An architectural site plan of University College Cork, showing various buildings, courtyards, and green spaces. The plan is detailed, with labels for various areas like 'Queen's College', 'Loe Cottage', and 'Old Quay'. The text is overlaid on the plan in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK

CONSERVATION PLAN

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JUNE
2003

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK
CONSERVATION PLAN

JUNE 2003

Commissioned by University College Cork
With the Support of The Heritage Council

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Executive Summary

The process of preparing the conservation plan has resulted in the recommendation of a series of actions to be undertaken by UCC. These are presented in two groups:

- General Policy Guidelines
- Specific Policy Guidelines

A number of committees with functions relating to the specialist areas of the conservation plan already exist in UCC. Where appropriate, the remit of these groups may be extended, or new groups established, in response to these policy guidelines.

In order to understand the motivation behind these recommendations, it is very important to read the full report and both groups of guidelines, but the *principal* recommendations are summarised below.

- **An Implementation Group is to be established.**

In order to effect the implementation of the Conservation Plan, the University should establish an implementation group, with members representing academic interests, buildings and estates, and the heritage committee. The group should, in the first instance, be guided by the general and specific policy guidelines contained in the conservation plan. The group's responsibilities could include targeting and prioritising conservation projects, and seeking to attract funding for conservation and maintenance. The Implementation Group may also be responsible for the establishment of regular Conservation Plan Reviews, the first of which is advised in five years' time.

- **The general statement of significance, as defined in the conservation plan, should be used to inform all future planning on the site.**

To ensure a structured approach to future development, it is essential that all stakeholders work from an agreed framework. The Statement of Significance provides such a framework.

- **A Landscape Advisory Group is to be established.**

To ensure a structured approach to future landscape works in all parts of the campus, the University should establish a landscape advisory group to agree improvements, changes in management, and the details of planting schemes. Their remit should also include hard landscaping. The committee could contribute to briefs for new landscape proposals by external consultants, and advise on the siting and inclusion of external works of art on campus. The group could also procure or develop an overall landscape framework plan, which should indicate a unified best practice approach.

- **An ad-hoc Observatory advisory group is to be established.**

To ensure the highest quality of decision-making in relation to this uniquely important site, a multi-disciplinary committee should be established in order to decide on its conservation,

future use and funding.

- **A minimum intervention approach should be adopted.**

In order to preserve the maximum amount of surviving fabric and character, an approach of minimum intervention should be the preferred option where alternative approaches to works are under consideration.

- **A system of planned preventative maintenance should be established.**

In order to establish a cost-effective system for conserving the built fabric of the University, funding should be sought for a continuous system of Planned Preventative Maintenance. Future fundraising should also seek additional maintenance and conservation funding.

- **College maintenance and grounds staff should receive conservation training.**

In recognition of the fact that many decisions which impact on historic buildings and landscape are made incrementally by maintenance staff, it is essential that these staff are equipped with an appropriate knowledge base on which to make these decisions. College maintenance and grounds staff should be provided with training by qualified conservation professionals on appropriate techniques for minor repairs and electrical installations, in order to minimise unnecessary risks to historic building fabric. A targeted training fund could be established to assist with this process.

- **New uses should be compatible with the existing building fabric and environment.**

In order to minimise the potentially negative impact of any new uses on existing buildings and sites, the use of each element of the site should be considered against what is compatible with the built fabric or natural environment. Where a proposed or existing use seriously compromises the built fabric or environment, the use should be reconsidered. Where it is necessary to have a change of use for a building or site, care should be taken to retain as much of the original fabric as possible, wherever it is practical to do so.

- **Further alterations to houses belonging to UCC should be kept to a minimum.**

In order to prevent incremental damage to houses that have been acquired by the University over time, further alterations to these houses should be kept to a minimum, and alterations be reversible wherever possible. The current University policy of not acquiring further houses should be retained. Consideration should be given to details, such as the treating of existing internal doors for fire, rather than replacement with modern fire doors, and the repair and retention of timber sash windows.

- **Consideration should be given to existing buildings and landscape when planning new developments.**

In order to ensure that important buildings and landscape areas are respected as the University progresses, a process should be established whereby where new building is to take place in the context of significant historic sites, consideration be given as part of the

process of planning the new building to the impact the new building will have on the existing area. A process of consultation among College staff and others should precede any final decision on new development.

- **The establishment of an Area of Special Character should be considered.**

In order to promote and maintain good relations with the University's neighbours, and to protect the special character of its buildings and landscape, UCC should propose to Cork City Council that some of the roads surrounding the main campus and areas around other sites be considered for inclusion in the city development plan as an Area of Special Character.

- **Archaeological consultation should precede all future developments**

In order to protect the potential archaeological significance of sites owned by the University, a suitably qualified archaeologist should be consulted in advance of any work that may impinge on archaeologically sensitive material belonging to the College. Archaeological consultation is also recommended in advance of any ground disturbance on College property.

- **Individual conservation studies of all buildings and features of regional, national or international significance should be produced.**

In order to establish where conservation works are most urgently required to the University's building stock, a priority list for attention should be produced. This should include:

The Observatory,

The gates to the north-west,

The Quadrangle, to which an overall approach should be taken,

The Lee Maltings,

The Windle Medical Building.

NOTE

It is important to recognise that the *process* (described in chapter 2) of preparing the conservation plan has been as important as the final report in creating an awareness of the significance of the site and how that might best be protected in a climate of development and progress. Much discussion has taken place, particularly as part of the consultation process, and two of the most important results of this have been the decision to retain and re-use Brookfield House for the School of Nursing, and the establishment of a committee to examine the future of the Observatory.

1 Introduction to the Conservation Plan

This Conservation Plan was commissioned by University College Cork in a joint initiative between the Building and Heritage Committees, with the support of the Heritage Council. The objective of the Plan is to assist the university in identifying significant built and natural assets and to establish strategies to ensure their appropriate protection within the context of necessary development.

The production of this plan represents the proactive role that UCC has chosen to take in dealing with its important built, planned and natural heritage. It is the first of Ireland's universities to undertake such a conservation plan.

UCC is the largest University outside Dublin, with 142,000 sq. m. of building stock over 50 acres of grounds. The college was established as one of the Queen's Colleges of Ireland in 1845, retains its earliest college buildings, and over time has developed new buildings and acquired older building stock, some of it older than the university itself. The college is continually changing in terms of its requirements for space and facilities, and the identification of the most significant built and natural assets, and the threats they face, is crucial to the protection of the environment on the site amid this constant need for change and development.

UCC has, as its objective, to provide a higher education characterised by the quality of learning. The College works to a property management plan which enables it to attain the right facilities to meet this aim. It recognises the special merit of its main campus site, and the need to undertake long term planning. However, that planning has to be flexible enough to meet changing educational demands. There are many uncertainties in higher education planning, which include:

- government education policies,
- funding arrangements,
- subject popularity,
- technological and, in particular, information technology change.

At any time, the College's strategy should be able to adjust to growth or reduction of the Institution; growth in individual faculties; and changing student demography. The challenge is to identify how to accommodate such change within a coherent development and conservation strategy.

The College development strategy recognises the continuing need to maximise the efficient use of existing space, with adjustments to meet changing academic demands. The College also accepts the need to enhance the quality of the site, and recent building improvements have made considerable steps in this direction. However, the success of the College and the nature of change in higher education mean that future growth will require new built development. This document seeks to guide the protection of the significant elements of the college heritage within the context of progress and development.

2 Background

The preparation of this conservation plan has involved a long process, involving the following steps:

- Developing an *understanding of place*. This process began with each consultant being asked to prepare an initial statement of significance on the place, both to focus consultants on the purpose of the plan and so that the lead consultants and steering group could begin to understand the various elements involved.
- *Background research*. This took several forms.
- *Documentary*: consultants examined both historical sources and college publications, and existing reports and planning documents produced for the college. It was decided, given the quality of existing secondary sources, the scale of the project, the budget, and time constraints that primary research would not form a major part of the preparation of the Plan.
- *Physical*: Physical examination of the site was of key importance for all consultants. Each consultant as far as possible has examined every relevant part of the site.
- *Consultation*: The consultation process was long and detailed, involving hundreds of letters, many meetings and advertisements. It was a very important part of the conservation plan process, with all those consulted learning a great deal about the college and the conservation plan, as well as the authors of the plan learning from the consultations. A breakdown of the process is included in the appendices to this report.
- All consultants have, both individually and jointly, attempted to develop an understanding of the *evolution of the place*. Several meetings and discussions with individual consultants have taken place between the lead consultants and, in some cases, relevant college representatives. A general meeting of all consultants on the project took place when most fieldwork had been undertaken, in order to benefit from a shared understanding of the site, and to identify relevant issues and potential policy areas.
- Consultants have attempted to identify *gaps* in existing knowledge, which it is either not possible or appropriate to fill within the budgetary and time constraints of the Conservation Plan structure.
- Assessing the *significance* of the site has been the underlying key to all consultants' work.

- *Defining issues* relating to each aspect of the Plan has been a natural progression from the initial understanding and assessment of significance.
- *Writing policies* relating to the vulnerabilities identified. These policies have been developed throughout the process of the plan, with many contributions from the steering committee.

Adoption: This final document is intended to be clearly understood by all relevant parties, and appropriate for adoption as a policy document. The adoption of the document may be assisted by the development of an implementation group, as outlined in the policy guidelines.

A steering committee was established by UCC and the Heritage Council at the outset of the commissioning of this Plan. The members are as follows:

Mr. M.F. Kelleher (UCC),
 Ms. M. Hanna (The Heritage Council),
 Prof. J. Fraher (UCC),
 Mr. G. Harrington (UCC),
 Mr. N. McAuliffe (UCC),
 Mr. M. Poland (UCC),
 Mr. P. Ruane (Cork City Council),
 Ms. V. Teehan (UCC),
 Prof. A. Rowan (UCC).

A smaller working group, comprising Mark Poland and Virginia Teehan of UCC was instrumental in the evolution of the process and the day-to-day running of the conservation plan.

The project was advertised in 2001, and based on submissions received, there was an interview process. Following this process, a multi-disciplinary team, led by Jack Coughlan Associates, was chosen to prepare the Conservation Plan. The team members were:

Jack Coughlan Associates (<i>Architects; Consultants</i>)	Jack Coughlan, Katherine McClatchie, Rebecca Harte
Nicholas Pearson Associates (<i>Landscape Consultants</i>)	Simon Bonvoisin, Claire Hosten
Carrig (<i>Building Materials Specialists</i>)	Peter Cox
Sheila Lane Associates (<i>Archaeologists</i>)	Sheila Lane, Margaret Shine
Aquatic Services Unit (<i>Flora and Fauna Specialists</i>)	Ger Morgan, Paddy Sleeman
Horgan Lynch (<i>Engineers</i>)	Donal Lynch
Consarc (<i>Architects; Consultants</i>)	Dawson Stelfox

3 Understanding University College Cork

3.1 A note on existing historical sources

The history of the development of Queen's, later University, College Cork, has been well researched and thoroughly described in a number of sources. The following brief outline of the history of the college draws particularly on John A. Murphy's very comprehensive *The College: A history of Queen's/ University College Cork*, and also on Frederick O'Dwyer's *The Architecture of Deane and Woodward*. Both of these sources make detailed reference to research into primary sources, which was not replicated for this conservation plan, although a number of earlier sources, such as early college publications, were checked. The purpose of this plan is not to determine the definitive 'history of UCC', but to carefully examine the site, as it exists today, within a context of an overall understanding of its past history, both on and off the main campus area. Further historical information on the site is contained in the more detailed examinations of the various elements of the site.

3.2 Early history of the site and its archaeological context

The main College campus is situated on the south bank of the River Lee, to the west of the medieval city of Cork. Other properties belonging to the College, but outside the main campus, also lie to the west of the early city. These include the Vincentian Building and the Distillery Fields on the north side of the North Channel of the River Lee, the Maltings and the Mardyke Sports Grounds on the south bank of the North Channel, the Greyhound Track on the north side of the South Channel and Brookfield House on the south side of the South Channel.

The medieval city of Cork developed on two islands between the North Channel and the South Channel of River Lee. This was an area of marshy islands bounded by hills on the north and south. Several early monasteries were located to the west of, and outside, the medieval city. The earliest recorded settlement was that of the seventh century monastery founded by St. Finbarr, which is thought to have been on the site of the present St. Finbarr's Cathedral¹. St. Finbarr's Cathedral is situated on the south side of the South Channel, c.600m to the east of the main College campus. The Cathedral and the earlier monastic site are listed in the Urban Survey of Cork City² and in the Archaeological Inventory of County Cork³. The 12th century Gill Abbey was located c.350m west of St. Finbarr's monastery and c.250m east of the main College campus. The 13th century St. Francis Abbey was located outside the city walls, on the north side of the North Channel, to the east of the present Distillery Fields.

The area to the west of Cork city remained an area of marsh until the 18th century. Some of these marshes are named on early maps of the city⁴ as Reilly's Marsh, Clarke's Marsh, Hammond's Marsh and Pick's Marsh. As the city expanded westwards the marshes were gradually drained,

¹Hurley 1995, 41

²Bradley 1985, 52-57

³volume 2 (Appendix 1)

⁴Rocque 's map of 1773 and O'Connor's map of 1774

reclaimed and developed. This westward development was facilitated by the construction of the Mardyke Walk in 1719 and, almost a century later, the Western Road. Holt's map of 1832 shows the County Gaol, built in 1791, as the main structure to the west of the city. Queen's College Cork was established to the east of, and adjacent to, the Gaol in 1846.

The College properties in close proximity to the known early settlement of Cork may stand on archaeological remains still preserved below ground level. The marshy area of the river valley would not have been suitable for settlement in the more recent past but archaeological finds or features associated with habitation, such as fish weirs, mills or toghers (wooden trackways), may remain below ground level in these areas where preservation is excellent. A number of weirs on the west side of the city in the 19th century are shown on a map in the Fisheries section of the Parliamentary Commission of 1849. The high ground to the south and north of the river valley would have been more favourable for habitation and finds or features relating to settlement sites may be present below ground level in these areas.

The possibility of potential archaeology existing beneath the ground is highlighted by several archaeological discoveries made in the vicinity of the main campus, for example a souterrain (CO074-048---) was discovered in the garden of a house off Glasheen Road, to the southwest of the College, when the roof collapsed (Appendix 1). Souterrains are underground passages and chambers often found in association with ringforts, which are settlements dating to the Early Christian period (c.500-800AD).

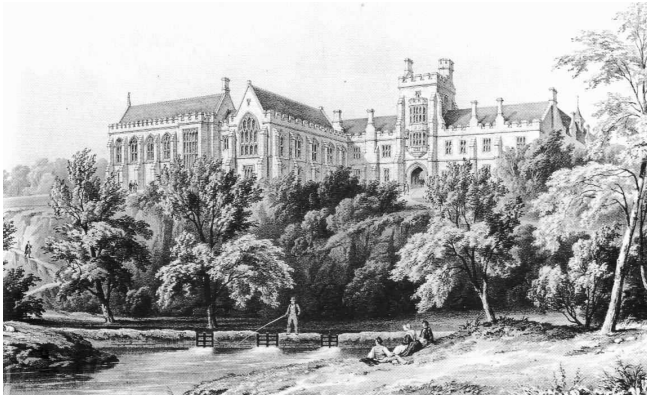
In 1966 human remains were found at Gill Abbey Rock to the east of the main College campus, in the vicinity of the site of original Gill Abbey (as marked on the 2nd edition OS map). The site was excavated by Professor M.J. O'Kelly, Professor of Archaeology at UCC, after children playing in the area unearthed bones (Appendix 3). According to O'Kelly the bones may have come from a cemetery attached to the monastery. In 1995 some fragmentary human bones were also found close to the site of Gill Abbey during the excavation of foundation trenches for the extension to a house at Craig More, Connaught Avenue (pers. comm. S. Lane). The bones were too fragmentary for analysis and were reburied in the back garden of the house.

An antique medal was found in a garden near Friar's Walk, to the east of the College, in 1819 (England 1819, 8). The medal has a Hebrew inscription on one side and the head of Christ on the other. According to England (*ibid.*) Friar's Walk was formerly 'part of the enclosure of an Abbey of Canons Regular of St. Augustin', within which there was a College endowed by Gill Aeda V. Mugin, Bishop of Cork, after whom Gill Abbey was named.

The files of the National Museum of Ireland record several finds from Cork city. The exact location of three of these finds is unknown and it is possible that they were found in the vicinity of a College property. These unprovenanced finds are a 1st century AD Domitian coin found in a

garden in the city, a flat bronze axehead in the vicinity of Cork and a bronze ring 'about a mile north of Cork'.

Cork in the mid-nineteenth century was a city in steady, though gentle decline. The city's heyday in terms of economic success and consequent population had come in the eighteenth century, which saw a 250% rise in the city's population. The success of the city in the eighteenth century was due to advances in the provisioning trade through the city's ports, advances in the textile industry, and also, it has been noted, a decline in the rate of early mortality. Of particular importance was the provisioning of British navy and army supply ships, for which Cork was the sole centre until 1782. Foreign trade through the port was the source for enormous customs income, and the strategic location of Cork in relation to Atlantic trade was also a factor in its success, providing meat and butter for worldwide consumption.



An early view of Queen's College, Cork

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), *The College, a photographic history of University*

College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

3.3 The establishment of the College

The economic success of the city led to its growth as the country's second city, with accompanying provision of high quality housing and cultural facilities for the new merchant classes. Although the city's fortunes began to decline as the nineteenth century progressed, a population with a taste for education and culture had been established in the city.

The decline was due to a number of

factors over a period of time: a decline in prices for agricultural produce, the end of the Napoleonic Wars causing the dispersal of the British Navy, and the decline in the Irish textile industry following the introduction of cheaper imports after the Act of Union. Although other commercial trades continued to succeed, notably tanning, brewing and distilling, and the butter trade for which the city was famous, unemployment from the decline of the manufacturing industry became widespread and a long-term problem.

It was against this background that the emerging Catholic middle classes in the city and province sought to broaden their educational horizons, perhaps to lessen their dependence on the manufacturing trades, which had proved unsustainable. There had been demand for a University in Cork for some time, spurred on by the establishment of a Parliamentary Commission set up by the Whig administration under the chairmanship of Sir Robert Wyse, a Catholic and MP for Waterford. A Select Committee on Education (Ireland) was established. The Wyse Commission reported its findings in 1838.

Following this, a public meeting was held in Cork, leading to the formation of the Munster Provincial Colleges Committee, under the chairmanship of James Roche, a banker and member of the Royal Cork Institution, with membership largely drawn from that body. The Royal Cork Institution (1807-61) was primarily concerned with the provision of public lectures. James Roche has been described as ‘the father of Queen’s College Cork’, and his portrait hangs today over the stone staircase in the North Wing of the Quadrangle. Support for the establishment of a Munster College came from both Catholics and Protestants, and there were a number of large meetings in Cork and Limerick towards the end of 1838. Sir Thomas Wyse continued to promote the idea of a government-sponsored colleges scheme at the highest levels for the next eight years. Meanwhile, William Smith-O’Brien, MP for Limerick County, also supported the establishment of a Munster College, although he promoted the idea of a Limerick location. Cork appears eventually to have been considered more suitable by the committee for reasons of population and existing Scientific and Literary institutions.

The Queen’s Colleges of Ireland were established in July 1845 through the Colleges (Ireland) Act, to enable Queen Victoria to endow new colleges for ‘the advancement of learning in Ireland’. This Act was put before Parliament by Sir Robert Peel’s Conservative administration, as one of a series of reforms intended to prevent the demand for repeal. This Act was intended to provide for the education of Catholics who had been entitled to enter Trinity College Dublin, under the Relief Act of 1792, but who were prevented from becoming scholars or fellows. It was necessary to recognise at this point in Irish history that, while Irish Protestants were unlikely to accept the use of public funds for the establishment of a Catholic university, it was necessary politically to provide educational opportunities for the rising Catholic middle class. Trinity College Dublin, then the only university in Ireland, remained exclusively under the control of Irish Protestants.

The Act did not stipulate the location of the new universities, but provided £100,000 for establishing and furnishing ‘one or more colleges’. The Catholic hierarchy favoured a single Dublin college under its control, while Peel wanted a number of non-denominational provincial colleges. It was decided to locate Queen’s Colleges at Belfast and Cork, and eventually to locate a third in Galway (Limerick being the other option). Daniel O’Connell attacked the proposals for the new universities as ‘Godless Colleges’ (borrowing a term used by opponents of London University in the 1820’s), but many Catholics did not share his opinion. Peel appointed two Catholic presidents to the Queen’s Colleges at Galway and Cork, Revd. Dr. Joseph Kirwan and Sir Robert Kane, respectively.

Sir Robert Kane (1809-90) was a chemist and the holder of a number of academic posts. He was a Dublin-born son of a chemist and became Professor of Chemistry in the Apothecaries’ Hall in Dublin at the age of 22. Because of his many commitments, he was allowed to remain living in Dublin, rather than move his family to Cork (this proved unsatisfactory in the long run, and in 1853 an official enquiry was set up into his prolonged absences from the college).

Under the Colleges Act, the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland (known as the Board of Works) were entrusted with purchasing any necessary sites and buildings, securing plans and erecting the colleges. They were advised by their then principal architect, Jacob Owen. The Commissioners had the power, under the Act to employ, at the direction of the Treasury, 'the county surveyor, or any other competent surveyor or architect' to draw up plans, specifications and estimates..

3.4 Architects, construction, and use

At both Galway and Cork it was decided to appoint private architects. The county surveyorship for Cork was vacant at this time. Sir Thomas Deane was appointed as architect to the Cork college on 1 December 1845. No official records outlining the background to his appointment survive, but it seems likely that Deane canvassed for the job through political connections. In any case, he was an obvious choice for the job: He was also one of the most experienced architects in Cork at the time, with much experience working with the Board of Works. Deane was to receive five percent of the original estimated cost of the designs (though no more if the costs increased).

The first list of Accommodation sent to Deane upon his appointment in December was as follows:

1st Class - General Accommodation

Great Hall for Public Purposes, distributing prizes, opening sessions, Museum of Natural History, Geology etc.

Library

Residence of President

Apartments of Vice-President

2nd Class – Special Accommodation

Chemical Laboratory

Chemical Lecture Room

Mathematics Physics and Mechanics same (sic) Lecture Room

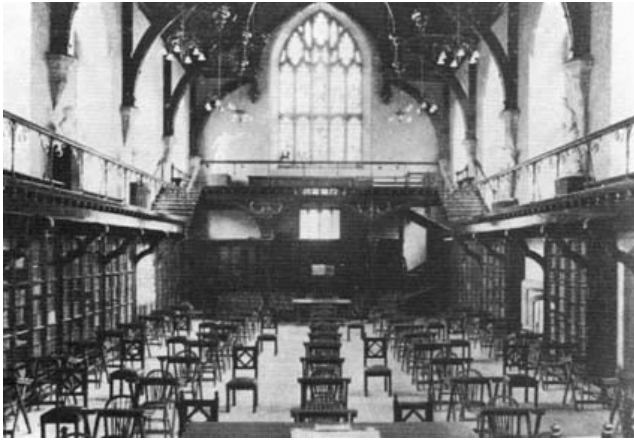
Literary Department 2 lecture Rooms

Geology Anatomy and Botany – 2 Lecture Rooms (Total for 2,3,4 and 5 Six Lecture Rooms each to hold 200 persons)

Cabinet of Philosophical and Mechanical Apparatus.

The College was not to be residential, so no such accommodation was needed, nor was a chapel required, the college being multi-denominational.

In 1846, Sir Robert Kane was made chairman of the *ad hoc* committee of Queen's Colleges



The Aula Maxima

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), *The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork*, Cork University Press, 1995

presidents and vice-presidents, formed to formulate the necessary statutes for the government.

A revised list of accommodation required was issued to Sir Thomas Deane on 30 January 1846, in which the Museum had been allocated a room to itself, and a request was made to make provision for a botanic garden. The college Presidents' committee later again revised the accommodation requirements to include ten lecture rooms and a public hall to take one thousand students.

Sir Thomas Deane had been asked to report on nine sites in Cork city being considered by the Board of Works for the college, but none were found to be suitable. The problem lay in finding a large enough level site close to the city centre. There was no directive on the style of architecture to be used, and no correspondence relating to this survives, although meetings between Colonel Jones, chairman of the Board, and Deane, are likely to have addressed this subject.

Later in 1846, Deane was asked to report on a further three sites: no. 9, Gill Abbey, no. 13, Victoria Road, and no. 18, Sans Souci (on the Blackrock Road). The Gill Abbey site appealed to Deane in terms of aesthetics, as it was on top of a limestone cliff, overlooking the south channel of the river Lee. Although the owner of Gill Abbey House was reluctant to sell, his death allowed the house to be sold. It was the least expensive of the three sites, at £ 1,680.

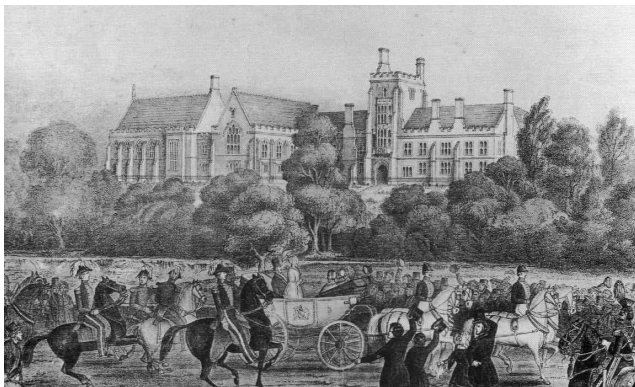
There were two access points to this site: a thirty foot wide right of way to the Gaol Road (now College Road) the other a narrow entrance formed by the angle between the portico of the county gaol and an access bridge (built in 1833 to a design by Marc Isambard Brunel). The initial sum allowed for the building of the college was £30,000 (according to the *Cork Constitution* of 2 May 1846). This did not appear to leave much room for providing additional access points to the site, which were at that time limited. The entrance next to the gaol was considered particularly inappropriate, but to provide an entrance closer to the city from the Western Road would have necessitated building a new bridge upstream, which was not within the original budget. The *Cork Constitution* notice also confirmed Deane as the architect. Although not stated there, it is clear that his associate, Benjamin Woodward, also played a role in the design of the college.

Once the choice of site had been confirmed, Deane produced proposal drawings quite quickly, and, once these were approved, was asked to produce working drawings. The productions of specifications and drawings for tender took longer. By October 1846, notices inviting contractors

to tender for the job were placed in newspapers. The successful tenderer was the Dublin firm of John Butler, Rockville House, Rathmines, whose tender was £23,013, less a credit of £100 for old materials on the premises. The contract was signed on 28 January 1847. Contract drawings survive in the college archives.

The Board of Works began to request Deane to cut construction costs by 1849, being concerned particularly about the use of large quantities of stone, an expensive material. The Aula Maxima, which was originally to have been floored in stone flags, eventually got a boarded floor. A timber louvered roof Lantern, for ventilation of the Aula Maxima, which can be seen in Deane's original drawings for the college, was also vetoed. It may have also been at this stage that the wall originally planned to close the south side of the quadrangle (which can be seen in drawings from 1848), was deleted. Stories of another range of buildings for this side not being built for financial reasons appear unfounded, as do those suggesting that the wall was built and taken down again.

The architects' intentions for the buildings were, as is common, not always exactly in line with the expectations of the building users. In December 1849, a month after the official opening of the college, Kane wrote to the Board of Works expressing irritation that some of the more elaborate fixtures and fittings for the buildings had not yet arrived, which he attributed to their complex design.



Queen Victoria is acclaimed by the crowd during her visit to Queen's College, Cork on 3 August, 1849

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University

A gateway to south-east corner of quadrangle was built at the entrance to the grounds from the access laneway. The gate was designed by Deane. It was moved to its present location on College Road in 1864, but retained its original date plaque.

In August 1849, Queen Victoria paid a brief visit to Cork during her Royal Tour. The Royal party arrived at Queenstown (Cobh) earlier than expected, and proceeded to Cork, where viewing stands were still being

erected. The Queen had been advised not to enter any buildings in the city because of cholera, so instead inspected the college from her carriage on the Western Road. She watched Sir Thomas Deane direct the elevation of a statue of her, presented to the college by him, to the gable of the Aula Maxima. This statue was in the twentieth century taken down and buried in the President's garden. It was dug up in 1994 in time for the college's centenary celebrations, and displayed amid continuing protest, but it remains on display today in the quadrangle building. The college was inaugurated on 7 November 1849, following an address by the president, now Sir Robert Kane. Entrance examinations had been held the previous week.

3.5 Development of the University: the 19th century

College life at Queen's College Cork began with the enrolment of 115 Students in the first term, 70 of them matriculated students). The subjects offered were arts, including science, medicine, engineering, agriculture and law. The average age of students ranged from 17 to 19, and the majority were Roman Catholic. In December 1849, a month after the official opening of the college, Kane wrote to the Board of Works expressing irritation that some of the more elaborate fixtures and fittings for the buildings had not yet arrived, which he attributed to their complex design. Sir Robert Kane referred in his first President's Report to the 'premature occupation of an unfinished building'.

The construction of further college buildings continued in the ensuing years. The Anatomy theatre, a freestanding structure to the south-west of the quadrangle, was erected under a new contract signed by the Board of Works with Butler (the contractor for the main quadrangle works) on 21 August 1850. The building was the final phase of works designed by Deane and Woodward. Drawings in the college archives show a simple two-storey structure, erected at a cost of about £1,000. This building now forms the end of the later Windle Medical Building, and is hardly distinguishable as a separate entity. Lord Lieutenant Clarendon provided the initial funding for this much-needed medical building, with further construction continuing between 1850 and 1880. The Clarendon Building, as it was originally known, was extended under the presidency of Sullivan to its present length, with the anatomy room being enlarged, lecture rooms added and a museum erected. Changes were also made the southern end of the building, which was made higher.

In May 1850, the college still expressing concerns about accommodation, it was decided that the Board of Works should glaze the lower cloisters of the Quadrangle to prevent flooding in southerly wind and rain.

Also in 1850, a site at Inchigaggin was acquired for the provision of a Model Farm & Garden. The planting of seeds and shrubs went ahead in the same year and the 'Munster Institute' or 'Model Farm' was opened in 1853. The project subsequently underwent difficulties, due largely to the closure of the Dept. of Agriculture after the death of Prof. Edward Murphy in 1868.

Abandoned for a while, it was reopened in 1880 during the Sullivan presidency with the addition of a new dairy school.



The great fire which engulfed the west wing of the university in 1862

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of

A dramatic fire gutted the West Wing of the quadrangle on 15 May 1862. Its cause was the subject of much speculation, but was never confirmed. The blaze destroyed all of the timber in the building's west wing, according to contemporary sources, although the gate tower masonry apparently prevented the spread of the fire to the North and East wings. Fortunately, both the library and natural history collection were housed in these wings and were not damaged. College property destroyed or damaged included the material medica, pathology, surgical and midwifery museums, the Bunnell Lewis collection of classical plaster casts, models, instruments and drawings from the medical school, and the herbarium, which had been considered particularly important.

In 1864, the main gateway was moved from south-east corner of quadrangle to College Road. The original gateposts were re-used, and retain their earlier date plaque. A new gate lodge was constructed here, erected from a design commissioned from Sir Thomas Deane by the Board of Works. In 1873, on the 27th of September, William Kirby Sullivan was appointed president of QCC. His presidency saw the acquisition and successful gentrification of lands surrounding the college. E.T. Owen of the Board of Works designed a gothic-style gatehouse for the Western Road entrance to the college in 1877. It was demolished in 1929 and the metal gates, which had been manufactured by John Buckley & Sons of Cork, were removed to the Gaol gate.

In 1884, Berkeley Hall opened as halls of residence for Church of Ireland students. Located in the south-east corner of the college, bounded by College Road and Donovan's Road, its doors remained open for only 10 years. The Franciscan order took it over in 1911, renaming it St. Anthony's Hall, but closed it again in 1912. It was purchased by the Honan bequest in 1914 and was used successfully as a halls of residence for Catholic students until it was demolished by the



The UCC Bridge, swept away by floods in 1916

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University

College in 1995, and the Applied business/languages building is now located on the site.

The new entrance, wooden bridge and gate lodge at the Western Road was completed in 1878, providing a long awaited alternative from the gaol road entrance. It was located slightly to the east of the present entrance. This wooden bridge was replaced in 1910 by a reinforced concrete structure, which was subsequently swept away by severe

flooding in 1916. It was not until 1929 that the present entrance was finally opened, with the old gate lodge demolished and the old wrought iron gates replaced.

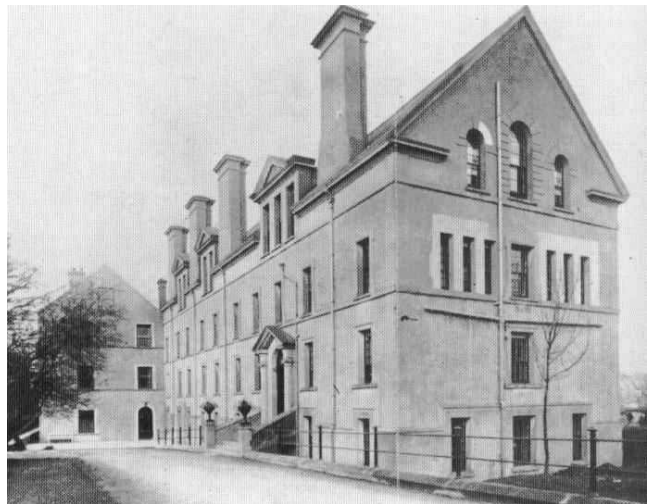
W.H. Crawford made several important and remarkably generous donations to QCC in 1878, with funds going towards a new entrance at the Western Road and tropical glass houses for the botanical garden. These can be seen in photographs from the 1890's, adjoining the Biology Building. All of these structures have now been demolished. Crawford was also responsible for a number of generous library donations. One of his most significant donations equipped the college observatory, which still bears his name. The Crawford Observatory was opened in 1890. The building included a revolving telescope dome. W.H. Crawford donated £1000 towards the astronomical instruments and clocks, which were made by Howard Grubb in Dublin. Further donations for the project came from the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Cork and others. The most important instrument was an 8 and a half-inch telescope made by Howard Grubb, which had been exhibited at the Paris Exhibition in 1878 where it had won a gold medal. The unimpeded celestial view once held by the observatory became impeded in the early twentieth-century, and by the 1930's, it could no longer be used for its original purpose.

3.6 Development of the University: the 20th century

Queen's College Cork became part of the newly established National University of Ireland in 1908, under the Irish Universities Act, and was re-named University College Cork. Religious tests were prohibited, but the act did stipulate that the governing body of each university should be acceptable to the members of the predominant denomination in each college. Two priests were appointed in 1909 as chaplains to the college, an indication of the relaxation of the strictly non-denominational ethos.

The Physics and Chemistry Building (now the Civil Engineering Building) was opened in 1911. In December of the same year the Athletic Grounds at the Mardyke were acquired, although the pavilion was not erected until 1931. The Donovan's Land area, off Donovan's Road, was also purchased in 1911.

The Honan Hostel, which provided residential accommodation for Catholic students, was opened in 1914, in the former Berkely Hall, purchased through the Honan bequest to the college, which also included the building of the Honan chapel in 1916, a particularly important Irish Romanesque style chapel containing hugely significant applied artworks, which

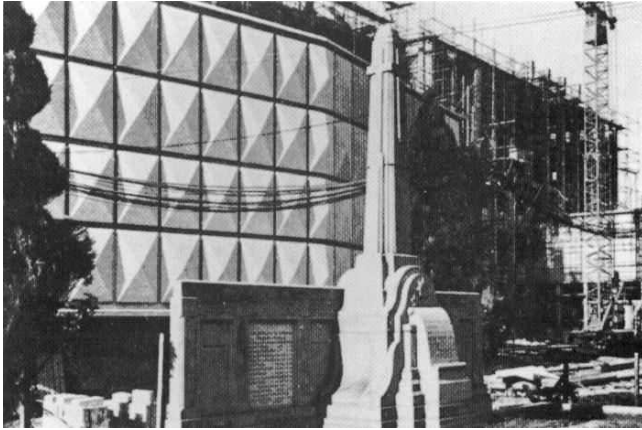


The Honan Hostel, for generations a home to Catholic male students

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University

College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

has never been in the ownership of UCC, given the college's non-denominational ethos, although it is of course inextricably socially linked to the college. In 1922, the Catholic Bishop of Cork expressed the need for additional residential accommodation for women attending the college. The La Retraite order was suggested to run such a hostel, and Lee Cottage, just west of Gaol Walk, was purchased. It had in the past been the Gaol Governor's residence, as well as a private residence. It was opened as a hall of residence in 1923, and subsequently enlarged a number of



The construction of the new Science Building, 1968

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University

times before closing as a hostel in 1977, when it was acquired by UCC for teaching space and renamed Áras Na Laoi. The nuns moved the hostel to Fernhurst House, later the site of the Bon Secours hospital.

One of the most significant new buildings on the campus in the early twentieth century was the Dairy Science Building, on which work commenced in 1928. The new faculty of Dairy Science was of national interest, with the elevation of agriculture to university level in the early years of the

Irish Free State, a nation still 80% dependent on agriculture. Such was the new building's significance, President Cosgrave laid the foundation stone on 20 July 1928. Local limestone and West Cork slate were used in its construction, and the building was designed to appear in harmony with the Quadrangle and older college buildings. A creamery, which was built at the same time next to the Dairy Science building, was demolished in 1969. Associated with this development, the new S.E. entrance gates and bridge, designed by Cork architects O'Connor and O'Flynn, were completed in 1929 at the Western Road. The bridge was constructed by Murphy Bros. contractors of Cork. The original wrought iron gates were transferred to the Gaol entrance, where they remain today.

The college population grew constantly in the early twentieth century, with student numbers increasing from 441 in 1926-27 to 1,067 in 1944-45. The college needed to expand, and, since the Cork Corporation were determined that expansion should not spread to the east of the existing campus, it was necessary to acquire land to the west.

By 1945, the old county gaol, to the west of the college, was no longer the focus of the college's distaste, as it had been in the nineteenth century. As an institution, it had wound down to accommodate only a handful of young offenders. The gaol had originally been built in 1791, designed by Michael Shanahan, in a then relatively undeveloped part of the city. It was extended by the Pain brothers in 1818, providing a House of Correction, built to a radial design. The

entrance portico to the north, which still survives, formed the entrance to the latter building. The college acquired one acre of the gaol site in 1945, and the electrical engineering building was built on this site. A monument to, among others, thirteen IRA prisoners who died during the war of Independence by execution at Victoria (now Collins) Barracks, was erected by UCC on part of the old gaol site in 1948. Commemorative ceremonies continue to be held on the site each Easter. The remainder of the site was given to the college in 1957, with only the portico and front wall being preserved, allowing for the construction of the Science building and the College Road entrance.

The new Science Building was built between 1968 and 1971, located on the site of the old gaol. Its scale and design were, and continue to be, the subject of much controversy.

The first college Development Plan was published in 1972, which guided the college's expansion on its existing site, and further land acquisitions, for the following 20 years. Among the recommendations in this report were the proposal for repetitive linear forms in new development, and the demolition of the medical building, which was not carried out. The initial Plan was based on student numbers of around 7,000, which have continued to increase since then. Changes to existing buildings at this time include the Civil Engineering building, which was renovated (internally) in 1974. The building had been the Departments of Chemistry and Experimental Physics.

One of UCC's most significant acquisitions of external buildings came in 1978, when Beamish and Crawford offered the Lee Maltings site to the college. The site contained a number of late eighteenth and nineteenth century industrial buildings. The accommodation was badly needed, and it was used to house book storage, a recreational complex, lecture halls and the Department of zoology, who remain on the site. A nearby building housed the National Microelectronics Research Centre (NMRC), which has now become extremely successful.

The Dairy and Food Science building was completed in 1979. The lecture/academic rooms were located for the most part in the section adjacent to Gaol Walk, with the processing building in the main two-storey structure to the College Road side.

It had been recognised for some time in the 1970's that a new library was required for the college. The site eventually chosen was on the old Quarry Grounds, which had been used for many fondly remembered sporting activities, and the five-storey



The last Quarry Cup final took place in 1976 before building commenced on the Boole Library

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

Boole Library and adjacent underground lecture halls and offices etc were completed in 1982. The Boole library represented the largest capital project of the 1970's and early 1980's in the college.

The main restaurant was extended in 1991, providing the staff dining room. There was a fire in the Lee Maltings buildings, housing the National Microelectronics Research Centre, which also affected the Granary Theatre, originally housed in an old Granary building there. Castlewhite Apartments were constructed in 1991. These were constructed on a site just west of the campus, and they represented a move away from the traditional hostel-type accommodation provided on or close to campus, to self-contained apartments for student use.

The first Development Plan Review was produced in 1993. This plan promoted the continuation of an east-west axis of development. An extension for further accommodation for Food Science was constructed in 1993. A new Granary Theatre was built in 1994, on the Mardyke, at the back of the former Presentation College grounds. The former Presentation College, facing on to the Western Road, was purchased by the college in the late 1980's, and now houses the Department of Archaeology.

Other sites bought in the 1990's include the former St. Vincent's Seminary building on Sundays Well Road, now the Department of Music, and parts of the Distillery Fields at the west end of the North Mall. A strip of land just above the river connects these two sites. Brookfield House, on College Road, was purchased in 1997.

3.7 Development of the University into the 21st Century

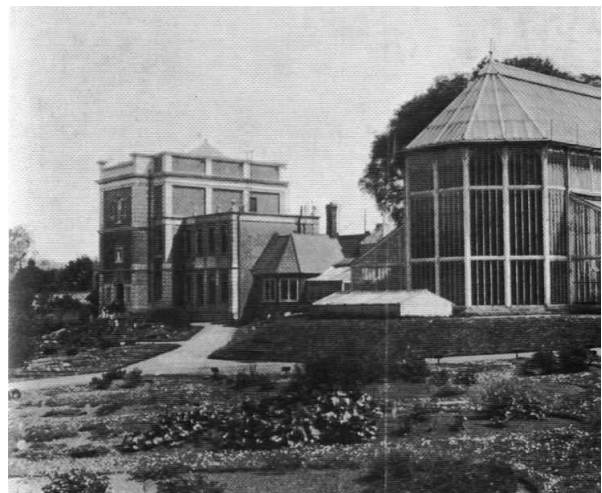
The applied business/humanities building on the site of the closed Honan Hostel, and a student centre, funded from a special levy on students' fees, commenced construction in 1994. The student centre is now at the centre of a programme of continuing development to provide student facilities, to be known as Honan Square. The Honan Square plan was introduced in the college's first Environmental Plan, which was produced in 1997. The most recently completed building, at the western edge of the expanded campus, has been the new Biosciences building, completed in 2002. The next major project expected to be completed within the next few years will be on the site of the old Cork Greyhound track, along the Western Road. Also due to be completed in the near future is the new gallery and restaurant in the Lower Grounds, again the subject of an architectural competition. Brookfield House is to form the centrepiece of a new School of Nursing, which involves retaining the existing house and extending it. An architectural competition for this project has been held and the architects selected. A new Development Plan Review is now almost complete, and covers an area from the North Mall to Dennehy's Cross

3.8 The landscape, settings, and natural environment

Analysis of Historical Landscape

The designed landscape in which the University's buildings were set was considered to be of enormous importance, particularly given that the site had been selected as much for its natural beauty as for its convenience to the city. In analysing how the landscape as it appears to day has developed, five key design phases have been identified

- i. A medieval monastic landscape, overlain by the later development of the gaol and also a villa landscape, all of which now survive only in small parts, as an archaeological underlay.
- ii. A formal immediate setting to the gothic collegiate building, and its wider picturesque setting. Both aspects of the landscape are of considerable significance as the setting to the important early buildings, and additionally as the explicit rationale for the siting of the College. The precise nature of the Gill Abbey landscape, and how much was retained by Deane is not entirely clear, but it appears that he may have retained and adapted a pre-existing terrace walk for the College; the base of the terrace 'turret'⁵, for example, may be part of an earlier summerhouse viewpoint. The combination of gothic architecture, formal but clean-lined courtyard and garden, terrace, and picturesque setting, are all typical of the best new designs of the 1840s to 1860s, for institutions, colleges, country houses and government. Less usual, however, is the inclusion of a botanic garden in Deane's design brief although this no longer survives. The influences for this appear to include Lady Kane, wife of the first president, the Professor of Botany, and the local importance of the horticultural economy, including the model farm beyond the city.
- iii. In the late 1870s the College purchased further land to, the east of the original grounds, to lay out a Western road entrance lodge, bridge, new drive and to expand the Botany Department. This has been attributed to the influence of the second president and a local botanical enthusiast, William Crawford, scion of the famous Cork brewing family, who funded and gave his name to the Crawford Plant Houses. By the 1880s, the



The Honan Biological Institute and the Crawford Plant Houses

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

⁵set into the cliff face between Perrot's inch and the quadrangle

special climatic condition of southern coastal Ireland, Cornwall and south-west Scotland were becoming known as of especial value for trialling, and there was during this time a flood of half-hardy plant introductions from across the globe. Crawford seems to have been influential in the introduction of the exotic plantings which now characterise coastal areas, but more research is needed to clarify and substantiate his role in this aspect of the development of the University. Although probably of national importance, the botanical aspect survives only as a limited number of specimen plants. To the south-east of the expanded campus, the first lodge and bridge were lost in 1916, but the main drive remains to this day a fundamental part of the structure of the College landscape, with planting of the period, appearing strongly ornamental (mixed evergreens and colour contrasts) rather than picturesque.

- iv. A long phase of consolidation seems to have followed, with Breen's Entrance, a piece of grand formalism, replacing the lost bridge in 1928.
- v. A last phase of expansion in education provision started slowly in the 1950s, apparently accelerating to the present day. This phase has been characterised by four different types of landscape intervention:
 - groups of large, modern buildings clustered around modern landscaped courtyards (Applied Business/Languages Building; Boole Library; Honan Square).
 - large modern buildings placed into the grounds of earlier villas (and the gaol) very limited with regard to the earlier landscape layout or historic fabric (Electrical Engineering and Science buildings; Castlewhite Apartments; Aras na Laoi; Student Centre).
 - areas of earlier landscape grounds cleaved or obliterated by developments associated with the new buildings (infilling of The Commons and secondary river courses; removal of the President's and Botanic gardens).
 - conversion of private residential buildings surrounding the campus to educational use (Leeholme, Roseleigh, Fernhurst Avenue, Ardpatrick and others).

Area-by Area analysis

For ease of analysis and understanding the UCC campus ownership has been subdivided into eight historic landscape character areas, on the basis of visual coherence and landscape history.

3.8.1 Lower Ground, Perrott's Inch and the Avenue

These areas once lay within, and partly defined, the river Lee floodplain, and have been long subject to human intervention for fisheries, river management, and quarrying. Features included the fish weirs and sluices, and reputedly the site of Gill Abbey Mill. These areas acquired significance as part of the picturesque setting to the new Queen's College in 1849. This setting had already been laid out with an entrance lodge, as part of the Gill Abbey grounds (by 1841), and the river walk with trees. It is likely too that the terrace and bastion above Perrott's Inch may pre-date the College. In the late 1880s, a major redesign of the College landscape included a circular basin pool and fountain on the Lower Ground, a new gate lodge, bridge and approach drive called The Avenue, together with extensive ornamental and evergreen planting along the slopes of the avenue and elsewhere. Circulation around the Lower Ground was formalised. The bridge failed in floods in 1916 and was not replaced until 1928 when two new lodges were in place, and the current entrance gate was built. Tennis courts were added by 1949. The river course was substantially re-engineered in the 1950s by infilling side channels and landraising Perrott's Inch with demolition rubble from the Gaol.

3.8.2 The Quadrangle and Historic Core of the Campus

The layout of the original core University buildings was influenced by alignments retained from the Gill Abbey layout. The grounds around the historic core were laid out in 1849, with additional planting in the 1880s. The original gaol lodge was removed by 1949.

3.8.3 The Eastern Campus

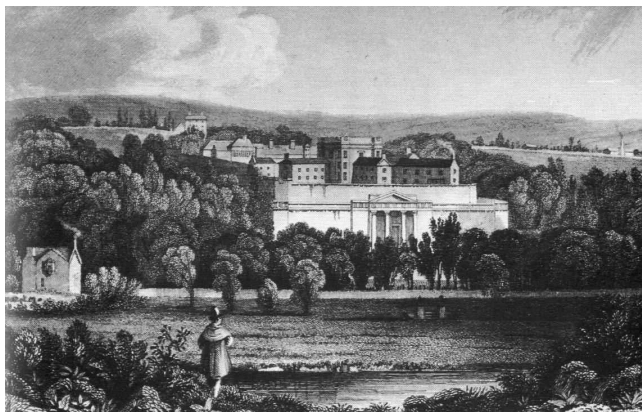
Land up to Donovan's Road was acquired progressively after 1878 and developed in sequence with the Crawford Plant Houses, Botany Department, Berkeley Hall and Honan Chapel. Only the Plant Houses and Botany Department were integrated into the College landscape by 1926. The Dairy Science building was built on land acquired in 1918. The houses on Donovan's Road, Crossleigh and Leeholme, were purchased in 1943 and 1961. The Berkeley Hall/Honan Hostel site was only purchased by the University in 1989/1992, allowing development of the Humanities Building, from 1995. The Student Centre (1995 with current extension) occupies and breaches the site of the walled garden.

3.8.4 Boole Library and Observatory

The site of a former quarry and limekiln which was acquired 1863. The Observatory was initially in its own landscape, but was enclosed by the 1926 by Engineering Buildings. For many years used as a sporting ground, the Quarry field was developed for the Boole Library in 1982.

3.8.5 The Gaol Site

The site of the Cork County gaol for some 200 years, this land was purchased and the gaol building largely demolished in two parts, in 1947 and 1958, retaining only the gaol bridge, main gate, northern walls, and Republican burial ground and monument (1947). The Electrical Engineering building (1954) and Science building (1971) appear now to have been built without any substantial consideration of landscape treatment.



An old view of Cork Gaol, prior to construction of Queen's College.
Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), *The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork*, Cork University Press, 1995

3.8.6 Áras na Laoi and Western Campus

Lee Cottage, dating from before 1800, was extended and developed as a classical villa by 1850 within its own landscape of pocket park, gate lodge, service wing, ice house, walled gardens, shrubbery walk and staff cottages. It was purchased by the college in the late twentieth century, renamed Áras Na Laoi, and extended, with car parking created to the front. In its grounds, the Food Science and Technology buildings were built, and the majority of the early landscape has been lost, although the ice house survives.

To the west, another villa, Castle White, (or White Castle), had been built by 1850, with its own bridge across the Lee and an entrance off Western Road. It has now been demolished. Lapps Asylum, also to the west, had been built by 1893 and was purchased by UCC in 1981, while Westcourt, a house close to that, was purchased in 1972. There had been an axial drive off Western Road, which was removed during the development of Castle White apartments.

3.8.7 Brookfield House

Brookfield house is a late nineteenth century villa with a landscape of pocket park, clumps of trees, a tennis court, specimen conifers along the drive, gate lodge, boundary lime trees, a substantial conservatory and conifer woodland. Mixed woodland growth had been established by 1926, and since then some specimen conifers were removed but more enclosing shrubbery added.

3.8.8 Residential and sports properties off campus

Residential properties are scattered, mainly nineteenth century buildings in streets adjoining the campus. The Greyhound track had been established on the site of the Albert nursery by the 1840s. The Mardyke Sports Ground was established in the early twentieth century, on Mardyke meadows.

3.8.9 Botanical analysis of the site

A botanical survey of the lands owned by UCC was undertaken to establish their botanical interest and to highlight in particular those sites deserving of conservation measures. Lands were divided into a number of sub-sites. The principal areas of botanical interest are summarised below, and a full report of the survey, accompanied by a map indicating the location of sub-sites, is included in the appendices.

Main Campus Grounds and Areas around College Road/Western Road

The most significant areas here include a strip of land along the south channel, facing the Western Road, which is of interest for possessing a magnificent conifer tree and for its aesthetically pleasing, ornamental nature.

Western Road Gateway westwards to Gaol Bridge

This linear strip of college grounds flanking the south channel is of particular interest to the east, close to the site of the new Gallery and Restaurant building, currently under construction. The inner bank pathway embankment holds co-occurring populations of Crow Garlic, Field Garlic, Kraus's Clubmoss and Slender Speedwell. Of these, the Crow-Garlic is nationally scarce. However, the Field Garlic is probably the most significant, being nationally rare, and this is the only known locality in southern Ireland, where it was first recorded in 1975.

Aras Na Laoi/Gaol Walk to College Road

The Car park at Aras Na Laoi has to its southern embankment a cluster of tall, mature trees (mainly Ash, Sycamore and Elm), associated with a range of ornamental shrubs. It is likely that this planting is associated with Aras Na Laoi's earlier incarnation as a private house.

Distillery Fields

A number of tall trees fringe the UCC property here, mainly Sycamore, Ash and Horse Chestnut, while further west, towards the glasshouses, the ground is overrun with a variety of weedy species, some of which are of aesthetic interest, including Ramsons, Three-cornered Leek and Pendulous Sedge. A small population of Wood Anemone occurs near the weir- the only site recorded for it, while a stand of Raspberry in this area bears testament to the fact that cultivation extended almost to the water-line in the past, though the habitat is now greatly neglected and overgrown.

Castlewhite Apartments

Although there has been a lot of planting in this area, little is of major botanical interest, apart from the nationally-rare Spotted Hawkweed, which occurs as a tiny population on the eastern boundary wall, facing the Gaol Road, adjacent to the gaol bridge.

3.8.10

Wildlife analysis of the site: mammals

There is a limited wild mammal fauna in Ireland and it is especially limited in urban habitats such as the Greater UCC Campus. Nevertheless there are protected mammals using the university's grounds. Otters use the river and bats use the grounds and river for foraging, trees and college buildings for roosts.

Likely occurrences of mammals on college sites

Otters (*Lutra lutra*) and feral mink (*Mustela vison*) use the river, otters are native and protected, whereas mink are introduced and regarded as a pest. There is a report of an otter holt (burrow) at the back of the Distillery site, and all river habitats in the college grounds are likely to be used by otters.

Bats using rivers in Co Cork have been listed, and include Daubentons (*Myotis daubentoni*), Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), Whiskered (*Myotis mystacinus*) and Leisler's (*Nyctalus leisleri*) (Sleeman & Smiddy 1999). The first two species without doubt occur in and around college grounds and pipistrelle bats have in the past been found in roosts in college buildings on the western road and Lee Maltings. At that time pipistrelles were thought to be a single species but it is now known that there are two species of pipistrelle (the Soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and Common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) present in Ireland. A Leisler's bat was accidentally killed in a glass door at Lee Maltings in August 1984 (Sleeman, 1988) so this species may also be present on some College properties currently. Similarly the Brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) may also be present, particularly on the Distillery site and on the Main Campus. All bats in the Republic are protected under the 1976 Wildlife Act⁶.

⁶Sleeman, D.P. (1988) Records of Leisler's bat from south coast. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 22:416; Sleeman, D.P. & Smiddy, P. (1999) Bats mist-netted on rivers in Co Cork. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* 26: 204-

4 General statement of significance

University College Cork is of exceptional significance in relation to Ireland, to education, and to Cork.

This significance derives from the following

- The University is associated with educational, scientific and literary achievement, in the form of personalities such as Boole, and in the many thousands of current and former employees and students who have made their mark in their own disciplines and contributed to the development of the identity of Ireland and Munster.
- It is the largest university outside Dublin and the second largest in the state.
- It was one of the first non-denominational universities established by the Colleges (Ireland) Act of 1845.
- It represents one of the most important institutions in Cork city, as educator, employer, and provider of facilities. It continues to be a key participant in the economic, social and cultural development of Cork city.
- It contains one of the finest examples of internationally renowned architects Deane and Woodward's work in the form of the main Quadrangle.
- It retains surviving elements of important associated planned landscape.
- It contains some of the city's most noteworthy historic buildings, which have come to symbolise the major role the university plays in the city and region.
- It contains an Observatory of major international importance, mainly due to its extraordinarily intact scientific instrumentation.
- It houses a major library of national importance, containing special collections which include unique resources for the study of Irish culture and language. Furthermore, the university has in its care collections of valuable artefacts: a legacy from the original nineteenth-century museums. It also contains teaching collections and other collections of international significance, including Ogham Stones, a collection of classical casts and historic scientific instruments.
- The University has seen the natural development of areas of the site as the habitat of nationally important flora and mammals.
- The University owns a collection of contemporary art, which is of significance to the regional community and artistic population at national level.

5 The Built Environment

5.1 The Significance of the Built Environment (Drawing 2)

Given the high number of buildings and other features in college ownership, it was decided to establish a number of groups or categories into which they may be placed. The categories chosen relate to significance, age, and type. As it is the intention of the plan to develop an overall approach to the sites, rather than a conservation report for each building, these groups will be used to inform vulnerabilities and policy areas. It should be noted that the perceived significance of these buildings can change over time, depending on their age, function, context and use, so this list should be periodically re-examined and revised.

The tabulation of significance, included as an appendix to this report, outlines in more detail the significant elements of each building. The general criteria for these ratings are based on those of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, which are as follows:

International: Structures of sufficient architectural heritage importance to be considered in an international context.

National: Structures or sites which make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage of Ireland.

Regional: Structures or sites which make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage within their area. They also stand in comparison with similar structures or sites in other regions or areas within Ireland.

Local: Structures and sites which make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage within their own locality.

Intrusive: Buildings considered intrusive in their current location.

From these criteria, the following groups have been determined:

Group 1: Internationally or Nationally Significant Buildings

The entire Quadrangle

The Crawford Observatory

The Windle Medical Building

The Geography (former Dairy Science) building

Group 2. Regionally Significant Buildings, Gates, Lodges and features

Gates and Lodge (N.E.), Western Road

Gate Lodge, (N.W.) Heritage and Visual Arts Office

Gates (N.W.)

Gates and Lodge (South), College Road

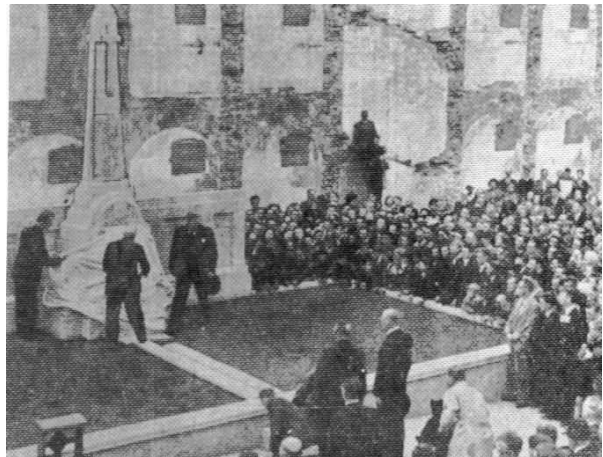
Bridge, N.E. Entrance
President's Tower
The Gaol Gate
The Lee Maltings
19-20 Dyke Parade
Aras Na Laoi (La Retraite)
St. Vincent's Hostel (Department of Music), Sunday's Well
Brookfield House
Main Restaurant Building
Sports Pavilion, the Mardyke
Lee Holme, Donovan's Road
Crossleigh, Donovan's Road
1-6 Brighton Villas, Western Road
1-2 Lucan Place, Western Road
Safari, Donovan's Road
Carrigbawn, Donovan's Road
Aldworth, Donovan's Road
No. 3 Fernhurst Avenue, Donovan's Road
Ashford, Donovan's Road
Askive, Donovan's Road
Tyrconnell, off Perrott Avenue,
Silverdale, off Perrott Avenue,
Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5 Elderwood, College Road
Nos. 2-5 Carrigside, College Road
Roseleigh (Dept. of Nursing), Western Road
The Laurels (Dept. Adult Continuing Education), Western Road

Group 3: Locally Significant Buildings

The Boole Library
Civil Engineering Building
Electrical Engineering Building
Kane (Science) Building
Central Workshop
Buildings and Estates Office
2-8 Bloomfield Terrace, Western Road
Procurements and Contracts Office/Folklore and Ethnology Archive, College Road
Iona (chaplain's house), College Road
Ardpatrick, College Road
Nos. 2-5 Perrott Avenue
Brother Ignatius Connolly Building, Western Road

Group 4: Recent Buildings

Staff Restaurant
Castlewhite Apartments
Creche
Aras na MacLeinn
The Granary Theatre
The O’Rahilly Building
Plant Sciences Building
Food Science Building
The Mardyke Sports Centre
Biosciences Institute



The unveiling of an IRA memorial, which is now part of the college grounds near the Science Building

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

Group 5: Intrusive

Central Boiler House

Group 6: Sites of National Significance not solely within UCC control

The Honan Chapel
Republican Graves behind Gaol Gates

5.2 General Issues affecting the significance of the built environment

The issues affecting the built fabric of UCC have been divided into general issues, which affect all areas of built fabric, and into those issues which affect individual buildings and/or elements.

5.2.1. General maintenance⁷ of built fabric

Investment in new capital projects has not been matched by investment in maintenance of the college’s building stock, and this must be considered the most serious threat to the significance of the built environment. Given the level of rainfall in Ireland, maintenance relating to water ingress is one of the most essential forms of long term building conservation in this country, and, it should be noted, the most poorly attended to on a national level. Examples of areas where maintenance requires attention include:

- Roofs and Parapets should be the subject of regular inspections to ensure weather seals are intact and debris is not allowing water build-up behind parapets.
- Rainwater Goods should be generally maintained, in order to serve their function of drawing water away from buildings.

⁷Maintenance, as defined by the Burra Charter, means the continuous protective care of the fabric, contents and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or recon-

5.2.2 Repairs to built fabric

Repairs will continue to be necessary to all college buildings on a regular basis. However, in some cases, repairs that may pose a threat to the existing fabric include:

- Poor quality repairs to stone, using inappropriate hard cementitious mortars, can cause long-term water related damage to many buildings. These hard mortars, while appropriate for use with modern materials, are often harder than the stone they are used with, preventing natural movement and causing cracks in the stone, allowing water ingress and trapping moisture.
- Where minor repairs are taking place to fabric, for example, the filling of an external plaster crack, the material should be appropriate and the repair not left exposed, and an attempt made to unify the repair in colour by painting.

5.2.3 Intervention into built fabric

A university by its nature must endeavour to keep up with technological innovation, often in the role of innovator as well as user. The continuing process of change in the way in which communication and teaching takes place requires constant intervention into building fabric. However, in some cases, these interventions can be harmful to the significance of the built fabric.

Intervention into built fabric for services:

This may take the form of wiring, air conditioning, heating and plumbing. During the consultation process for the plan, it was expressed by many college building users that many re-wiring jobs, for example, were undertaken with little recognition for the building fabric they affected. Wiring for services has potential to be particularly visually intrusive, particularly in many of the college's more significant buildings, while heating has both a visual and sometimes a negative material effect on buildings. Lighting can also have a profound effect on the perception of an historic interior. While fluorescent lighting is cost-effective, it is often inappropriate for some interiors: one area where inappropriate lighting has an extremely negative effect is in the former museum in the Quadrangle building, where the very significant exposed timber roof structure is now punctuated by rows of large fluorescent lights. It is accepted that college services must be subject to constant revision and change as time progresses.

Intervention into built fabric to comply with building regulations

This may take the form of complying with safety or access regulations.

Safety: Given the vast number of people using the college buildings every day, safety is necessarily a very high priority. It is recognised, however, that in order to fully comply with current fire safety regulations, it is common that much significant historic building fabric may be lost. This most often takes the form of loss of original timber doors, in both purpose-built and acquired

college buildings. Lobbying staircase and circulation areas can lead to loss of fabric and also has a very negative visual impact.

Access: While it is essential that access be made available to all college building users, alterations to provide, for example, wheelchair access, have the potential to cause damage to historic building fabric. The principle of access is very important, but it is crucial that thought be given to the design of access solutions as they relate to significant historic fabric.

Intervention into built fabric for new and changing uses

The way in which each building in the college is used is subject to constant change. This is necessary and unavoidable. However, in some cases, much fabric has been lost unnecessarily. Changes of use in teaching areas can lead to the loss of original fixtures and fittings, some of which may be significant and need not always be removed. The change of use of some smaller areas of buildings to kitchens, for example, can lead to loss of fabric such as joinery. An overall policy in terms of alterations to allow new uses is required: loss of fabric varies depending on individual departments, with apparently no centralised instruction on appropriate techniques.

Signage is another necessary feature of an expanding campus, but signage has the potential to physically damage fabric where inserted in sensitive areas, and also to visually intrude on historic fabric. This is particularly marked in some houses, where three or four signs are present on some exteriors.

Intervention into built fabric for comfort and decoration:

Decorative tastes, and the way in which buildings are used, naturally changes over time. Changes have varying levels of impact on intact historic fabric, however, and in some cases this impact can be quite major.

- **Loss of original timber windows** The replacement of, usually timber, windows in historic buildings is a common factor affecting the significance of buildings in Ireland. In UCC, this work has taken place in some cases for increased comfort, generally in houses, and elsewhere for ease of use. This has resulted in either full or partial loss of timber sash or casement windows. The area where this has the greatest impact on the overall significance of the site is in the Quadrangle and Windle Medical buildings. Although the original windows have not always been fully maintained, many are still in working order, but unfortunately, it has been common practice to insert smaller aluminium-framed casement windows into the existing windows. These have had a very negative visual impact on the original windows, which form an important part of the overall buildings' significance.
- **Alterations to decorative schemes** Tastes in decorative schemes are constantly subject to change, but where a building is particularly significant, changes in



One of the newly built laboratories in the Electrical Engineering building

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of

decorations can have a profound effect on the perception of that significance. In the quadrangle, for example, the paint 'marbling' effect to chimneypieces is inappropriate, given the quality of the intended stone finish, while the paint scheme in the council chamber is so strong that it has an effect on the perception of the form and materials of the space. Elsewhere, the Electrical Engineering building is an example of an early twentieth century building where major refurbishment has involved the

removal of the majority of original internal features, including joinery, fixtures and fittings. There is little sense of any period other than the present inside the building now.

5.2.4 Subsidence Problems

The drift geology of the main campus and surrounding areas, on the limestone escarpment to the south of the River Lee, comprises loose glacial till overlying fissured limestone bedrock. This till material is very susceptible to washout of fines by action of water and the area has an extensive history of foundation problems arising from this.

Typically leakage from old salt-glazed-stoneware (SGW) pipes, adjacent to shallow wall footings, causes local settlement and cracking of walls. The ground settlement and foundation movement causes further rupture of pipes and more leakage, leading to increased settlement so that the problem may quickly become progressive and lead to structural failure. Deep, reinforced concrete footings are less affected, the phenomenon being most widespread in traditional house foundations. Leakage from water-mains and supply pipes is less common but the effects can be more serious and sudden because of the greater flows involved.

Damage is minimised by early detection of leaks and repair or replacement of drains. Such problems do not generally come to light until the causes of subsidence cracks in walls are investigated. By then some remedial work to foundations, by way of grouting or mini-piles, may also be necessary.

Some houses owned by UCC, particularly on Perrott's Avenue, show characteristic signs of

settlement cracking. Other houses, on College Road, O'Donovan's Road, Western Road and adjoining would also be vulnerable, because of location, construction, age and the likely condition of drains.

5.3 General Policies for retaining the significance of the built environment

Policy Area 1: Implementation

The college should establish an implementation group, with members representing academic interests, buildings and estates, and the heritage committee. The group's responsibilities could include targeting and prioritising conservation projects, and seeking to attract funding for conservation and maintenance.

Policy Area 2: Guiding Principles

The general statement of significance, as defined in the conservation plan, should be used to inform all future planning on the site.

Policy Area 3: Minimum Intervention

An approach of minimum intervention should be the preferred option where alternative approaches to works are under consideration.

Policy Area 4. Incremental Loss

Wherever possible, where original fabric, fixtures and fittings remain, they should be repaired rather than replaced. This is to guard against an incremental loss of significance.

Policy Area 5: Context

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter) should influence all future policy relating to conservation on the site. A copy of the charter is included in the appendices.

Policy Area 6: Investment in maintenance

Funding should be sought for a continuous system of Planned Preventative maintenance, which should be established by UCC for the site. Future fundraising should seek additional maintenance and conservation funding.

This should encompass particularly:

- Paths, green areas and general recreation areas.
- Steps, external stairs and ramps.
- All groups of buildings.

A 'Planned Preventative Maintenance' document will produce a structure to:

- a) Identify potential areas of concern.
- b) Record the present condition of all sites.
- c) Produce an ongoing maintenance strategy for all sites.

This document could feed into the centralised building management system in place in UCC, and

could be used to flag potential problems before they get out of hand.

A 'Planned Preventative Maintenance' system would greatly contribute to the Buildings and Estates Office becoming more pro-active in planning maintenance, rather than engaging in 'fire-fighting' maintenance problems. It would also contribute to allocating funds more accurately and in a planned manner.

A proposed format for recording PPM information, based on a format successfully used on state-owned buildings elsewhere, is included as a document in the appendices to this report.

A lack of investment in maintenance now will inflate future conservation costs. Although ideally, all maintenance works should be fully addressed each year, budget restrictions may necessitate the targeting of a programme of key works each year, based on their relative urgency and risks to significant buildings.

Policy Area 7: Training

College maintenance and grounds staff should be provided with training by qualified conservation professionals on appropriate techniques for minor repairs and electrical installations, in order to minimise unnecessary risks to historic building fabric. A targeted training fund could be established to assist with this process.

Repairs to building fabric, where of a minor nature and not under the supervision of an architect, should use like-for-like materials, e.g. lime mortars, and care should be taken to complete works to a high standard visually. Procedures for installing wiring and other services should follow appropriate advice, which can be developed as part of a training scheme. Policies and approaches to alterations and maintenance should be developed based on this training. Sympathetic approaches to the insertion of new services, where they affect the building fabric, should be developed, so that the minimum loss of or alteration of fabric is necessitated.

Policy Area 8: Compatible Uses

The use of each element of the site should be considered against what is compatible with the built fabric or natural environment. Where a proposed or existing use seriously compromises the built fabric or environment, the use should be reconsidered.

Where it is necessary to have a change of use for a building or site, care should be taken to retain as much of the original fabric as possible, wherever it is practical to do so.

Policy Area 9: Fire Safety and the regulatory environment

The use of buildings should require the least possible impact on historic fabric. While health and safety should continue to be of the highest priority, a flexible approach to building use should govern the decision to use areas of buildings for certain functions. Where safety regulations would necessitate a significant loss of fabric, the use of the building or area for that function should be reconsidered. A change of use to reduce the numbers using the building should be considered as an interim solution, in the absence of specific fire regulations for historic buildings. There is a growing awareness of the difficulties that historic buildings face in meeting fire

standards. Advantage is now being taken of proprietary systems for upgrading elements such as doors. The totality of the building should be addressed in a fire engineering approach where certain conditions, difficult to achieve, can be compensated by increased specifications in other areas such as alarms.

Policy Area 10: New buildings

Where new building is to take place in the context of significant historic sites, consideration should be given as part of the process of planning the new building to the impact the new building will have on the existing area. A process of consultation among college staff and others should precede any final decision on new development. The process followed recently for the college gallery project may be taken as an example of good practice in this area, where conservation advice was engaged, and the project presented to UCC staff and public in open sessions.

Policy Area 11: Temporary Structures

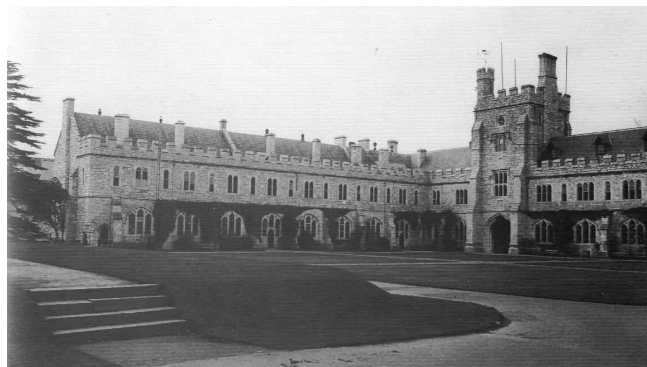
The erection of temporary structures, such as Portacabins, should be avoided, as there is a tendency for these structures to remain longer than anticipated, and their impact on the physical environment is generally negative. Alternative accommodation for the uses of existing temporary accommodation should be found as a priority.

Policy Area 12: Acquisition

The acquisition of historic buildings in future by college should be preceded by an assessment of their significance, conservation requirements, and potential for development. This should take place in association with the local authority from the earliest possible stage.

Policy Area 13: Areas of Special Character

In the light of the importance of the surrounding environment of the UCC main campus to the overall significance and attractiveness of the site, UCC should take a proactive role in protecting the character of this area against incremental loss of significance. UCC could propose to Cork City Council that some of the roads surrounding the campus be considered for inclusion in the city development plan as an Area of Special Character. This area might include Donovan's Road and College Road.



The Quad in the 1950's

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of University

Policy Area 14: Recording Buildings

Individual conservation studies of all buildings and features of regional, national or international significance should be produced. These need not all take place immediately. A priority list for attention should be produced. This should include:

The Observatory

The gates to the north-west

The Quadrangle, to which an overall approach should be taken

The Lee Maltings

The Windle Medical building

In addition to this, where alterations are to take place to a building on list 1 or list 2, these alterations should be preceded by recording the building, paying particular attention to areas where alterations are to take place. The record should take the form of a comprehensive photographic inventory, the updating of existing drawings of the building to indicate where changes will take place, and a basic written descriptive record, describing particularly areas where photographs may not easily be taken. Copies of these records should be held by both the buildings office and the college archives.

Where a decision is made to demolish a building, a comprehensive record of the building should also be made, in the context of a report by an experienced independent consultant, which should also include advice on the removal and storage of those elements of the building fabric deemed to be important.

Policy Area 15: Subsidence

It is advised that a drain condition survey be carried out on all individual properties owned by UCC. This can be done by CCTV survey or, more simply, by means of water testing. Damaged drains should be repaired or replaced, to halt further deterioration. The extent and nature of remedial work to foundations will depend on an analysis of each case.

5.4 Specific Policies: Group 1 buildings

The two buildings in the most urgent need of attention in group 1 are the two most significant buildings on the campus: the Quadrangle and the Observatory.

5.4.1 The Quadrangle

The quadrangle is one of the most significant buildings in UCC. It represents the foundation of the Queen's College in Cork, and remains the administrative heart of the modern University. It is a highly significant building architecturally, as one of the finest examples of the work of internationally recognised Cork architects, Deane and Woodward.

This significance is being affected in a number of ways:

- Lack of maintenance and inappropriate repairs to the external stonework and parapet, leading to severe water ingress, particularly evident in the Aula Maxima.

- No overall policy with regard to conservation of the entire building has been created. Alterations and repairs have taken place on a piecemeal basis, depending on the use of various parts of the building. This has led to the insertion of a variety of inappropriate aluminium windows, and wildly varying decorative schemes without solid historical background.
- The insertion of various mechanical and electrical installations, without proper regard for their visual and physical intrusiveness into the building fabric.

In order to retain the significance of the quadrangle, the building should first be the subject of a conservation study. This study should be undertaken as a matter of priority, and should take the quadrangle building as a whole. The study should first record each element of the building, so that a detailed record of the surviving original fabric and catalogue of alterations may be produced. Research into the original and later sources held in the college archives should inform this work, and Dr. Frederick O'Dwyer of Dúchas should be consulted. The range of issues affecting the fabric should be comprehensively identified, using expert advice. The study should address issues such as:

- The short and long-term conservation of the external fabric using appropriate materials and techniques.
- The unification of features such as windows, joinery, door and window furniture, general decorative schemes and signage, and this should be based on research and take an approach of minimum intervention.
- The consideration of appropriate uses for the various elements of the building that will have the least impact on the fabric while preserving public accessibility and the 'heart of the college' role, rather than just an administrative centre.
- The examination of new uses for under-utilised areas of the building, including the internal yard,
- The establishment of an immediate programme of urgent repairs and a long-term maintenance strategy should be produced for the building.

5.4.2 The Observatory

The observatory is of particular significance for its scientific instruments. The building was designed around the instruments, and can thus be considered a part of an overall scientific instrument of enormous significance to the university, city and country. The principal telescope is an important work by the internationally renowned Howard Grubb, and had won a gold medal at the Paris Exhibition of 1878 before being installed in its present location.

The significance of the Observatory is at risk principally from a lack of maintenance. Serious water ingress has occurred internally as a result of damaged rainwater goods, loss of flashing and loss of pointing to stonework, and biological growth continues to trap water inside the walls. The chamber containing the main telescope has been dry-lined, and this is concealing the full

extent of the damage to these internal walls. A heating system, intended to keep the building dry, may in fact be causing further damage, by encouraging condensation in winter. Poor ventilation discourages the building from drying out. In order to retain the significance of the Observatory, it will again be necessary to commission a detailed conservation study. The study should encompass both the built fabric and the contents of the Observatory. The general approach outlined for the Quadrangle should be followed. Existing reports on the instruments of the Observatory should be taken as a basis for understanding. No full record of the building, encompassing both the building and its instruments, exists.



President Cosgrave lays the foundation stone for the Dairy Science building.

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of

In addition to this, a multi-disciplinary committee to consider the future use and funding of the Observatory should be established. At present, there is no agreed strategy or use for the building. The committee should establish, through consultation, whether it is appropriate to retain the Observatory as an artefact, how this would affect public access, what its future role could be, how its teaching function can be maximised, and how to attract consistent funding. The treatment of the building itself, which is currently at risk, should be advised in the first instance by a report, as outlined above.

5.4.3 The Windle Medical Building

The Windle Medical building is, in part at least, one of the earliest buildings of Queen's College Cork. It comprises the 1850 Anatomy theatre to the south, the final college building designed by Deane and Woodward, and the later nineteenth-century Clarendon Building. The Medical faculty has always been one of the most important in UCC, and the significance of the building derives from this, the significance of the anatomy theatre as a part of Deane and Woodward's original scheme, and from the buildings' appropriateness alongside the main quadrangle.

The building suffers from similar external problems in relation to stonework and repairs to the quadrangle, and also from the loss of original windows and replacement with inappropriate new windows. The interior of the medical building has been particularly altered, by comparison to other buildings in group 1. The variety of extensions to the rear of the building have a confusing effect on this side, lessening its visual impact. The isolation of this building from the quadrangle was intentional in its design, given the various medical activities it housed, but this has recently been exacerbated. The immediate surroundings of the Medical building have a negative effect on perceptions of its significance: these include car parking, road and path surfacing, and its

proximity to the Boiler House.

In order to retain the significance of the Windle Medical Building, a conservation study, along the lines of that recommended for the quadrangle, should be produced. Significantly less remains of the original interior of the Medical Building than of the quadrangle, but a full record should indicate what does survive.

The visual problems in area immediately around the building should be addressed by examining whether some extensions and temporary structures could not be moved, re-housed elsewhere, or their functions moved to a single, permanent extension, designed in a modern style sensitive to the existing building. In the building itself, aluminium casement openings inserted into the original windows should be removed and the windows restored to their original appearance, with the minimum possible loss of remaining fabric.

5.4.4 The Geography Building

The significance of the Geography Building derives principally from it being built as the Department of Dairy Science at a time when the emerging Irish Free State was developing educational opportunities appropriate to the then predominantly rural population. It represents a milestone in the development of education in the earliest years of the Free State, and the fact that its foundation stone was laid by President Cosgrave in 1928 further adds to its importance.

It is the least at risk in the group in terms of external materials, partly because it is the newest, but the interior is being gradually altered. This has taken the form of new benches in the lecture theatre to replace the originals, which had been damaged by graffiti. While the damaged surface may have been difficult to write on, the graffiti does have a social significance for the college, and consideration could have been given to applying a new surface on top of benches, or to only replacing parts. Significant and possibly vulnerable elements include the original glazing the apparently intact small library. There is a very elaborate external metal fire escape to the north of the building, which has a negative visual impact on this façade.

In order to retain the significance of the Geography Building, it will again be necessary to commission a detailed conservation study. The study should encompass both the external fabric and the interior fixtures and fittings of the building. The general approach outlined for the Quadrangle should be followed. The Geography building was not designed to such a high standard of internal finish as, say, the Quadrangle, and it is obviously important that it retains its primary function as a teaching building, but ways should be explored in which the surviving internal layout, fixtures and fittings can be retained as a feature of the building, while not hindering its function.

⁸See chapter 4 of *Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for planning authorities* (Duchas), Draft

5.5 Issues affecting the significance of Group 2 Buildings and policies to address them

5.5.1 General Issues

All of the houses in this group have been judged to be of regional significance by national standards. The houses are almost all late nineteenth-century in date, and most retain a significant amount of internal features. Along with many relatively intact plan forms, key features retained include joinery (staircases, skirting, door and window architraves, shutters, doors) floor tiling or timber boarding.

Significant losses common to these buildings include original internal doors, which have been replaced by fire doors. Where doors survive, their original door furniture has usually been replaced by a standard inappropriate, modern fitting. While the majority of houses retain timber sash windows to their front facades, a policy to be commended, windows have in many houses been lost or modified to the rear of houses. Other timber features which have been poorly maintained or are lost include fascias, barges, porches and other details. These require regular maintenance to survive.

Wiring and electrical installations have had a negative impact on many of these buildings. A profusion of electrical installations in hallways is common, and college staff using the houses have commented that where re-wiring has taken place, there has been little concern for appearance or protection of building fabric.

Repairs to various elements have in some cases detracted from the character of the building, as in the case of Ashford, on Donovan's Road, where the insertion of new ventilation grilles has led to the loss of earlier grilles and to a new plaster skim where no attempt has been made to match the new plaster surface colour with that existing. Elsewhere, repairs to plaster have often been in poor materials and have not been re-decorated to match the surface colour with that existing. General maintenance, as outlined in 6.1, affects most buildings in this group of buildings to some extent.

The curtilage of these buildings has in many cases been affected by the amalgamation of rear gardens, and a subsequent lack of maintenance. Where houses have larger gardens, such as those on the Western Road, parking areas to the front often have a very negative visual impact



The construction of the main entrance to UCC on the Western Road in 1928

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of

on the house.

In general, the level of maintenance of boundary walls of houses belonging to UCC is not high (some of which are retaining walls). In particular, many front boundary walls have a protective render which is disrupted and the brick or stone structure beneath also requires repair. Copings are gapped and therefore not fulfilling their weathering function. Cast-iron and wrought-iron railings, some of which are very fine, are damaged and in need of extensive repair, re-setting or painting.

In order to protect the significance of buildings in group 2, given the importance of the surrounding environment of the UCC main campus to the overall significance and attractiveness of the site, UCC should propose to Cork City Council that some of the roads surrounding the main campus and areas around other sites be considered for inclusion in the city development plan as an Area of Special Character⁸. The area proposed should be decided by the Conservation Plan Implementation Group, in association with representatives of local residents and the conservation officer and area planner from Cork City Council. A comprehensive inventory of the structures and features of the area proposed should be carried out as the area is being defined. The development objectives could include the protection of views and prospects, with consequent restrictions on building lines and heights, indication of acceptable standards of maintenance and repair works, or the prevention of conversion of front gardens for use as off-street parking⁸.

Specific Issues

5.5.2 Gate Lodges

The gate lodges are of particular significance to UCC, as they represent to those outside the main campus the architectural character of many of the buildings within. The lodge to College Road is the most significant, designed by Deane in the early years of Queen's College, but the others are also architecturally distinguished in terms of materials and form in their own right.

Issues affecting the gate lodges include the poor repair and lack of maintenance of the external fabric. Changes of use to the interior of the gate lodges have meant the loss of a lot of original internal fabric, and if these uses continue to change, there is the possibility of further loss. The original function of the gate lodges, which would have been as residences for grounds staff, has changed, and in some cases the new uses are not particularly well suited to the limitations of these very compact buildings.

To protect against further damage, the general policies outlined in chapter 5.3 should be followed, particularly with regard to general maintenance. If the existing uses are found to require significant alterations to the fabric of the buildings, then the possibility of moving that use to another location should be explored before any works are undertaken. Uses appropriate to the

building might include those which require public access, given that the lodges are easy to find for those unfamiliar with the campus layout.

5.5.3 Gates

The college gates vary in terms of age, quality and condition, but the most significant gates from a design perspective are those to the north-west. These had originally been erected at the Western Road entrance (to the south –east) in 1877, and were manufactured by John Buckley & Sons of Cork. They were moved to their present location in 1929. They are unusual for their highly decorative, exuberant ironwork, and they are reputed to have been exhibited in London, although further research is needed to establish the circumstances of this. From a design perspective, they are among the most important elements in the heritage of UCC. Other gates are of less significance, but are important as part of overall schemes of gates, gateposts and lodge.

The principal problems facing all gates arise from lack of general maintenance. The gates to the north west are in very serious danger as a result of a total lack of maintenance. Wrought iron is subject to rot as a result of water ingress when the outer protective layers of paint peel off. If wrought iron is not regularly painted and maintained, corrosion jacking can occur, where rust has pushed off paint, causing further potential for water ingress. This process is continuing at the north-west gates. Rust has affected other gates, but in general their maintenance has been better. Gateposts have suffered from the general problems of most of the college's stone buildings.

It will be necessary to take immediate action in the case of the north-east gates, if significant loss of fabric is not to occur. The condition of the gates should be assessed by a specialist, and specifications for emergency repair developed and undertaken. In the case of the other gates and lodges, an overall report on their condition and requirements should be undertaken in the medium term, and their maintenance improved in line with the general recommendations above.

5.5.4 President's Tower

The 'President's Tower' was the name given to a tower feature set into the high stone wall surrounding the President's Garden. Although it appears oddly sited now that it is seen out of context, it serves as an important indicator of the former extent of the Presidents' Garden, which was an integral part of the original design of college and grounds.

Lack of use of this structure has resulted in poor maintenance, with leaking windows and biological growth affecting stonework. The context of the tower, and its relationship with the President's garden, has been completely lost. Its function is now unclear, putting it further at risk as a 'forgotten feature'.

In order to protect the building against further damage, a report on its condition should be produced, indicating what immediate repairs should be undertaken. In the longer term, in order to

protect the building, an appropriate use should be sought for it. Obviously, the accommodation it provides is limited, and potential uses will be few as a result. The UCC Heritage Committee, in association with the buildings committee, should consider the future use of the building.

5.5.5 The Gaol Gate

The Gaol gates are of considerable significance, not only to UCC, but to the city, as the last visible surviving element of one of Cork's two nineteenth-century gaols. The gates themselves are particularly distinguished as an architectural element in terms of design, materials and construction.

The greatest issue affecting the Gaol gate is the setting of the boiler house directly behind it, removing the gates function as a gate, and effectively preventing any further function. The bridge in front of the Gaol Gate, which forms an important part of its curtilage, is not in college ownership, but it has not been well maintained.

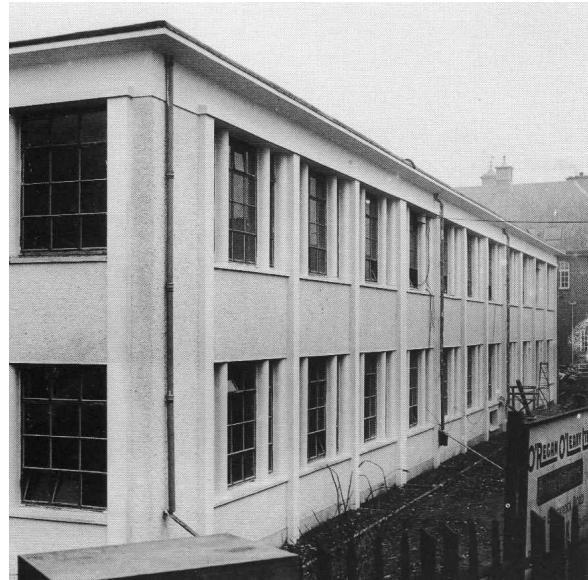
Although the general condition of the gate and associated wall is reasonable, the clearing of plant growth, especially the ivy to the east, could be undertaken immediately. The asphalt over the pediment appears to be sound, but should be checked in the medium term. There are some open joints evident in the stonework, but these are not an immediate cause for concern. Some past work is evident to the architrave of the portico, where new stone has been inserted, possibly over a new steel beam. Visually, the replacement stone is a little prominent but the repair appears successful. A condition report, with recommendations, on the gate should be commissioned in the next 2-5 years, or sooner if any changes are to take place in the vicinity of the gate.

5.5.6 The Lee Maltings

The Lee Maltings form one of the most significant surviving Industrial complexes in the city, and their location is particularly attractive. The original buildings were established in 1787 as a water-powered flour mill, later becoming part of the Beamish & Crawford brewery. It appears that the malt-house (former zoology building) is the only part of the original Lee Maltings to retain its original internal structure.

The current use of the buildings does not take advantage of the river frontage, with large storage tanks, necessary for the work of the NMRC, placed on the river side of the site. The buildings themselves suffer particularly from either a lack of maintenance, or excessively intrusive works, such as replacement of brick window surrounds. The very significant early timber roof structure in the former zoology building, has suffered from alterations during its use by UCC, and these alterations have now destabilised the structure. It would require significant works to restore the roof structure. It is not beyond repair, however, and the most serious threat to this building comes from recent plans to remove this roof and add an extra storey to the building, which would not be appropriate, either in terms of loss of fabric, or in terms of its impact on the largely intact overall forms of surrounding buildings. Ideally, a new use should be found for the building where the sub-standard head room does not pose a major problem.

Lee Mills House (the Steward's House) appears to be very vulnerable, partly as a result of lack of maintenance, and partly from the evidence of what appear to be severe structural cracks on the east and north walls. These appear to be caused by the settlement of foundations, which would be alluvial sands and gravel and possibly also fill material. Tell-tales mounted on some cracks appear to indicate that subsidence has stabilised, but settlement could resume in future. Remedial action will follow an investigation of the causes of subsidence. Typically such an investigation would survey leakage from drains and other sources as described above. As well as this footings should be exposed to determine if strengthening measures are necessary. Wall reinforcement, by means of stitching or tie-bars, to restore structural integrity to ruptured masonry, would also be required. The repair specification would follow a detailed survey, as outlined above.



The Electrical Engineering building under construction, 1953

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic

The interiors of the buildings in the Lee Maltings have suffered from a great deal of loss of fabric, particularly in the conversion of buildings to NMRC use.

Future alterations to the buildings should be carefully considered in the context of existing original fabric. A condition report, with recommendations, should be commissioned in the next 1-3 years, or sooner if any changes are to take place within the Lee Maltings.

19-20 Dyke Parade

These are two significant early nineteenth-century buildings facing onto one of the city's most important streetscapes.

The blocked-up doorway of no. 19 has a very negative impact on the exterior of the buildings, as does a general lack of maintenance. The buildings do not engage with the street as they would if they were entered from the Mardyke. Inside, much fabric has been lost, although it is likely that some of this loss took place before the college purchased the buildings. The context of the buildings to the rear has been very much altered by their entry through the later block on the site. Internal features appear to survive in a haphazard manner, and various services and other interventions into the fabric seem not to have had retention of the surviving fabric as a priority.

Future maintenance of these buildings should follow the general guidelines as set out in section

5.3. In order to enhance the way in which these buildings are used, consideration should be given to where departmental facilities are housed: some of the finer quality rooms to the front of Dyke Parade could be used as departmental reception offices, and consideration could be given to public access to these offices through the front doors of nos. 19-20. The present location of the main departmental office for archaeology, for example, is very difficult to find for those not familiar with the layout of the building.

5.5.7 Aras Na Laoi

This building, which began life as a nineteenth-century villa in a semi-rural environment, has been successively changed over the last half-century, almost beyond recognition. However, it retains elements of internal plan and joinery, and some external elements, which provide its significance as a pre-university survival from the area.

The addition of a third storey has had a particularly profound effect on the building's character. The icehouse to the rear appears to have no formal function, which puts it at risk, although it is an important survival. The timber 'gothick' style windows to the rear are unusual and have not been uniformly well maintained. Remaining internal joinery survives in a piecemeal form, with many doors replaced by fire doors.

Future maintenance of these buildings should follow the general guidelines as set out in section 5.3. In order to enhance the way in which these buildings are used, consideration should be given to how rooms are used in relation to the surviving plan and building fabric, and further loss of building fabric should be avoided. Some of the more important features, such as the timber 'gothick' windows to the rear, should be more carefully maintained.

5.5.8 St. Vincent's (Department of Music)

St. Vincent's forms part of an important complex of nineteenth-century buildings highly visible in their elevated position to the north-west of the city, across the river from the main campus. The Department of Music is housed in the former seminary building, and its conversion has not detracted from the outward appearance of the group of buildings as an intact set piece.

This building has been recently converted, and internally care has been taken to retain original plan form and features, but the exterior fabric remains at risk. The majority of the external red sandstone has received inappropriate hard mortar repairs, which will continue to cause problems with water ingress. The round tower has non-breathable clear paint coating, which causes discoloration and entraps moisture. This type of coating can be difficult to remove.

In order to prevent further serious decay to the stonework on the building, a report should be commissioned on the most appropriate method of repair to the external stonework, and work undertaken within the next two or three years.

5.5.9 Brookfield House

Brookfield House is a significant and unusual example of a nineteenth-century domestic villa within a partially surviving planned landscape. The interior of the house, although unusual rather than classical, is essentially quite intact in terms of joinery, decoration and fixtures and fittings. It can be regarded more as a curiosity, an industrial structure in a domestic style, than of enormous architectural significance.

A lack of maintenance, particularly in recent years, of Brookfield House, has caused damage to the fabric of the building, although it is in essentially sound order due to the quality of its construction and materials.

The future use of this building has now, happily, been decided, and it will form part of a large new School of Nursing for UCC. It is important that care is taken to protect the fabric of the existing building during works, and that works to the existing building are undertaken by an experienced contractor under professional conservation advice.

5.5.10

The Main Restaurant

Both the Main Restaurant building and the Mardyke Sports Pavilion continue to serve their original function. The Restaurant retains significant original fabric, including joinery, terrazzo staircases and flooring, and an art-deco style curved timber stage.

It has been added to and altered at a number of stages since its original construction, and with each alteration, fabric has been lost. While apparently not now at immediate risk, due to a fairly recent refurbishment, any further works for services etc could lead to further loss of fabric.

In order to retain what is significant about the building, the original art-deco style and terrazzo elements should be kept in good repair, and not removed.

5.5.11

The Mardyke Sports Pavilion

The Mardyke Sports Pavilion is significant as an example of an early twentieth-century building associated with the development of sporting activity in the University. The pavilion building and associated viewing stand, turnstiles and boundary features, are fairly intact. The turnstiles may soon no longer be necessary, although they are significant to the history of organised sporting activity in UCC.

The Pavilion has changed little in some areas, and the sparse changing rooms suggest that an upgrade is likely at some future stage, although modern facilities are available at the new sports centre. The bar upstairs is likely to see continuous change, which could lead to further loss of fabric.

The significance of the pavilion building should be retained by better maintenance of its external

fabric, and care should be taken to repair and retain timber elements where possible. Any upgrade of changing facilities should not involve major alterations to the exterior or to openings, although for the building to continue in its original use, it is accepted that these facilities will need to be upgraded. If the turnstiles and stands are to be removed, at least one representative turnstile should be retained, ideally on the site, and the entire site layout thoroughly photographed and documented for the college archives.

5.6 Group 3 and 4 Buildings

The majority of buildings in groups 3 and 4 are twentieth-century university buildings, or more modest late nineteenth-century houses purchased by the university. The general principles of repair and maintenance outlined in chapter 5.3 should also be followed for these buildings. It should be borne in mind that, while, mainly due to their age, these buildings are not presently considered to be of particular significance outside the context of the campus, in twenty or fifty years time that situation may change, and excessive loss of original fabric now could be detrimental at that stage. While these buildings must continue to be fully functional, and therefore flexible, basic good maintenance should prevent some loss of original fabric, and a respect for original decorative schemes and finishes should govern decisions regarding periodic refurbishment. The civil engineering building, for example, retains a large amount of its original finishes and fittings, and these add to the overall early twentieth-century character and significance of the building, while much original fabric has been lost from the electrical engineering building during very comprehensive refurbishment works, leading to a partial loss of such character. Remedial action is required to attend to the structural cracking on the rear (western) wall of the Buildings office, which appears to be related to a concentration of foul and surface water drains close to this wall, which may have caused subsidence. In addition, steel lintels at windows heads may have rusted, causing ruptures to render at the heads. Ultimately, the heads will need to be replaced with concrete or stainless steel.

5.7 Group 5 Buildings

There is one site within group 5, the boiler house, below the Medical building. The boiler house is clearly extremely important to the running of the university, but in its current position, it prevents the possibility of developing behind the gaol gates, which could provide a new major access point to the campus. It is understood that to move the boiler house would be an expensive and complicated process, but it is nonetheless recommended as an action which would have an extremely positive effect on the university's main campus, and, particularly, the Gaol gate.

5.8 Group 6 Buildings

Group 6 includes the Honan Chapel and the Republican Graves behind the Gaol gates. Neither site is owned by UCC, and therefore general maintenance and conservation are not the responsibility of UCC, but both are very important to the university. It is very important that the current good relations between the university and the owners of these sites is maintained, and that the owners continue to be consulted about any development within the vicinity of either site that might impact on them. Good conservation practice should particularly be encouraged by the university in the case of the Honan Chapel, which is both a social and artistic asset, but which has been subject to some inappropriate repairs in the past. UCC should be encouraged to share their experience of good practice in stone repair, for example, and the knowledge within UCC of the applied art within the chapel, with the church. In the case of the Republican monument, some further information on the former Gaol and the history of the monument could be provided to enhance awareness of its significance: further information could be carefully provided at the site, presented in a way which would not detract visually from the monument itself.

6 Landscape and The Natural Environment

6.1 Significance of the Landscape

The criteria against which designed landscape has been assessed are:

- i. Period/Age
- ii. Rarity
- iii. Documentation
- iv. Group Value
- v. Condition
- vi. Early or Influential Design
- vii. Representative Example
- viii. Historical Association
- ix. Diversity of Features

Against these criteria, the pre-college and botanical landscapes are of such limited surviving extent as to be without significance.

The modern courtyard landscapes are considered to be too modern (less than 30 years) to be capable of objective assessment. However, the modern courtyard landscapes of the Boole Library and Applied Business/Languages Building are of a piece with the modern architecture which defines them, and are therefore considered to be appropriate and aesthetically effective. The survival of parts of the fabric of earlier landscapes (gaol bridge, entrance and surviving walls; the icehouse adjacent Áras na Laoi; the boundary walls, railings and mature garden trees of the previously residential houses) are considered to be of local significance in contributing character, quality and local distinctiveness to the campus environment.

By contrast to these elements and areas of local significance, the surviving landscape setting to the original College buildings are considered to be of national significance. Although not especially early (1849-1890) and in a much altered context, the surviving landscape is significant because:

- there are few comparable examples in the country (Trinity College and University College, Galway),
- the development of the College is well recorded in archives held at the College,
- the Quadrangle, lodge, terrace, and lower ground form a coherent grouping,
- although not in unaltered condition, the fundamental design of gothic building, open sided Quadrangle and riverside setting remains intact,
- the College landscape retains the principle and representative characteristics of nineteenth century higher education and landscape design,

⁹A free leaflet for landowners and managers explaining risk and responsibility in the management of veteran trees. Available from English Nature www.english-nature.org.uk

- there are clear and documented associations with College Alumni,
- the landscape retains a diversity of landscape features including formal and picturesque planting, river, lawn, and clairvoie to the Western Road.

6.2 Landscape issues and vulnerability

6.2.1 General Issues

The conservation of designed historic landscapes has to respond to a number of characteristics which differentiate landscapes from buildings or archaeology. Some facets will affect buildings or archaeology, such as biological decay or erosion, but in landscapes these characteristics are dominant.

- *Biological growth and decline* of trees, shrubs, grass and flowers means that certain factors are not readily controlled, and can only be controlled by action, that is, active management, whether it be grazing, pruning or mowing. Buildings also require maintenance but, in the landscape, a default in management can have a very rapid effect that alters the entire character of the heritage asset. Many historic gardens, as at UCC, have over mature tree populations which are part of the current landscape character, but which cannot be easily sustained.
- *Geomorphological processes*, primarily siltation and erosion, do impact on buildings or buried archaeology, but again it is a matter of timescale and magnitude of effect. The forces of erosion and change to the Lee river are beyond the cope of the UCC to address.
- The *aesthetic design* rationale is dominant, and so designed landscapes have very little scope for productive adaptive re-use without impact on their essential characteristics. Botanical gardens, for example, cannot grow vegetables without changing their character.
- *Modern perceptions* have tended to view landscapes as nature, implying that they can be appreciated free of charge. In contrast, archaeology has been regarded as either a fixed constraint, or an opportunity for excavation; whereas buildings are useful, capable of re-use, and are known to be expensive to maintain. Preconceived ideas about resource allocation limit what can be achieved in landscapes.
- The '*Secret Garden*' effect; it is often the most neglected or abandoned parks and gardens which have the greatest aesthetic and emotional power. Conservation has to respond to modern perceptions of the landscape which might be entirely at odds with an original design, resulting from the processes of growth and decay. Conservation as *found* might be appropriate for many such sites, albeit that intervention may be necessary at some stage in the future to arrest the loss of fundamental features, such as the potentially catastrophic impact of tree roots on a dam embankment.
- Most, but not all, landscapes are a *palimpsest*, with several layers of design. Conservation of the *last complete phase* may well be the most appropriate, just as it is

widely adopted for buildings. Restoration to a defined early date now tends to be limited to specific circumstances (where resources allow, later phases are of low significance, intervention is unavoidable, early evidence is dependable and recreation is acceptable). Two risks arise, however, from restoration to the last complete phase: firstly that we could end up conserving mostly late nineteenth century landscapes, being the last significant design phase in many great landscapes. Secondly, that the mix of characters might, through growth and decay, degrade the most important design features on site, in this case, the picturesque setting to the College Quadrangle.

The conservation and restoration of designed landscapes does not, therefore, fall readily into a predetermined philosophy or approach. Conservation guidelines are useful, but, in practice, policies have to respond to an understanding of the cultural importance of the site.

- Identification and conservation of the essential qualities of an individual site, be they historic, aesthetic, botanical or perceptual;
- A diversity of approach between properties, so that different sites conserve different aspects of designed historic landscapes.

For many sites, a phased process of conservation and restoration provides opportunities to enhance our understanding of the landscape, and evolve approaches which are best adapted to the nature, character, use and qualities of the individual designed landscape.

Specific Issues

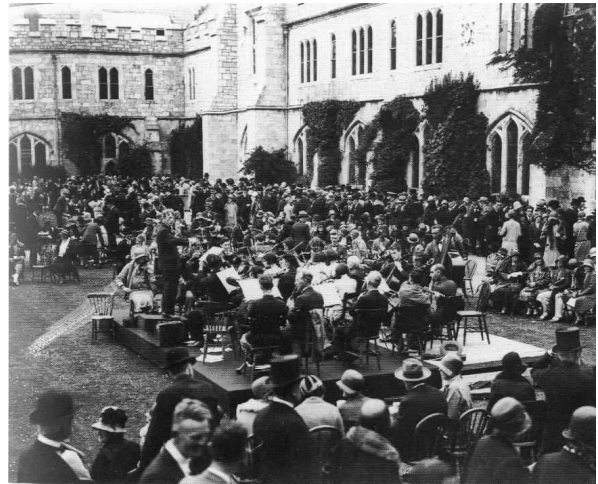
6.2.2 Educational use

The campus was, and remains, an educational landscape which should, of itself, educate and inspire as well as provide for the relaxation, enjoyment, access and use by staff and students. Some of these uses could conflict with each other and achieving the right balance requires skilled and informed decisions about changes and improvements. Certain parts of the campus fail in terms of legible access and circulation as well as aesthetic quality – access to and around the Food Science and Technology Building come to mind. Widespread replacement of steps by ramps, if practically feasible, could seriously harm the visual quality of the campus.

6.2.3 Geological stability

Questions have been raised about the geological stability of the escarpment, which is a fundamental part of the site's character. The escarpment may be subject to a threat arising from its unstable structure. This limestone formation is known to be deeply weathered and potentially subject to degradation. The steep, un-reinforced slopes towards the western end may be rendered unstable by root action of the large trees and other plants which have gained a root-hold in the face of the cliff. A rock-fall here would be likely to lead to draconian stabilisation work, including wholesale removal of vegetation, and construction of reinforcing structures, on grounds

of safety and health. There is a danger that such an emergency intervention would seriously compromise the appearance of the escarpment.



A garden party in the Quad in the 1920's

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of University

6.2.4 Mature trees

Uninformed and unnecessarily over-cautious appraisal of mature trees could lead to accelerated and extensive removal of the College's amenity trees. Inspection, risk assessment and site management should respond to the high value of important landscape trees.

6.2.5 Maintenance standards

Maintenance of the grounds is undertaken by College staff working to high standards, many having worked at UCC for many years. This situation may conceal the lack of a formal structure for skills training and monitoring and be over-reliant on individuals, placing the grounds at potential risk if this continuity is lost.

6.2.6 Planting policies

Loss of the Botanic and President's gardens has reduced the culture of challenging and unusual planting; conversely, the planting of conventional ornamentals has spread to the Lower Ground. Planting of individual areas need to reflect the individual and special character of each area.

6.2.7 Car Parking

UCC, like all institutes, are challenged by the cost, aesthetic impact and management issues of the demand for car parking. UCC have addressed this already with policies to reduce car parking in the core of the campus, encouraging alternative forms of transport, and providing off-campus parking.

6.2.8 Housing and Neighbourly Relations

Universities are potentially poor neighbours due to impacts on the rented sector, timing of educational and social activity, and the volume of students. UCC seeks to address these through a variety of policies, one impact of which is the need to increase the density of use within a defined campus, reducing the effect on neighbours but increasing demands on the campus.

6.3 Policy areas on landscape: general

Policy Area 1: Use

The continued use of the campus by University College, Cork should form the basis of its conservation policy.

Policy Area 2: Future Growth

UCC should allow for continuing growth of the College's educational work, primarily within the existing built footprint area, by ongoing improvements in the efficiency of use of this existing footprint area.

Policy Area 3: New Buildings

Where new buildings are required, UCC should only develop where the historic and aesthetic values of the landscape and existing architecture are not significantly compromised.

Policy Area 4: Conservation of Core Areas

Wherever possible, core areas of the designed historic College landscape should be conserved in a manner consistent with the historic record.

Policy Area 5: Ongoing Programme of Improvements

The ongoing programme of improvements to campus buildings and landscape should be continued, as it enhances the aesthetic character of the site and reduces the effects of the existing facilities on the historic and wider landscape. For each major building project, an associated area of landscape enhancement or restoration should be identified so that the quality of the grounds keeps pace with the buildings, and each part of the campus landscape is revisited at wide intervals.

Policy Area 6: Enhancements to infrastructure

The programme of enhancements to infrastructure (including fencing, signage, lighting and car parking) should be continued, and a standard palette of materials adopted to provide coherence to the campus landscape, historic and modern.

Policy Area 7: Inspection of mature trees

Mature trees should be inspected on an annual basis to identify safety risks, preventative works and management methods to reduce risks, in compliance with the Veteran Trees Initiative's *Veteran Trees: A guide to risk and responsibility*⁹. The tree safety inspection process should not lead to the loss of character, but should assist the management process to ensure that a reasonable balance is maintained between conservation, safety, risk and access.

Policy Area 8: Gardens Committee

A gardens committee should be established comprising one or two interested senior academic staff member(s), the archivist, a senior property manager, and an external garden specialist sensitive to historic landscapes. Senior garden staff should report to the committee on a quarterly basis to agree improvements, changes in management, and the details of planting schemes. The committee should also vet all new landscape proposals by external consultants, and advise on the siting and inclusion of external works of art on campus.

Policy Area 9: Character and Nature of original design

Replanting should reflect the character and nature of the original design intentions for each area, where these are known. Where there is no pre-existing design should be used, including exotic planting; culturally associated planting; and native planting for wildlife.

Policy Area 25: Further Research

Further research is required to identify the significance of the Crawford connection with the landscape; to locate any early horticultural records for the College; and to inform detailed planting and management proposals.

Policy Area 26: Existing Surveys

The Inventory of Trees on the main UCC campus and at Fota arboretum compiled by Sean O'Donovan in 1976/77 should be traced and should form the basis of an ongoing inventory of trees, updated when new trees are planted or trees removed. This could provide the basis for a database to which information on age and condition of trees could be added, in order to inform good management. This could be linked to ongoing GIS projects in the Geography and Plant Science Departments.

6.4 Significance of Specific Areas of the Landscape, Setting, and Natural Environment and Policies to Protect the significance.

6.4.1 The Escarpment

The escarpment defines the site of the original Queen's College viewed from the Western Road. Its iconic status in this context suggests that its maintenance and preservation should have a very high priority. It forms the key to the foreground in views to the College from all areas north of the College and is part of a nationally important landscape.

Policy

A study, including geological analysis and landscape architecture, should be carried out with the object of pre-empting any rock fall. The brief for the study should demand a solution which would conserve the important features of the escarpment. A dual programme of maintenance and phased stabilisation may be the likely outcome. Re-routing of paths at the foot of the escarpment may also be required. The crude concrete parapets to the limestone walls of the viewing platform should be upgraded.

6.4.2 Lower Ground, Perrott's Inch and the Avenue

A new Art Gallery and Restaurant is under construction in the Lower Grounds, and it is a popular riverside walk. The Western end of Perrott's Inch is in use as a car park, but the remainder is inaccessible. The Escarpment is subject to concerns over geological instability. The Clairvoie to the Western Road is intact.

Policies

- Development of the arts centre should minimise permanent and temporary impact of the landscape by close control of all construction activity,
- Landscape management should aim to maximise the lifespan of key trees by sensitive, expert management, and by the retention of locally native, and traditional ornamental, species based on an understanding of the historic character of the site,
- Proposals to enhance access across Perrott's Inch and the Lee river should avoid impact on the character of the picturesque setting, and adopt the picturesque vernacular where any structure might be necessary,
- Manage the bridge and riverbanks to retain the role of the river as a wildlife corridor,
- Avoid significant alteration to, or loss of, the open, traditional planting of lower ground; the native escarpment woodland; and the ornamental planting of the drive embankment,
- Maintain aesthetic quality of the Main Gateway, reinstating removed horticultural elements.

6.4.3 The Quadrangle and Historic Core of the Campus

The President's garden enclosure has been removed, and what remains of the garden is now used as a short-cut across wet lawns. Car parking occupies the Windle Medical Building courtyard and part of the escarpment terrace. Some terrace trees are possibly at risk due to car park earthworks. The landscape of the Quadrangle is marred by use of kerbs and highly coloured street furniture. The current scheme of wall planting is more uniform than the picturesque record.

Policies

- Upgrade the Quadrangle by a detailed scheme of minor improvements and planting enhancement informed by further research into College planting and the Crawford connection.
- Remove car parking from the terrace as soon as the opportunity arises, and upgrade to reinstate the picturesque quality of the terrace.
- As a second priority, seek removal of car parking from the Medical Building courtyard if the opportunity arises.
- Protect the specimen conifers (and other mature trees) from damage or potential impact. Modify the Honan Square scheme as appropriate.
- Seek and review options to protect the President's garden area as a quiet, horticulturally rich area.
- Ensure that plant specimens are identified and labelled.
- Retain and convert, to conservation standards, maintenance buildings to an appropriate and accessible use.

6.4.4 The Eastern Campus

The boundary with Donovan's Road is locally important as the walls, railings and avenue planting effectively separate residential areas from the Campus. The Honan Chapel, with its important mature Monterey Cypress, railings and hedge revealed by the removal of the Botany department, has become a visually important elevation in the campus landscape. The President's Garden wall survives as a relic, but usefully defines the visual setting of the Quadrangle. By contrast, the garden bothy turret (President's Tower) is now detached and isolated only as historic fabric and a reminder. The 1995 developments removed the 'botanical' component of the College landscape, reducing the significance of the whole. Honan Square will reconfirm this with hard landscape.

Policies

- Retain the strong character and fabric of the eastern boundary of Donovan's Road with stone walls, railings and lime trees.
- Seek a detailed landscape treatment to the internal boundaries of this area, which respects the historic design character of the College core, and emphasises the role of

the historic pathways and garden walls, which define the area.

- Retain a simple and appropriate chapel landscape setting to Honan Chapel.
- Innovative and modern landscape treatment is appropriate within areas visually enclosed by the modern buildings. There remains a need to improve the quality and legibility of pedestrian access between the new buildings as a result of changes in overall layout and circulation routes.
- The unsatisfactory elevation of the Geography Building seen from the Main Entrance to the north could be resolved by a new building to replace that previously removed.

6.4.5 Boole Library and Observatory

The Observatory setting is provided by a modest but attractive informal courtyard; its character is only confused by the extension of the clay pavior kerbs into this area from Boole Library. The Library, with its forecourt, western concourse, external gate and sunken rear courtyard forms a considered and coherent whole. The landscape treatment of paviers and raised beds with dwarf shrubs is a good example of its period. The smoked glass and engineering brick contrasts with the rest of the campus, but the potential intrusion on the wider campus landscape is mitigated by its location in the bed of the old quarry, screening from the Quadrangle by specimen conifers, and because it is the shadowy north elevation which faces onto the Quadrangle, behind the trees.

Policies

- Retain the quality, design and planting of the Boole Library landscape setting. Periodically, the dwarf shrub planting should be renovated, and this is now due in certain areas.
- Retain the informal landscape treatment of the Observatory courtyard setting.
- Retain the mix of specimen conifers on the bank facing the Quadrangle.

6.4.6 The Gaol Site

Remaining parts of the gaol architecture are significant in the local urban landscape and create a strong sense of place. The Republican memorial sites are of personal, family, political and cultural importance, but the main memorial is surrounded by car parking and traffic signage.

Policy

Seek significant improvements in the legibility and quality of circulation and access, and in the quality of hard and soft landscape whilst retaining the underlying historic boundaries and surviving fabric of the gaol site as a built landscape of emotional and cultural force.

6.4.7 Áras na Laoi and Western Campus

The original historic villa grounds and gardens have almost entirely been removed. Lee Cottage

has been heavily altered, but retains some historic fabric and a classical front, which is marred by poor quality hard landscaping. The Icehouse to Lee Cottage survives, but is boarded up. A fragmentary relic of the shrubbery planting, an Azara specimen, survives, suggesting an interesting garden, possibly with early introductions.

Policies

- Investigate and stabilise the icehouse, with modest interpretation and retain for use as a bat roost.
- Seek significant improvements to the quality of access and landscape treatment of the modern courtyards existing and under construction.
- Seek to improve the visual setting to Áras na Laoi, the old gaol walls and the Lee riverside by enhancing the front car park, reinstating areas of lawn and large open trees to allow views across, and reduce the impact of car parking. Reinstating the Castle White bridge may be appropriate, although the visual axis to either side has been blocked.
- Improvement of the Food Sciences Court will require a subtle, informal and relaxed design to traverse the significant changes in level and architectural styles. This should be feasible given the size of the court.

6.4.8 Brookfield House

Modern residential development across the pocket park and neglect have seriously compromised what was, in any case, an unexceptional villa landscape design with two redeeming features: the strikingly engineered villa; and the number and quality of mature ornamental trees in the grounds. Only the rump of the property has been acquired by UCC, with notable exceptions of the lodge, eastern boundary lines, and most of the woodland above river. The trees are ultimately at risk of storm damage, disease and vandalism but the medium term risk is root damage from uncontrolled development. The trees are very significant to the local urban landscape, bringing relief to the intensive, substantial built elevations of hospital and university overlooking the river, when viewed from extensive parts of the city to the north, including views from the Western Road.



This building near Gaol Walk housed the La Retraite hostel for many years

Image: Sean Dunne (ed)., The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University

Policies

- Retain all the healthy and significant mature specimen trees within the site, in any

development proposals. Ensure that each specimen is given a physically protected and dedicated area of land of unaltered drainage or levels to allow for long term growth and survival.

- Prior to its removal, if necessary, record the remains of the conservatory including its heating system.

6.4.9 Residential and sports properties off campus

The sports centre impacts on the quality of pre-existing views across Mardyke Meadows. The complex of the walk, park and riverside should be recognised as a designed social and public landscape probably of national importance. The residential character of the nineteenth century terraces and houses is part of the local urban landscape value. There is a long view over the Greyhound track and down the Lee valley to the historic core of the UCC buildings, which is worthy of retention, and at risk of development on the Greyhound track.

Policies

- Due to the potential for impact on the riverside, Fitzgerald Park, and Mardyke Walk, the Mardyke Sports Ground should remain predominately 'green', turf surfaced.
- UCC should seek a partnership with the City to identify and enhance pedestrian and cycle access routes across the city to UCC and along the riversides. Enhancements should including appropriate riverside tree planting, 'green' riverside bank repairs and bound gravel paths in preference to schemes, which alter the character of the receiving landscapes.
- While some simplification of the residential gardens is rational to ease efficient maintenance, this should not involve the removal of traditional features (such as walls, iron railings, mature fruit and ornamental trees), which would be difficult to replace and contribute to the character of the streets. Such features should aim to avoid seeking to change the character of these gardens by, for example, excessively engineered access ramps or formal planting of street trees in front gardens.

6.5 The Flora and Fauna of UCC

6.5.1.

Botanical Significance

Of all the areas examined within the UCC Campus Sites only two are of special botanical interest and deemed worthy of particular Conservation status. These are the Lower Grounds adjoining the South Channel of the River Lee (subsite C2) and the Distillery Fields (subsite D)

The Lower Grounds

This small area bears two distinct habitats, namely: an imposing, visually attractive, limestone outcrop with a range of calcicole plant species; and a riverbank community with co-occurring Crow Garlic, *Field Garlic and *Krauss's Clubmoss – the first being native and nationally scarce, the latter two species being naturalized and nationally rare.

As far as is known, Field Garlic has no other established sites in southern Ireland, while it has been naturalized in the UCC grounds near the tennis court since at least 1975 (O'Mahony, 1998).

The Distillery Fields

The Distillery Fields habitat, while quite disturbed, is nevertheless rather isolated from the public, and therefore has a 'wilderness feel' to it. Moreover, the banks of the Millstream are quite attractive and hold cohabiting populations of Broad-leaved Garlic (Ramsons), *Three-cornered Leek, and *Pendulous Sedge, while the Lee riverbed at the weir supports populations of the halophyte species, English Scurvygrass and Sea Aster, here at the limits of their range upriver. Kingfishers are also present at this site.

6.5.2 Threats to the Botanical Significance

The site of the important Field Garlic is little known, and is at risk if it is not taken into consideration during routine landscape maintenance and decisions on future use and development.

Changes of use to the Distillery Fields site pose a threat to its present undisturbed botanical qualities, and these changes are inevitable, particularly in light of the proposed new footbridge close to this site.

6.5.3 Specific policies: botanical

Policy Area 1: The Lower Grounds

The site of Field Garlic should be given immediate Conservation Status.

Policy Area 2: The Distillery Fields

This site should be conserved, and plans to establish a Pedestrian Walkway on-site re-considered: ideally, an alternative route should be found, as this latter undertaking would destroy the peace and seclusion of the area, as well as part of the millstream banks – which is a beautiful

habitat, in addition to being of historic/cultural interest and thus eminently deserving of full conservation protection.

6.6 Significance and policies: Wildlife

6.6.1 Birds in UCC

Darius Bartlett of the Geography Department has undertaken an informal list of birds seen on campus, which includes up to 36 species. It would be informative to develop this, with financial assistance or further advice (possibly utilising UCC expertise) into a more formal study, which could promote a greater awareness among users of sites owned by UCC of the bird population contained therein.

6.6.2 Significance of and Risks to Mammals in UCC

The significant mammals found in sites belonging to UCC include bats and otters. Bat roosts are particularly found in the roofs of earlier buildings, while otter habitats are associated with riverbanks. Bats are vulnerable to building work close to their roosts, particularly in timber roof structures. Otters are vulnerable to changes to riverbanks that might endanger their holts or access to rivers.

6.6.3 Policies for Protecting Mammals in UCC

Policy Area 1: Protection for Wild Mammals on College Sites

The only wild mammals in need of protection are bats. There have been roosts detected in college buildings and these ought to be surveyed, listed and described. All building work in or near such sites ought to be done, either when the bats are hibernating, or in a manner that does no harm to bats in the roost. Bats are very sensitive to some chemicals used in remedial timber treatments (e.g. Lindane), in particular in roofs. Such chemicals should not be used either by college staff, or those contracted by college, for building work. The Heritage Council have produced guidelines relating to Bats in Buildings, and their advice should be sought when works are to be undertaken. A survey of bat foraging areas and roosts should be conducted on all college sites and recommendations drawn up in the light of these surveys findings. The provision or protection of suitable foraging and roosting areas for bats ought to be considered, once this survey has been completed. Adding suitable sites for bat roosts to all new building ought to be considered.

Policy Area 2: Enhancement of Habitats on UCC Campus Sites for Mammals

It is recommended that a survey of signs of otters and holts be done on all college property adjoining the river and provision of otter friendly habitats, such as soft river banks and artificial holts be considered, preferably in conjunction with the local authorities in a city wide plan. Mink on the other hand ought to be discouraged as they predate native water birds. The possibility of creating soft banks that would allow access to dry land to otters at all riverside sites ought to be considered and all soft banks that exist ought to be preserved. The protection of any currently

used holts (otter burrow) and construction of artificial holts ought to be considered. All such actions, however, should take cognisance of the quality of floral and avifauna habitats at the same sites lest these be damaged in cases where they were of moderate or high quality.

7 The Archaeology of University College Cork

7.1 Significance of the archaeology at UCC

The archaeological potential of lands belonging to UCC, is limited to a small number of areas of significance. On the main campus, the site of the former Gill Abbey Mill is indicated as being in the low-lying area to the north-east of the limestone escarpment. There is no evidence for the Mill or for any above ground archaeological features in the area. The Mill is associated with the twelfth century Gill Abbey, which gave its name to a later house which was purchased to create the site of the first UCC buildings. The UCC properties in close proximity to the known early settlement of Cork may stand on archaeological remains still preserved below ground level. The marshy area of the river valley would not have been suitable for settlement in the more recent past but archaeological finds or features associated with habitation, such as fish weirs, mills or toghers (wooden trackways), may remain below ground level in these areas where preservation is excellent. A number of weirs on the west side of the city in the 19th century are shown on a map in the Fisheries section of the Parliamentary Commission of 1849 (reprinted in appendices). The high ground to the south and north of the river valley would have been more favourable for habitation and finds or features relating to settlement sites may be present below ground level in these areas.

The possibility of potential archaeology existing beneath the ground is highlighted by several archaeological discoveries made in the vicinity of the main campus, for example a souterrain (CO074-048---) was discovered in the garden of a house off Glasheen Road, to the southwest of UCC, when the roof collapsed. Souterrains are underground passages and chambers often found in association with ringforts, which are settlements dating to the Early Christian period (c.500-800AD).

In 1966 human remains were found at Gill Abbey Rock to the east of the main College campus, in the vicinity of the site of original Gill Abbey (as marked on the 2nd edition OS map). The site was excavated by Professor M.J. O'Kelly, Professor of Archaeology at UCC, after children playing in the area unearthed bones. According to O'Kelly the bones may have come from a cemetery attached to the monastery. In 1995 some fragmentary human bones were also found close to the site of Gill Abbey during the excavation of foundation trenches for the extension to a house at Craig More, Connaught Avenue (pers. comm. S. Lane). The bones were too fragmentary for analysis and were reburied in the back garden of the house.

Specific Areas of Potential

Detailed accounts of specific sites are given in the archaeological appendices. In addition to those described above, specific areas where there may be archaeological potential are indicated below.

The County Gaol

Of the original buildings from 1791 and 1818, only the entrance portico and front wall survive, the gaol having been demolished by UCC in the late 1950's.

Lapp's Asylum

The grounds of the former Lapp's Asylum are located just west of the main campus, on the site of the new Biosciences Building. The original Lapp's Asylum is no longer standing.

Brookfield House

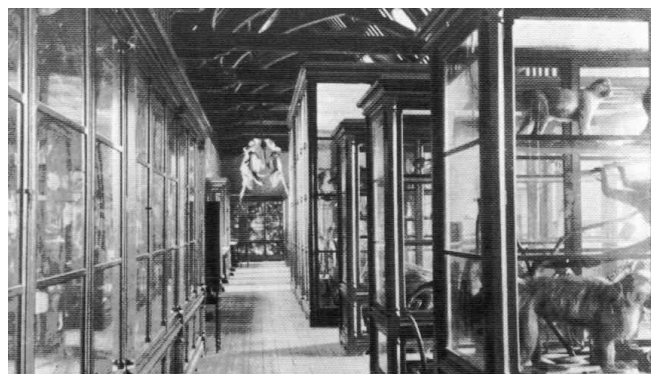
Brookfield House was built in around 1865, and is a detached five-bay three-storey over basement house, with a single-storey wing to rear and the remains of a conservatory in separate structure. The building has been unoccupied since 1997, but there are currently plans in place to re-use it as the centre of a large new development for the School of Nursing.

La Retraite

The building known as La Retraite was originally called 'Lee Cottage', and is likely to have been built c. 1810. The present building is the result of a number of later additions, including those made by the La Retraite Order in the 20th century, from which the building derives its present name. A structure known as 'ice house' on maps survives behind the main building, although it appears to lack the sunken circular area or pit in which ice was usually stored in these structures, and some garden walling also survives.

The Greyhound Track

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the area around the former Greyhound Track, southwest of the main campus, was known as the Camp Field, which was used for military exercises, and was also a place of public military executions until 1801. The area became the site of a Greyhound Race Track in the mid-20th century, and is now the site of a new IT building for UCC, currently under construction. To the west of the site some



Natural history museum. Some glass display cases survive.

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

¹⁰ President Robert Kane, *Report*, 1855-6, p. 7

remains survive of the former 'Alexander Cottage', indicated on earlier OS maps.

The Student Car Park

The site of the student car park was formerly part of the gardens of Hayfield House, now the Hayfield Manor Hotel.

The Mardyke Sports Grounds

The Mardyke Walk, next to the Sports Grounds, was set out in 1719, and development to the north of it was generally for sporting or leisure uses thereafter. In 1902, the Cork International Exhibition was held on grounds to the north of Mardyke Walk, including those now occupied by the Mardyke Sports Grounds. Following the exhibition, the land was purchased by UCC as a Sports Ground in 1922, building the stone walls and railings shortly afterwards. The new Sports Centre was built in 2000.

Br. Ignatius Connolly Building (former Presentation Brothers College)

The former Presentation Brothers College is located between the Western Road and Dyke Parade, outside the main campus to the east. The Presentation Brothers built their school here in 1887, in the building running parallel to the Western Road and added later buildings during the early twentieth century to the site.

The Department of Music (former Vincentian Building)

The former Vincentian Seminary building forms part of a complex of Vincentian Buildings dramatically sited on Sunday's Well Road, on the north side of the north channel of the river, above the Distillery Fields. The Department of Music is housed in a building built as a retreat house for the Vincentians by George Goldie in 1873.

The Distillery Fields

The site known as the Distillery fields is located on the north bank of the north channel of the River Lee, outside the main campus. A Mill Race runs through the site separating a section at the south from the main site. The Distillery Fields are located in the area of an early 13th century Franciscan Abbey, built on a marshy island in the North Channel of the Lee. In the early nineteenth century, the North Mall Distillery was established here, and the distillery expanded in size during the 19th century. A fire in the 1920's destroyed a number of buildings and only a small number of elements of the site survive today. The buildings presently owned by UCC on the site do not include any of these early buildings.

¹¹ An article detailing the formation of the Plaster Cast Collection and its provenance, by Patrick A.J. Cronin MA HdipEd PhD, may be found on the Department's website www.ucc.ie/acad/classics, click on 'Plaster Casts Collection' and then on 'About the Casts'.

¹² i.b.i.d. p. 4

The Lee Maltings

The buildings known as the Lee Maltings are situated to the north east of the main campus, on the south bank of the north channel of the river. The Lee Mills were reputedly established on this site in 1787, while the Lee Porter Brewery was built here in 1796-97. The Brewery was acquired by Beamish and Crawford in 1813, and they later acquired the Lee Mills, creating maltings and storehouses in the buildings.



The old UCC library. It contained 50,000 volumes in 1911, when this picture was taken

Image: Sean Dunne (ed.), The College, a photographic history of University College, Cork, Cork University Press, 1995

7.2 Issues affecting the significance of the archaeology

Since the construction of the first buildings on the main campus, UCC has been continually expanded and developed. Until very recently there has been no archaeological intervention during any of this development. In the last 10-15 years the Ogham stones in the Stone Corridor of the main College were moved without archaeological consultation and some damage occurred to the stones. The archaeological section of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the sports complex in the Mardyke Sports Grounds recommended the archaeological monitoring of all topsoil removal prior to development on the site. This did not take place as it was not a requirement of the grant of planning. Archaeological testing has been undertaken recently in advance of the construction of a new gallery and restaurant in the northeast of the main College campus (Carroll 2002).

7.3 Policies for retaining the significance of the archaeology: general

Policy Area 26: It is recommended that a suitably qualified archaeologist should be consulted in advance of any work that may impinge on archaeologically sensitive material belonging to the College. Archaeological consultation is also recommended in advance of any ground disturbance on college property.

7.4 Specific policies: archaeology

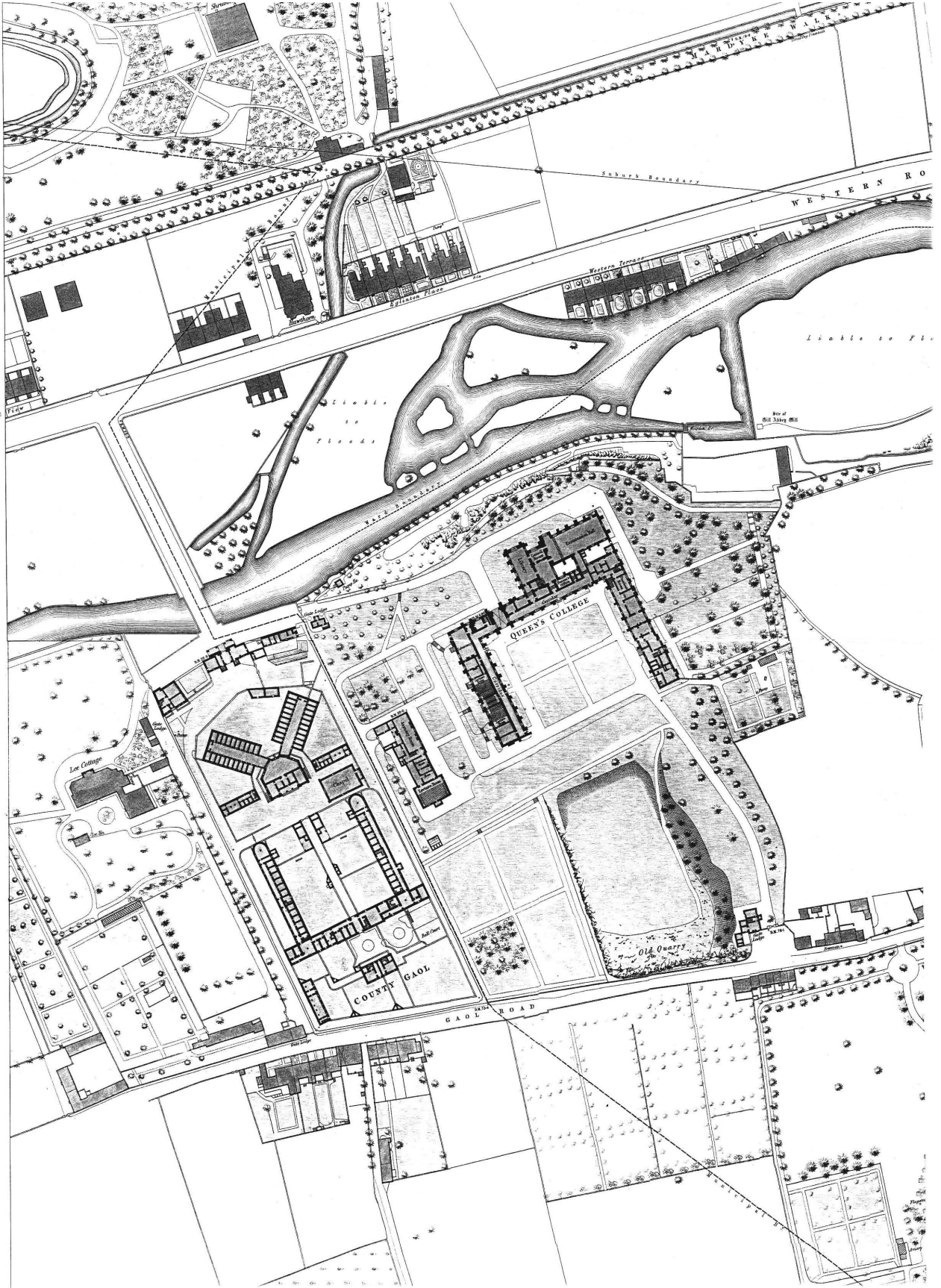
7.4.1 The site of Gill Abbey Mill

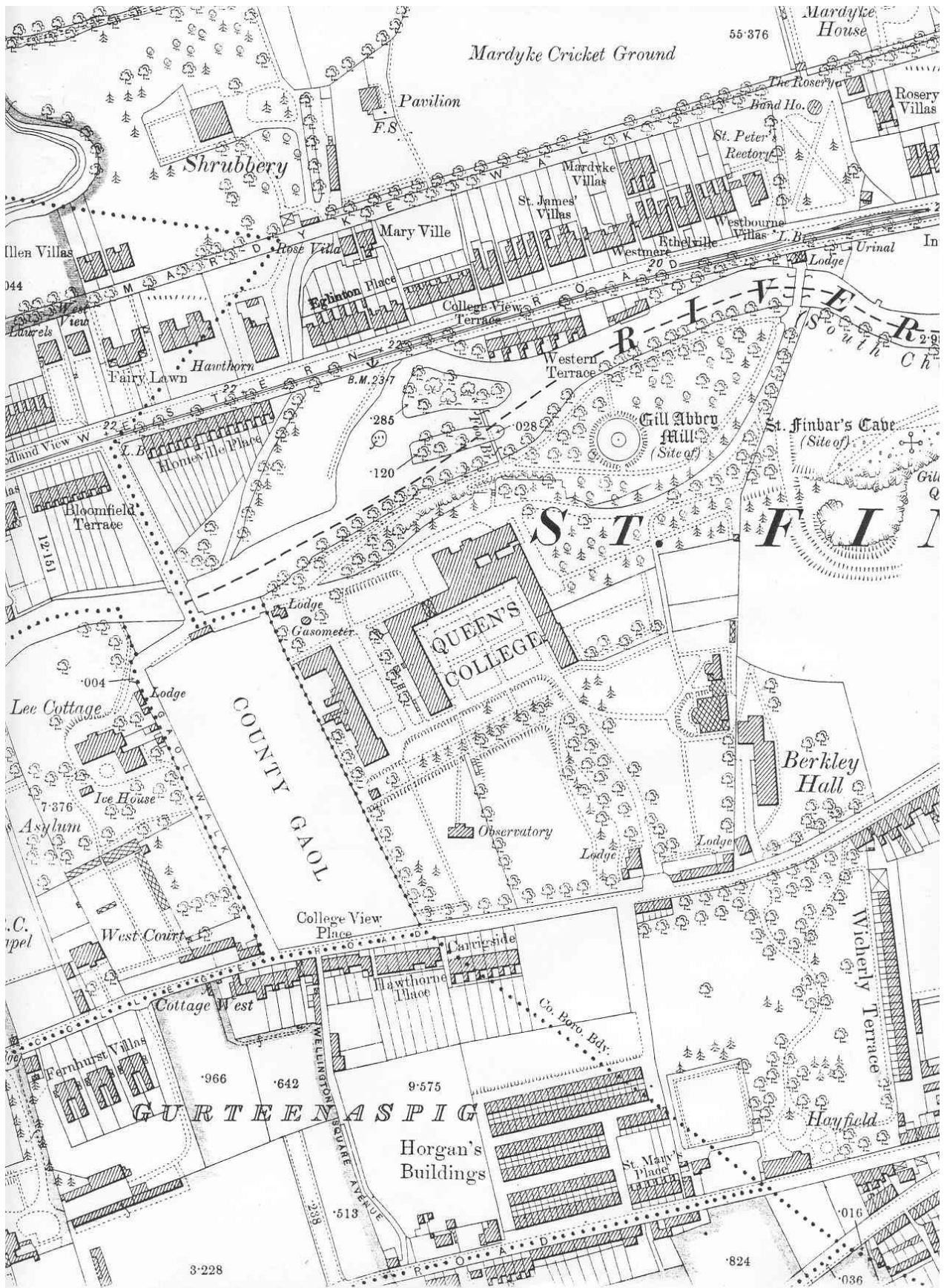
Recommendation: The cartographic information indicates that Gill Abbey Mill was sited on the south side of the south channel of the river to the west of the tennis courts. A pond occupied the general area of the site between 1885 and the 1970s. At present there are no visible features of the Mill or the Pond remaining. Features generally associated with medieval mills include; a mill house, mill stones, a mill pond and a mill race. The reclamation and landscaping of the land in this area, along with the construction of the tennis courts, may have destroyed any archaeological remains associated with the Abbey and the Mill, however, some features may lie below the ground surface or in the banks or bed of the river.

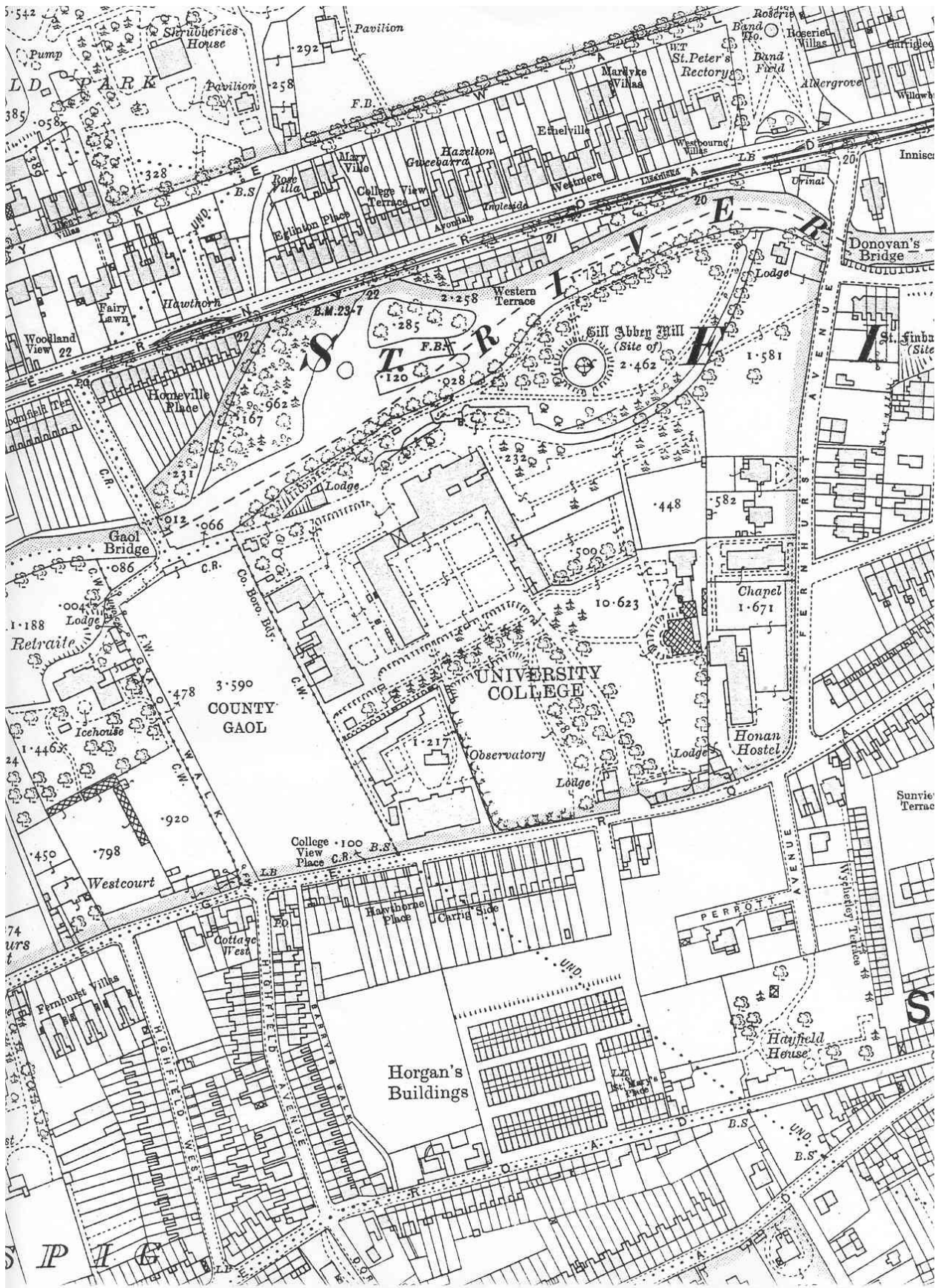
Archaeological monitoring of any ground disturbance in this area is recommended. If any archaeological finds or features are uncovered full archaeological excavation is recommended. There may also be archaeological finds or features within the banks of the river or in the river-bed and any works within the vicinity of the river should be archaeologically monitored.

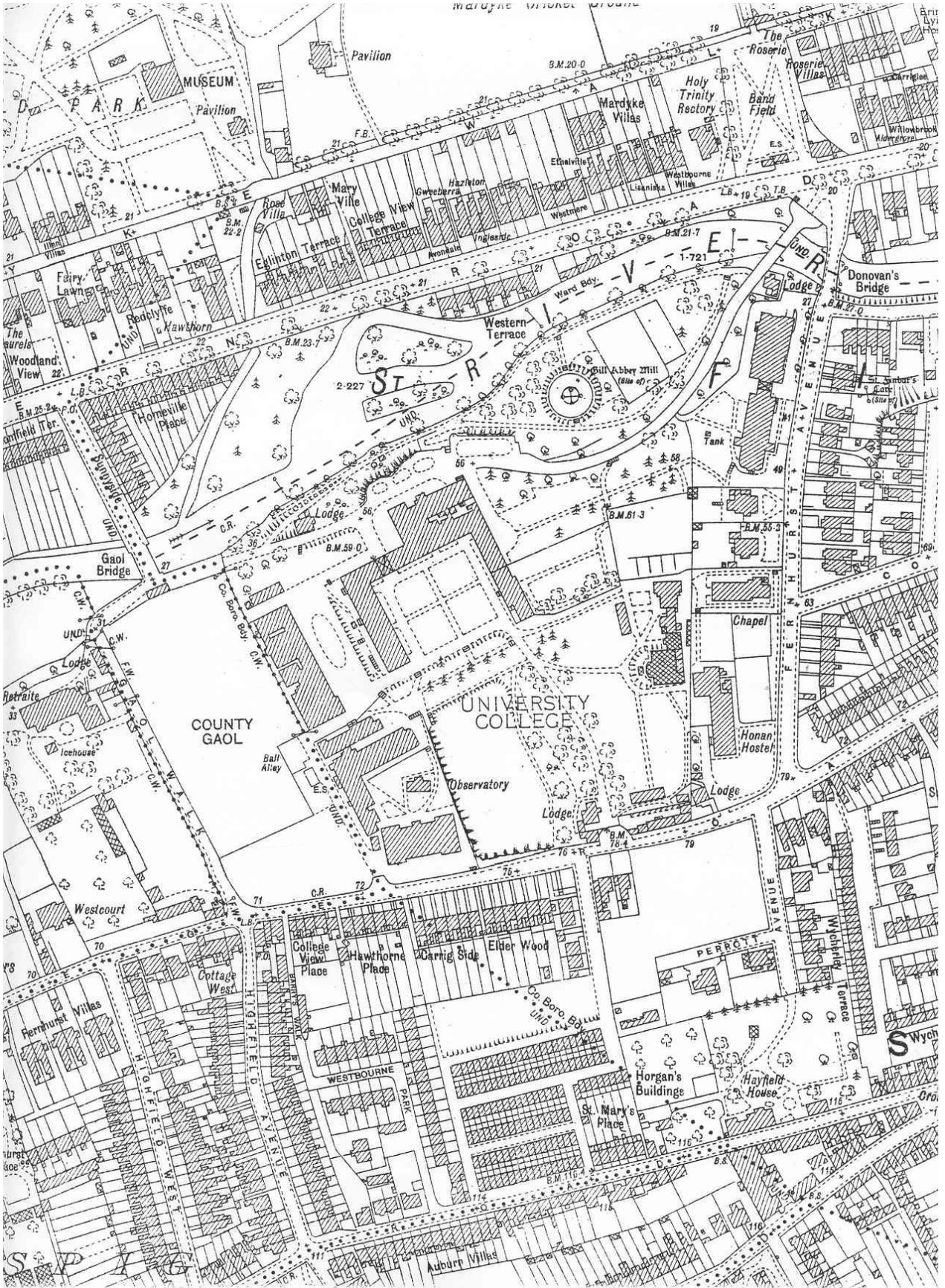
Archaeological testing has taken place in this area recently in advance of development of an art gallery and restaurant. No trace of the mill or ancillary archaeological features were noted during testing but the report recommended that a suitably qualified archaeologist be present during the removal of topsoil on the site (Carroll 2002).











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Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) – This record, compiled by the OPW, now Dúchas at the Department of Environment and Local Government, comprises a list of all known archaeologist sites and monuments in the county and their location. It also lists and locates possible archaeological sites and it lists sites known to occur in an area but with no exact location. The SMR for County Cork was completed in 1988. The SMR numbering system is used in this report. It consists of two parts: the first part is the county code (CO for Cork) followed by the Ordnance Survey map number (6" to the mile scale); the second part is the number of a circle surrounding the site on the SMR map (e.g. CO074-053--- refers to circle 53 on OS sheet 74 for Co. Cork).

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) – This record is compiled as a replacement for the SMR by Dúchas, at the Department of Arts Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. It lists all known archaeological monuments and sites in the county. It was completed in 1998. It is an offence to interfere with any of the sites or monuments listed in the Record without first giving two months notice in writing to the National Monuments Service, Dúchas, at the Department of Arts Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands.

Archaeological Inventory of Co. Cork – This is the follow-up phase to the SMR where all the sites listed in the SMR were visited and a rapid survey of each site was carried out. Some of the SMR sites were found to be non-archaeological in nature and are not included in the inventory. New sites discovered since the publication of the SMR are included. Many of these are now listed in the RMP. The Inventory for Co. Cork is published in four volumes. Volume 2: East and South Cork (published in 1994) was used for this study.

Files of the Cork Archaeological Survey – The Cork Archaeological Survey, based in UCC, carried out the SMR, RMP and Archaeological Inventory of the county. The files of the survey are constantly updated and sometimes contain more information than that which is published as well as new information.

The files of the National Museum of Ireland- the relevant museum archives consist of a series of topographical files which record the recovery of archaeological artefacts throughout the country.

Documentary sources -All available literary references were consulted. These included local histories and the journals of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society.

Maps – All available maps of the study area were consulted. These include historic maps of Cork city dating from the 16th century; the first, second and third editions of the OS 6 inch maps and the 1902, 1926 and 1949 OS 1:2500 maps.