

# Archaeological Assessment at New Street, Malahide

WALSH & GIACOMETTI

20/10/2022



# archaeology plan

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HERITAGE SOLUTIONS

## SITE NAME

Archaeological assessment at New Street, Malahide, Co. Dublin

## CLIENT

Fingal County Council

## PLANNING

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# Section 1 Introduction

## Report summary

The results of an archaeological assessment at New Street, Malahide, County Dublin are presented in this report. The assessment outlines an examination of the archaeological, historical and cartographic background of the study area and surrounding environment. It also details the findings of a site inspection.

For the purpose of this assessment the study area has been separated into three distinct zones of archaeological potential. The first zone comprises New Street, a north-south running single carriageway with a row of commercial properties running either side along its length. It ends at a junction with Strand Street in the north and at the Diamond in the south. The second zone includes a panhandle running east and a small

area known as Ross Cottages. The last zone is the Diamond, which forms the junction between New Street, the Mall, Main Street and Church Street. These Study Area zones are distinct from the site boundary, as shown in the image below.

## Study area location

The study area is located at the centre of Malahide village, north County Dublin. It is contained between an existing intersection referred to as 'the diamond' on the R106 to the south, and Strand Road to the north. The road is approximately 150m in length and 14m in width, with 1.7m wide footpaths in the west and 1.2m wide in the east. The road takes up an area of 2,224m<sup>2</sup>.

The location of the study area in Malahide







The study area in the wider landscape

## Methodology

For the purposes of this assessment a number of cartographic, documentary and illustrative resources were employed. As a foundation for the assessment the files in the Records of Monuments and Places (RMP), excavations.ie and the topographical files for the study area were examined. Additionally, a number of features dating to the industrial period are discussed using the records at the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). The Record of Protected Structures (RPS), separate from the NIAH files, was also examined. Features within the study area that form part of one or both of these records are discussed in this report.

### *Cartography*

Online cartographic resources, such as HeritageMaps.ie or the Historic Environment Viewer provide an overlay of the 1837 edition (6-inch) and the 1913 edition (25-inch) ordnance survey maps. These were consulted as a way to track the development and expansion of Malahide town in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. John Rocque's 1760 map, which depicts Malahide, is the earliest map that

was identified as depicting the street layout of the town. The street layout was also analysed in a chart of the Bay of Dublin and Sea Coast by Bernard Scale, dated to 1765.

A number of cartographic sources were not used in this assessment either due to an overlap of information, a lack of accurate representation of Malahide, or a lack of access to the resource.

This includes:

- Taylor and Skinner's 1778 map of the roads of Ireland
- William Duncan's 1821 map (although the environs map of 1853 is nearly identical)
- Griffith's valuation map (the text is shown in this report but the map was not of a high enough quality)
- Ordnance survey maps outside of the 1843 and 1913 editions, due to access

### *Illustrative evidence*

A number of photographs, postcards and illustrations are used throughout this report. These have been collected primarily through

online resources and the ACA document published in 2009. Additionally, photographs provided by the Malahide Historical Society on malahideheritage.ie and through their Facebook page have been used. These offer a glimpse into the visual history of the town that is missing in cartographic and literary resources. The catalogue at the National Library of Ireland was also used to gain access to historic photography and illustrations.

### *Documentary evidence*

In researching this report a series of commonly used documentary resources were made use of. This includes Samuel Lewis (1837) and John D'Alton's (1838) descriptions of Malahide town as it was during their time. D'Alton also offers some information into the history of Malahide village, although this is primarily done through the perspective of the Talbots. A number of articles detailing the development of Malahide were accessed through JSTOR, including the

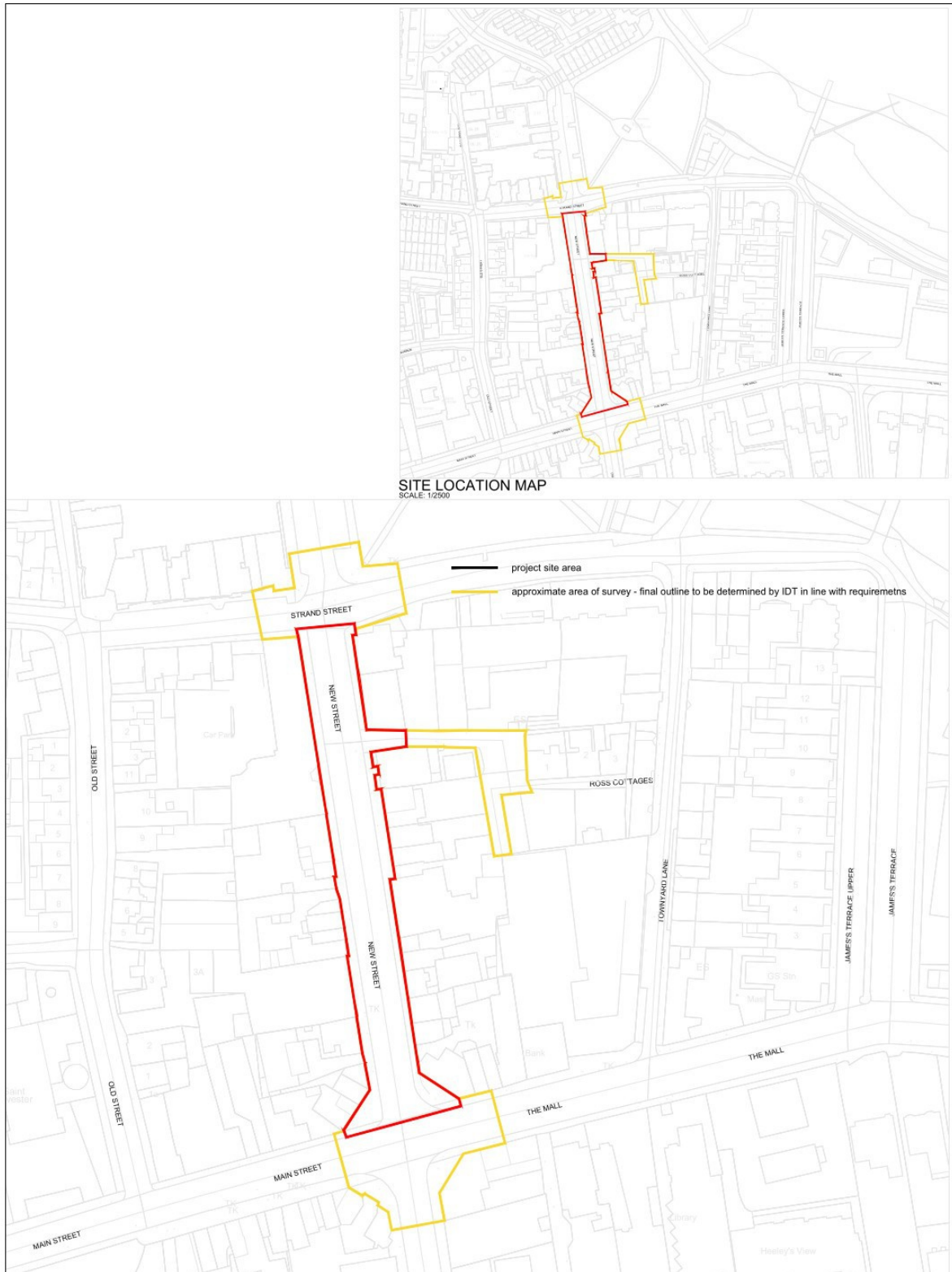
Dublin Historical Record. The listings of Griffith's Valuation records (1847-1864) were also used in order to identify the occupants of Ross Cottages. Census records dating to 1901 and 1911 were employed to identify the occupants and owners of shops, private dwellings and public houses.

A number of resources were not usable due to a lack of mentioning Malahide, or the information they provided was not relevant to this report. This includes Ball's (1920) A History of County Dublin Vol. 6, Southern Fingal, which did not mention Malahide in great detail. Thom's directories were also not useful as they did not afford any relevant information.

The Diamond at Malahide, early 20th century



The extent of the site at New Street (red line). Note that the extent of the site is smaller than the Study Area examined in this report





# Section 2 Archaeological Background

## Recorded monuments

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was founded under the National Monuments Act 1994 Amendment. Features, structures, sites or objects listed within the records are known as Recorded Monuments. A set of maps which accompany the RMP files outline zones of archaeological potential surrounding listed monuments. The RMP files are one of the primary repositories of information on the archaeological record.

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) comprise the following elements: (i) Letter or letters indicating county (DU=Dublin); (ii) A three digit number indicating the relevant ordnance survey six inch sheet number (e.g. 010); (iii) A three to six digit number indicating the

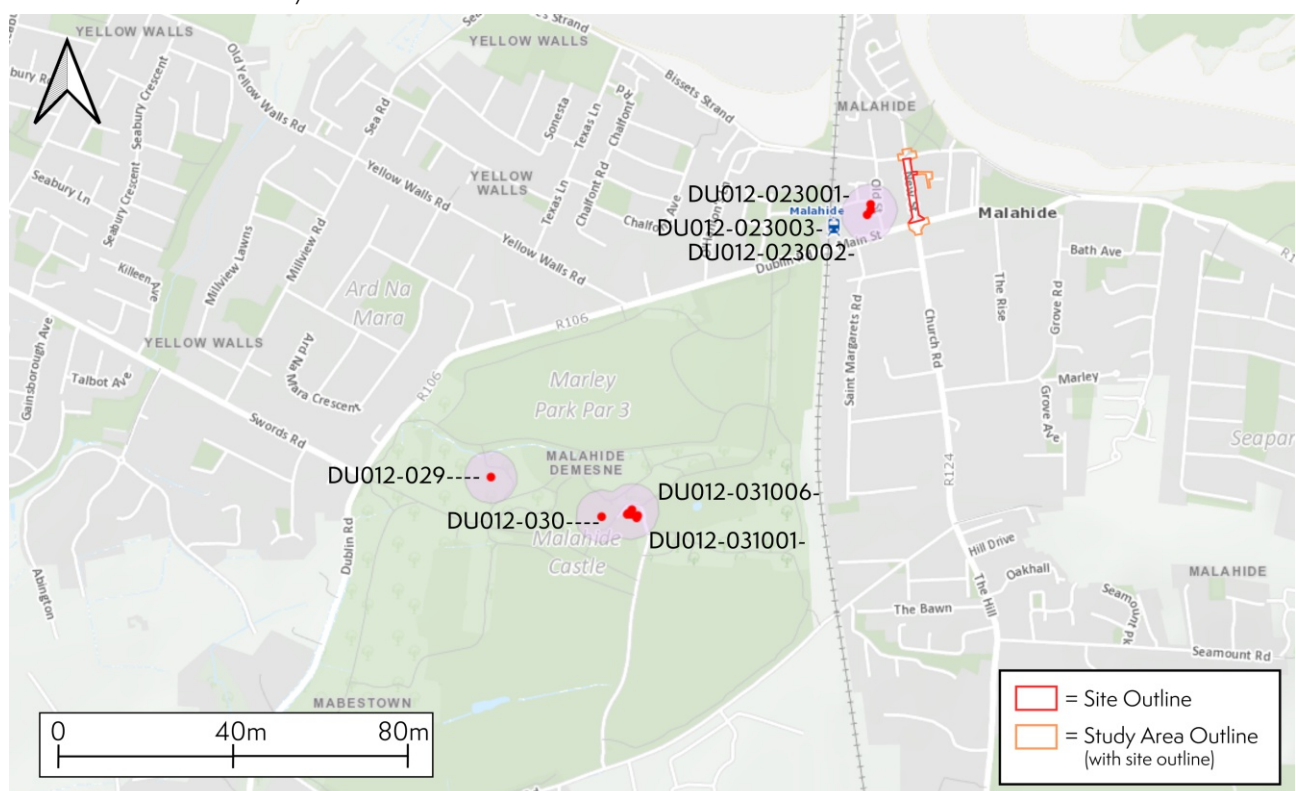
dedicated number of the individual site or monument. The Archive Unit of the National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing holds a file for every site listed on the RMP.

There are no recorded monuments within the study area along New Street or at the Diamond. Three records are of particular importance to the study area as they are located on a parallel street to the west, Old Street.

### *Ritual site - holy well DU012-023001-*

This holy well is located 80m west of the study area, on the corner of Old Street and Railway Avenue (formerly Fountain Lane, after the well). The well is traditionally called ‘Sunday’s Well’, or St Sylvester’s Well. It is adjacent to St Sylvester’s Church in the north and is widely accessible to

The RMP files near the study area





Photograph of St Sylvester's Holy Well c.1948 (from McLoughlin 2009)

RMP	Feature	Townland	Distance
DU012-023001-	Ritua site - holy well	Malahide	90m
DU012-023003-	Earthwork	Malahide	100m
DU012-023002-	Church	Malahide	100m
DU012-030----	Malahide Castle	Malahide Demesne	950m
DU012-031001-	Malahide Castle church & grounds	Malahide Demesne	950m

The RMP files in the vicinity and wider landscape of the study area

the public. A modern stone plaque placed during refurbishment in 2001 dates the well to AD 430. Old Street, formerly Chapel Street, was originally the centre of Malahide and the well would have been a vital source of water for the village's inhabitants (malahideheritage.ie 2020). The well would have originally been open at the top, with the water being accessed through a bucket and rope (ibid.).

D'Alton (1838, 186) describes the feature as 'a well of clear and wholesome water, dedicated to

the Blessed Virgin, and covered with an arched enclosure, within which her statue was formerly set'. The dedication of the well has resulted in a number of debates as to the source of its eponym. D'Alton (1838) states that it was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. O'Reilly (1910, 153) refers to it as named after Sylvester, a disciple of St Patrick. Alternate theories suggest it is named after either St Sylvester I or St Sylvester II, with the latter being more common among the French, due to his Norman origins (malahideheritage.ie 2020).





St Sylvester's holy well in the present day

### *Earthwork DU012-023003-*

According to Flanagan (1984, 112) a mound once existed on the site of St Sylvester's Church. An extension constructed in 2010 saw a series of test excavations taking place on site (10E0426). A small pit/drainage gully with a silty fill dating to the medieval period was identified. Excavations the following year (11E0326) discovered medieval structural remains, ditches, pits, and eighteenth or nineteenth century masonry walls. Ceramic found during the excavation demonstrated a degree of occupancy in the near vicinity during the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries. An interpretation of inhabitation at the site of the earthwork should take account of the holy well to the north. The well demonstrates that the area was occupied from at least the fifth century AD. No extant remains of the earthwork are present today.

### *Church DU012-023002-*

Flanagan (1984, 112) states that an early church stood in the earthwork (DU012-023003) which predates St Sylvester's Church, constructed in 1845. As discussed above, test excavations on

the site of the later church revealed a number of medieval features dating to the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries. The identification of medieval structural remains (11E0326) further suggests that the early church may survive as subsurface foundation remains.

## Features in the wider landscape

The historic and cartographic background provided in section 3 establishes a strong dichotomy between the village of Malahide and the construction of Malahide Castle to the southwest. The wealth and prosperity of the Talbots residing in the castle was not present in the poor farming village at Malahide. An examination of the castle, then, is required as it affords the polar opposite link of how the wider landscape developed under the sway and influence of the Talbot family.

### *Malahide Castle DU012-030----*

Malahide Castle is a detached three-storey over basement medieval mansion dating to c.1450.





A Malahide Castle print - published by Newman & Co. (1838-1880)

The castle has gone through a number of renovations throughout its history (in approximately 1650, 1770, 1825, 1975, and 1990) (NI-AH 2005). It is built on a rise that oversees the surrounding landscape. It was originally constructed from wood, later to be replaced by a stone fortress (malahidecastleandgardens.ie 2022). The castle on its exterior is of Georgian Gothic style. The ground floor of the late medieval core of the castle is entered through a Gothic doorway, with entrance to the upper floors being a spiral staircase. Ornamentation in the castle includes corbel heads of Edward IV, sixteenth century carved panelling, and a Fleming carving over the fireplace of the Assumption of the Virgin, among others. The history of the castle and Malahide in general will be provided in section 3.

#### ***Malahide Castle church DU012-031001-***

A church and surrounding graveyard/grounds

are located 30m east of Malahide Castle. D'Alton (1838) describes the church as 'the venerable remains of [an] ancient chapel, the entrance to which is guarded by two magnificent sycamores'. The church contains a chancel and nave, with a sacristy on the southeastern corner. The side walls of the nave have stepped battlements and the entire structure is formed of coursed, well mortared limestone masonry. The church contains a number of RMP files including two architectural fragments (DU012-031004 & DU012-031005) and two Sheela-na-gigs (DU012-031002 & DU012-031003). The church is also surrounded by a graveyard on all sides (DU012-031006). The graveyard is primarily occupied by burials dating to the eighteenth, nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries. The interior of the church has been used for internment and contains an altar tomb dedicated to Maud Plunkett (c. 1494).

## Previous excavations

No listed excavations have taken place on New Street. A number of excavations have been conducted in the region surrounding the study area. The primary source of information on licensed excavations in Ireland in the last decades are the volumes of the Excavations Bulletins series and their online version, the Excavations database ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)). While no excavations have taken place directly within the study area, a number of works have been carried out in the near vicinity. For the purposes of this report a radius of 500m will be used for examining prior excavations.

### *Railway Avenue - 01E0421*

A series of four test-trenches, covering a total of 45m<sup>2</sup> were excavated in May 2001. The excavation revealed no features dating prior to the post-medieval period. Substantial stone walls were uncovered in all test trenches and were assumed to have been part of one single structure. A later examination of the Ordnance Survey maps demonstrated that the walls likely belonged to an earlier structure of St Sylvester's Church nearby.

### *St Sylvester's Church - 10E0426*

Test excavations were carried out in the area for a proposed parish centre to the west of the

Previous archaeological excavations that presented archaeological material within 120m of the study area

Licence	Address	Findings	Distance
01E0421	Railway Avenue	Substantial stone walls	70m
10E0426	St Sylvester's Church	Foundation walls	110m
11E0326	St Sylvester's Church	Foundation walls & medieval occupation layers	120m
E4381	Multiple	Stone culverts, post medieval archaeology	N/A

Previous excavations near the study area





church. A separate trench was excavated at the prayer chapel to the east of the church as well. The excavations were similar to those conducted in 2001 as they uncovered a series of foundation walls for an earlier church structure. It was noted in the excavation that an earlier deposit of medieval archaeology may exist.

### *St Sylvester's Church - 11E0326*

A second excavation at the site of St Sylvester's Church the following year. The earliest activity identified on site was medieval occupation layers characterised by structural remains and subsoil cut features. The walls were constructed from undressed limestone with poor facing. The fill surrounding the wall had inclusions of seashell, animal bone and charcoal flecking. A stone drain was also excavated to the south. A later wall was also identified during excavation, which was constructed sometime between 1837 and 1867 (depicted on two separate editions of the

ordnance survey maps). A series of finds demonstrate that the site was multi-phased, these include: a flint scraper, a retouched flake, flint debitage, a medieval pottery assemblage, post-medieval pottery, and a number of metal artefacts.

### *Pipeline - E4381*

The construction of a pipeline measuring 1.1km in length commenced in October 2011. The pipe ran from the Dublin Road through Malahide Castle and terminated at Black Road. The excavations uncovered a number of eighteenth century landscaping features, stone culverts, limestone walls, and a metallised surface. A number of post-medieval finds were recovered including animal bone, pottery sherds, a small milled copper coin, and a clay pipe bowl. The excavator deemed that no features dating prior to the eighteenth century were identified during the excavation.

St Sylvester's Church, taken from Railway Avenue



## Topographical files

In compiling this report the files of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) were consulted. These contain information on the archaeological artefacts in the collections of the NMI and the discovery locations of those artefacts. No topographical files are listed within the study area. Thus, it is necessary to examine the region surrounding the study area in order to establish a concise historical narrative. Three files are noted within 500m of the study area.

### *Bronze lid - 1984:146*

A bronze lid was uncovered on the beach to the east of Malahide, across from the Grand Hotel. The file lists the lid as possibly belonging to a spirit measure. The lid is designed in a domed manner, with its centre topped by a raised, stepped pattern. The underside has a raised lip

or rim. The figure 6 or 9 appears on the upper surface of the lid. It is noted as belonging to either the seventeenth or eighteenth century.

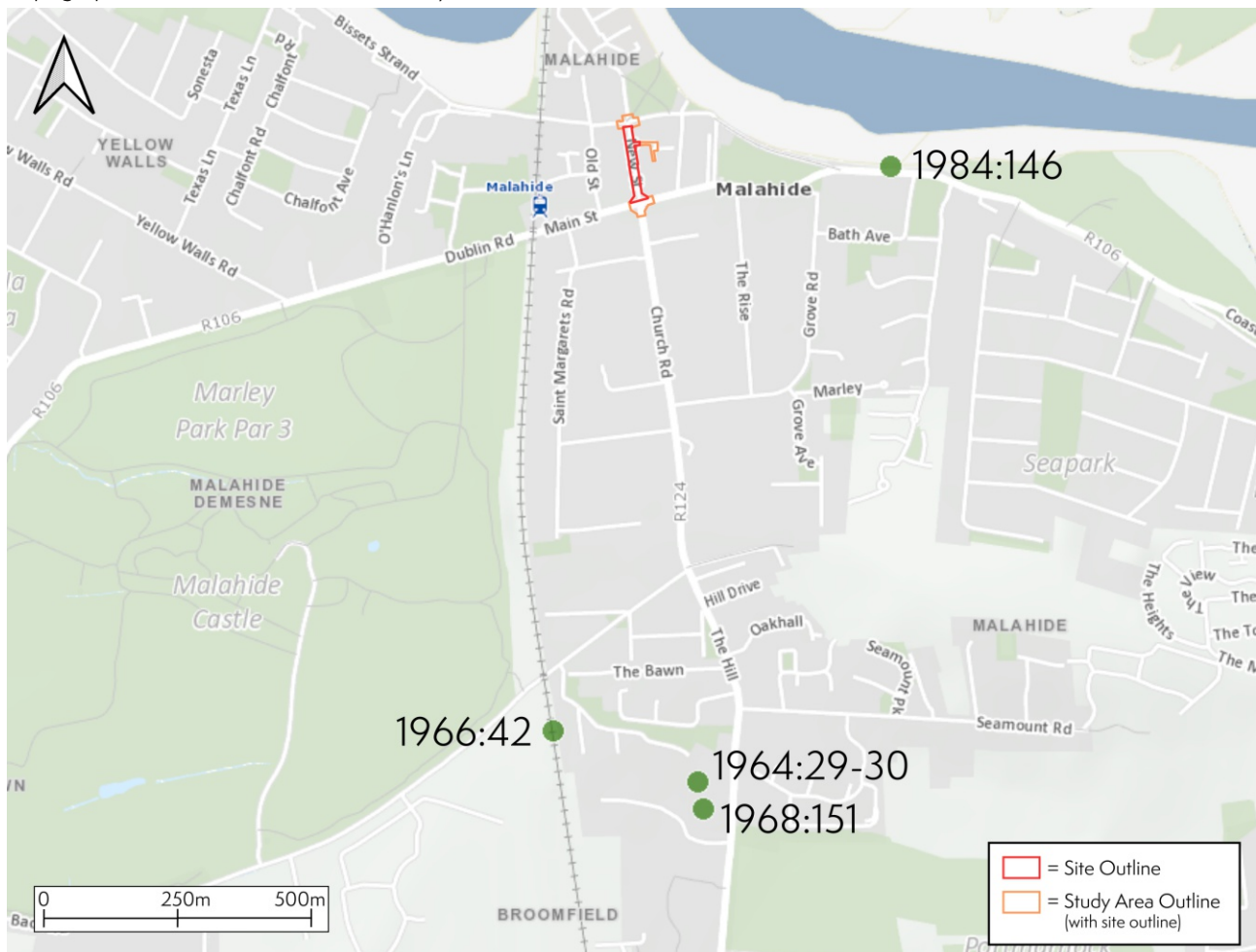
### *Flint scraper - 1966:42*

A flint scraper was uncovered in Broomfield, Malahide, southeast of the study area. It was found on the surface and presented to the museum in a collection of other objects. The scraper is honey-brown and made from a thin flake. One side of the flint is noted as sharp and finely worked. Its dimensions are 2.8cm in length, 1.9cm in width and 0.4cm in depth. It was presented with a slate pencil, broken tortoise shell from an ornamental box, and a sperm whale tooth.

### *Flint assemblage - 1964:29-30*

A series of flint objects were presented to the museum for analysis. It should be noted that the

Topographical files within 1.1km of the study area





ID	Address	Topographical File	Distance
1984:146	Grand Hotel, Malahide	Bronze lid (post-medieval)	470m
1966:42	Broomfield	Flint scraper	1km
1964:29-30	Multiple	Flint assemblage	1.09km
1968:151	Paddy's Hill	Stone assemblage	1.1km

The topographical files within 1.1km of the study area

assemblage represents flint objects from a number of different locations. Among these were twenty-eight waste flint flakes from Feltrim Hill, five waste core-like flints from Kilcrea, and twelve waste flint and three flint flakes with obvious retouching from Paddy's Hill (Keeling & Kelley 1994, 3). The museum determined the objects to be of little archaeological value.

### Stone assemblage - 1968:151

A number of stone artefacts were presented to

the museum, who subsequently purchased them for the sum of £30. These included two polished stone axehead fragments, waste flint material, two flint flakes, five water rolled flint flakes, six chert flakes, a flint scraper, an animal tooth, bone fragments, a bronze object, and an iron object. The finds are primarily prehistoric in nature, with the metal objects discovered to be modern. They were located adjacent to 1964:29-30, at Paddy's Hill.

The industrial heritage sites (NIAH) within the vicinity of the study area



Ref	Address	Feature	Distance
11344035	New Street	Lamp standard	0m
11344036	The Mall, Malahide	Post box (ER VII)	50m
11344008	Main Street, Malahide	Railway station	140m
11344055	Main Street, Malahide	Station master's house	170m
11344009	Main Street, Malahide	Signal box	180m
11344015	Strand Street, Malahide	Railway bridge	180m

The industrial heritage sites (NIAH) within 180m of the study area

## Industrial heritage

The industrial period in Ireland is generally accepted to date between 1750 and 1930 (Rynne 2006). The period came with an entirely new economic and social experience. Ireland, however, failed to reach the degree of industrialisation seen in the United Kingdom or the rest of Europe (Ulster Historical Foundation 2021). Ireland as a whole remained an agricultural economy catering to its own growing population and the ever-increasing demands of the British market and Empire. Consequently, the majority of industrial activity was centred in cities and

large port towns.

No features in the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Records are located within Malahide or the study area. For the purpose of this assessment the ordnance survey maps have been examined with a short list of industrial heritage near New Street dating to the industrial period in Ireland. The database for the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage has been employed for reference numbers.

### *Lamp standard - 11344035*

A freestanding gas lamp standard constructed

Malahide Railway Station





from cast-iron in 1900. It comprises a chamfered square pedestal with a foliated shaft (NIAH 2005). The top is intricately decorated and fitted with a double lamp, facing opposite sides. This has been removed and is no longer present.

#### ***Post box - 11344036***

This is a freestanding cast-iron postbox dating to 1905. It is decorated with the monogram 'ER VII'.

#### ***Malahide Railway Station - 11344008***

The Malahide Railway Station was designed by George Papworth and was constructed in 1851 (NIAH 2005). It is a detached nine-bay single storey building constructed from yellow bricks. The entrance to the station is a Tudor style projecting porch at the centre of the structure on its street facing side. It is still in use as a railway station.

#### ***Station master's house - 11344005***

To the east of the railway station stands a detached single storey building constructed from red brick. It was built in 1880 and has retained all of its original features in the present day. The quoins and dressings of the house are in yellow brick. It is presently in use as a domestic structure.

#### ***Signal box - 11344009***

A detached single storey timber signal box constructed in 1855. It is located north of the railway station along the tracks, west of New Street.

#### ***Railway bridge - 11344015***

To the north of the railway station and signal box is a single-arch ashlar limestone bridge built for the railway line in 1844. Still in use in the present day.

Railway station bridge on Strand Street



## Section 3 History and Cartography

### Introduction

In 1609 Fynes Moryson, in his ‘Description of Ireland’, described Fingal as “a little territory, as it were the garner of the kingdom, which is environed by the sea and great rivers, and this situation hath defended it from the incursions of rebels in former civil wars”. The name ‘Fingal’ in the ninth century referred not to the land north of Dublin but rather a people, the fair strangers later known as the Vikings. By the eleventh century it was synonymous with a place, stretching from the River Delvin toward Dublin City. The names of *Fingal*, *Fine Gall*, *Fingall*, *Crích Gall* or *Fyngall* are named in the Irish annals, as well as Welsh, Scandinavian and Anglo-Norman sources (Baker 2010, 1).

Malahide is located in the northeast of Fingal, situated at the mouth of the shallow Broadmeadow estuary. It is 4km east of Swords and 13km north of Dublin city. The name Malahide, as demonstrated by the Placenames Database of Ireland, has undergone a number of changes since it first appeared (Malachida) in 1181. It possibly derives from the Irish *Baile Átha Thid*, referring to ‘the town of the ford of Thid’. The modern Irish name *Mullach Íde* means ‘the hill-top of Ide’, or Hyde’s Brow. This likely refers to the Norman family that occupied the Donabate Area (McLoughlin 2009, 6).

Lewis (1837) describes Malahide as having 'a

A photograph of Malahide Castle, circa. 1865-1914





pleasing and sequestered character, [containing] many handsome cottages, chiefly occupied by visitors during the bathing season and in some instances by permanent residents. D'Alton (1838) describes Malahide as 'a well-built and pleasantly situated village on the brow of the sea'.

### *Prehistory*

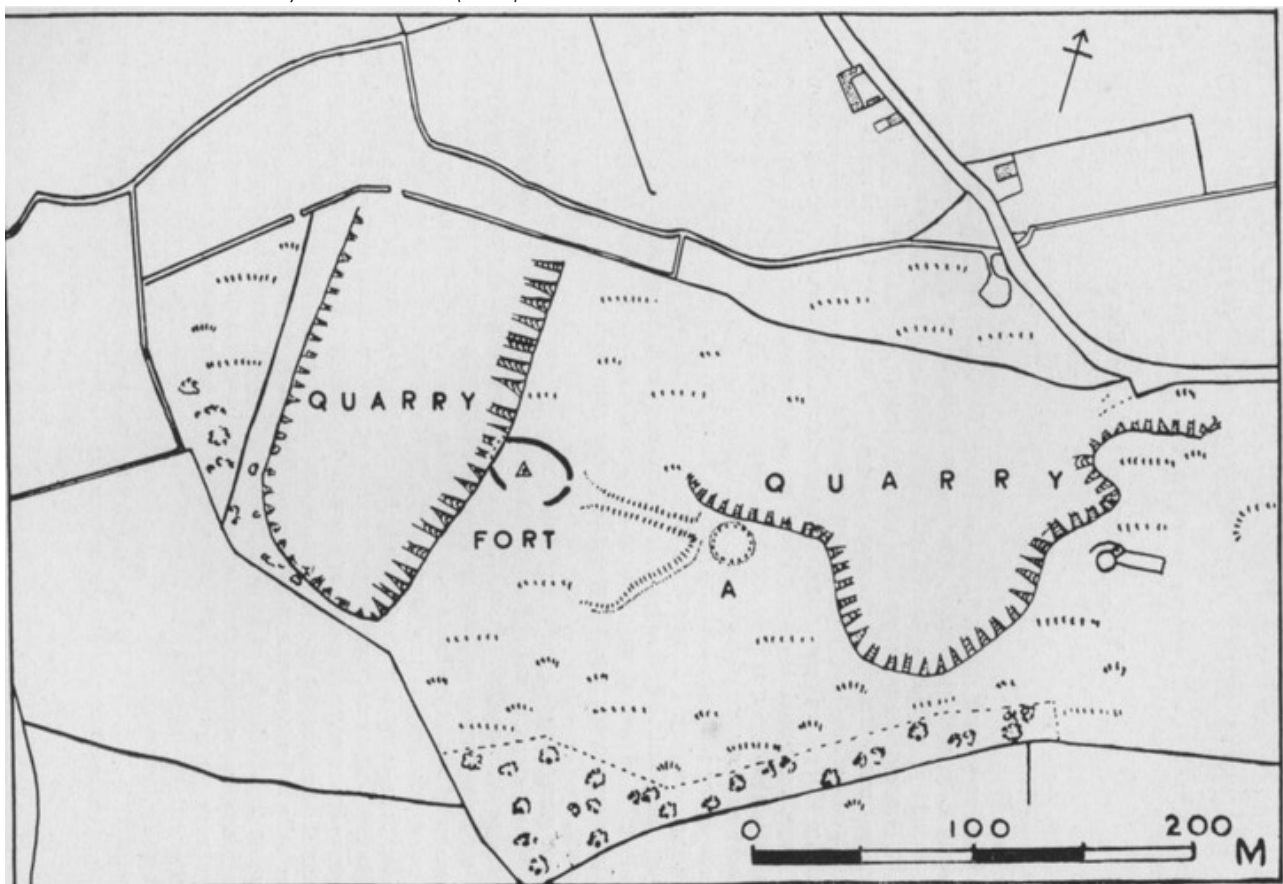
A considerable amount of flint artefacts were collected between 1964 and 1981 by amateur archaeologist Noel Flanagan. A large portion of this material was uncovered in the townland of Robswalls, east of Malahide. The date range for these artefacts ranges between the Mesolithic and the Early Bronze Age. These finds form part of a range of collections uncovered throughout the coast of north County Dublin. Flint flakes dating from the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods have been found at Sutton (Stout & Stout 1992) and Paddy's Hill, overlooking the Malahide Estuary (1964:29-30). Other

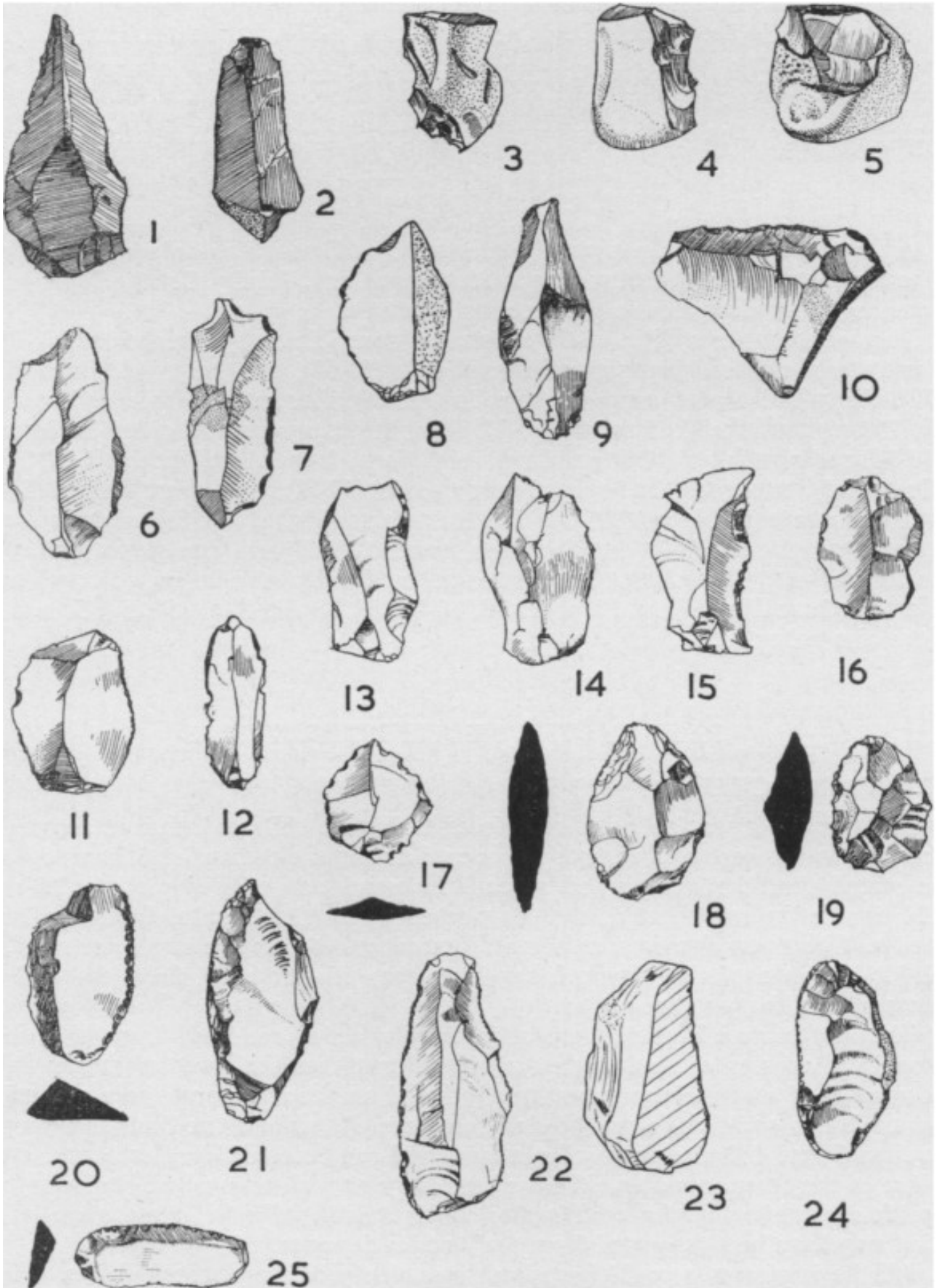
prehistoric artefacts in the wider landscape include a stone axe in Saintdoolaghs (1940:49), a flint arrowhead in Feltrim (1947:159), three waste flints in Ballymadrough (1978:70-72), and flint flakes in Lanestown (1978:73-74).

Excavations by Keeling and Keeley (1994) revealed a substantial quantity of lithic material (almost 3000) at Paddy's Hill in Robswalls (DU012-037). These vary in date between the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

Malahide Hill, southeast of the town, is a focal point of prehistoric activity. It is a highly-visible setting for a number of monuments which run along the crest of the ridge (Giacometti 2017, 28). Included within these are a burnt mound (DU012-065), a barrow (14E161), a mound (DU012-032) and two medieval middens (DU012-062 & DU012-012). The ridge is also the location of two lithic scatters (DU012-063 & 00E0037).

Excavations at Feltrim Hill by Hartnett et al. (1964)





Lithics uncovered during excavations at Feltrim (Hartnett et al. 1964)



Excavations at Feltrim Hill (DU012-02502) exhibited evidence of Neolithic activity through pottery sherds and worked lithics, however no evidence of occupation was uncovered (Hartnett & Eogan 1964). These included eighteen neolithic stone axes (Baker 2010, 10). To the northeast, the coast has a strong view of Lambay Island. This was shown through excavations by Cooney (2000, 196) to have once been a manufactory of Neolithic axes (93E0144). The island is also home to five Neolithic cairns. A burial in the west of the island contained an extensive collection of Neolithic artefacts, including flint, stone axes, an adze, and decorated pottery (DU009-001012).

Excavations by Giacometti (2017) at Seamount, Malahide examined a prehistoric penannular enclosure and barrow, and an early medieval resource processing area. Through excavation an identification was made for the historic continuity of landscape. The site ranged in date from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Medieval Period. A Late Bronze Age burial monument (barrow) at the crest of the hill demonstrated evidence for maintenance during the Iron Age. Toward the base of the hill a Late Bronze Age enclosure was identified. Between these monuments a number of features forming an early

medieval farmstead was uncovered.

The prehistoric monuments situated along Malahide Hill formed visible markers within the landscape, which could have defined territory and ownership (ibid. 27). Even after their origins had been forgotten, they continued to define space and boundaries. For example, the early medieval farmstead identified during excavation was positioned with reference to the two prehistoric monuments. The medieval church parish boundary too followed in a similar manner.

Settlement in Fingal during the Bronze Age tended to be focused at coastal areas. A number of sites dating to this period The remains of a round house have been excavated at Balbriggan (02E0298). Lusk appears to have been occupied during the transition from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. Excavations revealed pits, hearths, and Beaker pottery, in conjunction with a possible structure (02E1719).

A circular ring-ditch was excavated by Antoine Giacometti at Mountgorry, Swords in 2004 (04E1066). The feature had an entrance to the southeast, with a single large pit filled with burnt bone and charcoal at its centre. Bronze

Dublin environs map of Malahide, 1853



Age pottery fragments were recovered from the ditch fill and central pit. Further evidence of settlement during the Bronze Age was identified during a geophysical survey at Skerries. A number of features such as fulactha fiadh, huts, ring-ditches, and at least three round houses were noted (Baker 2010, 26).

Closer to Malahide, a ring-ditch was excavated in the townland of Drinan (DU012-093). It consisted of a circular ditch with a single large pit filled with charcoal and burnt bone. The fill contained sherds of Bronze Age pottery. An unexcavated ring-ditch to the north in the townland of Seatown East may also be evidence of Bronze Age settlement in the area. Such ring-ditches are evident in the wider landscape of Fingal as well.

### *Early medieval period*

The early medieval period dates between the fifth and twelfth centuries AD in Ireland. It was a period of heavy societal fragmentation, based primarily on the fine, a kin-group based on a common great-grandfather. A network of dynasties developed, resulting in constant warfare over land supremacy (Baker 2010, 31). The basis of social interaction surrounded the transacting of cattle, land and female slaves (ibid.). The plains of north County Dublin formed part of the kingdom of Brega during this period. Initially the land was occupied by the Laigin, although the extent of their hegemony was limited to south of the River Liffey during the fifth century AD. The land was controlled by *Síl nÁedo Sláine*, a dynasty of Uí Néill (Byrne 1973). A number of features dating to the early medieval period are located in the region surrounding New Street.

According to Tírechán, a seventh century Irish bishop, St Patrick is believed to have landed on Inishpatrick, the 'Island of Patrick', in 432 AD. Patrick is stated to have arrived by sea to "the plains of Brega... with the true light of miraculous doctrine, lighting the thick clouds of ignorance" (cited in Swift 2004, 61). The following centuries would see the development of a number of religious centres throughout Fingal, including Swords and Lusk. Many of these early churches were constructed from wood and either went out of use or were replaced by more

substantial stone structures in the following centuries. It is unclear as to whether the church in Malahide was part of this original tradition, however the evidence for stone foundations dating to the medieval period suggests that the original church was of some antiquity.

The holy well (DU012-023001) at St Sylvester's Church is the closest feature dating to the early medieval period in the near vicinity of the study area. Lewis (1837) states that 'in the [town] centre is a well of excellent water, arched over and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin'. To the southeast in the townland of Robswalls in a kink in a field boundary is a natural spring called St Patricks' Well (DU012-038). Further south in Portmarnock in the townland of Burrow is St Marnock's Well (DU015-007002). The Pattern

day at the well was August 18th (Ó Danachair 1958, 78). The RMP file states that during its peak the well comprised a large circular pool with sixteen stone steps leading down to it. A hoard of medieval coins were found at the well. The well was destroyed in 1854, along with its associated Ogham stone (DU015-007003). An additional holy well (DU012-039) known as Tobermaclaney was located west of Carrick Martello tower. The 1830 ordnance survey map recorded that the water ran down the hill to form two small pools beside the tower.

The closest evidence for settlement during the early medieval period in the area surrounding Malahide is a cashel west of Feltrim. The cashel comprises an oval area enclosed by a drystone wall (measuring 35m east/west, 25m north/south). The entrance is to the east, and was originally protected by a timber gate (Eogan & Hartnett 1964, 21). Excavations in the 1940s identified extensive activity for domestic activity on the site (ibid.).

Further settlement include ringforts and enclosures at Broomfield, Grange, Springhill, Saintdoolaghs, and Kinsaley (DU012-033, DU015-003001 & -003002, DU015-126, DU015-123, DU015-010). In addition, a multi-period site in the townland of Drinan exhibited a number of enclosures dating to the early medieval and medieval periods. The excavation revealed a truncated ringfort, and it was believed



to have been occupied in the eleventh or twelfth centuries (Halliday 2005).

The Vikings wintered for the first time in Dublin in 841-2 AD. Ball (1920) states that the name Fingal, or Fine Gall, was employed to denote the district that the Vikings left for their excursions. The harbour of Malahide was said to be integral to Viking raids and the Danes had settled there by 892 AD (Bradley et al. 2009, 51). After Viking expansion northwards in the mid 11th century, Hammond McTurkill, the last Viking king of Dublin, settled at Malahide in 1171 (Lewis 1837, 337). Hammond's name lasted until the 19th century when the townland of Hamonstown (or Hamonswood) northwest of Malahide Demesne was renamed to Yellow Walls (oldyellowwalls.org 2022, also see D'Alton 1838 who names Hamonstown). Bradley (1992) suggests that this area of Dublin should be considered as 'the rurally settled area of the Dublin Scandinavians'.

### *Medieval period onward*

The Anglo-Normans that arrived in 1169 knew



The thatched cottages of Old Street (FCC 2009, 8)

of the richness of the soil throughout Fingal (Baker 2010, 47). The new settlers employed an aggressive system of intensive agriculture throughout the landscape, likely owing to the destruction of prehistoric monuments. The Hiberno-Norse occupants of Fingal were initially opposed to the Anglo-Normans, however their resistance was ultimately unsuccessful. The kingdom of Leinster was granted to Strongbow in 1171 by Henry II. Lordships were afforded to

The medieval wall uncovered during excavations beneath St Sylvester's Church (11E0326; McQuade 2012)





Malahide in 1844, note the new railway line spanning the estuary

nobles who accompanied Strongbow to Ireland shortly thereafter. The count of Dublin was retained by the English Crown, which was at this point divided into five baronies. These were granted to Hugh de Lacy, who confirmed it to his son Walter de Lacy in 1208 (Veach 2010, 179). This period was followed by an early period of colonisation in which land grants were given to the Talbots, Barnewells, and St Lawrences (O'Donnell 2008, 50).

The medieval period onward in Malahide is defined by the arrival of the Talbots, who constructed a motte and bailey approximately 1km southwest of the small village in c.1250 AD (Duffy & Simpson 2009, 210). The castle was originally constructed from wood (mentioned in section 2) and was passed down through the male heirs of Sir Richard Talbot for the next eight centuries. A diary entry from 1780 describes the castle as a “large and spacious castle in the highest repair” (Little 1948, 2). The castle and land were sequestered in the 1650s by Cromwellian forces, however the lands were later retrieved by the Talbots in the following decades. The castle and grounds were placed on sale in 1973 after the death of Lord Talbot,

which were purchased by Dublin City Council.

The town of Malahide’s population rose from 100 to 200 in the seventeenth century. During this period, the court and its offices were erected with stone walls and slate roofs, in stark contrast to the thatched mud walled homes of the villagers (McLoughlin 2009, 7). The town was centred around St Sylvester’s Well, its water source. An account by John Dunton in 1699 stated that Malahide “contained 30 ordinary huts in all, and not one without several little children who are sprawling about the fireplace (for there was but a small appearance of a fire on it) like so many maggots on a dunghill in a summer’s day”. The town in this period was poor, and was overseen and heavily influenced by the Talbot family in Malahide castle.

The Talbots played an influential role in the redevelopment of the town in the eighteenth century. As a trustee of the turnpike at Malahide, Richard Talbot was integral in the changes of the street layout being undertaken at the time (Greene 2012, 75). Main Street was extended westward into a shape more familiar today. In addition, the centre of the village was moved





The dispensary on New Street

eastward to New Street, with the Diamond being a focal point.

New Street and the Diamond were built up with houses far grander than their thatched cottage counterparts in Old Street. These developments continued into the nineteenth century, as Malahide slowly became industrialised. In 1837 Lewis wrote that 'the trade of the town, never very extensive, received a great check from the privileges granted to the port of Dublin in the sixteenth century... [a] cotton manufacture was introduced here on an extensive scale... though the Irish parliament granted £2000 for the completion of the requisite machinery, it was ultimately abandoned'. Lewis further states that the primary export at Malahide was flour and meal, with coal being imported from Whitehaven and Scotland. D'Alton (1838, 191) confirms that the cotton manufactory 'metamorphosed into one for silk, which gives daily employment to but eight individuals'.

A number of structures relate to the operation of the railway line from its initial construction

in 1844 onwards. These include the railway station building, station master's house, signal box and the railway bridge. A single industrial feature is located within the study area, a lamp standard.

In the nineteenth century the town saw the construction of the coal works on the northern coast, adjacent to the present day junction of New Street and Strand Street (visible on the first edition OS map). At a later point (prior to the 1913 OS map) the coal works was repurposed as an oil works. Developments also took place southward along New Street. Plates and photographs from the period depict a number of upper-class homes New Street (page 20).

Lewis (1837) and D'Alton (1838, 191) both suggest that industry at Malahide was never grand in scale. D'Alton states that the fishing industry by the time of his writing had declined considerably, with 'but three wherries here now fit to put to sea'. In addition, no pier or quay was constructed north of the village. Fishing vessels were easily beached on the shoreline, with many



# Malahide Dispensary.

*A Dispensary for Sick Poor, will open in Malahide, on the first day of May, 1817.*

THIS DISPENSARY will be supported by public Subscription; and each Subscriber shall have a power of recommending an unlimited number of patients.

PRINTED TICKETS of recommendation will be furnished to each Subscriber; and no application will be attended to, unless the person making the same shall produce, upon his first coming to the Dispensary, one of those printed Tickets, signed by a Subscriber.

THE immediate management of the Dispensary will be vested in a *Committee of Seven*, who will meet at the Dispensary on the *First Monday of every Month*, to make such Rules and Regulations as may, from time to time, appear necessary.

*The Committee for the present year :*

R. W. TALBOT, Esq.  
GENERAL LLOYD,  
CHARLES COBBE, Esq.  
JOHN SHAW, Esq.

JOSEPH MACARTNEY, Esq.  
ANDREW CRAWFORD, Esq.  
*Mich*, ~~HENLY~~ HENLY, Esq.

AN ANNUAL MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the Dispensary, on the *First day of May*, in each succeeding year, to inspect the Books of the Establishment, appoint a Committee, &c. &c.

A BLANK BOOK will be constantly upon a table in the Dispensary, to which every Subscriber shall have access, during Dispensary hours, for the purpose of making such observations therein as he, or she, may think proper to submit to the consideration of the Committee.

FROM the First day of *May*, to the First day of *October*, in each year, the Dispensary will open every Morning, (Sunday excepted,) at Eight o'Clock, and close at Five in the Afternoon;—and from the First day of *October*, to the First day of *May*, it will open at *Nine o'Clock* in the Morning, and close at *Three*.

PERSONS applying for Medical Aid must come to the Dispensary within these hours; otherwise they will not be admitted.

IN cases however of *Accident* or *Sudden Illness*, the Ticket of a Subscriber will be attended to upon any Day, or at any time of the Day or Night; but it is expected that no Subscriber will send to the Dispensary at extra hours, except in cases of real danger; or such at least as appear to admit of no delay.

PATIENTS, who by reason of severe sickness, are unable to attend at the Dispensary, shall be visited at their own homes, provided the distance does not exceed three miles.

IN *Labour Cases* attended with danger or extraordinary difficulty, the Dispensary Physician will visit the Patient at a distance not exceeding three miles; but it is to be particularly understood, that if the case should not require or admit of immediate assistance, he shall not be expected to continue in attendance; in all such cases the expediency of remaining with the Patient must rest with the Physician, and be determined by him.

ON *Wednesdays* and *Saturdays*, the Children of the Poor will be Vaccinated at the Dispensary.

AN Apothecary will reside at the Dispensary, and the Physician will attend every Morning as soon as it opens, and remain for two hours.

NOLAN, PRINTER, DUBLIN.

owners allowing their boats to 'ride afloat in the channel in perfect safety' (ibid.).

Possibly the most prominent feature of the west side of New Street is the dispensary. It is a two storey red-brick structure with an arched entrance way, and horizontal blue-brick string coursing. The building heavily contrasts in style with all other structures on the street. The foundation of the dispensary was possibly encouraged by a 1765 Act which gave Grand Juries the power to match local voluntary subscriptions in order to establish local dispensaries. A local committee was established in 1817, which sought the construction of a dispensary 'for the more immediate relief of the poor in the vicinity to which all persons, unable to pay for advice and medicines, residing within four miles of the dispensary house, and bringing proper recommendations from subscriber, will be admissible' (cited in a document detailing the official opening of the dispensary, Macartney & Crawford, 1817).

Subscribers to the programme paid one guinea per year, which afforded them the privilege of recommending patients for medical treatments to the dispensary. The subscribers were described as a 'very respectable list of nobility and gentry who have honoured this institution with

their patronage and support' (Greene 2012).

The dispensary opened on the 1st of May 1817, It was housed originally on the eastern side of New Street, as depicted on the first edition ordnance survey map. The 1908 ordnance survey map depicts the dispensary as being located in the current location of Donnybrook Fair. The red-brick structure that currently stands in New Street housed the dispensary from the later 19th century onward (McLoughlin 2009).

The 1901 census lists 71 individuals living on New Street. An examination of the census data from the national archives provides the following statistics:

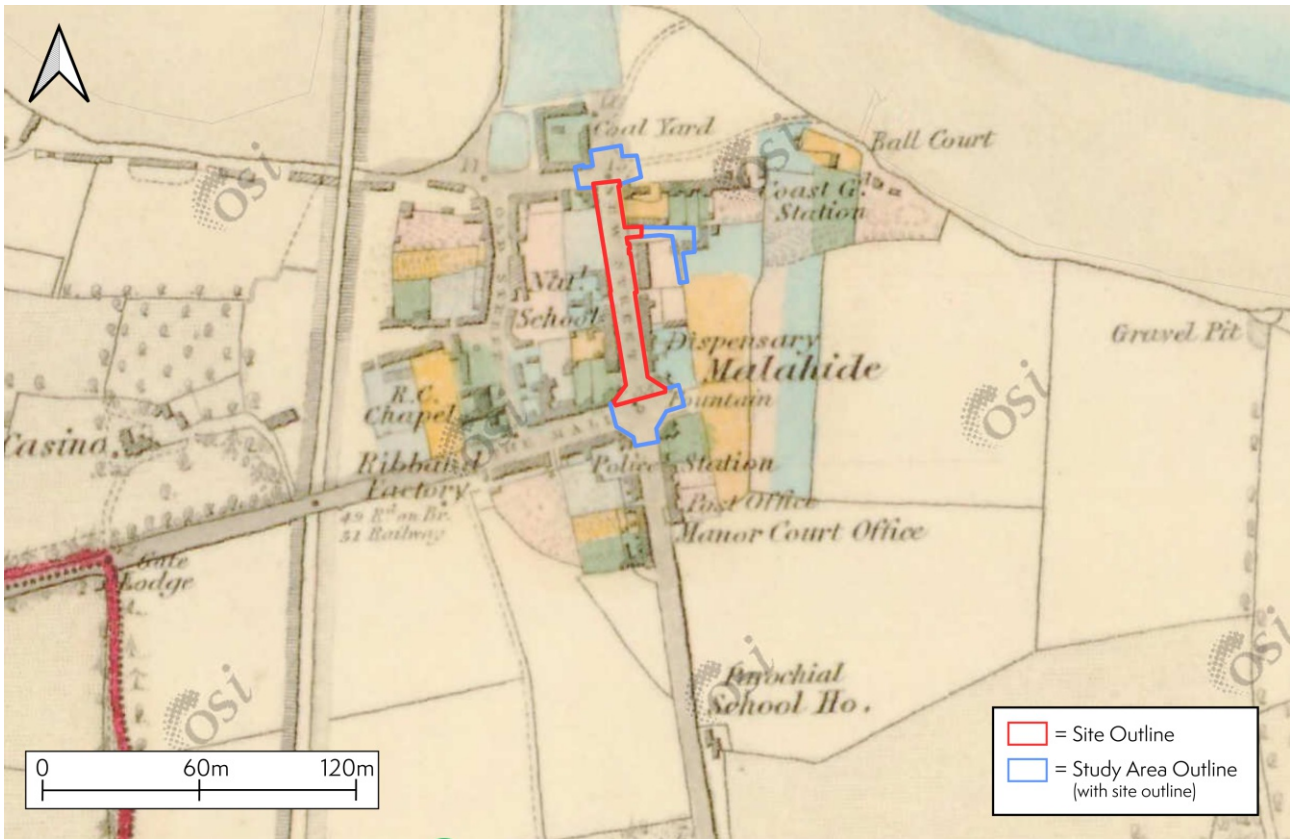
- the average age of individual was 24.9
- the male to female ratio was 52/48%
- the data exhibited 23 unique surnames, with 12 heads of families listed
- 99% of adults were literate
- 12 houses are listed n New Street in 1901

The professions of those inhabiting New Street includes domestic servants, clerks, coal merchants, shop workers, victuallers, painters, post office workers, labourers and teachers. Furthermore, only one person was listed as being ill.

A chart of the Bay of Dublin and Sea Coast, Bernard Scale (1765), from the Bibliotheque National de France

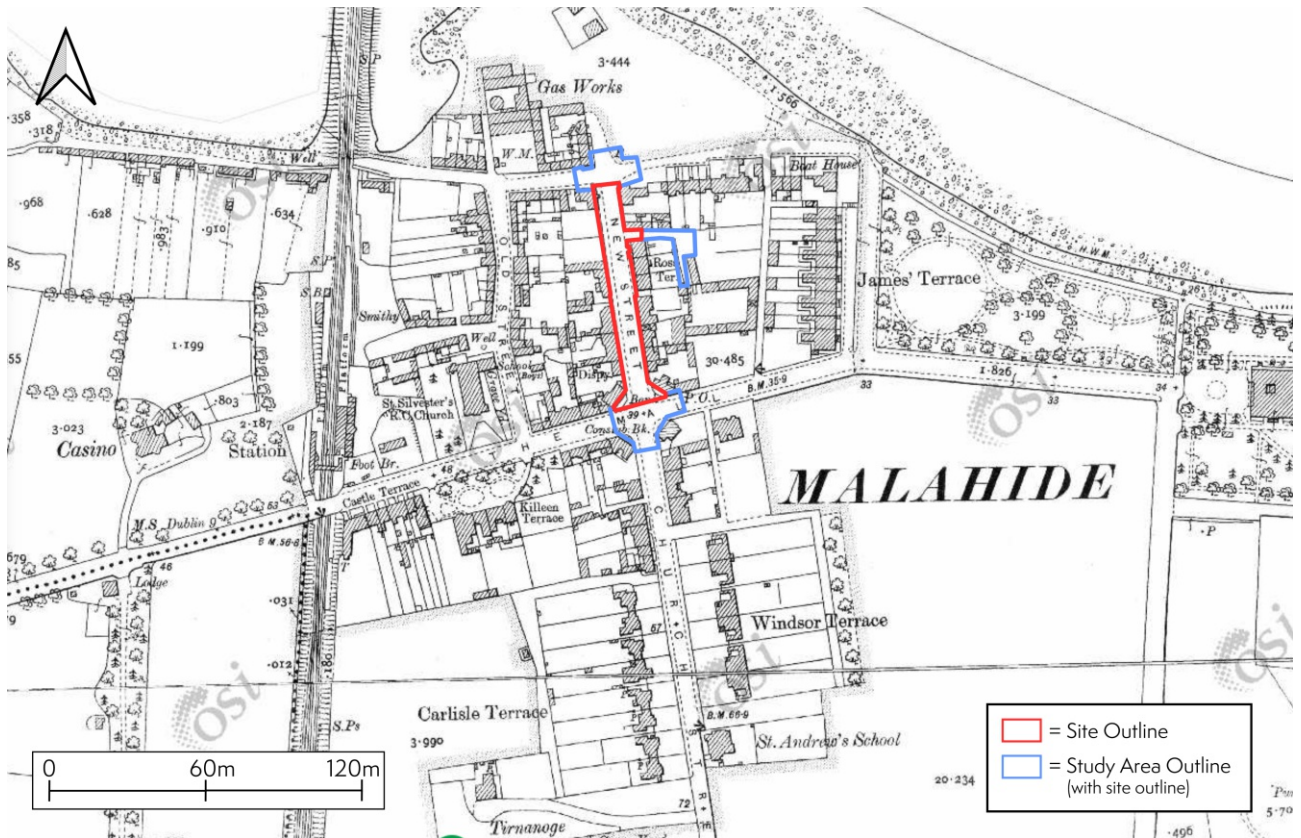






The study area outline over the 6-inch ordnance survey map

The study area outline over the 25-inch ordnance survey map





There were some notable changes in the 1911 census. Notably, the population had increased to 84 since a decade prior.

- the average age raised to 27.6
- the male to female ratio raised to 54/46%
- the data exhibited 26 unique surnames, with 16 heads of families
- 99% of adults were literate
- 18 houses were listed on New Street in 1911

Additional professions mentioned in the 1911 census include fishmongers, hospital workers, general practitioner, telegraph messengers, car drivers, carpenters and a dairy owner.

These figures are notable when compared with the census information from Old Street for the same years. 96 individuals occupied Old Street in 1901 and 100 in 1911.

- the average age of individual was 28.8 in 1901 and 31.56 in 1911, nearly four years above New Street in both censuses

- in 1901 and 1911 the percentage of male inhabitants were 41.6% and 47% respectively
- the number of unique surnames were 34 in 1901 and 1911, with 26 heads of family in 1901 and 28 in 1911
- 85.8% of adults were literate in 1901 and 97% in 1911

The professions represented on Old Street similarly match those on New Street. With a slight tendency toward labourer or clerk jobs on Old Street.

The data suggests that literacy was generally higher in New Street. Additionally, the number of male occupants was lower on Old Street. Interestingly, the average age was higher on Old Street. It is unclear as to whether this is due to the difference in the male/female ratio exhibited in both streets. The surname to head of family ratio is also noteworthy, as Old Street families tended to be smaller than those at New Street.

The site outline overlaid on Rocque's 1760 map, using Dublin Historic Maps resource for georeferencing





Taylor's 1816 map of the environs of Dublin, which is potentially the first map depicting the layout of the Diamond

## Cartography

The landscape of Malahide has changed extensively since the first appearance of human beings there in prehistory. The greatest of these changes, however, took place from the nineteenth century onwards with the development of the small fishing village of Malahide into a seaside resort town. The coast has been altered through the reclamation of land at the northern shore of the town. This occurred originally with the construction of oil and coal works during the industrial period, and the Marina in later years. In addition, the street layout of Malahide town has been changed in the past three centuries, with developments at New Street, Strand Street, The Mall and Church Street.

For the purpose of this assessment Dublin's historic cartography was analysed through [www.dublinhistoricmaps.ie](http://www.dublinhistoricmaps.ie). This resource offers a wide variety of georeferenced historic maps of Dublin and its surrounding environs. The earliest map that affords a detailed view of Malahide was published by John Rocque in 1760. The georeferenced image depicts The Diamond

as being the junction of Church Road, Railway Avenue and Old Street. Rocque offers a glimpse into Malahide prior to the construction of New Street. The location of the site outline over structures that would later be removed for the creation of New Street is notable. Rocque also lists a chapel as being located in the area of New Street. It is ambiguous as to whether this refers to the presently standing church in the west or if this may have been a separate structure altogether. It is possible that D'Alton is describing this chapel when he states that it 'is very old and inadequate for its congregation'. Excavations outlined in this report have demonstrated the existence of a stone structure predating St Sylvester's Church (10E0426 & 11E0326).

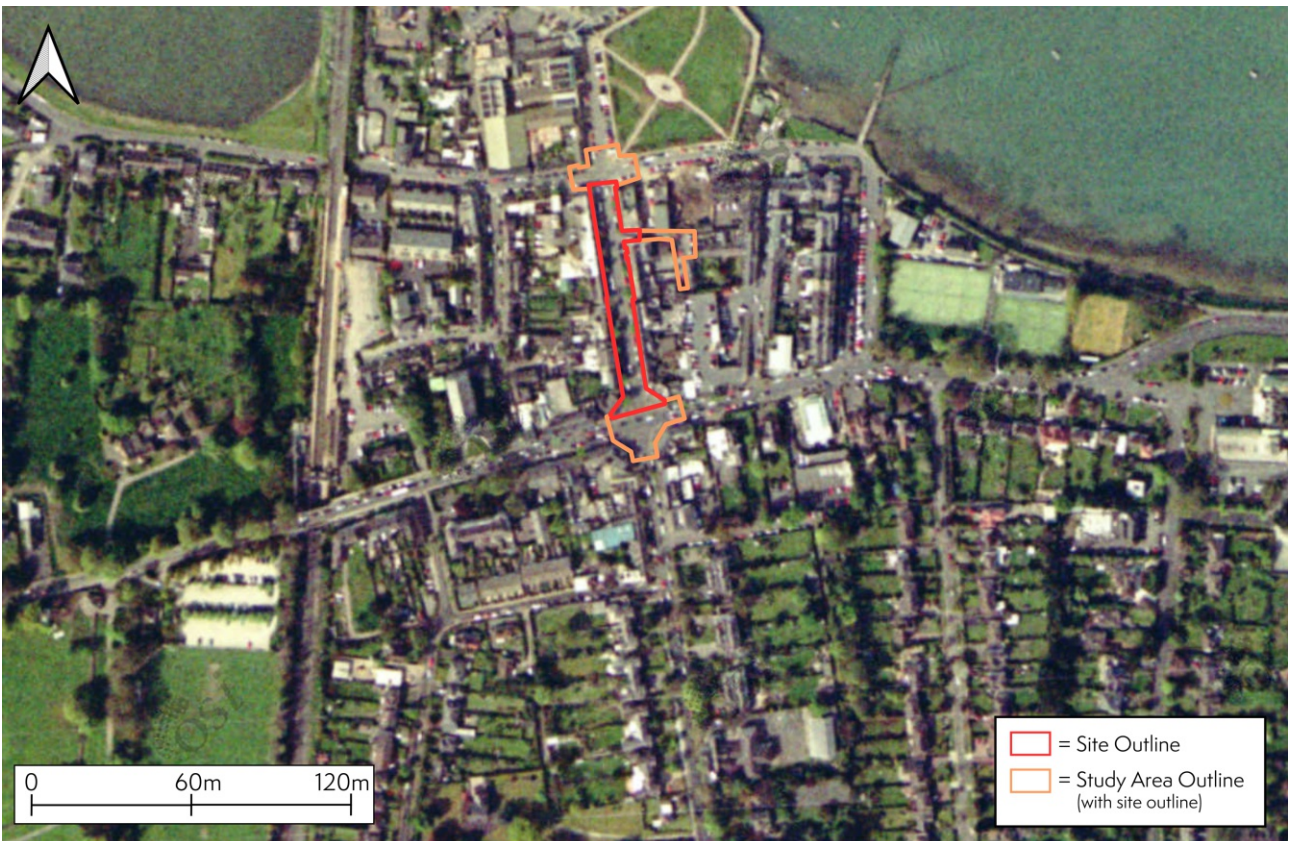
The first edition OS map, published prior to the construction of St Sylvester's Church in 1845, lists the structure as a Roman Catholic chapel. This may refer to the chapel listed in Rocque. Regardless, the identification of possible subsurface structures predating New Street are archaeological receptors that must be heeded in the development proposal.





The study area outline over the ortho 1995 map

The study area outline over the ortho 2000 map







The study area outline over the ortho 1995 map

The study area outline over the most recent aerial imagery





The focal point of Malahide village shifted eastward in the nineteenth century. Prior to this, much of the town's social and commercial activity took place on the junction of Old Street and Railway Avenue; the location of the church, well, and cottages. The street layout can be seen in a chart of the Bay of Dublin and Sea Coast by Bernard Scale, dated to 1765. This map, however, affords less detail of specific structures in the town than Rocque's map. The general layout of the town is similar in Scale's map, with Old Street as a focal point and the town stretching westwards.

The Diamond in the nineteenth century became the home of new grander developments, overshadowing the humble homes of those residing on Old Street. The Talbots of Malahide Castle were influential in the changes that took place to the town's road system during this period (Greene 2012, 75). The primary junction within the town moved to the Diamond's present location. New street was constructed c.1800, which in turn saw the erection of a number of upper-class homes.

By this point the population of the village had expanded to over a thousand residents. Ma-

lahide town had become an established trading port, used for exporting flour and corn meal, and importing coal (McLoughlin 2008, 10). In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Malahide underwent the process of industrialisation. The exportation of cornmeal and flour through milling was paired with the appearance of a small silk and cotton mill. The town is also shown as having a ribband factory in the first edition OS map (1836). The coal yard (later an oil works) is of note as it borders the study area on the northern side. This links the study area directly with the development of industrial works throughout the town.

The construction of the railway line in 1844 connected Malahide with the city of Dublin (Railscot 2007). Easy access to the harbour made Malahide a popular destination as a seaside resort. Tourists flocked to the sea-baths, which resembled Roman Baths on the eastern side of the Grand Hotel (thegrand.ie 2022). The prominence of the town is demonstrated through the 25-inch OS map, which depicts a series of terraces, estates and homes of upper class families.

The 1937 edition Ordnance Survey map, 6-inch



# Section 4 Site Visit

## Introduction

The study area was inspected on 03/06/2022 as part of this assessment. It was the primary objective of the inspection to analyse the grounds of the study area and identify any extant archaeological remains outlined in the previous sections. In addition, the wider area surrounding New Street was examined in order to establish a detailed understanding of Malahide's development from a small fishing village to a prominent tourist destination. For the purpose of this assessment, the study area is separated into three components: the Diamond, New Street and Ross Cottages.

## The Diamond

The distinctive appearance of the Diamond is created by four structures that create its outline. Historic photography depicts these as two-storey, five bay dwellings with gable chimneys and front railings (McLoughlin 2009, 27). The front railings created a garden space which would have extended toward the modern road surface. Only two of these structures survive in the northwest and northeast of the junction. The southeastern and southwestern sides are modern structures that mimic the character of the surviving buildings.

A close-up of the south-eastern home at the Diamond







The northeastern house, now in use as a bank

The northwestern house, now in use as a pharmacy and jeweller





The town is notable for its common use of arched entrance ways, visible in old photographs of these houses. The two southern homes were later demolished and replaced with twentieth century structures, which resemble the original two in the north. Old photography can luckily offer a picture of the southern homes prior to their removal (page 30). In addition, the junction was notable for its fountain, which is present in maps between Rocque and the first edition OS. The date of the fountain's removal is not firmly established but it appears to have been demolished at some point in the latter half of the nineteenth century. The Diamond does not appear to have held any commercial use (i.e. acted as a market square), like the similar developments in Slane Village (Hurley & McLoughlin 2008, 12). Instead, it was employed as the entranceway to the new central hub of Malahide: New Street.

## New Street

A large portion of Malahide Village's historic extant structures are located in the southern half of New Street, near the Diamond. This is mostly due to the location of the original shoreline and mudflats further inland near the northern half of the street. A consideration of all features of archaeological, architectural and historical importance is required to establish any archaeological receptors within the study area.

### *Southern New Street*

Adjacent to the dispensary on the southern side is an alleyway, which is matched on the opposite side of the street. These possibly form, in conjunction with two further north, side streets for coach houses along New Street. These are presently occupied by Michael's Garden Centre and Fish Shack.

New Street, looking northwards





Large residential properties dominate this side of New Street. A number of these have their bottom floors presently in use as shop fronts. Their similarities include continuous slate roofing, rendered walls and arched entrance ways. A number have retained their historic doors, fan lights and door surrounds. A number of historic shop fronts have survived this side of New Street. Of particular note are two bow-shaped store fronts, approximately halfway along the street on the western side.

An outbuilding is located behind 13 New Street, where the stall *Griolladh* is located. The structure is of rubble stone with a gable front. It is similar in style to a separate structure on Townyard Street (McLoughlin 2009, 29). The structure dates to the nineteenth century, with later alterations made to the door and window that front the property (ibid.). An east/west running wall in an adjacent property to the north

demonstrates a certain degree of antiquity. It exhibits a number of alterations in red brick, with a different fabric of stone across its surface. This is possibly one of the original property boundaries depicted on both editions of the ordnance survey maps.

### *Northern New Street*

The northern portion of New Street is primarily occupied by twentieth century structures, with the northwestern side being made up of a 1950's shopping centre. A single home on the northeastern corner at the junction with Strand Street dates to the nineteenth century and would have stood in close proximity to the mud-flats that existed there prior to the reclamation of land at the marina. A plaque near the entrance of the property names 'Malahide Hardware Ltd, Regd Office', a company that was set up there in 1969 (solocheck.ie 2021).

A 19th century structure with historic storefront and bowed window







The northern of two historic storefronts with bowed windows

19th century house on the eastern side of New Street







19th century buildings near the centre of New Street, eastern side

The 19th century outbuilding behind 13 New Street







A wall in a property adjacent to the 19th century outbuilding

A 19th century home at the northeast corner of New Street





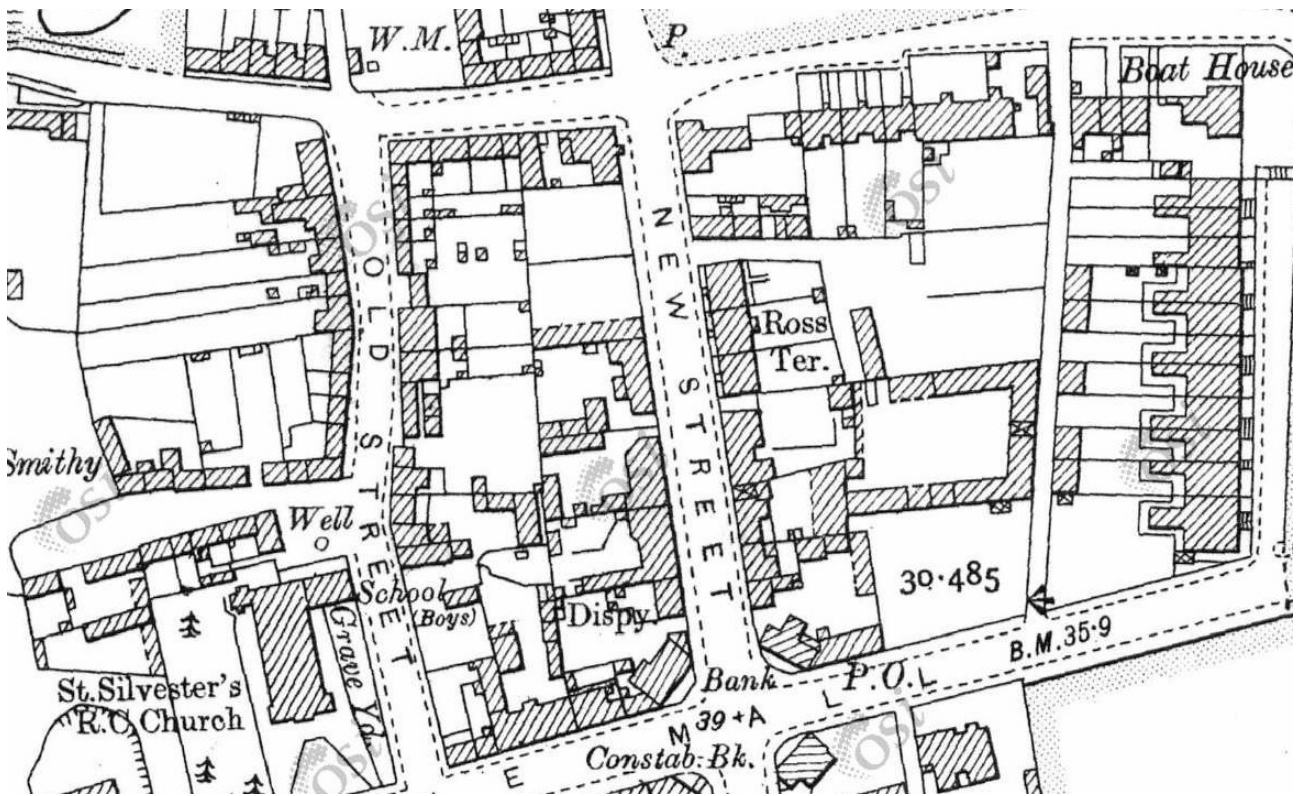


The Old Coach House at Ross Cottages

The stone structures west of the Old Couch House at Ross Cottages







Ross Terrace depicted on the 25-inch OS map, part of a number of 'terraces' constructed during this period

NEW-STREET.						Malahide; lessor should be in fee.	
2	Unoccupied.	—	—	6	0	0	—
3	Michael Gaffney.	—	—	21	0	0	—
6	Sir Thomas Ross.	—	—	24	0	0	20 0 0
7	Michael M'Shea.	—	—	21	0	0	—
1	Nicholas Wogan.	—	—	3	3	0	—
2	Mrs. Bridget Wogan.	—	—	14	0	0	2 10 0
3	Bridget Gaffney.	—	—	27	10	0	—
1	DISPENSARY-PLACE.	—	—	—	—	—	20 0 0

Occupier should be Terence McDonagh.  
Lessor should be Lord Talbot d. Malahide.  
House now vacant; lessor should be Sir Thomas Ross.  
House now vacant.  
Occupier should be Miss Bridget Woogan.

An excerpt from Griffiths Valuation, showing the occupants of Ross Cottages

### Ross Cottages

The area known as 'Ross Cottages' forms a pan-handle running easterwards, perpendicular to New Street. The area was likely named after Sir Thomas Ross, named as an occupant of New Street in Griffith's Valuations. As noted above, at least one structure within the area of the cottages was used as a dispensary prior to the construction of the later one on New Street. A dispensary is depicted on the first edition OS map, in a rectangular E/W running structure which may be extant in the present day. The homes within the grounds likely post-date Griffith's Valuation, as the homes are not included within its contents. Furthermore, the cottages

do not appear on the 6-inch or 25-inch OS maps. Consequently it can be assumed that the structures date sometime after 1913, likely in the first half of the 20th century. A standalone structure named 'The Old Coach House' may have once acted as a coach house for Ross's home on New Street, as it appears on the 1913 OS map. Additionally, an east/west running structure behind the coach house exhibits a number of alterations to its fabric across its surface. These are depicted from the 1913 OS map onwards, further suggesting that the structures in the area date to the twentieth century.



# Section 5 Archaeological Impact Assessment

## Archaeological potential

### *Discussion of archaeological heritage*

There are no recorded archaeological sites and monuments within the study area. The Malahide Historic Core Architectural Conservation Area conducted by Fingal County Council lists a number of features scheduled as protected structures and recorded monuments. These fall within the conservation area outlined in the report and include the following:

- RPS No. 387 Station Master's House
- RPS No. 388 Railway Station
- RPS No. 389 St Sylvester's RC Church
- RPS No. 390 St Sylvester's Well
- RPS No. 398-401 Killeen Terrace
- RPS No. 391-397 Castle Terrace
- RPS No. 408 Carnegie Library
- RPS No. 409-419 1-12 James' Terrace

No topographical files exist within the study area. However, this assessment has demonstrated that a number of archaeological finds uncovered in the surrounding landscape offer a detailed narrative of the history of north County Dublin's coastal areas. The majority of these files comprise prehistoric flint scatters gathered and presented to the museum during the second half of the twentieth century. The

substantial quantity of lithic artefacts uncovered across Fingal's coasts suggests a vibrant prehistoric presence. In addition, archaeological works at Seamount, Feltrim and Paddy's Hill have offered a glimpse into the strong historical continuity of Malahide's landscape.

The cartographic sources outlined in this report have shown that a number of subsurface structural remains are likely to exist below New Street's modern road surface. These relate to the occupation of the town which would have been centred around the junction at Old Street and Railway Avenue, with a focus on the holy well at its centre. Coal cellars are probably not present, based on the absence of any basements along the New Street properties.

### *Discussion of built heritage*

New Street contains a number of structures that are of cultural heritage significance. Spacious nineteenth century homes dominate the streetscape just south of the Diamond. These define much of the fabric of the street as they are presently used as retail outlets, with some still in use domestically. These are generally linked by their continuous slate roofing, rendered walls, arched door frames and fan-lights. Two structures with bowed window frames further add to the historic appearance of

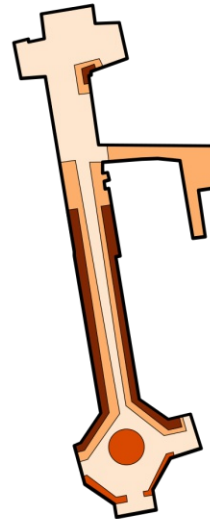
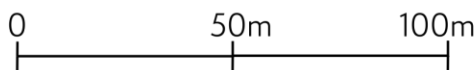
The archaeological receptors within the study area

Ref	Type	Significance	Presence Chance?	Survival Chance?
AR1	Pre-early medieval occupation layers	High	Moderate	Low
AR2	400-1550AD occupation layers	High	Moderate	Low
AR3	1550-1800AD structural foundations	High	High	High
AR4	19th century streetscape	High	High	High
AR5	Subsurface fountain foundation	High	High	High
AR6	Coal cellars	Moderate	Very low	High



### Archaeological Receptors

- AR1, 2, 3
- AR4
- AR5
- AR6



Zone map of the study area showing archaeological receptors

the street. In addition, a substantial red-brick on the western side of the street near the Diamond strikingly stands out when compared to the other built heritage on New Street. This was constructed for uses as a dispensary in 1817 and is tied in with the stylistically similar Carnegie Library, constructed in 1909 (McLoughlin 2008, 12).

Toward the north, a four-bay corner house at the junction of New Street and The Strand has timber sashes and an elliptical headed door opening. The home is simply decorated with eave brackets and corner quoins (FCC 2009, 28). This is the only structure in the south of the study area of significance.

## Archaeological receptors

### *Pre-early medieval occupation layers*

Previous excavations and topographical files within the wider landscape of Malahide have demonstrated that the northern coast of County Dublin has a rich history dating as far back as the Mesolithic. A concentration of pre-

historic activity in the area directly surrounding Malahide suggests the possible existence of occupation layers dating to these periods. Furthermore, the finds of an excavation Seamount portray a continuous stream of occupation in the area throughout prehistory, with evidence for planning around pre-existing monuments.

### *400-1550AD occupation layers*

St Sylvester's Well at the junction of Old Street and Railway Avenue has been used as a water source since at least 430AD (malahideheritage.ie 2020). The excavations at St Sylvester's Church (10E0426 & 11E0326) provided evidence for stone structural remains dating to the medieval period. A number of artefacts ranging from prehistoric to post-medieval were uncovered during these excavations. This may suggest that the existence of layers within the study area relating to these periods of occupation.

### *1550-1800AD structural foundations*

In section 3 of this report Rocque's 1760 map was analysed in order to establish the presence of structures in the area of New Street prior to its construction. The study area was overlaid



onto the map which suggested that a number of structures predating New Street may exist as subsurface structural foundations beneath the modern street. In addition, toward the end of the period the focal point of the town was shifted eastward to the present location of the Diamond. Structures and other features relating to the alteration of the street layout may also be present.

### *19th century streetscape*

The nineteenth century structures still present on New Street give the area a distinctive historic appearance. The built heritage of New Street resides primarily on its southern side, near the junction with the Diamond. These include a number of nineteenth century homes, the two extant structures at the Diamond, the dispensary and an outbuilding.

Street furniture is a common feature at several locations in Malahide town. These include two

post-boxes at the Mall, a gas lamp standard and water hydrant on Old Street, and a gas lamp standard, decorative bootscraper and balcony on James' Terrace.

At several points along New Street the historic kerbing survives in situ. The kerbstones form part of Malahide's historic paving and are also found on Old Street, Church Street and at the Diamond. The Malahide Historic Core Architectural Conservation Area document outlines that if 'works require temporary lifting or removal of paving material, paving units must be properly recorded, carefully removed & stored and reset following best conservation practice'. Historic photography depicts footpaths with limestone kerbs and cobbled drains (p. 39).

Two areas with nineteenth century garden layers may exist across the study area. The four structures at the Diamond are shown as once

The footpaths along Carlisle Terrace, c. 1900 - from Malahide Historic Society Facebook page



owning gated gardens at their entrances. The area of Ross Cottages is also shown to have once been occupied with gardens associated with the nineteenth century homes on New Street. There is a possibility that both these areas retain their garden layers at a subsurface level.

### *Subsurface fountain foundation*

The fountain that once existed at the centre of the Diamond formed part of the fabric of the 19th century streetscape of Malahide. It is present in Rocque's map in addition to the first edition OS map (1837). It was removed at some point in the late 19th century as it does not appear on photography or maps dating past 1900.

### *Coal cellars*

As part of this assessment the possibility for the presence of coal cellars was examined. This is considered unlikely due to the absence of basements in the surviving New Street properties.

A photo of Malahide dating from 1865-1914, depicting the coal yard adjacent to the estuary







- LEGEND AND SCHEDULE OF MATERIALS**
- PLANNING APPLICATION SITE BOUNDARY
  - PROPOSED SELECTED ROAD SURFACE TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 1A
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 1B
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 1C
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 2A
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 2B
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE PAVING - TYPE 3
  - EXISTING GRANITE KERBSTONES RETAINED, PROTECTED AND RELAND
  - PROPOSED SELECTED NATURAL STONE KERB CHANNEL
  - PROPOSED DRY PLAZA FOUNTAIN
  - PROPOSED AREA FOR OUTDOOR DINING (TABLE NUMBERS AND ARRANGEMENT SHOWN INDICATIVE ONLY)
  - PROPOSED PUBLIC SEATING
  - PROPOSED AUTOMATED RETRACTABLE BOLLARD
  - PROPOSED LITTER BIN
  - PROPOSED BIKE STAND
  - PROPOSED ELECTRIC BIKE STAND
  - PROPOSED CARGO BIKE PARKING
  - PROPOSED TRAFFIC LIGHT
  - PROPOSED POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR ARTPLAY FEATURE
  - PROPOSED POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR BIRD PATH
  - PROPOSED EXTENT OF TREE PIT BELOW HARD LANDSCAPE
  - EXISTING LEVEL RETAINED
  - PROPOSED TREE
  - PROPOSED SPECIMEN TREE
  - PROPOSED GROUNDCOVER PLANTING
  - PROPOSED PLANTING IN BIORETENTION AREA
  - PROPOSED HEDGE PLANTING
- SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED TREE PLANTING:**
- TREES ON WEST SIDE OF THE STREET:**
- | TREE REF. | QUANTITY | SPECIES   |
|-----------|----------|---|
| A1        | 9        | Amelanchier canadensis<br>3 x h., w.b., 2m h., 2.5m spread, multistem, min. 5 stems |
| Bp        | 2        | Betula pubescens<br>3 x h., w.b., 3m h., 14-16 cm g., clear stem min. 1.5m          |
- TREES IN BIORETENTION AREAS:**
- | TREE REF. | QUANTITY | SPECIES   |
|-----------|----------|---|
| A1        | 12       | Amelanchier canadensis<br>3 x h., w.b., 2m h., 2.5m spread, multistem, min. 5 stems |
| Bp        | 12       | Betula pubescens<br>3 x h., w.b., 3m h., 14-16 cm g., clear stem min. 1.5m          |
| Cm        | 10       | Cornus monspeliensis<br>3 x h., w.b., 2m h., multistem, min. 5 stems                |
- SPECIMEN TREES AT EACH END OF STREET:**
- | TREE REF. | QUANTITY | SPECIES  |
|-----------|----------|--|
| Ph        | 1        | Platanus orientalis 'Majest'   |
| Ph        | 1        | Picea sylvatica<br>5 x h., w.b., 25-30cm g., 5.6m h., clear stem min. 2.5m |
| Ph        | 1        | Picea sylvatica<br>5 x h., w.b., 30-35cm g., 5.6m h., clear stem min. 2.5m |
- HEDGE PLANTING, TYPICALLY:**  
Ilex aquifolium, 900-1200mm h.
- GROUNDCOVER AND HERBACEOUS MIX, TYPICALLY:**  
 Elymus repens 2 fr. sq.  
 Dianthus barbatus 2 fr. sq.  
 Geranium spp. 2 fr. sq.  
 Lavandula angustifolia 2 fr. sq.  
 Echinacea purpurea 2 fr. sq.  
 Anemone hepatica 2 fr. sq.  
 Allium melburnii 2 fr. sq.  
 Trachymenon bonariense 2 fr. sq.
- PLANTING IN BIORETENTION AREAS, TYPICALLY:**  
 Viburnum opulus sp. 1.2m h., multistem, min 3 stems  
 Lonicera sylvatica 2 fr. sq.  
 Lavandula angustifolia 2 fr. sq.  
 Allium spp. 2 fr. sq.  
 Dianthus barbatus 2 fr. sq.  
 Malva sylvestris 2 fr. sq.
- BULB PLANTING, TYPICALLY:**  
 Hyacinthoides spp. 2 fr. sq.  
 Allium spp. 2 fr. sq.
- NOTES:**
1. The drawings are the copyright of the Landscape Architects. Clients should obtain copies of all drawings and specifications. Where drawings are not clear, enquiries should be made to the Landscape Architects. The drawings are intended for use by the client and are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the Landscape Architects. The drawings are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the Landscape Architects.
  2. The drawings are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the Landscape Architects.
  3. The drawings are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the Landscape Architects.
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  5. The drawings are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the Landscape Architects.

<p><b>CLIENT:</b> FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL</p> <p><b>PROJECT:</b> NEW STREET PUBLIC REALM</p> <p><b>DRAWING:</b> PUBLIC REALM PLAN</p> <p>PROJECT NO. SCALE SHEET SIZE DRAWN BY CHECKED BY DATE</p>	<p><b>ISSUE STATUS:</b></p> <p>PLANNING</p> <p>DRAWING NO. Fc.03-DR-2001</p> <p>REVISION</p>	<p><b>DFLA</b></p> <p>DATE</p> <p>REVISION</p>
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Plan courtesy of DFLA, Fc. 03-DR-2001

## Impact assessment

The New Street Public Realm Landscape Plan by DFLA has been examined. The proposed engineering drawings by Punch Consulting Engineers and Axiseng Consulting Engineers have also been incorporated into the impact assessment.

Repaving of the street and realignment of historic kerbs is likely to require some level of excavation to create a sub-base of hardcore and concrete, which will have a moderate impact. Similarly, while planting areas for grass and flowers, foundations for dining tables, public seating, bins, cycle stands, and similar infrastructure are designed to require a depth of 250mm to 300mm, in practise a sub-base will probably require a deeper excavation.

The design intent for the new lighting scheme is based on placing lights on existing buildings, rather than the erection of new lighting poles, which significantly reduces the archaeological impact of the proposals, though ducting will still be required and this is likely to have a moderate impact. These proposed public lighting shall be controlled via PECUs through a 7-pin NEMA socket as per Fingal County Council Public Lighting Specifications. The locations of these are outlined in the plan presented on the following page.

Two levels of subsurface impact are set out below.

### *Moderate impact*

Moderate impacts involve excavation works of c. 400-600mm below the existing ground level. This will go through the modern street surface and modern sub base, and in some cases may impact on underlying archaeological deposits if these are present.

Moderate impact areas include repaving and realignment of existing paving, planting areas for grass, flowers, hedges and shrubs, and foundations for dining tables, public seating, bins, cycle stands, and similar infrastructure. The proposed new water feature and water services upgrade, which comprises a central drain running underground down the centre of

New Street, is also categorised as a moderate impact, though the depth subsurface work required has not been defined at this stage. Rerouted ESB, telecom and gas services will also require trenches of between 450mm and 600mm depth, but the locations of these is currently undefined. Any ducting for street lighting will also have a moderate impact.

### *Deep impact*

Deep impacts involve excavation works of 1m to 1.5m below the existing ground level. This covers planting areas for trees and the foundations of six proposed telescopic vehicle bollards.

## Mitigation measures

Areas that have a moderate or deep sub-surface impact, which effectively covers the entirety of the New Street proposal groundworks, should be archaeologically monitored under license from the NMS. In the event that archaeological material is identified, the archaeologist should halt the groundworks in that zone, assess the archaeological deposits, and revert to the NMS and Fingal County Council regarding the next step.





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malahide-malahide

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