Kilmallock Town Walls Conservation and Management Plan

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

KILMALLOCK

Dedicated to the memory of

James O'Callaghan

Kilmallock Area Engineer
from
1976-2008

KILMALLOCK TOWN WALLS

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

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OS maps are reproduced © Ordnance Survey Ireland, All rights reserved, permit number 7969 Limerick County Council. We are grateful to Con Brogan, DoEHLG, for a copy of an aerial survey of Kilmallock; to the Board of Trinity College, Dublin (for permission to reproduce the *c.* 1600 Joanes map of Kilmallock); to the Hunt Museum, Limerick (for permission to reproduce the 1827 painting of Kilmallock by John Mulvany); to the National Library of Ireland (for permission to reproduce the 1825 view of Kilmallock by George Petrie, and the 1890 photograph of Water Street Bridge by W. Lawrence); to the National Gallery of Ireland (for permission to reproduce the 1829 painting of Kilmallock by John Mulvany); and to the Royal Irish Academy (for permission to reproduce the 1840 engraving of Blossom Gate by W.F.Wakeman).

The conservation and management plan team comprised Gifford – Gerry Wait, Anne Thompson, Rosemary Wheeler and Gill Reaney (cultural heritage), John Daniels (condition survey) and Jeff Turner (ecological survey) – with PLB (Carolyn Lloyd Brown and Nicola Bray) who contributed to the consultation process, planning review, and presentation and interpretative analysis.

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Glossary

For the purposes of this conservation and management plan the definitions of the following terms are as given in the *Burra Charter, Article 1* (1999), an international guidance document on the conservation and management of places of cultural heritage significance. Therefore:

Place means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its *fabric, setting, use, associations*, *meanings*, records, *related places and related objects*. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

Fabric means the all the physical material of the *place* including components, fixtures, contents and objects.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its *cultural significance*.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the *fabric* and *setting* of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

Preservation means maintaining the *fabric* of a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration means returning the existing *fabric* of a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material into the *fabric.*

Adaptation means modifying a *place* to suit the existing use or a proposed use.

Use means the functions of a place, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the place.

Compatible use means a use which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

Setting means the area around a *place*, which may include the visual catchment.

Related place means a place that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.

Related object means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.

Associations mean the special connections that exist between people and a *place.*

Meanings denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

In addition to the *Burra Charter* definitions the following terms have been included to assist readers of this plan:

Crenellation – distinctive pattern along the tops of walls formed by notches/open spaces between solid walling.

Curtain wall – a high wall surrounding a defensive site often with towers at intervals.

Fosse – a ditch or a moat when originally filled with water.

Galleting – the placing of small pieces of stone or flint between mortar joints – at Kilmallock stone is used.

Murage grants – tax levied for building or repairing the walls of a town.

National Monument - a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic, or archaeological interest attached thereto and also includes … every monument in Saorstat Eircann to which the Ancient Monuments Protection Act 1882, applied immediately before the passing of this Act … and (includes) the monument itself, the site of the monument and the means of access thereto and also such portion of land adjoining such site as may be required to fence, cover in, or otherwise preserve

from injury the monument or to preserve the amenities thereof (National Monuments Act 1930, amended 1954, 1987, 1994 and 2004).

Palisade – a wooden fence built to enclose a site until a permanent stone wall could be constructed.

Parapet – a protective low wall along the top outer edge of a main wall.

Protection - the conservation, preservation and improvement compatible with maintaining the character and interest of the structure.

Rampart – a mound or wall surrounding a fortified place.

Voussoir – wedge-shaped stone in an arch.

Wall walk – a path along the top of a wall protected by a parapet.

Abbreviations

ACA	Architectural Conservation Area
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
c.	Circa
DoEHLG	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
ICOMOS	International Council of Monuments and Sites
IWTN	Irish Walled Town Network
JRSAI	Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
NHA	Natural Heritage Area
NMAJ	North Munster Antiquarian Journal
NMS	National Monuments Service
OPW	Office of Public Works
OS	Ordnance Survey
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Executive Summary

In July 2007 Gifford and PLB were commissioned to carry out a conservation and management plan for the Town Walls of Kilmallock by Limerick County Council. The Town Walls are of national significance, but their potential as a major heritage asset for the town has not yet been fully exploited.

Kilmallock is one of only a few towns in Ireland that may owe its origin to a monastic foundation and there are records dating from the early 13th century related to its defences. The town developed into a military and trading centre, its strategic position between the cities of Cork and Limerick leading to various attacks upon and subsequent repairs to its stone walls during the 14th to 17th centuries. Kilmallock lost its key position in the area with the development of Charleville in the later 17th century, but demonstrates a longevity and continuity of settlement from the 10th/11th century to the present day.

The line of the Town Walls is preserved for almost the entire circuit of Kilmallock – the best preserved stretch comprising *c.*600m of the west wall standing to a height of *c.*5m. The medieval form of the town is retained not just in the line of the Town Walls, but also in the street plan, the extant burgage plot boundaries and the surviving medieval structures of King's Castle, Blossom Gate, the Collegiate Church, the Dominican Priory and the medieval mansion (20 Sarsfield Street), together with other remnants of medieval houses retained within apparently later buildings. The medieval legacy, the later historic shop fronts and traditional architecture of Kilmallock, combined with its pastoral setting give the town a sense of history and authenticity, together with a picturesque beauty. Kilmallock offers a rare survival of a medieval town and presents challenges and opportunities for the preservation, management and enhancement of its heritage assets. This plan provides a framework to guide all stakeholders involved with the Town Walls in developing a long-term strategy to not only safeguard, but to develop the valuable heritage resource represented by the Town Walls.
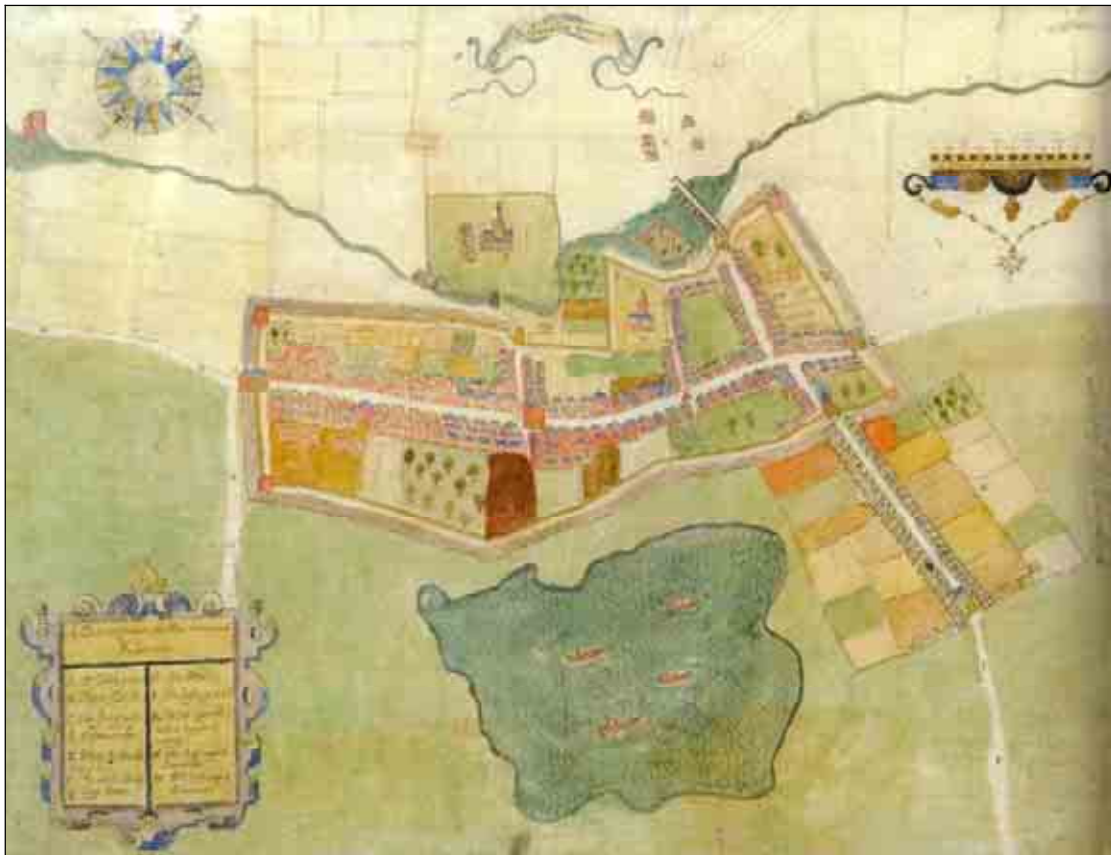

Plate 1: Joanes' map of Kilmallock c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

Gifford Ltd, in partnership with PLB (heritage consultants) were commissioned by Limerick County Council in July 2007 to undertake a conservation and management plan for the Kilmallock Town Walls, Towers, Gates and Defences of Earthen Ramparts, Moat and Trench (hereafter referred to as 'Kilmallock Town Walls'). The conservation and management plan is an initiative of the 3 Year Plan of the Irish Walled Towns Network. Figure 1 illustrates the location of Kilmallock and Figure 2 the circuit of the Town Walls, including a protection (buffer) zone on both sides of the walls.

Of medieval origin the Town Walls at Kilmallock help to define the town and comprise an essential part of the town's unique character – stretches of the walls remain standing and visible and in combination with other historic sites in the town (King's Castle, Blossom Gate, the Dominican Priory, the Collegiate Church with its earlier round tower and the medieval mansion house) provide a wealth of heritage assets in the town. The Town Walls are a national monument, with a duty of care on Limerick County Council and the conservation and management plan was identified as necessary to help assess the importance of the Town Walls and so enable their management, maintenance and future development.

1.2 Aims of the Conservation and Management Plan

By providing an understanding of the Town Walls and their setting, an assessment of why the Town Walls are significant, and how they are vulnerable or sensitive to change now and in the future, this plan defines policies to protect and manage the walls. The plan therefore is to be used as a guide for:

- improving public awareness, knowledge and appreciation of the Town Walls
- day to day and long-term management of the walls
- clear guiding principles against which any new development proposals or new ways of using the walls can be evaluated
- identification, following a condition survey, of areas of the walls in need of attention (with recommendations for the repair, conservation and protection of the walls within a phased programme)
- the preparation of initiatives for access, interpretation and education related to the walls and their setting.

1.3 Methodology

The structure of this plan follows the sequence of analytical steps presented by James Semple Kerr (in the 1996 publication *The Conservation Plan – A Guide to the Preparation of Conservation Plans for Places of European Cultural Significance*). This report therefore comprises the following sections:

- Understanding - including archaeological, historical, ecological, planning, structural and maintenance perspectives
- Significance – encompassing the overall importance of the Town Walls as well as the individual importance of elements of the walls
- Issues – identifying the factors that could impact upon the significance of the walls
- Policies – defining the principles to protect and enhance the walls and their setting
- Implementation – setting out a prioritised action plan.
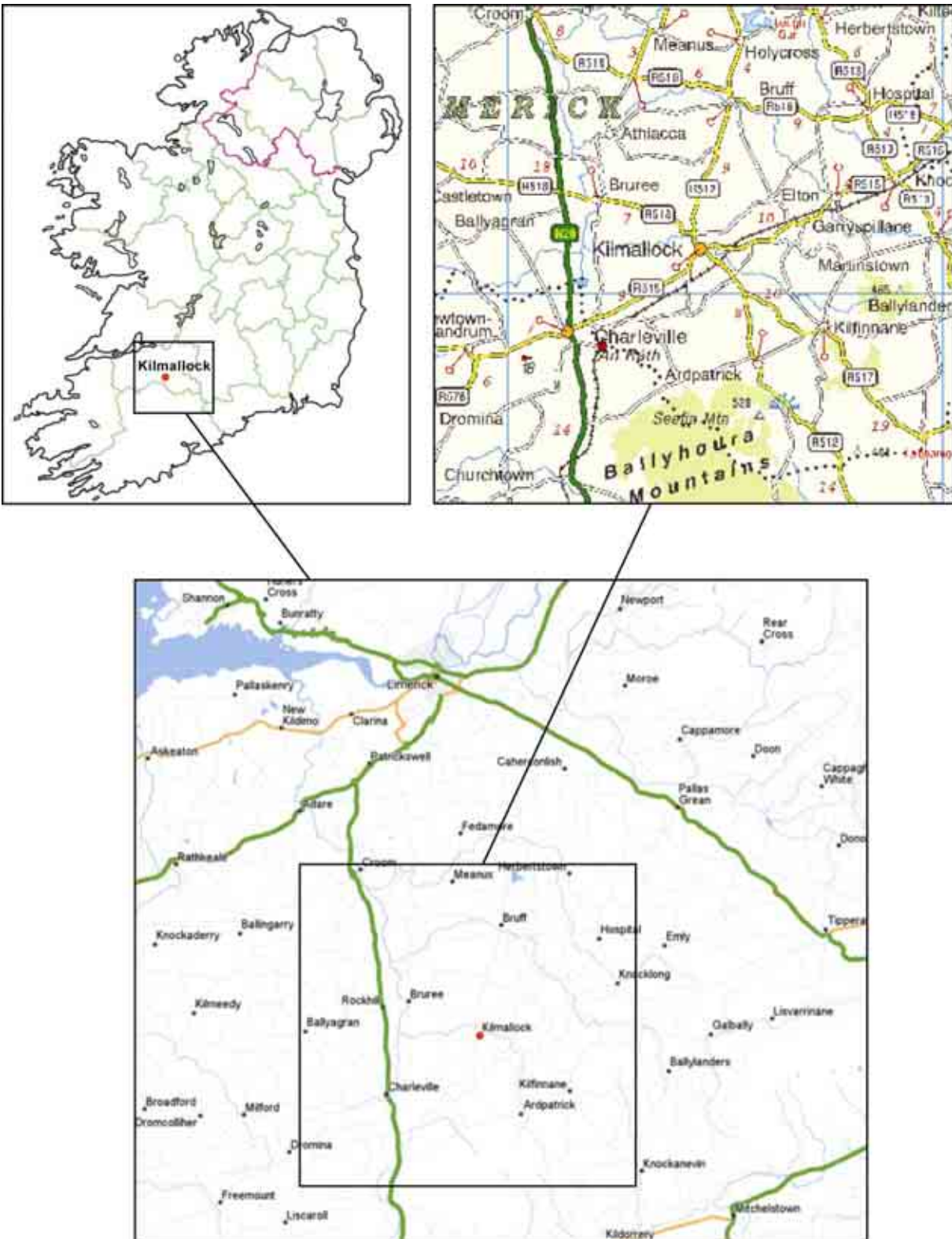
Figure 1: Location of Kilmallock
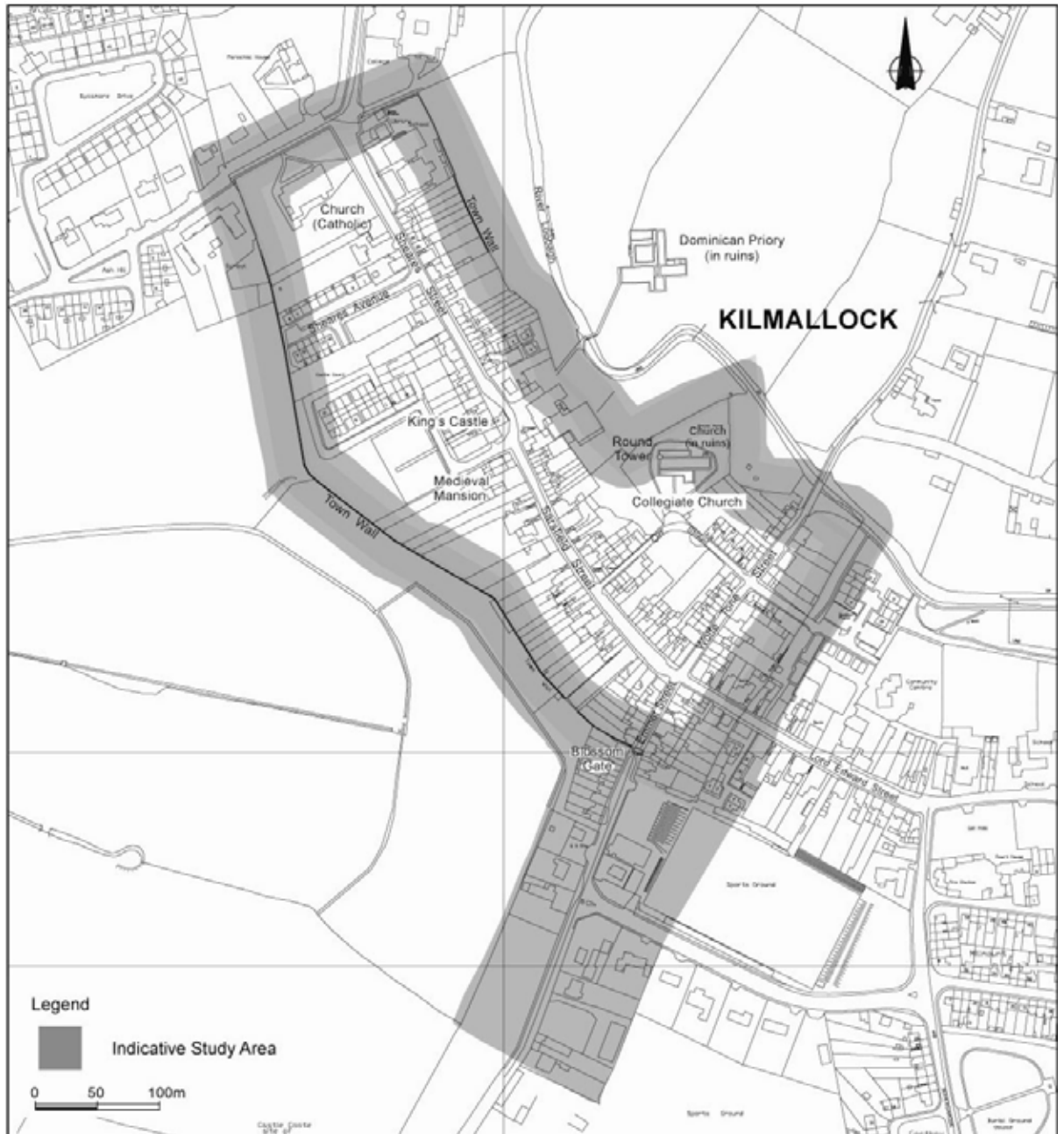
Figure 2: Circuit of Kilmallock Town Walls with buffer zone

The results of both stakeholder and public consultation are also included in this report, as these provide a vital means of understanding how the Town Walls are currently valued and used, as well as ideas and concerns for the future of the walls.

The plan has therefore been produced following documentary (primarily secondary sources) and desk-based research, site inspections – including the preparation of a photographic record of the Town Walls circuit (internally and externally), a condition survey, an ecological assessment and consultation of relevant individuals, organisations and the public. As a result of the study a research agenda was identified for future investigation, presented in Appendix A. A copy of the questionnaire distributed within the town to seek public opinion is provided in Appendix B, whilst the analysis of the results obtained from the questionnaires and consultation are enclosed in Appendix C. Appendix D provides a copy of an article by Sarah McCutcheon

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detailing the history of Kilmallock, the structural condition survey data generated as part of this plan is provided in Appendix E, and detail of the strategic review undertaken is presented in Appendix F.

Whilst Kilmallock lies on a north-west/south-east orientation, for the purposes of this document the walls will be referred to as:

- North wall – from the site of the North-West Tower to the site of the North-East Tower
- East wall – from the site of the North-East Tower is the site of the South-East Tower
- South wall – from the site of the South-East Tower is the site of the South-West Tower
- West wall – from the site of the South-West Tower to the site of the North-West Tower.

This orientation is also used to zone the various elements of the walls and town as given in the Gazetteer with 'central' added to cover the features within the Town Walls (Figure 3).

To assist with the referencing of specific parts of the Town Walls the circuit was divided into sections, with each defined stretch of wall or main structure given a separate reference (gazetteer) number. Associated structures were also given a unique gazetteer reference number to enable a better understanding of the setting of the Town Walls and to assist with the identification of issues and policies that link the Town Walls with the wider townscape. The full gazetteer is provided in a separate section at the end of this report, with the plan identifying the elements that form the gazetteer given in Figure 3. Date ranges have been applied to each gazetteer reference, based on documentary and mapping information, materials present and architectural styles – these phases are also illustrated on Figure 3.

On completion of each of the key stages of the plan (understanding and significance, issues and policies) a workshop was held with the Steering Group to share knowledge and discuss and agree the results arising. The members of the Steering Group included representatives from Limerick County Council, National Monuments Service, DoEHLG, Office of Public Works, Kilmallock Partnership, Kilmallock Community Council, Kilmallock Historical Society, Friar's Gate Theatre, Kilmallock National School, Coláiste Iosaef, the Catholic Church, and other community representatives – the full list of members is included in Appendix C.

1.4   Previous Work

Several earlier studies on Kilmallock have assisted in the preparation of this report - the Heritage Study, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick (Shaffrey, 1992) and a survey and report on the western wall undertaken on behalf of Dúchas (currently the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG) by Buchan Kane and Foley Architects in 1999.

1.5   Ownership of the Plan

Responsibility for the implementation of this conservation and management plan lies with Limerick County Council. Whilst there are no ownership deeds related to the fabric of the Town Walls, it is thought that the walls, having been owned by the Corporation of Kilmallock, are now the responsibility of Limerick County Council - certainly Limerick County Council have a duty of care given the status of the Town Walls as a National Monument. A number of private and public organisations and individuals own property that abuts either the internal or external faces of the walls and so have an interest in the current and future management of the walls. Figure 4 locates the land ownership surrounding the walls and is accompanied by Table 1 detailing those owners.
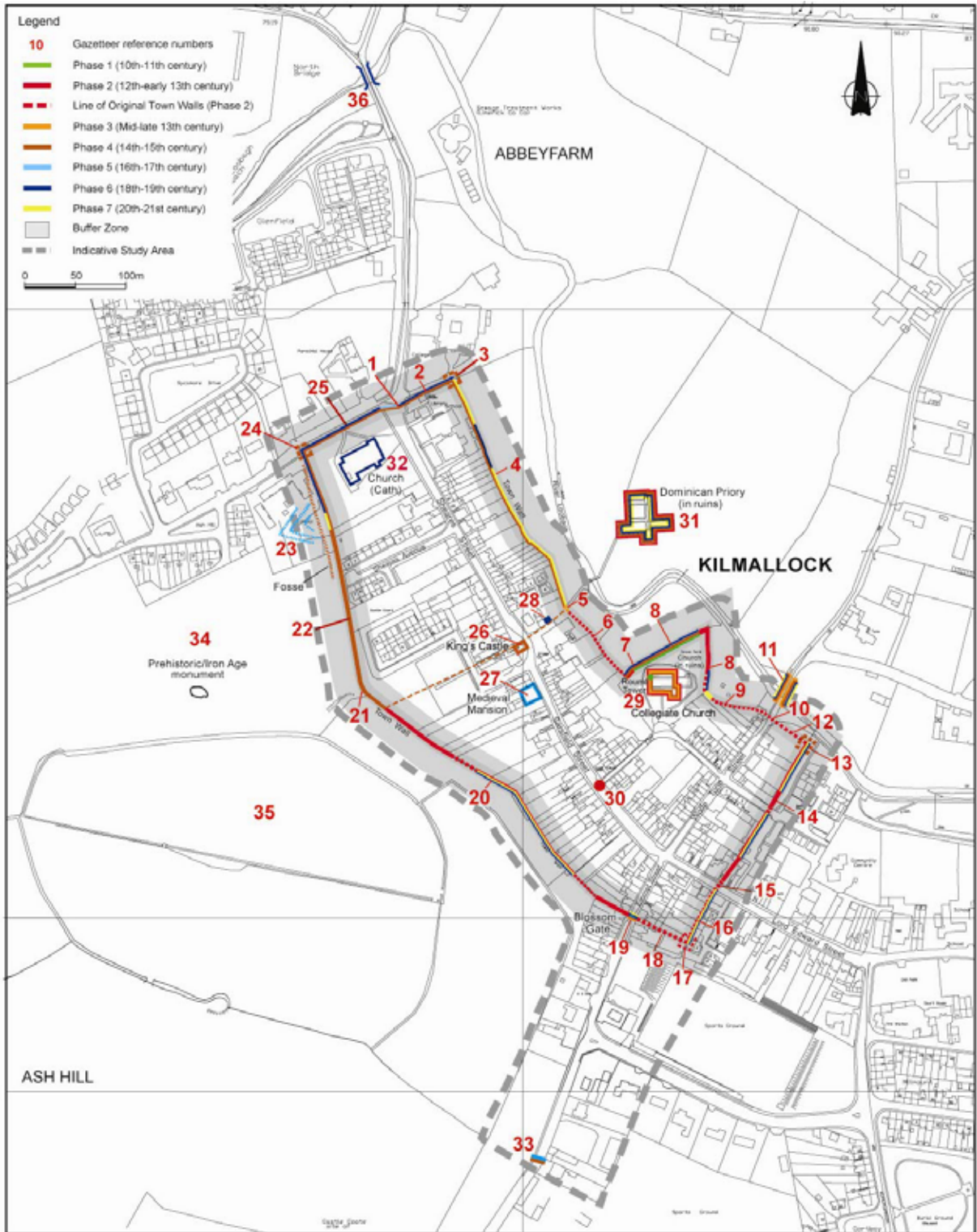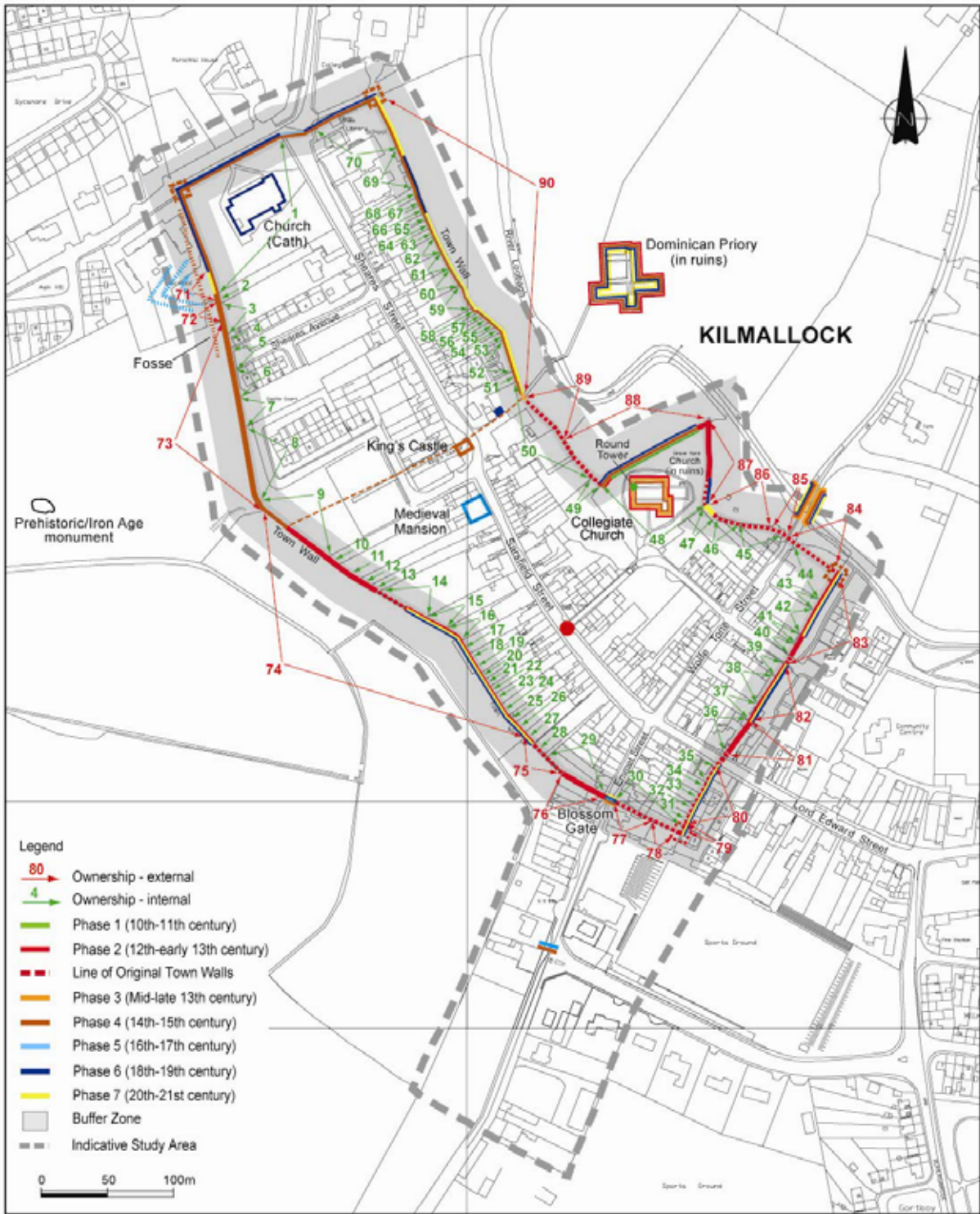
Figure 3: Gazetteer numbers and phases

Figure 4: Land ownership surrounding the Town Walls

KILMALLOCK TOWN WALLS: INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL LAND OWNERSHIP (SEPTEMBER 2007)		
1	Rev. Canon William Fitzmaurice P.P.	Ashill, Kilmallock
2	Rev. Canon William Fitzmaurice P.P.	Ashill, Kilmallock
3	Mrs Marie Wingfield	Sheares Street, Kilmallock
4	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
5	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
6	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
7	Mr John Webb-O'Rourke	Portauns, Kilmallock
8	Mr John Webb-O'Rourke	Portauns, Kilmallock
9	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
10	Mr Michael Riordan	Knocksouna, Kilmallock
11	Mr Michael Riordan	Knocksouna, Kilmallock
12	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
13	Golden Mill, Chinese restaurant	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
14	Mr William McCarthy	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
15	Mr Seamus Cummins	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
16	Mr Michael O'Connor	c/o Joe O'Connor, Millmount Hse., Kilmallock
17	Mrs Kate Parkinson	Kilfinane, Kilmallock
18	Ms Ada Quillinan	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
19	Mrs Eileen Collins	44 Millmount, Kilmallock
20	Mr William Morton	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
21	Celtic Bookmakers	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
22	Mr Peter Kenny	16 Ashill, Kilmallock
23	Bridie Herbert	Ballingaddy, Kilmallock
24	Mr & Mrs Bill & Sheila McHugh	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
25	Ms. Naula O'Grady	Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
26	Mr Michael Fogarty	Deebert, Kilmallock
27	Mr Liam Ryan	Super Valu, Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
28	Mr Liam Ryan	Super Valu, Sarsfield St., Kilmallock
29	Ms. Valerie Tierney	Emmet St., Kilmallock
Blossom Gate	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
30	Mr Jackie O'Brien	Emmet St., Kilmallock
31	Mr Denis Quish	Ballycullane, Kilmallock
32	Mr William Chawke	Tobernea, Kilmallock
33	Mr Angus Finn	Gortboy, Kilmallock
34	Mr & Mrs John & Helen O'Donnell	Treanlewis, Kilmallock
35	G. V. M Sales	Lord Edward Street, Kilmallock
Site of Ivy Gate	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
36	A.I.B.	Kilmallock
37	Mr Michael Daffy	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
38	Mr Michael Daffy	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
39	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
40	Mr James O'Keeffe	Charleville, Co. Cork
41	Mr Dan O'Sullivan	Rathgoggin Hts., Charleville, County Cork
42	Mr Dan O'Sullivan	Rathgoggin Hts., Charleville, County Cork
43	Mr Martin Corbett	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
44	Mr John Webb O'Rourke	Portauns, Kilmallock
Site of Water Gate	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
45	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
46	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
47	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
48	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
49	Mr Joe Costello	Railway Rd., Kilmallock
50	Dansko Foods	Dansko Foods, Kilmallock
51	Mr Michael Lynch	Sheares St., Kilmallock
52	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
53	Mr P.J. Hayes	36 Sheares St., Kilmallock
54	Mr Johnny Sheehan	35 Sheares St., Kilmallock
55	Ms. Margo Frazer	34 Sheares St., Kilmallock
56	Mr & Mrs P.J. & Doris Murphy	33 Sheares St., Kilmallock
57	Mr Eamonn Carey	
58	Reps. Francis Kennedy	31 Sheares St., Kilmallock
59	Mrs Nora Lyons	30 Sheares St., Kilmallock
60	Mr Gerry Barrett	28, 29 Sheares St., Kilmallock
61	Ms. Mary Sheedy	27 Sheares St., Kilmallock

KILMALLOCK TOWN WALLS: INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL LAND OWNERSHIP (SEPTEMBER 2007)		
62	Ms. Mary Sheedy	27 Sheares St., Kilmallock
63	Mr Angus Finn	Gortboy, Kilmallock
64	Mr Angus Finn	Gortboy, Kilmallock
65	Mr William McCarthy Jnr	Sarsfield St. Kilmallock
66	Mrs Betty O'Connor	24 Sheares St., Kilmallock
67	Mrs Bridget Stritch	23 Sheares St., Kilmallock
68	Mrs Stritch	22 Sheares St., Kilmallock
69	Scoil Mocheallog	Primary School, Kilmallock
70	Scoil Mocheallog	Primary School, Kilmallock
71	Rev. Canon William Fitzmaurice	Ashill, Kilmallock
72	Rev. Canon William Fitzmaurice	Ashill, Kilmallock
73	Ms. Kathleen Fannin	c/o Harry Fehilly Solr., Limerick
74	Mr Liam Ryan	Supervalu Store, Kilmallock
75	Mr Liam Ryan	Supervalu Store, Kilmallock
76	Mrs Moira Leahy	Martinstown, Kilmallock
77	Ms. Moira Naughton	Emmet St., Kilmallock
78	Mr Tim Corkery	23 Blackrock, Tralee
79	Mr Tim Corkery	24 Blackrock, Tralee
80	Mr Tim Corkery	25 Blackrock, Tralee
81	Mr Tim Corkery	26 Blackrock, Tralee
82	Mr Tim Corkery	27 Blackrock, Tralee
83	Limerick County Council	County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick
84	Mr John Webb O'Rourke	Portauns, Kilmallock
85	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
86	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
87	Mr Clinton Kiernan	Wolfe Tone St., Kilmallock
88	Dansko Foods, Kilmallock	Dansko Foods, Kilmallock
89	Dansko Foods, Kilmallock	Dansko Foods, Kilmallock
90	Scoil Iosaf	Scoil Iosaf, Kilmallock

Table 1: Internal and external ownership details

1.6   Legislative and Planning Background

There are a number of international guidance documents on heritage, all of which emphasise the importance of protection and the necessity for understanding a monument as a basis for decision-making (UNESCO, 1976; Kerr, 1996; and ICOMOS, 1999). In terms of Irish legislation the following are the key statutes:

• The *National Monuments Act* (1930, amended in 1954, 1987, 1994 and 2004) – devised to protect archaeological sites and monuments in Ireland. Under the various provisions of this legislation there are different classes of National Monument with the strongest level of protection afforded to National Monuments owned by the State, or held in Guardianship. Guardianship gives the state access to a monument for maintenance, but the monument remains the property of the landowner. Other monuments that are adjudged to satisfy criteria laid down in the 1930 *National Monuments Act* can be declared National Monuments without the need for any transfer of lands or ownership rights – these monuments remain the property of individual landowners. Town walls fit into this category and are classed as National Monuments. The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government can place a Preservation Order on any monument of national importance that is in imminent danger of damage/destruction and consent from the Minister is required for any works to be undertaken to National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the State or of the Local Authority. The Minister through the National Monuments Service of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG) maintains the Register of Historic Monuments and the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). Under Section 12(3) of the 1994 Amendment to the National Monuments Act the DoEHLG have to be notified two months in advance of any works that could impact on monuments

included in the Register of Historic Monuments or the RMP – following such notification the DoEHLG make recommendations in regard to the impact of the proposed works.

- The *Heritage Act* (1995) - which provides for the establishment of a statutory Heritage Council to be appointed by the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltact and the Islands.
- The *Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act* (1999) - which provides legislation for the formation of a National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.
- The *Planning and Development Acts* (2000 - 2006) - contain guidance on development, the formulation of Development Plans and Local Area Plans (to include a 'Record of Protected Structures' - RPS), and Regional Planning Guidelines.

In addition to legislation, planning policies provide further guidance on the preservation and promotion of historic monuments and their settings. Such policy documents include:

- The *National Heritage Plan* - Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (2002) – which includes policies on the protection, promotion and appreciation of heritage.
- The *Irish Walled Towns Network 3-Year Action Plan (Draft) 2006 – 2008* - The Heritage Council (2005) - directly concerned with walled towns, their promotion and resources required for their care.
- The *National Development Plan (2007-2013)* – which sets out a blueprint for economic and social development with detail on spatial planning, support infrastructure, environmental sustainability and economic growth.
- The *National Spatial Strategy for Ireland 2002-2020: People, Places and Potential* (2002) - which aims to achieve a better balance of social, economic and physical development between regions, focussing on the relationship between people and the places where they live and work.
- *Action on Architecture (2002-2005)* - which addresses the architectural heritage in State care (section 2.2.5).
- The *Limerick County Development Plan (2005-2011)* – which sets out a vision for a positive and sustainable approach to balanced development thereby enhancing the lives of people….whilst protecting the natural and built environment. The County Council's policies and objectives include:

  - To promote tourism in a manner compatible with the conservation and enhancement of the county's environment
  - To properly protect, manage and enhance the natural and built environment and cultural heritage for the benefit of existing and future generations
  - To preserve all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest, preferably *in situ*
  - To assist and encourage active participation by heritage groups, community associations and local people in the conservation, consolidation, restoration and preservation of landmark sites.

- It is the *Kilmallock Local Area Plan* (adopted by Limerick County Council in 2002) that sets out specific policies to guide appropriate development in relation to the town and its heritage assets. The Plan proposed part of the medieval core as an Architectural Conservation Area and the preservation/conservation of the designated RMP and RPS sites (listed in section 2.2 below). In relation to the Town Walls it is stated that it is necessary for the Town Wall to be preserved, repaired, reinstated, and afforded a proper setting with improved access - 'Building development within 20m of the town wall and any other development within 15m of the wall will be prohibited' (Local Area Plan 2002, 41). To encourage tourism in Kilmallock and to respond to changing recreational needs and trends, whilst safeguarding the local,

natural and built environment and cultural heritage the following were identified as necessary:

- The development of a walk around the Town Wall
- The conservation and development of the town centre and its architectural, archaeological and natural heritage
- Maintenance of a green area around the Town Wall, extending for a distance of 15m from the wall
- Access to items of architectural and archaeological interest and importance
- Promotion and development of Kilmallock as a cultural tourist destination.

A number of strategic documents designed to assist the promotion and protection of heritage have also been consulted as part of the preparation of this plan, including:

- Heritage Council *Strategic Plan 2007-2011*
- Fáilte Ireland *Tourism Product Development Strategy 2007-2013*
- Limerick County Development Board (2002) *Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development 2002-2011*
- Ballyhoura Development Ltd (2003) *Ballyhoura Attractions Cluster Development Strategy.*

These strategies present some of the key issues and priorities for heritage and tourism in Ireland – the main points are given below, with further detail provided in Appendix F:

- Identification and protection of national heritage, including physical and natural environment and scenic landscapes
- Promotion of local, national and international interest, education, knowledge and understanding of Ireland's national and local heritage
- Maximising access to and enjoyment of national and cultural heritage
- Undertaking research into new areas of heritage and support of ongoing research
- Reviewing legislation that protects Ireland's heritage
- Building on the development of heritage infrastructure
- Developing sustainable management of heritage assets
- Encouraging and building community involvement in heritage
- Developing partnerships with national and international organisations and joining networks to promote best practice and sustainable management of tourism
- Developing the experiential tourism offer
- Developing the role of towns and cities for tourism - especially those with good transport links – as increasingly important for short breaks.

These strategies however also present specific priorities for Kilmallock – including:

- To protect and develop the medieval character of Kilmallock
- Develop lifelong learning opportunities
- Develop the tourism/information potential of the medieval stone mansion
- Develop a promotional strategy for tourism
- Prepare a Conservation Plan and Heritage Plan
- Develop special interest tourism with clustering of existing products
- Establish a Cultural Action Group.

2. UNDERSTANDING – LOCATION, DESIGNATIONS AND HISTORY

2.1 Topography and Setting

Kilmallock is set in the south-west of County Limerick in a fertile limestone plain known as Munster's 'Golden Vale' (Figure 1). The town lies east of the River Loobagh and originally would have lain between the river and a lake (Ash Hill). Clearly the siting of the town was strategic – it guarded the passes between the Galtee and Ballahoura mountain ranges and was a communications focal point between Cork and Limerick. That the town was of strategic importance is further evidenced by its formation as a fortress town, with strong walls encircling a long wide main street, from which ran shorter side streets.

2.2 Designations

The National Monuments Service of the DoEHLG is responsible for the inclusion of monuments on both the Register of Historic Monuments and the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). Planning Authorities (in this instance Limerick County Council) are responsible for the inclusion of buildings on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). It should be noted that the information given in this report on specific monuments/structures is current at the time of writing and the DoEHLG should be consulted for the most up to date information.

The list of the designations related to Kilmallock involves:

National Monuments (Figure 5):

- National Monument no. 212 – Dominican Priory (under ownership of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG and managed by the OPW)
- National Monument no. 408 - Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul (under ownership of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG and managed by the OPW)
- National Monument no. 173 - King's Castle (under ownership of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG and managed by the OPW)
- National Monument no. 680 – The Medieval Mansion (under ownership of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG and managed by the OPW)
- The Town Walls and defences of Kilmallock, including Blossom Gate (under ownership of Limerick County Council).

Record of Monuments and Places (Figure 5):

- RMP LI047-018 – Earthwork (Figure 5, 1)
- RMP LI047-020 – Enclosure (Figure 5, 2)
- RMP LI047-021-001 - Enclosure (Figure 5, 3)
- RMP LI047-021-002 - Castle (Castle Coote, site of) (Figure 5, 4)
- RMP LI047-022 - Historic Town (Kilmallock) (Figure 5, 5)
- RMP LI047-023 - Burial Ground (Figure 5, 6)
- RMP LI047-024 - Holy Well (Figure 5, 7)
- RMP LI047-026-001 - Enclosure (Figure 5, 8)
- RMP LI0470-026-002 - Castle (Millmount Castle, site of) (Figure 5, 9).

Record of Protected Structures (Figure 6):

- RPS M(47)25 - Dominican Priory, Abbeyfarm (Figure 6, 1)

- RPS M(47)34 - Collegiate Church, Kilmallock (Figure 6, 2)
- RPS M(47)30 - King's Castle, Kilmallock (Figure 6, 3)
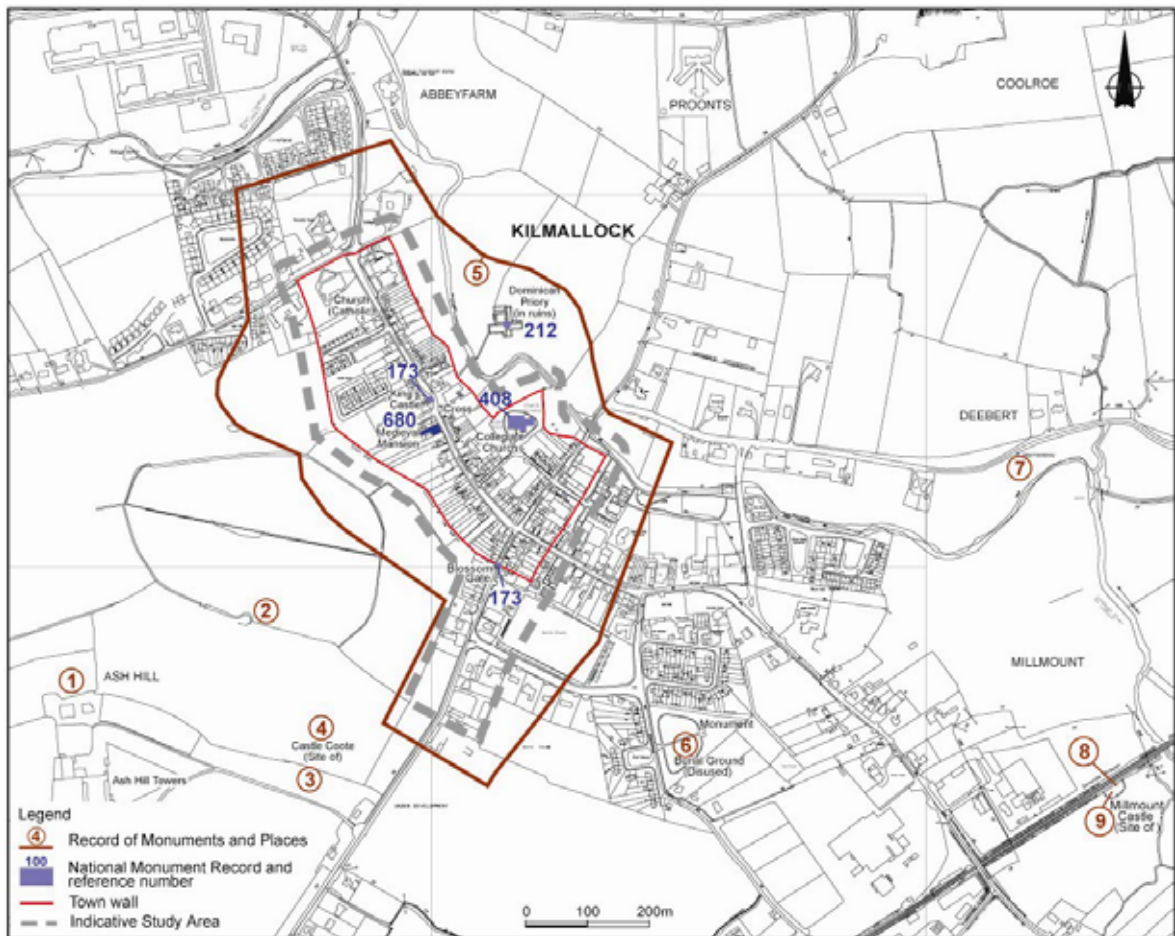
Figure 5: Locations of National Monuments and RMPs (after Kilmallock Local Area Plan, Map 2B)

- RPS M(47)31 – Blossom Gate (Figure 6, 4)
- RPS M((47)36 – Stone mansion, Sarsfield Street (Figure 6, 5)
- RPS M(47)32A/32B – Shops (Figure 6, 6)
- RPS M(47)42 - 'O'Sullivan' (butcher), tile-work shop-front (Figure 6, 7)
- RPS M(47)26 - Munster and Leinster Bank (by Architects Henry & Arthur Hill, Cork, 1877) (Figure 6, 8)
- RPS M(47)13 - Catholic Church. J. J. McCarthy 1878 (Figure 6, 9)
- RPS M(47)28A - Cinema 1940's, built into 17th century house (Figure 6, 10)
- RPS KMK(38) - McAuliffe's Public House, Sarsfield Street (Figure 6, 11)
- RPS M(47)40 - 'O'Cearbhaill' (Figure 6, 12)
- RPS M(47)29 - Fraser (corner) (Figure 6, 13)
- RPS M(47)41i-v - Long terrace of houses including shop front (Figure 6, 14)
- RPS M(47) - Note scale and proportion of house beside P. McAuliffe betting office, Sarsfield Street - medieval? (Figure 6, 15)
- RPS M(47) - Stone gates/entrance to Fair Green, 1878 (Figure 6, 16)
- RPS KMK(50) – Council Area Office/Courthouse (Figure 6, 17)
- RPS M(47) – Dwelling, Gortboy (Figure 6, 18)
- RPS M(47)22 - Church of Ireland. Brick single cell 20th century church (Figure 6, 19)
- RPS M(47)39i-vi - Composition of Wolfe Tone Street (Figure 6, 20)

- RPS M(47)17 – People's Hall, Millmount (Figure 6, 21)
- RPS M(47)15 – Former Convent opposite Roman Catholic Church – now community school (Figure 6, 22)
- RPS M(47)34 - Mill complex (including gates) - now a hotel (Figure 6, 23)
- RPS M(47)43 – Guest house and yard opposite Church of Ireland (Figure 6, 24)
- RPS M(47)60 - Town Wall (Figure 6, 25)
- RPS KMK(27) – Parochial House (Figure 6, 26)
- RPS KMK(28) – 2 bay house, Sheare's Street (Figure 6, 27)
- RPS KMK 29) – 2 bay house, Sheare's Street (Figure 6, 28)
- RPS KMK(30) – 2 bay house, Sheare's Street (Figure 6, 29)
- RPS KMK(32) – 3 bay house, Sheare's Street (Figure 6, 30)
- RPS KMK(34) – M J Feore shop (Figure 6, 31)
- RPS KMK(35) – Stucco fronted house, Sarsfield Street (Figure 6, 32)
- RPS KMK(42) – Warehouse, Wolfe Tone Street (Figure 6, 33)
- RPS KMK(40) – 2 bay, 2 storey house, Wolfe Tone Street (Figure 6, 34)
- RPS KMK(44) – Law office, Lord Edward Street (Figure 6, 36)
- RPS M(37) – Gate (Figure 6, 37)
- RPS M/H(39) – Bridge (Figure 6, 38)
- RPS KMK(48) – Commercial premises, Lord Edward Street (Figure 6, 39)
- RPS KMK(52) – Former Parochial House (Figure 6, 40)
- RPS KMK(51) – Former Laundry house of the Workhouse (Figure 6, 41)
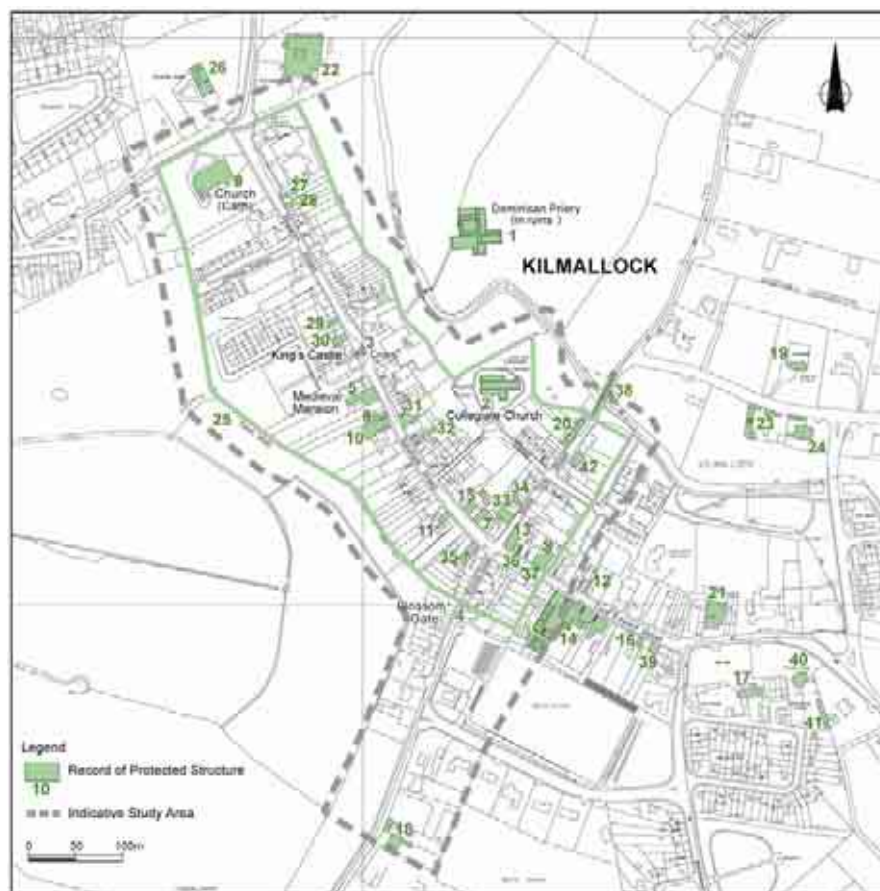- RPS KMK(39) – 3 bay 2 storey house, Wolfe Tone Street (Figure 6, 42).

Figure 6: RPS Locations (after Kilmallock Local Area Plan, Map 2A)

2.3 History

2.3.1 Introduction

This section sets out a summary of the information collated to date as an archaeological and historical narrative of the beginnings and subsequent development of Kilmallock and its Town Walls. The information relies in particular on the work of Mainchín Seoighe (1987) and Sarah McCutcheon (2007) – these and the other sources of information are given in the bibliography. As the McCutcheon article in particular provides a useful, succinct account of the history of Kilmallock with the author's kind permission the full article is presented in Appendix D.

2.3.2 Early Christian period (AD 500-1000)

There are a number of indications of settlement/activity in and around Kilmallock during this period, including ring forts and defended settlement sites. The district of Kilmallock formed part of the *Uí Fidhgeinte* kingdom (*tuath*) which in *c.* 950 was formed into two *tuatha* – the eastern one, including the Kilmallock area, was known as *Uí Cairbre Aofa.*

The name Kilmallock is the anglicised version of *Cill Mocheallóg* (Church of my Cheallóg/St. Mocheallóg). This saint was an abbot and bishop who lived at the end of the 6th, beginning of the 7th century. A monastery of St. Mocheallóg was founded on Kilmallock Hill – *c.* 1mile north-west of the present town (Plate 2). The first documentary reference to Kilmallock lies in the *Annals of the Four Masters* – in 927 there is mention of the defeat of Vikings from Waterford at Kilmallock (Seoighe 1987, 15). Later, possibly in the 11th century the monastery transferred down into the valley, perhaps as a result of expansion requirements or following a sacking in 1015 – whilst a chapel continued on the hill until at least the 15th century (McCutcheon 2007, 3). Only the round tower survives of the monastery that moved to the valley – the lower courses were incorporated into the 13th century belfry of the later Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul.

Plate 2: Original monastery of St. Mocheallóg (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

2.3.3 Medieval period (AD 1000-1500)

Kilmallock is one of a few towns in Ireland that owes its location and possibly its origin to a monastic foundation. Presumably, following 12th century church reform, the early settlement was absorbed into the property of the Bishop of Limerick. Clearly the town was a strategic and defensive site located on the route between Limerick and Cork and naturally protected by the River Loobagh to the east and a large lake to the west (Ash Hill Lough – Figure 8). By 1206 there is mention of a castle in the town.

The town was laid out in a typical medieval form – with a long, wide main street, John's Street (now Sheares Street) and Main/High Street (now Sarsfield Street) from which shorter streets radiated - Crooked Lane and Church Lane (now Orr Street) Fleming Street (which became Ivy Street, now Lord Edward Street), Blapat Street (now Emmet Street) and Water Street (now Wolfe Tone Street) (Bradley 1989, 147). Burgage plots are recorded from the 13th century, together with fairs in the town. The Collegiate Church was built by 1251 and the Dominican Priory was founded in 1291.

The earliest reference to Kilmallock's defences records a communal fosse in the 1280s. The earliest town defences probably comprised a fosse (ditch) with an earthen bank and a wooden palisade – evidence of the 2m deep fosse and the bank survives outside of the west wall (Gazetteer no. 22). Traces of various ditches have also been found within the town - one of these ditches, 6m wide and 1m deep, extended at right angles to Sheares Street, just north of the line of King's Castle towards the west wall (O'Connor 2000, 46) and is seen as evidence of the original fosse before the northward extension of the town, thought to have occurred between the 13th and 15th century (McCutcheon 2007, 4).

Whilst the earliest town defences may have comprised earthworks with a possible palisade, it was not long before the town was enclosed by stone walls. Given that a 1301-2 pipe roll mentions that Kilmallock owed a £14 fine for murage it is thought that the first murage grant predated 1300 (McCutcheon 2007, 4). A murage grant of 1308 referred to enclosing and strengthening the existing walls with stone-built walls (Seoighe 1987, 27) and further grants included a ten-year murage grant in 1374 (which mentions stone building materials to make repairs following the burning of the town), a murage grant for 20 years was issued in 1409, and three more in 1482, 1550 and 1584.

The existing town walls are presumed to belong to the late 14th – early 15th century and are *c.* 1.2 – 1.5m wide, surviving to a maximum height of 5m. The walls enclose an area of 13 hectares with the perimeter 1700m long (Thomas 1992, 134). There were 5 main gates/entrances to the town, as shown on the map of *c.*1600 (Plate 1 and Figure 7):

- St. John's Gate or North Gate (Gazetteer no. 1) was shown on this *c.*1600 map (Figure 7) as a large, double tower with pitched roof – later it was represented as a three-four storey gate house with a side tower (Fleming 1912, sketch 19).
- East or Water Gate (Gazetteer no. 10) was located at the end of Wolfe Tone Street and was shown on the *c.*1600 map (Figure 7) as a single square/rectangular two or three storey gatehouse.
- Friar's Gate (Gazetteer no. 5) on the eastern wall gave access at the end of Friar's Lane to the Dominican Priory. On the *c.*1600 map this appears to be a single tower.
- Southern or Ivy Gate (Gazetteer no. 15) resembled the Water Gate on the *c.*1600 map.
- Blossom Gate (Gazetteer no. 19) formerly known as Blae Gate and Mallow/Pigeon Castle.
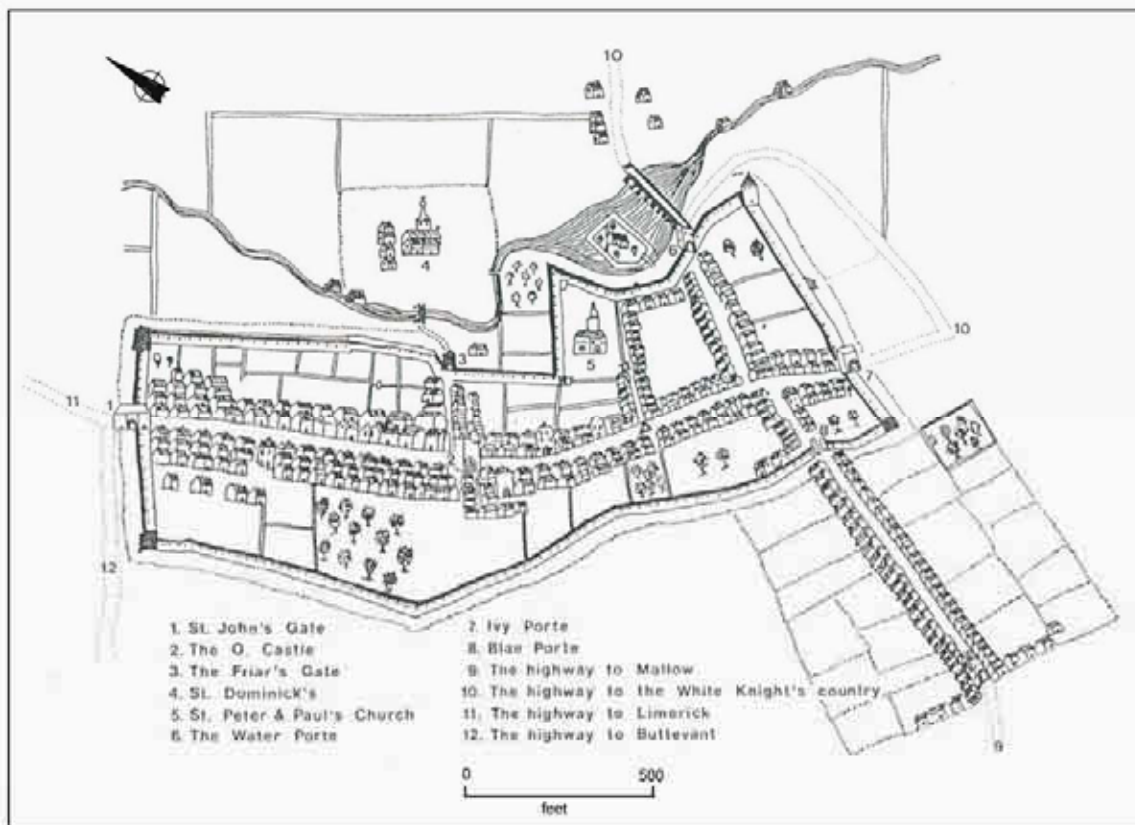
Figure 7: Joanes' map of Kilmallock, c.1600 (after O'Connor 1987, 52, figure 4.1)

A fosse ran along the exterior of the west side, to the south and also along the north, at the north end of the east side, the river providing protection to the southern portion of the east side. It is not clear if the stone walls and gate towers were erected prior to the inclusion of the north section of the town, or during the 10 or 20-year murage grants.

The title Earl of Desmond was created in 1329 and for the next two and a half centuries the Earls of Desmond were the Overlords of Munster with Kilmallock as their main town (Lee 1967, 253). That Kilmallock was not just a town of strategic importance, but also a wealthy settlement is evidenced by a mint in the town, set up in 1472.

During the 15th century the current building of King's Castle was constructed, which may have been contemporary with the construction of the new north gate (St. John's Gate) following the northward extension of the town. The 15th century saw the construction of a number of tower houses outside of Kilmallock - one to the south-west of Blossom Gate (Figure 5), and one to the east of the town - presumably garrisons placed in these strongholds would have been available to assist Kilmallock.

2.3.4   16th century

The 16th century saw the Desmond rebellion which continued from 1569 under James Fitzmaurice Fitzgerald, until the death of Gerald, 14th Earl of Desmond, in 1583. During this time Kilmallock was sacked and burned (in 1571) but the Town Walls were rebuilt by Sir John Perrott who clearly recognised the strategic value of the town and made it a garrison – indeed the importance of the town can also be seen in the Nine Years War (1594-1603) when it was besieged in 1598 by rebels and freed by Norris, Lord President of Munster.

The current Blossom Gate structure was built during the 16th century, possibly as an improved defence for the south-west of the town. A fosse and bank may have protected an extra mural section beyond Blossom Gate, together with an external gate (Figure 3) – a later suburb.

The existing Seal of Kilmallock, which bears the date of 1585, was commissioned in 1720-1730.

2.3.5 17th century

A map was drafted in *c.*1600 by Joanes, documenting the see and layout of Kilmallock for officials on behalf of Queen Elizabeth I (Plate 1).

In 1642, Irish forces under Lord Mountgarrett and Garret Barry seized Kilmallock against the invading Cromwellian forces. In 1643 and 1648 the town was besieged by Lord Inchiquin and in 1650 surrendered to the Cromwellian forces under Ireton whereupon the walls were dismantled. The walls were restored by the Corporation in 1652 (Seoighe 1987, 111). The earth bastion located to the north-west of the town (Gazetteer no. 23) dates to the Cromwellian period, together with further earthen ramparts to the south of the town, now no longer surviving (Thomas 1992, 135). Williamite and Jacobite forces alternated in stationing troops in Kilmallock during 1691. A major change for Kilmallock in the 17th century was the development in 1662 of a new town, Charleville, six miles to the south-west. Charleville became a commercial rival to Kilmallock, assisted by the redesignation of the main road from Cork to Limerick via Charleville.

The Civil Survey of 1654-1656 recorded that Kilmallock's main streets contained six tower houses, 29 three-storey stone houses, four two-storey stone houses and 130 thatched houses that fronted onto the main streets (O'Connor 1987, 54). Sarsfield House was an example of a stone house that was constructed during the 17th century and partially demolished *c.*1930 (Bradley 1989, 151). The Friar's Gate Theatre is built within the gable walls of Sarsfield House. The house known as the 'Medieval Mansion' (no. 20 Sarsfield Street) (Plate 3) was situated to the north of Sarsfield House and still stands as a two-storey building, the top storey having been removed in the 20th century (Gazetteer no. 27). It is likely that elements of both a number of the urban tower houses and stone houses survive as part of later buildings or adaptations of the earlier buildings. In the 19th century new buildings including the bank building of 1877 emulated the grand style of the stone houses. An early engraving depicting Sarsfield Street shows that the east side of the street was lined mainly with single/two storey stone-built cottages with straw-thatched roofs (Plate 4) - which are likely to be stone houses in decline or being adapted.

Plate 3: Medieval Mansion

Plate 4: View of King's Castle, looking south – by George Petrie, 1825 (image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland)

2.3.6 18th century to the present day

The 18th to 19th century is regarded as a period of stagnation within Kilmallock, following the rise and development of Charleville. A rural, picturesque view of the town was captured in the 19th century in a painting by John Mulvany (Plate 5), which shows many ruinous buildings on the main street. The nine hectare lake (Ash Hill Lough) to the west of the town was drained in the 19th century, although the fields in that area have damp/marshy parts – especially at the angle along the west wall (by Gazetteer no. 21). Also in the 19th century Kilmallock workhouse was opened (Figure 8) and many famine victims were buried in the workhouse cemetery (Bully's Acre) from 1845-1851. The former administrative section of the workhouse has been used as a courthouse and currently is used by Limerick County Council for offices.

Ivy Gate, Water Gate and Friars Gate were dismantled. The North Gate seems to have survived until the early 19th century.

In the 19th and 20th centuries The Royal Irish Constabulary barracks of Kilmallock saw several incidents – in 1867 three Fenians were killed in a raid on the barracks, whilst in 1920 the barracks were attacked by the IRA.

The First and Second Editions of the Ordnance Survey Maps of Kilmallock (Figures 8 and 9) illustrate how little the town has changed from the 19th century to the present day (Figure 3).

Plate 5: Kilmallock vue by John Mulvany, 1827 (image courtesy of the Hunt Museum, Limerick)
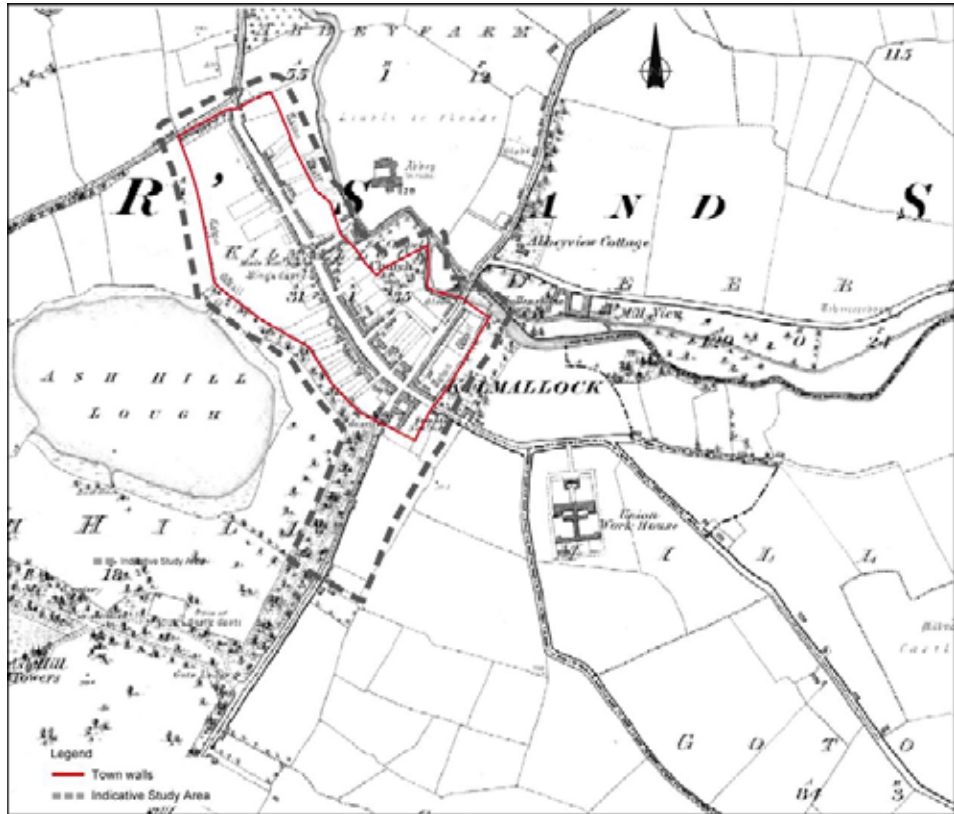
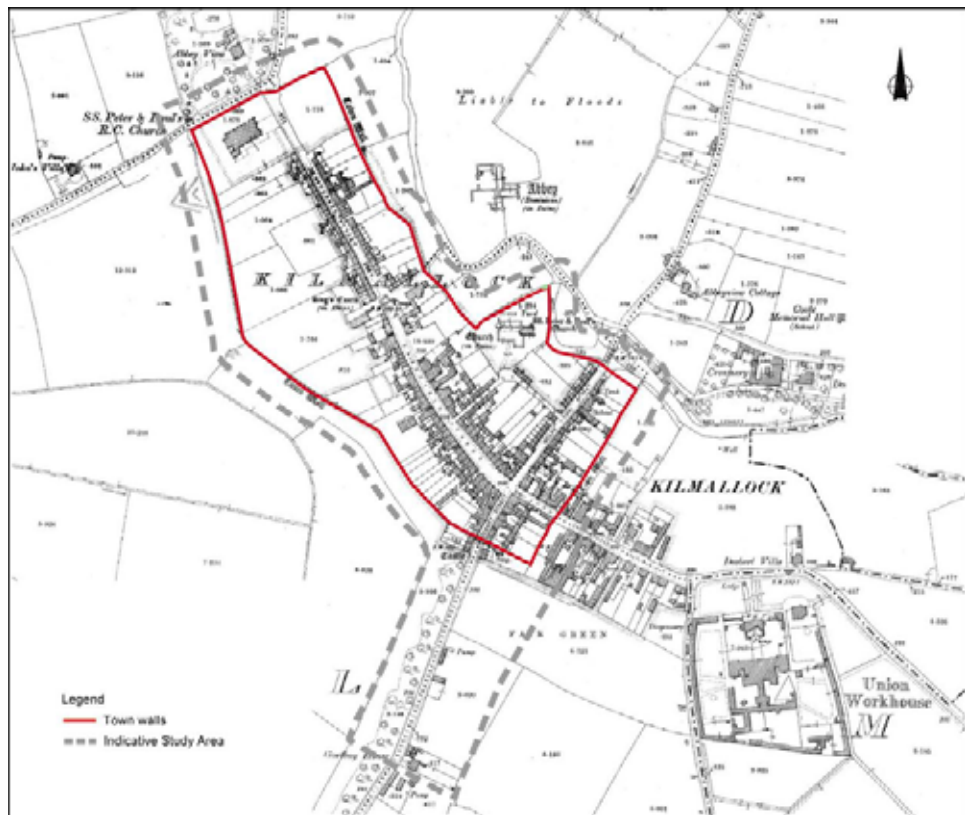*Figure 8: First edition OS map extract (1829 – 1841)*

Figure 9: Second edition OS map extract (1897 - 1913)

Today Kilmallock is a small rural town with an annual Point to Point and the Fitzgerald Park GAA hosting major games in the Munster Championships and National League. The town is utilising its location and heritage assets to be the hub for heritage tourism for the Ballyhoura region – which is currently managed from an office at the Friar's Gate Theatre (which also presents plays/productions throughout the year as well as serving as an art exhibition centre). Also on offer in relation to understanding the history/heritage of the town is the small museum/information centre (Gazetteer no. 28) in a house between King's Castle and the Dominican Priory. In 2006 Limerick County Council, supported by the Irish Walled Towns Network, ran a two-day Walled Town Conference, which was followed by a medieval festival, run by Kilmallock Partnership, which has continued to be an annual event, comprising concerts, battle re-enactments and a street market – another indication of the growing awareness and interest in the history and heritage of this intriguing town.

2.3.7   Chronology

The following table (Table 2) provides a summary of the key events in Kilmallock in relation to the rest of Ireland and the wider world.

DATE	EVENTS IN KILMALLOCK AND REGION	EVENTS IN IRELAND	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
5th century		St Patrick introduces Christian Church to Ireland	Chinese observe Halley's comet
6th century		Columba or Columcille became first abbot of a church at Derry	Bubonic plague in Europe. Birth of Mohammed in 570
7th century	Foundation of St Mocheallóg on hill north-west of the town		
795		First Viking raids in Ireland. Book of Kells.	In 800 Pope Leo crowned Charlemagne Emperor of West
10th – 11th century	Monastery of Mocheallóg founded on new site – now occupied by Collegiate Church	Vikings establish settlements at Waterford, Dublin and Limerick	
927	Annals of Innisfallen record 'a slaughter of the foreigners [Vikings] of Waterford at Kilmallock by the men of Munster and foreigners of Limerick		
1014		High King Brian Boru killed at Battle of Clontarf	
1015	Annals of Innisfallen record monastery of Kilmallock sacked by O'Donaghue and Dunadach		
1027/8	Death of Flaithnia O Tighernain, lector of Kilmallock		
1066			Normans defeat Saxons in England – William of Normandy becomes King of England
1096			First Crusade begins
1101		Synod of Cashel	
1107	Gilbert, first Bishop of Limerick		
1111	Gilbert, as papal legate, presides over Synod of Rathbreasil – existing dioceses of Limerick and Waterford were fitted into the general framework	Synod of Rathbreasil	
1152		Synod of Kells	

DATE	EVENTS IN KILMALLOCK AND REGION	EVENTS IN IRELAND	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
1166-75		Reign of Rory O'Connor, last High King of Ireland	
1169		Arrival of Anglo-Normans at Baginburn, Co. Wexford	
1171		Arrival of Henry II and beginning of English political involvement in Ireland	
1199	Geoffrey de Marisco held lands including Kilmallock as tenant of Bishop of Limerick		Early English Gothic period in English architecture
1204-6	Castle referred to - King John asks Meyler Fitz Henry, Justiciar of Ireland to find out if the castle of Kilmallock belongs to the kingdom of Cork or Limerick		
1221	Fairs granted to Kilmallock		
1223 -50	Burgages or burgesses granted – including 27 burgages on Main Street (Sarsfield Street)		1237 - Treaty of York – sets border between England and Scotland
1251	Reference to the great church of Kilmallock – Collegiate Church		
1265	Fair listed in Kilmallock in Black Book of Limerick	Walter de Burgo made Earl of Ulster	
1272	William Fitzmartin granted land near Kilmallock to Gerald, Bishop of Limerick	English control Ulster east of Lough Neagh, Meath and much of Connacht and Munster	Eighth and last Crusade
1280s	Black Book of Limerick records documents relating to bishops of Limerick – includes conferring of rents in Kilmallock and names streets/occupiers of properties as well as a 'communal fosse'		1280-1370 - Decorated Gothic period in English architecture
1289	John, Archbishop of Dublin visited Kilmallock		
1291	Foundation of Dominican Priory		
1295-1303	8 visits to Kilmallock by Justiciar for Ireland		
1300	Kilmallock gave £20 for Scottish Wars		Annexation of Scotland by England
1302	A fine of £14 for murage – Kilmallock		
1308	A murage grant of 3 years to the burgesses of Kilmallock		
1315		Edward Bruce, son of Robert, King of Scotland led army of Scots into Ulster. Repair of walls and gates of Anglo-Norman strongholds throughout Ireland	
1318	Completed Dominican Priory	Battle of Faughart – Edward Bruce killed, Scots incursion ended	
1329	First Earl of Desmond is appointed as lord of Munster - Kilmallock their centre		
1340	General Chapter of the Dominican Order in Ireland met in Kilmallock		1338 Edward III asserts claim to French throne – Hundred Years War until 1453
1346 - 1351		1348 Black Death in Ireland	Black Death in Europe

DATE	EVENTS IN KILMALLOCK AND REGION	EVENTS IN IRELAND	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
1357	Maurice Fitzgerald, progenitor of Geraldines, buried with wife in Kilmallock		
1366	Lionel of Clarence, King's lieutenant, visited Kilmallock	Statutes of Kilkenny – to prevent gaelicisation of Anglo-Normans	
1374	10 year murage grant	Growing Gaelic revival	
1400		1400-1450 – English lose control of Ireland except for Pale	Owain Glendwyr declared Prince of Wales and starts rebellion against Henry IV
1409	Charter containing a murage grant of 20 years		Death of Joan of Arc
1412	Death at Kilmallock of Ead Lèis and son of Earl of Kildare		
1472	Kilmallock has its own Mint (closed 1475)		
1480			Spanish Inquisition begins
1482	Charter grants permanent collection of murage fees		
1492			Christopher Columbus discovers West Indies
1517			Start of Reformation
1529-36			Henry VIII breaks with Rome and becomes head of Church of England 1536-40– Dissolution of Monasteries
1541	Priory dissolved	Kingdom of Ireland established – replacing feudal lordship	Henry VIII declares himself King of Ireland
1550	Charter for murage fees to be spent on town's defences	1562 – Elizabethan Wars in Ireland	
1569 - 1583	Desmond rebellion		Presbyterianism introduced into England
1571	Kilmallock burnt by Fitzgerald		
1573	Fitzgerald surrenders in Collegiate Church		
1579	3 Kilmallock martyrs hanged – behind the Catholic Church		
1584	Charter for murage fees to be used by burgesses to repair walls. Charter recognised corporation as 'The Sovereign (formerly Provost) and Burgesses of the Town of Kilmallock'	English plantations in Munster start in 1585	Raleigh establishes first English colony in New World
1585	Kilmallock became a borough with Parliamentary representation		
1597	Map depicting state of Town Walls drawn by Joanes	Hugh O'Neill leads rebellion against English rule	
1598	Kilmallock besieged by rebels as part of Nine Years War. Norris, Lord President of Munster, marches from Cork and frees town	O'Neill victory of Yellow Ford in Ulster	Edict of Nantes gives Huguenots toleration in France
17th century		Plantation of Ulster	Invention of telescope.

DATE	EVENTS IN KILMALLOCK AND REGION	EVENTS IN IRELAND	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
			Coffee and tea introduced to Britain. Dodo extinct
1607		'Flight of the Earls' to Spain	Jamestown, Virginia first permanent British colony in North America
1642-9	Lord Mountgarrett and Garret Barry capture Kilmallock to keep from Cromwell's hands. Bastion probably dates from this period. Kilmallock occupied by army of Confederation of Kilkenny. 1643 Kilmallock besieged by Lord Inchiquin – again in 1648 when Dominican Priory burned.	Confederate Wars. 1649 - Cromwell arrives with New Model Army in Dublin – land in Munster, Leinster and Ulster confiscated and given to English soldiers – Catholic landowners exiled to Connaught	Civil War in England. 1649 - King Charles I executed. King Charles II proclaimed King of Scots and England in Scotland. 1651-2 Second English Civil War
1650	Kilmallock surrenders to parliamentarian army – walls dismantled but restored by the Corporation		
1654-6	Civil Survey of Limerick	Land surveys followed by seizure of Catholic land and transportation/resettlement	1660 – Restoration period
1685		Richard Talbot becomes Lord Lieutenant	Accession of James II
1688			English Revolution, James II deposed
1689-91	Jacobite and Williamite forces garrisoned in Kilmallock – town burned by Jacobite forces. Walls damaged and repaired.	Siege and relief of Derry. William III defeats James II at Battle of Boyne. Battle of Aughrim and Siege of Limerick by Williamite forces	
18th century		1740-1 – famine results in c.40,000 deaths	Newcomen steam pumping engine. Handel – The Messiah and Water Music. Gregorian Calendar replaced Julian. Cook lands in Australia.
1750s		Guinness first brewed in Ireland	1750-1770 – Gothic Revival period 1750-1805 – Neo-Classical period
1795	Poet Aindrias MacCraith buried in Collegiate Church cemetery. House where he died – Tigh An Fhile - in Wolfe Tone Street		
1798		Rising of United Irishmen. Irish Parliament abolished	
1800-1		Act of Union creates United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland	
1827	John Mulvaney's painting of Kilmallock		Singapore founded
1829		Catholic emancipation passed – ending Penal Laws. Tithe War began	Invention of Braille
1837			Accession of Queen Victoria
1841	Kilmallock Workhouse opened. 1841-97 Kilmallock lake drained	Famine. Worst years 1848-9. Population decreased through emigration and death by c.2 million	
1861 -5			American Civil War
1867	Three Fenians killed in raid on	Fenian rising	Nobel produces dynamite.

DATE	EVENTS IN KILMALLOCK AND REGION	EVENTS IN IRELAND	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
	RIC barracks in Kilmallock		1870-1900 Arts and Crafts
1878	Catholic Church of Saints Peter and Paul designed by JJ McCarthy	Land War 1879-82. James Joyce born 1879	Anglo-Zulu war
1884		Gaelic Athletic Association founded	Art Nouveau period (1884-1918)
1914-8			First World War
1916		Easter Rising	
1919-21		War of Independence against Britain	1918-1939 – Art Deco period
1920	RIC barracks in Kilmallock attacked by IRA	Ireland partitioned	Prohibition in USA
1922-3	Kilmallock Workhouse burned by anti-treaty forces	Civil War. Yeats wins Nobel prize for Literature	Mussolini dictator in Italy
1935	Choir of Kilmallock Collegiate Church burned. Use as Church of Ireland parish church ceases		
1936		Aer Lingus founded	Spanish Civil War
1937		Constitution of Ireland	Second World War
1949		Republic of Ireland Act	NATO founded
1955		Ireland joins United Nations	
1958	Golden Vale Co-operative Mart held first sale		
1972		Ireland joins EEC	Ceylon becomes Sri Lanka
1975	Kilmallock railway station closed		
1988	Kilmallock museum opened		
1990s		Economic growth – Celtic Tiger	
2000	Urban Renewal Scheme implemented		

Table 2: Chronology

2.3.8 Phasing (as devised by Sarah McCutcheon, Executive Archaeologist, Limerick County Council):

Phase 1:   *10th - 11th century*
The monastic foundation of St. Mocheallóg moves from the site on the Hill of Kilmallock to the riverside site of the present Collegiate Church. A possible proto-urban settlement may have formed around the monastery.

Phase 2:   *12th - early 13th century*
Under 12th century Church Reform the monastic lands became the property of the Bishop of Limerick. Gilbert (first bishop of Limerick) presided over the Synod of Rathbreasil, 1111 AD. The bishop of Limerick may have advanced the development of a town at the former monastic site. A castle is mentioned in 1206. The Collegiate Church was reconstructed at least by 1251. The town defences may have been begun as a fosse and palisade.

Phase 3:   *Mid-late 13th century*
A communal fosse was constructed east-west on a line corresponding with the current King's Castle, indicating the northern extent of the initial enclosed town. The fosse begins to be augmented with stone walling (Pipe Roll of 1301-2). The street pattern has been formed. Burgage plots exist and affluence is indicated by stone houses. The Dominican Priory commences construction.

Phase 4:   *14th – 15th century*
The main period of wall building including the enclosure of the northern suburbs and the replacement of King's Castle by St John's Gate as the northern entrance to town. St John's Gate referred to in 1410. King's Castle is rebuilt on the site of

the previous gate. Continued wall building and repairs evidenced by murage grants up to 1482.

Phase 5:   16th – 17th century
Construction of stone mansions within the town. Desmond Rebellion, burning of town. Further grants for repair of the walls 1550 and 1584. Parliamentary representation 1585. Nine Years War. Garrison town. Cromwell 1642-1650 – walls damaged and rebuilt. Earthen bastion to north-west of town. Williamite wars 1689-1691, walls damaged and repaired.

Phase 6:   18th -19th century
Decline of the town. Dismantling of Water Gate, Ivy Gate, Friar's Gate and North Gate.

Phase 7:   20th - 21st century
Repairs and breaches in the town wall.

2.3.9   Archaeological works undertaken to date

Figure 10 illustrates the extent of known archaeological works that has been undertaken within Kilmallock. The results of these assessments, monitoring, test trenching or excavation works are held by Limerick County Council, the works often arising from development proposals and/or utility/service provision. Whilst significant parts of the town have been subject to below ground archaeological works the plan in Figure 10 also illustrates the large extent of the town which has not been subject to such investigation and therefore demonstrates a high potential for those areas to reveal further valuable information on the history and development of the town.
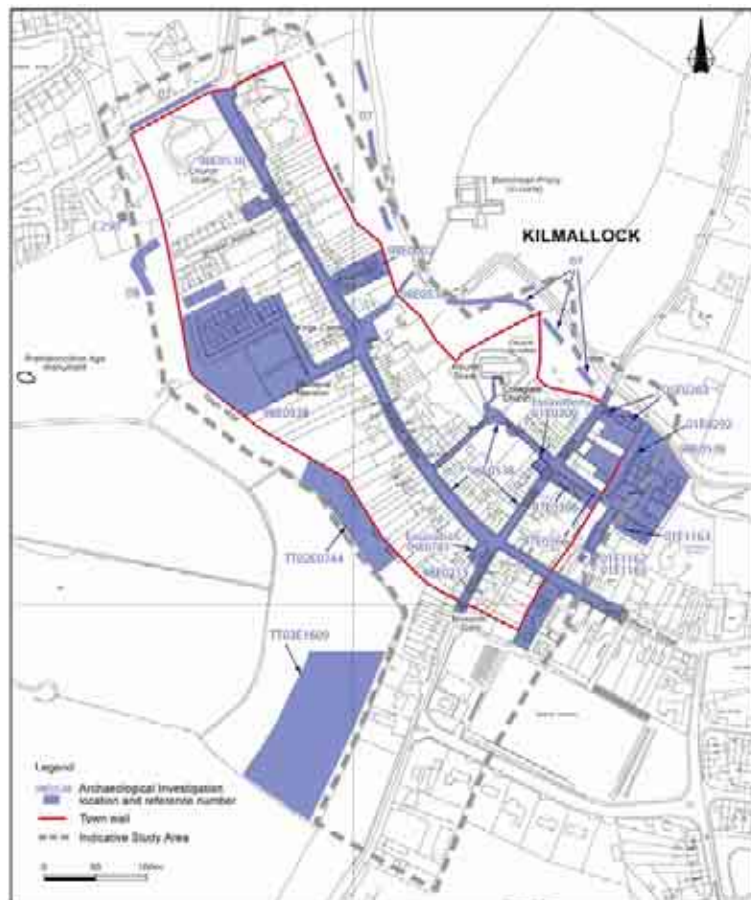

Figure 10: Sites of archaeological works within Kilmallock

3. UNDERSTANDING – STRUCTURE AND CONDITION

3.1 Introduction

As part of the overall Conservation and Management Plan a structural condition survey of the extant Town Walls was undertaken. The recommendations set out are designed to ensure that once completed, the presentation of the Town Walls within its current surrounds will be sustained for future generations without destroying the complex alchemy of the site's ecology, history and ambience within Kilmallock.

The Town Walls extend in length to *c.*1700m enclosing an area of *c.*13 hectares. The western wall, which stands to a height of *c.*5m in places and extends in length to around 575m, continues northwards from Blossom Gate in Emmett Street to the Roman Catholic Church at the northern end of Sheares Street. The eastern wall is relatively fragmented along its length with the northern section being predominantly of modern construction (concrete blockwork and crib walling) – there are stretches of stone walling visible and the town wall has been found below ground level in the interior, proving that it exists in greater length on the east, but has been plastered and/or revetted by concrete.

Whilst much of the walling that forms the Town Walls is in a good condition given its age, it is clear that there are numerous areas which are exhibiting signs of slow attrition. These have been allowed to decay and degrade for some considerable period of time without any preventative measures being instigated. The ongoing effects of water penetration, frost activity and plant growth along the tops of walls and on the wall faces has resulted in areas in a significant loss of historical stonework both along the wall face and to the capping. The ongoing decay has resulted in the structural integrity of a number of key areas of walling being compromised. Many of the defects that were noted during the inspection will need to be addressed in the short term to prevent further damage to the historic fabric or even structural failure of the component in question.

The main question raised by the findings of the survey is one of philosophy; namely whether to try and stop any further loss of historic fabric or whether to say it will be uneconomic to consolidate the walls completely and therefore to accept that there will be continued small scale losses each year. If access to the base of the walls is proposed in the future through the introduction of a walk around the walls it is essential that some stabilisation works to the existing structure is undertaken first. Failure to do so would result in many sections of walling having to be closed or fenced off to the general public on health and safety grounds.

The survey of the wall was carried out in September-October 2007 in fine weather with good visibility. The findings of the survey can be seen on a series of meshed photographic elevations in Appendix E. The drawings in Appendix E relate back to a key plan (Figure A in Appendix E) outlining the nature, extent and severity of the defects that are currently affecting the Town Walls and are designed as a stand-alone record of the condition of the structure at the time of the survey.

All observations were made from ground level. Areas where access to the wall faces and tops of walls were limited or dangerous were avoided. Photographs were taken of all visible parts of the walls, and of particular defects or areas of interest. Observations at high level were made from a distance with the use of binoculars. In order to prevent any damage to the existing structural fabric of the walls, no opening up works were undertaken as part of this investigation or non-destructive surveying techniques.

3.2   Condition

Whilst the Town Walls at Kilmallock as a whole (given age and construction techniques) are in a good structural condition, there were a considerable number of areas noted where the walling is in a poor condition.

The wall is faced internally and externally in a worked carboniferous limestone – the predominant stone in the area. The good quality stonework which is randomly coursed is bonded back to a rubble core which appears (where it has been exposed) to consist of loose rough stonework, bonded together in a cementitious matrix comprising a weak mortar mix of lime and sand. Sampling from within the joints and core of the wall would provide an indication of the mix. The pointing style cannot be ascertained as any original pointing has weathered back from the face of the wall. No earth was noted in the core (Plate 6). With much of the original mortar lost and joints deeply eroded in places there has been a resultant loss of small packing stones (galleting) and loosening of the face stones.

It is understood that the original limestone used for constructing the walls at Kilmallock was excavated from quarries located close to the town. At least two of these quarries have been infilled in recent times.

Rubble filled cores to medieval walls like those at Kilmallock are extremely vulnerable to attack from water and freeze-thaw activity. If water is allowed to drain uncontrolled into a rubble core and no allowance is made for dissipating such water, then the results can be catastrophic. Not only will the water wash away the fines and materials within the mortar mix resulting in a breakdown in the bond between the rubblework, it will also, if allowed to build up and be subjected to freeze thaw activity, result in the blowing off of the facing stonework.

This has occurred at a number of locations along the length of the wall where the facing stonework has collapsed exposing the softer core within (Plate 7). Further damage to the core has occurred through the direct action of weathering. If no action is taken in the short term, the loss of further material is almost certain. The loss of a face makes the wall more slender, and the possibility of overall instability and eventual collapse increases.

Plate 6: Loss of facing stones

Plate 7: Visible core

The vigorous action of roots from plants which adorn the Town Walls and grow along the top of the walls is contributing significantly to much of the structural damage observed during the inspection. The unhindered action of the roots of these plants within the stone joints is resulting in numerous small sections of stonework becoming detached and falling away from the bulk of the wall off which they are supported. The damage to capping stonework along the length of the wall and subsequent loss in areas is resulting in further water penetration into the rubble core within the wall construction (Plate 8). If the capping is not reinstated, water will continue to flow into the rubble core washing out the fines from within the matrix of the core and breaking down the bond between the core and the facing stonework on the external elevations. In time, this will eventually result in facing stonework falling away.

Plate 8: Unprotected wall top

Plate 9: Plant overgrowth

Much of the plant overgrowth on the walls comprises ivy – which tends to affect the wall top (Plate 9), but there is evidence for it growing from the face. The thick stems of the ivy indicate that this is not a new problem and that the root systems must be very extensive within the wall core. Such root systems can contribute significantly to structural damage – the growth at the wall top loosens any previous protection and hastens water ingress. Furthermore, where the ivy grows from the wall top it tends to grow predominantly in one direction, thereby increasing the eccentric loading on the wall as well as increasing the area affected by wind pressure and so reducing the overall stability of the wall. Where the facing joints have weathered back vegetation is growing in the joints – at present much of this vegetation is minor and could be picked off/treated without damage to the wall.

A further problem that is affecting the wall is a result of human action and is the direct result of the build up in the ground level internally alongside the wall (Plate 10). At times this is to make way for modern development – such as along the western wall where as much as 3m of ground is being retained along the inner side of the wall. Whist the extreme thickness of the wall in this area (*c*.1200mm) does not give cause for concern in terms of its structural ability to retain this quantity of soil, the ability for ground water to migrate through the wall and in doing so impact on the core structure and open up joints does give cause for concern. Wide open joints and loss of the infill packing stones which bonds the larger stones was noted at low levels along numerous wall elevations many of which are acting inadvertently as retaining structures. Unless the drainage through the wall can be managed, it is inevitable that further loss of fabric and decay of the core of the wall will take place, eventually resulting in localised or even catastrophic collapse of large sections of walling.

Evidence of the fosse and rampart that formed part of the defences of the town survives along the west wall (Figure 3). How the external face of the Town Walls met the fosse could be accurately determined through archaeological excavation. It is possible that part of the build up of material along the internal face of the walls is as a result of not just deposition of material over time but the excavation of material for the fosse and wall foundations that was then not removed. It is also possible that the wall is revetted against an earlier bank.

Plate 10: Build up along internal wall face

The visible evidence for historic repairs is limited given the type of stone – it is very durable and dense and weathers slowly under normal exposure. The faces of stones are generally roughly dressed and there is likely to have been limited atmospheric pollution in Kilmallock (given light industry and development in the area). However there are some rebuilt stretches of wall (Appendix E) with evidence of changes of style and coursing.

The overall stability of the Town Walls is good apart from some isolated areas where minor collapses have taken place. Only in those areas where the wall is acting as a retaining wall and where it has been breached either through human activity or collapse was evidence of instability noted. The condition of the walls varies greatly and it is difficult to generalise. As a freestanding wall of up to 5m in height and a width of *c.*1.2m, they are not considered "slender" by today's standards. The depth of the footings and ground conditions in the vicinity of the walls are not known.

3.3   Summary

The condition of the Town Walls is generally good although there are a considerable number of areas where repairs are required to maintain the structural integrity of the walls. Some parts of the wall have survived in relatively sound condition, whereas other parts are suffering some degree of decay or have collapsed.

If all the surviving Town Walls of historic significance are to be retained *in situ* without further loss of fabric, a programme of repair and conservation is required. The walls are an important and considerable asset to the town and region and their sheer scale and mass does require a long-term maintenance and conservation strategy to be put in place.

Given the findings of the survey and the likely costings for repairing sections of the wall, it is essential that a strategic approach for the preservation of the Town Walls is now put in place.

4. UNDERSTANDING - ECOLOGY AND GREEN SPACES

4.1 Introduction

Kilmallock is a town located in a predominantly rural, agricultural area, comprising low lying open fields and woodland, partially enclosed by stone walls. An initial ecological site walkover was undertaken in October 2007 to gain an understanding of the ecological potential of the Town Walls and immediate area surrounding these features. Consultations were undertaken with the following organisations:

- Limerick County Council Heritage Officer;
- South West Regional Fisheries Board; and
- National Parks and Wildlife Service.

As well as the Town Walls Kilmallock provides mainly urban habitats – buildings and hard landscaping. However there are also areas of green open space - such as the park adjacent to King's Castle, around the Dominican Priory and the Collegiate Church, along the River Loobagh, together with the fields around the walls.

No environmentally designated sites such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) are located in Kilmallock or within 100m of the town.

4.2 Town Walls

Following a record search and consultation no records of rare or protected species have been noted in Kilmallock. A large proportion of the walls are covered in large, dense swathes of ivy (*Hedera helix*) (Plate 11). Where ivy is not the dominant species, lower plants such as ferns and lichens (Plate 12) are present. Fern species noted included Rustyback (*Ceterach officinarum*), (Plate 13), Maidenhair Spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*) (Plate 14), Wall Rue (*A. ruta-muraria*) and Lady Fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*). These species are common throughout Ireland and none are considered to be of significant ecological value in their own right.

A small stand of Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was noted growing on and close to the walls within the cemetery of the Collegiate Church (Plate 15). This species is extremely invasive and can result in decreased biodiversity as it out competes native plants and is not a natural habitat for Irish fauna (such as invertebrates). Japanese knotweed is also capable of structural damage as it is capable of growing through mortar and tarmac. The habitat of the walls is considered to be classed as 'stone walls and other stonework' and 'buildings and artificial surfaces' when compared to the habitat guidelines for Ireland (Fossitt, 2000).

Plate 11: Ivy

Plate 12: Lichen

Plate 13: Rustyback fern

Plate 14: Maidenhair Spleenwork fern

Plate 15: Stand of Japanese knotweed

4.3   Trees

Trees are an important feature in the natural landscape providing habitat for flora and fauna, providing shelter and filtering pollutants from the environment. Several mature trees are located in the immediate area of the walls and some small examples have been noted growing on the walls. The tree planting is largely ornamental or is naturally seeded and are mainly isolated specimens or in small groups. No significant stands of woodland are at present close to the walls and as a result there is little or no understorey vegetation. A large mixed woodland is located approximately 200m to the west of Kilmallock (and the west wall).

The structure of mature trees provides shelter, food and protection for invertebrates, birds and bats and is therefore a valuable element of the local ecology. Native trees support higher number of species than non-native trees and are therefore considered to be of higher value. Tree species noted at the site include ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), oak (*Quercus spp.*), black poplar (*Populus spp.*) (Plate 16), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) (Plate 17) and willow (*Salix spp.*). The issue of tree species, such as ash and sycamore causing damage to the walls will have to be dealt with through active management.

4.4   Gardens

Gardens back onto both the western and eastern walls of Kilmallock. These gardens are predominantly orientated west to east and potentially provide an ecological resource supporting bird species, invertebrates and small mammals, supporting biodiversity - through the diversity of habitats found within the gardens such as flower beds, vegetable patches, ponds and compost heaps. It was noted that several non-native 'exotic' species such as palm trees and cordylines were located in some of the gardens along the eastern wall.

<div align="center">Plate 16: Black Poplar</div> <div align="center">Plate 17: Sycamore</div>

4.5 Parks and Open Spaces

Several areas of amenity grassland are located in and around Kilmallock. The Catholic Church and the Collegiate Church have small areas of amenity grassland within the walls (Plate 18). A small children's playground is located near the interior of the western wall, which has an intervening area comprising wild meadow (Plate 19). There is also green space and a river walk by the River Loobagh and the bridge along the south-eastern wall.

The ruins of the Dominican Priory located to the west of the town are surrounded by semi-improved grassland (Plate 20) and the secondary school located in the northern part of Kilmallock has large areas of amenity grassland in use for recreation. These areas however are not easily accessible to the public.

The ecological value of the green spaces is considered to be low but the areas do provide suitable habitats for invertebrates, small mammals and birds. They are also important 'green' spaces maintaining the rural feel of the town. The town of Kilmallock is located within a rural area and is surrounded by fields predominantly in use as grazing pasture for cattle.

<div align="center">Plate 18: Amenity grassland</div> <div align="center">Plate 19: Wild meadow</div>

4.6 Fauna

Following a record search and consultation no records of rare or protected species have been noted in Kilmallock. The walls, gates and vegetation on the walls however have the potential to provide suitable roosting sites for bats - there is also a potential for trees located close to the walls to be used as roosting sites. Furthermore, the River Loobagh, located to the east of

Kilmallock (Plate 21) has the potential to be used as a 'flyway' for use by bats in foraging and commuting to roost sites. All bat species in Ireland are protected under the *National Wildlife (Amendment) Act* (2000) and are classified as European protected species under the *Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations* (1994). Consultation with the Limerick Heritage Officer noted that no records were available for Kilmallock.

The vegetation and trees on and around the walls also provide suitable habitat for nesting birds. Under the *National Wildlife (Amendment) Act* (2000) it is an offence for a person to 'cut, grub, burn or otherwise destroy, during the period, beginning on the 1st day of March and ending on the 31st day of August on any year, any vegetation growing on any land not then cultivated'.

Plate 20: Semi-Improved grassland

Plate 21: River Loobagh

5. UNDERSTANDING - SETTING

5.1 Distant Views

First views are of great significance as they are the modest survivors of the original 'impact' experience, indicators of arrival and are also indicators of good things to follow.

A visitor approaching medieval Kilmallock would have been struck by the impressive towers dominating the skyline of the town – these stone-built high points related not just to the Town Walls (the gates) but also the round tower of the Collegiate Church, as well as the tower of the Dominican Priory. It is the quantity, quality and combination of these features that create a remarkable spectacle and which would have impressed on the visitor the importance and high standing of the town. It is the position of Kilmallock, nestled within a rural landscape by the River Loobagh and the Ballyhoura Mountains to the south, which enriches the visual impact of the town. Certainly the most impressive distant view of Kilmallock comes from the Bruff (northern) approach to the town (Plate 22), although this is currently not facilitated with any stopping points or information boards to define the elements that present such a dramatic view.

Plate 22: View of Kilmallock from the north (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

5.2 Views from the outside

There are few locations when walking or driving around Kilmallock where it is possible to get a sense of the length and extent of the Town Walls. It is unfortunate that the best view from the outside of the walls is the western wall (Plate 23) which is not publicly accessible – this view gives the sense of the walls rising above the setting of the adjacent fields and creates the wonder of what may be on the other side, with a sense of approaching something ancient and purposeful. Otherwise for much of the town there are only glimpses of the powerful dominant walls and where the remaining walls are low it is sometimes not clear that they are indeed part of the original splendour of the walled town.

Plate 23: West wall (exterior)

5.3   Entering the town

It is arguable that the entry points or gates are the most significant elements of the walls as they were the point of:

- physical transition from rural to urban
- the points of defence and control
- the point of change from the legal regimes of the country to those of the town or city, often with differing administration, taxation and privileges.

It is important therefore that the sites of all the gates are marked and readily visible and that they are appropriately identified and interpreted. There needs to be a visual sense of approach from both sides and a way of marking the line of the gates. For the sites of St John's Gate (Gazetteer no. 1; Plate 24), Friar's Gate (Gazetteer no. 5; Plate 25), Water Gate (Gazetteer no.10; Plate 26) and Ivy Gate (Gazetteer no. 15; Plate 27), as well as the external gate at the south west of the town (Gazetteer no. 33) consideration needs to be given to provide a visual link to these former important entry points. King's Castle (Plate 28) and Blossom Gate (Plate 29) do have a strong physical presence and are significant survivals that provide an experience of entering the town. Again the functions of these gates need to be reinforced visually at these points of entry and any modern detrimental factors to their setting should be resolved – such as the removal of unnecessary signage, removal of parking in the vicinity of the gates and the use of different pavings and surfaces to denote the spaces within and outside the gates.

Plate 24: Site of St. John's Gate   *Plate 25: View from the site of Friar's Gate (with line of town wall behind camera)*

Plate 26: Site of Water Gate (courtesy of S. McCutcheon) Plate 27: Site of Ivy Gate (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Plate 28: King's Castle (interior)   *Plate 29: Blossom Gate (interior)*

5.4   Looking at the walls from inside

Historically the interior face of town walls was not regarded as particularly significant as it did not have the same visual symbolism as the external face and just performed a utilitarian function as part of the structure. Given this lesser importance there would have been a gradual

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accretion of lean-to structures in places along the internal face, whilst still enabling access to the walls. The interiors of the wall faces are not now especially visually significant and indeed for the majority of their length they are not publicly visible – forming the boundaries to properties or absorbed within later buildings and structures. Any open views of the internal face of the walls should be retained and information made available on site – such as along the western wall beside the car-park (Plate 30).

Plate 30: Internal west wall (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

5.5   Key Views

A number of vantage points would provide optimum views of the walls and associated heritage features – these are identified on Figure 11. Ideally the combination of high points available within the town (King's Castle, (Plate 31) Blossom Gate and the round tower of the Collegiate Church) should be made available for public access as these would provide unique, exciting and unrivalled views of the town and its rich heritage.

Plate 31: Views from King's Castle
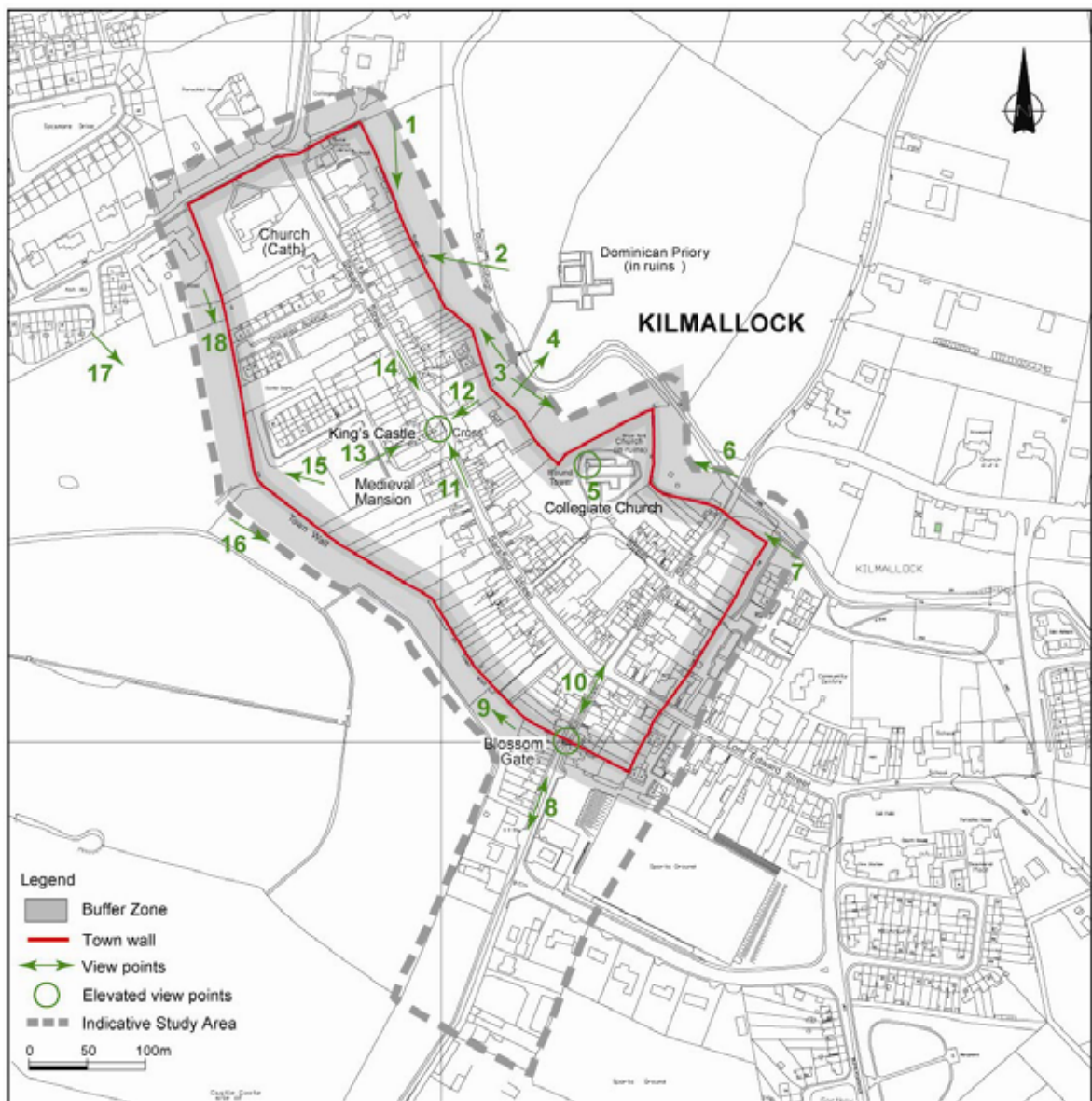
Figure 11: Key views within and in the immediate vicinity of the walls

5.6   Presentation of the Town Walls

Interpretation of Kilmallock's outstanding heritage assets is currently limited to an information panel located adjacent to King's Castle (Plate 32) and free leaflets available at Friar's Gate Theatre and the Museum (Plate 33) – which provide a map of the town with location of the various heritage assets. The museum is situated between King's Castle and the Dominican Priory in a small domestic dwelling so has limited space for both visitors and displays. However as a facility the museum is packed with intriguing artefacts, a large model of town and creates a visitor experience of stepping back in time. The museum does not, however, provide current interpretative information on the heritage of the town, any detail on the history of the town and/or the individual sites that combine to give Kilmallock its rich heritage resource. There is limited location signage to direct visitors to the museum, or indeed any of the heritage sites such as the Priory, Collegiate Church or King's Castle.

There is no virtual tour of Kilmallock's Town Walls or other sites of heritage interest. The Priory is managed and interpreted by the OPW but shows some evidence of neglect and vandalism – the interpretation is limited to densely worded exterior graphic panels that lack visual and content appeal. The other heritage assets have similar limited on-site panels. Whilst the extent and richness of heritage remains in Kilmallock is excellent it currently lacks coherence and requires effort to engage with – which could be easily addressed.

Plate 32: Information panel at King's Castle   *Plate 33: Kilmallock Museum*

5.7   Comparator Review

Table 3 below presents a brief comparison of Kilmallock with other towns/cities that have surviving walls in Ireland, England, Wales and Europe. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but reviews how Kilmallock compares with other walled towns and cities.

The level of information available about the survival and current condition of walled towns is scattered across different sources and the information about who is responsible for the walls, their conservation and management is limited. Several Walled Towns have sections of the wall that either are in private ownership (e.g. Chester) or are incorporated into property boundaries (e.g. Athenry and Kilmallock). Most towns have either very limited information or no information available for people to gain an understanding of the relationship between the walls and the rest of the town and associated historic structures. There is very limited information available about access to the walls - a few Walled Towns reviewed provide virtual tours or downloadable walled tour information.

LOCATION	LENGTH OF WALL SURVIVING	MAIN SURVIVING COMPONENTS	MAIN PERIODS OF WALL	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Kilmallock	*c.*1100m survives of 1.7 km circuit	2 gates Earthworks Fosse Bastion	Medieval 17th century	• Interpretation of heritage themes in Ballyhoura region through art • Layout of medieval streets intact • Wall incorporated into property boundaries • Annual medieval festival
Athenry	1.25km survives of 2 km circuit	Castle 2 gates 6 towers Fosse and ramparts	Medieval	• Gate archway through wall into town is sufficient only for single traffic • Events held during Irish Walled Towns Day • Archaeological discovery of Loro Gate in August 2007 • Heritage Centre located in a church • Wall incorporated into property boundaries • Layout of medieval streets still relatively intact
Cashel	100-200m survives of 1.5km circuit	4 isolated stretches of wall	Medieval	• The Rock of Cashel is the primary heritage visitor attraction in Cashel and is promoted as part of Tipperary Heritage Way (a walking route) • There is a national cultural centre at the foot of the Rock of Cashel • Online information about the town makes no reference to the town walls
Chester, (England)	3.2 km of circuit survives	6 towers 9 gates Castle	Roman Medieval Post – Medieval	• Walls heritage tours • Tactile Information panels at strategic points around the walls • Virtual tour of the walls
Clonmel	*c.*400m survives of 1 km circuit	Gate-restored in 18th century 7 towers	Medieval	• The walls encompassed three sides of the town and one side ran along the river for 450m • Walls survive in short sections with many stretches incorporated in buildings • The remaining section of walls was restored in 1980 and has been railed as part of a public walkway • The walls are publicised on the Clonmel community website
Conwy (Wales)	1.2 km of complete circuit survives	21 towers 3 gateways Castle	Medieval	• One of the most complete wall circuits in Europe • The Castles and Town Walls of Edward the First in North Wales - Conwy, Caernarfon, Beaumaris and Harlech were designated as a World Heritage Site in 1986 • Medieval entertainment event • Footpath around outside of walls for nearly entire circuit • Access to walk along top of north wall
Derry	1.3 km survives of a possible 1.325 km circuit	7 gates 5 bastions 2 watchtowers	17th century	• Owned by The Honourable The Irish Society, but are in the care of the NI Environment and Heritage Service • They are designated as an ancient monument • Visitor access is possible for walks around the walls • The main break in the walls is on the east side to allow wide and direct access to Newmarket Street
Fethard	*c.* 1 km survives of 1.1 km circuit	1 gate 2 towers	Medieval	• Only one 50m break in circuit • Local Area Plan for Fethard is available on the community website and references the town walls e.g. specifying need to continue to

LOCATION	LENGTH OF WALL SURVIVING	MAIN SURVIVING COMPONENTS	MAIN PERIODS OF WALL	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
				• open up access to them • Local history society present the history of the town and its walls on town website
Limerick	c. 250m of English Town Walls survive and c. 400m of Irish Town Walls (with other sections incorporated into buildings	2 towers (remains) Postern gate? Square tower? Fosse Castle	Norman Late medieval	• There is no on-line information about the walls and tourism information about the town does not reference the walls
York (England)	3.4km	6 gates 9 principal towers 26 other towers Postern gates 2 castles Stone wall and earth ramparts	Roman Early medieval Post - medieval	• Walk around the walls • Footpath around outside of walls • Interpretive panels at gates, towers and other significant features • Interactive interpretation in 1 tower • Downloadable guides to the wall walk
Youghal	Landward wall survives almost intact from close to the North Gate as far as south-western corner. 250m survives along northern side. Originally a 1.7 km circuit	3 towers Fosse	Medieval	• An online version of 'Historic Walled Port', a history of Youghal is available

Table 3: Comparator review

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Introduction

The conservation and management plan incorporated a thorough consultation process as this is vital in ensuring understanding and ownership of the plan and likewise the adoption and implementation of its policies by all stakeholders. The Steering Group (as listed in Appendix C) provided information as stakeholders and further consultation was undertaken with individuals/organisations identified during the consultation process. These consultations took the form of interviews/exchange of letter/email with the consultees responding to the following questions:

- What do you consider are the special qualities of Kilmallock and its Town Walls?
- What in your view are the key issues regarding the Town Walls?
- What do you consider are the key opportunities for Kilmallock and its Town Walls?
- What are your thoughts on the future management of the Town Walls?

Owners of property abutting the Town Walls (Table 1) were invited to meet with the conservation and management plan team to discuss their particular concerns and ideas, which included the questions listed above. This meeting took place on 12 September 2007.

To ensure the consultation process was as inclusive as possible public meetings were also held on 12 September 2007 and a questionnaire was distributed in the town. A copy of the questionnaire is provided in Appendix B.

The information obtained from all these consultations fed into the preparation of the understanding, issues and policy sections of the plan. A summary of the overall information is given below and the analysis of the results of the questionnaire and synthesis of specific consultations are given in Appendix C.

6.2 Summary of Consultation Process

The Town Walls are recognised as an important feature that helps to define Kilmallock, give the town a special identity and a link to the past. There is a desire for greater appreciation and understanding of the walls and the history of the town, as well as access to the walls and the other heritage features in the town – particularly by way of walks around the walls. There is concern for the condition of the walls – especially loose stonework and vegetation overgrowth. There is also an aspiration for improved management of the walls through a single point of contact.

7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

Assessing the significance of a heritage asset, such as the Town Walls at Kilmallock, lies at the very heart of the conservation planning process. The assessment approach used in this study derives from the *Burra Charter* (1999) and essentially involves making value judgements about how and why the Town Walls are significant. Understanding the importance of the Walls defines the way in which decisions can be made about everything related to the monument, from current management to future usage. Consideration is given to both the overall monument as well as the individual elements which form or affect the monument. It should be noted that heritage assets are often important for more than one reason and defining the attributes and values can highlight interrelationships (and sometimes conflicts) between attributes.

7.2 Criteria

Selecting criteria to assist in determining why any heritage asset is significant is not a definitive and prescriptive exercise and for this study the following six broad categories have been utilised (Table 4). These categories are derived from understanding the nature of the monument and are considered the most appropriate for the Town Walls.

CRITERIA	DEFINITION
Archaeological/Historical	Importance derived from the evidence provided, or potentially able to be provided, on the understanding of the past history and development of the walls. This includes elements that were important in or affected the course of history; are representative of an important historic event; or are associated with an important historic figure, event and/or place.
Structural	This involves the authenticity of the fabric and any technological or architectural accomplishments.
Aesthetic/Setting	The visual appearance and character of the walled circuit and the individual elements that comprise the whole. The characteristics of the town as defined/influenced by the Town Walls and the views from and to the walls.
Community/Social	Community regard/value for the walls and the value of the walls as a recreational attraction.
Educational and Visitor/Presentation	Potential for education (schools/adult education/intellectual access/community and visitor needs) as well as interpretation/presentation of the Town Walls as a focal point for leisure/pleasure/tourism.
Ecology and Green Spaces	Importance of the Town Walls for habitats, plant species, and wildlife.

Table 4: Criteria to assess significance

7.3 Levels of Significance

Whilst assessing significance will always be a subjective process based on current professional knowledge and judgement, it is helpful to use some form of relative hierarchy as a means of clarifying issues. It should be recognised that the basis on which judgements are made can change over time as more information is uncovered about a monument, but this simply reinforces the need to review and update a conservation and management plan at regular intervals. For this study the following six levels of significance have been used (Table 5):

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE	DEFINITION
International	Sites/features of exceptional/international significance or which contain elements with a significance beyond national boundaries. The only, or among the best, example of its kind.
National	Sites/features of considerable/national significance - representing good examples of a type of feature/or the only local example. Includes significance through association.
Regional	Sites/features of moderate/regional significance - representing the character and understanding of the site/feature.
Local	Sites/features of some/local significance – individual low value in enabling understanding.
Detrimental	Sites/features of negative/intrusive impact – obscure understanding of the site/feature.
Unknown	Sites/features of unknown significance - due to a lack of available information.

Table 5: Levels of significance

The Gazetteer records the significance of each element of the Town Walls. A summary of the key points for each significance criteria is given below.

7.4   Archaeological and Historical Significance

- The walls have an overall historical significance illustrating the longevity and continuity of settlement at Kilmallock.
- The walls contribute to the medieval assets of the town and provide a sense of identity for the town.
- Kilmallock is an example of a monastic settlement that developed into a military and trading centre.
- The walls are a rare, authentic and special survival of an upstanding urban defensive feature containing much archaeological evidence given the association of the walls with gates, towers, fosse and ramparts/earthworks.
- Sections of the walls have survived well and have a greater significance as closer representations of the original.
- The gates and sites of gates are crucial for illustrating the circulation into and out of the town, as well as being potential breach points that may have been targeted for attack.
- Additional below ground evidence may survive related to the walls – including evidence of the towers that formed outposts sited at strategic points along the walls, adding to the appearance of the defences, as well as the fosse and earthworks related to the original defences.
- Evidence also survives of later defensive measures with the construction of a bastion in the 17th century.
- The survival of early maps of the town (the earliest from *c.*1600) contributes to a greater understanding of how the town developed.
- Evidence of the wall walk survives along the circumference of the walls, adding to the understanding of how the defences were used.
- Some sections of the walls have been rebuilt due to collapse, a different alignment, or removed entirely.
- The walls link to other medieval monuments in the town – the Dominican Priory, the Collegiate Church and the medieval mansion - providing a unique combination of features.
- The town has a medieval 'feel' with the preservation of the original street plan and the burgage plots – a setting that complements the walls.
- The town also illustrates the contrasts in housing constructed at different times during its history – from the 16th/17th century two-three storey house (as represented by the medieval mansion) to the single storey cottages of 18th/19th century date.
- The town has also retained many historic shop fronts and so has a traditional 'feel'.

In summary - the Town Walls are already recognised as a monument of national importance and that status is certainly supported by this review of the aspects of the archaeological/historical significance criteria. Moreover the walls have a high research potential - further study of documents/maps and archaeological investigative results would provide additional information on the history and development of the town and its defences.

7.5 Structural Significance

- The walls provide evidence of a sequence of structural activities of construction/repair from the medieval period to the present day.
- The walls have a rubble stone core and are generally in a fair condition having been constructed in a durable stone (carboniferous limestone).
- The length and height of the walls present a significant survival and give Kilmallock a status as one of the top 10 walled towns in Ireland.
- The walls provide a rare opportunity to examine medieval construction techniques.
- There is associated fosse and rampart evidence to illustrate how the town's defences developed and functioned.

In summary – the structural merits of the Town Walls are sufficient to provide a national significance for this criteria and further survey and study of the walls has a potential for contributing further to the understanding of the construction, additions and repairs that comprise the walls today.

7.6 Aesthetic and Setting Significance

- For long sections on the west and east the view from the walls looks out into a landscape that is relatively unchanged since medieval times.
- Dramatic views of Kilmallock are available. Approaching views towards the town provide intriguing glimpses of roofscapes and towers, providing a sense of anticipation. External views of the walls provide drama and impact while views from within the town have a sense of enclosure and protection, strongly defining the 'historic core'. Outstanding 360º views are provided from the upper floors King's Castle and Blossom Gate, reinforcing the sense of prominence over the immediate townscape and wider landscape, including the mountain backdrop – these views could be extended with improved access and access to the round tower of the Collegiate Church.
- The Town Walls provide a sense of identity.
- There are visual links with other medieval features in the town – the Dominican Priory, the Collegiate Church and the medieval mansion - thereby the walls, gates and these other medieval features create an attractive heritage combination of high group value.
- The town has a strong medieval 'feel' given the survival of the street plan and burgage plots.
- The close proximity of the buildings to the Town Walls, at times sharing boundaries, adds to the walled town feel.
- The medieval legacy defines the layout and usage of the current town and its development potential.
- King's Castle provides a defined sense of entry to the centre of the town.
- Evocative imagery is provided by the green landscape and the grey stones. The Town Walls are part of a complementary broader landscape setting.

In summary – the aesthetic/setting of the Town Walls is assessed to be of national significance. Kilmallock represents a walled town in Ireland with a retained medieval streetscape that provides an invaluable setting for the walls. The extensive upstanding walls, together with Blossom Gate, King's Castle, the medieval mansion, Dominican Priory and the Collegiate Church define the town's identity and pre-eminence as an ecclesiastical, military and trading

settlement in County Limerick. The combination of fine monuments, continuity of the street plan, surviving medieval and later dwellings and the surrounding pastoral setting providing a relatively unchanged landscape provides Kilmallock with an outstanding sense of history and authenticity. Indeed the relatively unchanged landscape surrounding Kilmallock is a rare feature for a walled town.

7.7 Community and Social Significance

- Where residents are aware of the Town Walls there is a strong community pride, the walls are seen as part of the town's identity and what makes the town distinctive.
- Where residents have a portion of the walls as a boundary to their property there is a strong sense of responsibility for the walls.
- The walls are felt to be a link to the past and a reminder of the long history of the town.
- There is a desire for greater access to the walls as well as walks around them.
- The community seeks greater awareness of the history of the walls and town and involvement in the future of the walls.
- The location of the town had a strategic importance throughout history and for the community and visitors today it still has a strategic location given its proximity to Cork and Shannon.

In summary – the community/social value placed on the Town Walls is considered to be of high local significance.

7.8 Education, Interpretation and Presentation Significance

- The Town Walls provide exceptional opportunities for formal and informal learning – from educational topics and research for interdisciplinary projects to creative inspiration in the arts.
- The walls provide a means of sharing cultural understanding (and so foster links in a multi-cultural society), involvement and ownership of Ireland's heritage.
- However there is currently no defined wall circuit, a lack of signage, lighting, on-site interpretation, public facilities and a limited destination presence. There is a high potential for improvement in public and visitor understanding, access and appreciation of the Town Walls and associated monuments.
- Greater knowledge and awareness of the history of the walls is sought from the community and allied to this is the opportunity to improve appreciation of local history.
- There are opportunities to link Kilmallock to other heritage attractions in the region – such as Lough Gur - in order to widen and enhance experiences for visitors.
- There is considerable scope for operational and promotional partnership between the public and private sectors, for the benefit of the historic environment and the community.
- Kilmallock is the location of the Ballyhoura Heritage Hub.

In summary – the educational/interpretation and presentation aspects are assessed as currently of local significance, but have the potential to be of regional-national significance.

7.9 Ecology and Green Spaces

- No environmentally designated sites are located within 100m of the town.
- No rare or protected flora has been noted on or close to the Town Walls. The flora at and around the walls provides suitable habitat for invertebrates and birds and is also of visual importance through softening the appearance of the walls.
- A number of trees are located close to the walls, which are of varying ages and size and some are actively damaging the walls. Some of the trees are classified as mature. The

trees provide suitable habitat for invertebrates and birds and potentially bats and they are also a recreational and aesthetic asset to the town.

- Although no bats or their roosts were identified there is a potential for them to be present given the current condition of the walls and the presence of the gates and large mature trees nearby.

- The residential gardens located along the eastern and western Town Walls provide both amenity use for the local residents whose houses back onto the walls and an ecological resource.

- The small areas of amenity/managed grassland located in the grounds of the churches and Priory are well managed and considered to be of limited ecological value, although they have an aesthetic and recreational value.

- The presence of Japanese knotweed in the cemetery of the Collegiate Church is significant as the species is invasive and has the potential to damage structures. Although no legislation covers this species in Ireland and eradication is recommended to prevent its spread.

In summary – the Town Walls are considered to be of local significance with regard to ecology and green spaces - although there is a potential that bat species may use the walls for roosting and bats and such roosts are considered to be international importance.

7.10 Overall Significance

The extent and degree of survival of the walls at Kilmallock, together with the evidence of the fosse/earthworks associated with the walls, confirms the Town Walls as of national significance. Furthermore, the combination of the presence and proximity of further medieval monuments, all encapsulated within a setting that is both picturesque and evocative of times past - including a relatively intact medieval street plan - certainly provides a strong sense of history within the town. The impressive skyline at Kilmallock involves the 'towers' from the various medieval monuments rising above the roofs of the town – these 'towers' also offering opportunities for unrivalled viewpoints across the town.

8. VULNERABILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

8.1 Introduction

The conservation planning process suggests that having established what elements of a place are significant, the next step is then to determine which of the significant elements are either threatened by a vulnerability, or offer an opportunity for enhancement. The criteria used in assessing significance are utilised for this section too (with the addition of a category on ownership and management) as this allows easier cross-referencing of the issues related to the Town Walls.

8.2 Ownership and Management

The determination of who owns the fabric of the Town Walls is essential and to date this has not been resolved. Certainly Limerick County Council have a duty of care for the Town Walls as the inheritors of municipal authority, but determination of ownership would clarify responsibility and assist in the definition of future management roles. Certainly there is a measure of good will towards the conservation of the walls, which could be achieved in a spirit of co-operation with agreements on access.

Vulnerabilities:

- Undefined ownership - a potential source of conflict (if there were any public liability claims)
- There is a desire for a single point of contact for landowners with property that abuts the Town Walls concerning maintenance issues – there is currently public confusion on whether to contact the DoEHLG, Limerick County Council or the OPW – clarification on ownership could help to address this.
- The lack of a conservation/maintenance programme leaves the Town Walls vulnerable to deterioration and the potential loss of a heritage asset.
- There is a current lack of identifiable funding for conservation/management/future development of the Town Walls as a heritage resource.
- Some funding streams are only available to owners or require clarification of ownership –so future funding that could assist works in relation to the Town Walls could be unavailable if this issue is not resolved.
- There is a need for a strategic and creative vision that covers management and investment needs, as well as physical infrastructure and improvement.

Opportunities:

- The identification of clear responsibility for the Town Walls would assist in improving the public perception on the importance of care to safeguard a valuable heritage asset for the town.
- A single point of contact would reassure owners of property that abuts the Town Walls - particularly if proposals to improve access to the walls by way of walks are brought to fruition.
- The identification of recommendations in both a conservation and management plan and a public realm plan would deliver a strategy to enable Kilmallock to maximise its potential as a unique and eminent historic walled town.
- Community involvement in the management of the walls would foster a sense of shared ownership of the heritage of the town.

8.3 Archaeological and Historical

The Town Walls are a recognised monument of national importance with a high potential for further study and the provision of additional information on the history and development of the town and its defences.

Vulnerabilities:

- The potential irrecoverable loss of evidence from above and below ground through lack of enforcement of planning control (particularly in relation to the buffer).
- Similarly a potential loss through lack of defined and integrated management of the walls to safeguard against inappropriate activities taking place adjacent to, or within the setting of, the walls (such as - unrestrained development within the buffer zone, interventions from public works, for instance drainage, sewerage and utilities and new tree/shrub planting).
- A negative impact from piecemeal archaeological investigation on the archaeological resource without reference to a Research Agenda.

Opportunities:

- The creation of a research framework. The archaeology of the walls has considerable potential for the development of research links and collaborative work (archaeological excavation and recording, archival research, public presentation, preservation, conservation and reconstruction) to provide a greater understanding of the walls and Kilmallock on a national and international level – especially to clarify the original wall–line along the eastern section and the original gates, as well as the extent of original/later walls within properties.
- The walls and associated features (fosse and ramparts) present an excellent opportunity for the application of modern non-intrusive analytical techniques in support of archaeological analyses and interpretation.
- Community 'digs' supervised by professionals would potentially obtain new information on the walls and at the same time encourage local involvement and ownership of the heritage of the town.
- The survival of the Town Walls with the original fosse and ramparts in places along the wall circuit provide a rare opportunity to reconstruct a section to show the wall, fosse and rampart and how these elements interrelate.
- The provision of a single source of coherent information on the history and development of the walls/town. Much of the information available is from secondary sources.
- A popular publication of the origin and development of Kilmallock/the Town Walls.

8.4 Structural

Considering the age of the Town Walls it is remarkable that so much survives in a stable and good condition. This has probably been due to a lack of development within the town from the 17th - 20th centuries, because the walls formed part of the boundaries of all the properties within the town and because property layout and ownership are historically conservative.

Vulnerabilities:

- Loss of fabric has occurred due to the long term effects of water penetration, vegetation growth, frost action, lack of protection and inappropriate physical intervention. The lack of a regular maintenance programme could lead to deterioration in the overall condition of the walls, and in turn this will lead to structural failure and the irrecoverable partial or complete loss of sections of the walls.

- One of the key items hindering the preservation of the walls is the lack of access, or poor access, to much of the circuit. Although the walls appear accessible on a plan, many areas can only be approached through heavy undergrowth or by prior arrangement with a number of landowners. This needs to be tackled as a priority, since it prevents even proper inspection of the asset. Furthermore the difficulty of getting materials and operatives to the walls will inevitably be reflected in repair costs.
- There is a lack of surviving above ground structures at most of the points of entry to the town, the gates in the walled circuit. This results in an absence of the sense of arrival to an historic, let alone a walled town.
- The application of inappropriate conservation techniques and materials could diminish the authenticity of the walls.
- There is no clear guidance or expectation for landowners who own property that abuts the walls to act in the best interest of the historic fabric.

Opportunities:

- Conservation work would provide opportunities for archaeological investigation and interpretation.
- There is a potential to redefine the lost gates with architectural features that reinstate the sense of arrival.
- King's Castle and Blossom Gate are potentially accessible and so could provide visitors with a unique viewpoint, in conjunction with the round tower at the Collegiate Church.
- A commitment to the action plan proposed in this conservation and management plan would demonstrate a commitment to the rich heritage represented by the Town Walls.

8.5 Setting

The setting is a vital element in the understanding and appreciation of the Town Walls.

Vulnerabilities:

- Any lack of Development Control could irrevocably alter and diminish the visibility and appreciation of the Town Walls and in turn the character and quality of the town.
- A lack of an appropriate and unified style of street furniture and signage detracts from the presentation of the heritage town and the experience of elements such as the walls.
- The walls are obscured by vegetation (overgrowth and undergrowth) and in places modern facilities (service facilities – Plate 34) detract from the visual appreciation of the heritage assets.
- There are poor links between the heritage assets, specifically between the Town Walls, King's Castle, Blossom Gate, the Dominican Priory, the Collegiate Church and the medieval mansion - which diminishes the understanding and enjoyment of the whole medieval town experience.
- Aside from King's Castle and Blossom Gate the other entry points to the historic town lack any features that indicate the original gateways so there is little sense of arrival at a medieval town.

Opportunities:

- Views of the Town Walls could be improved, especially from the walls and the gates.
- Visibility of sections of the walls through appropriate architectural lighting could improve the dramatic impact of the appearance of the walls.
- Through a Public Realm Plan the design of appropriate street furniture, lighting and signage, sympathetic to the heritage nature of the town, could improve the presentation of the walls and the town.

- The original gateways could all benefit from the provision of features and interpretation to aid understanding of the history of the walls, but also to restore the sense of arrival at an important town.

Plate 34: Inappropriate location of services

8.6 Community and Social

There is a strong community pride in the Town Walls and in their provision of a sense of identity for the town. Allied to how positive the community feel about the heritage of Kilmallock is a desire for greater access to that heritage.

Vulnerabilities:

- Some sections of the community may feel that the walls are 'not for them' and so not make use of or care for them.
- Some feel the walls are a barrier to development within the town.
- The walls are not lit so present hazards after dark which discourages physical access.
- With no access to the walls encouraged anti-social behaviour could go undetected, the results of which could be detrimental to the presentation and appreciation of the walls.

Opportunities:

- The walls have the potential to be a focal point for an increase in visitors/tourism in the area
- Several walks around the walls have been identified as possible, each of a different length so as to meet varying user needs (Figure 12). The shortest walk involves the 'heritage hub' in the town – the walls beside the car-park on the western wall, King's Castle, the Museum, the Dominican Priory and the medieval mansion. A second walk could involve the heritage hub as well as the Collegiate Church, river walk and Blossom Gate. A third walk could include the heritage hub and the entire external circuit of the walls. Access would need to be made available for some/all of these proposed routes.
- The promotion and provision of designated walks around the town and the Town Walls would require the provision of supporting facilities - appropriate lighting, seating, litter facilities, toilets, as well as interpretation.
- Greater access to the walls and community involvement could provide an opportunity to encourage a greater community sense of ownership and value of the walls.
- The community could provide guides for training on the special nature of the walls.

8.7   Education, Interpretation and Presentation

The Town Walls offer unique opportunities for formal and informal learning as well as presentation and interpretation.

Vulnerabilities:

- A lack of public profile indicates a lack of understanding of the Town Walls which affects all the criteria and could detrimentally affect the appreciation and use of the Town Walls and in turn detract from the town's heritage value.
- The current lack of access to the walls, physically and intellectually, accompanied by a lack of signage, on-site interpretation and toilet facilities, as well as a lack of linkage to the other fascinating heritage assets in the town, limits the understanding of the importance of the walls and the importance of Kilmallock as a well preserved medieval town.

Opportunities:

- The archaeology and history of the walls offers the opportunity for schools, the general public, community groups and visitors and tourists to learn about and appreciate the Walls.
- The walls are an under-exploited visitor attraction and improved access is both possible and vital. Walks around the walls would give physical access, accompanied with signage and interpretation facilities and the gateways could be redefined to create a sense of arrival.
- The archaeology and history represented by the walls is suited to the application of virtual reality techniques to provide user-friendly access.
- The town brand could be developed with links to other walled towns and promotional and marketing activities, as well as being utilised on any signage and interpretation provision within the town.
- The building adjacent to King's Castle has the potential to become an essential element of a heritage hub, providing a visitor and interpretative centre that would provide access to information without detracting from the current museum which could specialise its offer.
- An integrated strategy for the interpretation of all the heritage assets in Kilmallock would be essential to ensure the understanding and value of each element and the town in its entirety.
- Specific events could be developed or added to that are appropriate and complementary to the heritage of the Town Walls and town.
- Continued links with IWTN and the Walled Towns Friendship Circle would further increase the profile of Kilmallock.
- Any information or interpretation facilities would need to include foreign languages.
- A Heritage Pack for residents could promote knowledge of and interest in the Town Walls.
- An Information Pack for visitors could similarly promote knowledge of interest in the walls and the town and give visitors access to all available features and assets.

8.8   Ecology and Green Spaces

Whilst of low significance (given a lack of designated sites and no rare or protected species) the flora on the walls is visually important to soften the appearance of the walls – although a balance needs to be achieved that softens the visual appearance without affecting the stability of the walls.

Vulnerabilities:

- The growth of deep-rooting vegetation or weeds either on or in the walls, or near the base of the walls presents a threat to the stability of the walls, particularly the wall-facing.
- Limited green space and associated facilities (such as toilets and seating) exist in Kilmallock so it is vital to preserve the exiting spaces and consider further space within the buffer zone.
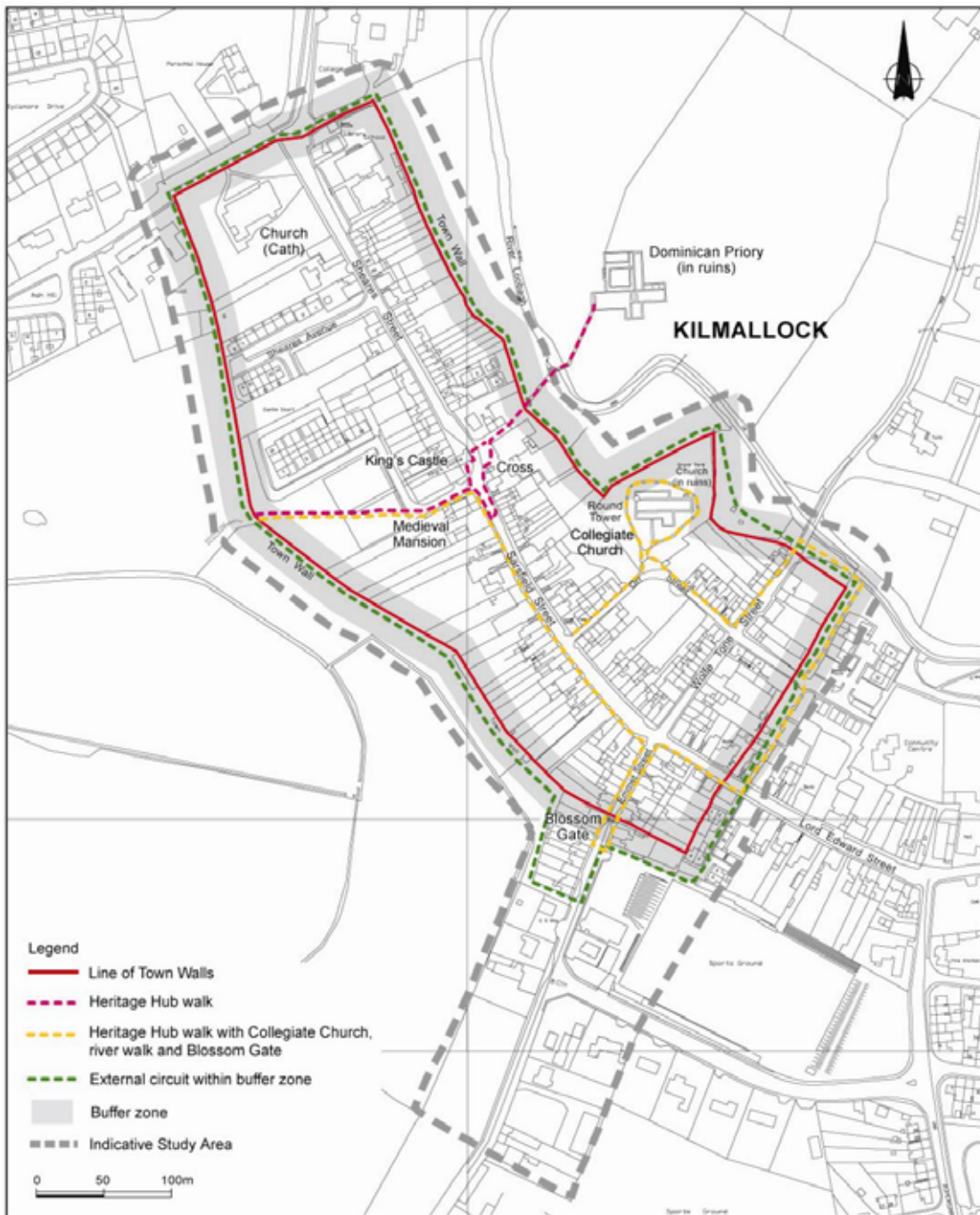
Figure 12: Walks around the town and walls

Opportunities:

- The buffer zone established in the Local Area Plan has been largely retained and could be managed for both defined access to the walls and walks around the walls, for increased provision of green space and for habitat maintenance.
- The walls are potentially bat roosts and this possibility could be further explored, perhaps through local interest groups.
- Owners of land abutting the walls could be given guidance on the prevention of weeds with detail on how to care for the walls. This could assist the maintenance of the walls and also involve the community and so encourage local responsibility for the walls.

9. POLICIES

9.1 Introduction

The primary objectives of the policies are:

- To maintain and enhance the historical, cultural and environmental significance and values of the Town Walls
- To provide for the security, maintenance, access to and interpretation of the walls
- To ensure that any work is based on a full understanding of the impact of proposals on the significance and historic character of the walls
- To improve public appreciation of the walls without diminishing their significance
- To enhance the economy and social well-being of Kilmallock and the wider community
- To form part of the wider national and international walled town heritage, sharing good practice, skills and expertise.

The objectives and policies have been categorised under specific themes and include general recommendations and others that are feature specific. The themes are:

- Ownership, Protection and Management
- Setting
- Inspection, Maintenance and Repair
- Natural Environment
- Research and Resources
- Access, Interpretation and Learning
- Health and Safety.

9.2 Conservation Philosophy

The basic philosophical principle for this conservation and management plan is that the Town Walls should benefit from a conservation programme designed to secure their future stability. This means that the Town Walls should be managed to maximise local and visitor enjoyment with increased understanding and appreciation of the value of the walls; that preservation and conservation of the historic fabric of the walls is of paramount importance, with local community involvement and visitor awareness fundamental to providing a sense of ownership and increasing the usage of the walls.

Whilst it is recognised that the preservation of the existing walls is immense and costly, it is the aim of this plan to address how any funds should best be spent, to prioritise particular areas or types of repair and maintenance and to adopt a strategic approach to repairs. The amount of funding available will probably be the driving force behind many decisions, but it is essential that any work commissioned is carried out to best practice conservation standards, even if this limits the extent achieved, rather than attempting to tackle all areas simultaneously with a resultant loss of quality. The maximum effort should be made to raise funds and carry out repairs now, since the cost will inevitably increase exponentially with time, as the defects increase in size and become more difficult to rectify.

A thorough understanding of the context, construction, materials, defects, vulnerability and significance of the Town Walls is required of those leading any conservation works and also that this is passed on in a relevant way to those carrying out the work.

Key policies should involve regular inspection, timely maintenance and appropriate repair and be based on:

- All professionals employed should be familiar with the causes of decay, so that this is remedied by an appropriate method of repair, rather than just treating the symptoms. All repairs should be undertaken and supervised by those with appropriate expertise, craftsmanship, skills and respect for the historic fabric.

- Minimum intervention and disruption to the historic fabric of the walls including the core and facework is considered good conservation practice. However, the overall stability of the walls and safety to the public and those working on the Walls should always be considered.

- Good conservation practice deems that, where possible, repairs should be reversible. All modifications should be thoroughly recorded, before and during the works.

- Where possible all repairs should be carried out on a like-for-like basis; materials should, where possible, closely match the existing materials to preserve the appearance and information should be obtained on how the structure was originally constructed. Stone can be matched by petrographic testing to that currently available from working quarries.

- The sampling of existing mortar is generally used to form the basis of the specification of mortar for repointing and repairs. The existing mortar mix is likely to be very variable in content and properties, so, to be useful, sampling needs to be carried out in a number of locations along and positions within the walls.

- The priority for repair work should be areas which are in danger of collapse, but it is also important to prevent further damage from ongoing problems, such as ivy and water ingress. Other factors, such as visibility and significance should also determine the priority of repairs.

9.3 Ownership, Protection and Management

Key Issues:

- Lack of clarity on legal ownership of the physical fabric of the walls
- Lack of clarity on who is responsible for the care and maintenance of the walls
- Need for a single point of contact related to the protection and management of the walls.

Objectives:

- To define responsibility for the walls
- To define the care, maintenance and management of the walls
- To provide a framework within which all bodies with responsibility can operate
- To ensure the survival and authenticity of the built and archaeological heritage of the walls
- To conserve, enhance and record the built and archaeological heritage within current international and national conservation guidelines
- To ensure the appropriate and sustainable use and adaptation of structures and areas that form part of the historic environment which contribute to the overall significance of Kilmallock
- To facilitate the understanding of the historic environment, setting and context of the walls
- To ensure the survival of *in situ* archaeological deposits.

Policies:

POLICY MAN01: Ownership of the physical fabric of the Town Walls should be defined and a management plan agreed with the owners of the land on either side of the walls (including the buffer zone) to enable an effective regime for maintenance, inspection, and repair of the walls.

POLICY MAN02: An agreed strategic vision for the walls between all partners and stakeholders should be developed.

POLICY MAN03: An appropriately qualified and experienced 'Walls Project Manager' or single point of contact should be appointed to ensure sustainable resources are available for the management of the Town Walls. This person should have responsibility for managing the walls, undertaking and co-ordinating projects directly relating to the walls, including all aspects of use, conservation, interpretation, development, consultation and community involvement to achieve the strategic vision. This person should also ensure that the best interests of the monument are taken into account at all times and that the protection and enhancement of its cultural significance are adequately provided for.

POLICY MAN04: All decision makers should have regard for any impact to the Town Walls, their context and setting in respect to all development and planning initiatives. Any proposals for works associated with the Town Walls require Ministerial Consent.

POLICY MAN05: A programme of community involvement should be developed that should further strengthen links with the community to ensure that the value of the walls and the benefits from the use and potential development of the walls are recognised, supported and enjoyed by local people, engendering a sense of local ownership and pride.

POLICY MAN06: A programme of training for local volunteers should be developed with learning of appropriate skills in order that they can assist with the management, maintenance and use of the Town Walls, especially where they already have experience in a specific area.

POLICY MAN07: Parties involved with the management of the walls should strive for the inclusion of all stakeholder and community voices in the use, management and conservation of the walls.

POLICY MAN08: A close working relationship between all professionals involved with the walls should be promoted to foster an integrated approach to management, use and development that includes research conservation, archaeology, management, interpretation of the walls and associated features.

POLICY MAN09: The continuing need for resources to ensure the appropriate management, use and development of the Town Walls should include - skills and training, facilities, time and financial resources.

POLICY MAN10: During and following any development process a range of mitigation strategies should be developed to combat current and potential issues relating to anti-social behaviour in conjunction with initiatives for the town, looking to combine physical measures and community initiatives.

POLICY MAN11: Where parts of the Town Walls, associated structures and setting, are not in public ownership, Limerick County Council should work towards achieving a co-ordinated approach to management and the adoption of the Conservation and Management Plan by all parties, supported by the DoEHLG.

POLICY MAN12: Where the Town Walls are in public ownership (for instance Blossom Gate), there should be a presumption against the disposal or sale of any land parcels or structures related to the Town Walls.

POLICY MAN13: There should be a presumption in favour of retaining and conserving *in situ* all buildings, historic structures and archaeological sites where they are of significance or value and contribute to the character of the Town Walls. There should be a presumption against demolition of any of the structures or features on site, including the creation of new openings in the Town Walls.

POLICY MAN14: All works to the walls should be based on a sound understanding of the walls and their significance. Prior to any works being undertaken a full understanding of the setting, views, features and structures to be affected would be achieved through a comprehensive programme of research and recording.

POLICY MAN15: The protection of the Town Walls' invaluable archaeological and historical resource should be ensured by allowing archaeological investigation only where this is deemed to be necessary, justifiable and appropriate and where such work would contribute to a better understanding of the monument and/or the town. Any work must be in accordance with an explicit research framework.

POLICY MAN16: In no circumstances should any archaeological work be allowed without agreed and approved provision for research, recording, analysis, publication and archiving. Copies should be stored with the National Monuments Service.

POLICY MAN17: Any intrusion to the historic fabric should pay particular attention to preserving pieces of archaeological evidence relating to the Town Walls and associated townscape setting. This should help prevent the cumulative loss of features and retain the character and setting of the Town Walls and historic Kilmallock.

POLICY MAN18: Reconstruction *in situ* is appropriate only where a feature is incomplete through damage or modern alteration, and only where there is sufficient documentary evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the fabric. Reconstruction should only be considered in order to stabilise a feature, or if there is a clear case that understanding, interpretation and safety would be significantly enhanced. Any such reconstruction work should be fully documented.

POLICY MAN19: There is a presumption against removal of materials from their historic location. This requires consideration in favour of repair rather than replacement.

POLICY MAN20: New uses for historic structures (for example King's Castle, Blossom Gate and the medieval mansion) should be encouraged only where they respect the authenticity, cultural values, values relating to the natural environment, associations, meaning and sustainability of the Town Walls and historic Kilmallock. Such uses should require minimal alteration to the fabric and ensure a sustainable future for the structures. The character of the Town Walls and historic Kilmallock should be reflected or acknowledged in the future use of the structures. Preference should be given to uses that:

- Are sympathetic to the public enjoyment of the Town Walls
- Provide demonstrable economic and social benefits to the walls and local community; and
- Contribute to the cultural or natural significance of historic Kilmallock.

POLICY MAN21: Existing and future occupiers (owners and leasees) should be obliged to adopt the conservation and management plan and its policies in full. It is recommended that an illustrated, non-technical summary of key aspects, constraints, responsibilities and benefits is produced and provided to all owners and occupiers.

POLICY MAN22: Full support should be given where opportunities are identified for the minimisation of the physical impact and pollution of traffic on the walls and gates.

POLICY MAN23: During any site works including research, repairs and development, information and interpretation should be provided to the public to explain what is happening and to increase understanding and promote interest in the Town Walls.

POLICY MAN24: The implementation of the walls maintenance plan should take into account ecological factors.

9.4   Setting

Key Issues:

- Obstruction or compromise of key views of the Town Walls from outside and within.
- Lack of clarity of the line of the walls and gates.
- Little sense of entering though former gates and loss of distinction in character between outside and within the walls.
- Lack of coordinated/integrated signage compromising the setting of the walls.
- Lack of green spaces.

Objectives:

- To modify or remove inappropriate features or structures which compromise the setting of the walls.
- To protect the environs of the walls from inappropriate further development.
- To reveal the line of the walls where this has been obscured or lost.
- To mark the positions of the former gates and to strengthen the character difference on entry into the town.
- To remove or ameliorate unnecessary 'visual clutter' from the setting of the walls.
- To define and provide increased green spaces for quiet recreation.

Policies:

POLICY SET01: The visual setting of the Town Walls should be presented to the highest possible standard, commensurate with the historic importance of the Town Walls themselves. This should involve:

- Reconsideration of the buffer zone associated with the walls so that it is re-defined, identifying areas of sensitivity in respect of visual setting, archaeology and structure.
- Through the Development Management process and otherwise, encourage development adjacent to the buffer zone of appropriate character in relation to height, form, materials and location.
- Negotiation with appropriate statutory authorities, service providers, companies, or individuals to secure removal, relocation, or modification of detrimental elements.
- Provision of unified heritage design for street furniture, signage, lighting etc (Public Realm Plan)

POLICY SET02: Distant views of the Town Walls (from the approaches to the town) should be preserved clear of obstruction and opportunity sought to increase or enhance there views.

- The key views identified in this conservation and management plan relate to the approach to the Town Walls, and when travelling around the walls the sight lines and areas of sensitivity in relation to the views.
- Through planning policy and the Development Management process prevent development within these identified areas.
- Encourage removal or amelioration of the effects of existing detrimental features and vegetation within the areas of sensitivity.

POLICY SET03: As opportunities arise the line of the Town Walls and gates should be further revealed or marked.

- Design and install a paving layout to mark the locations of the former gates (this might consist of raised band of setts across the road/street corresponding to the wall line with a broader band of complementary but differing stone paving either side).
- Through planning policy and the Development Management process, encourage the creation of a greater sense of street enclosure on the town side of the gate positions to emphasise the transition from outside to within the Town Walls.
- Develop and implement appropriate ways of marking the line of the Town Wall where it is no longer extant.
- Where the wall structure remains concealed within existing structures through Development Management systems and otherwise, seek to enable such wall faces to be revealed with appropriate conservation work.

POLICY SET04: Publicly accessible green spaces should be developed in order to provide enhanced quiet recreational opportunities and greater appreciation of the Town Walls and their setting.

9.5   Inspection, Maintenance and Repair

Key Issues:

- Lack of regular inspection to identify conservation and/or repair works required.
- Lack of a perceived, identified and clearly promoted point of contact to report damage/repair/ conservation needs related to the Town Walls.
- Lack of suitable access for inspection, maintenance and repair.
- Need to ensure appropriate and sensitive repairs and conservation of the Town Walls.

Objectives:

- To implement an agreed action plan for ongoing maintenance, inspection and repair works.
- To develop partnership management of Town Walls and a single, accessible contact point.
- To encourage and maintain community involvement, support and interest for the Town Walls.
- To utilise skilled personnel and train local people.

Policies:

POLICY REP01: An agreement for access to all areas for inspection, maintenance and repairs should be established, including access across adjacent private land and a procedure for notifying all relevant bodies (including tenants) of the intention to undertake inspections or work. This may include vehicular access where necessary/possible.

POLICY REP02: The implementation of enabling works to provide access, to stabilise or close off any areas deemed dangerous and to remove vegetation to allow initial inspection should be completed. Where areas are considered to be in imminent danger of collapse, a risk assessment should be undertaken. Mitigation may involve either fencing off the area, or installing shoring, or recording and taking down sufficient stone carefully to reduce the risk. Any such stone removed should be stored for reuse. A basic topographic survey should be undertaken to form the basis of repair contacts and a rolling maintenance schedule. The photographic record of the walls should be completed after removal of vegetation so that annotated views can be used to specify areas for repair.

POLICY REP03: Vegetation and debris should be cleared away from the foot of the walls to facilitate access and inspection, and householders/landowners encouraged to remove materials piled against the foot of the walls.

POLICY REP04: A regular programme of inspection should be carried out for all the structures that make up the Town Walls – this inspection should consider structural, health and safety, and conservation issues. After the initial inspection of areas previously obscured it is recommended that this inspection is undertaken on a 12 monthly basis for the first three years and every 5 years thereafter.

POLICY REP05: A repair strategy, with priorities based on significance, vulnerability and other relevant factors (such as public access or visibility) should be prepared to ensure an integrated approach between interested disciplines (archaeology, ecology, access, tourism, health and safety, etc).

POLICY REP06: Agreement should be reached on a policy for maintaining existing walls on the line of the Town Walls which are known to be more modern, but which serve to delineate the monument or as a physical barrier

POLICY REP07: A rolling maintenance plan and regular consultation with stakeholders should be undertaken.

POLICY REP08: Work should be coordinated with and carried out to the same standard and conservation principles as other significant monuments within the area to ensure an integrated approach.

POLICY REP09: Appropriate craftspeople and professionals should be utilised to carry out/supervise all work. Appropriate training should be provided to local volunteers and trainee maintenance staff to ensure their competence in using and working with historic materials. An experienced, competent individual or organisation should be appointed by the Walls Project Manager to supervise any works to the site. A thorough understanding of the context, construction, materials, defects, vulnerability and significance should be demonstrated by those leading the proposed conservation and this should be passed on in relevant way to those carrying out the work.

POLICY REP10: Where possible all repairs should be carried out on a like-for-like basis; material should, where possible, closely match the existing materials to preserve the appearance and information on how the walls were originally constructed. Where materials cannot be salvaged from the site and re-used, new materials made in a traditional way should be sourced. Salvaged materials from other sites should not be utilised except when the materials stated above are unavailable. Salvaged materials should only be considered from other sites due for re-development if the use and provenance of such materials is known and recorded. It is recommended that a secure materials store is located and maintained within easy access of the town.

POLICY REP11: Signs of movement in structures should be monitored carefully over at least 12 months to establish whether movement is 'historic' or current. Where movement is confirmed as a structural problem, the cause of the movement should be remedied before carrying out remedial action.

POLICY REP 12: All minor vegetation on or near the walls should continue to be removed as part of the regular maintenance programme. Such removal should be carried out by hand picking without disturbing the masonry. A cut back and programme or eradication of the ivy and any other vegetation with root systems inside the walls using suitable herbicide treatments should be commenced.

POLICY REP13: Appropriate mortar mixes and other materials should be used for all works relating to the walls. Mortar should be sampled to enable better specification of mortar mix for repairs. Where hard cement mortar exists it should be removed during repair works only where it can be removed without damage to the walls. Where pinning or other structural intervention is used, only non ferrous materials should be used.

POLICY REP14: Minimum intervention and disruption to the historic fabric of the walls including the core and facework is considered good conservation practice. However, the overall stability of the walls and safety to the public and those working on the walls should always be considered. Careful consolidation of all exposed areas of corework *in situ* should be undertaken, unless the wall's overall stability requires rebuilding of the facework. Any areas recently collapsed or taken down should be fully repaired. Where possible, repairs should be reversible. All modifications should be thoroughly recorded, before and during the works.

POLICY REP15: A programme of protection to the wall tops, replacing existing mortared capping and capping unprotected areas should be implemented.

POLICY REP16: Reduction of ground levels, where these have been artificially raised, should be sought and water encouraged to drain away from the walls. The fosse should be cleared of debris and dumped material, under archaeological supervision.

POLICY REP17: A programme of repointing and galleting, to improve stability, reduce fabric loss and reduce climbing on the walls should be implemented.

9.6   Natural Environment

Key Issues:

- Need to ensure that management of flora and fauna associated with the walls is carried out in a fashion that benefits the walls.

Objectives:

- To ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, context and setting of the Town Walls.
- To manage the landscape in a way that sustains the natural environmental significance of the Town Walls and environs.
- To document and understand the natural environment of the Town Walls and environs.
- To encourage awareness of the environment of the Town Walls and environs.

Policies:

POLICY ENV01: All environmental criteria should be given full consideration in the design and implementation of future works and projects.

POLICY ENV02: Any proposed development adjacent to the Town Walls and other historic structures in Kilmallock should consider the potential for bats and undertake appropriate surveys in advance of any development.

POLICY ENV03: Opportunities for appropriate pruning of existing trees and cutting back plant growth on and adjacent to the Town Walls should be undertaken to increase public views and appreciation of the walls.

POLICY ENV04: All employees, suppliers, contractors, householders and tenants should meet national standards of environmental awareness and performance.

POLICY ENV05: Projects should be supported and implemented to achieve the enhancement of the environmental aspects and biodiversity of the Town Walls and their setting.

POLICY ENV06: Visitor management techniques should be employed to combat any visitor erosion issues and those arising from increased future visitor numbers.

POLICY ENV07: Any alterations or development that will impact on the context or setting of the Town Walls, including impacts on views of and from the Town Walls should be in accordance with the policies set out in this conservation and management plan and should be considered only where they are appropriate in terms of scale, character, materials, quality of design and impact on the significance of the Town Walls. The desire to open up views and create new links should be equally carefully considered.

POLICY ENV08: Vegetation clearance and tree works (cutting, grubbing and burning or other vegetation removal) should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (1st March - 31st August).

POLICY ENV09: Any maintenance works should take into account the sensitivity of the River Loobagh. Environmental best practice should be used to minimise the erosion of the river beds.

9.7 Research and Resources

Key Issues:

- The public are not fully aware of the heritage resource associated with the Town Walls that would aid their understanding and appreciation of the importance of the town.
- Lack of use of existing heritage assets.

- Lack of display related to existing heritage resources.
- Lack of research facility.

Objectives:

- To develop and maintain a single, comprehensive database of research associated with the Town Walls and the town.
- To care, store, document and, where appropriate, display any artefacts and archives related to the Town Walls and Kilmallock.
- To increase public access, understanding and appreciation of the collections, archives, artefacts and research associated with the Walls and their wider context.
- To enable a full understanding of all aspects of the Town Walls and their significance.

Policies:

POLICY RES01: A comprehensive catalogue or inventory of primary sources relating to the Town Walls should be produced and made publicly accessible in order to increase public awareness, provide educational opportunities and encourage further research.

POLICY RES02: A co-ordinated and prioritised approach to future research should be facilitated through the development of an explicit research framework and agenda (Appendix A), to be developed and approved in association with the Heritage Council, The Irish Walled Towns Network, the Heritage Officer, the Executive Archaeologist and the Conservation Officer at Limerick County Council, and other relevant archaeological organisations (such as the National Monuments Service and the Architectural Heritage Advisory Unit of the DoEHLG) and individuals.

POLICY RES03: Any excavation reports and other research undertaken regarding the Town Walls should be fully published and archived. It is recommended that summary reports are available on the world wide web at a suitable portal, for example, the Irish Walled Towns Network and the International Walled Towns Circle.

POLICY RES04: Public access should be provided to information, archives and research relating to the Town Walls. This should include investigating the potential of increasing access through a range of media and technologies.

POLICY RES05: Encouragement, resources and support should be provided for nationwide research regarding historical engineering techniques and practices relating to the construction and adaptation of historic walled circuits and associated structures.

9.8 Access, Interpretation and Learning

Key Issues:

- Lack of understanding and presentation of the history, environment, development and use of the Town Walls and associated monuments and townscape.
- Lack of accessibility to the Town Walls and other heritage assets individually or as part of a co-ordinated experience.

Objectives:

- To provide a comprehensive interpretation plan for the Town Walls and Kilmallock.

- To develop and enhance physical, sensory and intellectual access opportunities in line with local and national policies and good practice.
- To enable greater understanding of the history, environment, historical development and use of the Town Walls and associated structures and townscape.
- To improve the information provision, orientation and welcome to the town in order to encourage exploration and appreciation.
- To ensure a quality experience for all and contribute to Kilmallock as a special and distinctive place to live, work and visit.

Access Policies:

POLICY ACC01: Ensure compliance, as far as possible, for any parts of the Town Wall circuit in public ownership, with the Disability Act 2005, Part 3. To establish a forward-looking access strategy that considers both physical and intellectual access to the walls.

POLICY ACC02: Facilitate the use of sustainable forms of transport (rail, bus, cycling and walking) by providing information regarding using sustainable forms of transport, secure storage, benefits, and links to the public transport system to encourage volunteers, residents and visitors to use sustainable forms of transport for access to the walls and within the town.

POLICY ACC03: Retain and enhance visitor satisfaction with the perception of place, the sense of arrival, welcome and means of circulation around the Town Walls and town, for example by increasing the quantity and quality of orientation and interpretation.

POLICY ACC04: The access to and around the Town Walls should be improved by way of designated walks/trails, signage and appropriate lighting (on and off site).

POLICY ACC05: The provision of any physical barriers, such as railings and gates, should be guided by principles set out in the conservation philosophy and should be implemented in accordance with the policies in this section.

POLICY ACC06: To provide new views of the Town Walls and town from high points such as King's Castle, Blossom Gate and the round tower at the Collegiate Church.

POLICY ACC07: To consider the excavation of a section of the fosse and ramparts to enable a permanent display of how the Town Walls were built and the relationship between the fosse and Town Walls. This would require Ministerial consent and consultation with the DoEHLG. A site should be selected along the western wall.

POLICY ACC08: To consider the provision of new pedestrian walking circuits around the Town Walls, provided these are in accordance with the Public Realm Plan. There are opportunities to develop:

- A heritage hub walk encompassing the north-western stretch of wall, King's Castle, the Dominican Priory, the museum and the medieval mansion with a new visitor centre.
- The heritage hub walk with the eastern wall by the river, the Collegiate Church and Blossom Gate.
- A complete circuit of the outside of the walls.

Interpretative and Learning Policies:

POLICY ED01: A comprehensive interpretation plan should be prepared that would interpret the Town Walls and the history and development of the town.

POLICY ED02: Interpretative provision should be holistic, through inclusion of the history, natural history, and social and cultural histories of the Town Walls and extend beyond the formal walls 'boundary' to provide insight into the wider context of the walls, town and setting.

POLICY ED03: Initiatives should be developed to enable and encourage access for all and lifelong learning.

POLICY ED04: Intrusive development relating to interpretation, outreach or education, permanent public art and fixed on site interpretative media such as graphic panels should be kept to a minimum except where they enhance the character or understanding of the Town Walls and are introduced under guidance of the policies set out in this section.

POLICY ED05: Schemes should be implemented to develop new audiences and links with local groups and schools. Resource packs should be provided giving information as a teaching aid for both teachers and families.

POLICY ED06: A wide range of interpretative and communication media should be considered in order to appeal to and reach a wide range of audiences and accommodate their needs. Such media and methods might include: the provision of an interpretation facility, events, printed materials, audio guides and other sensory media.

POLICY ED07: There should a training scheme for local guides to build local skills and capacity and increase understanding of the Town Walls and their setting.

POLICY ED08: Interpretation should be provided at the entry points to the town and at key locations along walks and trails that interpret the Town Walls and the townscape. The route(s) of trails should be clearly signposted.

POLICY ED09: Interpretative media should recognise the importance of and utilise any brand guidelines which may be established to promote the special qualities of historic Kilmallock.

POLICY ED10: Partnerships should be encouraged between individuals and organisations in order to facilitate greater effectiveness and integration of promotion of the special qualities of Kilmallock.

9.9   Health and Safety

Key Issues:

- Any improved access to the Town Walls will need to incorporate Health and Safety considerations, Limerick County Council's Health and Safety Policy for public open spaces, bearing in mind the special character of the Walls and the hazards they present.

Policies:

POLICY HS01: A Health and Safety risk assessment should be carried out by a competent person, taking into account lighting conditions, weather conditions and the abilities of the users.

The survey should then be updated at regular intervals and particularly following any changes to any of the key factors influencing risk.

POLICY HS02: Any remedial works should be undertaken to mitigate risk in accordance with recognised Health and Safety legislation.

9.10   Discussion Relating to Policies

<u>Use of Professionals and Craftspeople</u>

Appropriate professional consultation will be necessary for individual projects and to develop detailed schedules of work. Relevant bodies and organisations that must be consulted include: the DoEHLG, the OPW, Limerick County Council, Heritage Council and the Irish Walled Towns Network.

All archaeological works, buildings conservation and ecological works should be undertaken by suitably qualified professionals with demonstrable previous experience in all aspects of the required on-site investigation, conservation and recording. The use of inexperienced or amateur workers can cause irreversible damage to the historic fabric, as can well-intentioned restoration.

Any person who undertakes or commissions work on the Town Walls must have Ministerial Consent, understand the difference between conservation, restoration, reconstruction, and preservation and always aim to achieve protection of the asset. Appropriate crafts and professional workers and training should include:

- A conservation architect to design and specify the use of lime mortars, lime wash and plaster where appropriate
- An archaeologist for all intrusive work to structures or below ground
- A structural surveyor, with training in building conservation, for monitoring cracks and other structural issues
- A stone mason experienced in dealing with historic buildings for selecting, cutting and piecing in new stonework
- Environmental experts for issues relating to the natural heritage of the walls.

The training and development of local people in support of works to the walls is to be encouraged and supported provided this is under close professional direction.

<u>Research and Understanding</u>

It will be necessary to continue to work towards a detailed archaeological, historical and architectural survey of the structures to firmly establish an understanding of the use and chronology of the Town Walls. This will influence future significance assessments, interpretation policies and management strategies and works. The DoEHLG, the Heritage Council, the OPW, Limerick County Council personnel and other archaeological stakeholders would be able to assist with the development and approval of a research framework in advance of any archaeological works.

<u>Nature Conservation</u>

The commissioning of bat surveys in advance of works avoids the inadvertent committing of an offence and minimises the risk of delays should bats be discovered during works.

The maintenance and vegetation clearance works should be undertaken at the times of year that will not impact upon the flora or fauna (such as the bird nesting season).

The management and enhancement of the environmental aspects of the walls and their setting might include:

- Introducing locally native and locally sourced wildflower and grass mix to add colour and increase invertebrate diversity with scope for involving community groups in the project. This should be complemented with mowing and maintenance programmes that would promote biodiversity and succession (e.g. mowing of wildflower areas once a year after flowering in the autumn).
- Protection of areas where locally or nationally rare species occur.
- Vegetation on walls retained where practicable.
- Erection of bird and bat boxes in suitable locations by competent persons.
- Creation of areas to improve local biodiversity such as log piles, areas of rank grassland and nettles, where appropriate.
- Trees should be retained where practicable with a balance achieved between nature conservation and conservation of the walls.
- Plants with deep roots not located within 10m of the walls.

Visitor and Site Management

In relation to visitor management and increasing access some physical development may be appropriate, provided that any development is planned and implemented in accordance with the policies in this Plan.

Mitigation strategies that combat anti-social behaviour may include: monitoring and identification; 'wall wardens'; employment and training opportunities; social inclusion initiatives and lighting.

Involvement of Local Communities

There are many opportunities for engaging local communities with the maintenance, management and use of the walls. Appropriate training can be provided to increase the skill sets available from volunteer workers. For example:

- Recording prior to works could provide opportunities for the involvement of local community groups under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist or buildings conservator
- The provision of information and interpretation during any site works and development, to explain what is happening and increase understanding. These works, especially archaeological investigation, can often provide unexpected benefits with regard to increased awareness and community support
- Management, conservation works and maintenance of the walls and their setting under the supervision of an appropriately qualified person.

Physical Barriers

The provision of physical barriers or items relating to physical safety in relation to the use of the walls, would, in an ideal world, be restricted to the provision of warning notices and reliance on common sense. However, the current compensation culture dictates that these issues must be explored and guidance provided for best practice. Consideration of the design and development of physical barriers, in consultation with local disability groups should be undertaken.

10. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

10.1 Introduction

This plan has summarised an understanding of the Town Walls, their significance, issues of vulnerability and has outlined a management framework to ensure the conservation of the significant and vulnerable elements of the walls with the aim securing the future of the walls and promoting their understanding and appreciation by both the local community and visitors.

The completion of this plan however is only the first step in a long-term process and successful implementation will depend on:

- Acceptance by stakeholders of a common understanding of the walls, their significance, vulnerabilities, potential opportunities and suitable policies
- Undertaking of actions as required
- Allocation/determination of resources to implement the plan
- Periodic review of the plan and implementation process.

10.2 Adoption

The conservation and management plan will be formally accepted by Limerick County Council and endorsed by the Heritage Council and it should be accepted in its entirety. Methods of implementation to achieve the objectives of the plan may vary in detail from this document but will be undertaken in line with the policies and with the prior agreement of the stakeholders.

10.3 Action Plan

In order to provide an action plan for the implementation of the conservation and management plan the following table sets out the actions, related to the policies they action, prioritised into three categories:

- Category A : Policies to be implemented in the next year
- Category B: Policies to be implemented in the following 2-4 years
- Category C: Policies to be implemented 5 years and beyond.

Priority	Policy	Action	Responsible Body
A	MAN01	Develop a management plan. This will involve stakeholders and by establishing a regime for maintenance, inspection and repair of the Town Walls, will safeguard the walls for the future.	Limerick County Council
A	MAN02	Develop a strategic vision, integrating the management plan with maintenance and interpretation plans.	Limerick County Council
A	MAN03	Appoint a Walls Project Manager as a single point of contact and to ensure sustainable resources are available for the management of the walls.	Limerick County Council
A	MAN21	Develop Information/Heritage Packs for residents, businesses and visitors	Limerick County Council
A	SET01	Improve the presentation of the setting of the walls with the removal of detrimental elements	Limerick County Council
A	SET01	Provide a unified design for street furniture, signage, interpretation, bins, lighting etc (by way of a Public Realm Plan)	Limerick County Council

Priority	Policy	Action	Responsible Body
A	ENV03	Cut back plant growth to increase views and appreciation of the walls	Limerick County Council
A	REP05	Develop a repair strategy	Limerick County Council
A	REP07	Develop a rolling maintenance plan	Limerick County Council
A	REP03	Clear vegetation and debris away from the foot of the walls to facilitate access and inspection	Limerick County Council
A	REP12	Remove any minor vegetation (e.g. ferns, grasses) on the walls that can be carried out by hand picking and without disturbing the masonry. Cut back ivy and other vegetation (e.g. tree saplings) with root systems inside the walls and commence a programme of eradication	Limerick County Council
A	REP02	Undertake a visual inspection of all areas previously hidden by vegetation and complete the photographic record	Limerick County Council
A	REP02	Undertake a topographical survey of the walls	Limerick County Council
A	REP02	Where areas of wall are considered to be in imminent danger of collapse (Appendix E), carry out a risk assessment. Mitigation may be to fence off the area, or install shoring, or record and carefully take down sufficient wall to reduce the risk, storing the stone for reuse	Limerick County Council
A	REP11	Any areas leaning or bulging significantly, but not considered in danger of collapse, will have monitoring points set up to record and monitor over at least one year to confirm movement	Limerick County Council
A	REP02	Where individual stones are considered in imminent danger of tumbling, record and carefully take down sufficient stone to reduce the risk and store the stone for reuse	Limerick County Council
A	REP13	Sample existing mortar mixes and test	Limerick County Council
A	REP08	Sample existing stone, test and locate suitable source	Limerick County Council
A	REP07	Identify skills/training required for conservation and repair works	Limerick County Council
B	RES02	Develop the research agenda	Limerick County Council
B	ED01	Develop an interpretation plan, including the identification of a suitable heritage centre	Limerick County Council
B	SET03	Design a demarcation of the position of gateways and the line of the Walls	Limerick County Council
B	SET04	Develop green spaces within and around the walled town	Limerick County Council
B	REP07	Commence training for conservation and repair	Limerick County Council
B	REP12	Continue the programme of eradication of ivy and other deep rooted vegetation	Limerick County Council
B	REP13	Agree mortar mix and prepare reference sample panels	Limerick County Council
B	REP14	Carefully consolidate all exposed areas of corework	Limerick County Council
B	REP14	Repair any areas recently collapsed or previously taken down to prevent collapse or damage, as necessary	Limerick County Council
B	REP15	Commence a programme of protection to the wall tops, replacing existing mortared capping and capping unprotected areas	Limerick County Council
B	REP04	Carry out regular inspections (annually for the first 3 years)	Limerick County

Priority	Policy	Action	Responsible Body
			Council
B	REP16	Reduce ground levels where these have been artificially raised, and encourage water to drain away from the walls	Limerick County Council and property/landowners
B	RES01	Develop a research database for public access	Limerick County Council
B	ACC04 ACC08	Improve access to and around the Town Walls through designated walks around the walls, signage, interpretation and lighting	Limerick County Council
B	ACC06	Provide new views from and of the walls and town from high points at King's Castle, Blossom Gate and the round tower of the Collegiate Church	Limerick County Council
B	ED07	Establish a training scheme for local guides	Limerick County Council
C	REP07	Commence a programme of long term cyclic maintenance for items such as inspection, vegetation clearance, repointing, capping and repair	Limerick County Council
C	REP04	Carry out 5 yearly inspections and review effectiveness of the maintenance and repair polices	Limerick County Council
C	ACC07	Provide a display of an excavated section of fosse/ramparts demonstrating their association with the walls	Limerick County Council/DoEHLG

Table 6: Action Plan

10.4 Review Periods
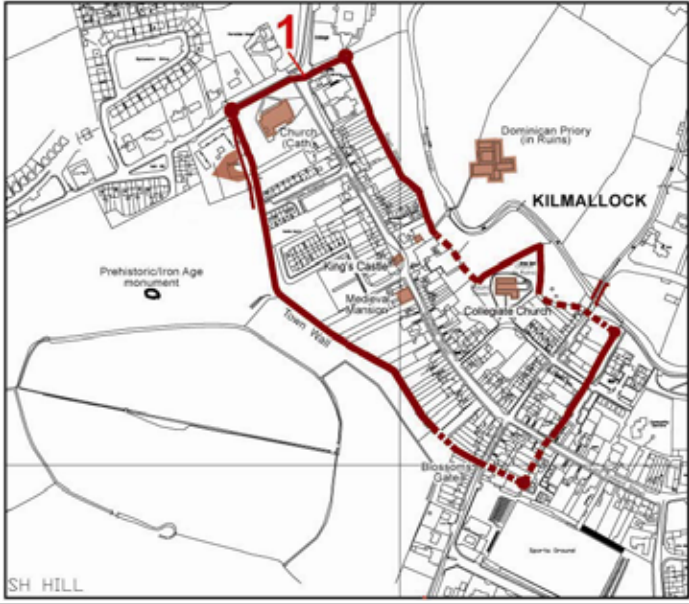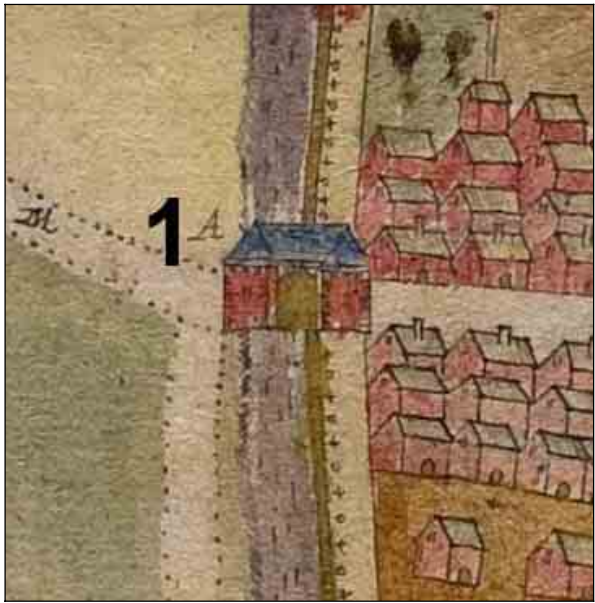
The conservation and management plan, together with its implementation, should be reviewed on an annual basis by Limerick County Council for the first three years and thereafter every three years.

11. GAZETTEER

The gazetteer is intended to be added to as further information on the history and development of Kilmallock is uncovered – such information could be derived from further research and archaeological works or building surveys within the town. The phasing utilised in this report and gazetteer has been prepared by Sarah McCutcheon. All photographs are Gifford copyright, unless otherwise indicated.

Gazetteer no.	Zone	Feature Name
1	North	St John's Gate (site of)
2	North	North Town Wall between St John's Gate and North-East Tower
3	North	North-East Tower (site of)
4	East	East Town Wall between North-East Tower and Friar's Gate
5	East	Friar's Gate (site of)
6	East	East Town Wall between Friar's Gate and archway by Collegiate Church
7	East	Archway by Collegiate Church
8	East	North and east boundary walls of Collegiate Church
9	East	East Town Wall between Collegiate Church and Water Gate
10	East	Water Gate (site of)
11	East	Medieval bridge
12	East	East Town Wall between Water Gate and the South-East Tower
13	South	South-East Tower (site of)
14	South	South Town Wall between South-East Tower and the Ivy Gate
15	South	Ivy Gate (site of)
16	South	South Town Wall between Ivy Gate and the South-West Tower
17	South	South-West Tower (site of)
18	West	West Town Wall between South-West Tower and Blossom Gate
19	West	Blossom Gate
20	West	West Town Wall from Blossom Gate to angle on west wall
21	West	Angle on west wall
22	West	West Town Wall from angle to North-West Tower
23	West	Bastion
24	North	North-West Tower (site of)
25	North	North Town Wall
26	Central	King's Castle
27	Central	Medieval mansion
28	Central	Kilmallock Folk Museum
29	East	Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul
30	Central	Market cross (site of)
31	East	Dominican Priory of St. Saviour
32	Central	Church of Saints Peter and Paul
33	West	South-West external gate and suburb
34	West	Field to the west of Kilmallock
35	West	Site of lake to the west of Kilmallock
36	North	Church of St. Mocheallóg (site of)
37	North	North Bridge

Table 7: Index to the Gazetteer

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 1	Location:

Zone: North

Feature Name: St. John's Gate (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 4-5: 14th – 16th century
Alteration - Phase 4: 16th century or Phase 5: 17th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
There are no remains of St. John's Gate existing above ground, but traces of the structure may survive below-ground.

The gate was added as part of the medieval extension to the town. There is a reference to the gate from 1410 (Westropp 1904-5, 421), which may indicate the presence of a gated north suburb to the town, or that the town had extended north by this time. The standing remains of Kilmallock are thought to date from 14th -15th centuries (Bradley *et al* 1989, 155).

Joanes's map, *c.*1600, shows the gate as double-towered with a pitched roof and crenellated parapets, possibly two storeys, with a wide, pointed archway.

Nicholson's 1822 engraving shows the exterior side of the gate, with an angular north-east stair tower, a first and second floor and a parapetted roof. This structure is notably different to that shown in Joanes' map and it is possible that the arched central section remained, while the wings to either side were removed / modified. These alterations may have occurred during the 16th-17th centuries.

Thomas (1992, 134) notes that St. John's Gate survived until 1840 (reference in Lewis, 1837) but it was absent by 1889 (no reference in O'Dowd 1889, 133ff).

The first edition OS map of 1829-41 may show the gate, although it is not clear amongst the buildings to either side of the road and the dotted townland boundary and it is not labelled. The second edition OS map (1897 -1913) shows the end of the road had been widened, with the removal of the buildings that had lined the west side and their replacement by the 1889 church and grounds. This formed the widest section of the central street of Kilmallock, which survives as such today.

A test excavation was carried out on Sheares Street as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (S. McCutcheon, 98E0538). At the site of the Gate, a cobbled surface was found, together with evidence of modern disturbance, but no remains of the gate or wall

Site of St John's Gate, looking south

Extract from Joanes' map c.1600, showing St John's Gate (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

were seen. Test excavations in 2007 exposed a stone feature at the junction with the Glenfield Road (S. McCutcheon, *pers. comm.* 2008).
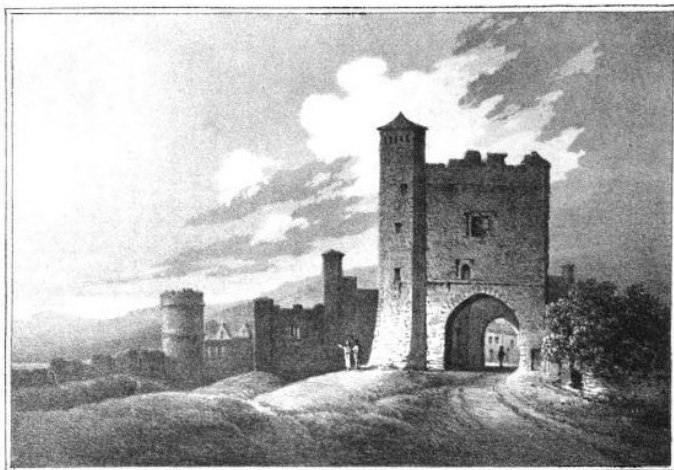
View of North Gate by Alfred Nicholson, 1822 (after Croker, 1824)
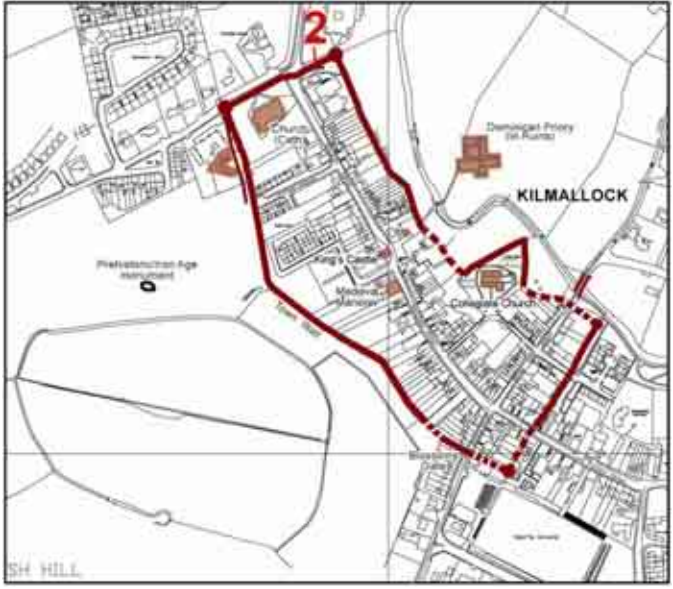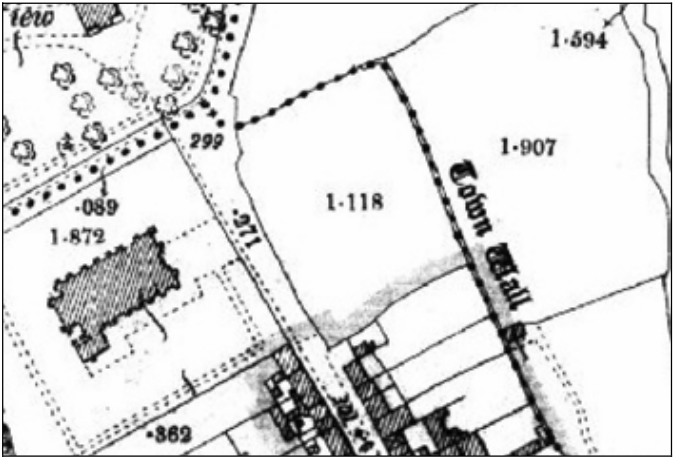
Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)
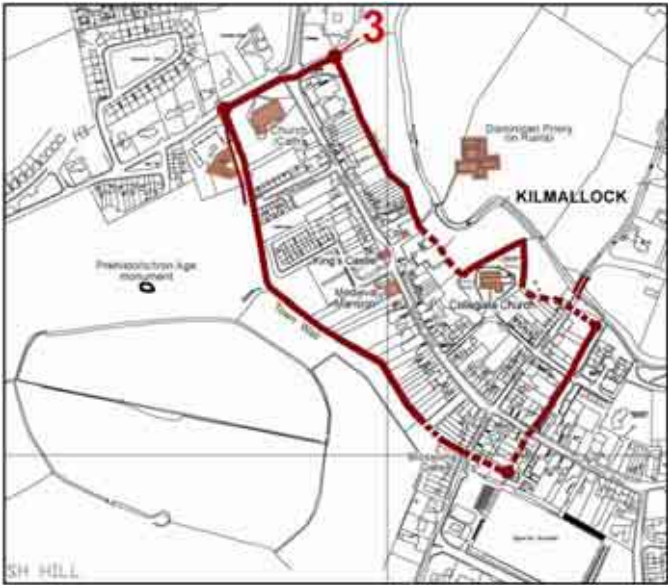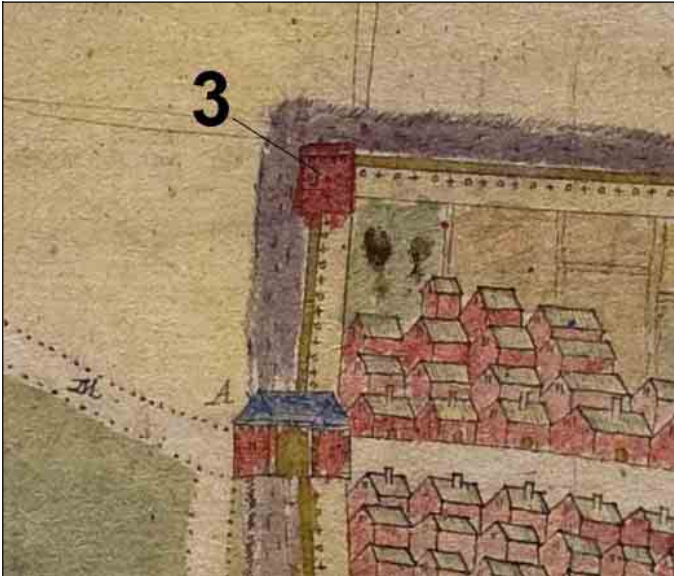
Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the gate and the condition of any below-ground remains is unknown.
Historical Significance	• St. John's Gate was the main north entrance to medieval Kilmallock, but this entrance is no longer evident. • The gate formed part of an extension to the north end of medieval Kilmallock, replacing the previous main north entrance to the town at King's Castle.
Vulnerability	• No visible traces of the gate or the Town Wall survive at this location and the road has been widened, thereby changing the streetscape from medieval times. • All sense of the north entrance to a walled town has been lost. • There may be remains of the gate surviving below-ground, which could be impacted during intrusive works in this location.
Guidance Notes	• The site of St. John's Gate has National Monument status and therefore planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works (for example the provision of services), in case of the presence of below-ground remains. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* of any discovered remains and/or recording of those remains. • Marking out or representation of the site of the gate or Town Wall through appropriate means would aid understanding of this section of the defences of Kilmallock.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished. Croker, T.C. 1824 *Researches in the South of Ireland*, London. McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998,* 134, Bray. Westropp, T.J. 1904-05 'A Survey on the Ancient Churches of the County of Limerick', *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy volume 25: 327-480.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 2	**Location:**
Zone: North	

Feature Name: North Town Wall between St John's Gate and North-East Tower

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 4-5: 14th – 15th century
Demolition - Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
The eastern section of the north Town Wall is shown in Nicholson's view of the North Gate (Gazetteer no. 1 - Croker, 1824).

The line of the eastern Town Wall is indicated by a dotted line on the first edition OS map (1829-41), which also represents a townland boundary. The townland boundary preserves the line of the Town Wall and extends along the north wall line. There was an external fosse/ditch as indicated on the *c.*1600 Joanes map, but this is no longer visible. This section of the wall was added as part of the medieval extension to the town, from the 14th-15th centuries (Bradley *et al* 1989, 155).

However, with the construction of the Girls' Primary School, the library and the Convent to the north, the Town Wall was removed and a modern wall erected in the late 20th century between the Girls' Primary School and the Convent School to the north. The wall reaches a maximum of *c.*2.5m in height at its east end and is approximately 0.5m wide. The wall is rendered with pebble-dash and may be constructed of breeze block or brick beneath the render. It is capped with chamfered concrete coping slabs.

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Extract from Joanes' map c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no standing remains of the Town Wall surviving at this location. It has been replaced by a modern wall, but remains of the original wall may survive below-ground.
Historical Significance	This section of the wall marks the eastern part of the extension to the north end of medieval Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	Above-ground remains of the medieval wall no longer survive. There may be below-ground remains that could be impacted during intrusive works. The existing modern wall is likely to be constructed on the remains of the Town Wall.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works near the line of the wall, in case of the presence of below-ground remains, and to preserve the existing boundary line representing the line of the wall. • This section of the Town Wall forms part of the National Monument of Kilmallock and mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and/or recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished. Croker, T. C. 1824 *Researches in the South of Ireland.* London.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 3	**Location:**

Zone: North

Feature Name: North-East Tower (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 4-5: 14th – 16th century
Demolition - Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
The North-East Tower was added as part of the medieval extension to the town, possibly in the 14th – 15th century (Bradley *et al* 1989, 155).

Evidence for a tower in this position comes from Joanes's map, dating to *c.*1600, where the tower is shown as square in shape with possible crenellations.

The tower is absent from the first edition OS map (1829-41) indicating it had been removed by the early to mid 19th century.

The site of the tower is occupied by the modern boundary wall of the Girls' Primary School and the Convent, constructed in the late 20th century.

Extract from Joanes' map c.1600, showing North-East Tower (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Pier at east end of boundary wall, looking north-west

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the tower remaining. The condition of any surviving below-ground remains is unknown.
Historical Significance	The site of the north-east tower marks the corner of the extension to the north end of medieval Kilmallock and the location of a strategic point in the defences of the town.

Vulnerability	Above-ground remains of the medieval tower are no longer present. There may be below-ground remains that could be impacted during intrusive works.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals for intrusive works near the line of the wall, in case of the presence of below-ground remains.
	• The site of the tower forms part of a National Monument and mitigation of any works that might include repairs to the wall should include preservation *in situ* and the recording of any discovered remains, and visual representation of results through published or display sources.
	• The exterior of the site is currently a greenfield site and this should remain.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished.
	Croker, T. C. 1824 *Researches in the South of Ireland.* London.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 4	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: East Town Wall between North-East Tower and Friar's Gate

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 4: 14th – 15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 5: 16th – 17th century; Phase 6: 18 – 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The north section of the east Town Wall extends south-eastwards from the angle where the north-east tower once stood. This wall section encloses the Girls' Primary School. This section of the wall was added as part of the medieval extension to the town.

This section of the Town Wall is shown on the *c.*1600 Joanes map and the first and second editions of the OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913). On Joanes' map, the wall is shown as reaching almost the full height of the North-East Tower. A thick line marks the top of the wall in a stylised perspective view, with crosses and circles below. The crosses may represent features close to the top of the wall, for example crenellations or cross-bow loops.

For the initial 50m from the north-east corner, the wall has been largely rebuilt, incorporating modern concrete blocks. However remains of the original wall may survive below-ground or above ground, behind the concrete blocks. The ground level of the interior reaches the top of the wall, whereas the external ground level is 1-2m further below in places.

Approximately 50m from the north-east corner, a stone-built wall survives on top of a wider, rebuilt plinth, which has been patched in places with modern concrete blocks and panels. The stone-built wall is constructed of un-coursed rough limestone blocks, and largely hidden behind extensive trees and shrubs. This construction continues at least as far as the battered step in the wall.

An east-west boundary wall from Sheares' Street, meets the Town Wall at right-angles. Roughly-dressed stones mark the end of the boundary wall at this junction and may represent one side of an opening in the Town Wall. A line of buildings is shown on the second edition OS map, aligned along the east-west boundary wall that led from Sheares Street to the Town Wall, one of which survives.

The next section of the Town Wall to the south has been replaced by concrete panels that step out to the east of
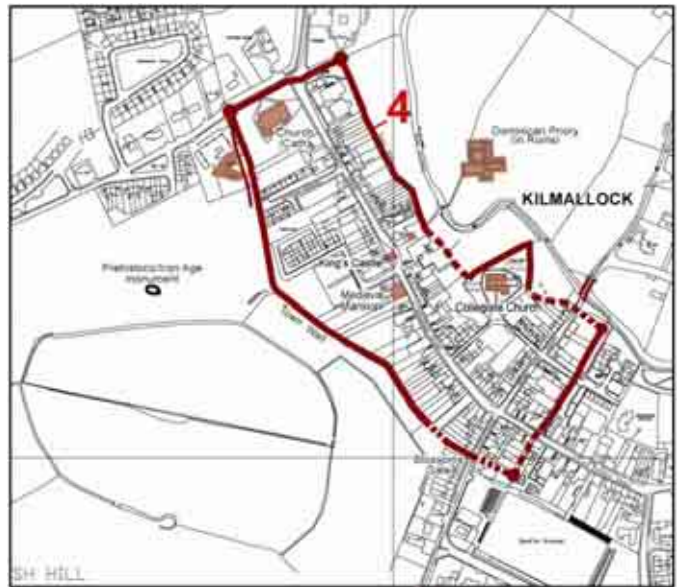
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

the alignment. Remains of the medieval wall may survive below-ground or behind the concrete panels.

The Town Wall continues south and at a point approximately level with No. 31 Sheares Street, it steps out by 1.9m to the east. The exterior face is battered and dressed stones are situated at the corner of the batter (see photograph). The batter may have been part of a small guard house, but there is no evidence on the historic maps. The wall is reinforced with concrete panelling as far as the battered section and has been repointed in places.

The Town Wall between this section and the site of Friar's Gate (Gazetteer no. 5) becomes very overgrown in places and is largely un-coursed. Roughly-shaped blocks mark the top of sections of building lifts, showing phases of the Town Wall's construction. The ground level is significantly lower on the exterior than on the interior (*c.* 2-4m difference), which is probably created by a build up of deposits on the interior, but may also reflect the influence of the external fosse or ditch. The Town Wall forms the eastern boundary of properties along Sheares Street.

Archaeological investigations of the Town Wall were made in properties to the east of Sheares Street, on behalf of Limerick County Council (Hodkinson and O'Rahilly, 97E0002). The town wall survived below-ground on the interior. A concrete boundary wall was built on the exterior face of the town wall. In places the retaining wall had collapsed, exposing the rubble core and exterior facing stones of the Town Wall. The core was noted to have been bonded with clay.

The area *c.*4m from the wall face, has been largely affected by landscaping, dumping and vegetation growth, masking evidence for the fosse. Further out from the wall, the ground has been landscaped to provide a recreation area for the secondary school.

Section of Town Wall along school boundary, looking south

Battered step in alignment of Town Wall, looking south-east
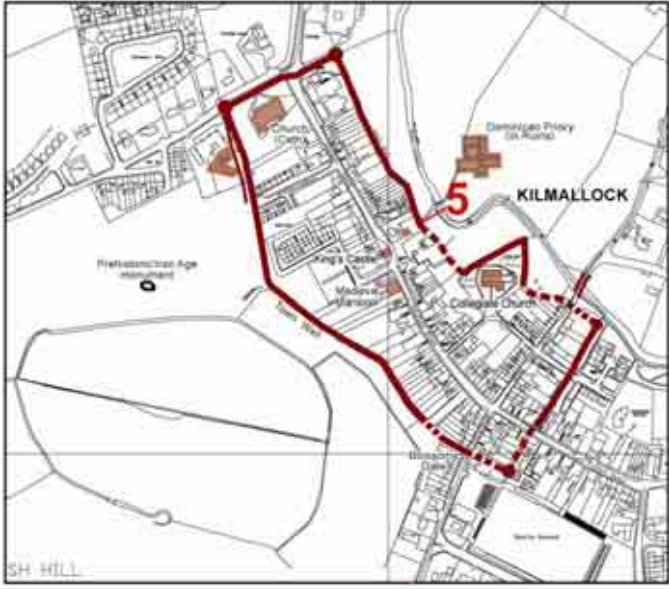
Dressed stones at corner of batter, looking south

East-west boundary wall at junction with Town Wall, looking south-west

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	• Modern application of concrete panelling may allow water to be trapped behind it, encouraging freeze-thaw damage. The panelling might pull material away from the wall, due to the strength of its bonding, encouraging collapse of the original material. • Vegetation has been allowed to take hold of the wall, causing loosening of the stones. • The build-up of soil against the internal surface of the wall encourages ground water to penetrate, which could add to freeze-thaw damage. • Some sections of the wall towards the north end have been entirely replaced.
Historical Significance	• The north-east section of the Town Wall marks part of the extension to the north end of medieval Kilmallock. • The battered section may be the remains of a defensive feature or opening, now lost.
Vulnerability	• The concrete panelling is unsympathetic and may add to the deterioration of the wall. • Vegetation growth needs to be controlled, superficial hand removal and removal of larger growth is required, together with repair work. • No consent should be given to intrusive works in the environs of the town wall. The majority of this section of wall forms boundaries of individual private properties inside the wall, which can create lead to an inconsistency in maintenance work.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works, in case of the presence of below-ground remains within the 15 - 20m buffer zone (*Kilmallock Local Area Plan* 2002, 45) surrounding the wall. This may include repairs to the wall, provision of services, alterations to properties on the interior of the wall. • This section of the Town Wall forms part of the National Monument of Kilmallock and mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or displayed sources. • A combined effort of monitoring of the condition of the wall and vegetation growth should be used to highlight sections requiring repairs and maintenance as quickly as possible. Where appropriate, more sympathetic materials should be applied to replace the concrete applications. • The protection of the Town Wall in the *Kilmallock Local Area Plan* includes a margin of 20m to either side of the Town Wall for proposed buildings and 15m for other developments (2002, 45) and the undeveloped nature of the exterior of the wall should be preserved.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished Hodkinson, B. 1996 *Trial Trenching at Sheares Street, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.* Limerick County Council 2002 *Kilmallock Local Area Plan.* O'Rahilly, C. 1998 'Sheares Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1997,* 115, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 5	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: Friar's Gate (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 3: 13th century
Demolition - Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
Friar's Gate was situated to the east of King's Castle, which may have been the site of the original north gate of Kilmallock, prior to the extension of the town. Therefore Friar's Gate may have marked the original north-east corner of the town.

Friar's Gate could have been built soon after the construction of the Priory in 1291, after the 1308 murage grant and probably before the 1375 murage grant.

Joanes' *c.*1600 map shows the Friar's Gate as a single tower, smaller than Water Gate and possibly without a gatehouse (Thomas 1982, 134). The gate appears to be on the exterior of the Town Wall, which turns east to the north of the gate.

There is no trace of the Friar's Gate surviving above ground. However, a lane runs from the south end of Sheares Street by the King's Castle, east towards the bridge to the Priory, lined on the north side by cottages. The gate would have been situated at the east end of this lane, west of the river crossing. Joanes' map and the first edition OS map (1829-41) show a large building on the west riverbank at the east end of the lane. It is described on the first edition OS map as a Roman Catholic chapel. The building is removed by the second edition OS map (1897-1913).

A test excavation was completed at the site of the gate as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (McCutcheon, 2000). A cobbled layer was seen following the slope from west to east towards the river but no traces of Town Wall or Friar's Gate were seen. The east end of the lane has since been altered by the addition of a modern concrete ramp and car park.
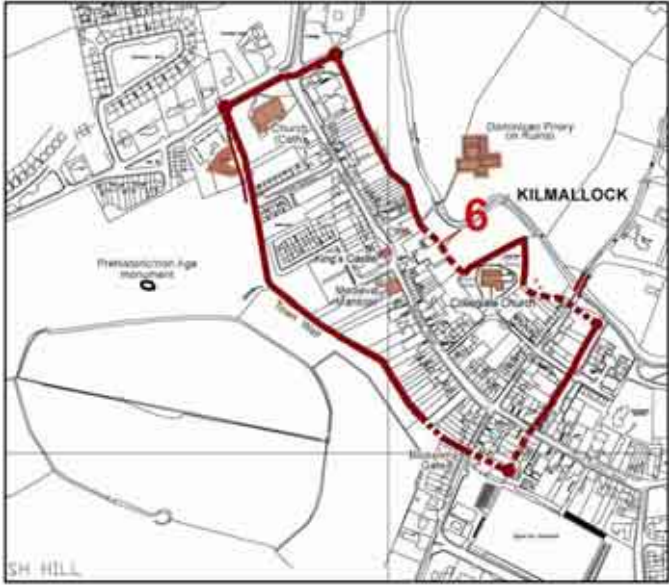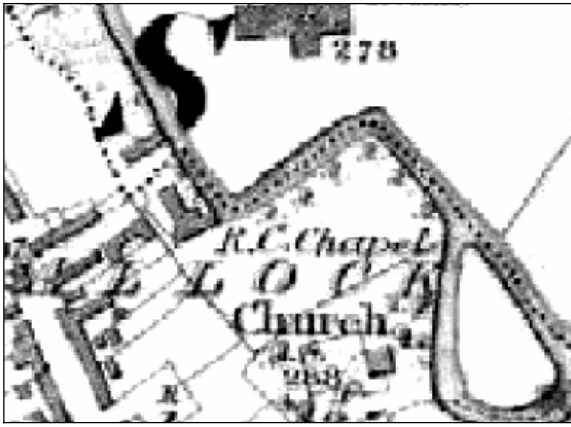
View from the site of Friar's Gate, looking east, with line of wall behind camera

Site of Friar's Gate, looking west (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)
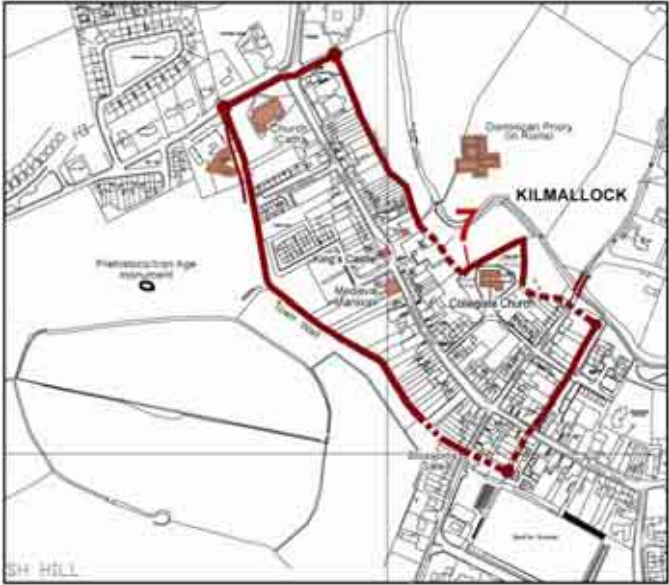
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no elements of the gate surviving above-ground and the condition of any surviving below-ground remains is unknown.
Historical Significance	• The site of the Friar's Gate marks the boundary between the Town Wall and the bridge to the Priory. • The site also represents the original north-east corner of the town, prior to its medieval extension.
Vulnerability	• There may be surviving below-ground remains that could be impacted during intrusive works, for example remodelling or path leading to the river crossing. • The sense of crossing from the interior of the walled town to the exterior has been lost.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works near the line of the wall, in case of the presence of below-ground remains. • The site of the Friar's Gate forms part of the National Monument of Kilmallock and mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.
References	McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998,* 134, Bray. Thomas, A. 1982 *Walled Towns of Ireland, volume 2.* Dublin.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 6	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: East Town Wall between Friar's Gate and archway by Collegiate Church

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction - Phase 2: 13th century
Demolition – Phase 6 - 7: 19th – 20th century

Background and Description:
This section of the Town Wall may have been constructed in the first phase of wall-building. From the Friar's Gate, southwards, the river replaces the fosse as an additional defence.

The Town Wall as shown on Joanes' *c.* 1600 map has a narrow wall-walk represented by the double line along the top and markings below may indicate cross-bow loops.

Site of Town Wall, replaced by modern buildings, looking west

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

The first edition OS map (1829-41) shows the Town Wall as a continuous line between the site of Friar's Gate and the boundary wall of the Collegiate Church. The line of the townland boundary leaves the Town Wall at Friar's Gate and instead follows the river, as a dotted line on the OS map.

The second edition OS map (1897-1913) shows boundaries of three properties, with the central property slightly shorter than the two to either side.

The wall and its line have largely been interrupted by the presence of industrial buildings situated between Sheares Street and the river. However, there may be traces surviving below-ground of the wall.

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the Town Wall and the condition of any surviving below-ground remains is not known.
Historical Significance	This section of the wall marks part of the east boundary of the town.
Vulnerability	There may be below-ground remains that could be impacted during intrusive works in the vicinity of the line of the wall.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works near the line of the wall, in case of the presence of below-ground remains. • This section of the Town Wall forms part of the National Monument and mitigation of works should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	Gregory, N. 2004 in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, Bray. McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998,* 134, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000,* 192, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 7	**Location:**
Zone: East	

Feature Name: Archway by Collegiate Church

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th – mid 13th century or Phase 3: mid to late 13th century
Alteration – Phase 4: 14th -15th century; Phase 6: 18th - 19th century

Background and Description:
A monastic settlement dedicated to St. Mocheallóg, with a round tower, was located in this section of Kilmallock from pre-Anglo-Norman times.   This church was replaced by the current church building dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul (constructed in the 13th century) and incorporated the round tower. The early monastic site may have been enclosed and the line of this boundary subsumed into the later town defences.

To the east of the return in the Town Wall, is a blocked archway, lined with coarsely-shaped stone voussoirs on either side, constructed possibly with the purpose of providing an extra-mural route from the church to the Priory.

The interior side of the arch has been converted into a shrine, with a statue of the Virgin, as part of the church graveyard. The internal arch is approximately 2.5m in width and 2-2.5m in height. The external arch is less than 2m in width and 1-1.75m in height.

The exterior face of the arch is pointed, similar to the arches of the 14th century Priory, whereas the interior face of the arch is a wider, four-centred arch of 15th century style.

The archway and any corresponding exterior path are not indicated on Joanes' map of *c.*1600, although, what looks like a flat-headed archway is set internally at the return of the wall, together with what might be a set of steps or ladder, possibly leading to the wall walk.

The archway is absent from the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913) and the second edition map shows a kink in the church boundary wall at the location of the arch, which is close to the round tower of the Church.

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Exterior side of arch, looking south-east
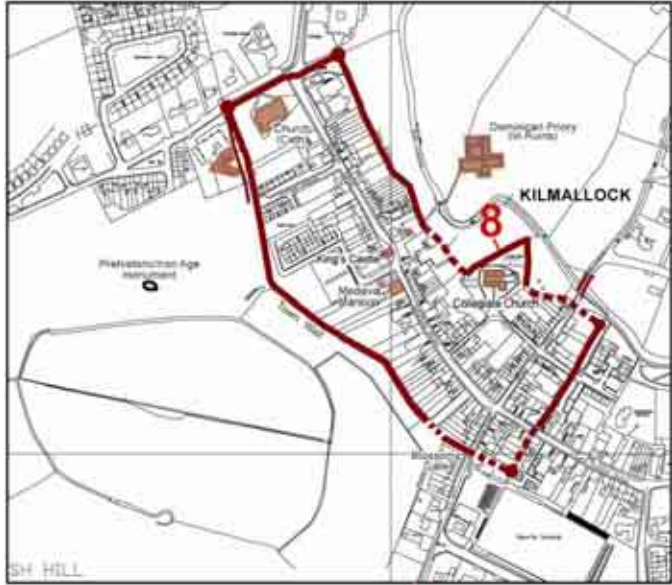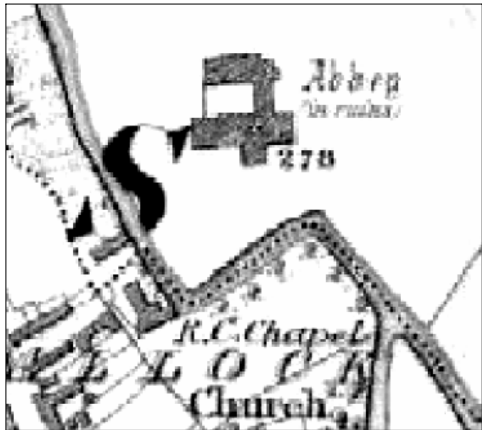
Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Archway in north boundary wall of Collegiate Church, looking north-west

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	The archway appears to be intact, although the concrete panelling may be trapping water that could result in freeze-thaw damage.
Historical Significance	A possible entrance in the boundary wall of the church, leading to an extra-mural route to the Priory.
Vulnerability	• The concrete blocking of the archway and its conversion into a shrine limits the understanding of the purpose of the opening. • The application of the concrete blocking to the archway may trap water, encouraging freeze-thaw damage. • Landfill is located on the exterior of the archway.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works in the vicinity of the wall and archway. • The archway forms part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • The condition of the wall and vegetation growth should be monitored.

| **GAZETTEER NUMBER: 8** | **Location:** |

Zone: East

Feature Name: North and east boundary walls of Collegiate Church

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phases 1 and 2: 10th -12th century
Alteration – Phase 3: 13th century; Phase 4: 14th – 15th century; Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The line of the Town Wall returns to the east where it forms the boundary wall of the Collegiate Church. This return is evident as a standing stone wall, recently repaired, cleaned and re-pointed. From the repaired section, the wall continues east with evidence of 19th century repair in the form of crenellations applied in fresh blocks along the top of the wall. The Town Wall incorporates the archway (Gazetteer no.7) where the top of the wall has become fragmented. The remains of a possible wall-walk parapet are visible as stone blocks along the exterior edge, which protrude higher than the interior edge. However, the wall is less than 1m thick at this point. From the archway, the Town Wall is reduced in height and width.

The wall then returns to the south, also forming the eastern boundary wall of the Collegiate Church. The wall is very overgrown at the north end, with roots entangled around the top surface stones, which have come loose. The wall narrows from c.1m to 0.6m, as the interior face has been removed in a stepped section. The undressed faces of stones are visible along the top of the interior face to the south of the section and may form the remains of the wall-walk. The core has been re-faced with new stones and re-pointing and is supported by a buttress, as repairs dating to the 19th century.

The height diminishes to less than 2m towards the south end, which is rebuilt with neatly formed crenellations, dating to the 19th century. The wall returns to its original width to the south and facing stones with galleting survive as pre-19th century construction. Stones were added along the top of the wall, aligned on their ends, in the 19th century. A section of the wall towards the south end is constructed of larger stone blocks that are more neatly shaped and built in courses. Stones protrude from the top of the section as crenellations. This may be a repaired section of wall, dating from 19th century or earlier.

The Town Wall incorporated the church boundary wall and is shown on Joanes' map of c.1600 and the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913). A set of steps or a ladder are located where the wall returns by the riverside, possibly indicating access to a wall walk at

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6'' first edition OS map (1829-41)

this point. The thick black line at the top of the wall may indicate a wall walk and the markings inside the thick line may indicate cross-bow loops or crenellations.

On the exterior side the wall rises to over 4m in height. The area has been infilled at the western end in recent times.

Towards the east end, footings can be seen protruding 0.2m from the base of the wall, which becomes heavily overgrown. As the churchyard wall returns to the south, a low wall continues towards the river, less than 2m in height and capped with concrete and glass bottle insets. This is a boundary wall of the riverside meadow, rather than the Town Wall.

The interior face of the Town Wall contains a second shrine, created out of the removal of stones and highlighted with white paint. This may have been created out of a failing in the interior face, or deliberately. The ground level is higher on the interior and stones have become loosened at the base.

Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Exterior face of wall above archway, looking west

Shrine on interior side of north boundary wall, looking north

Exterior face of north boundary wall, looking south

Interior side of east boundary wall, north end, looking east

Repaired section of east boundary wall towards south end, looking east

Statutory	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.

Protection	
Condition	• The exterior of the wall appears to have been repointed at the bottom in some places, while other sections have become very loose and cracked in others. • From *c.*1.5m above ground level and higher, the wall appears to have been consolidated in the past, with larger shaped blocks set in random courses and repointed with mortar. • Stones have been set in concrete capping along a low section of the wall, less than 2m high, forming crenellations of 19th century date. • The exterior face has fallen away in two areas, revealing the vulnerable rubble core of the wall. In between these areas, ivy has taken hold and may be hiding or causing a third area of loosened stones. • The majority of the wall is capped by grass growing along the top surface and large areas of ivy growth in places. The grass may be adding some protection to the wall, but could encourage more substantial plant growth. • Towards the east end, concrete render has been applied to the face of the wall, behind a grave statue. The height of the wall diminishes to the east end, where it returns to the south and is very overgrown • The previous repairs to the wall have resulted in a change of its character in places. Where cement-based mortars and concrete renders have been applied, the wall has become damaged through freeze-thaw action and facing stones have fallen out, exposing the vulnerable rubble core. • Vegetation has taken hold of sections of the wall and has been left to grow un-checked. • Shrines have been created in the internal face of the wall and from the archway structure.
Historical Significance	• Part of the Town Wall and remains of the boundary wall of the Collegiate Church. • Remains of an archway that may have marked one end of an extra-mural route to the Priory.
Vulnerability	• The creation of a shrine adds a weakness point to the wall. • Sections of the exterior are in urgent need of consolidation and repair where the facing stones have fallen away and the wall has become thinner. • Vegetation has been allowed to grow along the top of the wall and entirely covering it in places. • Later additions of concrete repointing and crenellations have been made.
Guidance Notes	• The exterior is currently under pasture and the field provides the setting for the Town Wall, the church and the nearby Priory and should be zoned appropriately. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • Consolidation works are needed to stabilise the wall. • Vegetation needs to be carefully removed and cut back for the works to be completed. • The wall should be monitored to address any structural problems as soon as possible and to control vegetation growth. • The creation of new niches or shrines in the wall should be forbidden and the existing niche should be examined for stability and if possible, filled.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 9	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: East Town Wall between Collegiate Church and Water Gate

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th - mid 13th century
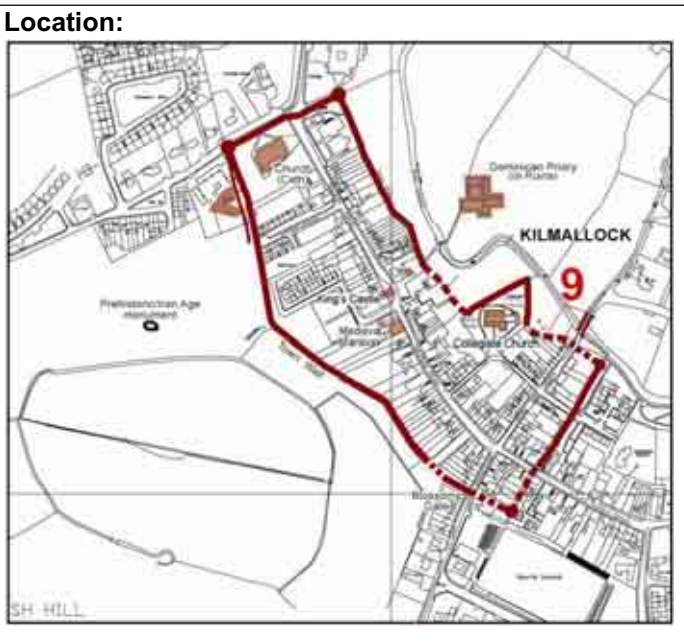Alteration/rebuild – Phase 3: 13th century; Phase 4: 14th century; Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The Town Wall as shown on the *c.*1600 Joanes map follows the line of a western branch of the river, which enclosed an island between it and the main channel of the river. The island now forms the meadow to the east of the churchyard and the east boundary wall of the church sits on the line of the Town Wall. The line of the townland boundary follows the east side of the island, leaving the line of the Town Wall.

The church boundary wall returns west beyond this point and the line of the Town Wall continued south along the riverside. The line of the Town Wall however forms the boundaries of back gardens of houses along Wolfe Tone Street, as seen on Joanes' and the OS maps. On the Joanes map the south-eastern end of modern Orr Street is not existent, rather the street continues from the market cross to the wall and then follows the inside of the wall to Wolfe Tone Street. There are no visible traces of the Town Wall although there may be remains surviving below-ground. A small structure is shown on the exterior face of the wall, which might be a bastion or small postern gate, to guard the crossing to the island in the river.

There would not have been a fosse along the exterior of the wall at this section, due to the presence of the river. The waterway is now overgrown by dense foliage.

*Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)*

Extract from 6'' first edition OS map (1829-41)


Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no elements of this part of the wall surviving above-ground; the condition of any surviving below-ground remains is unknown.
Historical Significance	Part of the Town Wall.
Vulnerability	There may be surviving below-ground remains that could be impacted during intrusive works.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works in proximity to the wall. • The line of the wall is part of a National Monument which may survive below-ground and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 10	**Location:**
Zone: East	

Feature Name: Water Gate (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3: 14th -15th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
The Water Gate allowed controlled access into the Town from the east. There are no traces of the gate visible above-ground. It would have been situated at the east end of Water Street (now Wolfe Tone Street), just west of the bridge. The area surrounding the east end of Wolfe Tone Street and the beginning of the bridge has been redeveloped and resurfaced in the past, removing all above-ground remains.

The gate is shown on the Joanes' *c.* 1600 map with an archway and possibly 2-3 storeys and crenellated parapets, however it is absent from the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913).

Test excavations were carried out at the junction between the street and the bridge, as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (McCutcheon, 2000) and 1999 (O'Connor, 2002a). A rectangular structure was revealed, which was interpreted as the possible remains of the gate. The structure was found to be 'similar in size to the smaller of the two footings of Blossom Gate' (O'Connor 2002a, 42). No remains of the Town Wall were found.
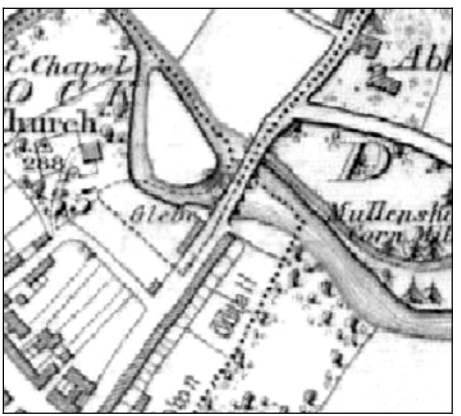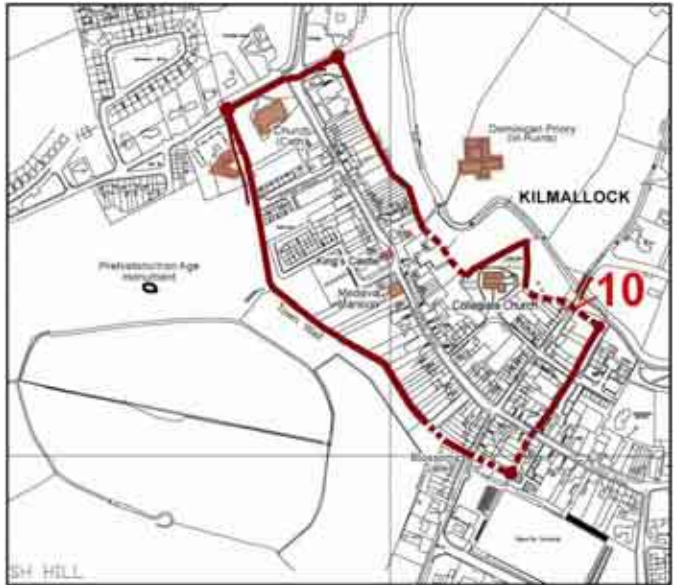
Extract from 6'' first edition OS map (1829-1841)

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)
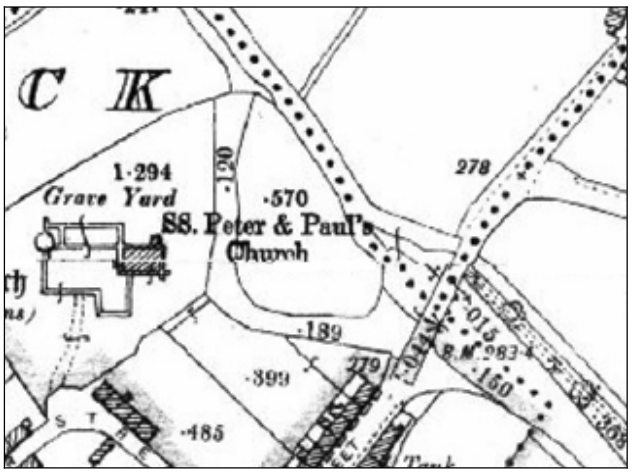
Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Site of Water Gate, looking south-west (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Site of Water Gate, looking north-east (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60–Town Wall; RPS M(47)39i-vi - composition of Wolfe Tone Street and bridge.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the gate, although possible remains of the gate have been observed below-ground.
Historical Significance	This gate marked the main east entrance of Kilmallock, from the river crossing.
Vulnerability	• Elements of the gate may survive below-ground, which could be encountered by intrusive works. • The relationship between the gate and the Town Wall is lost at this location. • The location of a car repair garage to the north of the site has resulted in increased traffic and parking.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works, with respect to the below-ground remains in the location of the gate and undiscovered below-ground remains of the Town Wall to either side of the east end of Wolfe Tone Street. • The gate is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • A display board may be appropriate in this location, to explain the importance of the gate, the bridge and the street as the east entrance to the town. The entrance to the walled town should be indicated on the surface of the road.
References	McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 1998,* 134, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.), *Excavations 2000,* 192, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 11	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: Medieval Bridge

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3 - 4: 13th -15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6:19th century to Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The bridge today has four visible arches, together with the piers of ashlar masonry and the cutwaters on the south face. The bridge is constructed of local limestone. The piers are built of coursed, ashlar blocks, which may be original to the bridge. The arches of the bridge are lined with voussoirs. The parapets are built of uncoursed, rubble stones and coarsely-shaped blocks.

The western-most arch has been raised and the voussoirs replaced by a concrete slab applied to the underside. The arches of the south face are shallow segmental arches, while those of the north face are shallow pointed arches. However, the voussoirs of the north face are relatively fresh and may have been added in the 19th century.

The cutwaters of the south face are constructed of large, dressed blocks of stone with chamfered faces. Plastic piping and concrete capping of the 20th century have been applied on top of the south face cutwaters.

The east half of the parapets have been rebuilt and repointed, possibly in the 19th century, with further rebuilding works on the top of the east end of the parapets, dating to the 20th century. The bridge does still reach from the site of the Water Gate to the junction with the road on the east side, even though the river has narrowed beneath and the arches of the east end are hidden in vegetation.

A bridge is shown on Joanes' map of *c*.1600, with at least 7 arches, possibly 8 arches, crossing the river to the south of the island and leading to the Water Gate. A view by Mulvany (1827) shows a bridge with five arches and a pronounced rise in the centre. Faint traces of chamfered cutwaters at the piers are visible. A photograph from 1890 shows five arches surviving, with a level parapet, as it is today. Pointed cutwaters are present on four of the piers. The east-most cutwater retains its pointed head, while the tops of the other cutwaters have been flattened and the scar of the pointed head of the western-most cutwater is visible.

The bridge is shown on the first edition OS map (1829-41) and second edition OS map (1897-1913).
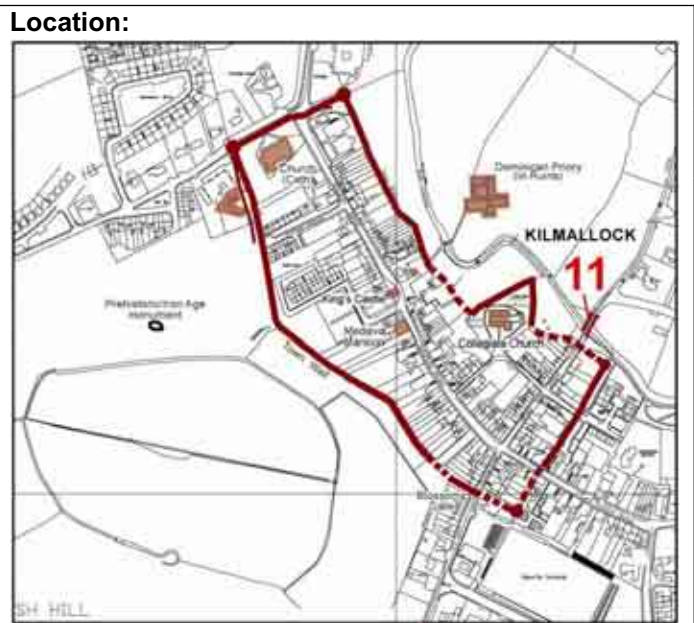
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6'' first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from painting by John Mulvany c.1827, looking north-west (image courtesy of the Hunt Museum, Limerick)

South face of bridge, looking north

'Water Street Bridge', Lawrence 1890, looking west (image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland)

Arches of north face of bridge, looking south-east

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)39i-vi - composition of Wolfe Tone Street and bridge.
Condition	• The cutwaters have been capped with concrete to hold modern pipes, which could put stress on them and the concrete may trap water, leading to freeze-thaw damage. • The concrete lintel slabs replacing the arches of the west end may trap water between them and the superstructure, causing freeze-thaw damage.
Historical Significance	• This bridge exists as the main river crossing into the east of Kilmallock. • Potential viewpoint of the East Wall, Collegiate Church, and Dominican Priory
Vulnerability	• Elements of the bridge may survive from its original construction, although other features have been added for modern purposes, altering the character of the bridge. • The relationship between the Water Gate, the Town Wall and the bridge has been lost. • The location of a car repair garage to the north of the site has resulted in increased traffic and parking.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works in the vicinity of the bridge. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • A display board may be appropriate in this location, to explain the importance of the Water Gate, the bridge and the street as the east entrance to the town.

	Location:

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 12

Zone: East

Feature Name: East Town Wall between the Water Gate and the South-East Tower

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th - mid 13th century or Phase 3: mid to late 13th century
Alteration/rebuild – Phase 4: 14th -15th century; Phase 6: late 19th century demolition.

Background and Description:
The Town Wall extended from the Water Gate, south-eastwards towards the South-East Tower. The standing remains of the wall are no longer present and appear to have been cleared by the 19th century.
The Town Wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 and the first edition OS map (1829-41), but has gone from the second edition OS map (1897-1913). The first edition OS map shows the townland boundary as a dotted line continuing in the river towards the south-east corner. This line is to the east of the line of the Town Wall.

Joanes' map of *c.*1600 shows the Town Wall leading from the Water Gate to the South-East Tower, with a kink present, approximately half-way along. This angle may have been added to increase the visibility and stability along its course. The thick black line indicates a wall-walk and the markings beside the line may represent cross-bow loops or crenellations.

An archaeological impact assessment of a proposed development at the south-east corner of Wolfe Tone Street (Carroll, 2006) revealed a long section of the Town Wall surviving to two-three courses at the exterior face. The relationship between the Water Gate and the wall was not observed, but the wall was in line with the projected site of the gate.
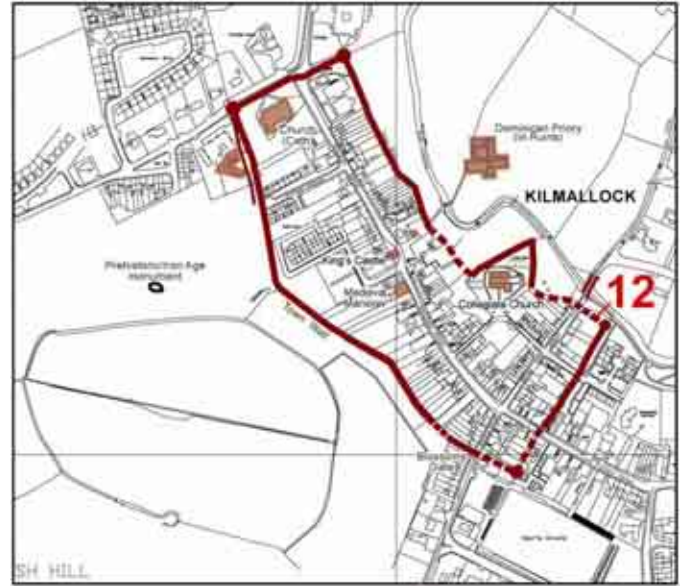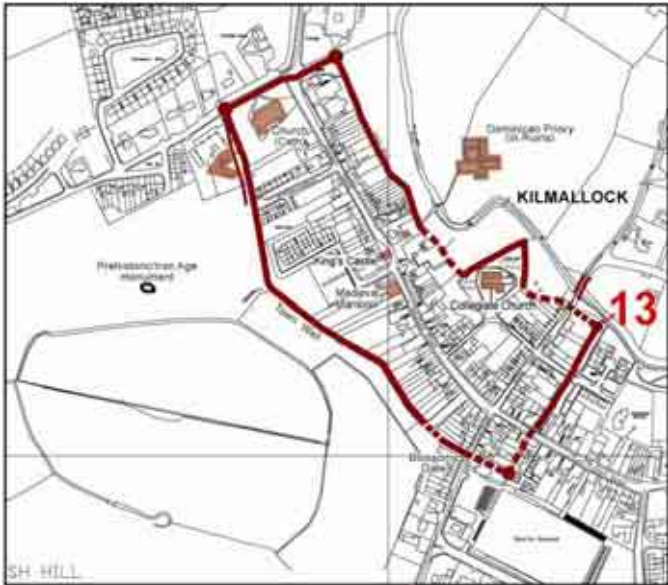
Looking across line of Town Wall, looking north-west

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	The remains of the Town Wall exist below-ground.
Historical Significance	This section of the Town Wall forms part of the east defences of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	The below-ground remains could be impacted during intrusive works in the vicinity of the line of the wall.
Guidance Notes	• Archaeological monitoring should be undertaken prior to any proposed development in the vicinity in accordance with planning conditions. • No development or car-parking should be allowed along the line of the wall, which should be highlighted by a distinctive surface through the development. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	Carroll, M. 2006 *Archaeological Impact Assessment of a Proposed Development at Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock, Limerick.* Tobar Archaeological Services, unpublished.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 13	Location:
Zone: South	

Feature Name: South-East Tower (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4:14th -15th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
No traces of the tower survive above ground and it may have been cleared during the 19th century.

The tower is shown on Joanes' map of *c.* 1600 as having a ground floor entrance, a first floor with two windows, crenellated parapets and a pointed roof. The tower may be curved in plan, as no other side is shown in the perspective view of the map. An exterior ditch is shown. The tower is not shown on the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913).

An archaeological impact assessment of a proposed development at the south-east corner of Wolfe Tone Street (Carroll, 2006) revealed the possible foundation of a D-shaped corner tower abutting the outer face of the eastern Town Wall.

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the tower; remains were found during excavation works that have been interpreted as possibly part of the foundations of the tower.
Historical Significance	This tower formed part of the east defences of Kilmallock, adding to the security of this section of the town.
Vulnerability	Below-ground remains have been interpreted as remains of the tower and could be encountered during any intrusive development in the vicinity.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions dictate that the possible site of a tower is highlighted by an appropriate ground surface. • The site of the tower is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	Carroll, M. 2006 *Archaeological Impact Assessment of a Proposed Development at Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock, Limerick.* Tobar Archaeological Services, unpublished.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 14	Location:

Zone: South

Feature Name: South Town Wall between the South-East Tower and the Ivy Gate

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th -13th century or Phase 3 - 4: mid to late 13th -15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
This section of the Town Wall is very overgrown and diminished in height at the north-east end, but is revealed in places along the exterior face and survives to a height of 1m or more. It is constructed of roughly-shaped limestone blocks, ranging from 0.10 x 0.30m to 0.25 x 0.4m, coursed in places and uncoursed elsewhere. Gaps between the stones reveal the loss of original mortar, and concrete capping and mortar has been applied along the top of the wall in places.

The exterior of the wall is flanked by a grass verge and path that leads south-west, from the riverbank. A wide shallow ditch was recorded *c.*22m from the face of the wall from the river to the road to a Health Centre. Joanes map also shows a ditch.

The interior face of the Town Wall forms the boundaries of properties fronting onto Wolfe Tone Street, including a disused school building and a plot on the corner, now empty, where the ground level was found to be considerably lower on the internal side of the wall. The ground level also rises from the west bank of the river, ascending towards the south-west.

The Town Wall continues west, where it is interrupted by Deebert Place, a north-south street that was constructed in the late 1990s, to join Wolfe Tone Street to the Mid-West Health Centre. The wall to the west of the road was repaired in the 21st century.

On the west side of Deebert Place, the wall continues as a concrete-capped boundary wall, before becoming the south wall of a stone-built house with a single storey shed attached. The wall has collapsed in places and concrete panelling and render have been applied. Within the wall of the house, the wall bulges outwards, possibly forming a chimneystack. Large, irregular stones protrude outwards from the exposed rubble core of the wall, where the external face has been lost.

To the west of the house, the wall consists of rectangular
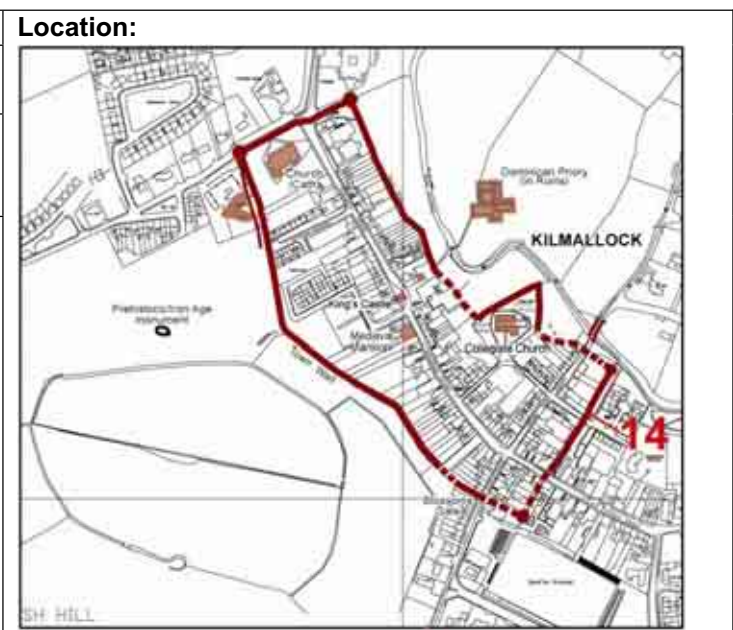
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

and other unshaped stones, with concrete capping and applied concrete re-pointing in places. The wall continues west, through property boundaries, towards Lord Edward Street and may form the north wall of the public house on the street front.

Joanes' *c.* 1600 map shows the Town Wall on a straight line from the South-East Tower to the Ivy Gate. The thick black line may indicate a wall-walk and an object shown approximately half-way along the exterior of the wall may be a set of steps up to the walk. The first edition OS map (1829-41) shows the dotted line of the townland boundary along the line of the Town Wall, which is labelled and open land with trees is located to the exterior of the wall. The second edition OS map (1897-1913) shows plot boundaries leading to the interior face of the Town Wall, with two buildings built up against it. The land to the exterior of the wall was divided into larger plots and two buildings extended from Lord Edward Street, back to abut the exterior face of the wall.

Archaeological investigations were carried out prior to the construction of Deebert Place (O'Donovan, 1997). A short section of the Town Wall was identified, which stood approximately 1.5m on the exterior and 3.29m on the interior, due to lower internal ground levels. The thickness of the wall ranged from 1.5m at the base to 1m towards the top of the surviving section. The wall was found to be constructed of coursed, shaped limestone blocks measuring 0.45 x 0.45 x 0.7m. O' Donovan noted this section of the surviving original Town Wall as 'Phase 1', with 'Phase 2' comprising a thinner wall abutting the south-west face of the Town Wall, constructed of rectangular limestone blocks of 0.11 x 0.12-0.35 x 0.3m and later in date. The 'Phase 3' wall is an extension to the top of the 'Phase 2' wall, constructed of limestone blocks bonded with cement-based mortar, possibly of modern date and 'Phase 4' comprising a concrete cavity wall at the north-east end of the site. Ditches were also identified on the exterior of the Town Wall on the line of the fosse.

Monitoring was carried out to the north-east of O'Donovan's site, by O'Connor (2002a) as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme and a single course of the Town Wall was revealed, as a continuation of the 'Phase 1' Town Wall. In addition, two ditches were found running parallel to the exterior of the Town Wall, one of which was of substantial width and was considered to be defensive (Wiggins 2004, 327).

Extract from 25'' second edition OS map (1897-1913)

North-east end of wall, overgrown, looking north-west

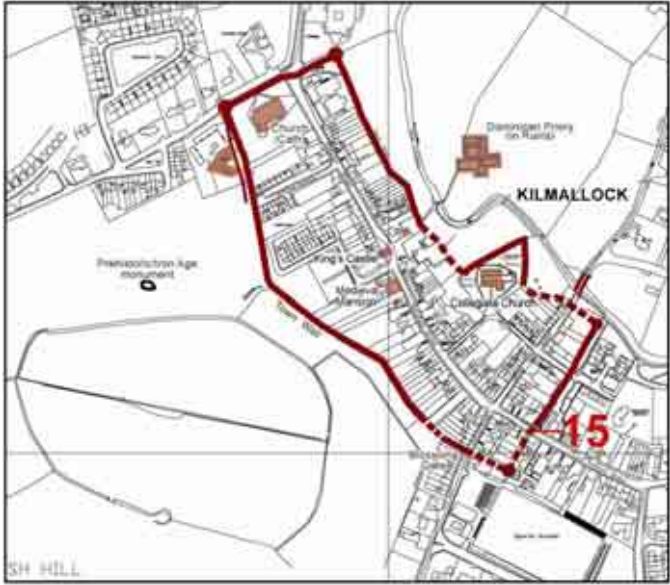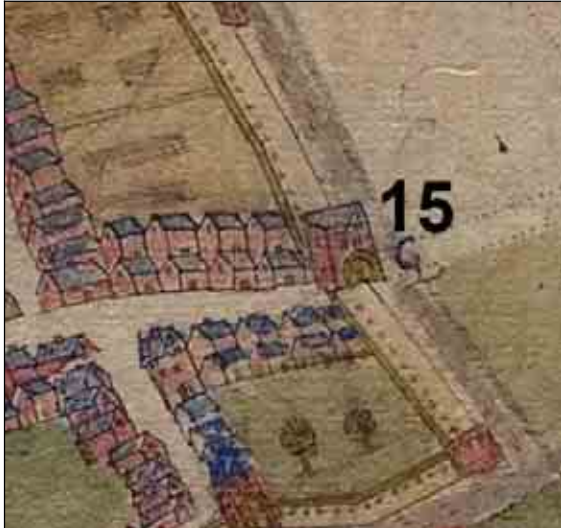*Exterior face of wall by house, looking north*

South-west end of wall, looking north-west

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	• Facing stones have fallen out, exposing the vulnerable rubble core. • Vegetation has taken substantial hold of sections of the wall and the build-up of flora debris against the exterior face may encourage water ingress. • The wall has been repointed in places, which may result in water being trapped inside and causing freeze-thaw damage. • Sections of the wall have been incorporated into houses, which may add protection to the external face but the treatment of the internal face is not known.
Historical Significance	This section of wall forms part of the south defences of Kilmallock and is incorporated into the town buildings.
Vulnerability	• At the west end the wall forms part of actual buildings located along its internal and external faces and have been repaired with cement-based mortar and concrete render in the past. • The internal faces may be vulnerable to unmonitored works. • The remains of the wall that survive may be further impacted during intrusive development, or removal of the adjoining buildings, should that occur.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to proposals of any intrusive works near the line of the wall. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • The creation of further breaks in the Town Wall should not be allowed.
References	McCutcheon, S. 2003 *'*Orr Street / Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2001,* 234, Bray. O'Callaghan, N. 2007 *'*Kilmallock*'* in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004,* 244, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 192, Bray. O'Donovan, E. 1998 'Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*, 115-6, Bray. O'Donovan, E. 1998a *'*Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock*'* in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1997*, 116, Bray. Wiggins, K. 2004 *'*Lord Edward Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 327, Bray. Wiggins, K. 2004 *'*Lord Edward Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 327-328, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 15

Zone: South

Feature Name: Ivy Gate (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th - early 13th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
There are no standing remains of the Ivy Gate. A plaque on the bank building says "AIB Town Wall, Site of Ivy Gate". The bank building has a relief carving bearing the date of 1877 and its construction may have removed the remains of the Ivy Gate. The public house, which incorporates part of the Town Wall, is shown on the second edition OS map and may be contemporary with the bank building.

The gate is shown on Joanes *c.* 1600 map as square in plan, with two storeys, a flat roof and an archway. The Town Wall meets the tower at either side. However the gate is absent from the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913) and may have been demolished during the 19th century.

Advance archaeological test investigations were completed as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (McCutcheon, 2000) and they revealed a section of the Town Wall running north-east to south-west, crossing Lord Edward Street. During the subsequent monitoring works a cobbled surface was observed adjacent to the wall and the remains of a 1.1m wide second wall, outside and at right angles to the Town Wall, which was interpreted as the base of the gate (O'Connor 2002a, 46).

Location:

Extract of Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)
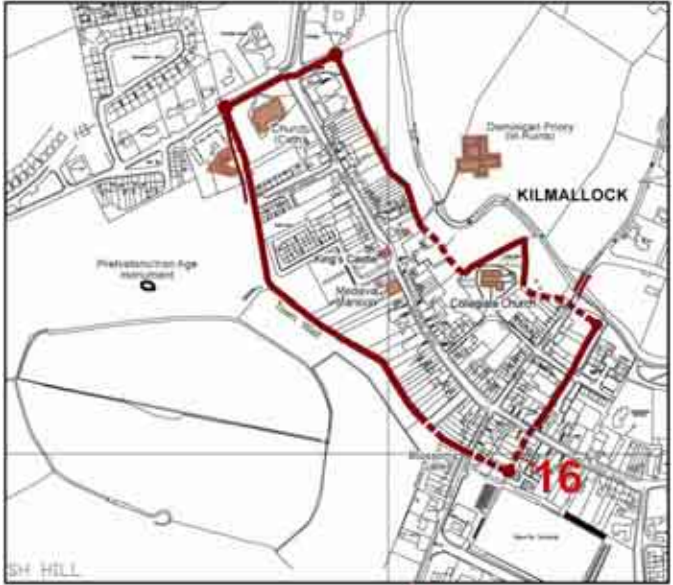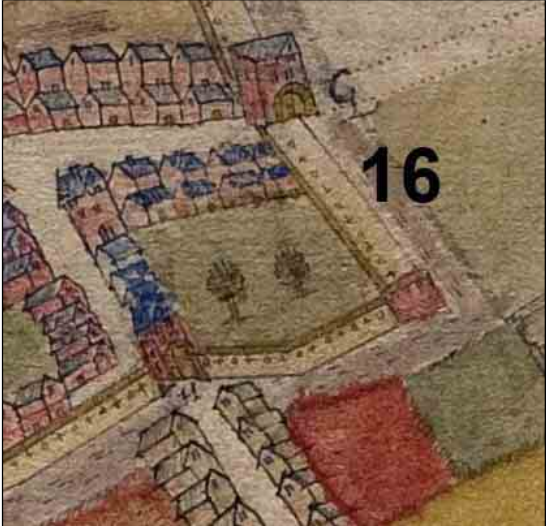
Site of Ivy Gate, looking north (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Site of Ivy Gate, looking east

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the Ivy Gate, although below-ground archaeological deposits have been interpreted as the possible remains of the gate tower.
Historical Significance	This gate formed the south entrance of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	There is no surviving indication of the south entrance into the town and the impression of this has been lost.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of intrusive works near the line of the wall, in case of the presence of below-ground remains. • Archaeological monitoring was completed prior to the urban renewal of this location to satisfy planning conditions. • The site of the gate is part of a National Monument and mitigation should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	McCutcheon, S. 2000 *'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock'* in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 134, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 192, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 16	Location:

Zone: South

Feature Name: South Town Wall between Ivy Gate and the South-West Tower

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: early 12th century or Phase 3-4: 13th -15th century

Background and Description:
The line of the Town Wall is marked by the north wall of a 19th century mineral water complex on the west side of Lord Edward Street. The initial length of the boundary wall is constructed of concrete blocks and thereafter it is a stone wall with courses of brick on the top.

Property boundaries from the late 19th century meet the interior face of the wall. A straight joint in the exterior face of the wall may relate to one of the internal property boundaries. To the west of the straight joint, the wall continues as limestone blocks bonded with mortar, up to 1.5m in height, with brick additions above.

A modern housing development is situated to the west of the brick-topped section, on the exterior of the wall, with a space of c.1m between. From this point to the west end, the wall has been re-pointed and possibly rebuilt during the 19th century or later, judging by the fresh appearance of the limestone blocks.

Prior to the construction of the housing development, the exterior face had been abutted by 19th century buildings (for example, shown on the 1988 OS map), which may account for the varying nature of the wall surface.

The interior face is largely overgrown but also appears to be constructed of un-coursed limestone rubble and is approximately 4m in height. The ground level is slightly lower on the interior side of the wall. This section of the Town Wall is less than 1m thick, indicating a later rebuild.

The wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 and the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913). The dotted line of the townland boundary runs along the line of this section of the Town Wall. During the late 19th century, plot boundaries ran to the interior face of the Town Wall.

Archaeological investigations were completed as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (98E0538), which revealed a section of the Town Wall, running north-east to south-west, crossing Lord Edward Street, which became fragmented towards the south side of the street. The wall was c.1.3m wide at its most complete and up to three

Extract of Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

courses high and was interpreted as part of the Town Wall (O'Connor, 2002a).

Site investigations prior to the construction of a housing development revealed that the existing wall is built on and flush with the inner face of the Town Wall, which is preserved to ground level or just below. Evidence for the fosse was also recorded (Carroll, 2007).

Line of Town Wall, looking west

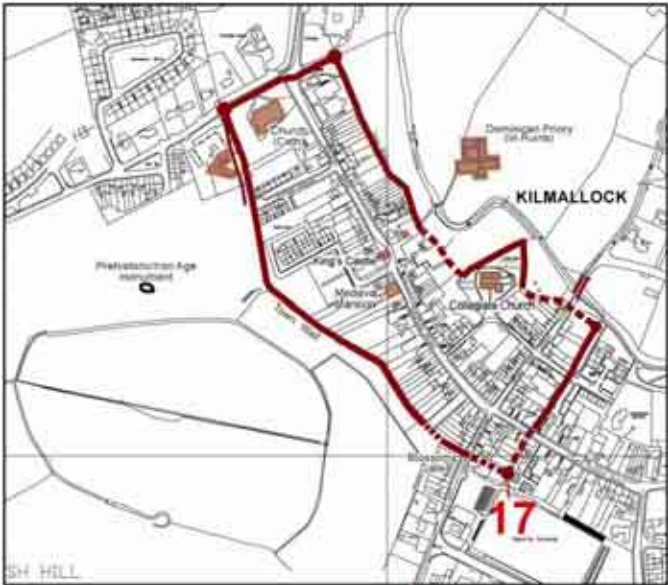*Exterior face of wall, looking north-west*

West end of Town Wall, looking north-west

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M6-Town Wall.
Condition	Elements of the original wall may survive, incorporated in the existing structure which contains 19th and 20th century brick and repointing.
Historical Significance	This section of the wall formed the south boundary of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	• The upstanding wall maintains the line of the original Town Wall, which may be more complete below-ground. • The interior face is largely neglected and overgrown.
Guidance Notes	• The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • Vegetation should be removed or cut back from the interior face of the wall and consolidation works carried out. • A scheme of monitoring the condition of the wall and vegetation growth should be implemented.
References	Carroll, M. 2007 'Lord Edward Street, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2004*, 244-5, Bray. McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 134, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000,* 192, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 17	Location:

Zone: South

Feature Name: South-West Tower (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3-4: 13th -15th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
There are no standing remains of the tower, although there may be remains surviving below-ground. The tower is shown on Joanes' map of *c*. 1600 as square in plan with a crenellated parapet. The Town Wall meets the tower at either side. The tower is absent from the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913) so it was demolished before the 19th century.

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Extract of Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

South-west corner, external view (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no standing remains of the tower.
Historical Significance	The tower formed the south-west corner of the defences of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	Below-ground remains of the tower may be impacted should any intrusive works be carried out.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works on the location of the tower or adjoining wall line. • The site of the tower is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 18	**Location:**

Zone: West

Feature Name: West Town Wall between South-West Tower and Blossom Gate

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th – 13^{h} century or Phase 3-4: 13th -15th century

Background and Description:
The line of the Town Wall survives as modern property boundaries.

The wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c*.1600 as leading from the South-West Tower to Blossom Gate, with a thick black line along the top edge, possibly representing a wall-walk. Marks below the black line might represent cross bow loops or crenellations.

On the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913) the dotted line of the townland boundary runs along the line of this section of the Town Wall. The dotted line dog-legs around a larger building, below which the word 'Smithy' is positioned. There may be a possibility that if the dotted line represents the line of the Town Wall, then the site of this building might have marked a feature in the town defences.

During the late 19th century, the street-fronting properties of Emmett Street extend for approximately half of the distance towards the Town Wall, with larger open blocks of property leading south to the wall line.

Line of Town Wall from Blossom Gate, looking south-east
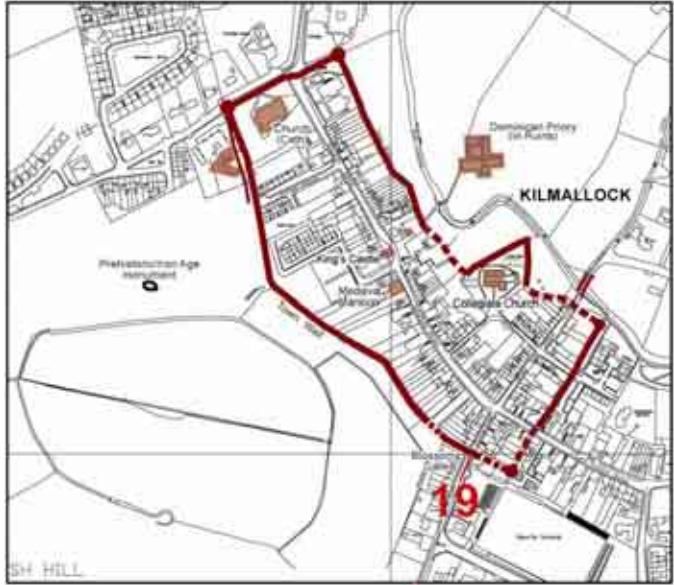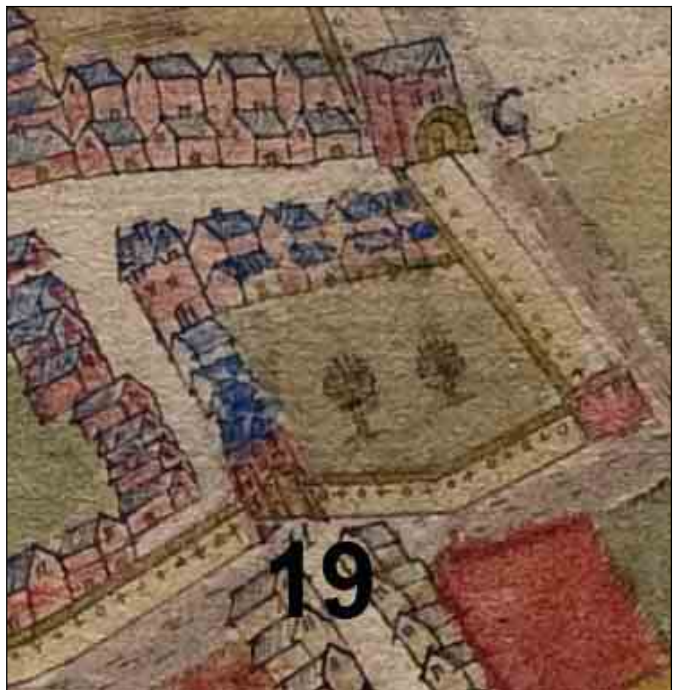

Extract of Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	The wall is within private properties.
Historical Significance	The wall formed the south-west section of the defences of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	Extant and below-ground remains of the wall within private properties may be impacted, should any intrusive works be carried out within the adjoining buildings or properties.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals for any intrusive works near the location of the wall. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 19	Location:

Zone: West

Feature Name: Blossom Gate

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3-4: 13th – 15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 5: 16th – 17th century; Phase 6: 18th – 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The Blossom Gate formed the west entrance to the town. It was formerly known as *Bla/ Blath* (meaning flower, green, plain, field, enclosure or yellow in Irish) */ Blae* (meaning garment or sheet in Norse (Thomas 1982, 134). It was also known as Mallow and Pigeon Castle.

The current Gate is thought to be a later structure, replacing an earlier gate built during the original construction of the Town Walls. The gate is a three-storey building with a stair turret on the south side rising above the parapet level. The turret is entered at the south-east corner and the spiral stairs lead to a first floor room above the archway and continue to the roof, which has been recently repaired.

The gate is constructed of shaped limestone blocks, some of which have dressed surfaces. The archway of the gate which spans Emmet Street, is round-headed with dressed voussoirs, some of which are 19th century replacements. A dressed lancet window (with a four-centred head) is situated centrally to each face above the arch. There are slit windows in the stair turret. An arched window with ashlar jambs and relief shamrocks to either side is situated beside the lancet window of the internal face and may date to 19th century.

The roof of the gate was replaced and loose stones removed in the late 19th -early 20th centuries. A wall scar on the north face of the gate matches with a section of the Town Wall protruding from between the terraced houses to the north side. At this point, the wall originally joined to the gate and has since been pierced to create a pavement around the north side of the gate.

The gate is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 as a square structure with a flat roof and possible parapets, rising above the adjoining Town Walls.

A formal gate tower is shown as existing outside the Town Walls, to the south-west, along an extension of Emmet Street forming a small suburb (Gazetteer no.33). Following the establishment of Charleville town in 1661, this road became the main route from Kilmallock. However this map dates from a time when Kilmallock was still the major town

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

of the area and merited a substantial gate tower outside the Town Walls, as a status symbol as well as part of the town defences. This gate tower is thought to have stood at the site of Gortboy House, at a slight bend in the street (Thomas 1982, 136).

The first edition OS map (1829-41) shows the Blossom Gate, labelling it as 'Castle'. There is no sign of houses lining the road from the exterior of the gate to the south-west. The road is shown as bordering wooded enclosed land to the west of Ash Lough. At the kink in the road, a minor road leads east and the junction is flanked by a couple of buildings. The second edition OS map (1897-1913) labels one of the buildings as Gortboy House and Blossom Gate as 'Castle'.

Archaeological investigations were completed in the vicinity of the gate as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 and cobbled surfaces were found, together with a ditch found on the exterior of the wall (O'Connor, 2002a).

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

External face of Blossom Gate, looking east

Internal face of Blossom Gate, looking south-west

North face of Blossom Gate, showing scar of Town Wall, looking south-east

View of internal face of Blossom Gate, prior to roof reconstruction, W. F. Wakeman, 1840 (by permission of the Royal Irish Academy, @RIA)

Statutory Protection	National Monument – Blossom Gate (under ownership of Limerick County Council); RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)31 – Blossom Gate.
Condition	The gate has been repointed in places and a 20th century roof has been applied, thereby reducing water ingress and aiding the longevity of the building.
Historical Significance	• Blossom Gate formed the west entrance into the town and the connection with the Town Wall survives, although fragmented. • Blossom Gate is the only gate still standing.
Vulnerability	• The gate has recently been consolidated, leading to its longevity. • Traffic passing through the gate may cause damage through potential impact or fumes. The road is continuously busy and viewing the gate is hazardous. • The exposed ends of the Town Wall and the adjoining stones on the north face of the gate are vulnerable to degradation and over time could reduce the visible relation between the two structures.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works in close proximity to the gate or the line of the adjoining Town Wall or for any alterations to the standing structures. • The gate is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • The views towards the gate should be protected as it forms one of the main landmarks of the town.
References	O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 192, Bray. Thomas, A. 1982 *Walled Towns of Ireland volume 2.* Dublin.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 20	Location:

Zone: West

Feature Name: West Town Wall from Blossom Gate to angle on west wall

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 2: 12th -13th century or Phase 3-4: 13th -15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6: 18th – 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The wall continues north from the houses by Blossom Gate, forming their internal garden walls and is revealed again to public view, where it borders the supermarket car park. The wall is constructed of limestone blocks that are mostly unshaped and uncoursed. The top of the wall is heavily overgrown but the wall stands approximately 2m high. The supermarket demolished the wall above-ground and built on its line. The wall was also breached to give access from the car-park to the supermarket.

The exterior face of the Town Wall is largely overgrown, where the wall crosses a narrow strip of land to the north-west of the car park and is hidden behind a set of concrete stables.

From the stables, the wall returns at an obtuse angle to the north-west, in a much degraded condition. A large section has been reduced in height, becoming almost entirely collapsed at one point, with debris around the base comprising fallen stones, vegetation and dumped rubbish. The ground level is much lower on the exterior than the interior, with a difference of 1-2m. Test excavations in this area recorded the ditch and possible construction levels (Ní Loingsigh, 2004).

The wall survives in a more intact state towards the north-west. However the rubble core has become exposed and a couple of small holes have occurred where stones have been lost. The 1999 survey for Dúchas (now the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG) by Buchan, Kane and Foley had identified sections of this wall in need of repair prior to imminent collapse.

The wall rises over 4m above the external ground level, which rises to form a bank of material abutting the base, 1m or more in height. This bank includes dumped rubbish as well as vegetation and fallen stones from the wall itself. Towards the angle of the wall (Gazetteer no. 21), the fosse is visible as a shallow ditch, becoming more pronounced to the north end. It is situated *c.*2m west of the base of the wall and is *c.*3m across at this section. The fosse presumably originally lined all of this section of Town Wall.
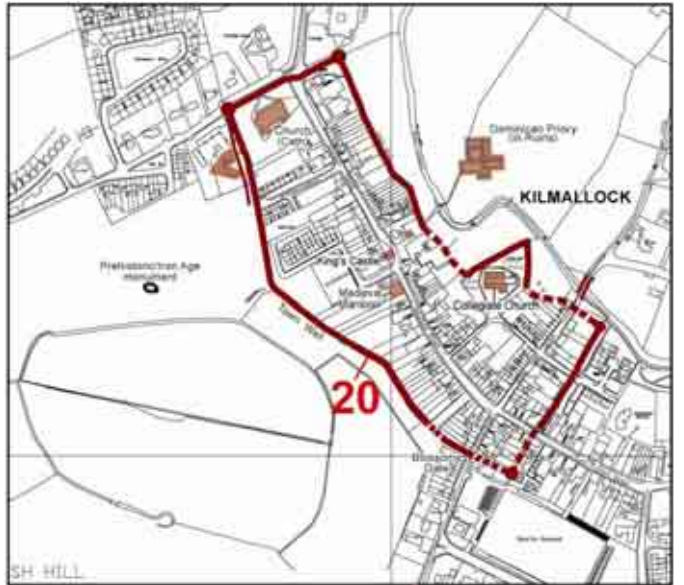
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

*Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)*

The interior face of the wall forms the boundary of gardens of properties along Sarsfield Street and is heavily overgrown, becoming less so towards the north. An area of major collapse is visible at the north end of the property on the south side of the Friar's Gate Theatre. The wall has not been repaired and the standing elements to either side survive to approximately 1m height on the interior.

A large extent of the wall borders an open area to the west of the King's Castle car park and playground. This section is partially overgrown, with large defaced areas and small holes in places. A section measuring 13.5m in length, has been rebuilt to a height of 1.9m and to approximately half (0.5m) of its original thickness.

Approximately 3m south of the angle in the wall (Gazetteer no.21), the wall increases in height by 1-2m and increases in width to *c.*1.3m. The internal ground surface is approximately 1-2m higher than the exterior. The exterior face of the Town Wall to the south of the angle reduces in height from over 3m to approximately 2.5-3m, before rising to over 4m in height. However, the top section of the wall has been rebuilt.

This section of the Town Wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 with a thick black line around the top edge, possibly representing a wall-walk. The first and second edition OS maps show the line of the wall together with the dotted line of the townland boundary.

Archaeological investigations were completed in the vicinity of the wall as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (O'Connor 2002a, 24). The creation of the car park at King's Castle revealed a substantial east-west ditch of 4.8m width, in line with the King's Castle, which has been interpreted as a defensive ditch along the line of the original north boundary of the town. This suggests that this section of the Town Wall formed the original west boundary of Kilmallock.
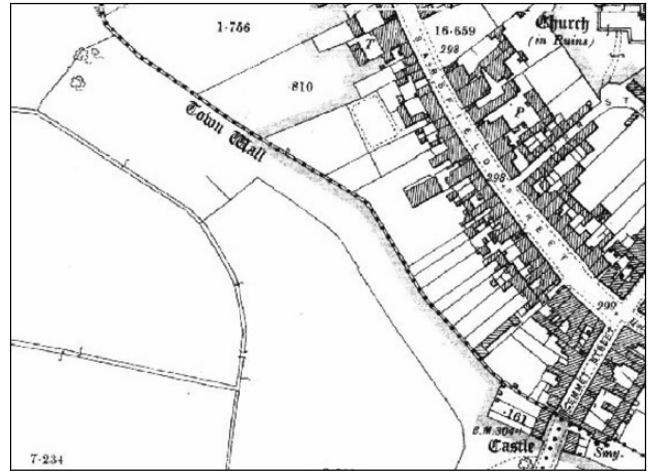
Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Supermarket entry in south end of Town Wall, looking east

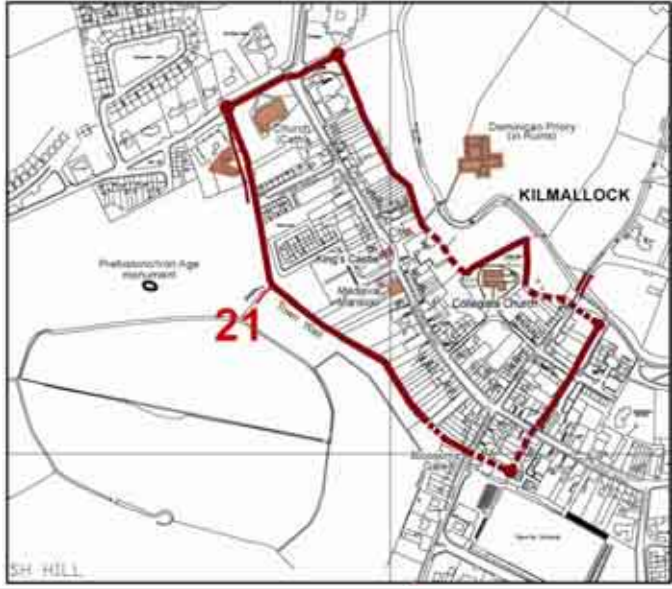*Internal face of Town Wall, north of the stables, looking west*

Section of Town Wall, north of supermarket to stables, looking north-east

Section of Town Wall to the north of stables, looking east

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	The Town Wall has become damaged over time, including the loss of facing stones exposing the vulnerable rubble core. Vegetation has taken hold of the wall. Its removal has caused major collapse in places. Holes have been created in the wall, where stones have fallen out, endangering the stability of the surrounding stones and the rubble core of the wall. The wall has been repointed in places with cement-based mortar that may result in trapped water and freeze-thaw action. Fallen stones, vegetation debris and other materials have collected around the base of the exterior face, while the ground level has risen considerably on the interior of the wall, possibly adding stress on the structure.
Historical Significance	This section of the Town Wall forms the original west boundary of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	• The exterior of the wall borders rough pasture that is not accessible to the general public. • The wall is very fragmented in places and is in risk of collapse. • A section of the wall by the supermarket has been removed, thereby breaking the continuity of the structure. • The careless removal of vegetation and neglect for failing sections of the facework has caused collapse of areas of the wall.
Guidance Notes	• The wall is in urgent need of consolidation works, following careful removal and trimming of vegetation on both sides. Vegetation growth and the state of the wall should be monitored to address any immediate problems. • The ground surface of this area has been radically altered since 1999. Three excavations have already plotted the line of the ditch. • A topographic survey should be completed on the exterior of the wall to record the fosse and any other related features. • The stables which abut the exterior face of the wall should be removed. • Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works in close proximity to the Town Wall and development should not be permitted within 15-20m of either side. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	Buchan Kane and Foley Architects, 1999. *Survey and Report – Kilmallock Town Walls.* Unpublished. McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002,* 326-7, Bray. Ní Loingsigh, M. 2004 'Ash Hill, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2002*, 326-7, Bray. O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 192, Bray. Thomas, A. 1982 *Walled Towns of Ireland volume 2.* Dublin.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 21	Location:

Zone: West

Feature Name: Angle in the West Town Wall

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3-4: 13th – 15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The angle of the Town Wall is marked on the exterior by stones keyed together, angled with two faces, to form an obtuse point (see photograph). The wall is over 4m high at this point with footing stones protruding 0.8m from the base of the exterior face.

The interior face of the angle is less visible to the west of the King's Castle car park and playground and it is overgrown but there are indications that traces of the wall walk survive.

The lower construction stage of the wall on the exterior is marked by small stones aligned horizontally. The section of wall above marks the section which corresponds with the northern extension of the town. The ground at this point is boggy.

The profile of the fosse, which is most clearly visible in section 22 and intermittently in section 20, is lost at the point of the angle. The ground level dips down at the angle, which is met by the east end of a water course (OS second edition map) that connected with the drained lake to the west, now a tree plantation (Gazetteer no. 35). The watercourse could have passed under the wall in a culvert or other structure, but no evidence for this has been found to date.

The angle is shown on Joanes' map of *c*.1600 with a thick line around the top edge, possibly representing a wall-walk, and on the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913). The first edition OS map shows a constructed outlet from the lake, which extends towards the town wall, approximately as far as the fosse.

Archaeological investigations were completed in the vicinity of the wall as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1998 (O'Connor, 2002a). The creation of the car park revealed a substantial east-west ditch, which has been interpreted as a defensive ditch that represents the line of the original north boundary of the Town. The ditch is thought to have run east-west, in line with the King's Castle and therefore may have met the Town Wall just south of the angle. The ditch was cut into impervious boulder clay and so could have been water-filled.

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913) showing line of water course from lake to west of Town Wall

As Thomas (1992, 136) points out, the line of the extension is very regular, while the boundaries of the original town were more irregular.

Exterior face of angle in Town Wall, looking east

Angled facing stones at corner, with two faces, above smaller stones marking top of construction stage, looking east

Lower section of Town Wall to south of angle, looking east

Interior face of Town Wall, with exposed rubble core, looking south-west

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	• The wall has become damaged over time, where facing stones have fallen out, exposing the vulnerable rubble core. • Vegetation has taken hold of sections of the wall, causing major collapse in places. • A build-up of land on the interior of the wall may encourage ground water to seep into the structure. • Loss of facing stones from the exterior face has exposed the footings of the wall, making it vulnerable to weather action and possibly reducing stability.
Historical Significance	This section of wall forms the junction with the ditch that marks the original northern extension to Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	• The wall is fragmented in places, causing instability. The failing sections of the facework and vegetation growth adds to the instability of this section of wall. • The presence of water-logged ground on the exterior may cause instability of the wall.
Guidance Notes	• The wall is in urgent need of consolidation works, following careful removal and trimming of vegetation. • The Town Wall should be monitored to address any new areas of instability. • Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals for any intrusive works in proximity to the Town Wall. • The wall is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results

	through published sources.
	• The line of the eat-west fosse should be represented on the ground.
References	McCutcheon, S. 2000 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 1998*, 134, Bray.
	O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000*, 192, Bray.
	Thomas, A. 1982 *Walled Towns of Ireland volume 2.* Dublin.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 22	Location:

Zone: West

Feature Name: West Town Wall from angle to North-West Tower

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4: 14th – 15th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6: 18th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The wall continues north at a height of over 4m on the exterior, with footing stones protruding from the base. Sections of the exterior and interior faces have become degraded, exposing the rubble core. A hole has formed in the wall, which may have initially been an opening, due to what appears to be a dressed stone in the exterior face and a splay to the interior. However, stones have fallen out from the opening, making the hole larger and potentially weakening the structure around it. The hole is 1.3 x 1m and *c.*2.3m from the top of the exterior face.

A section of the parapet of the wall walk exists to a height of less than 1m above the interior face of the wall. The wall continues north along the west of a modern housing development and is revealed at the west end of Sheares Avenue. Here, further remnants of the wall walk parapet survive, rising less than 1m above the wall, which has a total thickness of *c.*1.3m.

To the north of Sheares Avenue, the wall survives as boundaries to properties and, is fragmented in places. From the south-west corner of the church grounds, the wall has been largely rebuilt in the late 19th century. The wall may have been disturbed by the addition of the 17th century bastion to the west. The wall now survives *c.*1m in height and less than 1m in width, and is pierced by a modern walkway leading to the *Crochta* martyrs' monument. To the north of this walkway, the wall has been removed altogether and replaced by an evergreen hedge. An access lane is immediately outside, over the position of the fosse..

The profile of the fosse becomes more visible on the exterior of the wall proceeding northwards from the angle (Gazetteer no. 21), becoming most prominent towards the north end of the bastion. The fosse begins *c.*2.8m west of the wall, reaching a depth of approximately 2m lower than the base of the wall. The land then rises on the west side of the fosse as a bank, reaching a maximum of 2m height, *c.*1.4m from the base of the fosse.

This section of the Town Wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 and is thought to form part of the northern extension of the town. It is shown with a kink just before the North-
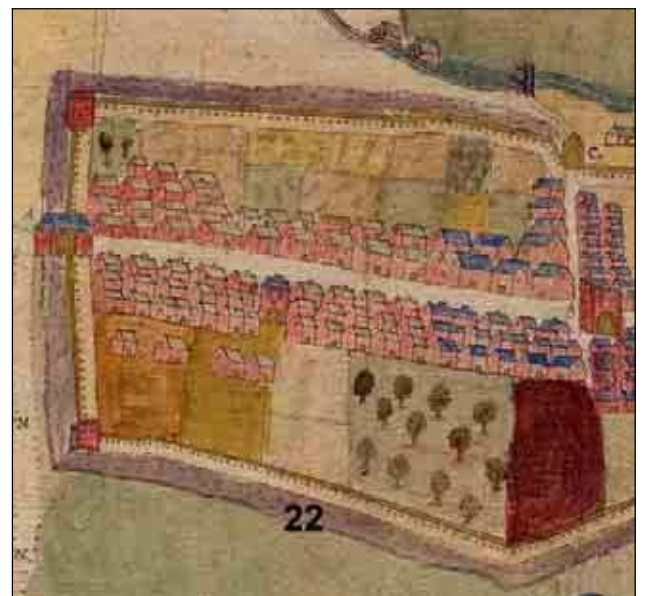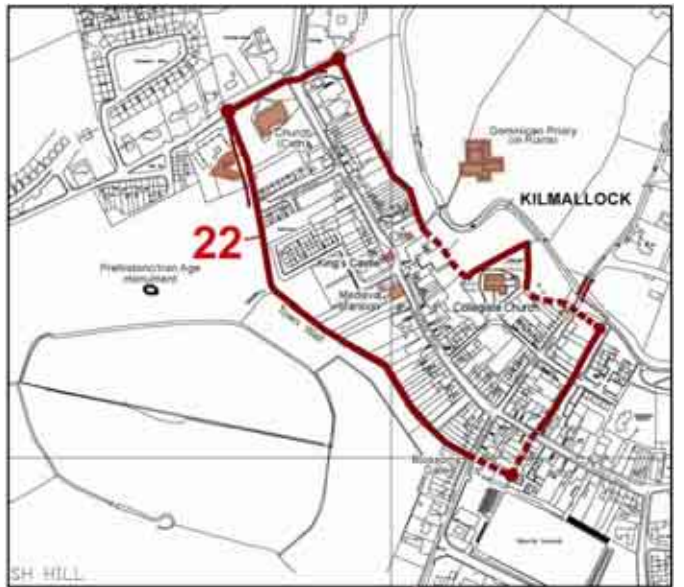
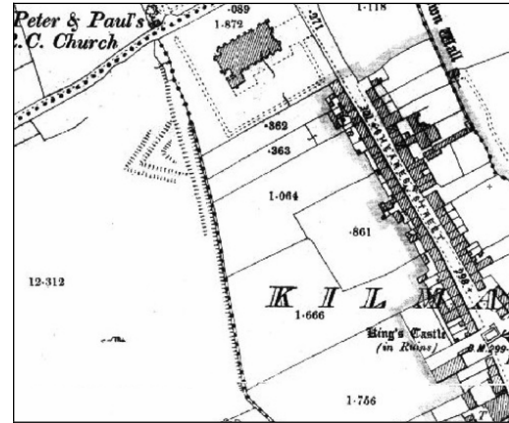*Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)*
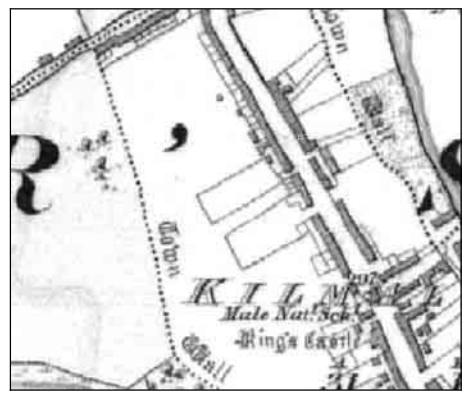
Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

East Tower. A thick line marks the top of the wall in a stylised perspective view, with short vertical lines below, which may represent crenellations or cross-bow loops.

Archaeological investigations were completed in the vicinity of the wall as part of the Urban Renewal Scheme in 1999, on Sheares Street, between the King's Castle and Sheares Avenue (O'Connor 2002a, 53).

Most recently, test excavations have revealed two further ditches beyond the extant ditch on the exterior of the wall south of the 17th century bastion (McCutcheon pers. comm.).

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Hole in exterior of wall, looking east

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	• The wall has become damaged over time, where facing stones have fallen out, exposing the vulnerable rubble core. • The wall has been rebuilt in places with cement-based mortar, which alters the entire character of the structure. • The north end section of the wall has been entirely removed although remains may survive below-ground. • The fosse is evident from the angle to south of the bastion.
Historical Significance	• This section of the Town Wall forms part of the northern extension to Kilmallock. • Sections of parapet are preserved as evidence of a narrow wall-walk. • The fosse to the exterior may be part of the northern extension of the town or may represent the defences of a northern area of the town that was not formalised until the building of a stone wall.
Vulnerability	• The failing sections of the facework and vegetation growth have caused instability to the wall. • The fosse has become infilled, thereby losing its profile and at the north it is completely covered by an access lane.
Guidance Notes	• The wall is in urgent need of consolidation works, following careful removal and trimming of vegetation and should be monitored. • A topographic survey should be completed on the exterior to record the fosse and any other related features. • Unsightly and ineffective fencing should be removed and replaced from between the wall, the *Crochta* and the school to the west. • An informative display board would be appropriate close to the school grounds to aid school pupils' understanding of the monument. • Planning conditions should be applied to any development proposals for intrusive work along the line of the wall, particularly where it is lost.

	• The wall is a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources.
References	O'Connor, J. 2002a 'Abbeyfarm, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2000,* 192, Bray.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 23	**Location:**
Zone: West	

Feature Name: Bastion

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 5: 16th – 17th century

Background and Description:
A bastion was constructed on the exterior face of the existing Town Wall, during the 17th century. It is possible that the bastion was constructed by Ireton, son-in-law of Cromwell, following the reclaiming of Kilmallock in 1650 after its short capture by Irish rebels in 1642 (O'Connor 2002). Similar earthen bastions were constructed on the exterior of the Town Walls of Athlone, by Cromwell's forces, although smaller in size and touching the external face of the walls.

The bastion reaches 2m in height and the trapezoidal-profiled banks are approximately 3.8m wide at the base and over 1m at the top. It is covered with vegetation and is certainly formed of earth on the exterior, if not entirely. Within the centre of the bastion, the *Crochta* martyrs' memorial has been set, consisting of a stone sculpture of late 20th – early 21st century date. A plaque on the churchyard wall to the east lists the martyrs.
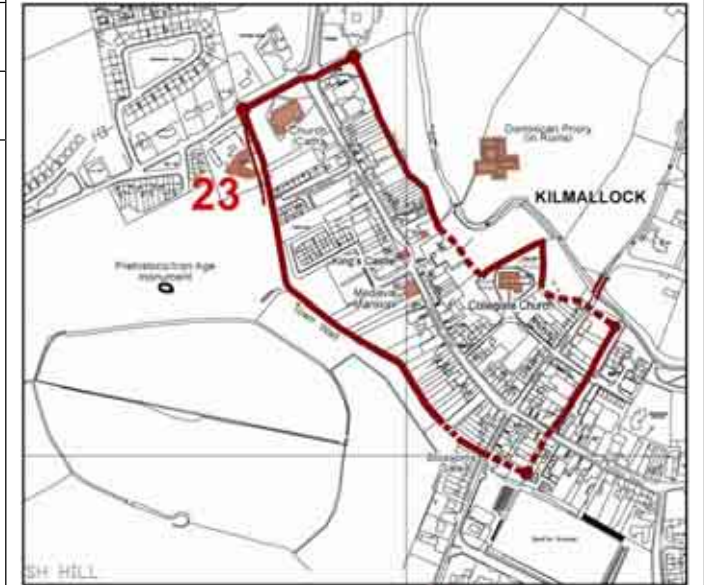
The bastion is indicated by three bushes on the first edition OS map (1829-41) to the west of the Town Wall line. The bastion is indicated by hachures on the second edition OS map (1897-1913).

The bastion survives as the last prominent remnant of the 17th century earthworks. It survives today over 1m west of the fosse. Ramparts of the west side of the town are mentioned by O'Dowd (1889, 208) as 'in good preservation', but it is not clear if these were contemporary with the bastion.
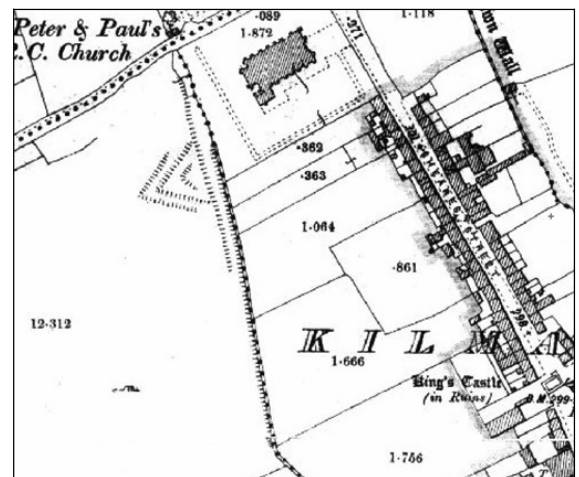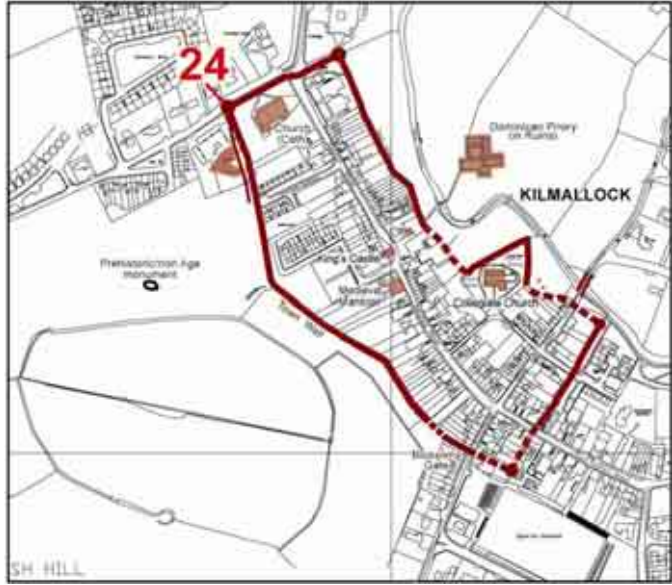

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)


Bastion on exterior of Town Wall, looking west
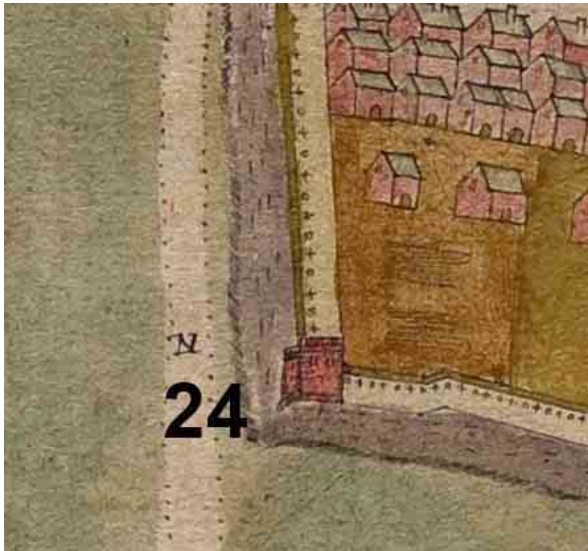
Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	The bastion appears to be stable and the vegetation adds support and protection.
Historical Significance	The bastion forms part of the defences for the north-west corner of Kilmallock added in the 17th century.
Vulnerability	• The bastion is accessible to be walked on, which may lead to wear, if not monitored. The vegetation helps protect it, but could mask its shape and penetrating roots may now be integrated throughout the structure. • A number of wire mesh fences with concrete poles are situated between the bastion, the Town Wall and the school, which have become degraded.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to any development proposals of intrusive work within the vicinity of the bastion. • The bastion is part of a National Monument and mitigation of further works in the locality should include preservation *in situ,* recording works and visual representation of results through published sources. • Vegetation should be monitored to minimise destabilisation of the bastion through root growth or the masking of its shape. The degraded wire mesh fences should be removed and replaced by new and more effective boundary markers.
References	O'Dowd, J. 1889 'Kilmallock, County Limerick' in *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 19: 204-215.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 24	Location:

Zone: North

Feature Name: North-West Tower (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4: 14th -15th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 18th - 19th century

Background and Description:
There is no trace of the tower standing, however, there may be remains below-ground. The last remnants may have been removed, when the adjoining sections of the Town Wall were cleared, possibly during the construction of Saints Peter and Paul Church and grounds in the late 19th century.

The North-West Tower is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 which shows the tower as a two-storey square structure, met on either side by the adjoining Town Walls. It is thought to have been constructed as part of the north extension of the town, during the 14th – 15th century. O'Dowd (1889, 208) refers to a lime kiln at the north west corner – 'the representative of a corner tower of the fortifications'.

The tower may be one of the buildings shown on the first edition OS map (1829-41), where the dotted townland boundary line heads west and returns south. The buildings are absent from the second edition OS map (1897-1913).

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no standing elements of the tower.
Historical Significance	This tower forms part of the defences for the north-west corner of Kilmallock
Vulnerability	Below-ground remains of the tower may be impacted should any intrusive works be carried out.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works on the location of the tower or adjoining wall line. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.

| References | Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. (1989) *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished. |
| | O'Dowd, J. 1889 'Kilmallock, County Limerick' in *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 19: 204-215.* |

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 25	Location:
Zone: North	

Feature Name: North Town Wall

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4: 14th - 15th century
Demolition – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
There is no visible trace of the Town Wall as it was largely removed during the construction of St. Peter and Paul Church and grounds in the late 19th century. However the line is preserved by the current boundary wall of the church and there may be remains surviving below-ground. It is thought to have been originally constructed as part of the north extension of the medieval town (St John's Gate is mentioned in 1410).

The north section of the Town Wall is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 with a thick black line along the top, representing a wall-walk and marks to the right of the line that may represent cross-bow loops or crenellations.

It is represented as the dotted line of the townland boundary, on the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913).

Recent excavations (2007) have uncovered remains of a fosse (McCutcheon, pers. comm.).

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	National Monument; RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no standing remains of the wall.
Historical Significance	The wall would have formed part of the defences for the north-west corner of Kilmallock
Vulnerability	The removal of the wall leads to a lack of understanding of the north section of the walled town.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works in the vicinity of the line of the wall. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 26	Location:

Zone: Central

Feature Name: King's Castle

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4: 15th century
Alteration/repair - Phase 5: 17th century; Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The King's Castle tower has three storeys with a basal batter and is constructed of shaped limestone blocks of varying sizes. The archway is *c.*2.48m wide with jambs of approximately 0.15m width to either side of the north and south entrances to the archway. At the north entrance are slots for door bolts to either side, the west being *c.*1m deep. The south entrance has metal fittings of a previous gate set into the wall. The west side of the archway was used as a blacksmith's forge, but has since been closed and the 19th century openings blocked up. The concrete boundary walls of the adjoining premises abut against the west face of the gate.

A rectangular stair turret projects forward from the north-east corner of the King's Castle. The stair turret is entered through a door in the south-east corner of the archway and stairs inside the east wall of the tower lead to the first floor room above the archway.

The floor is vaulted, with the upper faces of the vault stones visible in places. The spiral stairs of the turret ascend, past a niche with a slit window, to the second floor room, whose floor is more complete. The stairs continue to the roof of the turret, which is reached through a doorway at the top.

Slit windows are present in the stair turret and large arched windows are positioned at the first and second floors of the south face of the tower. The east and west faces of the tower have blocked windows and the west face has a window at roof level. The parapets have crenellations of varying sizes and completeness. The edges of the exterior faces of the crenellations are chamfered and each crenellation is stepped.

King's Castle is thought to have been constructed in the 15th century (Bradley *et al* 1989, 158) and was also known as 'Queen's Castle' and named on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 as 'The Q Castle', in reference to Queen Elizabeth I. Joanes' map appears to have the letters 'QEIRS' written on the building, which might stand for 'Queen Elizabeth I Regina S…'. The map shows narrow streets to either side of the Castle, leading east to the Friar's Gate and west towards the west Town Wall, marking the position of the
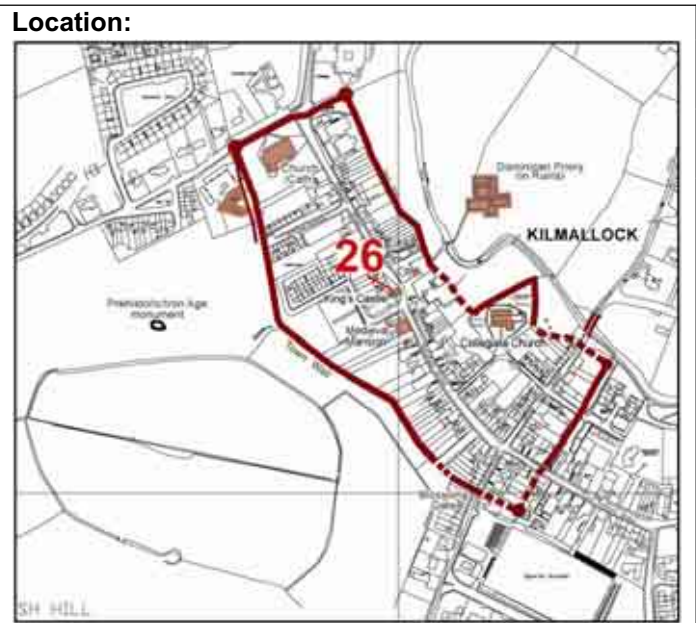
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

View of King's Castle, looking south by Petrie, 1825 (image

original northern limit of the town.

It was granted to H. Billingsley in 1588 and to T. Browne of Aney in 1604. It was repaired and used as a chief arsenal by the Irish under Lord Castlehaven in 1645. It was also used as a meeting place for the Corporation in the 1650s. In 1651 it was utilised as a hospital and depot by the Parliamentary forces and was damaged during the Williamite War of 1691 and repaired in the 19th-20th centuries.

The building is also shown on the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913). Petrie's engraving of 1825 shows the south face of King's Castle, at the north end of Sarsfield Street and Mulvaney's painting of 1829 shows the same viewpoint.

courtesy of the National Library of Ireland)

King's Castle, looking north – Main Street, Kilmallock by J. Mulvany, 1829 (image courtesy of the National Gallery of Ireland, photo @ The National Gallery of Ireland)

King's Castle, looking east

King's Castle, looking north

Statutory Protection	National Monument no. 173 – King's Castle (under ownership of National Monuments Service and managed by OPW); RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)30 – King's Castle.
Condition	• The tower is solidly built but has been repointed with cement-based mortar in places, which may trap water, encourage freeze-thaw action. • The roofing inside the tower needs to be repaired to minimise water ingress.
Historical Significance	• The site of King's Castle marks the original north entrance of Kilmallock, prior to the extension of the town and defences. • The tower was continuously used throughout the post-medieval history of the town and dominates the main street.
Vulnerability	• The tower is in need of consolidation works, to minimise water ingress and pigeon habitation. • The traffic has been diverted around the east side and bollards have been placed to

	protect it and pedestrians from impact.
Guidance Notes	• Consolidation works should be completed on the King's Castle, including archaeological recording of exposed features and phases of construction. • Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works in close proximity to the castle or for alteration works to the structure itself. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources. • There are display panels by the memorial cross to the east which should be updated to include information about the King's Castle and the significance of its setting, in light of recent archaeological discoveries.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 27	Location:
Zone: Central	

Feature Name: Medieval Mansion

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 5: 16th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6: 18th - 19th century; Phase 7: 20th-21st century (consolidation works by OPW)

Background and Description:
The Medieval Mansion is a stone-built, two-storey building, originally of three storeys, situated on the west side of Sarsfield Street, to the south of King's Castle. The Medieval Mansion was one of several houses built along Sarsfield Street, from the 16th century, during a period of prosperity. During the 19th – 20th century, the top storey of the house was removed and a gabled roof applied.

The building is of two storeys and double-pile with gabled, slated roofs. A corbel table runs between ground and first floor of the front elevation, with pointed corbels set at intervals, similar to that of the drawings of Sarsfield House (Leask 1941, 74). A centrally-placed entrance may have been positioned where the current double wooden doors are situated. The original entrance is likely to have had a dressed stone surround, shaped either as a widened gothic arch, to match the existing doors to either side, or as a flat arch with dressed hood mould, matching the first floor windows. Two gothic pointed doorways are positioned to either side of the central entrance and a small rectangular window is located towards the south end, which may also have been enlarged. At first floor level of the front elevation, the three square-headed windows have been retained, together with their drip-moulds above. The roof of the front range was replaced in the 19th century. A 20th century concrete-rendered panel with a faded painted sign is located above the central window. The roof of the front range was replaced in the 19th century.

The interior of the building is largely open as it lacks the original internal partitions. The ground floor of the front range leads through to the range behind and an adjoining barn or large storage building beyond. A wooden, degraded staircase is located at the north end of the front range and leads to the first floor. Large, ornate stone fireplaces are located on the first floor, served by flues to either end of the range. Similar fireplaces existed in the gable walls of Sarsfield House, the gable end walls of which still stand to either side of the Friar's Gate Theatre.

The mansion may be represented on Joanes' map of c.1600, as a large square building situated to the south-west of King's Castle. It is situated on Sarsfield Street, formerly known as the High Street which, together with
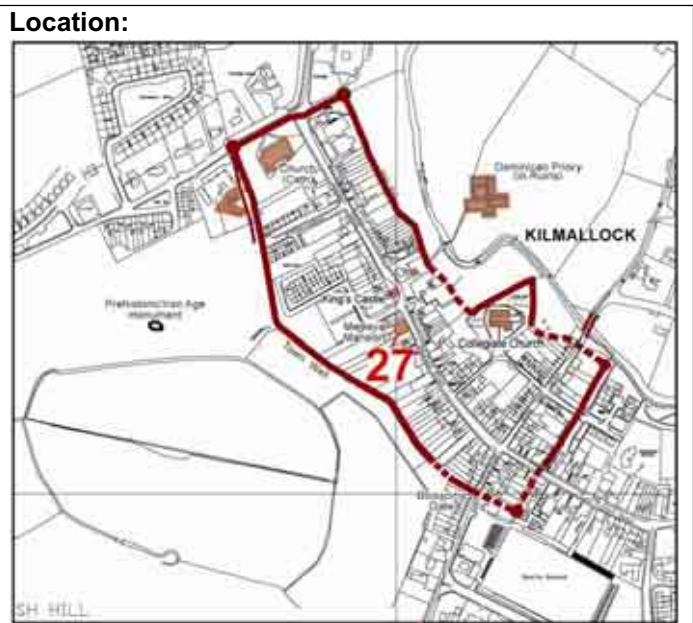
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Medieval Mansion, looking south-west

Sheares Street (formerly St. John's Street) had the largest number of stone-built houses in Kilmallock. The main north – south street formed of Sheares Street, Sarsfield Street and Lord Edward Street was lined with substantial stone-built houses, which included 6 tower houses, 29 three-storey houses and 4 two-storey houses in the 1654-55 Civil Survey (Simington, 1938).

John Mulvaney's painting *c.*1829 shows the house with three storeys, to the left of the King's Castle, with Sarsfield House, a three-storeyed ruin in the foreground and two similar three-storey houses opposite. Sarsfield House (since demolished), is thought to date from 16th century (Leask 1941, 73) and the Medieval Mansion may be similar in date.

Interior of mansion, south end of first floor, looking south

View of King's Castle, looking south by G. Petrie, 1825 (image courtesy of National Library of Ireland) – showing medieval mansion still with 3 storeys

Main Street, Kilmallock by J. Mulvany, 1829 (image courtesy of the National Gallery of Ireland, photo @ The National Gallery of Ireland)

Statutory Protection	National Monument no. 680 (in ownership of National Monuments Service); RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)36 – South of King's Castle on west side of road, a stone two storey house.
Condition	The mansion is in a degraded condition, due to previous water ingress and neglect. The internal wooden elements such as the stairs and floorboards have degraded, due to water ingress. The OPW, however, have recently weather-proofed the building.
Historical Significance	The mansion is one of the most complete, last remaining stone-built houses on the high street that illustrate the prosperity of the 16th century town.
Vulnerability	The mansion is vulnerable to further degradation, particularly to the rear.
Guidance Notes	• The mansion should be brought into a sustainable use. • A historic building recording should be undertaken, to record the current condition of the building and to compare it with the surviving elements of Sarsfield House and those recorded by Arthur Hill (Leask, 1941).
References	Leask, H.G. 1941 'Sarsfield House, Kilmallock' in *Notes of Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society, Volume 46: 73-75.* Simington, R.C. 1938 *The Civil Survey 1654, Volume iv, County Limerick.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 28	**Location:**
Zone: Central	

Feature Name: Kilmallock Museum

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 6: 19th century or earlier

Background and Description:
The Museum of Kilmallock is a house dating from the 19th century or earlier located at the north side of the lane from King's Castle to the Priory.

The house is pebble-dash-rendered and constructed of stone, with 19th century brick chimney stacks at either end and a slate roof. Internally, the house has an open-plan ground floor forming a single room. The second floor room is clear to the roof and is accessed by a ladder, through a trap door.

The house passed from private ownership to the Council in the 20th century and is loaned to the Kilmallock Historical Society.

A single-storey shed is situated on the west side, replacing earlier neighbouring houses.

The Museum holds a collection of artefacts, photographs and drawings, together with a reconstruction model of the town in the 16th century, based on Joanes' map.

Joanes' map of *c*.1600 shows a line of houses along either side of the lane leading from King's Castle to the Friar's Gate. The first edition OS map (1829-41) shows five buildings along the north side of the lane, including the house at the east end.
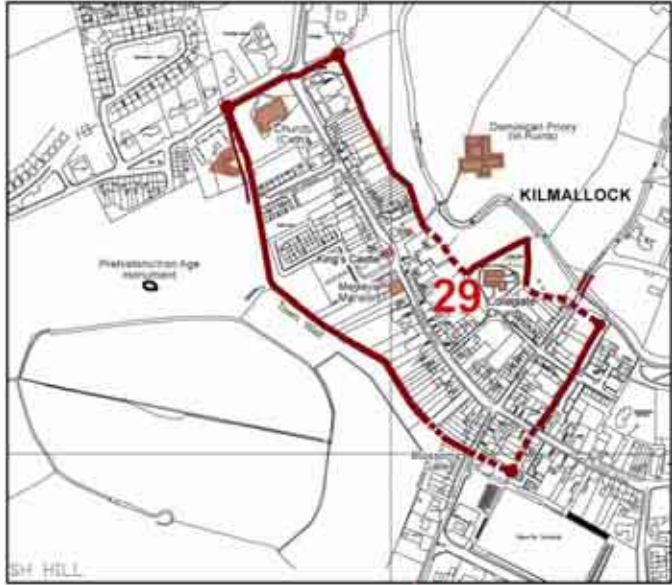

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

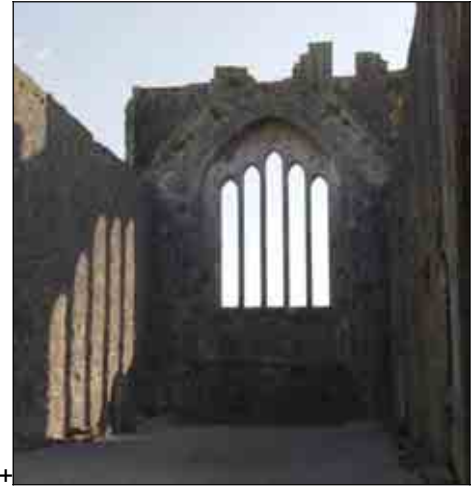*The Museum, looking north-east*

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town
Condition	The museum appears to be in good condition and is used and maintained. The adjoining barn could cause damp problems for the museum, if it is not in use or maintained.
Historical Significance	The museum is an historic preserved cottage and contains an assortment of artefacts that record elements of the history of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	• The museum contents are possibly not catalogued and further objects are stored in the loft, which might include some valuable connections to Kilmallock's past. • The museum is staffed by an attendant provided to the Kilmallock Historical Society by Ballyhoura Fáilte.
Guidance Notes	• The museum should be examined for the need of consolidation works. • The display should be re-organised to rotate the collection and show the items more clearly. Lighting would enhance the viewing of the collection. • Varied opening hours might cater for more visitors.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 29	Location:

Zone: East

Feature Name: Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 1 round tower: 10th-11th century;
- Phase 2: 12th -13th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 3-4: 13th – 15th century; Phase 7: 20th century

Background and Description:
The Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul, including the nave, chancel and south transept was built in the 13th century, replacing an earlier structure, thought to be 11th century. The north door is of 13th century Anglo-Norman style. The south transept was re-roofed in recent times but the rest of the church remains unroofed, with stone chippings laid over the ground surface.

The original round tower survives up to 3m in height, with the upper section rebuilt in the 13th century.

The east gable window is of 5 lancets and may date to the 14th -15th century. Wider aisles and a south porch were added in the 15th century, the porch has now gone.

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

The church is surrounded by a graveyard that is still in use and populated with many modern ornate tombs and some older ones. The church itself contains tombs including the altar tomb of 1594, the Verdon-Coppinger tomb of 1627, and the Fitzgerald/Bourke tomb of 1630, amongst others (Bradley *et al* 1989, 160ff).

The first church on this site is thought to have been erected in the 11th century, prior to the Anglo-Norman arrival in Kilmallock. It was the second embodiment of the Celtic monastic church, the first being located on the Hill of Kilmallock, 2km to the north of the town (Gazetteer no.36). The first church was plundered in 1015 (Bradley *et al* 1989, 146), which may have instigated the establishment of the second church.

The Anglo-Normans rebuilt the church, save for the base of the round tower, in the 13th century and additions were made to the church in the 14th century and later. It remained in use until 1935 and although no longer in use for worship, the graveyard is still functioning.

The church is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600 and the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41 and 1897-1913).   Joanes' map shows the church as having an arched entrance on one face, five thin windows on another face, which might represent the lancet windows of the east face and the round tower rising above the roof.

Collegiate Church, extract from Kilmallock vue by J. Mulvany, 1827 (image courtesy of the Hunt Museum, Limerick)

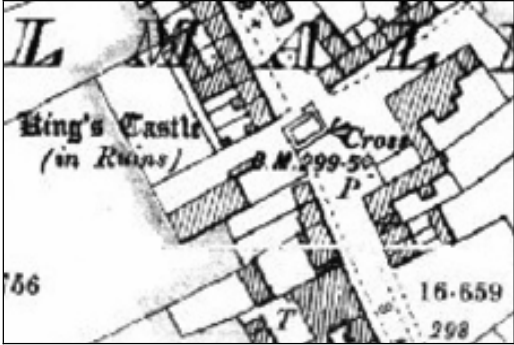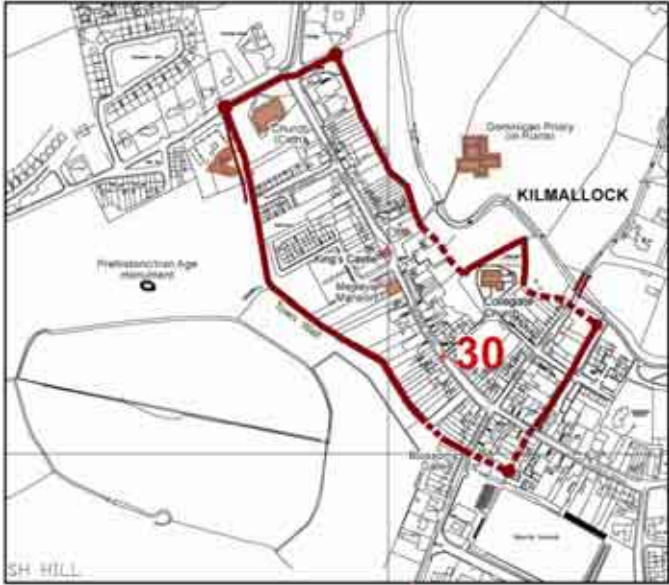*South face of Collegiate Church, looking north*

+
East window, looking north-east

West face of Collegiate church, looking east

Statutory Protection	National Monument no. 408 – Collegiate Church of Saints Peter and Paul (under ownership of National Monuments Service); RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)38 – Collegiate Church.
Condition	• The Church is solidly built and has been repointed in places, some of which may be cementitious mortar. • The south transept is roofed and sealed from the weather, adding to its longevity, while the remainder of the Church is open to the elements.
Historical Significance	The Church contains remains of pre- Anglo-Norman architecture.
Vulnerability	The Church is maintained at present, which ensures that the exposed sections do not deteriorate.
Guidance Notes	Larger family monuments should be subject to planning permission.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 30	Location:
Zone: Central	

Feature Name: Market Cross (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:
The market cross is first mentioned as the 'cross of John Fitzgerald' standing on 'Flemyngstret', in the Black Book of Limerick, dating from 1280 (Bradley *et al* 1989, 149).

The site of the market cross is shown on Joanes' map, *c.*1600, as a triangle on Sarsfield Street, opposite the west end of Orr Street. The 1654-6 Civil Survey records Church Lane (Orr Street) as running from the "cross to the churchyard" (Bradley *et al* 1989, 149).

The cross was recorded as having election notices posted on it in 1777 (Oliver Papers, National Library of Ireland). It is not known when the cross was removed and it is not present on the first edition OS map (1829-41). A monument is shown situated beside King's Castle on the second edition OS map (1897-1913), with 'cross' written beside it, however this relates to a Fenian cross.

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town.
Condition	There are no exposed elements of the cross in the original location; the modern cross is in stable condition.
Historical Significance	The cross has been removed, thereby removing all significance.
Vulnerability	The site of the original cross is no longer marked.
Guidance Notes	The site of the cross should be marked to aid understanding of the lay-out and growth of the medieval town.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished. Oliver Papers, 1777 National Library of Ireland (MSS 10930-44).

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 31

Zone: East

Feature Name: Dominican Priory of St. Saviour

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 3: 13th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 3: 14th – 15th century; Phase 4: 16th century; Phase 6: 19th century; Phase 7: 20th – 21st century.

Background and Description:
The Dominican Priory of St. Saviour is constructed of limestone blocks laid in courses, with ashlar dressings at the openings. A nave and chancel were erected in the 13th century, complete with a splayed window in the north wall. The west face contains a two-centred arched entrance with a three-light window, with intersecting tracery above, which may have been inserted in the 14th century. Similarly, the chancel contains 6 two-light windows each with intersecting tracery heads in the south face and a five-light graduated window in the east face, which may have been inserted in the 14th -15th century.

A crossing tower and south transept were added in the 14th – 15th century (Bradley *et al* 1989, 163). The south transept window is of six lights with reticulated tracery containing ogee lozenges above, possibly inserted in the 14th -15th century (*ibid.*). The crossing tower is of three floors and retains the scar of the east gable of the nave. The south-east corner of the tower has been missing since at least the 18th century.

The cloisters are situated to the north of the north aisle and may date to the 14th century or later. The north side of the ground floor has an arcade of four arches, each one inset with two cinquefoil headed openings and a quatrefoil shape above. The north wall of the cloister is much restored, dating to the 21st century. The dormitory is situated on the north side of the first floor and is reached by a set of stairs at the west end of the cloisters. The access to the first floor is restricted by a gate at the top of the stairs. Roof scars indicate that the first floor may have been roofed by a row of small gables, orientated north-south. Slots in the wall above the arcade may have housed joists of a wooden roof, now gone.

The Priory was first founded in 1291 on land purchased from John Bluet, a burgess of Kilmallock (Bradley *et al* 1989, 162). The land was located outside the town, on the east bank of the River Loobagh. The Bishop of Limerick had the friars ejected from their temporary buildings, following an inquiry of land ownership, but the friars were vindicated and permitted to begin construction of the Priory at its current site (Lee 1965, 152ff.). It was completed in

Location:
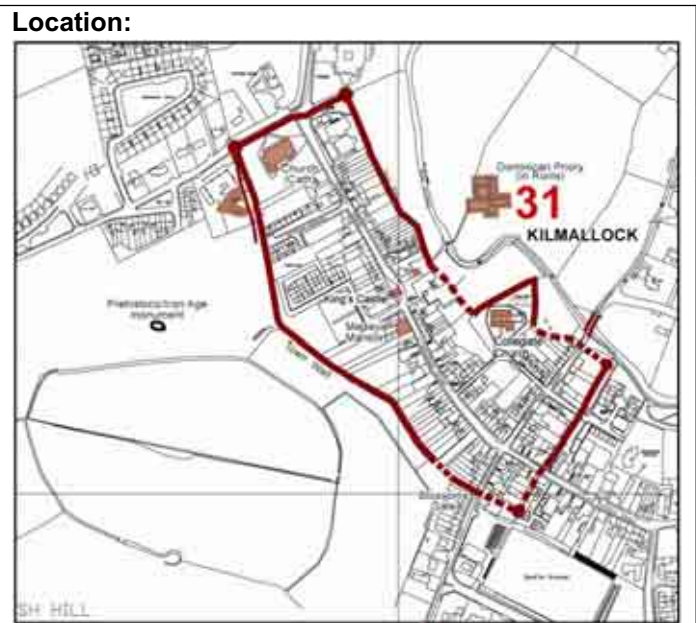
Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Priory, looking north-east

1318.

The foundation is ascribed to Gilbert Fitzgerald, an ancestor of the White Knights, who were buried there until 1608. The Priory was suppressed in 1541, during the Reformation and it was granted to the corporation. It was restored, possibly during the reign of James I and may have passed out of use in 1790 (Lee 1965, 153).

The Priory is shown on Joanes' map of c.1600 and on the first and second edition OS maps (1829-41, 1897-1913). Joanes' map shows the priory building with a steepled tower and one gabled range, with two other ranges in front, possibly representing the cloisters with the nave and transept. The map also shows four detached buildings to the north, which may have been related to the priory.
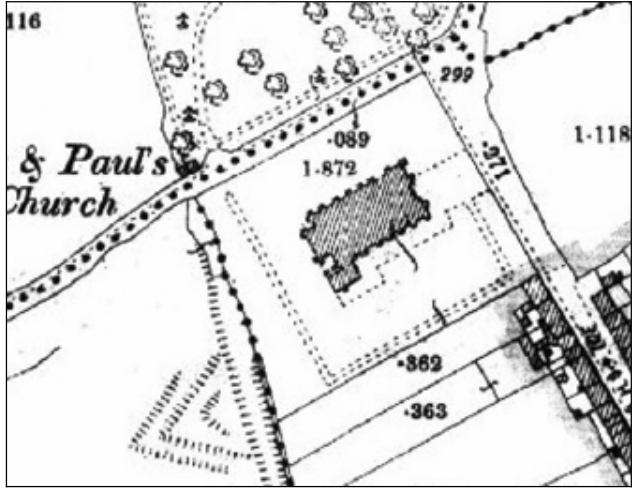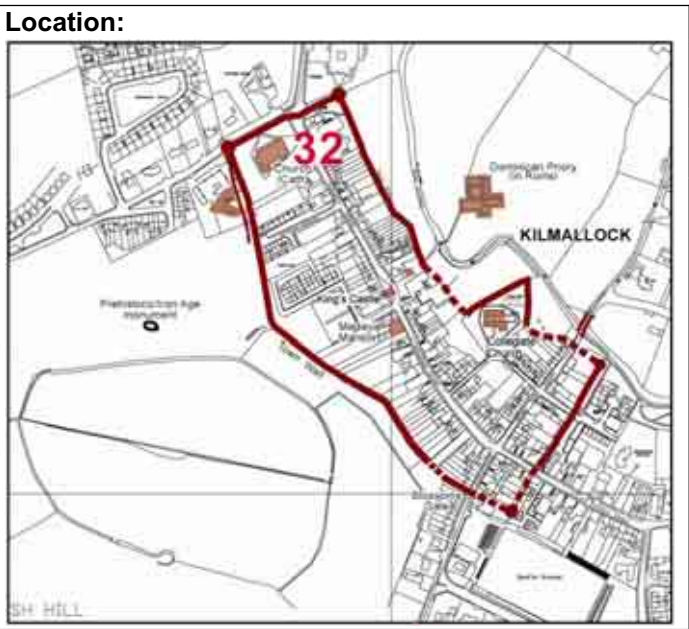

Nave and chancel of Priory, looking east

Detail of cloisters, looking north-east

Statutory Protection	National Monument no. 212 – Dominican Priory (under ownership of National Monuments Service, DoEHLG, maintained and managed by the OPW); RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)25 – Dominican Abbey.
Condition	- The Priory is solidly built and has been repointed in places, some of which is 19th century cement-rich lime mortar and 21st century lime mortar. - The Priory is open to the elements and requires monitoring for degradation.
Historical Significance	- The Priory was one of the Anglo-Norman additions to Kilmallock and dominates the east riverbank. - The Priory is visible from many points around the town.
Vulnerability	- The Priory is maintained and its condition is monitored. - The surrounding field may contain below-ground remains that might add to the knowledge of the Priory.
Guidance Notes	- Views of the Priory should be protected. - A topographical survey of the surrounding field might reveal associated structures of the Priory. - Conditions should be applied to planning proposals of any intrusive works in close proximity to the Priory or for alteration works to the structure itself. - Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished. Hogan, A. 1991 *Kilmallock Dominican Priory – An Architectural Perspective.* Kilmallock Historical Society. Lee, G. A . 1965 'Medieval Kilmallock' in *North Munster Antiquarian Journal volume 9:145-54.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 32	**Location:**
Zone: Central	

Feature Name: Church of Saints Peter and Paul

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 6: 19th century

Background and Description:

The foundation stone of the Church was laid by the Bishop of Limerick in 1879 and the building was completed in 1889, to a design by J. J. McCarthy. It is constructed of dressed limestone, in the high gothic revival style, with elements sympathetic to the styles of Collegiate Church and Priory. There is a large rose window at the east end and below is a five-light window with quatrefoil ogee lights above. A second five-light window is located in the west end of the nave. These windows are similar in style to the five-light windows of the Collegiate Church and Priory.

The spire is clad in stone and due to its height and slenderness, may be metal-framed inside. The roof is laid with polychrome slates giving bands of colour. There are some square label stops by the windows of the north aisle, which may have been intended to be carved.

The grounds of the church were created from the clearance of the buildings that lined the west side of the north end of Sheares Street, which may have resulted in the removal of the remnants of the north gate. The church wall on the north-west boundaries of the church grounds was constructed on the line of the Town Wall.

The Collegiate Church had continued in use for Anglican worship following the Reformation in the 16th century. A Roman Catholic chapel was built outside the walls, close to the Friar's Gate. The present church was erected to provide an additional place of worship for the Catholic members of the community of Kilmallock. The church is shown on the second edition OS map (1897-1913).
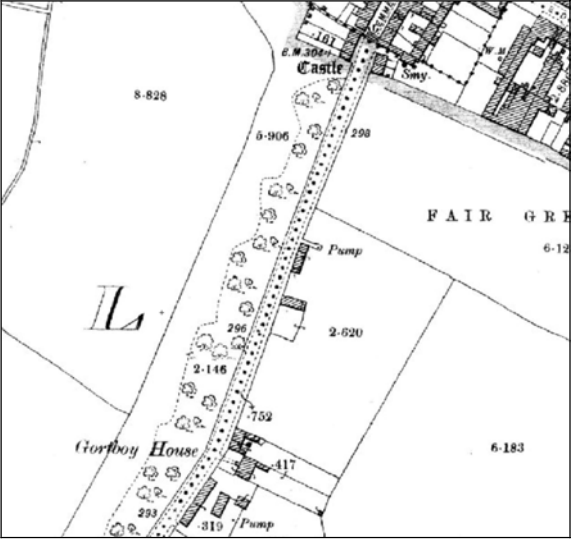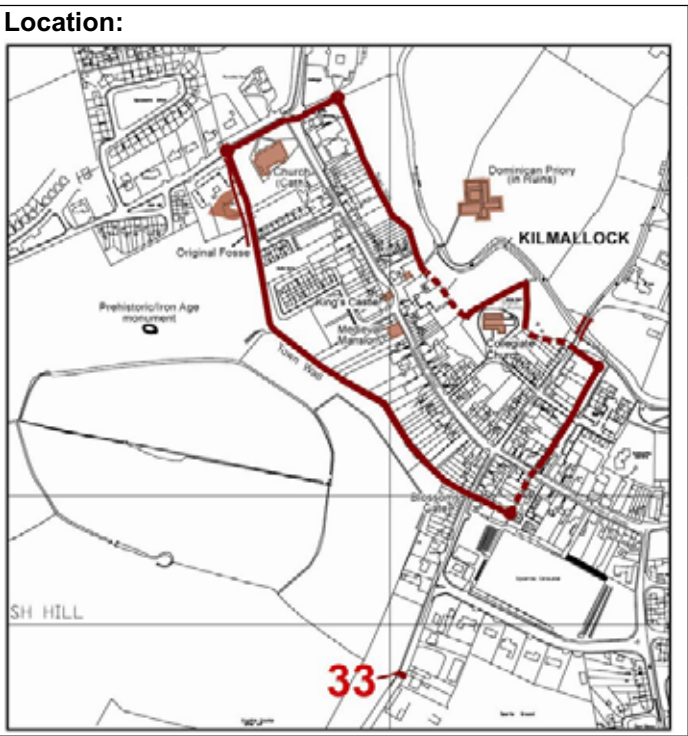

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Church of SS Peter and Paul, looking north-east

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)13 – Catholic Church.
Condition	The church appears to be in good condition and is in constant use and maintained.
Historical Significance	The church is part of the 19th century additions to Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	• The removal of the Town Wall around the west and north boundaries of the church grounds have led to a break in connection between the west and east sections of the Town Wall. • Remains of the Town Wall may survive below-ground.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals for any intrusive works along the line of the wall by the churchyard. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 33	**Location:**

Zone: West

Feature Name: South-West External Gate and suburb

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – Phase 4 - 5: 14th - 16th century
Demolition – Phase 5: 17th century

Background and Description:
Joanes' map of *c*.1600 shows the settlement of Kilmallock extending beyond the Blossom Gate, along a road to the south-west. An external gate was located on the road, to the south-west of Blossom Gate, which marked the end of a suburb, which may have formed an Irish-town (Thomas 1982, 134). The external gate is shown as a square tower of two storeys, with a crenellated parapet and a large arched entrance.

Joanes' map shows the gate as a three-storey building, taller than Ivy Gate, with a window at first floor level and houses flanking either side. The position of the gate is thought to be represented by a bend in the street, close to Gortboy House (Thomas 1982, 136), but no upstanding remains survive. The suburb is not known from any other maps and therefore may have been abandoned during the decline of the town, following the establishment of Charleville.

Ditches were found in fields to the north of the road, possibly indicating field boundaries shown on Joanes' map (Sherlock, 2006).

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town; RPS M(47)M60-Town Wall.
Condition	There are no standing remains of the gate.

Historical Significance	The gate formed a defence of the south-west suburb of Kilmallock.
Vulnerability	Remains of the gate may survive below-ground.
Guidance Notes	• Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works at the site of the gate. • Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.
References	Sherlock, R. 2006 'Ash Hill, Kilmallock' in I. Bennett (ed.) *Excavations 2003*, 312, Bray. Thomas, A. 1982 *Walled Towns of Ireland volume 2.* Dublin.

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 34	Location:

Zone: West

Feature Name: Field to the west of Kilmallock

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Prehistoric - possibly

Background and Description:
The field to the west of the north end of the Town Wall contains a cromlech, a set of large stones that may date to the Bronze Age. The stones are indicated on the second edition OS map (1897-1913) and are referred to in Lynch's article *'Cromlechs in County Limerick'* as not shown on the 1840 OS map (Lynch, 1904 in Ireland 1983, 40). The stones are not included in the *Survey of Megalithic Tombs of Ireland* by de Valera and O'Nualláin (1982, 42) but are considered to be *in situ.*
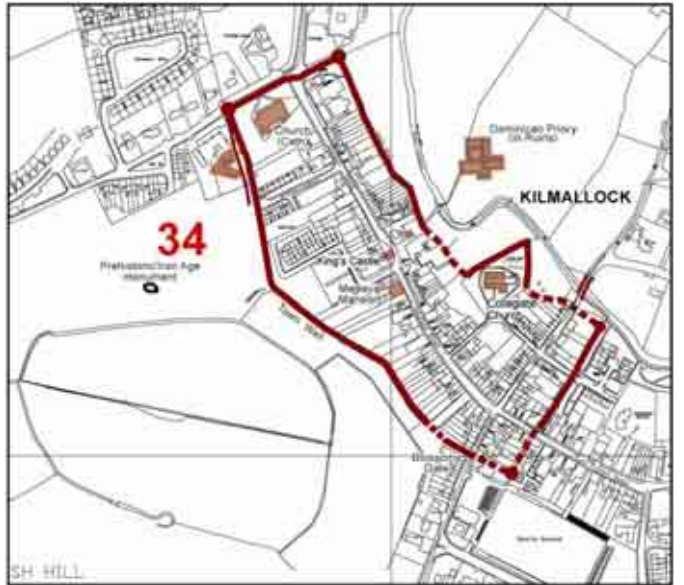
The east side of the field contains the fosse which formed part of the defences of Kilmallock and pre-dated the stone Town Wall. The fosse has since become obscured by deposition and erosion, as has the later bastion. Recent test excavations have revealed two further ditches outside the known line of the fosse (S. McCutcheon personal comment). Recent test excavations have revealed a series of ditches beyond the fosse. Other 'lumps' are visible in the field and may indicate the presence of previously unrecorded structures, which could be related to the cromlech, the fosse, the Town Walls or the bastion.

The field to the north-west of the town has apparently been open land since prehistoric times. During the lifetime of the town, it has been used as pasture land.
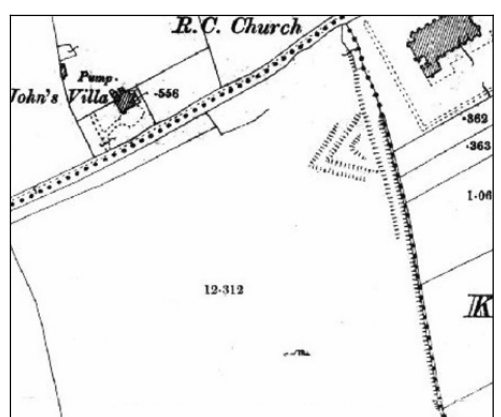

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

The cromlech, looking south-west

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town.
Condition	Good with possible below-ground remains.
Historical Significance	The field contains elements which may add to the understanding of the history and development of the town.

Vulnerability	There may be archaeological remains preserved beneath the surface of the field.
Guidance Notes	- Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works within the field. - Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources. - A topographical survey would identify any features that may be related to the defences of Kilmallock.
References	de Valera, R. and Ó'Nualláin, S. 1982 *Survey of Megalithic Tombs of Ireland, volume 4.* Dublin. Ireland, A. 1983 'An Eighteenth Century Map of Ash Hill, Kilmallock' in *North Munster Antiquarian Journal volume 25: 37-42.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 35	**Location:**

Zone: West

Feature Name: Site of Lake to the west of Kilmallock

Phase/Construction Date(s):

Background and Description:
A lake was situated on the west of Kilmallock that survived until it was drained after the survey for the first edition OS map (1829-41).

It is shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600, as irregularly-shaped, with rowing boats present. It is labelled on the first edition OS map as 'Ash Hill Lough', with an outlet leading north-east towards the Town Wall and a second outlet on the south side, leading to a 'Boat House'. In addition it is bordered by an enclosure of trees, along the east and south sides. A third outlet leads off to the south-west.

The Civil Survey of 1654 names the lake as 'Monaghmore' (Ireland 1983, 39). An 18th century map of Ash Hill labels the lake as 'Lough', with a land division to the south-west named as 'Lough Nockus' and a land division further to the south-west named 'Road Nockus' (Ireland 1983, 37ff).
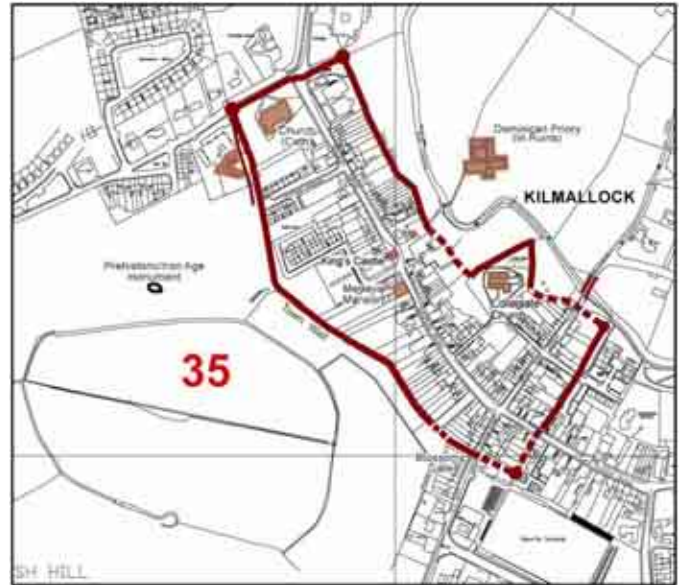
The lake was drained and the second edition OS map (1897-1913) shows the land as divided up into two plots, and a field boundary leading north-east to the Town Wall. The lake is now marked by a tree plantation.

The water course is evident today as an overgrown channel and boggy ground. It is possible that the water course may have filled the original north fosse/ditch with water, prior to the north extension of the town.
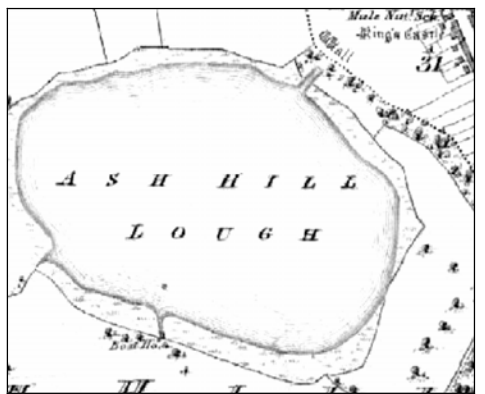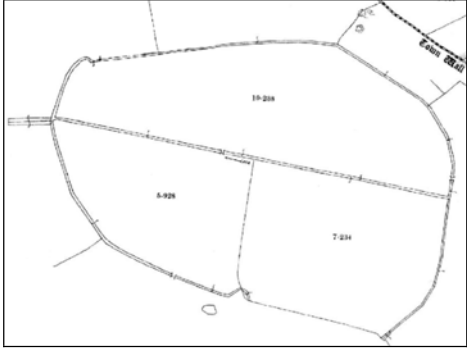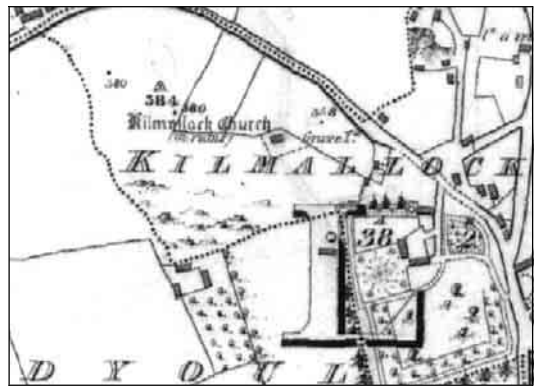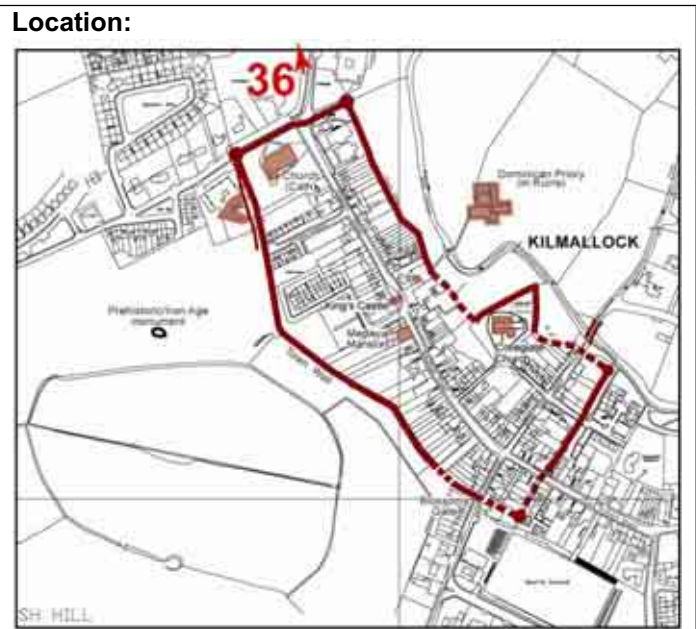

Site of the Lake, looking north-west

Extract from Joanes' map, c.1600 (by permission of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin)

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town covers the north-eastern portion of the lake. Another recorded monument (RMP LI047-020), an enclosure is located at the south-western edge of the lake.
Condition	The site of the lake is currently planted with trees.
Historical Significance	The lake formed a natural defence of the town.
Vulnerability	There may be archaeological remains preserved beneath the surface of the woodland or by the water course.
Guidance Notes	- The woodland provides setting for the Town Walls and adds to the views from the walls and therefore should be protected. - Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources. - A topographical survey would identify any features that may be related to the defences of Kilmallock.
References	Ireland, A. 1983 'An Eighteenth Century Map of Ash Hill, Kilmallock' in *North Munster Antiquarian Journal volume 25: 37-42.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 36	Location:

Zone: North

Feature Name: Church of Saint Mocheallóg (site of)

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – 6th – 10th century

Background and Description:
The Church of Saint Mocheallóg was established on Kilmallock Hill (2km to the north-west of the town) in the late 6th – early 7th century (Seoighe 1987, 13). The ruins of the Church and its platform are evident, together with a small burial ground.

It was plundered in 1015 (Bradley *et al* 1989, 146) and this may have instigated the establishment of the second church. The church moved to the site of the Collegiate Church in the 11th century, but the original church remained in use until the 15th century, when it appeared on a list of the churches and dioceses of Limerick (McCutcheon 2007, 41).

The church is marked on the first edition OS map (1829-41), however it may not have been standing at this time.

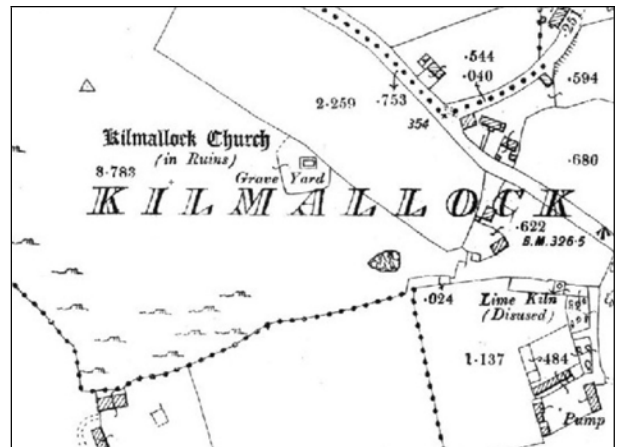*Site of Church of Saint Mocheallóg, looking north-west (courtesy of .S McCutcheon)*

Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

Statutory Protection	RMP LI047-019001 – Church; RMP LI047-019002 - Graveyard.
Condition	The site of the Church is currently inside pasture land, which may aid its protection.
Historical Significance	The church forms the foundation and naming of the town of Kilmallock (Cill Mocheallóg– Church of (Saint) Mocheallóg).
Vulnerability	There may be archaeological remains preserved relating to the absent sections of the church.

Guidance Notes	• The site and its setting should be protected from any development proposals.
	• Mitigation should include preservation *in situ* and recording works and visual representation of results through published or display sources.
	• A topographical survey would identify any features that may be related to the defences of Kilmallock.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished.
	McCutcheon, S. 2007 'Kilmallock - the Irish Balbeck' in *Kilmallock Journal, No.5: 41-5.*
	Seoighe, M. 1987 *The Story of Kilmallock,* Kilmallock, Co. Limerick*.*

GAZETTEER NUMBER: 37	**Location:**

Zone: North

Feature Name: North Bridge

Phase/Construction Date(s):
Construction – possibly Phase 2: 12th -13th century
Alteration/repair – Phase 6 - 7: 19th – 20th century

Background and Description:
Bridge situated to the north of the site of St. John's Gate, on the main road leading out of Kilmallock towards Bruff. The bridge is situated on a wide east-west section of the River Loobagh, before it returns to the south.

The bridge is shown on the first (1829-41) and second (1897-1913) editions of the OS maps. It is not shown on Joanes' map of *c.*1600, as the map did not extend north of St. John's Gate. The first edition map shows a mill situated to the south-east of the bridge, with a mill chase leading off the return in the river course. The Kilmallock Pound was located to the south of the bridge.

The bridge may incorporate elements pre-dating the 19th century. As the road forms the main route leading north from Kilmallock it is possible that a bridge was located there from the medieval period.

North Bridge (courtesy of S. McCutcheon)
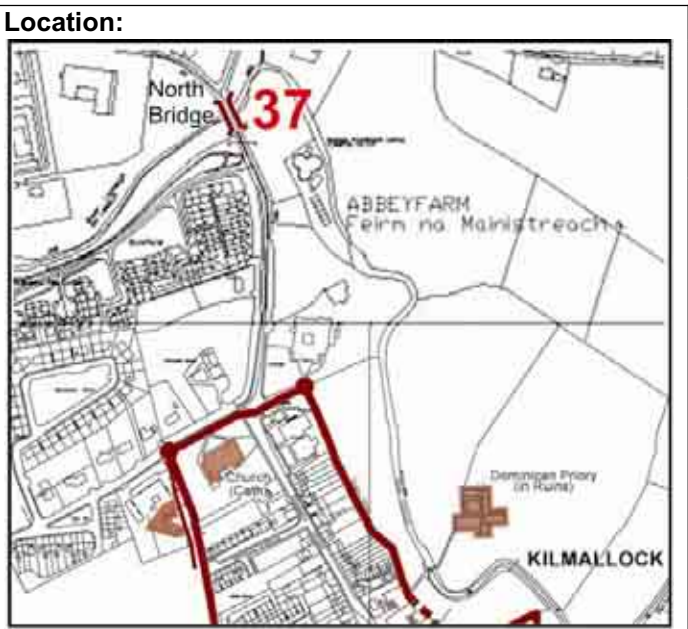
Extract from 6" first edition OS map (1829-41)

Extract from 25" second edition OS map (1897-1913)

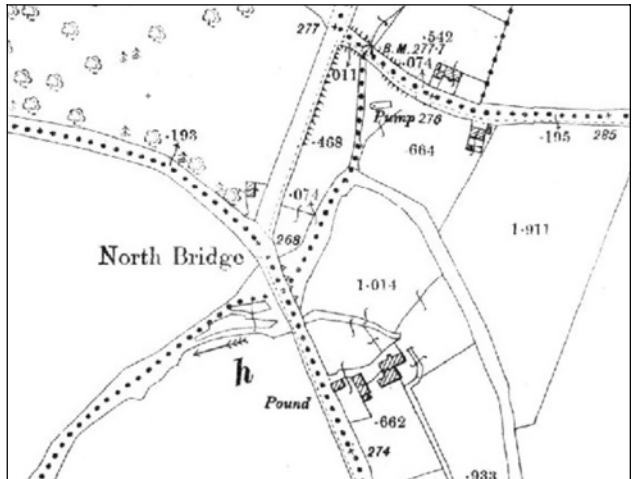| **Statutory Protection**	RMP LI047-022 Kilmallock Town.
Condition	The current bridge structure is stable.
Historical Significance	The site of the bridge may date from the early history of Kilmallock

Vulnerability	The historical significance of the site of the bridge and the associated mill (now gone) are not evident to the public.
Guidance Notes	• Repairs to the bridge should note the possible presence of historic fabric, to be preserved. • Planning conditions should be applied to development proposals of any intrusive works on or within close proximity to the bridge.
References	Bradley, J., Halpin, A. and King, H.A. 1989 *The Urban Archaeology Survey: Part 17 (iii) County Limerick.* OPW, unpublished.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

RESEARCH AGENDA

APPENDIX A: RESEARCH AGENDA

The following are suggested as a basis for a research agenda related to the Town Walls at Kilmallock:

1.   To carry out a full and extensive structural and archaeological survey of the standing remains of the Town Walls.

2.   To determine the location and extent of remains related to the town and town walls on the western exterior through topographic and non invasive surveys.

3.   To clarify, by keyhole archaeological excavations, specified areas, such as the interior face on the eastern wall, the alignment of the fosse on the western wall, and the former island to the north-west of the bridge.

4.   To commission a professional historical search of the documentary and cartographic evidence.

5.   To carry out an archaeological survey and study of the 17th century fortifications.

6.   To create a single archive on the walls and town, which includes all documentary, cartographic and illustrative sources and which is readily accessible within the town e.g. at the local library and electronically.

7.   To undertake a study of the past environment of the town and its surrounding countryside using palaeoenvironmental techniques, such as pollen analysis. In this regard pollen cores from sites such as Ash Hill Lough might be particularly informative.

8.   To study the development of Kilmallock within its regional and national background and thereby establish historic links with other walled towns in the immediate and wider area.

9.   To carry out a survey of the existing buildings within the town to determine whether they contain or are likely to contain medieval fabric.

10.   To carry out an extensive survey of the banks and bed of the River Loobagh to locate evidence for bridging points to the Dominican Priory, mills, weir and fish traps.

11.   To promote the town and its walls as an educational resource by establishing links and promoting long-term projects with third level institutions.

12.   To investigate the relevance of the town walls in the 21st century by encouraging interaction with the local community through school projects, competitions, art works and living history pageants and charting changing attitudes with regular surveys.

APPENDIX B

QUESTIONNAIRE

KILMALLOCK TOWN WALLS

QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of a study to help protect and care for the historic Town Walls of Kilmallock a team of heritage consultants led by Gifford need to know your ideas and any concerns. On behalf of Limerick County Council and the Heritage Council these consultants would be very grateful if you would spend a few minutes completing this questionnaire - many of the questions simply require a tick or number in the relevant box.

To include the information you provide in the plan we need your response by **10th September 2007**. Please return your completed questionnaire by post or by hand to the Friar's Gate Theatre - a box will be left inside the entrance. If you prefer to respond by e-mail please contact limerick@gifford.uk.com asking for a copy of the questionnaire.

Section 1: About You - this information will help us gauge the possible markets for ideas related to the use of the walls

1. Do you live in Kilmallock? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Do you have a business/work in Kilmallock? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Do you live/work within the Town Walls? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Are you an owner ☐ or occupier ☐ of property next to the Walls?

How long have you lived/worked in Kilmallock? (please insert the number of years in the relevant box)

Lived ☐ Worked ☐

For residents - How many people live in your household? ☐

How many in your household belong to each of the following age brackets (please insert the number in each relevant box)?

1-12 ☐

13-17 ☐   36-65 ☐

18-35 ☐   over 65 ☐

For businesses/employees–How many days a week do you spend in Kilmallock? ☐

How many of these days are full days (at least 7 hours)? ☐

Section 2: Your Ideas

5. Do you know Kilmallock is a walled town? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Do you know where the Town Walls are? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Do you feel you know the history of the Walls? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Do you think the Town Walls make Kilmallock special? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, why? …………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………..

9. Would you like to have a signposted walk around the Walls? Yes ☐ No ☐

10. Would you like to see the Town Walls preserved? Yes ☐ No ☐

11. Do you think that the Town Walls and buffer zone should be in public ownership?

Yes ☐ No ☐

12. Do you use the Town Walls in any way? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, how? …………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Below is a list of suggestions used by other towns to learn about and enjoy historic Town Walls - please tick the 3 that would be the most important to you and put an X in the box of any that you feel would not be suitable for Kilmallock.

•	A Town Walls / Town Trail – possibly in the form of a leaflet, signposts, illustrated panels, a sound guide, a mobile phone guide and so on	☐
•	A Town Walls /Town illustrated Souvenir Guidebook to buy	☐
•	Guided walks and training of local volunteers to lead walks	☐

•	An annual Town Walls celebration day / weekend or week of events	☐
•	Regular schools linked events and activities	☐
•	An improved local history display	☐
•	A Town Walls website with images, downloadable information, a short film and quizzes and games related to the town and its history	☐
•	Community arts projects, focusing on the Town Walls and the town's history (aimed at ALL ages)	☐
•	Careful lighting of selected and suitable parts of the Town Walls to enhance them at night and for special events	☐
•	Seating and picnic areas in sites around the Town Walls	☐
•	Theatrical events in and around the Town Walls using them as a backdrop for productions	☐
•	Other events and activities (such as country markets / antique fairs / book fairs) at sites close to the Town Walls	☐

Please list any other ideas you have for enjoying or improving the Town Walls

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Are there any community or visitor facilities you feel would benefit Kilmallock?

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Please enclose here any other comments you would like to make

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire, your help is greatly appreciated.

APPENDIX C

RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE AND CONSULTATION

The results from the 40 questionnaires received are illustrated below:

Question	Yes	No	Unanswered
1	37	3	0
2	20	18	2
3	18	20	2
4*	18	3	19
5	40	0	0
6	36	4	0
7	27	13	0
8	39	0	1
9	38	0	2
10	40	0	0
11	23	7	10
12	8	30	2

Question %	Yes	No	Unanswered
1	93	7	0
2	50	45	5
3	45	50	5
4*	45	8	47
5	100	0	0
6	90	10	0
7	77	33	0
8	97	0	3
9	95	0	5
10	100	0	0
11	58	18	24
12	45	8	47

*Insert 'owner' 'occupier' 'Neither' for 'yes' 'no' 'unanswered'

List of suggestions

Suggestion	Tick	Cross
1	25	6
2	17	7
3	21	5
4	10	1
5	9	2
6	8	1
7	6	3
8	4	3
9	7	3
10	2	3
11	0	1
12	0	3

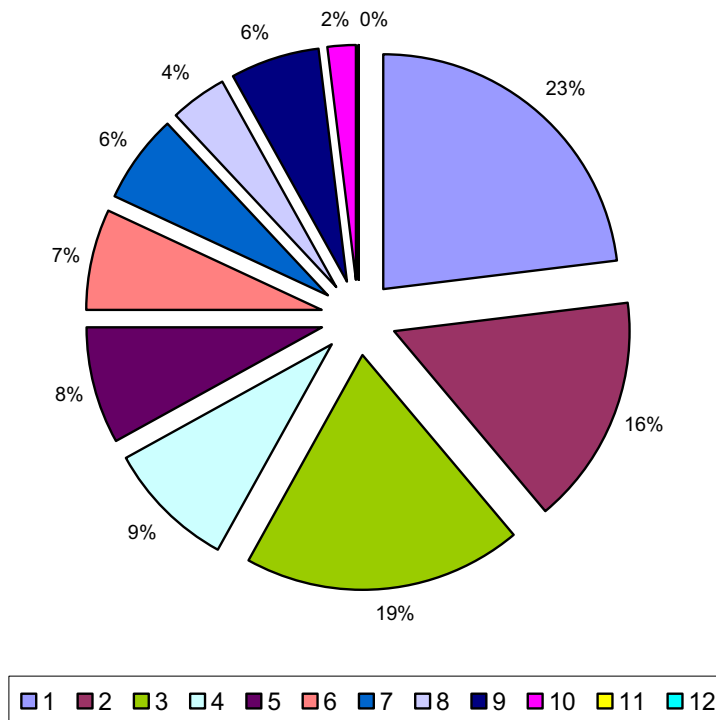| Suggestion %	Tick (109)	Cross (38)
1	23	6
2	16	18
3	19	13
4	9	3
5	8	5
6	7	3
7	6	8
8	4	8
9	6	8
10	2	8
11	0	3
12	0	8

Question Feedback

*Insert 'owner' 'occupier' 'Neither' for 'yes' 'no' 'unaswered'
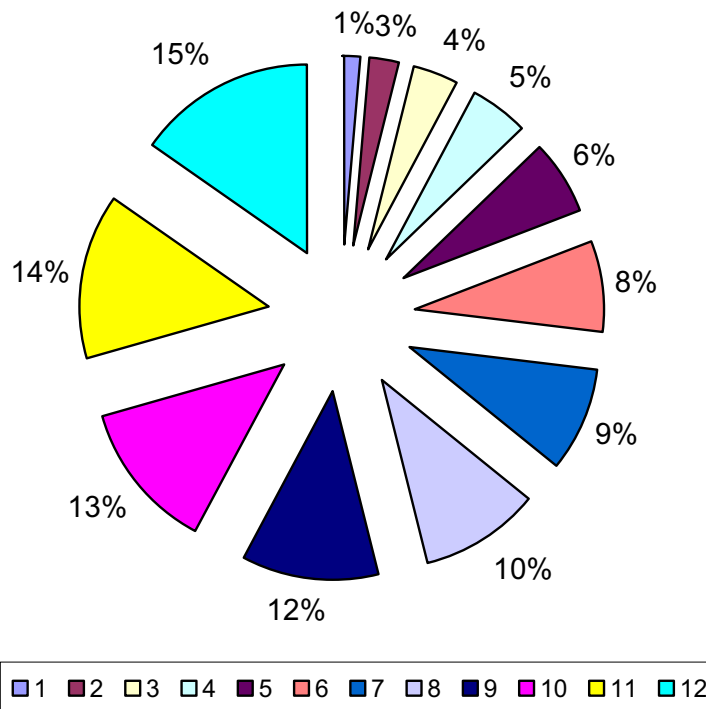
Question Feedback - Percentage / 40

*Insert 'owner' 'occupier' 'Neither' for 'yes' 'no' 'unaswered'

List of Suggestions Percentages - Ticks / 109

Legend: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

1.A Towns Walls / Town Trail – possibly in the form of a leaflet, signposts, illustrated panels, a sound, a mobile phone guide and so on.
2.A Town Walls/Town illustrated Souvenir Guidebook to buy.
3.Guided walks and training of local volunteers to lead walks
4.An annual Town Walls celebration day / weekend or week of events
5.Regular school linked events and activities
6.An improved local history display
7.A Town Walls website with images, downloadable information, a short film and quizzes and games related to the town and its history
8.Community arts projects, focusing on the Town Walls and the town's history (aimed at ALL ages)
9.Careful lighting of selected and suitable parts of the Town Walls to enhance them at night and for special events
10. Seating and picnic areas around the Town Walls
11. Theatrical events in and around the Town Walls using them as a backdrop for productions.
12. Other events and activities (such as country markets/antique fairs / book fairs) at sites close to the town walls.

Legend: □1 ■2 □3 □4 ■5 ■6 ■7 □8 ■9 ■10 ■11 □12

1.A Towns Walls / Town Trail – possibly in the form of a leaflet, signposts, illustrated panels, a sound, a mobile phone guide and so on.

2.A Town Walls/Town illustrated Souvenir Guidebook to buy.

3.Guided walks and training of local volunteers to lead walks

4.An annual Town Walls celebration day / weekend or week of events

5.Regular school linked events and activities

6.An improved local history display

7.A Town Walls website with images, downloadable information, a short film and quizzes and games related to the town and its history

8.Community arts projects, focusing on the Town Walls and the town's history (aimed at ALL ages)

9.Careful lighting of selected and suitable parts of the Town Walls to enhance them at night and for special events

10. Seating and picnic areas around the Town Walls

11. Theatrical events in and around the Town Walls using them as a backdrop for productions.

12. Other events and activities (such as country markets/antique fairs / book fairs) at sites close to the town walls.

93% of those who responded lived in Kilmallock, although only 45% lived within the walls and only 18 out of the 40 owned or occupied property next to the walls. 50% of respondees worked in the town. Whilst only those with an interest in the walls would be generally expected to complete such a questionnaire, it is noted that those who did respond were not necessarily those most directly affected by the walls.

Everyone who responded knew that Kilmallock was a walled town and almost all felt that the walls made the town special, although a few did not know where the walls are located and a third felt they did not know the history of the walls.

All respondees wanted signposted walks around the walls and town and to see the walls preserved. 100% of the respondees also believed the walls should be in public ownership.

With regard to the suggestions put forward in the questionnaire the most popular were (in descending order):

- town wall walks and town trail
- guided wall walks with local volunteers as guides
- souvenir guidebook to buy
- annual walled town celebration
- regular school linked events
- an improved local history display
- a town walls website
- lighting around selected areas of the walls
- community arts projects
- seating and picnic areas around the walls.

The Steering Group comprised the following members:

Michael Barry, Chairman of Steering Group
Denis Power, Archaeologist, National Monuments Service
Aighleann O'Shaughnessy, Senior Architect, Office of Public Works
James Houlihan, Councillor
Patrick McAuliffe, Councillor
James O'Callaghan, Senior Executive Engineer, Kilmallock Area Office
William Ryan, Senior Staff Officer, Kilmallock Area Office
Sarah McCutcheon, Executive Archaeologist, Limerick County Council
Tom Cassidy, Conservation Officer, Limerick County Council
Tom O'Neill, Heritage Officer, Limerick County Council
Anthony Coleman, Administrative Officer, Community and Enterprise, Limerick County Council
Irene McCormack, Executive Planner, Limerick County Council
Gerry Sheeran, Senior Planner, Limerick County Council
Joan MacKernan, Arts Officer, Limerick County Council
Noel Collins, Chairman of Kilmallock Historical Society
Michael Donegan, Chairman of Kilmallock Community Council
Caoimhe Reidy, Friar's Gate Theatre
Michael O'Riordain, Kilmallock Partnership
Canon William Fitzmaurice
Sister Theresa, Principal of Kilmallock National School
Niall McDermott, Principal of Coláiste Iosaef
Nuala O'Grady, Kilmallock resident
Peter Kenny, Kilmallock resident
Claire Kenny, Kilmallock resident.

From the consultation with the Steering Group and owners of land adjacent to the walls the following points are noted:

The walls are clearly felt to be important, a link to the past that define the town and give it a medieval 'feel'. The walls are viewed as largely intact and providing a sense of enclosure and that the town itself with its built environment contrasts with its pastoral setting. However there is a feeling that the walls are taken for granted and that they need to be accessible to become special to people – ideally with a section restored and walks and interpretation provided.

Concerns centre on the physical condition of the walls, the extent of ivy and overgrowth, and a lack of resources for the maintenance and the provision of lighting and security if there is to be access to the walls encouraged. There was also some concern that the town is 'off the main thoroughfare' and not assisted with the lack of a train station.

These is a strong belief that community involvement should play a vital role the future management of the walls, but that this needs to be based on better understanding and appreciation by local people of the walls, the issues related to them and the benefits there could be to the town from the promotion of the walls. That training and professional supervision was vital for any community involvement was understood and welcomed.

For some the walls are seen as a hindrance to development, restricting activity and so preventing the town modernise and improve. Generally Kilmallock is regarded as underdeveloped and lacking infrastructure, but there is a strong awareness that development needs to be sensitive to the walls. There is some concern over the extent to which the buffer zone is respected and enforced and strong support for the appointment of an overall walls manager as a single point of contact for any issues related to the walls.

There is strong interest in the development of a larger museum in Kilmallock and it is felt that it is important to develop and foster links with local and regional tourism offers.

APPENDIX D

S. McCUTCHEON ARTICLE (2007)

Kilmallock – the Irish Balbeck

Kilmallock must be a place of high antiquity … and preserves a greater share of magnificence even in its ruins than anything I had yet seen in Ireland. I call it the Irish Balbeck. (Campbell 1777, 212-3).

Kilmallock gets its name from a seventh century monastery dedicated to St. Mocheallóg. The original foundation was on a hill to the north west of the town but it seems to have relocated to the site now occupied by the Collegiate Church. The town therefore, may be among a handful in Ireland that owe its origin and certainly its location to a monastic foundation. It grew in importance after the arrival of the Anglo Normans to become second only in the region to Limerick City. Kilmallock's corporation was created by a very early charter, possibly dating to before the end of the 13th century (Seoighe 1987, 20). In the later middle ages it became the chief stronghold and town of the Desmond family particularly the branch known as the White Knights. Kilmallock became the key point for government rule in North Munster up to the end of the 17th century, largely due to its strategic position between Cork and Limerick. The town suffered during the rebellions of the 16th century, most famously when it was burned by James FitzMaurice FitzGerald on 2nd March 1571. It was rapidly repaired by Sir John Perrott. A charter of 1584 recognised the corporation as 'The Sovereign and Burgesses of the Town of Kilmallock'. It became a borough in 1585 and gained Parliamentary representation. Cromwellian forces dismantled the walls following the surrender of the town in 1645 but these were re-built by the Corporation. They were partially destroyed again in the Williamite Wars of 1690-91. Although the town continued to return two members of Parliament until the Act of Union in 1800, the 18th to the 19th century was a period of stagnation, partially due to the opening up of an alternative route to Cork via Charleville.

Beginnings:

Kilmallock is the anglicised version of *Cill Mocheallóg*, church of *Mo* (my, a form of esteem) *Cheallóg*. This saint was an abbot and bishop who lived at the end of the 6th and beginning of the 7th century. *Ceallóg* is mentioned in the early Irish calendars and martyrologies and was also known as *Cillian* with whom he shares a feast day, March 26th (Seoighe, 1987, 13-4). The early monastery is said to have been built in the first half of the 7th century and was located on the hill to the north-west of the town. The earliest reference to Kilmallock is in 927 when, it is stated: 'a slaughter of the foreigners of Waterford at Kilmallock by the men of Munster and the foreigners of Limerick (*ibid*., 15).

Although a chapel continued in existence on the hill until, at least, the 15th century; the monastery appears to have relocated by the eleventh century to the present site of the Collegiate Church. According to Westropp (1904-5, 420) embedded in the west wall of the Collegiate Church is 'a much modified but ancient Irish round tower'. There are several references to the community in the 11th century, in 1015 it was plundered and it is recorded that *Flaithnia O Tigernain*, lector of *Cell Mo-Chelloc* died in 1027 (Gwynn & Hadcock 1988, 39).

The monastic property seems to have been absorbed into the property of the Bishop of Limerick. The site on the plain had much to offer, it was naturally protected to the east by the River Loobagh, to the west there was a large lake. The town was also strategically located on the route between Limerick and Cork. It has been described as 'a fortress town, strongly walled and protected, standing at a crossroads, in a remarkable fertile limestone plain, in the heart of the great oak woods' (Seoighe 1987, 18).

Early development:

When the Anglo-Normans arrived, Kilmallock formed part of the estate of the Bishop of Limerick who may even have been responsible for founding the town. In 1199 it is recorded that Geoffrey de Marisco held the episcopal lands at Kilmallock. There is a mention of a castle at Kilmallock by 1206, the site of this early castle is unknown, though later medieval references are agreed to mean King's Castle. Fairs were licensed in 1221 (Westropp 1904/05, 419). The Collegiate Church was certainly built by 1251 as there are continual references to 'the great church of Kilmallock' from this date onwards. The foundation date of the Dominican Priory is 1291.

A collection of deeds attributed to the end of the thirteenth century show that by this time the street plan, defences, a market cross, stone houses and many burgage plots were established (Bradley *et al.* 1989, 147). One of these deeds was witnessed by the Provost; this was a municipal post that later became that of Sovereign (Seoighe 1987, 22). It suggests that the town was incorporated even at this stage. The streets were (N-S) John's Street, now Sheares Street; Main or High Street, now Sarsfield Street; Crooked Lane and Church Lane, now Orr Street; Fleming Street, later Ivy Street, now Lord Edward Street; Blapat Street, now Emmet Street and Water Street, now Wolfe Tone Street. Other aspects of municipal organisation have been recorded by archaeological excavations. A medieval cobbled surface survived intermittently from the junction of Orr Street and Sarsfield Street to the crossroads in the town centre. The cobbles were also recorded on Lord Edward Street and beyond the town wall. The surface was particularly well preserved in this area with a slight camber, a central division and there were traces of resurfacing. The cobbled surface was also found in Emmet Street and extended outside the walls (O'Connor 2000, 46-7).

The Collegiate Church, dedicated to SS Peter and Paul, consisting of a nave, chancel and south transept, was built in the 13th century, aisles were added in the 15th century. It replaced the pre-Norman church, presumably dedicated to *Mocheallóg*. Remains of the original church may be seen in the base of the round tower which is said to date to the 10/11th century. This church remained in use as the Church of Ireland parish church until the 1935, an eight hundred year length of service. Extensive works have been carried out in recent years by the Office of Public Works on behalf of the National Monuments Service, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, who own this National Monument.

The defences:
The first reference to the town's defences dates to the 1280s and mentions the communal fosse. The fosse can still be seen outside the west wall and ditches of varying sizes have been uncovered throughout the modern town. The most notable ditch was uncovered in 2000. This ditch, within the walls, measured *circa* 1m deep x 6m wide, and extended at right angles to Sheares Street just outside the line of King's Castle towards the western town wall (O'Connor 2000, 46). The size, orientation and position of the ditch suggest that this could be part of the "communal fosse". Its discovery substantiates the theory that the original town extended northward only as far as King's Castle and that Sheares Street was enclosed later. It is unclear how much later, some have suggested the 16th century (Bradley *et al.* 1989, 156) but since

some of the early deeds (13th century) relate to a house in John's Street (now Sheares Street) it may have been earlier, although it may have been quite developed before it was enclosed.

While the first defences may have been a ditch and earthen bank with a palisade, it is clear that the town was rapidly enclosed with a stone wall. It has been suggested that the first murage grant was made prior to 1300 since in 1301-2 a pipe roll mentions that Kilmallock then owed a £14 fine for their account of the murage (*ibid*., 155). Another grant of 1308 to the Burgesses referred to enclosing and strengthening the town (Thomas 1992, 134). Further grants were made to The Provost and Commonalty in 1374 for 10 years after the destruction and burning of the town and in 1409 to the Portreeve and Burgesses for 20 years. In 1482 a charter of Edward IV made a grant of customs for the walls in perpetuity. A charter of Edward VI in 1550 attached customs and fines to be spent on the wall and fortifications of the town (Seoighe 1987, 48). Further mention of the walls was made in the 1584 charter addressed to the Sovereign and Burgesses. The existing wall appears to belong to the late 14th and 15th centuries. It is generally 1.2-1.5m wide and survives up to 5m in height in places with evidence for a wall walk. It is built with a rubble core and external facings. The wall encloses an area of 13 hectares and the perimeter is 1700m in length (Thomas 1992, 134). Kilmallock is fortunate in having the line of its defences preserved for almost the entire circuit of the town. It is particularly impressive along the west side of the town where it survives for nearly 600m. Elsewhere it remains to ground level or exists as a low wall rebuilt by succeeding generations. It is evident everywhere, however, as it is incorporated into the property boundaries and a single glance at a modern map of Kilmallock will show the extent of the medieval town.

There were five main gates. St John's or North Gate was depicted on a map of *circa* 1600 as a large, double tower with a pitched roof *(ibid.*), later recordings represent it as a slender 3-4 storey gate house with one side tower (Fleming 1912, Sketch 19). This was still standing in the first quarter of the 19th century. O'Dowd (1889, 208) refers to a piece of masonry at the very corner of the road which was part of the gate, but which, at the time of writing, had disappeared. The east gate at the end of Wolfe Tone Street was Water Gate and in 1600 it was shown as a single square/rectangular 2-3 storey gate house. Between these was the Friar's Gate which appears to be a single tower giving access at the end of Friar's Lane to the Dominican Priory on the east bank of the River Loobagh. The southern gate was called Ivy Gate and resembled the Water Gate in plan on the 1600's map. Archaeological excavations uncovered the base of the town wall at the site of Ivy Gate; the street was 2.4m wide as it passed through the wall. Another wall, external and at right angles to the town wall, extended

for 10.27m and was 1.1m wide. Although later than the town wall, this might be the remains of a gate-house (O'Connor 2000, 46). At the south-west of the town there was Blae Gate also known as Mallow or Pigeon Castle and currently known as Blossom Gate, this appears as two towers on the 1600 map. It is the only gate still standing. It is in the ownership of Limerick County Council. It consists of three floors with a partially modernised arch spanning Emmet Street with one remaining side tower. The 1600's map shows a suburb at this point, which extends beyond Blossom Gate out the present Charleville road with a gate tower at its extremity. This is the only evidence for this outer gate, to date, and it is described as 'taller than Ivy Gate 3-storied, battlemented with at least one side tower' (Thomas 1992, 134).

The 1600's map also shows towers at the four corners of the walls which Thomas (1992, 134) describes as square in shape with battlemented tops. No trace of these survives above ground. O'Dowd (1889, 208) refers to a lime-kiln at the north-west corner 'the representative of a corner tower of the fortifications'. Recent archaeological excavations have exposed what may be the foundation layer of the south-eastern tower abutting the outer face of the town wall (Carroll 2006, unpublished).

King's Castle is located at the confluence of Sheares Street and Sarsfield Street. It is undoubtedly on the site of the original northern gate, prior to the enclosure of Sheares Street. The existing building is judged to be 15th century in date (Bradley *et al.* 1989, 158). It consists of 3 storeys with a base batter, a rectangular stair turret and the tower has stepped merlons. It served as the citadel for the town and later variously as an arsenal, a meeting place for the Corporation, a school, a jail and a blacksmith's forge. It is in the ownership of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG.

There were also two main bridges in Kilmallock. The North Bridge as the name would suggest, to the north of the town leading to Limerick; this was called St. John's Gate Bridge in the Civil Survey (Simington 156). Kilmallock Bridge was reached from Wolfe Tone Street (Water Street) exterior to the site of the Water Gate. There was also a bridge connecting Friar's Gate to the Dominican Priory and the 1600s map shows a second informal access from the Priory to orchard fields on the opposite bank of the river.

The Dominican Priory of St. Saviour was founded in controversy in 1291 as the Bishop of Limerick, the lord of the fee of Kilmallock, tried to have it stopped. The land appears to have been sold to them by a burgess of Kilmallock called John Bluet, but the foundation of the Dominican Priory is ascribed to Gilbert Fitzgerald, an ancestor of the White Knight. Gilbert's tomb is located in the sanctuary and the White Knights were buried there up to the last representative in 1608. The quality of the architectural detail in the Priory is superb and the

five-light east window of the church is one of the finest in Ireland. The church was completed by 1318. In 1340 a General Chapter of the Dominican Order in Ireland met in Kilmallock. The crossing tower was added in the fifteenth century possibly the second quarter. The north range was probably rebuilt at the same time (Hogan 1991, 46). Extensive restoration has been carried out by the Office of Public Works, on behalf of the National Monuments Service, DoEHLG, who own this significant National Monument.

Strategic development:

Kilmallock was a strong and prosperous town throughout the medieval period. The elements for the urban entity were established early. In 1300 when money was being raised for the Scottish wars, Kilmallock gave £20, which was the same amount as Limerick and Cashel and no less than eight visits were paid to Kilmallock by the Justiciar for Ireland between 1295 and 1303 (Hogan 1991, 3). Kilmallock benefited from its strategic position. 'On a direct line from Cork to Limerick, Kilmallock was the key to the West … astride the east-west axis of Munster … Kilmallock stood at a crossroads in great Kilmore Wood … and commanded a wooded defile through the Ballyhoura Hills' (Berleth 1979, 58-9). Merchants based in Cork and Limerick often had property in Kilmallock (O'Connor 1987, 55). The town of Kilmallock was 'surrounded by an extensive dependent territory known as the liberties of Kilmallock' estimated at 2450 acres in 1640, it gave the townspeople a degree of control over the immediate countryside (*ibid.*, 55-6). In 1600 the population of Kilmallock was reckoned at roughly 2000 or a little less, Limerick was between 2400 and 3600 (Seoighe 1987, 45). The patronage of Geraldines also greatly assisted Kilmallock's ascent. The White Knights were the Fitzgibbon branch of the Munster or Desmond Geraldines and were particularly associated with the town.

Zenith:

The title Earl of Desmond was created in 1329 (Lee 1967, 253). For the next two and a half centuries the Earls of Desmond were the Overlords of Munster and Kilmallock was their chief town (*ibid.*). By 1472 Kilmallock had its own mint. The description from the Annals of the Four Masters of the attack on the town in 1571 states that the attackers 'proceeded to divide among themselves its gold, silver, various riches and valuable jewels' and were 'engaged for the space of three days and nights in the carrying away the several kinds of riches and precious goods, as cups and ornamented goblets, upon their horses and steeds' (Seoighe 1987, 62).

Detail from the Civil Survey (1654-56), recorded a century after its heyday, indicates that along Kilmallock's main streets there was a total of six tower houses, 29 three storey stone houses, 4 two-storey stone houses, and the majority of the 130 thatched houses listed also fronted the main thoroughfares (O'Connor 1987, 54). Even the ruins of these houses were impressive enough to inspire many artists, sketchers and literary travellers in the 18th and 19th centuries. The most famous example is 'A view of Kilmallock' by John Mulvany 1827 (the National Gallery of Ireland). The stone houses generally date from the 16th century. 'This [the sixteenth century] was a period of great building activity in both country and town, and to it belong the now not very numerous town buildings of Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick and Kilmallock. In most of the other cities and towns of Ireland the architecture of the period has given place to Georgian and more modern erections' (Leask 1941, 73). One stone mansion remains on Sarsfield Street. Although reduced in height it is integral to the historic fabric of Kilmallock as it is the most complete and visible example of the many such houses that lined the main streets of Kilmallock when the town was at the height of its importance. The Friar's Gate Theatre is built within the gable walls of another similar building, known as Sarsfield's House which was destroyed in 1930 (Leask 1941, 73). Many of the medieval stone mansions are incorporated into the seemingly 'modern' building stock and discoveries are continually being made. '*In some of the many changes rendered necessary by the altered conditions of modern life there is no Irish town which contains so much suggestion of the past. ... The blending of the antique and the modern is striking. The ancient mansions have not been removed or destroyed; they have been assimilated, so to speak. On one entire side of the street even now the houses present peculiarities which show them to be of high antiquity, in spite of the newness and freshness of their appearance*' (O'Dowd 1889, 207-8).
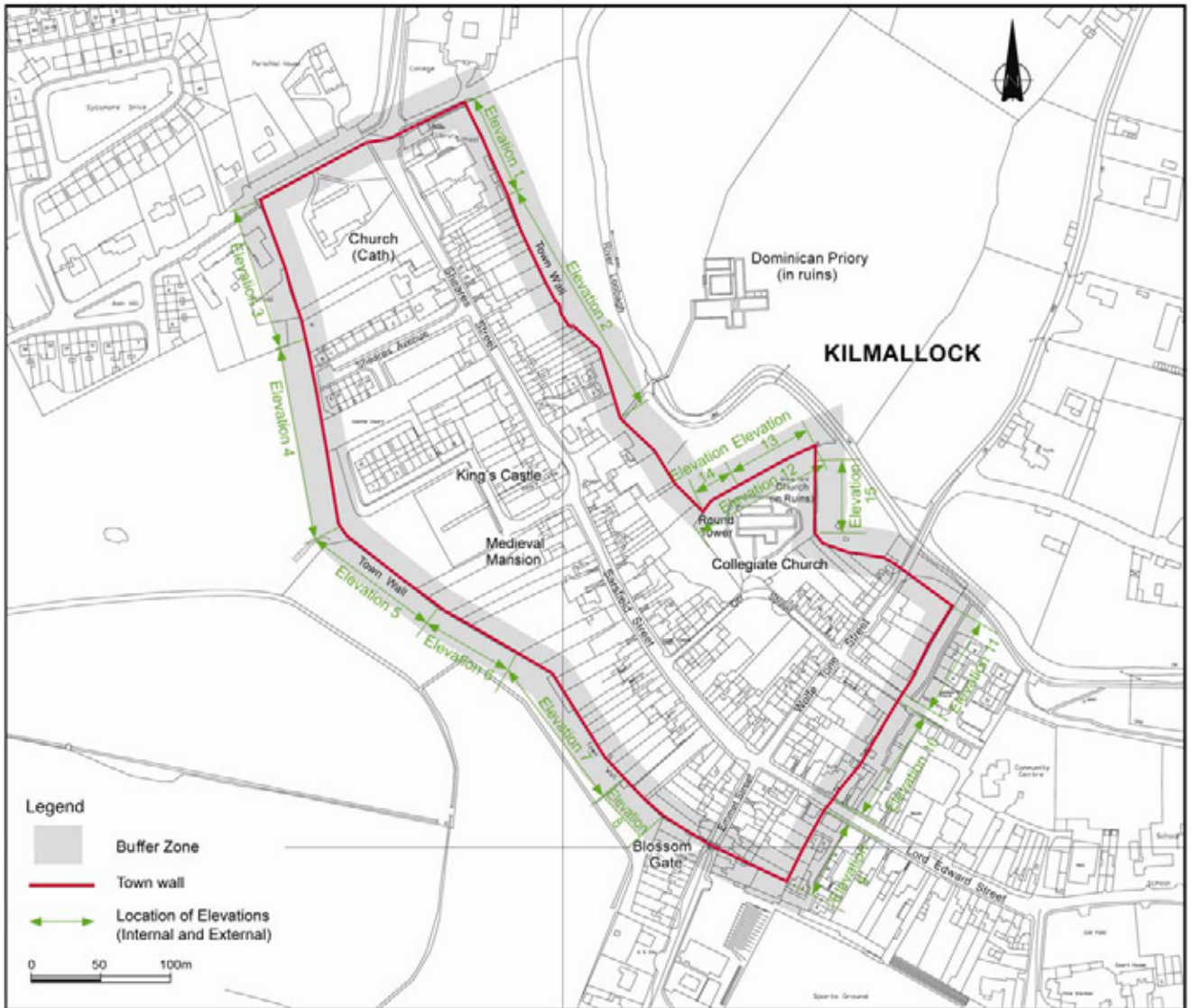
Decline:

During the reign of Elizabeth I there was a concentrated effort to rein in the power of the great Anglo-Irish lords of Munster. This culminated in the Desmond Rebellion, which continued from 1569 under James FitzMaurice FitzGerald, the appointed ruler in the Earl's absence, until the death of Gerald, the 14th Earl of Desmond, in 1583. Kilmallock suffered during this time, most notably when it was sacked and burned by James FitzMaurice FitzGerald in 1571. The English commanders, such as Sir Henry Sidney and Sir John Perrott, realised the strategic value of Kilmallock. It was Sir John Perrott who rebuilt the walls and revitalised the town after the burning of 1571. The town became a garrison and crucial to the enforcement of central government in the region. It continued to be important during the Nine

Years War (1594-1603) and in the 1641 Rebellion. In 1650 the town surrendered to the Cromwellian forces under Ireton, who proceeded to dismantle the fortifications, these were later restored by the corporation (Seoighe 1987, 111). The war ended in 1652. The Civil Survey was carried out to assist in the subsequent land confiscation and redistribution and has left a detailed record of the buildings and land holdings in Kilmallock in the mid-seventeenth century. Three main families gained lands in the liberties of Kilmallock, the Cootes, the Ormsbys and the Olivers as well as the Bishop of Limerick. By 1662 a new town, Charleville, had been founded 6 miles to the south-west of Kilmallock by Roger Lord Broghill, first Earl of Orrery (Seoighe 1987, 122). The new town became a serious commercial rival to Kilmallock, and this was compounded by the redesignation of the main road from Cork to Limerick via Charleville. Several authors have pointed to the numerous absentee landlords and the lack of patronage afforded by a single landlord being the cause of depressing Kilmallock from this period (*ibid.*, 122).

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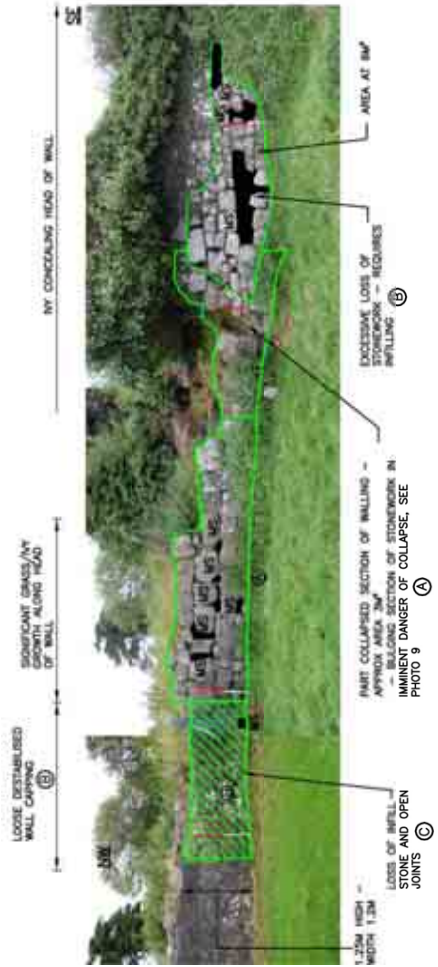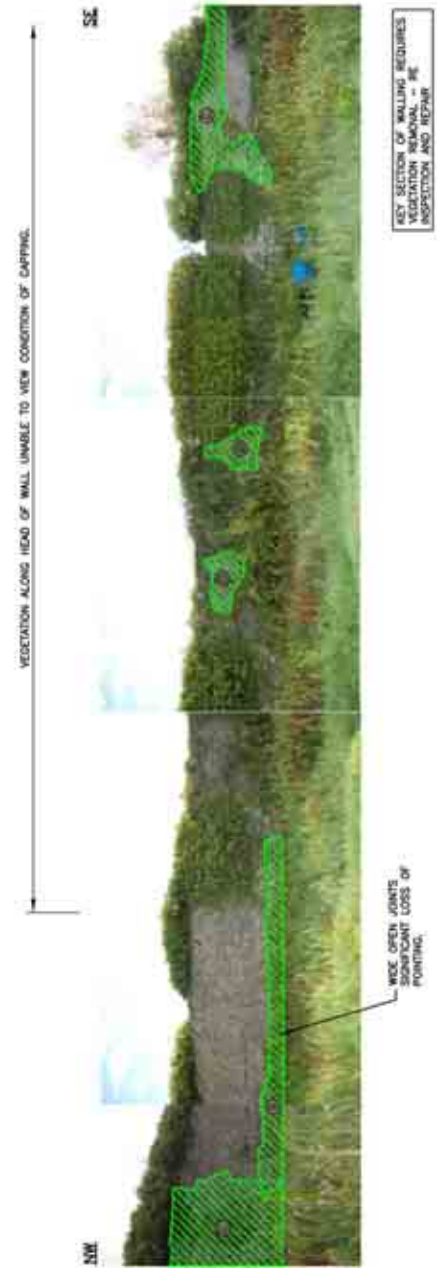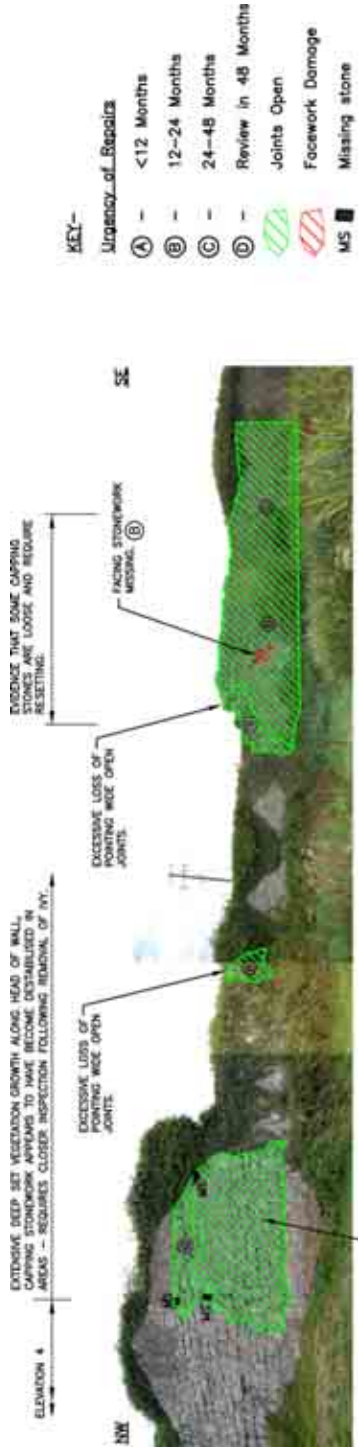
APPENDIX E

STRUCTURAL SURVEY RECORDS

Plan Showing Location of Internal and External Elevations

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 1

PHOTO 8
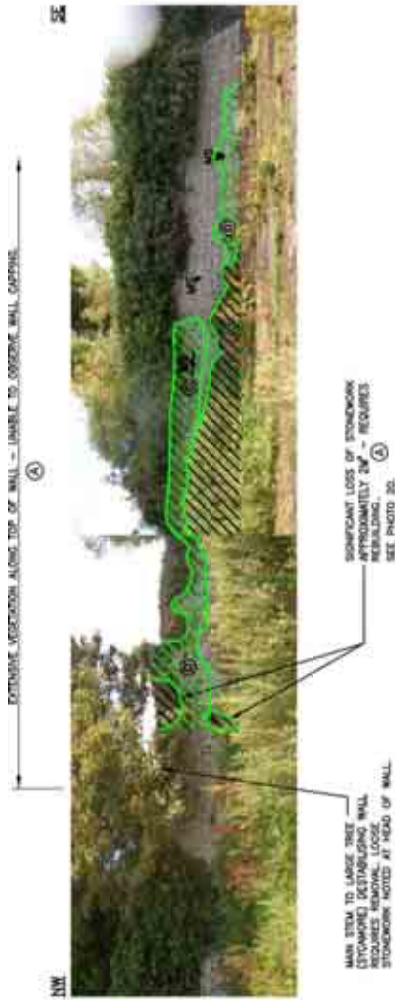

PHOTO 9

CONIFER PLANTS GROWING ALONG FRONT OF WALL

ISOLATED PLANT GROWTH ALONG HEAD OF WALL - MINIMAL IMPACT

LOOSE STONEWORK TO WALL CAPPING - SEE PHOTO 8 (REQUIRES CONSOLIDATION) (B)

10-50MM WIDE OPEN JOINT AT BASE OF WALL - 150MM DEEP AT * - REQUIRES INFILLING (C)

ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS IN WALL (D)

SE

NW

IVY CONCEALING HEAD OF WALL

SIGNIFICANT GRASS/IVY GROWTH ALONG HEAD OF WALL

LOOSE DESTABILISED WALL CAPPING (D)

PART COLLAPSED SECTION OF WALLING - APPROX AREA 2M² - BULGING SECTION OF STONEWORK IN IMMINENT DANGER OF COLLAPSE, SEE PHOTO 9 (A)

LOSS OF INFILL STONE AND OPEN JOINTS (C)

EXCESSIVE LOSS OF STONEWORK - REQUIRES INFILLING (B)

AREA AT 8M²

1.25M HIGH WIDTH 1.3M

SE

NW

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 3

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 5

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 7

PHOTO 14

PHOTO 20

PHOTO 15

PHOTO 16

PHOTO 17

PHOTO 18

PHOTO 19

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL – UNABLE TO OBSERVE WALL CAPPING.

MAIN STEM TO LARGE TREE (SYCAMORE) DESTABILISING WALL. REQUIRES REMOVAL. LOOSE STONEWORK NOTED AT HEAD OF WALL.

SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF STONEWORK APPROXIMATELY 2M² – REQUIRES REBUILDING. SEE PHOTO 20.

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL – UNABLE TO OBSERVE WALL CAPPING.

LOOSE CAPPING TO WALL – REQUIRES RE-BEDDING.

VEGETATION.

LOCATION WHERE CORE EXPOSED.

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL – UNABLE TO OBSERVE WALL CAPPING. WALL 470mm THICK

CAPPING TO WALL COLLAPSED – CORE EXPOSED, REQUIRES REPAIR, SEE PHOTO 14.

0.5M² LOSS OF FACING STONE.

TREE TO BE REMOVED.

EXCESSIVE LOSS OF STONE AND POINTING AREA BEGINNING TO FAIL – UNABLE TO RESIST LATERAL SOIL PRESSURE. SEE PHOTO 15. AREA 5M² REQUIRES RESETTING AND BEDDING. SEE PHOTOS 16,17,18 & 19.

SEE ELEVATION 8.

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 8

KEY:—

Urgency of Repairs

Ⓐ – <12 Months
Ⓑ – 12–24 Months
Ⓒ – 24–48 Months
Ⓓ – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open

Facework Damage

MS ■ Missing stone

PHOTO 13

CAPPING TO WALL RELATIVELY SOUND.

EXCESSIVE LOSS OF MASONRY APPROXIMATELY 3M² – REQUIRES REBUILDING. SEE PHOTO 13. Ⓐ

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION IN FRONT OF WALL – NO INSPECTION POSSIBLE APART FROM ISOLATED AREA.

EXTENSIVE LOSS OF CEMENTITIOUS PONTING AND SMALL INFILL STONES.
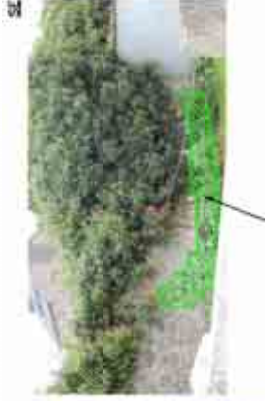
OPEN JOINTS AND ISOLATED LOSS OF INFILL STONE Ⓒ

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL

EXTENSIVE VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL

ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS

OPEN JOINTS

EXTERNAL ELEVATIONS

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 11

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 13

PHOTO 23

PHOTO 24

NE

SW

NE

SW

NE

SW

VEGETATION DEBRIS AGAINST BASE OF WALL

JOINTS OPENED UP

VEGETATION HEAVILY OVERGROWN SMOTHERING WALL

AREA OF REPOINTING

JOINTS OPENED UP

KEY-

Urgency of Repairs

Ⓐ – <12 Months
Ⓑ – 12-24 Months
Ⓒ – 24-48 Months
Ⓓ – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open
Facework Damage
MS ▮ Missing stone

EXTERNAL ELEVATION 15

ISOLATED PLANT GROWTH ALONG TOP OF WALL, INSIGNIFICANT.

WALL ELEVATION IN GENERALLY GOOD CONDITION

REBUILT SECTION OF WALL

N

S

FULL THICKNESS OF WALL

PILED UP STONES IN FRONT OF WALL

ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS AND LOSS OF INFILL STONE (C)

200-300MM LOSS OF FACEWORK LOOSE DESTABILISED PANEL OF STONEWORK WITH NUMEROUS OPEN JOINTS, REQUIRES CONSOLIDATION THROUGHOUT (A)

HEAVILY OVERGROWN SECTION OF WALL

N

S

KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

(A) - <12 Months
(B) - 12-24 Months
(C) - 24-48 Months
(D) - Review in 48 Months

Joints Open
Facework Damage
MS - Missing stone

SECTION 1 SHOWN, GOOD CONDITION.
SECTION 2 GENERALLY OVERGROWN AS VIEWED FROM CHURCH. A FEW ISOLATED MISSING STONES NOTED. SECTION 3 SHOWN.

INTERNAL ELEVATION 3

KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

(A) - <12 Months
(B) - 12-24 Months
(C) - 24-48 Months
(D) - Review in 48 Months

Joints Open
Facework Damage
MS ■ Missing stone

NOTE:
WALL ELEVATION CURRENTLY ACTING AS A RETAINING WALL.
APPROX 2M OF RETAINED SOIL INTERNALLY.

SECTION 4 NOT ACCESSED.
SECTION 5 SHOWN. ISOLATED MISSING STONES. GENERALLY GOOD CONDITION.
SECTION 6 SHOWN. GENERALLY GOOD CONDITION.
SECTION 7 SHOWN. EXCESSIVE IVY GROWTH ALONG HEAD OF WALL. TO BE CUT BACK.

VEGETATION GROWING ALONG TOP OF WALL.
CAPPING STONES APPEAR RELATIVELY SOLID

WALL HEIGHT EXTENDS BEYOND

WALL SECTION 5 — WEST END OF SHEARES AVENUE

CAPPING STONES APPEAR LOOSE

CAPPING STONES APPEAR LOOSE

EXCESSIVE LOSS OF INFILL STONE AND POINTING. REQUIRES REPAIR. (C)

WALL SECTION 6

ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS. MAINTAIN REGIME OF MONITORING.

WALL SECTION 7

PHOTO 74: HOLE/NICHE IN WALL.

SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF INFILL STONE AND OPEN JOINTS.

WALL SECTION 8

INTERNAL ELEVATION 4

VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL

SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF FACEWORK LOCATED TO BASE OF WALL. REQUIRES CONSOLIDATION. (B)

LARGE QUANTITY OF STONE NOTED ALONG BASE OF WALL.

OPEN JOINTS AND STONE FACEWORK MISSING.

WALL SECTION 9

PHOTO 63: SIGNIFICANT COLLAPSE OF STONE AND LOSS OF FACEWORK.

VEGETATION ALONG TOP OF WALL

LOCALISED COLLAPSE AT END OF WALL

SECTION IN IMMINENT DANGER OF COLLAPSE.

150MM BUILDUP OF SOIL ALONG HEAD OF WALL.

OUTCROP. ORIGINAL THICKNESS OF CONSTRUCTION.

LOSS OF FACEWORK UP TO 350 THICKNESS LOST, CORE REVEALED. URGENT CONSOLIDATION REQUIRED.

WALL SECTION 9 CONT.

PHOTO 66: HOLE THROUGH WALL.

PHOTO 64 & 65.

VEGETATION GROWTH ALONG WALL TOP. EXTENSIVE LOSS TO INFILL STONE AND POINTING. (B)

NOTE:
WALL ELEVATION CURRENTLY ACTING AS A RETAINING WALL. APPROX 1.5M OF RETAINED SOIL INTERNALLY. SECTION 9 SHOWN. MAJOR LOSS OF FACING STONEWORK. IVY TO BE CUT BACK AND WALL CONSOLIDATED AND REPOINTED.

SECTION 10 SHOWN. OVERGROWN WITH SOME STONE VISABLE. SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF INFILL STONE AND POINTING. HEAVILY OVERGROWN ALONG HEAD. REQUIRES URGENT CONSOLIDATION.

WALL SECTION 10

INTERNAL ELEVATION 5
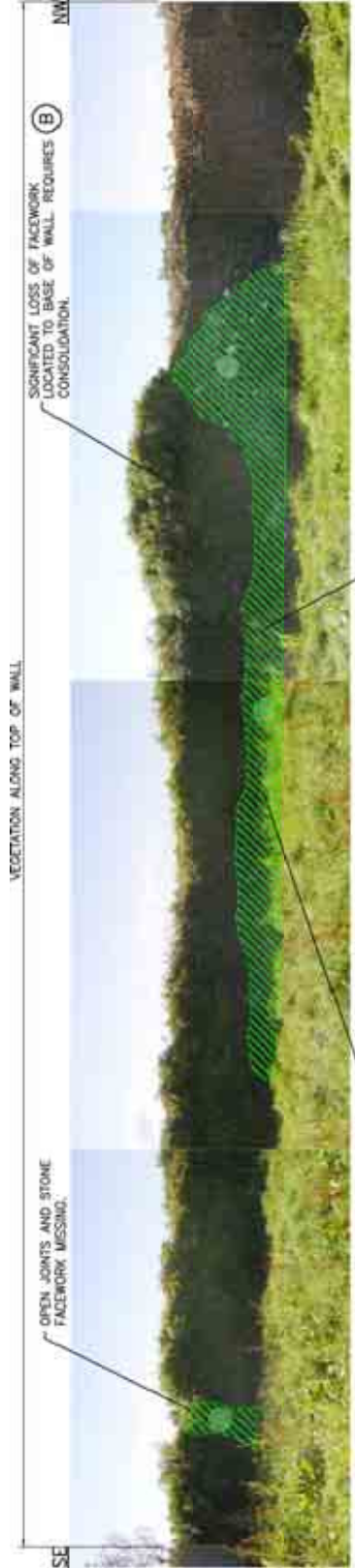
KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

Ⓐ – <12 Months
Ⓑ – 12-24 Months
Ⓒ – 24-48 Months
Ⓓ – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open

Facework Damage

MS ▪ Missing stone

NOTE:
WALL ELEVATION CURRENTLY ACTING AS A RETAINING WALL.
APPROX 1M OF RETAINED SOIL INTERNALLY.
SECTION 11 SHOWN, VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL.
SECTION 12 NOT ACCESSED BUT VIEWED FROM 14.
VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL.
SECTION 13 NOT SHOWN, VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL.
SECTION 14 SHOWN.

NW

NOT POSSIBLE TO VIEW WALL
DUE TO VEGETATION GROWTH
IN FRONT.

NW

WALL SECTION 11
(WALL SECTION 9 SIMILAR)

SE

VEGETATION CONCEALING
LOCATION OF WALL BEHIND.

SE

WALL SECTION 14

PARTIALLY COLLAPSED
SECTION OF WALL.
SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF
STONE AND POINTING.
URGENT REPAIR
REQUIRED.

SIGNIFICANT GROUND
BUILD UP IN FRONT
OF WALL.

INTERNAL ELEVATION 6

WALL SECTION 24
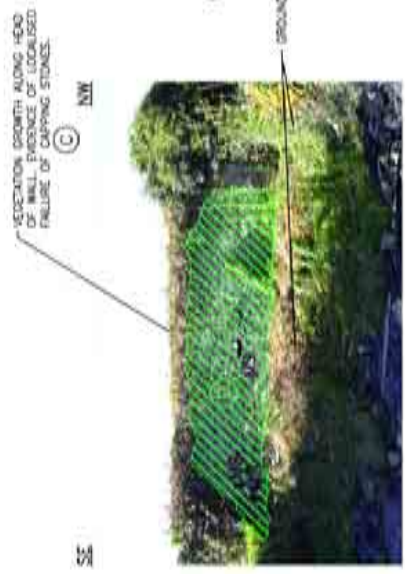
VEGETATION GROWTH ALONG HEAD
OF WALL. EVIDENCE OF LOCALISED
FAILURE OF CAPPING STONES.

© NW

SE

WALL SECTION 23/22

Ⓐ PARTIAL COLLAPSE OF
WALL AND EXPOSURE
OF CORE

GROUND BUILD UP.

NOTE:
WALL ELEVATION CURRENTLY ACTING AS A RETAINING WALL.
APPROX 1M OF RETAINED SOIL INTERNALLY.
SECTION 15: NOT ACCESSED BUT VIEWED FROM 14. WALL OVERGROWN.
SECTION 16: VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL.
SECTION 17, 18, 19 ACCESSED BUT OVERGROWN.
SECTION 20 SHOWN
SECTION 21 VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL
SECTION 22 SHOWN.
SECTION 23 SHOWN.
SECTION 24 SHOWN. VEGETATION CONCEALING MUCH OF WALL.

VEGETATION NEXT DOOR.

NW

STONEWORK REBUILT AND POINTED
IN CEMENT RICH MORTAR

LOSS OF FACEWORK –
WALL REBUILT

SE

WALL REBUILT IN PAST TO IRREGULAR PROFILE.
RELATIVELY SOUND IN CURRENT STATE

GROUND BUILD UP AGAINST
WALL
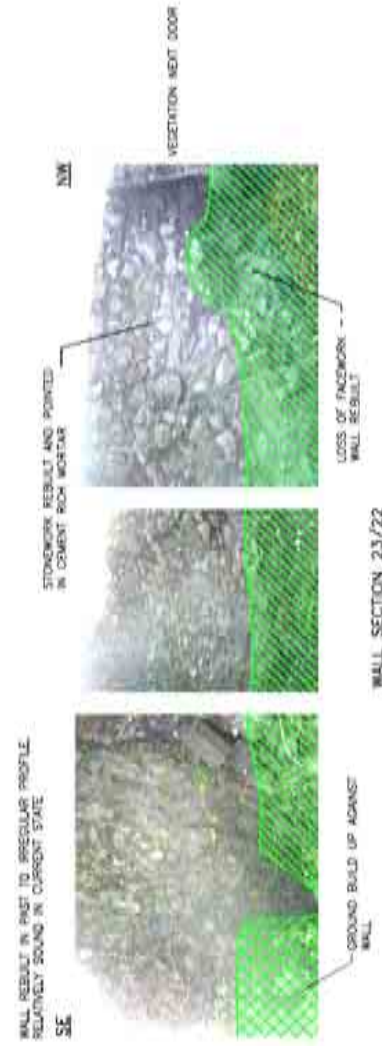
WALL SECTION 23/22

INTERNAL ELEVATION 7

NOTE:
SECTION 15 NOT ACCESSED BUT VIEWED FROM 14. WALL OVERGROWN.
SECTION 16 NOT ACCESSED.
SECTION 17, 18, 19 ACCESSED BUT OVERGROWN.
SECTION 20 NOT ACCESSED.
SECTION 21 NOT ACCESSED.
SECTION 22 SHOWN.
SECTION 23 SHOWN.
SECTION 24 SHOWN. VEGETATION CONCEALING MUCH OF WALL.

FACEWORK LOST, REPOINTED CORE

SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF FACEWORK – CORE EXPOSED REQUIRES CONSOLIDATION URGENTLY

EVIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF FACEWORK BEHIND IVY

ELEVATION REQUIRES URGENT CONSOLIDATION TO PREVENT FURTHER LOSS OF STONE

NUMEROUS STONES LYING ON GROUND

INTERNAL ELEVATION 8

SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION
GROWTH ALONG TOP OF WALL.

LOCALISED LOSS OF INFILL
STONE AROUND BASE OF
WALL.

(C)

SW

NE

WALL SECTION 39

VEGETATION CONCEALING WALL.

SW

NE

WALL SECTION 40

KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

(A) – <12 Months
(B) – 12–24 Months
(C) – 24–48 Months
(D) – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open

Facework Damage

MS Missing stone

NOTE:
SECTION 36–38 NOT POSSIBLE TO INSPECT.
SECTION 39 SHOWN. NO OBVIOUS DEFECTS.
SECTION 40 SHOWN. CONCEALED BY VEGETATION.

INTERNAL ELEVATION 10

CONCRETE AND STONE WALLING.

MODERN CONCRETE BLOCKWORK.

STONE WALLING IN GOOD CONDITION.

DRY STONE / BLOCK WALLING.

NE

SW

WALL SECTION 43

NE

SW

WALL SECTION 43

NE

SW

WALL SECTION 44

KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

(A) – <12 Months

(B) – 12–24 Months

(C) – 24–48 Months

(D) – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open

Facework Damage

MS ■ Missing stone

NOTE:
SECTION 42 SHOWN.
SECTION 43 NO WALL. POSSIBLE EVIDENCE OF ORIGINAL
WALL ON LEFT HAND SIDE.
SECTION 44 NO WALL VISABLE.

INTERNAL ELEVATION 11

WALL FACE AND WALL CAPPING IN SOUND CONDITION. ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS NOTED ALONG LENGTH OF WALL. NO IMMEDIATE ACTIONS.

VEGETATION GROWTH ALONG TOP OF WALL, MANY RECTANGULAR CAPPING STONES MISSING OR LOOSE.

STONEWORK OVER ARCH REQUIRES RESETTING. ISOLATED LOOSE STONES NOTED. (B)

REPOINTED SECTION OF WALL.

GRASS GROWING ALONG TOP OF WALL – NOT POSSIBLE TO CHECK CAPPING STONES ALTHOUGH APPEAR SOUND – WALL FACE GOOD WITH NO OBVIOUS DEFECTS.

WALL FACE AND WALL CAPPING IN SOUND CONDITION. ISOLATED OPEN JOINTS NOTED ALONG LENGTH OF WALL. NO IMMEDIATE ACTIONS.

WALL 700MM WIDE

VEGETATION CONCEALING TOP OF WALL – NUMEROUS OPEN JOINTS

GRASS GROWING ALONG TOP OF WALL – NOT POSSIBLE TO CHECK CAPPING STONES ALTHOUGH APPEAR SOUND – WALL FACE GOOD WITH NO OBVIOUS DEFECTS.

CONCRETE FACE

INTERNAL ELEVATION 12

KEY:-

Urgency of Repairs

(A) – <12 Months
(B) – 12-24 Months
(C) – 24-48 Months
(D) – Review in 48 Months

Joints Open
Facework Damage
MS Missing stone

APPENDIX F

STRATEGIC REVIEW

APPENDIX F: STRATEGIC REVIEW

The Heritage Council Strategic Plan 2007-2011

The statutory functions of the Heritage Council are to:

- Propose policies and priorities for the identification, protection and enhancement of the national heritage
- Promote interest, education, knowledge and pride in, and facilitate the appreciation and enjoyment of the national heritage
- Cooperate with public authorities, educational bodies and other organisations and persons in the promotion of the functions of Council
- Promote the coordination of all activities relating to the functions of Council

The Heritage Council recognises that heritage involves people first and foremost and see that accessibility to, and enjoyment of, heritage by everyone will be key to achieving success.

The Council has developed the following strategic themes:

Strategic Theme 1: Raising Awareness and Appreciation

Policies include:

- To raise appreciation of heritage and participation in heritage-related activities, including promoting awareness of lesser known aspects of history, increasing awareness and participation in Heritage Week and related theme days
- To facilitate access to information on heritage through appropriate media including ICT
- To promote the study of heritage and the use of heritage as a learning tool

Strategic Theme 2: Heritage Research / Surveys, Analysis and Evaluation

Policies include:

- To initiate research in new areas, including reviewing archaeology research needs on a national, regional, county and local level and reviewing the effectiveness of the planning and heritage legislation in protecting the national heritage
- To support ongoing national research and the development of national baselines, including encouraging research initiatives on architectural heritage

Strategic Theme 3: Evidence-Based Policy Advice

- To access the impacts of conserving and managing heritage
- To develop priorities on heritage management with other bodies and agencies

Strategic Theme 4: Encourage the development of heritage infrastructure at national, regional, county and local level

- To encourage the development of heritage infrastructure at national, regional, county and local levels
- To support initiatives from national, EU, or other international bodies that assist in the creation of heritage infrastructure in Ireland

Strategic Theme 5: Best practice in Conservation and Sustainable Heritage Management

- To promote the sustainable management of our heritage assets
- To promote community involvement in the management of heritage
- To support the organisations, networks and professional institutes that promote best practice and sustainable management of heritage
- To continue to work with international bodies that promote best practice and sustainable management of heritage.

Fáilte Ireland Tourism Product Development Strategy 2007-2013

This document specifies that support for the tourism product development should be market driven. More investment is needed in tourism infrastructure, and major new events and other tourism products need to be developed, along with integrating existing tourism products. In addition these tourist products need to be communicated and presented to consumers in an easily accessible way.

Identified actions around a broader tourism agenda include:

- Protecting and managing the physical environment including reviewing protected scenic landscapes
- Improving access to cultural heritage.

A series of funding supports include:

- A fund for tourism infrastructure including developing leisure route development (walking and cycling particularly), signposting and controlled access to environmentally sensitive areas
- A fund for a small number of new major annual events
- A fund to create attractions of international class
- A fund to improve communication with visitors. This would also support things like dramatisations of local history.

Ireland's target markets that offer the greatest potential for Ireland are:

Overseas tourism potential

- Sightseers and Culture Seekers
- Family and loved ones
- Relaxers

Domestic tourism

- Child focused
- Nightlifers
- Food and luxury seekers
- Country ramblers.

Providing for these target markets will require developing experiential tourism that incorporates active involvement and participation opportunities. One of the priorities for future emphasis is to deliver tourism experiences that are tailored to the needs of the consumer.

Nine main themes have been identified to support this and these include:

- Urban culture including historical attractions, heritage towns and clusters of cultural centres
- Heritage including historic buildings and sites and Irish language and culture.

Ireland's historic cities and towns will become increasingly important to tourism as visitors continue to travel to urban areas for short breaks. As well as having high heritage values and providing a popular attraction in themselves, historic quarters (such as medieval quarters) also provide a backdrop for other activities and events.

A strong tourism product is Ireland's cultural and historical heritage. A priority for developing attractions is to disperse visitors to other less well known, less 'iconic' attractions. There is also a focus on developing centres with a critical mass of products and creating other attractions there.

The action plan to direct the implementation of this strategy includes:

- Maximising the tourism potential of historic towns, such as increasing physical and intellectual access to the built and cultural heritage

- Improve access to cultural heritage, including providing supports at a local level to improve standard and quality of cultural tourism product. This would include grants to develop self-guided walking routes and to develop appropriate on-site interpretation at historic sites
- Funding work on key heritage buildings
- Creating events to attract overseas visitors
- Expanding themed trails and routes, and urban walking routes and city signage could be included in this scheme
- Developing online maps and itineraries
- Setting up co-operative forums.

The Heritage Council (2005) *Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) 3-Year Action Plan (Draft) 2006-2007*

The key aim of the Irish Walled Towns Network is:

'To ensure that Ireland's unique cultural and archaeological heritage in relation to its walled and fortified towns and cities is protected and managed in a sustainable and appropriate manner in the long-term.'

It seeks to liaise with other historic Walled and Fortified Towns in Europe to improve networks and links. The aims of developing these links are to ensure quality management and effective conservation plans and systems to protect and conserve historic Walled Towns.

Walled Towns and Cities in Ireland are important because they:

- Link communities to the past, whilst shaping the currently and future urban form and fabric of modern settlements
- Create a unique sense of place, belonging and identity
- Provide a source of civic pride and focus for tourism, cultural and economic development
- Enhance quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Proposed actions within the draft Action Plan include:

- Preparation of National Guidelines for the Effective Management, Conservation and Enhancement of Walled Towns in Ireland
- Formulate a national programme for the preparation and implementation of Conservation and Management Plans (including signage strategies) for Walled Towns - to include the walls and environs
- Development and implementation of an Education Awareness Programme
- Establishing an Irish Walled Towns Public Awareness Campaign.

Limerick County Development Board (2002) *Strategy for economic, social and cultural development 2002-2011*

The vision that has been developed by the Board for County Limerick is:

'Limerick County will be an attractive place for people to live and work with access to quality services where the collaborative focus of communities and service providers can facilitate a good quality of life'

To achieve this vision the Key Strategic Objectives include:

- A quality infrastructure to support and sustain communities
- An economy that is strong and well balanced
- A social infrastructure that is responsive to the needs of the people
- A society where the potential of the county's resources are developed in a sustainable way

There are two themes that have been identified that support these objectives and these are:

Balanced geographic development

Key components that will be addressed by this theme include:

- To develop the four large towns in the County - Kilmallock, Rathkeale, Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale - to become stronger centres for residential, commercial and industrial development
- To develop the economy of Kilmallock and protect and enhance the medieval character of the town including:

    - Developing a wider range of tourist faculties and services to support Kilmallock's primary heritage attractions
    - Developing the economy of Kilmallock and protect and enhance the medieval character of the town the following actions have been devised:
    - Developing lifelong learning opportunities in Kilmallock
    - Producing an action plan to exploit the economic potential of the town and hinterland, including review of existing reports
    - Developing the tourism/ information potential of the Medieval Stone Mansion

Quality of life

Key components that will be addressed by this theme include:

- A protected and sustainable natural and built environment
- The promotion of a wider variety of leisure activities
- An integrated lifelong learning service

Actions that are crucial for the achievement of this vision include:

- To develop a flagship tourism project and a promotional strategy for tourism
- To further develop educational facilities and opportunities
- To conserve, protect and utilise the natural and built environment including preparing and implementing a Conservation Plan and a heritage plan
- To develop County Limerick as a tourist destination including the growing and clustering of existing products and developing special interest tours
- To enhance collaboration and integration of lifelong learning opportunities
- To encourage greater participation in cultural activities including establishing a Cultural Action Group and considering the following:

    - Cultural aspect to the school's Curriculum
    - Innovative ways of making cultural activities more inclusive
    - Promotion of the Irish language
    - Community cultural activities

Ballyhoura Development Ltd (2003) *Ballyhoura Attractions Cluster Development Strategy*

Ballyhoura Development Ltd. is a community based local development organisation that covers the area of North Cork and South East Limerick - the area known as 'Ballyhoura Country'. The vision for this are that underlies this strategy is for Ballyhoura to become:

> *'A first-class rural holiday destination for independent and special interest visitors from overseas, and independent and leisure visitors from the domestic market, offering access to a range of high quality recreational activities and in integrated rural heritage experience unrivalled in Ireland'.*

Within the Ballyhoura area there is a wide range of heritage sites and in order to maximise tourism potential the Ballyhoura Heritage Initiative has been established with the following aim:

> *'To provide an authentic rural heritage and culture experience based on a hub and spoke system … to offer a holistic experience to visitors which will be achieved through visitor orientation, imaginative interpretative techniques, supported integrated signage and a range of literature.'*

Objectives include:

- To fully capitalise on Ballyhoura's competitive advantage and heritage strengths
- To cluster together compatible heritage sites and attractions
- To strengthen linkages between Ballyhoura's towns, villages and sites of archaeological/ historical interest
- To establish a centre of operations in Kilmallock which serve as an interpretative hub for Ballyhoura's heritage product
- To recognise the strategic importance which Lough Gur can play in underpinning Ballyhoura's heritage product
- To establish an integrated signage strategy
- To prepare a detailed heritage management plan
- To actively promote Ballyhoura as a rural heritage destination in the local community and visitors.

Western Town Wall

King's Castle

Blossom Gate

Gifford
Cultural Heritage