



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST EXCAVATION AT EVAN'S HOME, BARRACK
LANE, KILKENNY**

FOR MC CULLOUGH MULVIN AND KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

**MINISTERIAL CONSENT C414; registration number E4109; metal
detection R217.**

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Introduction

Archaeological test excavation at the site of the Evan's Home, Barrack Lane, St John's Parish, Kilkenny City, was undertaken from 21st July 2010 to 26th July 2010. The work was carried out under the following Consents from National Monuments, Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government: C414; registration number E4109; metal detection R217.

The test excavation and attendant boreholes/ engineer's trial pits were requested to provide information in advance of a submission to construct a new building on the northern perimeter of the Evan's Home lands, and to renovate the existing building for use as a public art gallery. The location of the new building was chosen to minimise impact on the underlying archaeological deposits.

Two boreholes and eight trial pits were also excavated and recorded. The results are detailed in the report.

Previous archaeological work on the site

Test excavation to the east of the Evan's Home was carried out by Stevens in 1999 (published on line at KKAP.ie, 2005, 2006). Summary accounts of monitoring of broadband trenches in 2001 and 2004 are taken from excavations.ie. The results of these works are integrated into the report below, where relevant.

Archaeological and historical background

St John's Priory

The historic dating and references for the succession of buildings on this site are taken from Bradley (2000). Other sources, including previous test excavation in the immediate vicinity, have given differing dates for the construction and usage of the standing buildings.

The site of the 19th century Evans Home is located on the medieval Augustinian foundation of St Johns (RMP KK 019 026068) dated to c. 1211. It is located on the north west edge of the medieval town of Kilkenny, enclosed by stone walls of uncertain antiquity, and with a mill race on the western side. The location of the medieval or post- medieval town defences in this quarter of the historic city is uncertain (see below).

Bradley (2000, 13) summarises the history of the abbey as follows: 'Augustinian Priory founded by William Marshal the elder to replace former St John the Evangelist's Hospital in 1211. Lady Chapel built in 1290; new building works begun in 1325. Bell tower collapsed in 1329; priory: church, belfry, cemetery, 6 chambers, dormitory, 3 gardens, granary, hall, kitchen, 2 orchards, (Prior's orchard) store, dissolved in 1540; priory and portion of property granted to mayor and citizens in c. 1541. Nave and chancel in ruins 1615. Bake house, cart gate, 'castle', chapter house, cloister, garden, great kitchen, orchard, out stall, prior's chambers 1628. Granted to Jesuits in 1645. St John's church c. 1655. Unroofed c. 1698 (drawing by Francis Place). Part assigned as site of barracks 1698. Nave and domestic buildings demolished, replaced by infantry barracks in c. 1700. St John's Abbey is shown on Pratt's map of 1708, and Rocque's map of 1756. Two chancels, and church are noted in 1815. The ruins of the Lady Chapel were incorporated into the church in 1817. St John's Abbey is annotated on the Ordnance Survey map of 1841 'in ruins'.

The plan of the abbey (see fig 3)

While the south transept- the Lady Chapel, and the chancel of the Priory church survive, the remainder of the priory complex lies below ground. It is likely that this complex is one of the few where the cloister lies to the north of the church, as there are remains of a claustral building on the western boundary wall of the Evans Home. The graveyard of the parish church of St John's lies to the south of the chancel/ Lady Chapel.

The standard plan of monasteries in the late 12th- early 13th century was to have the cloister on the south side of the church, with the ranges on the remaining three sides. The east range generally housed the chapter house, the most significant building bar the church. Few cases as at Errew, Co. Mayo and Innisfallen, Co. Kerry, have the cloister to the north of the church. At Kells, Co. Kilkenny, the west range originally projected beyond the north side of the nave of the church- this may have been the case at St Johns. This is also known at Jerpoint, Co. Kilkenny, and Molana, Co. Waterford.

The Lady Chapel in Kells Priory was built onto the northern side of the church, as was common in English foundations (Kells was founded by priors from Bodmin). However, at St John's, it is located on the south side of the chancel.

Overlying and reversing the plan of Kells Priory, Co. Kilkenny, onto the chancel and Lady Chapel of St Johns has indicated that the site boundary wall to the west is probably part of the west range, and that the 1700 infantry barracks, and later Evan's Home, are probably built on the east range. Similarly, the wall uncovered by Stevens (2005, 2006) lies neatly on that of the transept of St John's.

Overlying the plan of Kells Priory onto St John's, and placing the cloister on the south side, shows no correlation between the line of John St, Barrack Lane, or the mill race with the priory.

What is the line of the town wall?

The town defences of Kilkenny are classified as a National Monument (RMP KK 019 026020), the protection of which are detailed in the National Policy on Town Defences (2008, Archaeology.ie). However the line of the town defences along the northern suburb of St John's has not been uncovered through excavation. The line of the wall on the south side of the suburb has been uncovered in several test excavations, and at 68-69 John St, it stood below present ground level to a height of 3m, with a significant basal batter (96E131, excavations.ie).

There is a difference of opinion between several authors, including Thomas 1992 and Bradley 2000, as to where the town wall or town defences lie in relation to St John's Priory. Although burgesses were noted here in the early 13th century, it has been suggested by one authority that the suburb of St John's may not have been enclosed until perhaps the 16th century. However, Thomas (1992, 130) suggests that 'St John's may be viewed as a walled suburb of Kilkenny, possibly always enclosed by a ditch and bank and initially defended by the priory, with its defences upgraded in the early 16th century at the latest'. She has placed the town wall along the north end of Barrack Lane, whereas if the priory were to defend the suburb, the wall should enclose the back of the priory, along Back Lane, and not extend across the entrance to the priory. In 1307, an inquisition giving the burgage rent of St John's at £4 13s 11dm suggests there were 94 burgesses and a population of between 400 and 650 (Bradley 2000, 4). St John's Outer Gate, first mentioned in 1351, was sited on the corner of the Abbey site with John Street.

Bradley (2000, 4) states that 'the small fragment of the claustral buildings north-west of the church indicates that the town wall was located further to the north than has generally been supposed'. However, the Historic Atlas of Kilkenny has depicted the wall on a line with the northern field boundary on Rocque's map of c. 1758, while the more recent *Conservation Plan of Kilkenny Town Walls* (Oxford Archaeology 2005) has placed the town wall on the rear of the John St plots on Rocque. This latter line has reverted to that on the historic Ordnance Survey maps.

Previous test trenching on the site (Stevens 2000, 2006) uncovered a medieval wall, most likely relating to the chancel, as it lies parallel with it, at a depth less than 1.50m below present ground level. No evidence for a town wall on the site was uncovered, and he therefore, following Bradley, reasonably suggested that it may lie further north- indeed be the present northern boundary of the Evans Home site.

The most recent publication on the town by the Kilkenny Archaeological Project (2008) depicts the line of the town wall enclosing the northern side of the precinct of St Johns, but also returning along the western boundary, along the mill race, and continuing on the rear of the plots south of the Carnegie Library. While there is strong evidence that the town wall lies along Back Lane, there is little evidence to suggest that it would extend along the inside of the mill race, and the most recent testing indicates that the west wall of the present precinct is of much more recent date (see below). Also, no wall is indicated on Rocque extending along this line.

The present programme of test excavation did not uncover any evidence for the presence of the town wall/ defences on the site, and it appears very unlikely that the construction of the infantry barracks in 1700 should have cut across such a long standing boundary. It also seems unlikely that the priory should have chosen to cut off access from its' millrace, and it seems most logical that the line of the town wall extended from Back Lane directly to the river, as appears indicated from the Down Survey of 1655 (fig. 4).

The later history of the site

In 1540, the Priory along with the other monasteries was suppressed by Henry VIII. The Priory itself and some of its property was transferred to the Corporation of Kilkenny. During the Confederation period, the site was granted to the Jesuits and part of it was also occupied by the Capuchins. The College, for 18 Jesuits,

had an oratory, library, refectory, dormitory, large and small parlour, kitchen, orchard, and arboretum, and was opened in 1645. (It appears largely to have utilized the existing priory buildings). It was closed, and converted to a military hospital in 1650 (Bradley 2000, 22).

The hospital was for wounded soldiers and maternity use, and was burnt in 1650. It was closed by 1654.

The first infantry barracks in the town were constructed here c. 1700. It is referred to as the old infantry barracks by 1768. It is recorded that the stone of the barracks was taken from the priory. It is suggested (fig. 3) that the line of the barracks overlay the existing east range of the priory.

Around 1780, the nave of the main Chapel, its two towers and attendant buildings were demolished. Robertson (1851, 434) quotes an anonymous tour through Ireland, 'the tower of St John's abbey, is described as then standing, and is noticed for its lightness and beauty' 'these ruins, says the tourist, stand upon a large extent of ground, bordering on the river'. In 1817 the medieval Lady Chapel was part demolished, rebuilt, re-roofed and consecrated as the Church of Ireland Church of St. John's.

Evan's Asylum was built on the site of the former barracks in 1818. This was a non- denominational home, founded by Joseph Evans for 12 male and 12 female 'decayed servants'. By 1861, the building housed an infant's school.

The test trenching

Trenches were excavated as indicated on Figs.1 and 2 with a mechanical excavator fitted with a grading bucket. Limited hand excavation of archaeological layers was carried out, to attempt to identify the nature, extent and date of any features or deposits uncovered. The soils, which were carefully graded down to archaeological levels, were scanned with a metal detector (Minelab Quattro 1050), however no finds were recovered through this mechanism.

Monitoring of boreholes and machine- supervised excavation of slit trenches around the foundations of the existing buildings and walls, the latter instigated by the the engineering team, was undertaken. The records of these are presented below, and have also been forwarded to the engineers, O' Connor Sutton Cronin.

Constraints

The test excavation was limited by the presence of glasshouses along the northern boundary of the site. However, a single hand excavated trench (TP 1) uncovered the base of the existing boundary wall at a depth of 1100mm below present ground level (see below, trial pits).

Excavation of test trench 2 had to be stopped at the northern end (2A) at a depth of 1300mm below present ground level, as the block walls of the cold frames were at risk of collapse. It was not possible to enter trench 2 at all, as the depth at which archaeological strata were encountered exceeded safety limits. Generally, the ground excavated was extremely soft, with loose sides to the trenches, and limited space to stockpile soil. This prohibited section drawing- the sides are recorded photographically, and any examination in situ of deposits in trench 2.

An attempt to locate the western wall of the Infantry Barracks in trial pit 6 was abandoned as a manhole and live sewer was present along this line.

A neighbouring training scheme used part of the garden for planting, so trench 1 was split into two parts, a and b, to avoid disturbance of the large circular planted area. A further break in trench 1 was necessitated to allow the bore rig access to the second location.

Trench 1 A (Figs 1, 2, plates 1, 2)

This measured 1m in width at the northern end, widening to 2m at the southern end, and was 8m in overall length. The upper level of concrete paving slabs were removed. A layer of modern cement mortar overlay soft black topsoil of recent date.

A deposit of lime mortar with small stones F2 extended over the trench, but was thinner at the northern end. Lumps of lime render were present. The mortar contained angular stone chips, rare fragments of red brick, and several pieces of diarticulated human bone, including ribs, a tooth, and parts of humerus, radius and ulna. The mortar deposit filled a hollow at the central part of trench 1A, and overlay a wall footing F1, which

was exposed at a depth of 750mm below present ground level. This wall footing extended east west across the trench, and was composed of smallish stones, with a white lime mortar capping and large lumps of thick lime render. There does not appear to be more than one course remaining to the wall, which was 750mm in width. The yellow/ brown gravel F6 on the northern side of the wall footing contained several pieces of human bone. This orange gravel overlay a lime mortar layer which is probably continuous with F2. Excavation was halted at this level.

An extensive cobbled layer F3 was exposed at the southern end of trench 1A. This was uncovered at 1000mm below present ground level. The surface was composed of closely set almost polished limestones, of very well fitted stones, which formed a level surface. The cobbles were overlain in trench 1A by a thin deposit of greenish soil with occasional lime mortar flecks F4, which was brick free, but had a fragment of medieval floor tile 2:1 (see finds catalogue below). This suggested initially that the cobbled surface may be medieval in origin.

The cobbled surface and green soil layer F4 were cut away to the north by a possible robber cut F5, which was continuous with F2 mortar. The cobbled surface did not extend as far north as wall footing F2.

Trenches 1B, 1c (figs 1, 2, plates 3, 4, 5, 6)

This was excavated in two episodes, to allow the boring rig to be moved to another location. The trenches measured overall 16.5m in length, and 2m in width. The profile uncovered throughout this trench was continuous for the length of the trench.

Cobbled surface F3 was uncovered at a depth of 1100mm below present ground level. The surface of the cobbles was extremely well finished, and polished. A sherd of yellow glazed earthenware, of probable late 17th century or early 18th century, was recovered from the surface of the cobbles.

The cobbles were overlain by a thick (300- 400mm) deposit of lime mortar, small spalls, and occasional red brick, which is equivalent to F2 in Trench 1A. This in turn was sealed by discreet dumps of yellow brown gravel, similar to F6 in trench 1A.

A deposit of garden soil F8 overlay the mortar and demolition material. The lower horizon of garden soil contained several sherds of black glazed ware, generally dated to the 18th century. A localised area of loosely set stones at the north end of this trench, which were only 600mm below present ground level, probably relate to a garden path of the Evan's Home.

The extension of trench 1 to the south uncovered a continuation of the horizons in trench 1B. However, a large flat limestone (F7) which was embedded in the cobbled surface, was uncovered towards the southern part of this trench (see fig.1, plates 4, 6). It is probable that this stone represents the remains of a wall. A sherd of tin glazed earthenware, late 17th- early 18th century, was recovered from F6, the yellow/ brown soil over the mortar layer.

The profile of this section of the trench is as follows:

PGI to 400mm	soft black topsoil
400mm to 700mm	paler grittier topsoil
700mm to 900mm	yellow/ brown gravel and soil, tipping to south, dips over possible wall
900mm to 1100mm	mortar and demolition matter, but no red brick present.
Cobbled surface and wall	excavation halted.

Trench 2 (Figs. 1, 2, plates 7, 8, 9, 10).

The northern part of trench 2 was less than 1m in width, and 3.50m in length. It was excavated to a depth of 1.60m, when excavation was halted. Loose rubble, mortar, red brick and roof slates were present. This material was of relatively recent date.

The trench further south avoided borehole 1, and was widened to 1.70m, with a length of 10m. It was excavated to a maximum depth of c. 1.50m below present ground level. The comparison with soils uncovered in the borehole was informative. The lowest level uncovered was a spread of oxidised (red) clay soil with stone F9, which was present towards the southern end of the trench. It was not possible to state whether the deposit represents the upper, demolished level of in situ masonry, which is loose and voided,

or dumped material. A fragment of line impressed floor tile and a piece of worked oolitic limestone (Dundry stone) were recovered from F9. This suggests strongly that the deposit is of priory origin.

To the north of the burnt deposits F9, a band of darker silt F10 in the underlying soils may be a ditch-like cut, with darker fill. The possible cut measured approx. 2.50m in width, but no further detail of this feature could be obtained.

The overlying soils were as follows: soft mid brown garden type soils with charcoal tip lines, which contained a sherd of North Devon Slip Ware, and other sherds of late 17th – early 18th century wares. This was overlain by a deposit of thick yellow/ brown clay and gravel, which was in turn overlain by a mortar deposit.

Borehole 1.

Located in western part of garden.

PGI- 300mm	black loam topsoil.
300- 700mm	mortar flecked loam with many stones.
700- 800mm	lime mortar and small stones, including roofslates- demolition layer?
800- 1100mm	orange / brown clay and gravel. Two sherds of glazed earthenware tiles, late 17th- 18th century, also lumps of black charcoal enriched silt.
1400mm	pale brown gritty silt, mortar and charcoal flecked.
2300mm	yellow/ brown clay silt.
3100mm	grey gravel subsoil.

Borehole 2

Located to west of 1700s Infantry Barracks wall.

Red brick rubble to 1.60m below pgl.

1.60m void- service pipe?

Depth to subsoil less than 2.5m.

No archaeological significance recorded.

Test pit 1 (fig. 1, plate 11).

Inside the glasshouse against the northern boundary of the Evans Home, excavated by hand through the raised bed of the greenhouse.

The limestone wall is of fairly loosely jointed masonry, badly faced and poorly coursed. Deposits against this contained modern debris to 700mm, in garden soil. Below this a deposit of loose lime mortar flecked loam with red brick and transfer patterned plate sherds. At a depth of approximately 900mm below pgl, there was a projecting plinth to the wall. There was an accretion of lime mortar on the wall at this point (visible in plate 1). The base of this wall was reached at 1100mm below pgl.

Present ground level is 46.22 MOD. The ground level at Back Lane is approx. 45.50. The test pit could not establish whether there is an earlier wall beneath the existing wall at Back Lane. However, this is likely as a wall is shown here on Rocque's 1758 map, which continued as far west as the mill race (see fig. 5). The external face of this wall has not been examined in any detail by this writer, however the eastern part was clearly the gable wall of the 1700 barracks. There is potential for an earlier wall beneath the present standing boundary wall, which may well be the town defences.

Test pit 2 (Fig. 1, plate 12).

This was moved from the western end of the glasshouses, as due to the drop in ground levels, there was little chance of reaching the base of the wall. The relocated trench exposed the internal wall of the cellar of the 1700s Infantry Barracks. This projected slightly from the rising boundary wall, and was thickly rendered with a lime mortar, which had a superficial yellow/ brown stain- distemper?

The cellar had been infilled with very loose rubble, stone spalls, and lime mortar fragments, with red brick, a material similar to the mortar level which extended over the site (F2). The cellar wall was uncovered to a depth of 2.00m, when excavation was halted, without reaching either the base of the wall or the cellar floor. It should be noted that the kink in the north wall of the Evan's home boundary is the north- west corner of the 1700s Infantry Barracks.

Test pit 3 (fig. 1, 2, plate 13).

This was excavated in the car park of the Carnegie Library, against the western face of the boundary wall of the Evan's Home. Beneath tarmac, there is a layer of concrete rubble and hardcore, with large slabs of voided concrete lying up against the outer face of the wall. This seals loose rooted soil which contains a plastic (Perri's) crisp bag, Bovril jar, and other modern debris to a depth of 1800mm. The standing wall was sitting on an earlier wall, which extended to a depth of over 2m below present ground level. The face of the upper wall, where concealed beneath carpark deposits, is open, and appears unbonded, or perhaps the mortar has leached out. The masonry of the lower wall appeared to be of better quality than the upper wall. Water ingress occurred at 2.05m, at which level modern rubbish was still present. Below the water level, the lower fill of the millrace is grey laminated silts, which did not contain finds. The base of the mill race is pebbled grey marl.

The Kilkenny Archaeological Survey (2008, 217, fig. 87) have indicated this wall line as the town wall. In my opinion, the line of the town wall is much more likely to have continued straight down to the river. There is no wall here indicated on Rocque's 1758 map, but there is a mill race here, annotated 'the Lake' leading to an innamed mill on the meeting with the Nore. While several mill sites in Kilkenny are shown and annotated on the 1655 Down Survey map, none is shown on this site. Bradley (2000, 16) attributes this mill race to the Maudlin mills, mentioned first in 1223AD. The Maudlin Mill, mentioned in 1435, was granted to St John's Priory in 1434. It is listed in the 1541 Extents. It continued in use throughout the centuries in various forms, when it was closed by 1874. There is no evidence for any medieval date in the test pit, and the earlier mill race may lie to either east or west of this line.

Test pit 4 (Fig. 1, plate 14).

Located on the east side of the Evan's Home, this trench exposed a slight projecting plinth to the wall one course below present ground level. At a depth of 1m below the paving slab at the doorway, the wall appears to be sitting on an earlier wall, which appears to be very well faced. This is possibly the spine wall of the 1700s barracks. The soil which was banked up against the wall is redeposited yellow/ brown boulder clay. The base of the wall was not reached when excavation halted at a depth of 1600mm.

Test pit 5 (Fig. 1, plate 15).

This trench was sited to locate the east wall of the 1700s Infantry Barracks. The wall here was badly damaged, and appeared to slope inwards. The cellar fill here was extremely loose, excavated to a depth of c. 2.85m below pgl, and the sides of the trench collapsed. It appeared initially that there may have been a window ope, or perhaps even a door- but no details of the wall construction could be taken.

Test pit 6 (Fig. 1, plate 16).

Located at the corner of the Evan's Home, where it should sit on the earlier Barracks wall. The base of the north wall of the Evan's Home was located at 1.80m below pgl. Two plinths or footings were noted, again here the inner face of the Barracks should lie beneath the later building. The fill against the wall was loose mortar and rubble. The machine bucket struck a live sewer manhole, and it was not possible to fix the location of the Barracks wall.

Test pit 7 (Fig. 1, plate 17).

At the south- west corner of the Evan's Home. The wall here stood on a plinth, and the footing extended to a depth of 2.00m. Redeposited subsoil was banked up against the masonry here.

Test pit 8 (Figs 1, 2, plate 18).

This was located against the west wall of the Evan's Home. At a depth of less than 1m below present ground level, a cobbled surface was encountered. This resembles in all matters cobbled surface F3, and was clearly cut by the foundation trench for the Evan's Home. Excavation was halted at this level. The Evan's Home wall is sited on the earlier Barracks wall in this location.

Results: discussion

The 1700 Infantry Barracks

Trial pits 2,4,5,6,7 uncovered the wall foundations of the Evan's Home, and in at least 2 trial pits, the walls of the former Infantry Barracks were exposed. The lines fall exactly where indicated from Rocque's 1756 map (fig. 2), and the lines concur with those uncovered in 1999 trenching on the site by Stevens (trenches indicated on fig. 2).

Unmapped wall footings and cobbled surface

The wall footings F1 and F7 uncovered in trenches 1A and 1C do not align with any known walls. Both are probably associated with the extensive cobbled surface F3, uncovered in trenches 1A, B and C, and also in trial pit 8. The dating of the cobbled surface is not however conclusive. The evidence from trench 1A suggests that it is medieval, as the surface was overlain by a greenish soil with a fragment of medieval floor tile. Similar greenish soil overlay the surface in trial pit 8, however no finds were recovered from it. The foundation cut for the Evan's Home clearly cut through the cobbled surface, but (see fig 2) it is not clear whether this is also the foundation trench for the 1700 Barracks wall.

The cobbled surface in trench 1B was directly overlain by mortar and redbrick, a demolition horizon which it is suggested originated from the levelling of the Infantry Barracks, prior to construction of the Evan's Home. Fragments of wall render, indicative of an internal structural wall, were recovered from the area around wall F2 in trench 1A, suggesting that this was the wall of a building. It does not however feature on any map.

It is possible that the cobbled surface is the parade ground of the Infantry Barracks. The small quantity of domestic debris from the 1700s occupation and the Victorian asylum and later school is curious; in light of the almost continuous occupation of the site from dissolution onwards, the dating evidence is scant.

The plan of the priory (fig. 3).

The rubble and burnt clay deposit F9 is of medieval origin. Records show that the hospital, which occupied the site post-dissolution, was burnt in 1650. An overlay of the late 15th century plan of Kells Priory, Co Kilkenny, also an Augustinian foundation probably dating to 1193 (Empey 2007, 3), indicates the probable scale and extent of the cloister on the northern side of the church. Indeed the overlay of the chancel, and placing the Lady Chapel to the south, is a remarkably good fit, and establishes that the medieval wall uncovered by Stevens (1999) is part of the transept. (William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, founded St John's, and his distinguished knight, Geoffry Fitzrobert, founded Kells Priory). It is interesting how the projected line of the medieval cloister was maintained by the 1700s Infantry Barracks, and again how the east wall of the Evan's Home may have reused a spine wall of the earlier barracks. The close alignment of barracks and east range indicates strongly that the east range was still standing by 1700.

The Mill Race and the line of the town wall

There is no evidence of medieval deposits from trial pit 3, and the standing wall post-dates 1758. This section of the mill race is shown walled on the 1838 and later Ordnance Survey maps. Likewise, without excavation in Back Lane, it cannot be stated whether the northern boundary wall is on the line of the town wall. However, it appears most likely as the location would enclose the priory, and thus protect the town. The most likely direction for the town wall is to continue directly west to the river. This was the enclosure of the Evan's Home (see fig. 3).

Other features

There is no apparent function for the 'ditch' feature in trench 2, except that it is of probable 17th or 18th century date. It may indeed merely be layers of dumped soil tipping to either north or south, that can give the impression of a cut. It was not possible due to safety constraints, to enter this trench.

Disarticulated human bone is present beneath the garden soil deposits of recent date. Fragments of recognisable human bone were also noted in the flower bed on the southern side of the garden.

Impact of the new building

The footprint of the proposed new build, located on the north side of the Evan's Home, is indicated on figs 1 and 2. It lies beyond the predicted extent of claustral buildings, as indicated on fig. 3. The absence of a basement to the new building allows for the preservation in situ of any features of significance.

A preliminary piling layout has a series of 450mm diameter piles placed around the perimeter of the building. A greater concentration is given through the cellar of the 1700s barracks, where the new build links into the existing Evans Home, and inevitably, at the lift shaft. The pile lines avoid the walls of the Barracks, and extend through rubble cellar fill. The underside of the pile caps have been placed at existing ground level-46.40 M OD. This represents minimal impact on the area of the new building. The piles are set in from the existing northern site wall. There will be no physical impact on this wall.

A large holding tank for water is required on site, it is proposed to locate this on the south side of the new building, adjacent to the western perimeter wall. This will result in the excavation of deposits to the base of the tank.

A ramped entrance is proposed through the western wall of the Evans Home. This will remove a section of the wall, which post-dates 1758, and was probably constructed at the same time as the Evans Home. Sections of this wall are in poor repair. There is an underlying wall to the mill race, this lies below present ground level, and will not be disturbed in these works.

Within the garden of the Evans Home, the ground level rises considerably. Much of this is due to levelling of what was a fairly steep natural slope, westwards towards the river. At a depth of 1500mm below present ground level, a horizon of either dumped or in situ masonry, relating to the priory, was exposed in trench 2B. Ramping the ground in this area will probably impact on this deposit. Other features relating to the priory may also be uncovered by the reduction of ground level here. Kitchens and other utilitarian buildings are likely to be located close to the mill race. Therefore this area will require archaeological excavation. Any medieval fabric uncovered should be conserved within the new design.

The 'Pavilion' is located on the north transept of the church wall. (fig. 2). However, this light structure will have no foundations, and therefore there is no impact on the underlying deposits.

The disabled parking is located on a level area, presently used informally for parking. There is no intended ground reduction in this area, and therefore there is no impact on underlying deposits.

Drainage and services: Impact

All existing services are carried into the site through the arched entrance at Barrack Lane. It is intended to continue this route, utilising wherever possible the existing service trenches.

Information on the depth of existing services, specifically Broadband, is available from previous archaeological monitoring on the site (Channing 2001: 703). The broadband trench was narrower and not as deep as standard service trenches. Disarticulated human bone, probably disturbed from earlier service trenches, was uncovered in Barrack Lane. A wall foundation was uncovered. The required service trenches will not exceed 1000mm in depth, however material relating to the priory is likely to be uncovered, albeit previously disturbed. A wider trench, to encompass all services into the site, could result in maximising information from this sensitive location. Archaeological monitoring and/or excavation of sections of these service trenches will be required.

Mitigation

The design allows for the preservation in situ of any masonry or other features relating to the priory and later barracks. The location of the new building minimises impact on either the priory buildings or the possible town wall. The location of both holding tank and ramp is flexible if significant features are uncovered in the course of excavation.

The extent of archaeological excavation required on this site will be determined by DOE, H and LG. However, the following areas should be considered for excavation:

The holding tank for water

The entrance ramp through the western boundary wall

Selected areas of the new building, including the entrance and lift shaft, where the concentration of piles is greatest.

A combined wider trench for upgraded services to the site should be considered, to allow for an understanding of the fragmentary remains which will be uncovered on this route.

Finds catalogue

Architectural stone

E4109: 9:2 fragment of oolitic limestone, probably Dundry stone, with part of three original flat surfaces extant. These show diagonal toolmarks. Otherwise no working. Stone is badly abraded, and all faces coated with reddish deposit.

L: 110mm, br: 70mm, h: 80mm.

Building stone

E4109: 2:8 is burnt granite fragment, with small part of original face, rendered or painted. Very crumbly stone. No other original face extant.

L: 130mm, b:70mm, th: 40mm.

Render

Fragment of lime mortar or render, from vicinity of Wall F1. Fragment E4109: 2: 7 has smoothed face int and ext, and is gritty very white lime mortar with visible grits. 300mm thick.

Floor tiles

Two fragments of medieval line impressed tiles E4109: 4: 1 and 9:1, were recovered. Both have original bright green glaze partly extant. Both are 12- 15mm in thickness, with sanded undersides with firing holes. Most probably dating to the 14th century; probably imported from SW France, glaze and fabric comparable with Saintonge wares.

No known similar tile from Kells Priory (Campbell 2007). Tile fragments from Steven's 1999 excavation not described.

Pattern: linear zones, plain glazed margin along edge, with V continuing through one zone, flanking quatrefoil motif, which appears to be repeated through the tile. Tile 9:1 is more complete, with fragments of two edges extant. Tile 4: 1 has similar glaze, and pattern. The fabric is quite fine, and pale.

E4109: 10: 1 and 2 : two small fragments of brickly fabric post- medieval floor tiles, dark brown/ black lead glaze on upper side.

Pottery

A small assemblage of medieval and post- medieval pottery was recovered. The sole medieval sherd (2:2) is extremely small, and is probably locally manufactured.

The post- medieval assemblage is limited, but includes a sherd of North Devon gravel free ware (2:5), and two sherds of North Devon slip ware (2: 1 and 10:8) dated to the late 17th century. Meenan (2005, 349) observes that gravel- free ware are more typical of 16th century production. A single sherd from a stoneware jar (8:1) was present, as was a sherd of tin glazed earthenware (6:2). Two sherds from a black-glazed earthenware bowl were recovered (8: 2 and 3).

The remainder of the assemblage can be considered to be of local manufacture, and dating perhaps from the 15th to the 18th centuries.

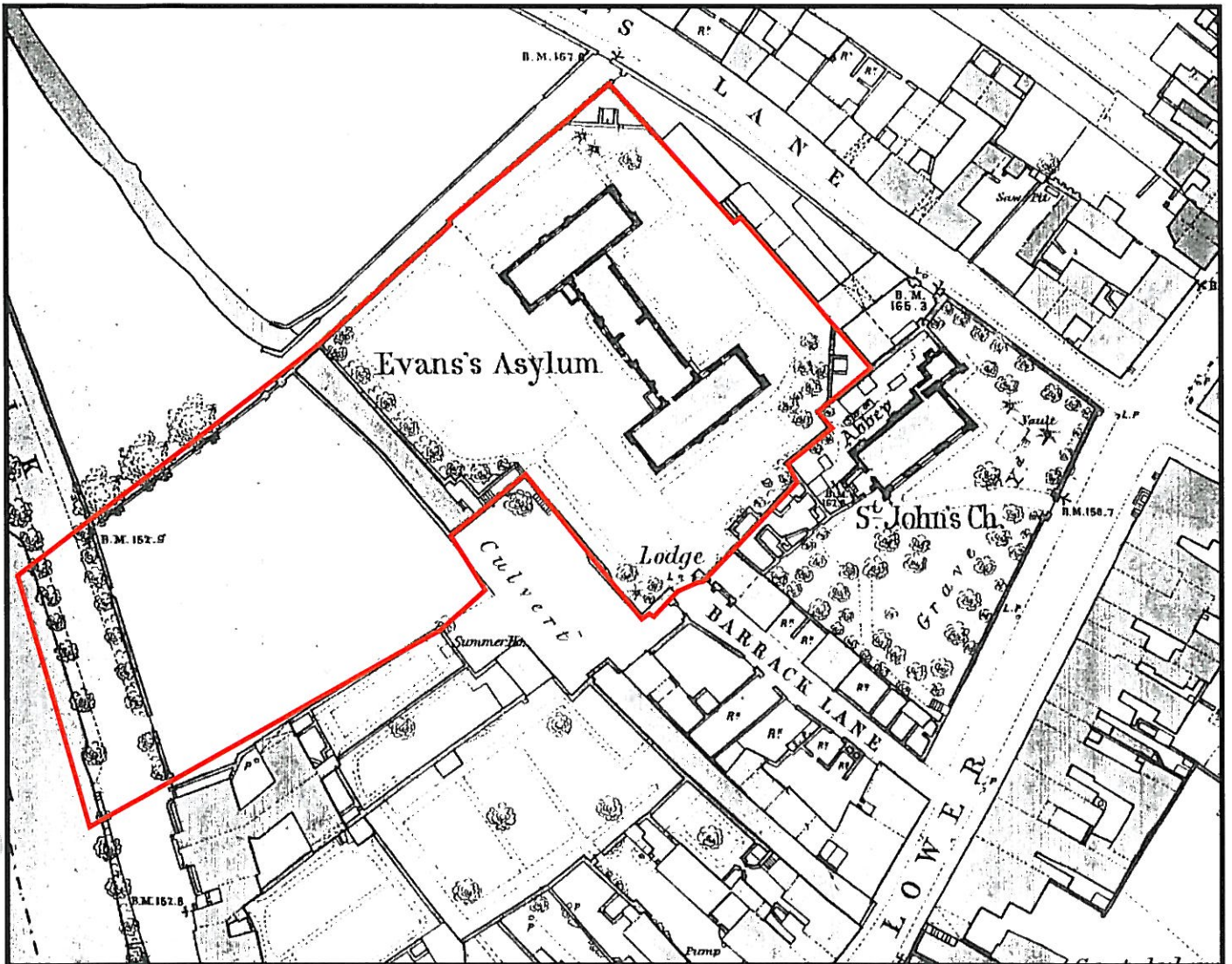
Human Bone

A small quantity of bone, identifiable as human, was recovered from several deposits. None of the bone represents in situ, articulated burial. Juveniles are present.

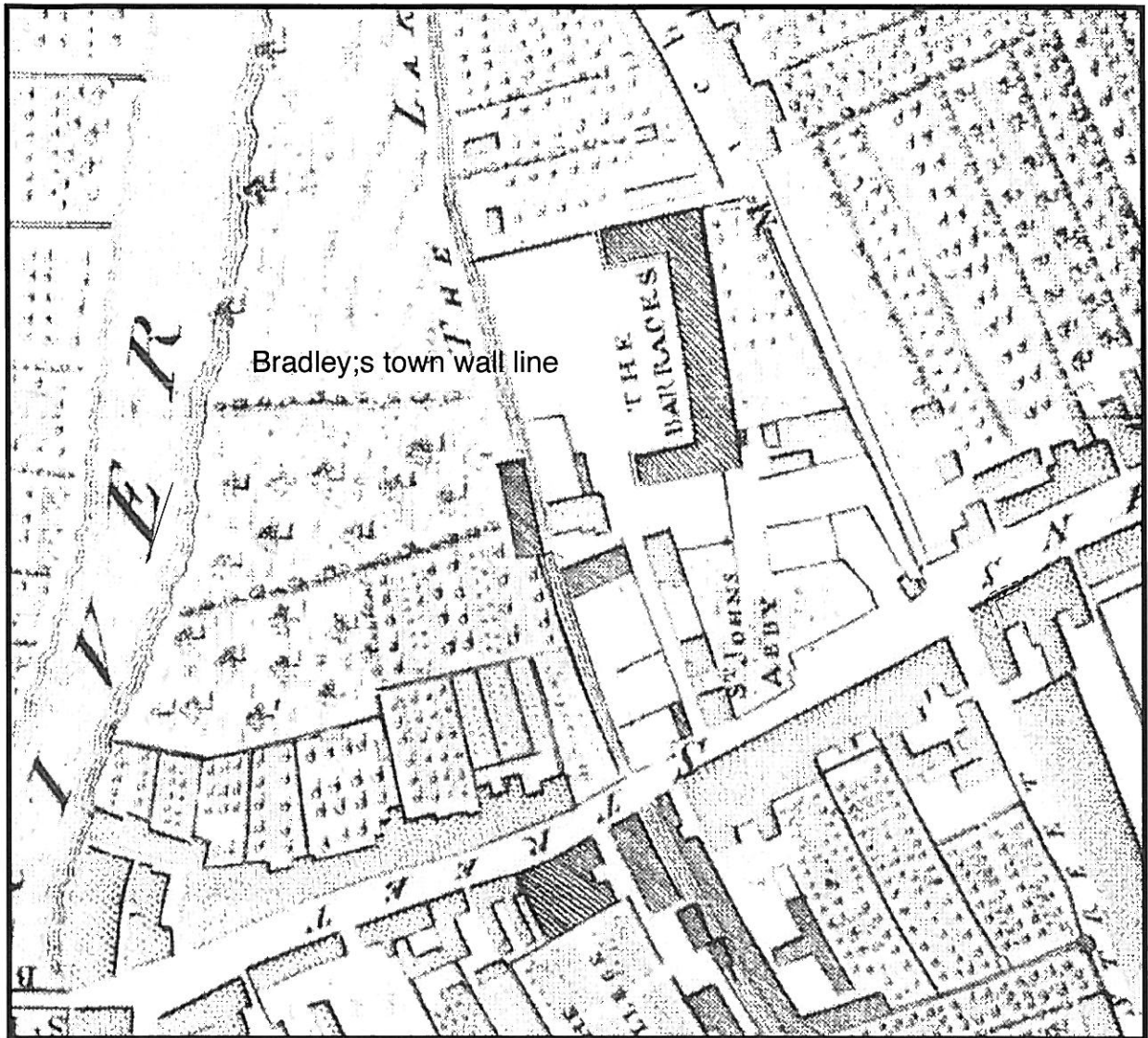
Identification by Osteologist Laureen Buckley is forthcoming.

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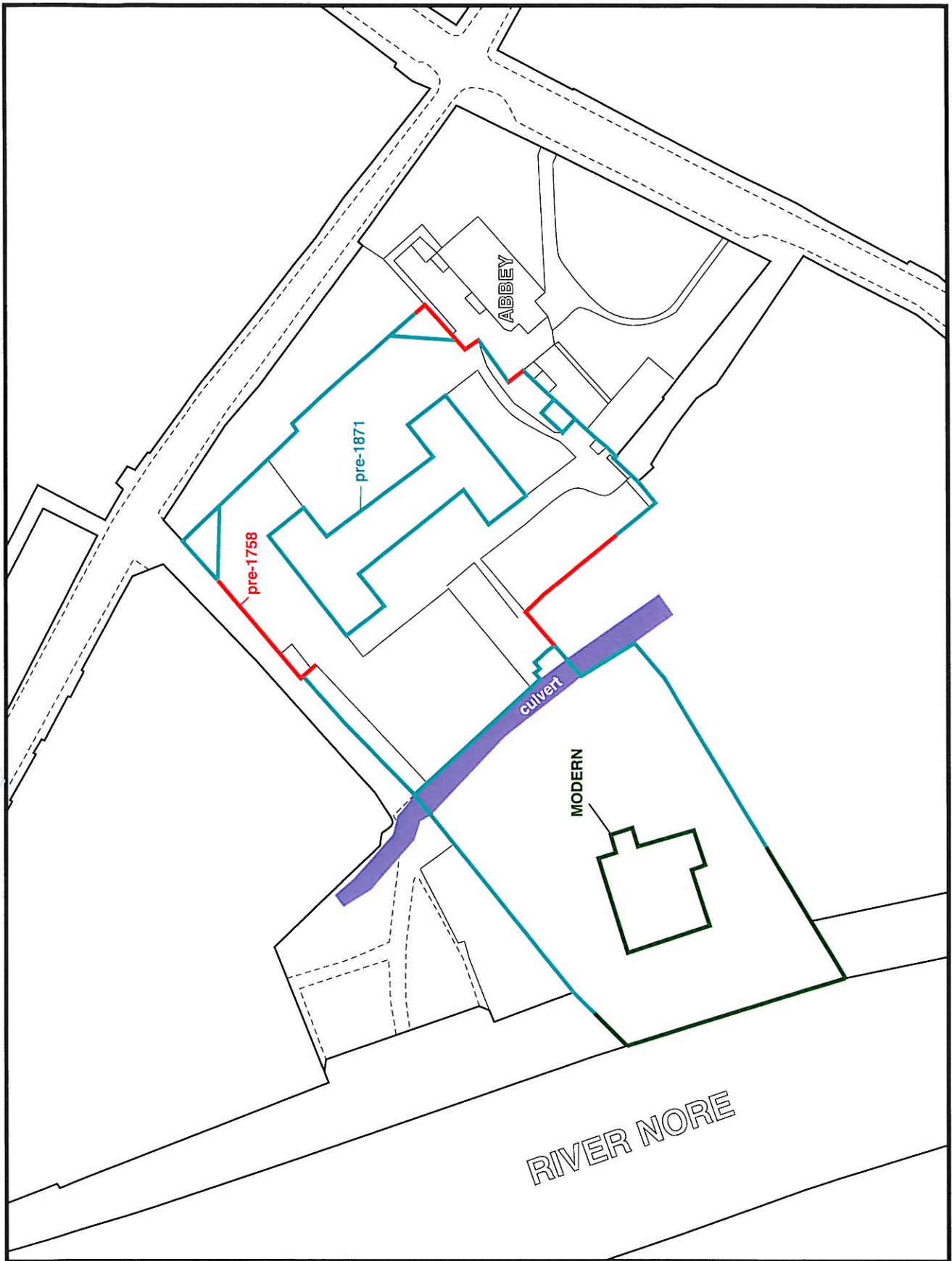


1871



1758

St John's Priory on Rocque's map of Kilkenny, 1758.



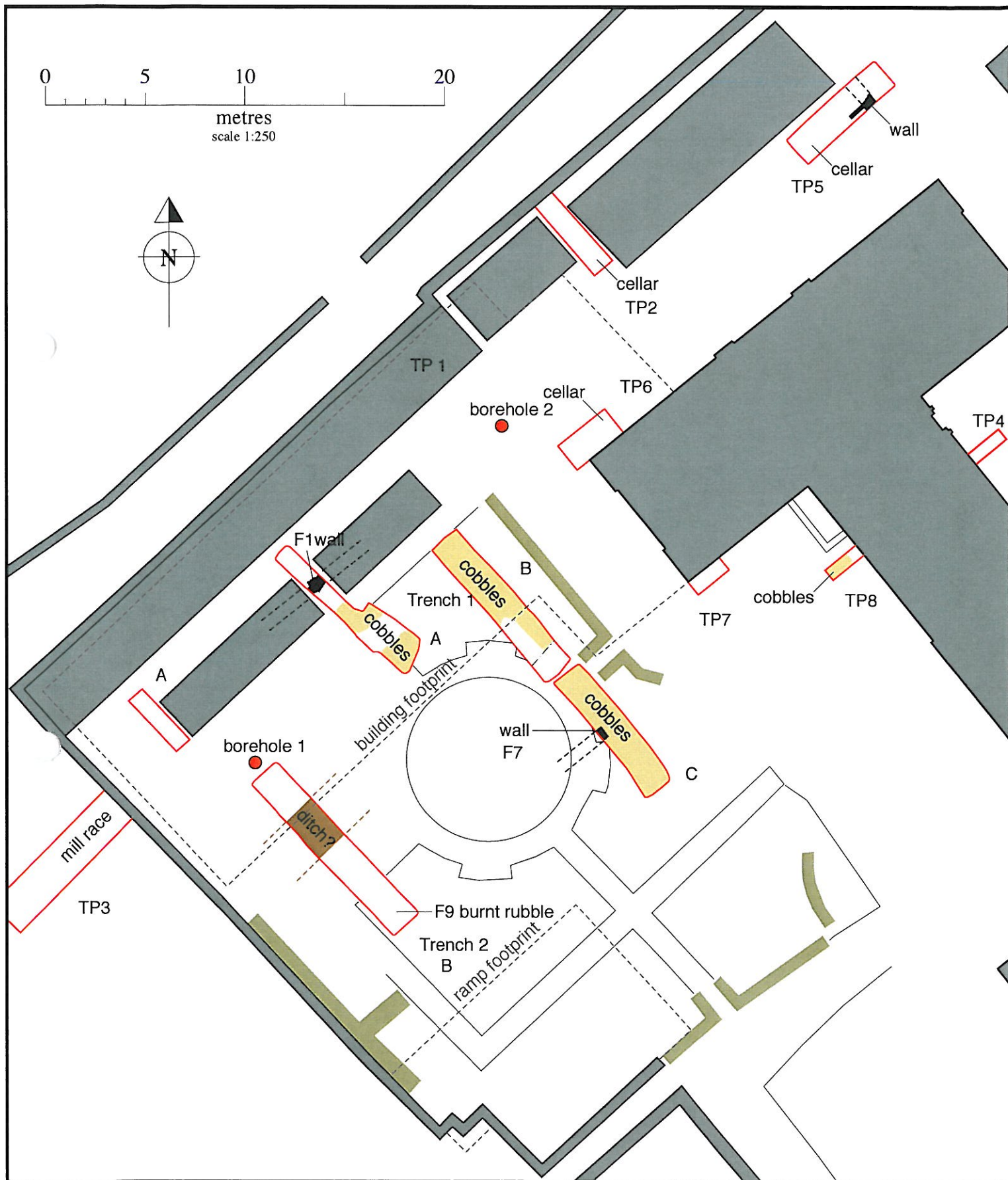


Fig. 1. Trench and trial pit location with overlay of building line.

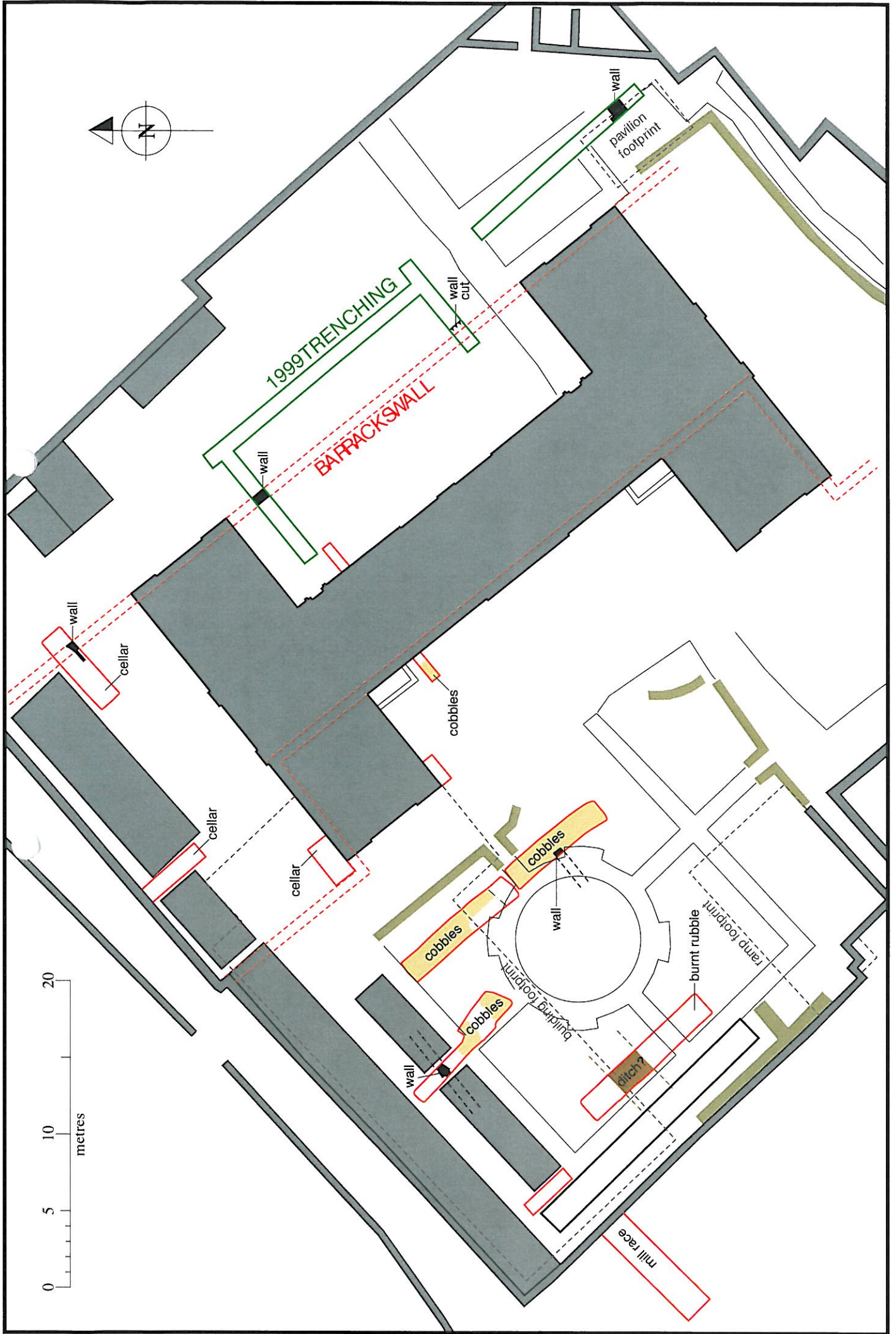
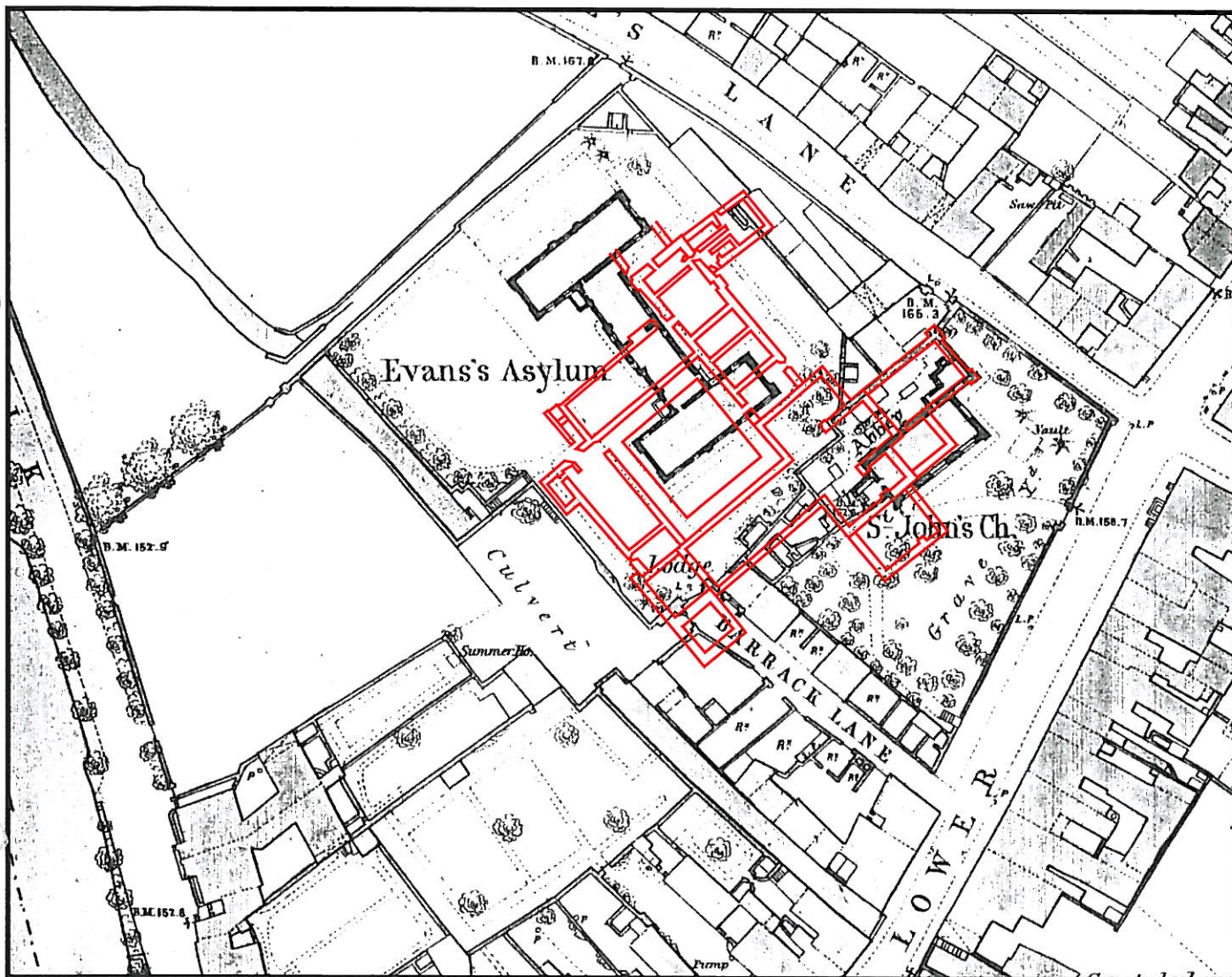


Fig. 2. Site plan, showing 1700s Barracks outline, existing Evans Home, 1999 and 2010 trenches, and new build footprint.



1871 Fig. 3. Overlay of plan of Kells Priory, Co. Kilkenny, with cloister reversed to north, on St John's Priory remains, base map 1871.



Plate 1. Cobbled surface F2 in trench 1A, looking north.



Plate 2. Wall footing F1 in trench 1A, looking north.



Plate 3. Trench 1B, showing cobbled surface F2, looking north.



Plate 4. Trench 1C, showing cobbled surface F2, and wall footing F7, looking north.



Plate 5. Section of soils in trench 1, C, looking east.

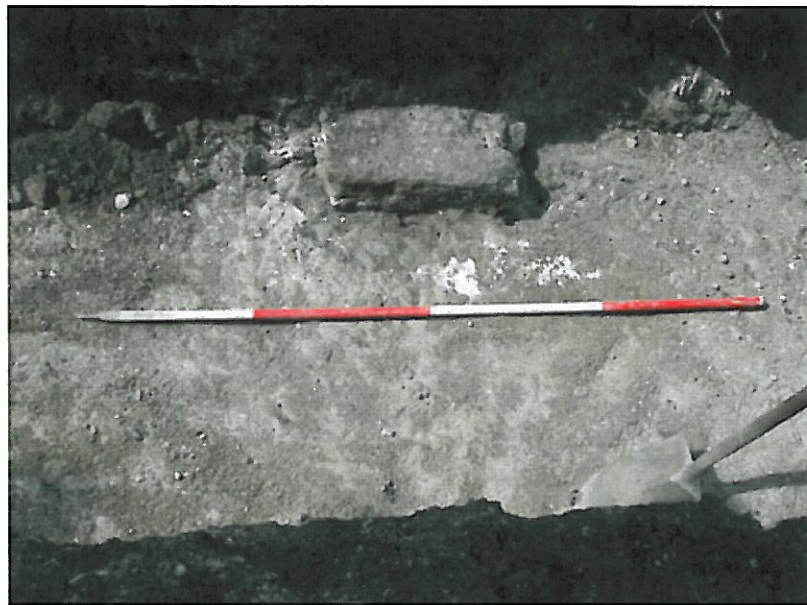


Plate 6. Wall footing F7, bedded in cobbled surface F2.



Plate 7. Base of trench 2A, looking west.



Plate 8. Burnt clay and stones in trench 2B, looking north. Note thick deposit of yellow clay/ gravel in sections.



Plate 9. North end of trench 2, B, note mortar in sections.



Plate 10. Soils in section of trench 2, B, north end.



Plate 11. Trial pit 1, shovel at base of wall.



Plate 12. Trial pit 2, inside wall of barracks cellar.



Plate 13. Trial pit 3 in mill race.



Plate 14. Trial pit 4.



Plate 15. Trial pit 5, masonry of 1700s barracks just evident through cellar fill.

Plate 16. Trial pit 6, wall of Evans Home on 2 plinths.

Plate 17. Trial pit 7, wall of Evans Home on plinth footing.



Plate 18. Construction cut for Evans Home wall cuts cobbled surface.



Design Risk Assessment – Stage 1

Project: Butler Gallery Kilkenny
Date: 20th August 2010
Designer: McCullough Mulvin Architects

Contract prelims will include requirement for vibration and noise monitors relating to adjacent properties and parameters for disruptive and dirty work at a height. Method statement will be required for all activities on site a week in advance for sign off by client & design team.

Hazard/Design Issue	Design Input	Risk Construction	Action/Review In Design	Information	Status
1. Excavation of existing ground to construct foundation of proposed new extension.	Design Team Contractor	Burial under earth fall Unstable Ground Work on existing Boundaries/Structures Underground services Existing cellars present onsite.	Soil investigation to be undertaken Survey/Desk study of existing underground services. Method Statement required before work commences. Extent of cellars to be ascertained.	Tender package Further analysis at next stage of project, (pre-construction).	For Further Review at next stage.
2. Demolition of existing outbuildings	Design Team Contractor Client	Demolition Working at height Work on existing Boundaries/Structures Work on or near fragile roof. Asbestos. Lead. Unknown configuration below ground.	Type 3 Asbestos survey to be undertaken before work begins. Method statements required before work commences. Lead paint survey to be undertaken. Archaeological investigation may be required.	Tender package Further analysis at next stage of project, (pre-construction) Asbestos survey currently being undertaken.	For Further Review at next stage.
3. Underground Services	Design Team Contractor Client	Underground Services	Survey/Desk study of existing underground services to be undertaken. Method statements required before work on underground services commences.	Tender package Further analysis at next stage of project, (pre-construction). GPR Survey currently underway.	For Further Review at next stage.
4. Potential buried cables externally and internally.	Design Team Client	Potential danger of cutting cables during course of construction	Existing site survey. Enabling works contract initiated to uncover internal cables and cut off where appropriate Further survey required	Tender package GPR Survey currently underway.	For Further Review at next stage.
5. Working adjacent to public road (External)	Design Team Contractor	Danger to traffic and passing public	Design take account of restricted site and allocates contractors' external working area. Contractor to have staff dedicated to access management Contractor to provide dedicated Traffic Management Plan.	Tender Package	For Further Review at next stage.
6. Creation of dust from external works	Contractor	Environmental damage Breathing difficulties	Dust monitors Method statement required before work commences	Tender package	
7. Deliveries from public roadway	Contractor	Danger to pedestrians Narrow access/egress – danger of entrapment Concealed access/egress point to urban street	Advice to client on daily basis Contractor to have staff dedicated to access management Preparation of site compound drawings Method statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.

8.	Interface with existing Building Services	Design Team Contractor	Danger of damage from incorrect links	Undertake survey to determine existing services Development of clear interface with existing services or decision on separate stand alone units Minimisation of downtime on existing building services	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
9.	Working on existing roof/facade.	Design Team Contractor	Working at Height Risk of damage / falling through existing roof Objects falling on personnel below Sparks causing fire.	Contractor to install edge protection Use of existing roof limited to minimum possible area. Method statement required before work commences. Hot works permit required.	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
10.	Erection of large steel and concrete structural elements	Design Team Contractor	Potential hazard to site staff of falling members. Falling from height.	Method statement and calculations required of contractor in advance of erection Design to minimise size of members.	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
11.	Working at height in internal spaces during construction	Design Team Contractor	Falling from height. Objects Falling from a height onto personnel below.	Method statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
12.	Forming opes in floors	Contractor	Potential danger of falling through opes in floors during construction	Method statement required before work commences Adequate edge protection to be provided at all times.	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
13.	Installation of large sections of double glazed units.	Contractor Design Team	Danger of damage from heavy weight lifting Danger of breakage	Craneage required, Method Statement required in advance of installation. Specialist installation required by trained operatives	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
14.	Application of intumescent coatings to structural steelwork	Contractor	Breathing difficulties	Method statement required, paint, to be applied in open atmosphere	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
15.	Installation of plant to rooftop level	Contractor	Danger of falling machinery	Smallest appropriate plant to be specified Method statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
16.	Erection and fixing of steelwork internally	Contractor Design Team	Danger of falling steelwork Sparks causing fire	Weld off site where possible Hot work permit required Method statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
17.	Installation of underground water tank next to boundary. Construction of new access ramp to site at southern boundary.	Contractor Design Team	Burial under earth fall Unstable Ground Work on existing Boundaries/Structures Underground services Unknown configuration under ground.	Soil investigation to be undertaken Survey/Desk study of existing underground services. Method Statement required before work commences. Archaeological investigation may be required.	Tender package Further analysis at next stage of project. (pre-construction).	For Further Review at next stage.
18.	Work in restricted interior Space	Design Team Contractor	Dust/Environmental exposure Confined space access and restricted working conditions	Survey of Existing Materials Dust monitors Method Statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
19.	Structural Work to existing building	Design Team Contractor	Danger of unstable structure, (existing). Dust/Environmental expose Falling from a height	Calculations required for stability of existing structure. Survey of Existing Materials Dust monitors Method Statement required before work commences	Tender package	For Further Review at next stage.
20.	Working on the roof of the proposed new building.	Design Team Contractor	Falling from a height. Danger of falling materials Sparks causing fire.	Parapet height to be a minimum of 1.1m Edge protection to be provided. Hot works permit required.	Tender Package.	For Further Review at next stage.

21	Removal of existing trees	Design Team Contractor	Falling from a height. Danger of falling materials Damage to adjacent structures	Method statement to be provided before work commences. Survey to be carried out in advance by suitably qualified arborist Removal to be supervised by suitably qualified arborist.	Tender Package.	For Further Review at next stage
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Maintenance Issues

Hazard/Design Issue	Design Input	Risk Construction	Action/Review In Design	Information	Status
20. Maintenance of plant externally at roof level	Design Team		Ensure sufficient edge protection and safety measures Access to be provided through door at level		
21. General maintenance for services at high level	Design Team		Ensure sufficient access for mobile working platform Ensure sufficient access panels		
22. Changing lights/services at high level	Design Team		Ensure sufficient access for mobile working platform		
23. Maintenance of platform lifts/hoists	Design team		Managed by staff in Butler Gallery on a case by case basis		
27. Window cleaning	Design team		Window cleaning to be carried out from ground level using high reach cleaning equipment. Due to protected nature of existing structure windows cannot be installed such as to be accessible from within. Rooflight accessible from roof level for cleaning.		