p>mills complex (Excavations 2001, Nos 710 and 711, 01E1107 and 00E0388 ext.). Previous excavation by Paul Stevens of the weir on the opposite, western, bank determined the construction techniques used but failed to recover any material to date its construction.</p> <p>As part of the investigations in 2003, a 1.5m-wide section was dug through the weir. The exposed structure was found to run parallel to the river, with its eastern end disturbed but visibly terminating. Excavation revealed a single-phase construction. The upper surface was comprised of large, often sub-trapezoidal-shaped, blocks of limestone. The structure had a curved profile, vertical on its northernmost side, before becoming concave on the southern side and sloping down to the river. A deposit of dark-brown, sandy, silty clay was removed to reveal the weir fabric. Beneath the upper stones of the weir, a deposit of tightly packed, small, black and grey, rounded and angular gravels was recorded. This sealed a bank of large, medium and small rounded and sub-rounded stones of mixed geology. This deposit was quite similar to gravels which form the riverbed. Finds from this deposit include two sherds of brown-glazed red earthenware and accordingly suggest an 18th–19th-century date for this context.</p>
Kilkenny, College Park	n/a Heather A. King	<p>Trial trenching was carried out at Kilkenny College in March 1991 in advance of the proposed renovation of the former College for use as Kilkenny County Council Offices and the construction of a new office building and linkway east of the College. It was funded by Kilkenny County Council.</p> <p>The College is situated in the Parish of St John on the east bank of the River Nore. The site consists of the former college buildings and an associated area of open parkland. It is bounded on the east and south by the River Nore, on the north by the culverted millrace of the former Magdalen Mill and on the west by John Street. The house itself is Georgian, constructed in 1782, and is reached through a recessed entrance gate from John Street. The greater part of the site lies outside the suggested line of the medieval defences of St John's (Bradley 1975-6) but part of the site straddles the line of the wall and it includes two or possibly three burgage plots which fronted onto John Street.</p> <p>From an archaeological point of view the site could be divided into three sections.</p> <p>1. The street frontage and entrance way linking the street with the former college</p> <p>This part of the site was the location of a private house built by the Seix family in the late 16th or early 17th century which was altered in 1666 by the Duke of Ormonde to accommodate the first Kilkenny College. It is shown on Rocque's map of Kilkenny (1758) and can be identified as a Tudor-style building on an 18th-century illustration of Magdalen Castle. It was taken down sometime after the construction of the present building in 1782. It was anticipated that its foundations would survive below street level. A cutting 4.2m x 1.3m was opened immediately inside the entrance gate and</p>

Name	Licence & Author	Summary
		<p>a mortared wall of roughly coursed rubble limestone, faced externally, was exposed. The wall 1.2m wide, averaged 0.12m in height above a plinth which was 1.64m wide and 0.9m high. A possible cross wall and a layer of cobbling were also located. 15th/14th-century pottery was found in the layer above natural. The interpretation of the cutting was that a layer of 13th-century deposits was cut through by the construction of the Seix house and following its demolition in 1782 a layer of cobbles was laid down. Further cuttings in the College backyard provided evidence for a layer of 13th-century refuse and a later box drain. The proposed development will not interfere with these deposits but it is envisaged that the present gateway will be reset and widened slightly to accommodate vehicular traffic more easily. As it incorporates two rebuilt late 16th or early 17th-century door frames it has been recommended that these should be retained in the new gateway.</p> <p>2. The line of the town defences which is straddled by the College Two cuttings were made to locate the line of the defences. One was completely disturbed but a stone wall of limestone rubble 0.7m wide and 0.8m high was uncovered in the second. To the east (externally) the stratigraphy was disturbed by sewage trenches and on the west the wall was resting on brown garden soil. The narrowness of the wall and the fact that it was built on brown garden soil suggest that the wall may be a boundary wall rather than the defences of St John's.</p> <p>3. The area of parkland outside the line of the medieval defences This area, comprising about six acres, is to be extensively landscaped so a large number of trial trenches were opened to check the stratigraphy. The trenching revealed that the area has always been subject to winter flooding and would have been unsuitable for building purposes. Dumps of redeposited 16th- 18th-century material were found in some cuttings along with the insertion of modern drains which suggest repeated attempts to raise the level of the land and drain the ground.</p> <p>References Bradley J., 1975-6, The Town Wall of Kilkenny OKR Vol.1 No.2, 85-103; <i>ibid.</i>, No.3, 209-18.</p>
84-89 John St. Lower	95E0053 Margaret Gowen	An archaeological evaluation of a large site at 84–89 John St. Lower, Kilkenny, was carried out in two phases during May and August 1995. The preliminary report on the evaluation of the site comprised an inspection of the standing buildings at 88 and 89 John St. and an examination of mechanically excavated test-trenches throughout the long open garden area at the rear. Further test-trenches were opened to supplement the preliminary work, following a revision of the layout of the proposed development. At present the site is occupied by Bridge House, with a cobbled yard, coach-house and stables at the rear. The remainder of the site comprises two gardens bounded by stone walls. The proposed development includes refurbishment of Nos 88 and 89 John St. and redevelopment of the

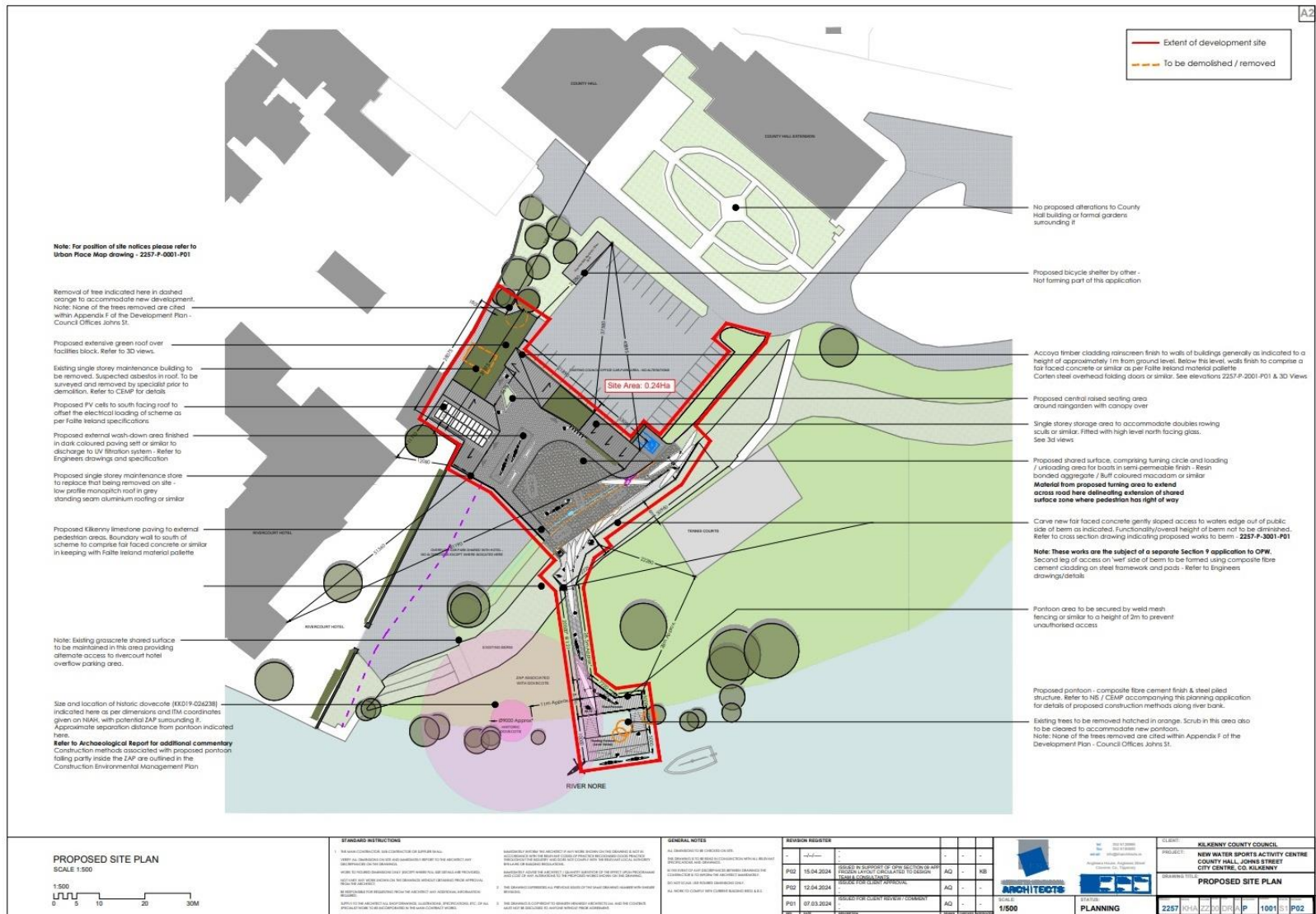
<i>Name</i>	<i>Licence & Author</i>	<i>Summary</i>
		<p>land to the rear of these buildings. The buildings of Nos 84–87 John St. are not included in the development.</p> <p>The site is located on the east side of the river outside the medieval walled town, but within a walled suburb which originally formed part of the precincts of St John's Priory. Bridge House (Nos 88 and 89) incorporates an earlier stone medieval building, tentatively dated to the late 16th century on architectural grounds, although it may be earlier. In addition, the supposed line of the medieval suburb wall runs along the boundary in the modern property boundaries from the back of Bridge House via Kilkenny College to a small bastion beside No. 89 Maudlin St.</p> <p>The OPW Urban Archaeological Survey records that Bridge House is thought to have been built by the Ormond Butlers, since Charles Butler, Earl of Arran, and brother to the 2nd Duke of Ormond, was in possession of the building in 1704. It was almost certainly the Butlers who rebuilt the house at the end of the century. The site on which the house stands is also thought to have once belonged to St John's Priory and was located within the priory walls. The priory was founded in 1211 by William Marshall for the Canons Regular of St Augustine (also called the Brethren of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist). The monks apparently had an earlier foundation near John's Bridge which continued in use until 1325. When the Priory was suppressed in 1540, the extensive property, including 'a church, belfry, and cemetery, a hall, dormitory, six chambers, a kitchen, store and granary' (Rocque, J., A survey of Kilkenny, 1758), was granted to the Corporation of Kilkenny. In 1645 the Priory was given to the Jesuit Order to establish a college on the site. They occupied the site until 1650. Later the house on this site became one of the dower houses of the Ormond family.</p> <p>Bridge House (No. 89) has a fine 18th-century facade, but much of the fabric of the three other main walls is medieval to second-floor level. A three-storey, Georgian facade with seven steps leading to the double doorcase fronts onto John St. Access to the cobbled yard and outbuildings at the rear is gained through a groin-vaulted entrance. The 16th-century gable with several of the original, hood-moulded window surrounds can be clearly seen, incorporated into the back wall of the existing building. The 16th-century windows are blocked up.</p> <p>The survey of the building included an inspection of the basement and the ground-floor level. In addition, selected sections of the upstanding walls were stripped of plaster to help identify the extent of the medieval remains.</p> <p>On the basis of the preliminary survey three phases of building were tentatively identified. The test-trenching on the site has revealed the following.</p> <p>(i) The open portion of the site behind Bridge House, in the garden area, has no archaeological remains or soils.</p> <p>(ii) The present southern boundary wall is not the late medieval wall and no evidence for the wall was located during the site assessment: the exact line of the medieval wall was not established. It is proposed to construct a carpark in this area and any ground disturbance will require monitoring.</p>

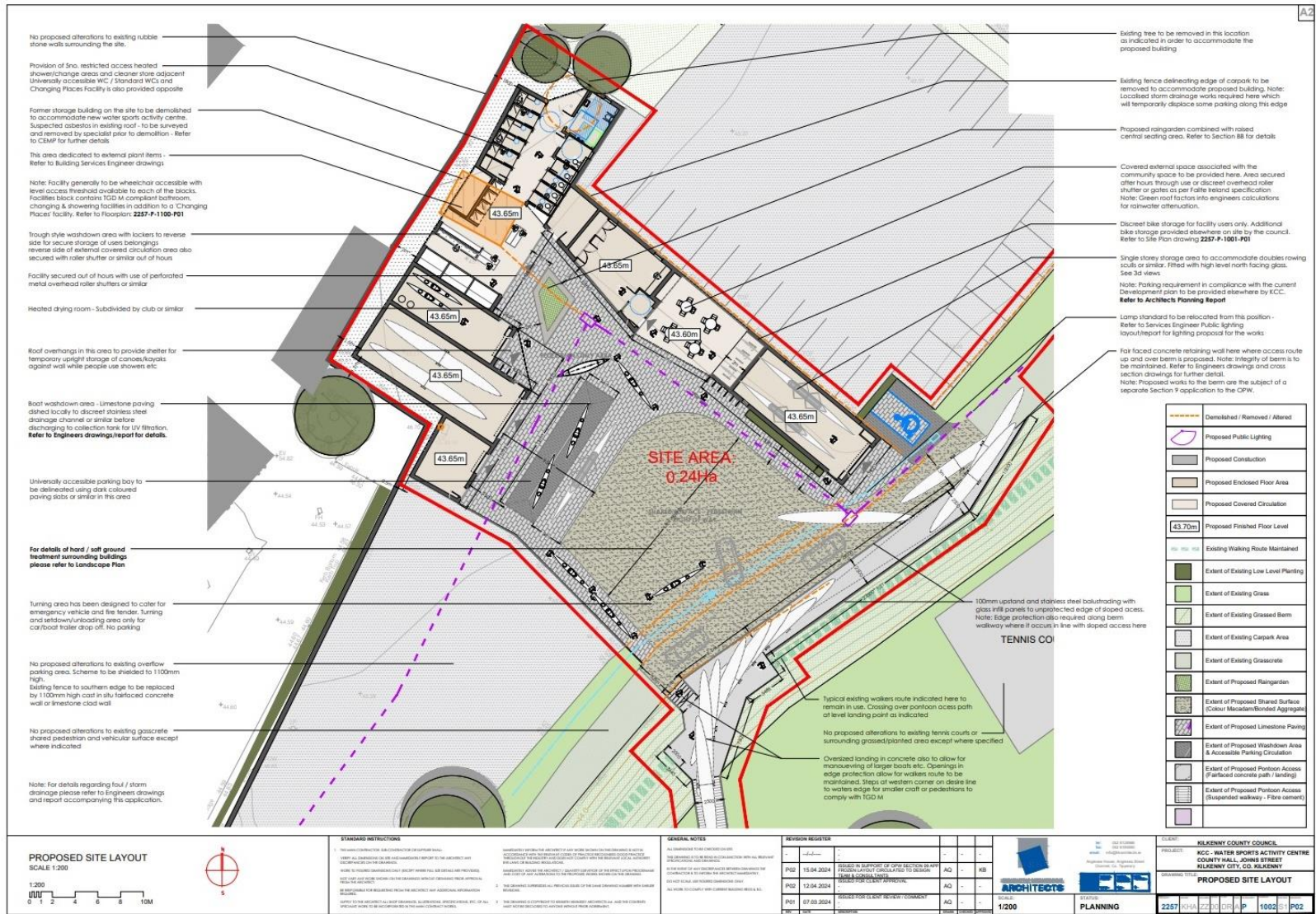
Name	Licence & Author	Summary
		<p>(iii) The cobbled yard covers the demolished remains of at least one red brick wall which probably dates to the 18th century. Of more significance is a second wall and associated cobbled surface 6m below the present cobbled surface which may date to the late medieval period. In addition, a scar of a wall on the south-east corner of the standing buildings suggests that other late medieval walls may lie beneath present ground level.</p> <p>(iv) The demolished foundations occur in soils that are not rich in archaeological material (i.e. no habitation deposits were noted).</p> <p>Further archaeological assessment will be needed in this area, in advance of any further ground disturbance in the yard area, to establish the nature, location and extent of any other late medieval walls.</p> <p>The preservation in situ of the fabric of the original building will be sought under National Monuments Law and further assessment of proposals for the refurbishment of Bridge House is required.</p>
Bridge House, John Street	95E0053 ext. Edmond O'Donovan	<p>The final phase of an archaeological assessment was carried out on a development site in Kilkenny in February 1998. Five test-trenches were excavated. The site lies on the eastern bank of the River Nore adjacent to and immediately beside St John's Bridge. The suburb is an extension of the main medieval town (Hightown) on the western side of the Nore. This suburb grew up around St John's Priory, which moved to its present location in 1325.</p> <p>John Street is the central axis from which the suburb was laid out (Lanigan, K. and Tyler, G., Kilkenny, its architecture and history, 1987). This continued into the Tudor period, when large stone houses were built. With the redevelopment of the street over the past 400 years many of these buildings have been removed or altered. However, Nos 78/81, the 17th-century residence of a branch of the Fitzgeralds and Shees, survives, as well as Nos 88/89 (Bridge House, the Dower House of the Ormond family).</p> <p>The earliest recorded mentions of town walling around the suburb of St John's occur in the early 16th century, when there are references to a stone and lime wall, with reference to a turret in 1570 (Thomas, A., The walled towns of Ireland, 1992). The suburb is mentioned in Cromwell's account of the siege of Kilkenny in 1650: 'Having possessed the Irishtown, and there being another walled town on the other side of the river (St John's); eight companies of foot were sent over to possess that'. The town wall was evidently in existence from at least the mid-16th century and continued in use through to the end of the 17th century.</p> <p>The line of the town wall has been discussed in detail by J. Bradley (The town wall of Kilkenny, Old Kilkenny Review, parts I and II, 1975-6) and A. Thomas (The walled towns of Ireland, 1992). They both speculated, based on Rocque's map, that the town wall ran along the eastern boundary of the development site. The wall has been positively identified at the north-eastern corner of the suburb. It extends from a small mural tower on Maudlin Street, along the rear property plots of John Street, where it stood at the rear of Nos 68/69 (O'Donovan, E., Unpublished archaeological assessment report, 1997).</p>

Name	Licence & Author	Summary
		<p>A section of wall enclosing the suburban precinct of St John's was identified in Trench D. It stood 24m south of and parallel to John Street, was 0.43m wide and lined the western edge of a ditch. The wall was 0.19m deep on its western side and 1.7m deep on its eastern side, where it displayed a characteristic basal batter. The ditch outside the wall was 2.5m wide, 0.8m deep and cut into natural boulder clay. The basal 0.3m of the ditch was filled with poorly humified organic material, containing occasional fragments of red brick. A deposit of grey clay, 0.5m thick, sealed this. A thick mantle of demolition rubble made up of mortar, red brick and stone sealed all of the features in the trench.</p> <p>Throughout the assessment a significant number of trenches were excavated in the rear gardens of Nos 85–89 John Street. It was thought that the town wall ran along the south-eastern property boundary of the site (Thomas, <i>ibid.</i> and Bradley, <i>ibid.</i>); however, owing to the identification of the town wall in Trench D, it now appears that the wall is significantly further north-west. The soil profiles recorded in all of the archaeological trenches (apart from Trench D (this assessment) and Trenches 12, 13i and 13ii (previous assessment by Margaret Gowen, Excavations 1995, 49–50) are modern and insignificant. This area can be considered as a river flood-plain that acted as a fallow area outside the town wall in the medieval period, which could be readily defended from the town wall.</p>
Bridge House, John Street Lower	01E1212 Alan Hayden	Two small test-trenches were excavated, and the excavation of a trench for underpinning a modern wall was monitored, in the basement of Bridge House. These revealed the internal spine wall and the original front wall of the late medieval building that formed the northern part of Bridge House. The top of layers of medieval river silt was revealed beneath the buildings. No finds were uncovered.
73-75 John Street	E4417; C523 Paul Stevens	<p>An archaeological impact assessment and monitoring of geological trial pits was undertaken in May, June and October 2012, on behalf of Kilkenny Council and Borough Councils, for a proposed City and County Library development. Assessment comprised a conservation architectural survey (by R. Goodbody) and test trenching in available areas not occupied by standing buildings. This work constituted Phase 1 (pre-demolition) of a two-phase assessment programme. The proposed area of investigations was located to the rear of three-storey buildings fronting John Street, and also partially encroaching into public car-parking bays within College Park. The site lay within the urban area of archaeological potential for Kilkenny (KK019-0026, medieval suburb of St Johns), along the supposed line of the town wall defences, as depicted in 1758 on J. Rocque's map of Kilkenny, and adjacent to No. 73–5, John Street Lower, the site of the 16th/17th-century Seix House and site of the former Kilkenny College building (KK019-00260069).</p> <p>Seven test trenches and three trial pits were mechanically excavated throughout the development footprint area to the rear of 75–76 John Street Lower in Gardens townland and within the County Council car park in Collegepark townland.</p>

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		<p>Trenches II, III and pit VII were located either side of a c. 7m-high masonry wall, located on the 'supposed line' of (lost) town wall for the medieval suburb of St John's (KK019-026-001). The upstanding limestone wall measured 0.45-0.57m in thickness, revealed it had patches of (modern) brick, was raised by 2.24m using concrete block and stone repair but was otherwise of uniform limestone-mortared rubble build. Its foundations were slightly splayed and rested on a 1m-wide mortared stone plinth, sealing an archaeologically sterile fluvial clay deposit. Testing revealed no evidence for defensive architectural features or any trace of a large outer fosse, as is usually associated with a defensive town wall. In addition, a small square early 19th-century mill building and millrace were revealed abutting the masonry wall. The mill building walls were limestone mortared rubble with brick-lined opes, built against (and incorporating) the south-eastern face of the masonry wall, and straddled an in-filled millrace which extends south-west to the River Nore, and is depicted on both J. Rocque 1758 and the 1st edition 1841-2 OS maps.</p> <p>Two trenches and a soak pit were excavated within the County Council car park, to the south of the present County Council offices, extending south-east from the development site and line of the town wall. Nothing of archaeological significance was revealed below the c. 0.5m-thick modern car park foundations; the trenches and pit revealed a natural soil profile and an extensive depth of sterile fluvial flood deposits.</p> <p>Three trenches (Trench IV-VI) were excavated to the rear of the building fronting John Street Lower, in plots 75 and 76. These trenches revealed extensive garden deposits and fragmentary limestone or brick boundaries walls, annex walls to garden structures, a brick-cellar, hearths/fireplaces, all of either post-medieval or early modern date. These sealed lower levels of sterile flood deposits across most of the site, with some limited evidence of medieval occupation deposit surviving adjacent to the archway between 75 and 76 John Street Lower. Excavation was discontinued at the rear of the yard to No. 76 due to the presence of a thick concrete slab floor below the tarmac.</p>

Appendix 3: Development drawings





STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS

1. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL CONSULT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER FOR ANY REVISIONS TO THE DRAWING PRIOR TO COMMENCING WORK.

2. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY CONSENTS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER.

3. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY CONSENTS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER.

4. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY CONSENTS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER.

GENERAL NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED ARE IN METERS.

2. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY CONSENTS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER.

3. THE DRAWING CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY CONSENTS AND APPROVALS FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE DESIGNER.

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHECKED BY
001	15.04.2024	ISSUE IN SUPPORT OF ONE SECTION 5 AND TWO SECTION 10 APPLICATIONS TO DEAN	AG	WB
002	12.04.2024	ISSUE FOR CLIENT APPROVAL	AG	WB
003	07.03.2024	ISSUE FOR CLIENT INTERVIEW COMMENT	AG	WB

ARCHITECTS

PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

SCALE: 1/200

STAGE: PLANNING

NO: 2257

DATE: 22.03.24

NO: 1002

NO: 1002

CLIENT: KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL	
PROJECT: KCC - WATER SPORTS ACTIVITY CENTRE	
COUNTY HALL, JONES STREET, KILKENNY, CO. KILKENNY	
DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT	
NO: 2257	NO: 1002
NO: 1002	NO: 1002