

## BUTTEVANT TOWN WALLS



CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT & INTERPRETATION PLAN

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*Howley Hayes Architects & CRDS Ltd. were commissioned by the Buttevant Heritage Group, Cork County Council and the Heritage Council to prepare a Conservation, Management & Interpretation Plan for the historic town defences of Buttevant, Co. Cork. The surveys on which this plan are based were undertaken in Autumn 2012.*

*We would like to thank Conor Nelligan of Cork Co. Co. and Buttevant Heritage Group Members Lilian Sheahan, Kieran Hynes & Wendy Kruger along the rest of the committee for their time and guidance in the preparation of this plan. We would also like to thank Eamonn Cotter, Prof. Tadhg O'Keefe and Cathal O'Meara for their expert input and advice.*



BUTTEVANT  
HERITAGE GROUP



H O W L E Y   H A Y E S   A R C H I T E C T S



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### **The Place**

Buttevant is situated along the steeply sloping west bank of the Awbeg River, a tributary of the Blackwater. Surrounded by rich farmland, with the Ballyhoura Mountains forming the backdrop to the northeast, it lies on the N20 roughly half way between Cork and Limerick, north of Mallow and south of Charleville. When travelling through Buttevant today, the first impression is of an early nineteenth-century market town, with a broad main street and fine civic buildings similar to those constructed by wealthy landlords all around the country. However, the medieval remains of the friary and Lombard's Castle confirm that this place was first settled much longer ago. Buttevant was founded by the Anglo-Normans in the early thirteenth century, and the town defences were first recorded in the fourteenth century. The regular grid of streets and plots date from the thirteenth century, creating a distinctive pattern that resembles settlements in France and Wales known as *bastides*. The outline of

the walled circuit is not yet fully understood, in fact, it was thought that no upstanding remains of the town defences had survived. However, recent studies by archaeologists have identified sections of wall that have been preserved and new theories have been proposed about the urban morphology of the town. This plan will describe these theories along with the supporting material evidence while recommending how a more definitive description of the walls of Buttevant can be arrived at through further archaeological investigation. Having a fuller understanding of the extent of the wall circuit is crucial for the preservation of this unique archaeological heritage site.

### **National & European Context**

Writing almost one hundred years ago, J.S. Fleming commenced his study of the walled towns of Ireland by commenting on the lack of knowledge and understanding of this aspect of our cultural heritage.



Plate 1 Aerial view of Buttevant and surrounding countryside. (OSI)

*The few existing remains of town-wall fortifications, which formerly enclosed and protected every important town in Ireland, and which yearly diminish in number, are, as a class, undeservedly overlooked by writers on the antiquities of such towns.*

Fleming described only nineteen walled towns. Avril Thomas, in her extensive study published in 1992 described fifty six towns where evidence of wall circuits survive, with thirty five other places are listed as possible walled towns, with a further twenty for which only the most tentative claims could be made. Irish walled towns range in size from the capital and the most populous cities and towns, down to places that now are small villages or indeed have long been abandoned. Among these categories, settlements of less than one thousand inhabitants vied in importance with cities that are closer to a hundred thousand today. Defences were installed around settlements from the Neolithic period, and were also found around early-Christian monasteries and port towns established by the Norse settlers. Following

the colonization of parts of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans, stone-built defences started to replace less robust timber structures and earthworks. These towns formed outposts, as well as creating new trading networks and led to the wider economic development of the country as a whole. The walls vary in scale, detail and material- in each case responding to the local topography, as well as the prevailing economic and political context. Over the centuries, they played a key role in historical events and the development of our towns and cities.

Ireland is located on the periphery of Europe, and was relatively late in developing an urban culture. However, Irish walled towns characterize political and economic developments on the island in relation to Britain and the continent. Starting with the port settlements founded by the Norse, the Anglo-Normans established a more lasting hold on the interior until falling away in the early fifteenth century. Each brought their own construction methods and settlement patterns from their homelands, but adapted these to local circumstances. The Tudor and Stuart plantations also relied on town defences. The adaptation and reinforcement of the town defences continued during the Cromwellian and Jacobite/ Williamite conflicts. Their gradual, but widespread, removal began in the eighteenth century. Today knowledge of the extent of Irish walled towns, and their position within a wider European context is incomplete but evolving.

The Heritage Council established the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) in April, 2005 to unite and coordinate the strategic efforts of local authorities involved in the management and conservation of historic walled towns in Ireland, both north and south of the border. Buttevant is now a member of the network, which will be of great benefit for the protection of its archaeological heritage. The IWTN is formally linked to European Walled Towns (EWT), which is the international association for the sustainable development of walled towns, walled cities and fortified historic towns.

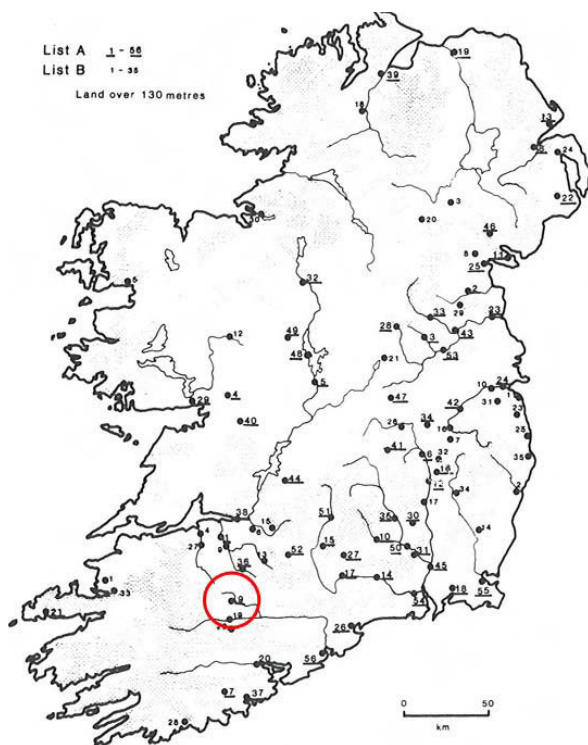


Fig.1 Map showing walled towns (Thomas 1992).



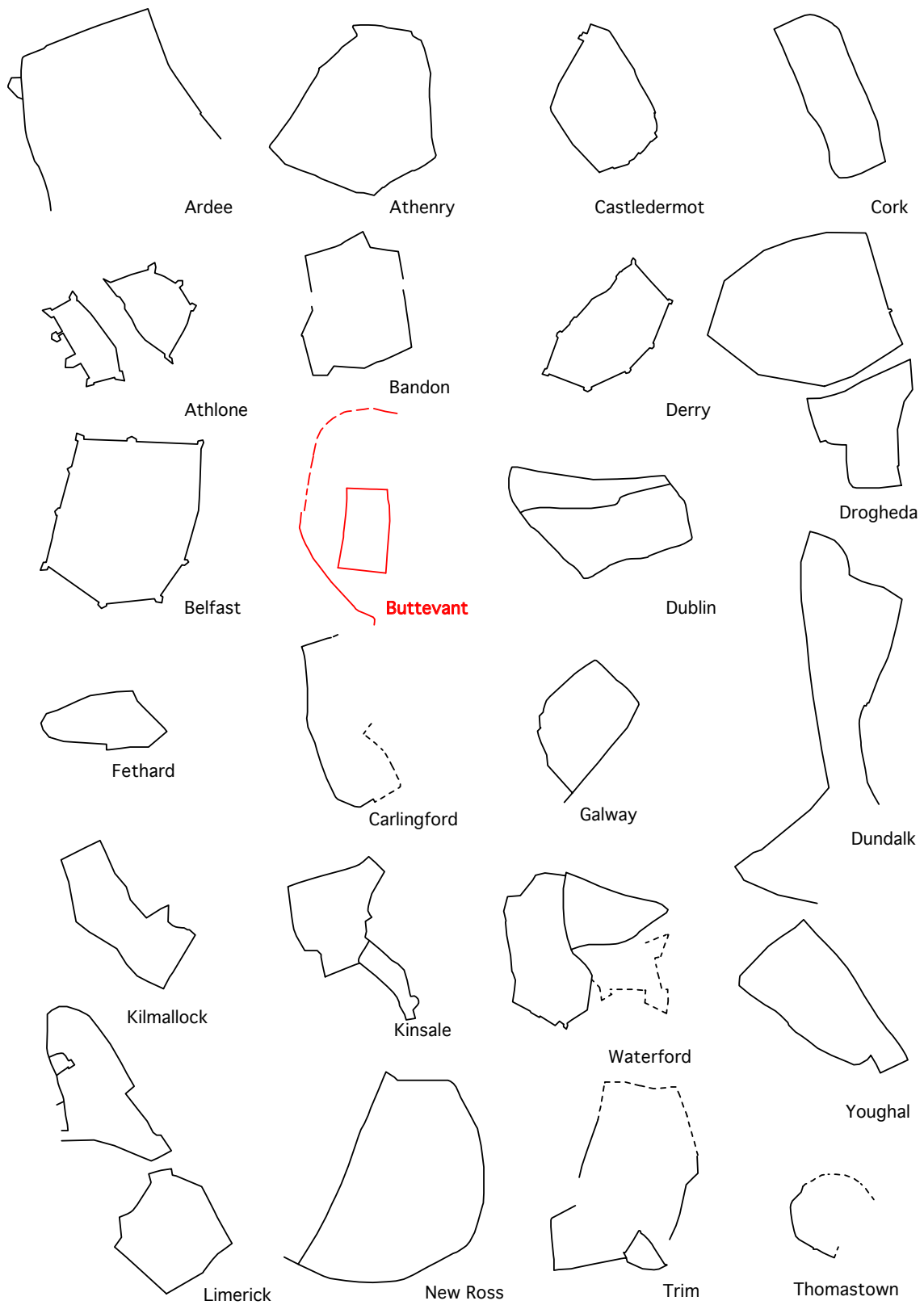


Fig.2 Comparative plans of Irish Walled Towns (based on Thomas 1992).

The Piran Declaration, which outlines the reasons for maintaining historic walled towns, was agreed at an Annual General Meeting of the Walled Town Friendship Circle in Piran, Slovenia in 1998:

*Walled Towns are unique inheritances from times long past and should be treasured, maintained and safeguarded from neglect, damage and destruction and passed on into perpetuity as irreplaceable Timestones of History.*

### **Aims & Objectives**

This conservation plan is drawn up in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the revised Burra Charter published by ICOMOS in 1999, which provides a model for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (See appendix 1). The charter sets out standards of practice for those with responsibility for the guardianship of such places. This group might include owners, managers and custodians, consultants, statutory advisers, opinion-formers, decision makers and contractors. Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection: to the community; the landscape; to the past and to lived experiences.

A fundamental principle of the Burra Charter is that places of cultural significance should be conserved for the benefit of both present and future generations. It defines conservation as *all of the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.*

As such, the general aims of the Conservation Plan are to:

- Provide an accurate record of the place.
- Understand the significance of the place.
- Identify any threats to the significance.
- Formulate policies to address the threats, and guide the future preservation and management of the place.
- Outline proposals for conservation work.

- Provide accurate documentation of the site to guide future decision-making.
- Manage change by proposing a sustainable vision for the future of the monument.

Following publication of the Burra Charter, the Ename Charter was adopted by ICOMOS in 2008 and deals specifically with the interpretation and presentation of cultural heritage. This charter provides a framework for the communication of the cultural significance of a place to the public. Its objectives are to facilitate understanding and appreciation of the site; communicate its meaning, safeguard the tangible and intangible values and respect its authenticity. This is particularly relevant in Buttevant, as the walls are no longer prominent and prove difficult for the public to appreciate and understand. For this reason, the plan has a particular emphasis on proposals for how the walls can be best presented and their significance interpreted, understood and appreciated by both locals and visitors.

This document should provide the basis for all future decisions on the conservation, management and interpretation of the Town Walls.

### **Limitations**

Certain sections of the wall in private ownership were not accessible during our surveys. These areas are noted within the text. Parts of the wall that required special access such as ladders were also not inspected.



Plate 2 Public consultation meeting at the Market House.

### **Project Team**

This conservation plan was prepared by Howley Hayes Architects & CRDS Ltd. An Irish Walled Towns Network/ Heritage Council grant was secured by the Buttevant Heritage Group (BHG) with the support of Cork Co. Co. to fund the preparation of the plan.

### **Stakeholders**

The stakeholders are represented by the following bodies which have formed a steering group:

Heritage Council	Liam Mannix
Cork County Council	Conor Nelligan
Buttevant Heritage Group	Lilian Sheahan
Buttevant Heritage Group	Kieran Hynes
Buttevant Heritage Group	Wendy Kruger

### **Consultation**

Consultation included the following:  
Local Landowners & Leaseholders  
Local Building Professionals  
Local Heritage Groups  
Academic Institutions  
National Monuments Service

Consulting archaeologist Eamonn Cotter, who has a particular interest in Buttevant, took the time to meet the team to discuss his findings and tour the key sites with material evidence or with archaeological potential around the town. During the preparation of the conservation plan, stakeholders were consulted together with interested members of the public. A public meeting was held in the Market House on the 29th of April 2013, and was advertised locally and questionnaires provided at the meeting in order to obtain feedback on the plan. The meeting commenced an introduction by Lilian Sheahan of the BHG who outlined the background to the project. Howley Hayes Architects first outlined the aims of the IWTN and the importance of Buttevant's walled town status. They then gave a presentation of their findings and proposals for the conservation of the archaeological heritage and how best to present it to the public. The feedback was positive, with recommendations that the walled town heritage would be better presented to the public with more directional and information signage including explanatory maps.

## 2.0 UNDERSTANDING THE PLACE

### Introduction

The development of the town of Buttevant and its defences is detailed in a number of key works including the *Buttevant Heritage Study*<sup>1</sup>, *Archaeological and Environmental Heritage at Buttevant, Co. Cork*<sup>2</sup>, *Urban Archaeological Survey of: County Cork*<sup>3</sup> and *Walled Towns of Ireland*<sup>4</sup>. The following is a summary of the information included in these works.

### Placename

Various origins have been put forward for the placename Buttevant. It is traditionally associated with the war cry *Boutez en Avant* which David de Barry used to animate his men against the McCarthys and it later became the family motto<sup>5</sup>. A more likely source for the name as suggested by Westropp and supported

by J.L. Abbé, Professor of Medieval History, University of Toulouse is from *Boutavant* or *Bout*; a term applied to a tower located on an exposed part of the defences. The term is applied to fortifications in France, Britain and Ireland from the late twelfth to the sixteenth centuries. Buttevant is also referred to as *Bothon* in some medieval documents including the *Annals of the Cathedral of Cloyne*.<sup>6</sup>

The Irish placename for Buttevant, *Killnamullagh* or *Killnamullach*, also has a number of possible derivations including *Cill na Mullach* (the church of the hillocks or summits) or *Cill na Mallach* (the church of the curse), which has been adopted by the Ordnance Survey.

### Archaeological and Historical Background

There was a Norman presence at Buttevant from the earliest phases of the colonisation of Ireland. In 1177 King Henry II of England granted the western part of part of the kingdom of Cork to Milo de Cogan and the eastern part to Robert FitzStephen<sup>7</sup>. FitzStephen granted part of his territories, including the site of the future town, to his nephew Phillip de Barry<sup>8</sup>.

The development of a settlement at Buttevant can be traced back to the investment of the de Barry family during the thirteenth century. In 1234 David de Barry, Phillip's grandson, was granted a licence to hold *a market on Sunday, and a fair on the vigil and day of St. Luke the Evangelist and for six following days*<sup>9</sup>. The de Barry's also supported the foundation of two monasteries during this period. In 1229 an Augustinian Abbey was founded in the townland of Ballybeg immediately to the south of the town. A Franciscan Friary, dedicated to St. Thomas, was founded at Buttevant around 1251<sup>10</sup>. According to the *Annals of the Four Masters*:



Fig. 3 Barry family crest with motto.

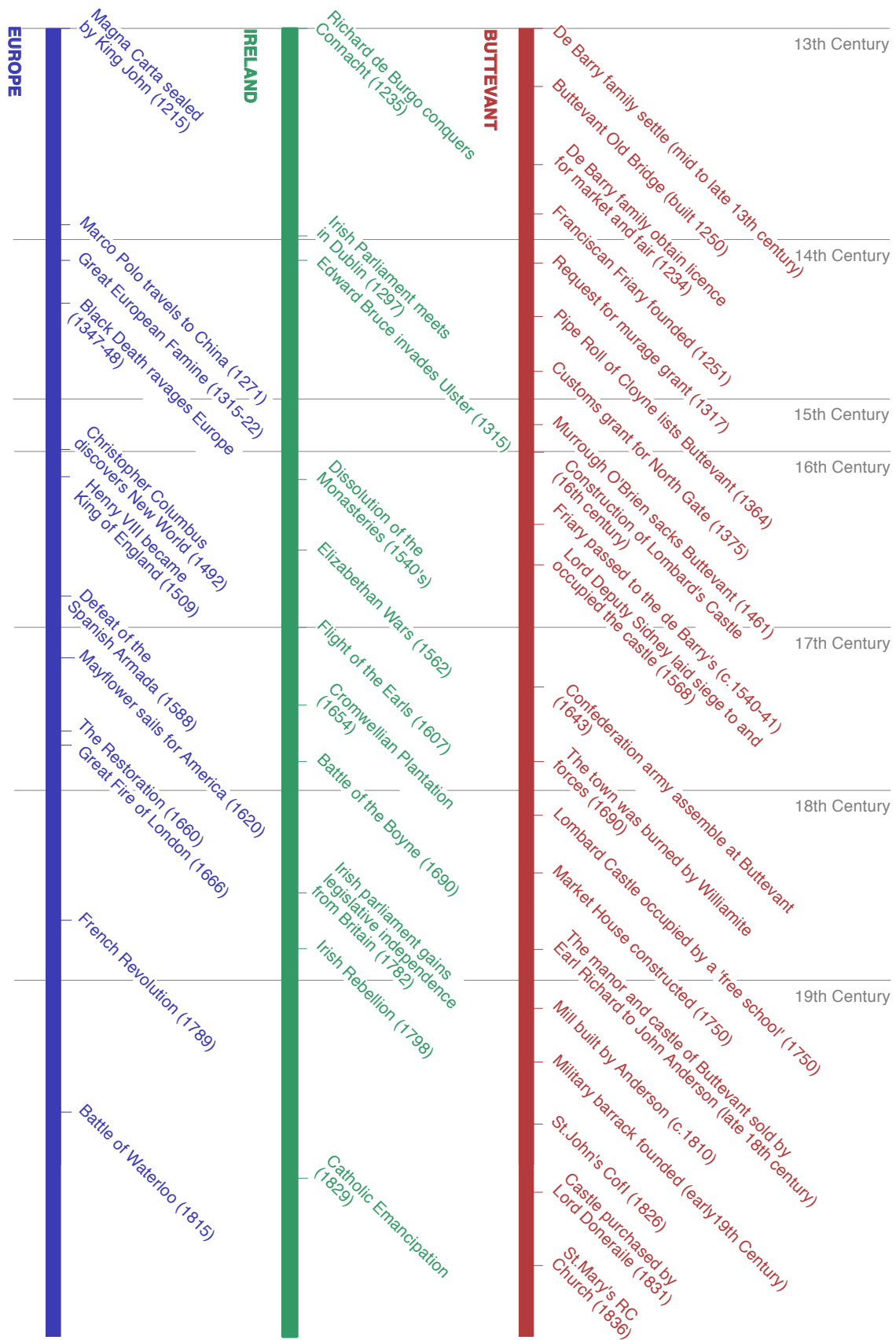


Fig. 4 Timeline of walls of Buttevant.

a monastery was erected at Killnamullagh, one of the ancient names for Buttevant, in the diocese of Cork, by the Barry; and it was afterwards selected as the burying-place of the Barry's<sup>11</sup>.

Litigation, dating to 1260, regarding a burgage plot within Buttevant indicates that the town had been founded by this date<sup>12</sup>. At the end of the thirteenth century Buttevant is included in a list of ports and market towns in the county drawn up by the sheriff of Cork<sup>13</sup>. O'Keeffe has suggested that Buttevant was laid-out to an orthogonal plan, with a wide main street, with smaller lanes and alleys intersecting at right angles<sup>14</sup>. This layout shows strong similarities with the towns of King Edward I in north Wales.

The remains of the castle, located on the west bank of the Awbeg River at the south end of the town, indicate that it too was built during the thirteenth century. The *Castel of Bothon* is mentioned in documentary sources from the early fourteenth century. By 1344 David de Barry paid an annual rent of 40d for the castle at Buttevant<sup>15</sup>.

In 1317, possibly in response to a period of turbulence, the de Barry's requested that £105 which was owed to the Exchequer be released to the town in order to enclose it with walls<sup>16</sup>. A subsequent grant, made in August 1375 to the *Provost and Commonalty of Botavaunt*



Fig. 5 View of Buttevant Castle 1840 (Glin collection).



Fig. 6 Watercolour of Ballybeg early 19th c. (Glin collection)

ratifying a former grant of part of the waste of the town, with the north gate and customs there<sup>17,18</sup>. The reference to the north gate may imply the existence of a second gate, possibly at the south end of town at the south gate of town.

During the medieval period the town would have extended much further to the south along a road leading from the Buttevant bridge in the north towards Ballybeg Abbey in the south. A reference to the town in the Pipe Roll of Cloyne would seem to support this:

*David Barry acknowledges holding of the lord Bishop and of the castle of Kilmaclenine, his castle of Buttevant with its orchard and hall [?], and all of the tenements which lie between the middle of the mill of Buttevant and the said lane called Mylnstrete on the north side of the said orchard, and extends to the public highway of Buttevant on the west side, as far as the roadway and church of St. Bridget on the south side and the riverbank<sup>19</sup>.*

The Pipe Roll does not include any references to the town walls or gates<sup>20</sup>.

A number of small urban castles, including Lord Barry's castle and the town walls are recorded within the town in David Lombard's will of 1479. The Lombard's had a strong presence in the town in the later medieval period and the family are associated with the construction of the only surviving urban tower house.

During the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the fortunes of the town mirrored the political situation in the country as a whole. Buttevant, along with many other castles and walled towns, was damaged during the 1461 rebellion of Murrough O'Brien. With the creation of the Barrymore title the focus of the de Barry patronage shifted to Barryscourt near Middleton<sup>21</sup>. It suffered further decline in 1568 when Lord Deputy Sidney laid siege to the town and occupied the castle.

In 1641 the Confederation army assembled at Buttevant under Lord Mountgarret. Two years later, in the spring of 1643, Lord Inchiquin collected forces comprising 4000 foot and 400 horse at Buttevant. In his history of the rebellion written in the mid-seventeenth century, Borlase mentions the town of Buttevant but does not refer to the town walls. Kilmallock on the other hand is described as *environed with a strong wall*<sup>22</sup>. It is possible that the walls had been partially demolished or had decayed somewhat by this time. The town was burned by the Williamite forces in 1690 which had an adverse effect on its economic life. It is probable that the town walls were not maintained afterwards and started to decline.

The remains of the town walls were noted in the writings of a number of antiquarians who visited Buttevant. Traces of the walls were still extant in the mid-eighteenth century and were described by Charles Smith:



Plate 3 Historic photograph of castle (National Library).



Plate 4 Bust of John Anderson in Fermoy.



Fig. 7 View of Friary showing wall fragment 1852 (from Brash).

*There are still to be seen the remains of a wall that surrounded the town; and they also show traces of an outward wall which enclosed the other and took up a considerable circuit of ground*<sup>23,24</sup>.

The reference to *traces* of an outward wall suggest that the circuit never fully encircled the town or that the outer circuit did not survive fully by the time Smith was writing. In the early nineteenth century Croften Croker states that Buttevant:

*though formerly a town of importance and opulence, is now a poor place. It was walled, and governed by a corporation, and traces of its consequence may still be seen in the solid old walls and ruins scattered amongst the mean houses of which it is at present composed*<sup>25</sup>.



Fig.8 Map showing the main heritage sites around the town.



Lewis noted that- *some remains of old town wall can be traced and that Buttevant castle... originally called King John's Castle....formed one of the angles of the ancient fortifications of the town*<sup>26</sup>.

The construction of a military barracks in response to threats posed by the Napoleonic War brought some economic prosperity to the town in the early nineteenth century. It was constructed to the northwest end of the town in the townland of Creggane. Lewis describes it as *an extensive range of buildings, occupying a spacious enclosed area of nearly 23 statute acres, divided into two by the central range, in which is an archway surmounted by a cupola and affording communication between the two*<sup>27</sup>. The garrison housed 250 temporary infantry and quarters were provided for married soldiers in the streets surrounding the garrison.

A new mill was constructed on the Awbeg River in the early part of the nineteenth century by Sir James Anderson. It was a substantial building of five to six storeys, constructed in a castellated style mimicking the nearby castle that was occupied by Anderson. Much of the nineteenth and twentieth century industrial features associated with the mill survive at the site.

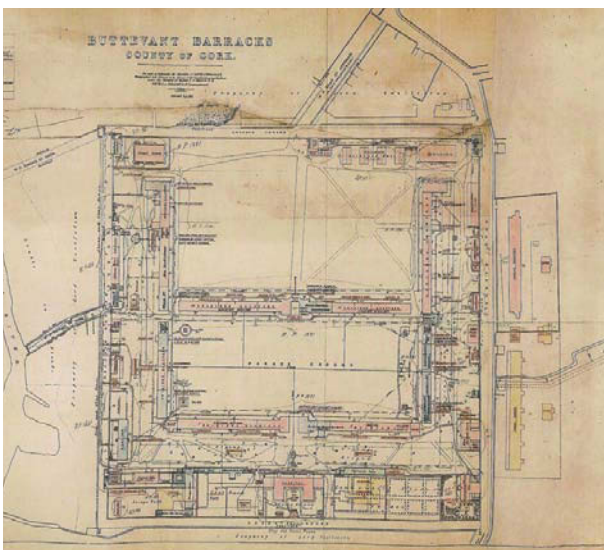


Fig.9 Nineteenth century plan of the barracks.



Plates 5-6 Historic photographs of St. Mary's & Main St. (NLI).

St. John's Church (Col) was designed by the Pain brothers and constructed to the south of the town around 1826. The church has a tall, buttressed tower at the west end. The church and its associated graveyard are constructed on the site of the medieval parish church of St. Brigid. A graveslab of early sixteenth century date, has been moved from the east end of the graveyard to the interior of the church for safekeeping.

A new Roman Catholic church, St. Mary's, was designed by Charles Cottrell and constructed on the site of the friary between 1831 and 1837. It is likely that this building replaced an older chapel located to the south of the convent on Chapel Lane. It is a prominent building along Main Street, and incorporates a later medieval tower that was once part of the friary.

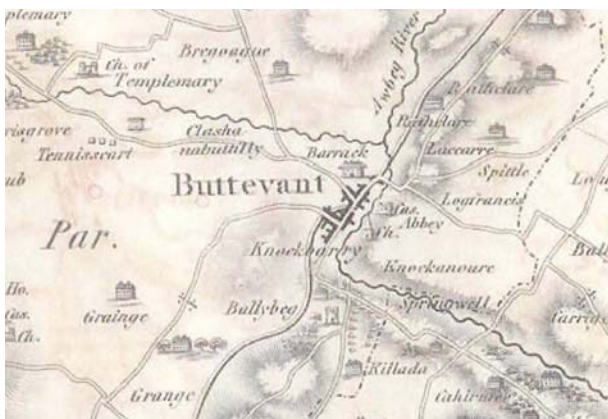


Fig.10 Grand Jury map of Buttevant 1811.

### Cartographic Sources

Unfortunately there are no large-scale plans of Buttevant pre-dating the Ordnance Survey. However, a number of manuscript maps do exist that provide some information on the layout and morphology of the town. Up to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century the town likely extended much further to the south along a road leading from the Buttevant bridge in the north towards Ballybeg Abbey in the south. The *Pipe Roll of Cloyne* indicates that tenements extended- *as far as the roadway and church of St. Bridget on the south side of the town*<sup>28</sup>. The southern end of Main Street was altered by Sir James Anderson who occupied the castle and surrounding land from the late eighteenth century. Anderson removed the housing at the south end of the street and drove the line of the street further to the west to skirt the boundary of his lands. Aerial photography indicates that the line of the road continues to the south of the graveyard<sup>29</sup>. There are also indications of the road on the geophysical survey undertaken during the preparation of this report, as well as confirmation that a boundary wall once extended across the field to the west of the castle (see Fig. 17).

The earliest surviving map of Buttevant is the Down Survey map of the Barony of Orrery and Kilmore dating to the mid-seventeenth century. There is little detail, but it shows the medieval bridge at the north end of town and mills on the east and west banks of the Awbeg River.

Buttevant is depicted on a small-scale map titled *Military Survey of part of the South of Ireland* which was drawn by Major Charles Vallancey, Director of Engineers in 1796<sup>30</sup>. A single north-south street, Main Street, running from the old Buttevant Bridge towards Ballybeg is depicted on the map. A number of lanes cross it in an east-west direction. Buildings line the east and west sides of Main Street and the lanes and a number of detached buildings are marked between the east side of Main Street and the Awbeg River. At the north end of the town a road leads northeast over the medieval bridge. The bridge is denoted by a break in the line of the river with the road continuing on the east side. A similar convention is repeated in the centre of the town at the east end of Mill Lane, possibly indicating a second bridge was in existence at the time. It is possible that the structural remains of this bridge were removed by the construction of new mill and pond at the turn of the nineteenth century. There is a large, possibly ruined, building marked to the southeast at the approximate location of St. John's Church. The Franciscan Friary is marked by a cross. The town defences are not depicted on the map, but this may be in part due to its small scale.

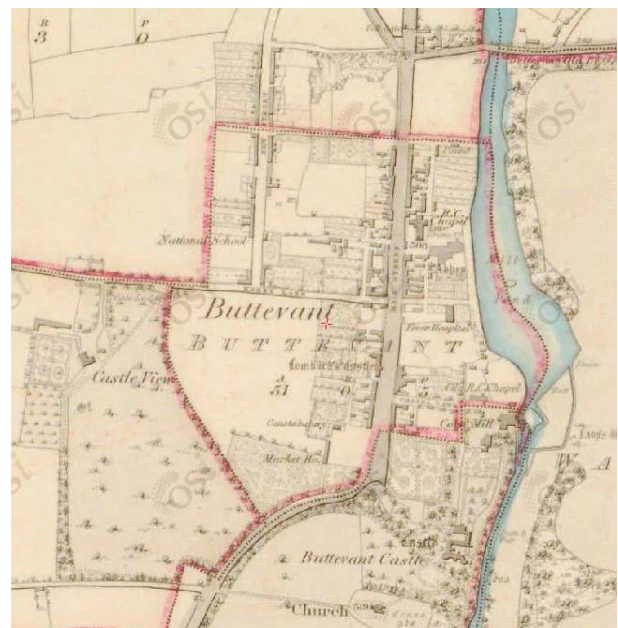


Fig.11 First ed. OS map of Buttevant 1838.

The Grand Jury Map of Cork (Fig. 10) was published at a similar small scale in 1811. At this stage the modern road had been constructed but the old road running south through the castle grounds to Ballybeg was still extant. Housing is shown on the west side of the road from Lombard's Castle and continuing south of the present site of St. John's Church.

The town walls are not indicated on the first edition Ordnance Survey six inch map of 1841-42. The layout shown, however, is typical of a medieval settlement with linear burgage plots extending back from either side of Main Street. There is a greater concentration of burgage plots in the central area of the town between Ball Alley and Lombard's Castle. The burgage plots are long narrow plots with the main house located on the street frontage. On the west side of Main Street they are intersected by back lanes and continue westwards to the line of the



Fig. 12 Valuations map of Buttevant circa 1840

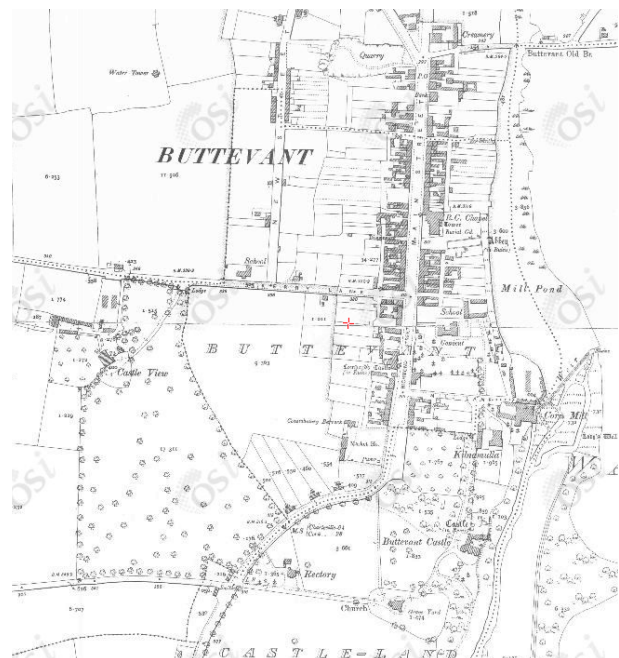


Fig. 13 Second edition OS map of Buttevant (1890s).

town wall. To the west of the back lanes the plots are laid out in gardens. The morphology on the east side of Main Street is similar though interrupted by the St. Mary's Church, the precinct of the Franciscan Friary and the Fever Hospital (the site was later occupied by the Convent). An examination of the Ordnance Survey shows little in the way of major changes in the layout of the town in the modern period. Prior to the nineteenth century the town was confined to the area encompassing Ball Alley in the north to Buttevant Castle in the south. During the early nineteenth century the town expanded to the northwest to encompass the new barracks. A quarry takes up much of the northwest portion of the town on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey 6" maps.

A large-scale town plan produced by the Ordnance Survey (Fig. 12) and annotated by the Valuation's Office dating from the period between 1830-50 still exists. Drawn at a scale of 60 inches to one mile the plan contains a lot of detail on the layout of the town but throws little light on what remained of the town wall in the mid-nineteenth century. A hand annotation *old town wall* at the east end of Chapel Lane is the only reference to its former existence.

### 3.0 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

#### Buttevant Town Defences

The extent of the walled town of Buttevant is not yet fully understood. The most recent theory (Fig. 14), proposes that the outer circuit wall first identified by Cotter extended to the west of the town in an arc as far as the river just north of Buttevant Old Bridge. This would make it larger than most comparable Irish walled towns of similar date and importance—similar in scale to Athenry, and much larger than Cork or Galway. However, much of this area was likely to be uninhabited and used only as farmland, with an area of about seven hectares. It is possible that the settlement expanded within the outer wall boundary to the north and south of an historic core. This precinct would have extended to the friary at the north boundary, and the market house to the south. The wall to the river side likely extended as far as the mill protecting the precinct to the east, and then continued as a curtain wall as far as the castle. Evidence for a corresponding wall to the west side of the town has not been found, however, the wall to the north side of the friary graveyard does seem to be in line with an impressive boundary wall (almost four metres high) on the other side of the street. The medieval street pattern has largely been retained, however the lanes have been blocked off over time, and the burgage plots



Plate 7 View towards Buttevant from NE beside old bridge.



Plate 8 View looking north along Main Street.

sold off for housing or merged to form larger fields. There are only three main stretches of wall visible above ground, other sections may be buried underground, or have been partially rebuilt along property boundaries.

There has been much debate as to the line of the town defences at Buttevant (Fig. 16). Thomas in her work on the walled towns of Ireland proposed three separate possible circuits (Fig. 15) enclosing a rectangular area of between five and fifteen hectares<sup>31</sup>. The Awbeg River would have formed a natural boundary on the east side of the town while the western boundary can be traced as two parallel lines running along the boundaries of the burgage plots. Thomas has noted that these parallel lines, approximately 25m apart, may represent the inner and outer walls of Buttevant or simply a reinforcement, perhaps a second wall beyond the fosse<sup>32</sup>. Thomas' central area (a) runs from Ball Alley in the north, which represents the line of the townland boundary between Buttevant and Creggane, to Kerry Lane in the south and would have encompassed the precinct of the Franciscan Friary. Area (b) involves a possible extension of the central area running from the south boundary of the quarry in the north to Lombard's Castle in the south. Area (c) encompasses the area between the bridge in the north and the castle in the south. A number of key sites included St. Bridget's Parish Church and the Market House are not located within the line of the suggested town wall.



Fig.14 Map showing Cotter's layout of medieval Buttevant superimposed on current plan.

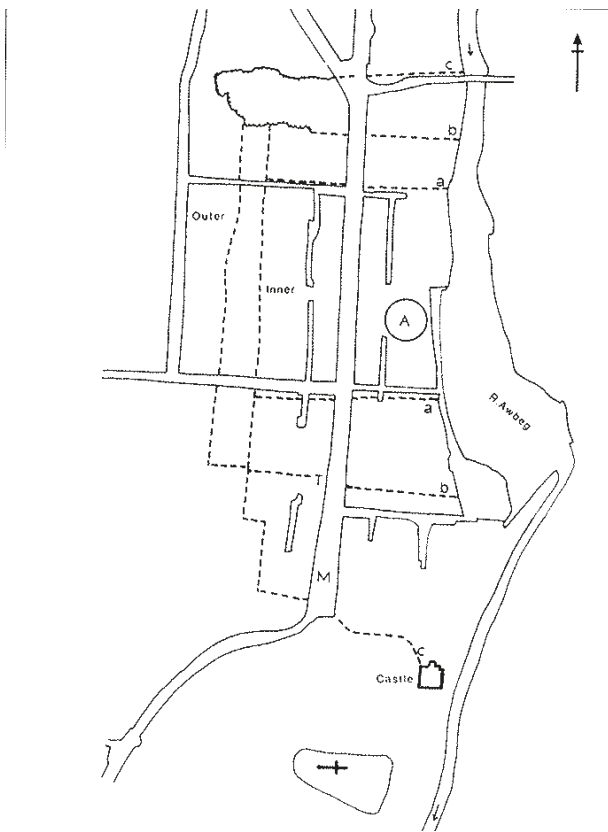


Fig.15 Thomas plan of Buttevant (1992).

The Urban Archaeological Survey shows a similar layout with the suspected line of the town wall running along Ball Alley in the north, the Awbeg River in the east, Lombard's Castle in the south and the outer of Thomas' two wall lines along the west side of town. This suggested line would again omit a number of the key structures including St. Bridget's Parish Church, the Market House and Buttevant Castle.

However, sources including the translation of the Pipe Roll of Cloyne, Vallancey's map of 1796, the 1811 Grand Jury Map of Cork, aerial photographic and geophysical survey results all indicate that town originally extended at least as far south as the site of the former parish church of St. Bridget, now the site of the St. John's Church and graveyard.

As part of his assessment of the Archaeological and Environmental Heritage of Buttevant, Eamonn Cotter undertook a detailed assessment

of the town walls including cartographic and documentary research, comparative analysis of building types and a visual analysis of the mortar used within the walls construction<sup>33</sup>.

Cotter discovered sections of similar wall at three locations along the eastern perimeter of the town. Section 1, which runs north from the northeast corner of the castle, is located on the edge of a sheer cliff which runs down to the banks of the Awbeg River. Section 2 comprises the boundary between Mill Lane and the grounds of the Convent of Mercy. The first edition Ordnance Survey map shows a medieval church at this location and the Valuations Map is annotated *Old Town Wall*. Section 3 extends from the northeast corner of the Franciscan Friary for approximately 10m and from there there are the remains of a collapsed line of stone. A photograph of the friary (Plate 9) shows that this section of the town wall formerly continued in a southerly direction also. These sections are constructed of uncoursed limestone rubble, with a high proportion of large blocks measuring approximately 0.2m by 0.4m by 0.6m in comparison to the later boundary walls within the town which comprise much smaller stones. The stone used in these sections are generally unworked, again in comparison to the later walls whose stones are roughly hammer-dressed.

In addition to the outer defence, described in detail below, there may have been an inner wall along the southern perimeter of the town.



Plate 9 Historic photograph of friary showing wall along mill pond (from Cotter 2010)

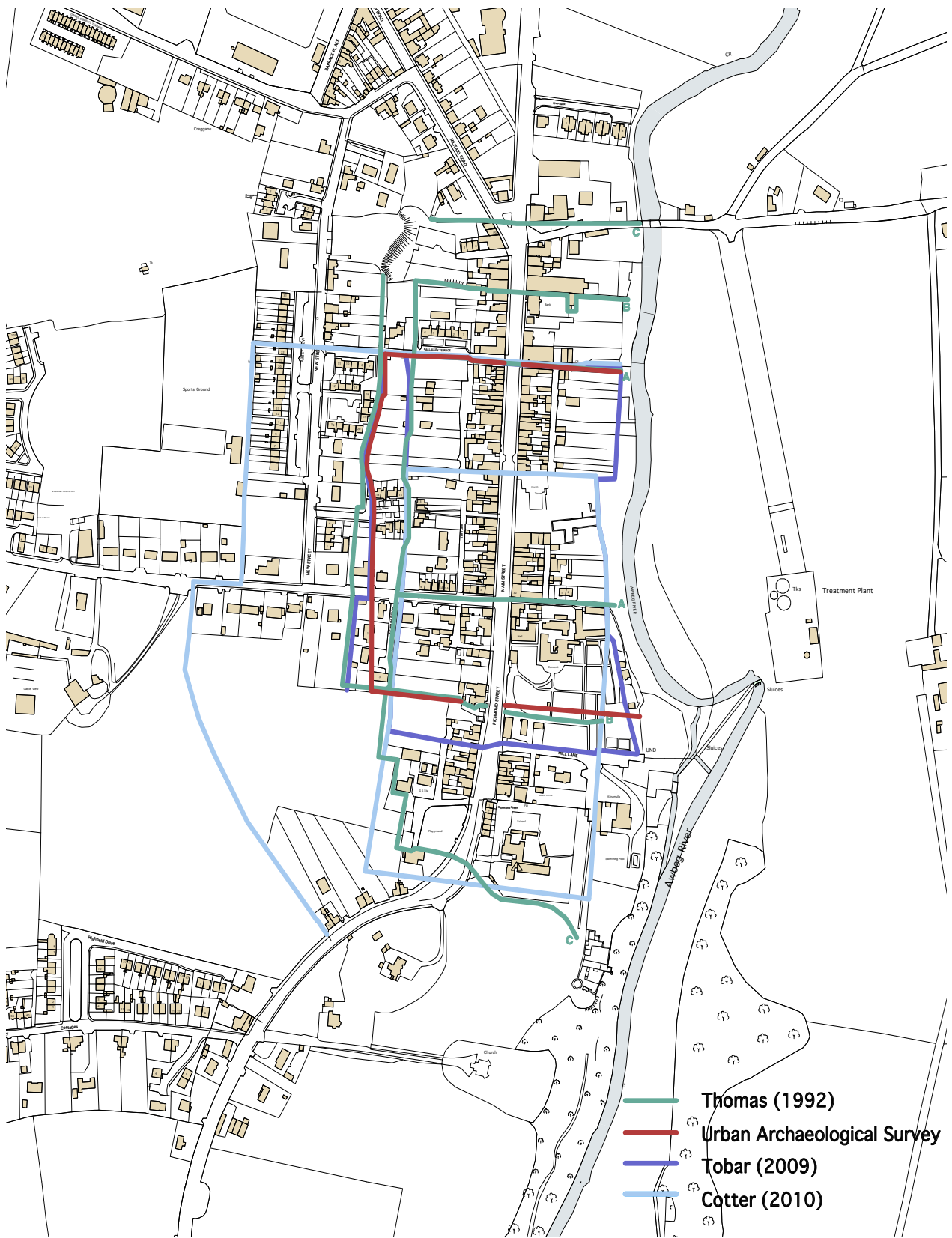


Fig.16 Map showing various recent theories on the extent and location of the town defenses.

Cotter has identified a possible location for the southern wall along the boundary of the school grounds (Plate 10). The school is located within a large walled garden depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. The base courses of this wall have a different construction style and may belong to an earlier wall which extended towards the curtain wall of the castle.

Cotter has not identified any definitely medieval fabric along the town's western side<sup>34</sup>. He suggests Thomas' inner wall as the potential line of the town wall based on topographical analysis including the size and layout of the burgage plots and differences in ground level on the inner and outer sides of this boundary. On the first edition Ordnance Survey map this line is more or less continuous from the market house to opposite the Catholic Church.



Plate 10 View of wall to south of former walled garden.



Plate 11 View of outer defensive wall fragment.

### The Outer Circuit

The presence of an outer defence at Buttevant is indicated in Charles Smith's 1750 work on the history of the County of Cork. Smith refers to *traces of an outward wall* which enclosed the inner wall and *took up a considerable circuit of ground*. This would appear to indicate that it was at some distance from the inner wall. Thomas has suggested that this reference suggests an extension or an additional line of the wall perhaps only on the vulnerable southern side of the town<sup>35</sup>.

Cotter has identified a possible candidate for this wall (Plate 11) to the south of the Market House<sup>36</sup>. It represents the townland boundary between Buttevant and Knockbarry and comprises an earthen bank approximately 1m high and almost 2m wide which is stone faced on the southwest side. The ground on the interior east side of the boundary is around 0.6m higher than that on the exterior west side. It is likely that this boundary would have continued its trajectory, curving to the southeast to enclosing the site of the parish church and Buttevant Castle. Cotter has also noted traces of a degraded boundary, consisting of two parallel earthen banks with an intervening fosse, to the east of the southeast corner of the modern wall enclosing the graveyard<sup>37</sup>.

It is likely that the line of the townland boundary was altered during road diversion works undertaken by Sir James Anderson in the early nineteenth century. The results of recent geophysical analysis undertaken by J.M. Leigh as part of the current project have traced the continuation of the boundary between a modern house plot and the Church of Ireland church and graveyard<sup>38</sup>. The results of the geophysics would appear to indicate the line of a curvilinear ditch and a possible wall. The geophysics would support the presence of embanked feature which would have commenced on the high ground overlooking the Awbeg River and would have run northwest enclosing the parish church and graveyard before intersecting with Main Street to the west of the graveyard. The



boundary would have enclosed the south-western quadrant of the town including the Market House and Lombard's castle before intersecting with Kerry Lane. The line of the bank can no longer be traced to the north of Kerry Lane but it is possible that it continued a northward trajectory before turning east towards Buttevant Old Bridge.

### Archaeological excavations

Archaeological excavations undertaken within the town have yielded little in the way of subsurface archaeological remains associated with the town wall. An archaeological assessment undertaken of a proposed development at Convent View, was bounded by the projected line of the town wall on its western side for approximately 20m. The present site boundary consists of a wall that survives to a maximum height of 1.2m and approximately 0.5m wide. This wall appears to be mortar bonded and is constructed of roughly coursed limestone blocks. Trees that formerly grew from the top of the wall have been cut to stump level and replaced by a hedgerow along the east side. The base of the wall is partly obscured by soil used to plant the hedgerow. Due to the scale of the wall it is unlikely to represent part of the original medieval town defences. The current boundary wall may however be built on the site of an earlier structure<sup>39</sup>. The boundary along the south side of the site comprises a 3m long east-west running wall which may represent part of a burgage boundary though the date of the wall construction is unknown. It is roughly coursed and appears to be mortar bonded<sup>40</sup>.

An archaeological assessment associated with a new wastewater scheme involved the monitoring of works along the main street of Buttevant<sup>41</sup>. A stone filled pit was exposed at the south end of town along the projected line of the medieval town defences. No evidence of any foundation material or any stone foundation courses were uncovered and given the absence of archaeological evidence the feature was probably unrelated to the town wall.



Plates 12-13 Views within field beside castle to south of town.

Assessment associated with another stage of the Buttevant wastewater scheme involved an excavation on Main Street<sup>42</sup>. Here a wall was revealed on the western side of the road less than 1m below the current street level. It was constructed of random rubble and measured 0.65m wide and 0.76m in height, and ran for a length of 4m. The remains of the wall ran parallel with the western edge of the street suggesting it may have formed part of an earlier building line when the street was significantly narrower than currently.

As part of the current project, a detailed gradiometer and targeted resistance surveys were conducted in a field (Plates 12-13) at the southern end of the town<sup>43</sup>. The survey identified responses of potential archaeological interest. The gradiometer data identified a clear linear response suggestive of a ditch feature, orientated north to south, and following the line of a low earthwork. The resistance survey identified a high resistance response suggestive

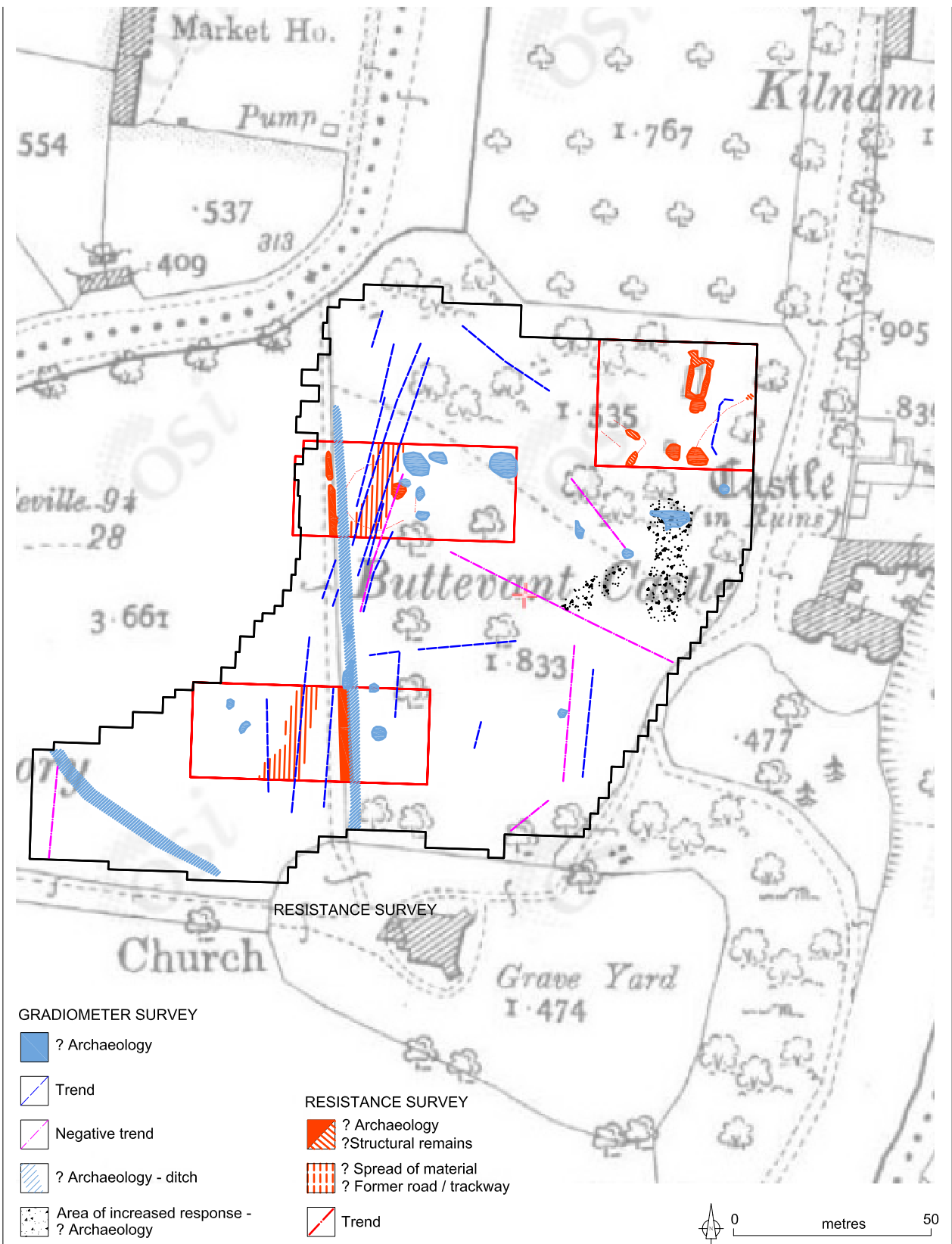


Fig.17 Plan of geo-physical survey carried out by J. Leigh to field to west of castle in 2012.



Plate 14 View along churchyard wall in field to south.

of wall remains, to the immediate west of the gradiometer ditch response. This suggests that a substantial wall and ditch feature corresponds with the boundary line represented on historic maps.

In the south west of the gradiometer data, another ditch-type response has been identified, and appears to run towards the church and graveyard, to the south of the site. This most likely represents another boundary feature and is of clear archaeological potential.

In the north-east corner of the field, the gradiometer survey identified a spread of magnetic disturbance indicative of rubble or building remains. The historic mapping suggests the location of structures in this area. The detailed resistance survey identified a high resistance response indicative of stone structural remains. To the south of this, an area of increased magnetic response was identified, and is indicative of former habitation.

In the west of the field, faint linear trends in the gradiometer survey correlate with a higher background readings in the resistance survey. The origin of this is unclear. However, the responses may represent a former surface such as a path or track way. This is speculative but warrants consideration.

Within the higher background resistance are several responses of potential archaeological interest. A high resistance curvilinear trend and response appear to correlate with responses in the gradiometer data. Interpretation is tentative, but the gradiometer response is indicative of a burnt feature, such as a kiln or hearth. Although this is speculative, and the responses may be modern in origin, an archaeological interpretation should be considered.

### Architecture & Townscape

Buttevant has the appearance of an early nineteenth-century planned town with traditional shop fronts, bank, market house, convent and churches representative of that era being most prevalent. Lombard's Castle, the remains of a sixteenth-century urban tower house, still lines the main street. However, the more substantial ruins of the friary and the castle are set back from the main street, and the thirteenth-century



Plate 15 View of Lombard's Castle.



Plate 16 View of Market House.



Fig.18 Map showing zone of archaeological potential, previous investigations, recorded monuments and protected structures.



Plate 17 View of St. Mary's & Desmond's Tower from east.



Plate 18 View of the former Anderson's mill.

bridge looks unremarkable from the Doneraile road above. The Franciscan Friary dates from 1251, and predates the building of the wall, it is situated along the ridge and is a good deal lower than the street level in the midst of the graveyard. Clearance of the east boundary uncovered the substantial remains that might have been the chapter house. Much of the church remains standing and it is undergoing significant repairs by the OPW. A tower known as Desmond's Tower was incorporated into St. Mary's Church that was built along the street front. Buttevant Old Bridge was likely enclosed by the outer wall circuit, its south face has four pointed arches of varying size. It was widened to the north and extended to the east in the nineteenth century. More recently sewage outfall pipes were installed to either side that

detract from the appearance and setting of this recorded monument. The friary and the bridge have rural counterpoints two kilometres downstream in the form of the clapper bridge and Augustinian abbey at Ballybeg. These buildings date from earlier in the thirteenth century, and did not enjoy the protection of the town walls. Lombard's Castle dates from the sixteenth century, and is a modest, but visible structure at the southern entrance to the town, north of the market house. It consists of a small two-storey building with the proportions of a tower on the northern end, and is linked to a larger roofless structure to the south behind a curtain wall and a wide gate was placed beside a smaller arched opening with dressed stone jambs which was infilled.

These exceptional examples of medieval architecture and engineering, like the town walls are not easily appreciated by those passing through the town. The medieval street layout has been altered over time, most significantly by the Anderson family mainly during the first decades of the nineteenth century. This



Plate 19 View of St. John's Church.

development included the building of the military barracks and the new mill, and the modernising of the castle and its surrounds into a country mansion set within a designed landscape. There is evidence of terracing to the slopes below the castle that provided pathways among the trees for walks, perhaps availed of by the parishioners after service in St. John's, a church designed by the Pain brothers which was funded by the Board of First Fruits.

The Andersons also widened the main street, opened up a quarry and removed the southern section of the town by altering the route of the road to Ballybeg while removing the wall and any other buildings on the site. Their interventions came at a time that the town was described as being very poor, and these significant investments led to the comprehensive re-ordering and regeneration of the town. The barracks and the mill created prosperity after over two hundred years of decline that led to the building of fine residences for the officers, two new churches and fine commercial premises along the main street. The barracks were built by the Andersons and were described by Samuel Lewis as being impressive. They were

demolished following a fire during the Civil War, the site is now used as a GAA pitch. Also built by the Andersons is the mill, which is now derelict but largely intact. A huge limestone edifice with castellations along its parapets, it vies with the castle and friary for attention along the river and has castellations along its parapets.

These nineteenth-century developments form a large part of the built heritage of the town, adding a significant layer of interest alongside the medieval fabric. The re-use of some of the most important medieval buildings contributed to their partial preservation. Lombard's Castle was once used as a school house, the castle and bridge were renovated while the tower on the friary site became part of a new church. Understanding the wall circuit that once enclosed this collection of buildings is important for their interpretation, and that of the development of the town. It is likely that stone from the walls was salvaged and incorporated into the new buildings, most especially the many nineteenth-century boundary walls that exist around the town including the high perimeter wall surrounding the former barracks site (see Plate 28).



Plate 20 View of friary from SE showing section where town wall was demolished.

## 4.0 ASSESSMENT & STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Guidelines to the Burra Charter state that:

*Cultural Significance is a concept which helps in estimating the value of places. The places that are likely to be of significance are those which help an understanding of the past or enrich the present, and which will be of value to future generations*

There are a variety of categories used to evaluate the level of a place's cultural significance: Archaeological, Historic, Artistic, Architectural, Scientific, Technical and Social interest categories will be used to assess the significance of the walls of Buttevant.

### Archaeological Interest

Although Buttevant had lost most of the standing sections of wall by the middle of the eighteenth century, they are a crucial aspect of the development of the Anglo-Norman market town with a strong association with the rich archaeological heritage of the town.

There is much that is not fully understood as regards the extent and alignment of the town defences. Given the lack of historical sources, our knowledge of the walls will likely only be enhanced through archaeological investigations, carried out whenever circumstances permit.

Another area of interest identified by O'Keefe (Fig. 19) is whether the distinctive grid-like town plan is a precursor to the *bastides*, later Anglo-Norman settlements found in south-western France. Further archaeological investigations are necessary to determine the precise alignment of the burgage plots.

The outline of the town walls and the urban morphology contained within will remain a subject of interest and debate until further evidence is uncovered that will answer some of the many questions.

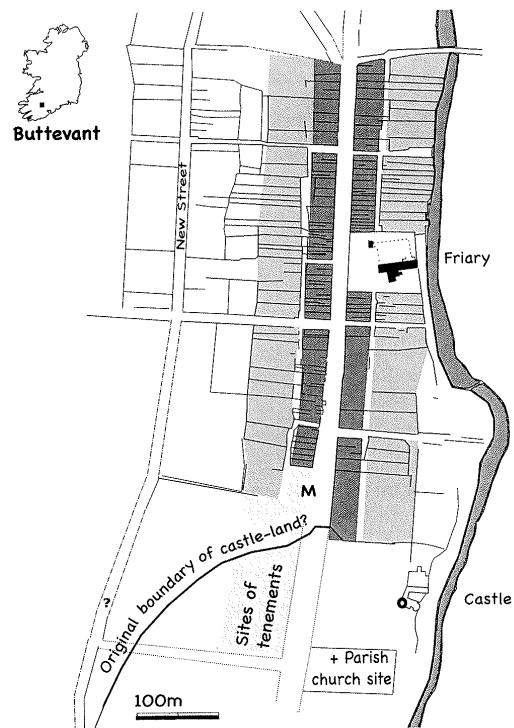


Fig.19 Proposed layout of medieval Buttevant (O'Keefe 2011)

### Historical Interest

The walls played an important part in the history of the town, with their association with its development as an important market town, and its destruction by Gaelic, Elizabethan, Confederate and Williamite forces. Those sections of the wall that survive bear witness to these historic events and retain valuable information about the Anglo-Norman conquest and the development of this walled market town.

The streets, lanes and historic buildings of Buttevant provide visitors with a vivid sense of the historical continuity of the place, from the thirteenth century right up to the present day. However, its complex history requires that visitors take time to understand its development.

### Architectural Interest

The former town walls of Buttevant are an important part of the architectural heritage of the town. They were built to form a distinct defensible boundary that allowed the town to

trade and flourish in the fourteenth century. This gave the inhabitants the stability and income necessary to undertake significant building projects.

The fact that so few standing sections remain does not diminish their overall significance, and the fragments are all the more important as surviving evidence of the original construction. The section below the Friary is in a beautiful setting that has the potential to enhance both the tourism and amenity value of the town. Other remaining sections, where they are identified, provide vital information as to the original scale and design of the walls and their defensive structures. Many later walls found today were most likely built on the foundations of the medieval town wall circuit.

The outline of the wall circuits is key to understanding the urban morphology of the town, marking its outer limits. They defined the formal geometry and pattern of the medieval street layout that has been preserved despite their removal.

The townscape of Buttevant contains an impressive collection of medieval structures set among buildings from later eras. This forms a repository of information on evolving styles of Irish urban architecture from the thirteenth century to the present day. Along with the remaining walls, this collection of buildings is of exceptional architectural interest.



Plate 21 View over friary from Desmond's Tower.

The town contains important evidence of how a medieval planned town was transformed into a provincial market town with a large military barracks in the early nineteenth century.

The eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings are also of significant architectural interest, those of which associated with the barracks are in the most vulnerable state.

The walls to the barracks, along with the associated buildings and infrastructure, were built in the early nineteenth century. This reflected the changing fortunes of the town under the Anderson family, as well as the strengthening of defences throughout the country due to the Napoleonic Wars.

Although most of the military buildings have been lost, many of the residences built for the officers remain along the surrounding streets. It is possible that stones from the medieval defences were used in building the impressive kilometre long circuit around the seven hectare site.

### **Scientific Interest**

The future archaeological resolution of sites around the town has the potential to be of interest to scholars of a range of different disciplines. The wall remains are of broader scientific interest as archaeological investigations could also provide evidence of the construction techniques, diet, and rituals of medieval times.

### **Technical Interest**

The walls are also a record of the development of the war and defence technology from the medieval period, especially during the Anglo-Norman settlement of the country.

The early medieval bridge dates from the thirteenth century, is one of the oldest in the country. Built to control the river crossing, it was undoubtedly of strategic importance to the town and the wall defences.



### **Social Interest**

The walls are evidence of how society was organised in Ireland between the twelfth and the seventeenth century. Starting with the Anglo-Norman (urban) burgesses protected within, from the Gaelic (rural) families living outside. The wall defined contrasting political affiliations and identities of the populace, representing a symbol of power as well as an instrument of military and economic control for hundreds of years. Through this legacy, the former defensive walls enrich our understanding of the development of Irish society. Having been built to protect an Anglo-Norman town from attack by Gaelic families in the surrounding countryside, they attest to their resurgence following the conquest.

The removal of the walls is also of social interest, attesting to the expansion of the town into the surrounding areas as the threat of invasion subsided. Also of interest is the likely salvage of material for the construction of the military barracks within another political and social context following the Irish Rebellion of 1798 and the Napoleonic Wars.

Although the extent and outline of the town walls are not easily legible by the general public, there is a demonstrable sense of pride in the town's medieval heritage. Recently, walled town days have been held in the grounds of the castle and the friary has been used as a backdrop for a theatrical presentation of the rich heritage of Buttevant.



Plate 22 View looking west over town from Desmond's Tower.

### **Statement of Significance**

Buttevant was founded by the Anglo-Normans as an important strategic outpost during their colonisation of Ireland. It was transformed into a prosperous town by a Scottish landlord in the early nineteenth century. Although it is not among the largest, or best preserved of the more than fifty walled towns on the island, it is the subject of keen academic interest and debate.

With its fine historic buildings and innovative town plan, Buttevant forms a unique example of medieval built heritage in an Irish context that resembles settlements elsewhere in Europe. The location and extent of the town walls deserve to be better understood by the locals, and more vividly presented to visitors. Buttevant is undoubtedly of national, and arguably international, cultural significance.

## 5.0 DEFINING ISSUES & ASSESSING VULNERABILITY

### Statutory Protection

Statutory protection for the walls of Buttevant is in place under the following legislation which is supplemented by policy documents and guidance:

- National Monuments Acts, 1930–2004
- Planning and Development Acts 2000-2002
- Record of Monuments and Places, established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994
- National Policy on Town Defences 2008
- Local Plans & Policy

Cork County Council is the relevant planning control authority. The town has been designated as an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) and this encompasses some (but not all) of the wall circuit. The town defences are located within the Zone of Archaeological Potential. It is a policy of the *Cork County Development Plan 2009-2015* to protect the archaeological heritage of the county.

### Interpretation

In places such as Buttevant, where much of the former defensive walls have been removed,



Plate 23 View of interpretative panel on church railings.

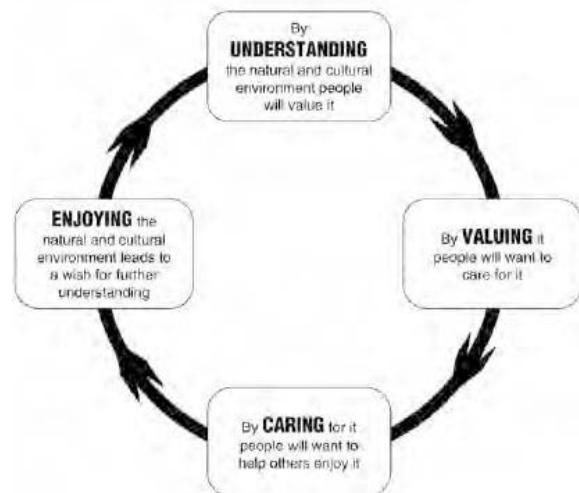


Fig. 20 Diagram illustrating the *Virtuous Circle*.

buried, embedded or altered; interpreting the walls can be challenging. However, the intangible values can be revealed to the general public for interpretation in many ways. These include transient activities such as research, education programmes and public events, or through permanent initiatives that provide up-to-date information and analysis and improve understanding and access to the place for the enjoyment of all. There is some debate whether upstanding sections of wall found around the town are parts of the former defences. This should be of interest to the community, and communicating the theories and evidence is crucial to enhancing their understanding of the archaeological heritage.

Appreciation of the walls has been inhibited by the scarcity of visible physical evidence and certainty as to the circuit outline that should over time, through further investigation and repairs, be gradually refined and improved. Where access to parts of the former wall circuit is understandably restricted, interpretation and presentation can be provided. By increasing understanding and appreciation of the monument and its context, a *virtuous circle* (Fig. 20) can be created where the local community can become more active stakeholders in the preservation of the walls, which will in turn become more attractive to visitors for the benefit of all.

## Ownership

The wall circuit passes through properties in both public and private ownerships, and it is important to note that Buttevant is both home and workplace to almost 2,000 people whose rights are to be respected. Those sections of the circuit on lands such as public roads and public open space are the responsibility of the local authority. Other sections passing through the grounds of institutional or community buildings such as the schools, sports ground and churches are the responsibility of the various trustees or boards of management. National monuments including the friary and abbey are owned by the National Monuments Service and managed by the Office of Public Works. The graveyard at St. John's is owned and cared for by the Church of Ireland, and the graveyard at the rear of the St. Mary's Church also contains a possible section of the inner wall circuit. There are numerous private landowners around the town where the wall outline possibly forms field and property boundaries, on both the internal and external sides. The lack of physical evidence, along with the evolving understanding of the extent and location of the wall circuit makes access to the walls and responsibility for their care complex. It is important for the conservation of the monument that this is managed properly in order to reduce the risk of damage or deterioration. Access to the walls and responsibility for their care is a process of negotiation and collaboration.

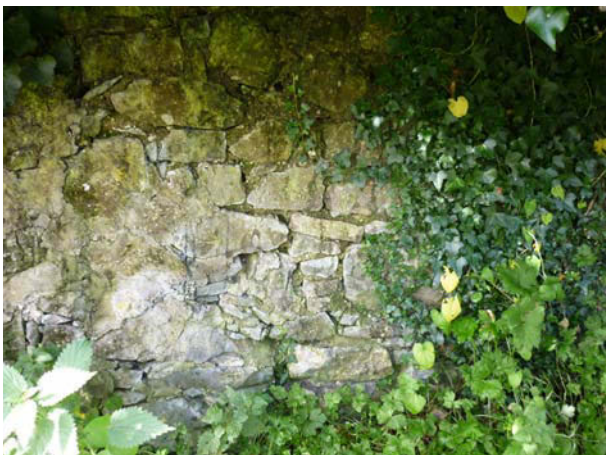


Plate 24 Detail view of masonry to wall below friary.



Plate 25 View of fencing and gate to mill pond.

## Use

The evolution of warfare technology, along with social and political change meant that by the seventeenth century, the walls were no longer required as defensive structures. Much of the walled circuit was dismantled in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although some sizeable standing sections remain visible. Other sections of the wall are incorporated within building boundaries or their foundations remain buried underground. The sections of wall above ground level are generally in poor condition. They are isolated and fragmentary which makes their conservation all the more complex and necessary.

## Condition of the Historic Fabric

Aside from the gradual demolition and removal of the wall due to redundancy, it is likely that large sections were removed during the times of increased prosperity and development, particularly when John Anderson bought the castle and the town and his family established the large mill in the early nineteenth century. The Andersons also created a designed landscape around the renovated castle, incorporating several sites at the southern end of the town. This may have involved the removal of portions of the wall, or the rebuilding of sections along the original circuit alignment. The upstanding remains along the walled circuit are almost all in a vulnerable, or very vulnerable, structural state. Within the last twenty years or so, a large section of the walls below the friary were

removed without permission. The remaining walls are being undermined by general neglect and invasive vegetation including ivy, trees and shrubs. In order to repair these sections, extensive clearance, and specialist treatment of plant growth followed by consolidation of the masonry will be necessary.

### Access & Settings

Any decision to improve access to the monument needs to be balanced with ensuring its preservation. Access to the walls for people with disabilities, or those with buggies can be provided in a number of ways involving both sensitive interventions and management practices. The safety and health of those wishing to visit the heritage sites around the town needs to be considered carefully as parts of the wall are in unstable condition and several of the buildings are derelict. Access to these should be restricted and only with the permission of the property owner.

Issues such as access, health and safety and rights of way present challenges to the interpretation of the former wall circuit in many places. These can be overcome to some extent in a number of ways by means of interpretation and presentation and by proper management and consultation. Parking is available along the main street, but consideration should be given to provide visitor parking close to the preferred site for a possible interpretative zone, which could serve as a starting and finishing point to a walled town tour. Restrictions on access to different sections of the wall should be made



Plate 26 View of inspection of town wall fragment close to friary.



Plate 27 View of Lombard's Castle, possible interpretative zone.

clear to those undertaking the tour to avoid disappointment. Establishing a route that follows the wall circuit as close as is possible, will be an important strategic initiative that will enhance the experience of the town's heritage and assist in the wall's protection and conservation into the future. This will involve extensive consultation and the cooperation of the various stakeholders and landowners to facilitate those wishing to interpret the wall circuit monument.

### Visitor Facilities

A lack of legibility and alterations to their original setting makes the walls difficult to interpret. The walls and the several historic buildings that are contained within have complex development histories that need to be presented in a coherent way. The design of high quality interpretative material is essential for greater public understanding of the place. There is no dedicated space in the town set aside for the display of interpretative material. This does not necessarily have to be in a custom-built heritage centre. Spaces within historic structures can be presented very effectively, and refurbishment for this purpose extends their longevity. The Castle is of significant heritage value in its own right, but its conservation and procurement would require significant resources. A smaller space could be considered to host an exhibition of the town walls, a place to commence heritage walks through the town. These could be hosted during the summer months in a 'pop-up' type premises.

## **Vulnerabilities**

In relation to the issues outlined above, the vulnerability of the archaeological heritage can be summarised as set out below:

### Preservation

- Interventions may be necessary to provide improved access, or to repair or stabilise a structure. This work needs to be informed by current best practice, be reversible and should not detract from the setting of the monument.
- The complex ownership of the walls can make it difficult to assign responsibilities for their maintenance, as well as obtaining access for their inspection and presentation.
- Generally the walls are in a very vulnerable state, and will require significant repairs and consolidation.
- Defects when left unchecked can bring about

rapid deterioration, resulting in increased repair costs that can be avoided by a good regime of regular routine maintenance.

### Understanding

- At present it is difficult for the general public to understand the form of the walls, the general chronology of the town's development and the relationship between the various structures and monuments. This is due to the scarcity of upstanding remains, as well as precise knowledge of the location of the walls.
- The buried remains along the wall circuit are often located on private properties or along boundaries.
- The lack of knowledge and understanding about the precise location and condition of the wall circuit is the most significant threat to its preservation.

## 6.0 CONSERVATION POLICES

### Approach & Objectives

All conservation works are guided by the principle of minimum intervention as set out in the Burra Charter, which aims to do - *as little as possible, but as much as is necessary.*

The conservation objectives for the walls of Buttevant can be summarised as follows:

- to provide for the effective maintenance of the walls to provide guidance on best conservation practice for the repair of the walls.
- to provide guidance on the reversal of inappropriate additions to the walls.

### 6.1 Further Research & Investigation

Multi-disciplinary research into the archaeological heritage of the town should be supported with the assistance, where possible, of third-level institutions to further our understanding and interpretation of the inner and outer wall circuit, and the location of both standing and buried remains.

### 6.2 Protection of Archaeology (Buried)

The sub-surface archaeology should be disturbed as little as possible so that its can be preserved intact. Provide physical protection where appropriate.

### 6.3 Protection of Archaeology (Buried)

Non-intrusive methods of archaeological investigation should predominate, combined with traditional excavation only where justified by a comprehensive research strategy and best conservation practice. Any proposed excavation should have a strong rationale and be designed to contribute to the understanding and interpretation of medieval Buttevant.

### 6.4 Protection of Archaeology (Standing)

The standing historic walls should be retained by implementing urgent programmes of repair and maintenance, together with the preservation of their settings. Ensure that any activities in



Plate 28 View of rubble wall beside ashlar wall to barracks.

the vicinity of the monument do not cause damage to the walls. The use of management strategies is preferred over physical protection. Any physical protection measures should not detract from character of the monument.

### 6.5 Regular On-going Maintenance

Repairs are to be carried using conservation methodologies that conform to the guiding principles as set out in the ICOMOS charters, using appropriate details and materials of matching quality. Repair works are to be prioritised in terms of urgency, and informed by regular inspection and expert advice.

### 6.6 Intervention

Where interventions are found to be necessary to provide improved access, or to repair or stabilise a structure, these are to be designed to the highest standards of best conservation practice and should not detract from the interpretation of the architectural heritage. Where development is to take place immediately adjacent to the line of the town walls, the opportunity should be taken to incorporate any archaeological remains (above and below ground) into the design.

### 6.7 Reversibility

All interventions should follow the *principle of reversibility*, so that a structure can be returned to its former state if so desired. Developments proposed above or beside archaeological remains should be designed so that they can removed without causing damage or

disturbance. This is particularly important where standing sections of the walls have been embedded into existing buildings.

#### 6.8 Expert Advice & Skills

Ensure that all conservation works are carried out under the direction of suitably qualified professionals (conservation architects and structural engineers) and undertaken only by suitably skilled and experienced tradesmen. All professionals and on-site workers participating in conservation work are to be made aware of the significance of Buttevant, the reasons behind the conservation work, and the archaeological sensitivity of the place.

#### 6.9 Licensing & Approvals

Any archaeological investigation (excavation) and geophysical survey are to be licensed in accordance with the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004. All conservation works to upstanding archaeological monuments are to be planned in conjunction with a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant experience. An appropriate methodology is to be created and submitted to the National Monuments Service for approval. All works carried out to the town walls or those with implications for the walls should be done so in consultation with the Heritage Unit of Cork County Council, to include (where relevant) the Heritage Officer, Conservation Officer and County Archaeologist.

#### 6.10 Continued Liaison

Liaise with the National Monuments Service in relation to proposed development works



Plate 29 View along wall section lining former mill pond.



Plate 30 View towards outer defensive wall identified by Cotter.

adjacent to the walls to share knowledge and ensure that best practice is adhered to in relation to any future archaeological investigations. Promote the excavation, presentation and educational interpretation of the walls as a policy in future Development Plans. In conjunction with state heritage agencies promote the tourism, educational, and the historical and archaeological benefits of preserving and conserving these features.

#### 6.11 Settings & Key Views

Protect and enhance the settings of the monuments and key views towards them through planning policies and strategic conservation plans. This is required for both standing and buried archaeology.

#### 6.12 Monitoring & Inspections

Set in place procedures for on-going monitoring of the condition of the walls to ensure their long-term preservation.

#### 6.13 Archaeological Supervision

Works involving ground disturbance close to the wall circuit are to be carried out only under archaeological supervision.

#### 6.14 Periodic Reviews

Review this conservation plan at agreed intervals (to coincide with Development Plans) to benchmark progress in implementation, reassess priorities, assimilate new information or changes in legislation or methodologies.

## 7.0 INTERPRETATION & MANAGEMENT POLICIES

### Approach & Objectives

The approach and objectives in relation to the interpretation and presentation of the walls of Buttevant can be summarised as follows:

- to increase knowledge, awareness and understanding of the walls.
- identify key messages and themes to be communicated to users.
- ensure that interpretations of the extent of the walls are well-researched.
- set out strategies for passive and active learning in order to facilitate a wide audience
- provide encouragement and resources for interpretation and engagement with the archaeological heritage with the walls as a key component.
- provide for the use of the walls as a cultural and educational resource.
- set up a permanent exhibition of material relating to the walls and include a repository of sources on the walls to act as a resource to inform planning.
- ensure that the walls are accessible to all, but not to the detriment of the archaeological heritage or the safety and health of the public.
- ensure that all developments within the Zone of Archaeological Potential carry out appropriate archaeological assessments and do not impact adversely on the archaeological heritage.



Plate 31 View along masonry wall to lane to north east of town.



Plate 32 Interpretative panel in front of Lombard's Castle.

- promote the walls as a heritage asset and identify funding sources for its ongoing maintenance.
- provide for the long-term enhancement of the setting of the walls through planning policies and identification of key strategic aims.

### 7.1 Depth in Time

Ensure that the conservation and preservation strategy for the walls of Buttevant, together with all the other historic structures within the town, respects all the layers that contribute to its cultural significance.

### 7.2 Authenticity

Ensure that the importance of continuity and change in the proper understanding of the built heritage is communicated to the general public. In a place such as Buttevant which was largely rebuilt in the nineteenth century, the cultural value and antiquity of those remnants dating from the medieval period should be emphasized.



### 7.3 Knowledge Gaps

Seek to develop a research framework addressing gaps in the current knowledge on the town walls of Buttevant. Undertake archaeological assessments to determine the precise location and extent of the outer and inner defensive walls.

### 7.4 Research

Ensure that on-site archaeological research is governed by an approved research strategy that seeks to answer specific questions, using non-invasive methodologies followed by targeted excavation when opportunities and resources allow.

### 7.5 Publication

Ensure that the dissemination of research findings, in a variety of media involving the community where possible, is made accessible to the public.

### 7.6 Ownership

Consider rights of private owners in relation to the access, conservation and presentation of the archaeological heritage.

### 7.7 Stakeholder Consultation

Foster good communication and cooperation between all stakeholders and landowners in the best interests of the surviving heritage. Consult with stakeholders regarding access to the wall and in the conservation of existing sections of the wall.

### 7.8 Walled Town Circuit Outline

Determine the former outline of the walled town with its formal grid shape through further archaeological investigations and promote it as a symbol of the medieval heritage through on-line resources, postcards, posters and interpretative material.

### 7.9 Town Wall Walking Route

Create a defined route around the town wall circuit, combined with improved interpretative material to help visitors to gain a better understanding of the place.

### 7.10 Town Wall Encounters

Identify and conserve sites where the public can encounter surviving remnants of the town walls to help realise their heritage potential and to improve interpretation of the walled town for the benefit of both locals and visitors.

### 7.11 Settings & Key Views

Protect and enhance the settings of the monuments and key views through planning policies and strategic conservation plans. This is required for both standing sections and buried archaeology.

### 7.12 New Developments

All new developments in the vicinity should be designed to enhance the setting and provide public access to the walls. Reinforce the form and location of the wall circuit by ensuring that new developments are well set back.

### 7.13 Public Safety

Prioritise public safety in relation to the condition and setting of the walls.



Plate 33 Example of information signage with safety messages.

#### 7.14 Access for All

Where the integrity and character of the walls can be maintained, ensure that access is improved for the benefit of people with disabilities.

#### 7.15 Settings After Dark

Install discrete lighting for the effective presentation of the archaeological heritage at night time.

#### 7.16 Interpretative Area

Provide visitor facilities and information panels so that the general public can meaningfully interpret the walls more easily. These facilities should contain permanent displays, supplemented with temporary exhibits on relevant themes. The visitor facilities should be located as close as possible to the wall circuit.

#### 7.17 Presentation of Artefacts

Display any representative artefacts taken from archaeological investigations, or that are stored or presented elsewhere.

#### 7.18 Presentation of Architectural Fragments

Consideration should be given to how the monuments within the various medieval sites might best be protected and presented.

#### 7.19 Interpretative Infrastructure & Media

Provide high-quality interpretative material, using street signage, aerial views and artists impressions, to improve public understanding about the former alignment of the walls and the historic development of the town.



Plate 34 View of activities on Walled Towns Day in Buttevant.

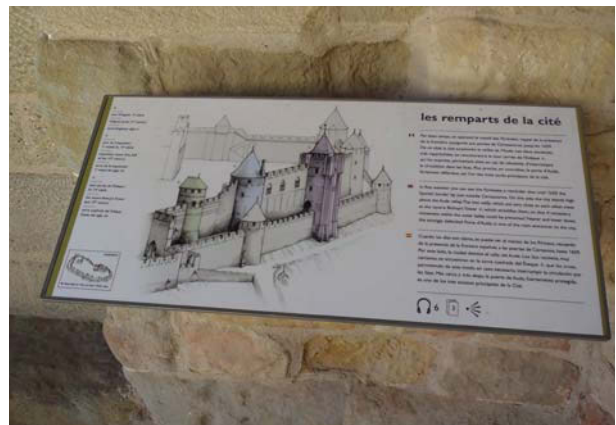


Plate 35 Example of illustrated, multi-lingual information panel.



Plate 36 View of paving marker showing Viking house in Dublin.

#### 7.20 Formal & Informal Learning

Present the cultural heritage of the town walls in a way that will reach as broad an audience as possible. This should also consider those who are not motivated to interpret the walls, but are informed of their significance indirectly.

#### 7.21 On-Going Interpretation

Ensure that as knowledge and understanding of the walls grows and changes through further research and archaeological investigations, interpretation media are updated accordingly.

#### 7.22 Signage

Coordinate signage to and around the walled circuit, in order to reinforce the 'walled town' branding. Signs should be located close to the monument but should not detract from its setting.



Fig. 21 Examples of walled town branding.

### 7.23 Reinforcing the Alignment

Where the former wall circuit is located within the public realm, the line of the wall should be marked with stone paving or lighting. This would mark the outer limits of the medieval town to the public. A paving stone could be inscribed with a description of the feature and a location map identifying its location along the wall circuit.

### 7.24 Sustainability

Promote and support visitor facilities and marketable products that can raise revenue that can be allocated for the conservation and improved presentation of the walls.



Plate 37 Interpretative panel in front of Market House.

### 7.25 Branding

Develop the Buttevant: Walled Town brand for the promotion of the heritage asset and to protect potential revenues by licensing its use.

### 7.26 Local Area Plan Map

Include the outline of the wall in future development plan maps and other local authority publications to reinforce understanding of the extent and location of the walls to the general public and to aid forward planning for service providers and building and planning professionals.



Plate 38 Detail of paving marker for wall circuit in Kilkenny.

### 7.27 Zone of Archaeological Potential

Update the extent of the Zone of Archaeological Potential to include the conjectural line of the outer defensive wall circuit to the west of the town.

### 7.28 Walled Town Days

Organise and support events that promote understanding of the archaeological heritage and that communicate its cultural significance. The stakeholders will seek to participate in and promote the aims of the Irish Walled Towns Network and the Walled Towns Friendship Circle.



Plate 39 View of conservation open day at Clonmel.

### 7.29 Themed Conference

Publish and disseminate the proceedings of the recent conference on the theme of the medieval heritage of Buttevant. Consider hosting further conferences on a range of similar themes that could include up-to-date research on the walls.

### 7.30 Outreach & Participation

Arrange specialist training programmes where their practitioners might engage with the archaeological heritage as the subject of study. Examples include the IWTN Walled Town Days, but consideration should be given on how to broaden the potential audience as much as possible.

### 7.31 School Outreach

Encourage local schools to take advantage of the walls as a teaching resource and organise programme for site visits and access to archived material for school projects.

## 8.0 CONSERVATION STRATEGIES & PROJECTS

### Introduction

Archaeological investigation has uncovered historical documents and historic fabric that have improved our understanding of the defensive walls of Buttevant and their former arrangement. Together with its rich built heritage and picturesque setting, the town has an active heritage group that has organised several very successful cultural events. This plan is intended to provide a framework for future initiatives and make recommendations on how change is to be managed in the best interests of the surviving sections of the monument. It also outlines ideas about how the walls could be better understood and presented, with sketch proposals to illustrate how these initiatives could be implemented at key sites. These projects could be carried out incrementally as funds and circumstances permit. Responses to the walls should seek to be inclusive and authentic, while also being imaginative and engaging so that the living heritage of the town can be presented alongside the preserved remnants of the past.

### Audiences

The conservation of a complex site that encompasses the entire town involves input from many different sources, within groups that may



Plate 40 Crowds attending Walled Towns Day at Buttevant.

have differing interests and objectives. These stakeholders are the intended audience of this conservation plan. Their understanding and adoption of the conservation and interpretation policies is crucial to the successful repair, maintenance and promotion of the walls of Buttevant, as a valuable local and tourist asset. Overall responsibility for the walls should be shared, with each group depending on the others to act within the collective interest, in the best interest of the archaeological heritage.

### State Bodies

The local authority and the state have a responsibility to ensure that the national heritage is conserved for future generations. Increasing knowledge of the wall among public bodies will help coordinate and prioritise initiatives and work programmes that impact on the walls and direct funding for their protection and enhancement.

### Landowners & Leaseholders

As much of the wall circuit is in private ownership, it is acknowledged that the state needs to support the ongoing conservation of the walls while taking into account the property rights of individuals. Providing access to some of the most important sites will require the permission and forbearance of the owner. Those who own or lease property that contains archaeological heritage should be informed about their legal responsibilities to safeguard and not damage the historic fabric. They

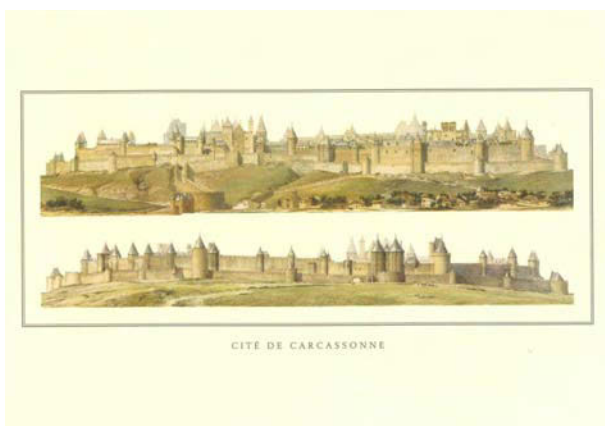


Fig. 22 Postcard from Carcassonne, a walled town

should always seek expert advice and liaise with the local authority in relation to the walls, especially when proposing building works.

### Local Community

Improving understanding and appreciation of the walls among the local community will enhance local pride in the built heritage of Buttevant, and will encourage other residents to become more actively involved in their protection and presentation to visitors.

### Visitors

Both domestic and foreign visitors should be facilitated when presenting interpretative material. Domestic visitors may include locals who take the opportunity to improve their understanding their town's heritage. Signage and presentations should be multi-lingual.

### Schools/ Universities

One of the best ways to foster interest and appreciation of the walled town heritage among the local community is to include education programmes for schools. Supporting education programmes at third level can lead to further academic research on the walls, the wall fragments are a valuable teaching aid for students of archaeology, architecture, history, anthropology as well as tourism and heritage protection. Completed research should be published and circulated as widely as possible.



Plate 41 View of Walled Towns Day at Buttevant.



Fig. 23 Poster for Buttevant Walled Towns Day.

### Cultural & Heritage Groups

Local groups with interest in heritage and culture should be encouraged to engage and contribute to the walled town initiatives and communicate their findings with both locals and visitors.

### Built Environment Professionals

Those involved with the conservation and development of the town should have access to information that will improve their understanding of the extent of the walls, the need for and means of their protection as well as ideas for their enhancement.

### Key Messages/ Themes

In order to frame the interpretation of the walls, it is important to set out clearly the messages and themes that are to be communicated to the relevant audiences. As the built heritage is fragmentary, it is even more important that an understanding of its importance, its former extent, historic events, along with the everyday detail of its long history is communicated clearly to the general public.

### Historic Events

The story of the walls should commence with the early history of the settlement leading up to the establishment of the Anglo-Norman walled town. The various sieges and attacks by Gaelic, Elizabethan, Confederate and Williamite forces should be outlined giving their social and



Plate 42 Interpretative signage to Buttevant Friary.

political history through important historical figures who lived in, or visited the town.

### Everyday Life

In contrast to these important historic events, the story of the day-to-day lives of the burghers, merchants and other inhabitants within, and those outside the walls should be illustrated. Stories about children at that time will be of particular interest to school groups. The consequences of the many military assaults should be relayed through the imagined contemporary experience of ordinary people.

### Archaeological Finds & Conservation

It is important to communicate our increasing knowledge of the walled town gained through on-going archaeological investigation. This involves making material intended for an academic audience understandable and interesting to the general public. The messages should illustrate where this evidence challenges or corroborates previous interpretations. The importance of the long-term conservation of the walls is also a vital message, to convey to the public the need to protect vulnerable and fragmentary archaeological heritage.

### Interpretation & Presentation Recommendations

#### Interpretative Area

Lombard's Castle has the potential to be an excellent interpretative centre for the walled

town. Although unlikely to have had a defensive function, it dates from the fifteenth century. The provision of a formal interpretative centre does not replace the need to use more site-specific means of presenting the walls at the other key sites along the walled circuit.

#### Walled Circuit Route

The proposed wall circuit route intersects the most visible and intact fragments of the defensive walls, while also encountering other aspects of the built heritage. The route provides a sense of the scale of the medieval town, as well as demonstrating how the spatial and material characteristics of the town change along this boundary. The route should be accessible



Plate 43 Bronze cast impressions of Viking Dublin artefacts.



Plate 44 Detail of wall marker in Dublin using quality materials.

to both guided tours, and where appropriate, individual visitors wishing to explore the wall circuit in a less formal way. Specialised tours should also be considered, along with tours that encourage audience participation. When circumstances permit, excavation open days along the route should be hosted during Walled Town festivals or outreach programmes.

### Wall Marking on Street Surfaces

Where the wall circuit is located in the public realm, the line of the wall could be marked with stone paving or lighting to an agreed design. This would be particularly effective where the outer defensive wall intersects with the main road in order to mark the outer limits of the medieval town. Archaeological investigations could help identify the location of the outer defensive wall on the northern boundary. A paving stone could be inscribed with a description of the feature and a location map identifying its location along the wall circuit. An integrated scheme for such paving markers could be developed to ensure consistency, using high quality, robust materials. Cast impressions of artefacts uncovered at these sites could also be set into the paved surface to be discovered. Texts could be used to describe important events.

### Town Plan Map

An illustrated map of the town should be produced to aid interpretation of the walled town. The map could be an artist's impression of an aerial view that emphasizes the medieval sites as well as highlighting the wall circuit. A



Fig .24 Example of aerial view being used as guide.

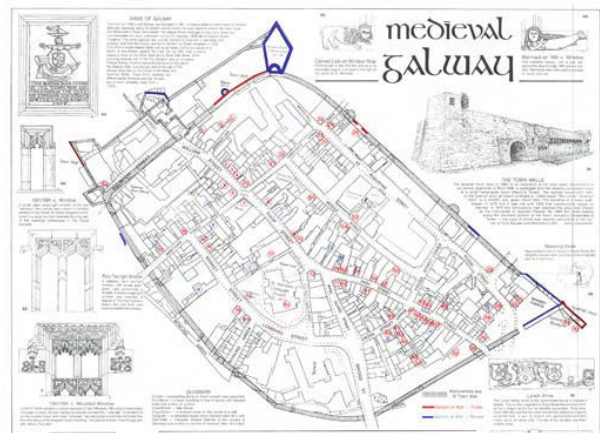


Fig. 25 Example of map of wall route for information & souvenir.

fold-out map with the walking routes around the town superimposed could be used to facilitate self-guided tours of the walls.

### Interpretative Panels

The Buttevant Heritage Group have produced information panels at key sites to provide information about the heritage of the town. The design and locations of the panels should not detract from the wall settings. Using a number of different approaches will attract interest of the widest audience available. The panels do not need to be conventional signage, but could be a series of unique installations that provide *windows* on particular aspects of the walls through- text, film, images; or by drawing attention to historic fabric or artefacts in imaginative and accessible ways.

### On-line Resources

The physical markers should also link into online resources using QR codes so that the wealth of information regarding the town can be appreciated in its entirety. The potential of providing resources online through the use of the buttevant.ie website, or links to relevant material held elsewhere, should be explored further. This website already contains a wealth of information and can cater for a wide range of audiences in both formal and informal ways; from experts seeking references and research material to tourists planning their itineraries to students researching a school project or building professionals undertaking development



proposals. Additional functions could be uploaded such as an aerial view of the town which could be used by visitors interactively at key locations as they move around the circuit.

### Audio Guides & Apps

Audio-guides allow visitors to encounter the town's heritage at their own pace, and helps those with a visual impairment to enjoy have a meaningful engagement with the walls. It is important that guides are available in a number of different languages. The guides could also include site-specific reconstructions of medieval life or historic events in a vivid and interesting way. Smartphone apps could be used to provide such material, and could also include tasks, games or activities that reinforce the learning process. Guides could be hired or for sale, or downloaded from the website.

### Performance & Exhibition

Notwithstanding the shortage of physical evidence, Buttevant's community groups can play an important role in the interpretation of the archaeological heritage. Local and international artists or cultural groups can be invited to use the medieval sites as settings for performances or exhibits, or respond with site-specific works. During festivals or Walled Town Days, the walled town route could intersect with theatrical groups giving 'live' re-enactments or short performances on aspects



Fig. 26 Image of QR code used on bronze plaque.



Fig. 27 Examples of fold-out map & audio guide.

of the medieval heritage. The reconstructions/interpretations could also be films projected onto the walls, neighbouring walls or one of the more prominent gables.

### **Project: Wall along base of Friary**

The wall running along the base of the friary and lining the former mill pond is the one of the most accessible and intact sections of the original defensive wall. It appears in a historic photograph as a continuous curtain stretching along the side of the mill pond to the base of the friary church. This was preserved until relatively recent times when a section of almost thirty metres was removed illegally. The section to the south of the friary is approximately forty four metres in length, while the section to the north below the graveyard less intact, consisting of a mixture of local rebuilding and loose stone lying in a ditch. This ditch extends as far as the corner of the north wall of the graveyard, which appears to have been rebuilt during the nineteenth century, perhaps reusing some of the medieval masonry. Although partially destroyed within the last twenty years, there still remains enough fabric to give an impression of the former extent of the walls in this evocative setting that includes a rich natural heritage. Together with the proposals to use the former mill pond at the base of the Friary as a public park (as outlined in the *Area Enhancement Plan*), this area offers the best opportunity to present the former defensive walls of Buttevant to the community and to visitors.

### Recommendations

Both lengths of wall require urgent repair, starting with careful removal of the ivy and consolidation of loose masonry. The ditch should be cleared of trees that are undermining the wall section, and the stone consolidated. There should also be some archaeological testing undertaking of the surrounding area including the large mound close by to retrieve any fallen masonry. Some underwater archaeology may be required given the proximity to the river and the former mill pond. Should a good supply of medieval masonry be recovered in this way, permission could be sought to restore the missing part of the wall so that this impressive section could be reinstated up to the base of the friary as it appeared in the historic photograph. If no stone



Plate 45 View of stonework to wall fragment to base of friary.



Plate 46 Detail of masonry pattern to wall fragment.

is found, a hedgerow or fence could be planted in front of the line to reinstate the boundary, taking care not to disturb buried archaeology.

Much of the surviving wall will need to be consolidated to ensure its stability. If this work is not carried out as a matter of urgency the wall will continue to collapse. The ivy will have to be sprayed with a biocide in advance of the repair works in order to give some time for the vegetation to die back. Following the clearance of the loose branches and tendrils, large embedded roots are treated with root killer. Loose stones are to be carefully retrieved from the top of the wall. Then the collapsed sections of the wall are re-built using the salvaged stonework bedded in lime and sand mortar. The tops of the walls should be capped with lime and sand flaunching. Part of the nineteenth-century section of the wall lining the northern boundary of the garden has recently been rebuilt. It is important that the remaining ancient walls are preserved as ruins.

### **Project: Curtain Wall to Castle**

The curtain wall adjacent to the castle contains medieval masonry, and seems to have been partially rebuilt with some adjustments to the alignment over time. It leads from the north east corner of the castle and retains the ridge on top of the steeply sloping banks lining the Awbeg River. The wall is continuous for approximately 120 metres, and there is a level difference of over one metre from the internal to the external sides. Close to the south side of the mill it breaks down, the line continuing as a ditch along the boundary of a nineteenth-century dwelling. Below this boundary is a free-standing fragment (Plate 48) containing medieval stonework that may have become isolated by a boundary adjustment. Most likely the wall has reduced in height due to erosion caused by ivy and tree roots over time. The ivy cover and proximity to trees remain the main causes for concern, together with the lack of access and poor visibility along the wall, making inspection and maintenance difficult.



the Anderson family. The removal of the ivy and consolidation of the masonry could then proceed as described above.

**Project: Outer Wall**

The outer defensive wall, as it is presently understood, stretched from the river bank behind St. John’s churchyard in an enclosing arc to the west of the town linking back to the north of the old bridge. A section of this remains as a field boundary between the townlands of Knockbarry and Buttevant to the south west side of the town. Due to the extent of vegetation cover, it was not possible to inspect this wall in its entirety. The wall thickness would suggest that this section had a defensive purpose, and its preservation is vital to the overall conservation of the monument. Further archaeological testing should be undertaken to determine whether the line of the outer defense wall continues along the west side of the town. The line of the wall that has been identified in the field to the west of St. John’s churchyard and most likely continued as far as the ridge above the river. Cotter identified ditches now containing loose masonry outside the south-east corner of the churchyard that may be a continuation of the circuit. The churchyard wall is thicker in this location which suggests the possibility that this was a section of the former town defenses.



Plates 47-48 Views of castle curtain wall.

Recommendations

This wall should be surveyed fully by a structural engineer to determine any areas that may be at risk of losing masonry or collapsing. Stonework that has fallen from the wall is likely to be present in the surrounding overgrowth, and this material will need to be retrieved under archaeological supervision. Further investigations should include the steeply sloping ground as far as the river and the riverbed itself. During any clearing and consolidation works it would be important to determine the phasing of the walls as accurately as possible. A geophysical survey of the slope might help to identify an earlier wall alignment, and should include the standing section lower down the slope. Careful analysis of the stonework and mortar may confirm the antiquity of these wall sections, or whether they are associated entirely with the nineteenth-century alterations to the castle carried out by



Plate 49 View of outer defensive wall fragment in field to south-west corner of town.



Plate 50 View of gable to medieval church ruins.

### Recommendations

Following removal of ivy and vegetation, a photographic and drawn survey of the remaining stone facings should be undertaken. Where possible, trees and shrubs should be removed also, to arrest the damage to the wall caused by embedded roots.

### **Project: Wall Fragments**

Due to the lack of cartographical and archaeological evidence, it is difficult to be definitive about the exact alignment of the historic town defenses of Buttevant that may remain hidden beneath, or be contained within, current building plots or field boundaries. There are several walls within the town that possibly date from the medieval period. These are suggested by their alignment, scale and the type or pattern of their masonry. Much of the defensive wall would have been salvaged for re-use in building new structures such as boundaries and dwellings, the walls around the barracks being a distinct possibility. These walls should also be protected and conserved, as they may have formed an inner defensive enclosure to protect the town centre within a wider outer ring, and which over time may have been extended or reduced as the fortunes of the town dictated. The most probable examples of these walls include:

- the gable of the former RC church (Plate 50) at Mill Lane now located in the convent garden.
- the former walled garden to the north west of

the castle that is now the site of a school.

- the wall running east-west along the north side of St. Mary's churchyard (Plate 51) and as a plot boundary to the rear of the premises on the opposite side of the road (Plate 52).
- the plot boundaries to the west side of the town.
- the plot boundaries to the south of the friary wall as far as Mill Lane.

### **Project: Walled Circuit Route**

The proposed four kilometre wall circuit route intersects the most visible and intact fragments of the defensive walls, while also encountering other aspects of the built heritage that would not be immediately obvious to those visiting the town or passing through. This route provides a sense of the scale of the medieval town, within a range of different historic settings. It should be capable to be used by both guided tours, and where appropriate, visitors wishing to encounter



Plate 51 View along re-built wall to St. Mary's churchyard.



Plate 52 View along garden boundary wall to west side of town.

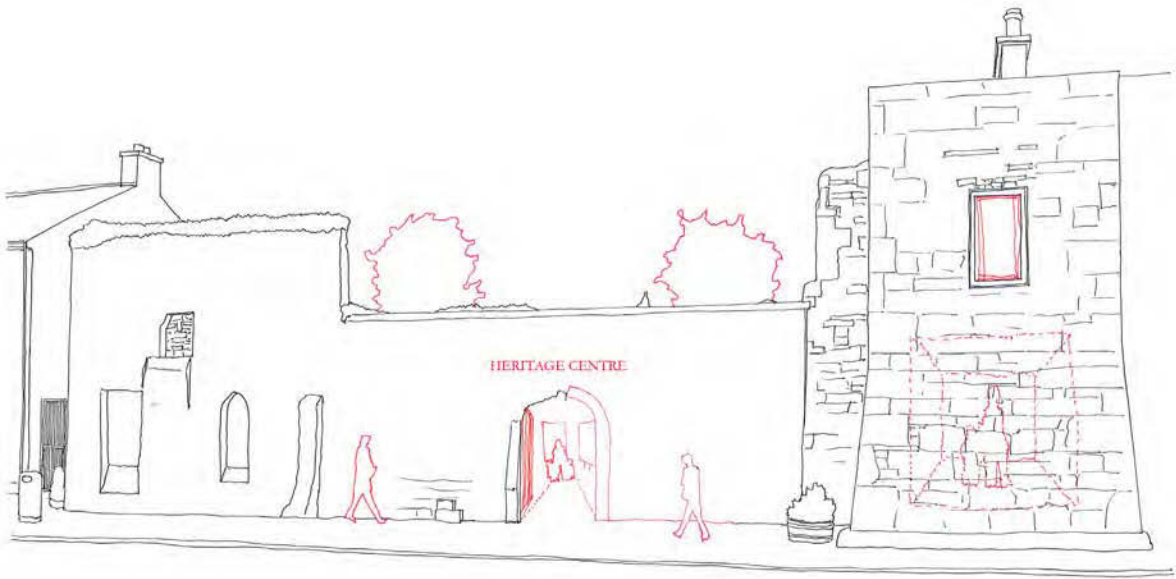


Fig. 28 Sketch proposal for interpretative zone at Lombard's Castle with archway restored.

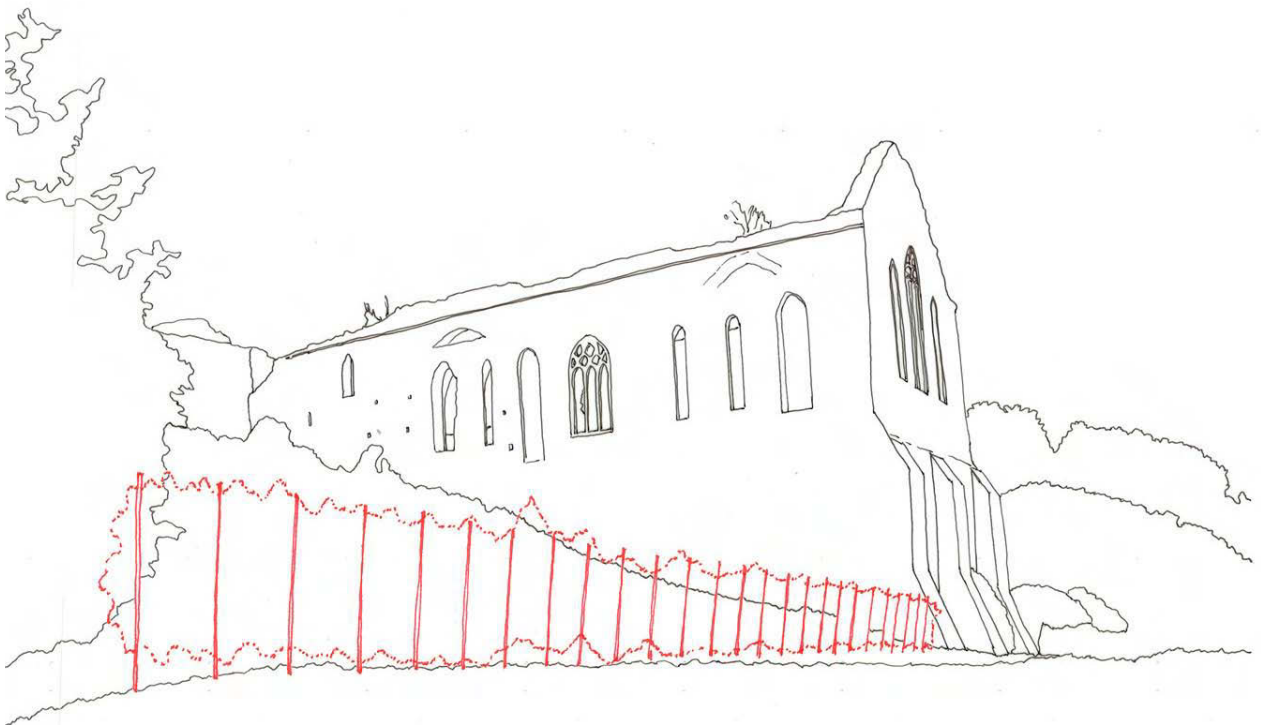


Fig. 29 Sketch showing fencing to reinstate boundary to base of friary.



Plate 53 View of Lombard's Castle tower.

the walls in a less formal way. Specialised tours should be considered, along with tours that encourage audience participation. When circumstances permit, excavation open days along the route should be hosted during Walled Town festivals or outreach programmes.

To ensure that the walk is as engaging as possible, the route should be continuous as far as is practicable. For that reason, it is proposed that the walk would intersect with nature walks as suggested in the *Area Enhancement Plan* for the town, and lead north as far as the barracks, and south as far as St. John's where walkers can take the option of continuing along the river to Ballybeg, adding a further three kilometres to the round trip. It is also proposed that the former gate leading from the castle into St. John's churchyard be re-instated. This would allow guided walks to proceed more directly along the route, avoiding the need to double-back along Mill Lane and the main road. This would only be undertaken with the permission of the relevant landowners to be used for guided tours only, this shortcut would make the wall circuit easier to interpret and would shorten the route by over 800 metres.

### Project: Burgage Garden

The gardens behind the main street relate to the former burgage plots, and all have archaeological potential. Using archaeological investigation, it may be possible to recreate an example of a medieval garden, which

could be restored using thorough research and historically accurate planting schemes, such as used at Rothe House, Kilkenny. Map evidence indicates that the sites that were not redeveloped in the last 20-30 years or so have been clear since at least the middle of the eighteenth century. The restored garden could be used to educate the public in how gardens were used to feed families and for selling produce at market. The Buttevant Area Enhancement Plan suggests the use of the garden to the rear of Lombard's Castle for this purpose, as it is reputed to have been used as an orchard in medieval times.

### Project: Interpretative Zone

There are a number of areas that could be considered for providing a designated Interpretative Zone for the town walls. Lombard's Castle & Garden, which is in the ownership of the parish; or the Market House, which is also in public ownership are two potential options. The use of the Market House is restricted as it is currently being leased as office space. However, it does offer a central location, shelter and services. Lombard's Castle is in a ruined state, but could be made safe for access relatively easily. It is a prominent example of the medieval heritage of Buttevant, situated on the main street, albeit it is no longer considered to be a remnant of the town defensive walls. Although the tower is too small and dark to present an extensive display on the town walls, interpretative panels could be erected within the yard to the rear, providing an evocative setting for the presentation,

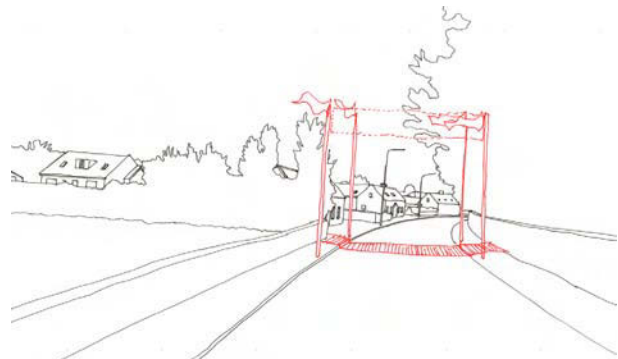


Fig. 30 Sketch proposal for gate at southern approach to town.

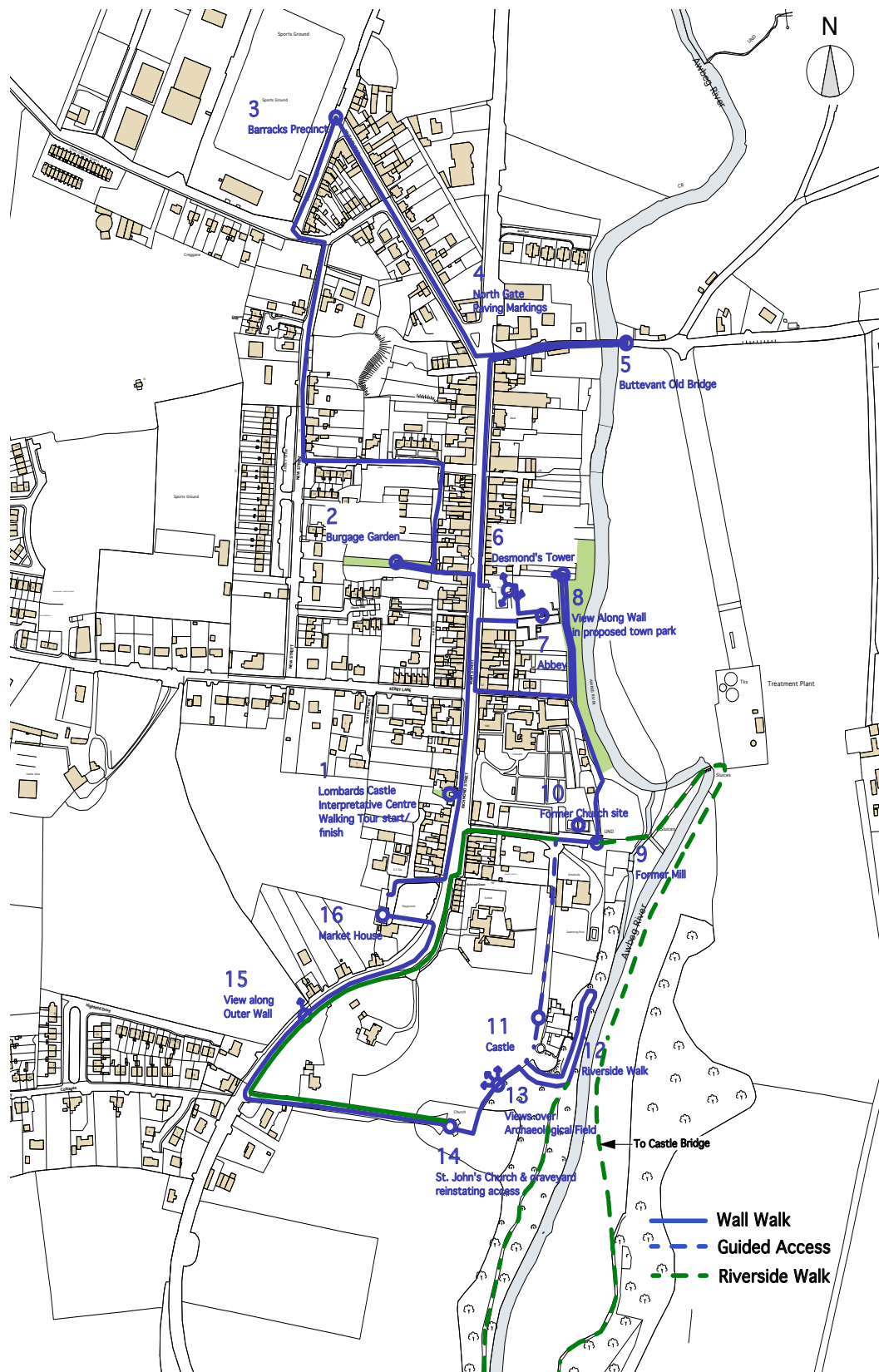


Fig. 31 Map showing proposed wall circuit route and key sites.

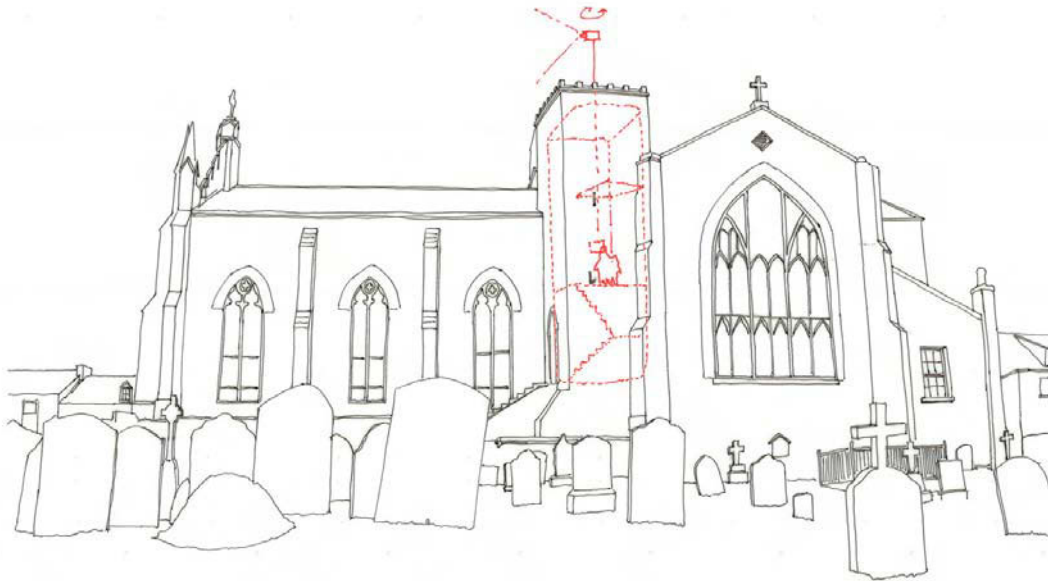


Fig. 32 Sketch proposal for access to tower interior & camera obscura at Desmond's Tower.

without obscuring the appearance of the tower house from the main street. This would also be a good opportunity to reinstate the half of the stone arched entrance which was removed to provide a wider entrance. Using the castle or the mill for heritage purposes would be ideal, but their size, condition and private ownership make these long-term projects, and it is preferable to start at a small, manageable scale with achievable goals.

**Project: High Level Prospect**

Desmond's Tower attached to St. Mary's RC church in the town has the potential to enhance the experience of visitors to Buttevant. Used as a prospect point, by means of a close circuit television, or a camera obscura, could create an interesting way of viewing the town and its surrounds. The lower sections in the tower could possibly be adapted to allow some access as part of guided tours. Improved access would also make routine inspection and maintenance of the structure easier and more safe.

**Project: Archaeological Testing**

There remains much still to be understood about the development of Buttevant, major questions include: the extent of the former

outer defenses; whether medieval masonry was re-used in the building of the barracks wall; whether there was an inner defensive wall that enclosed the burgage plots; and how extensive was the settlement in the early phases of its development. Extending the Zone of Archaeological Potential around the town to incorporate those sites recently identified may yield valuable information on the town walls in the future. Surveying the various open plots around the town using geophysical techniques might provide further archaeological information, at a reasonable cost. This would expand our understanding of the town, making it possible to portray its history in a more vivid and authentic way. It would also help to inform and guide landowners and the planning authority about future developments.

Key sites include:

- the playing pitches to the west side of the town off New Street.
- the field to the south of St. John's stretching towards Ballybeg.
- the undeveloped plots to the rear of the main street which may unearth evidence of burgage gardens as well as evidence of an inner defensive wall.





Fig. 33 Map showing proposed outline of revised Zone of Archaeological Potential & key sites for further testing.

## APPENDICES

Statutory Protection

Bibliography

List of Images

Cartographic Sources

Historic Timeline

Endnotes

Geophysical Survey Report

## STATUTORY PROTECTION

### Introduction

The Heritage Council established the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) in April, 2005 to unite and coordinate the strategic efforts of Local Authorities involved in the management and conservation of historic walled towns in Ireland. It is formally linked to the European Walled Towns for Friendship and Professional Co-Operation (formerly the Walled Town Friendship Circle) which is the international association for the sustainable development of walled towns, walled cities and fortified historic towns

The Piran Declaration, which outlines the reasons for maintaining historic walled towns, was outlined at an Annual General Meeting of the Walled Town Friendship Circle in Piran, Slovenia in 1998.

*Walled Towns are unique inheritances from times long past and should be treasured, maintained and safeguarded from neglect, damage and destruction and passed on into perpetuity as irreplaceable Timestones of History.*

### International Charters and Conventions

The plan has been informed by policies and guidance included in a number of international charters and conventions on the protection of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage including:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) *International Charter for the Conservation of Monuments and Sites*, 1964 (commonly known as the Venice Charter),
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, 1972,
- Council of Europe *Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe*, 1985 (commonly known as the Granada Convention),
- International Council on Monuments and Sites

(ICOMOS) *Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas*, 1987 (commonly known as the Washington Charter),

- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance*, 1988 (commonly known as the Burra Charter),
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) *Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage* 1989,
- Council of Europe *European Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* 1992 (commonly known as the Valetta Treaty).
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) *Charter for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites*, 2008 (commonly known as the Ename Charter).

### National Monuments Legislation

*The known and expected circuits of the defences (both upstanding and buried, whether of stone or embankment construction) and associated features of all town defences are to be considered a single national monument and treated as a unit for policy and management purposes. There should be a presumption in favour of preservation in-situ of archaeological remains and preservation of their character, setting and amenity.*

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2008.

In 1999 the State published two significant documents titled *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* and *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavations*. These documents outline the Government's policy in relation to the protection of the archaeological heritage, the conduct of archaeological excavations and reflect the obligations on the State under the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valetta Convention 1992).

The national policy for the protection, preservation and conservation of town defences is set

out in a document entitled *National Policy on Town Defences* published in 2008 by the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

Monuments, such as town defences, included in the statutory Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) are referred to as recorded monuments and are protected under the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004. A monument is defined in Section 2 of the Act as:

*any artificial or partly artificial building, structure, or erection whether above or below the surface of the ground and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground and any cave, stone, or other natural product whether forming part of or attached to or not attached to the ground which has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the ground) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position and any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, but does not include any building which is for the time being habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes*

The town defences of Buttevant are currently designated as:

- RMP no. CO017-053012- (Town defences, Buttevant NGR 154261, 108947).

In addition all town defences are considered national monuments, as defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004, by reason of their historical, architectural and archaeological interest. A national monument is defined in the Act as:

*the expression "national monument" means 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 attaching thereto and also includes (but not so as to limit, extend or otherwise influence*

*the construction of the foregoing general definition) every monument in Saorstát Eireann to which the Ancient Monuments Protection Act, 1882, applied immediately before the passing of this Act, and the said expression shall be construed as including, in addition to 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*

### **Ministerial Consent**

Where national monuments, including town defences, are in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht or a local authority or have been the subject of a preservation order, Ministerial Consent is required in order:

- (a) to demolish or remove it wholly or in part or to disfigure, deface, alter, or in any manner injure or interfere with it, or
- (b) to excavate, dig, plough or otherwise disturb the ground within, around, or in proximity to it, or
- (c) to renovate or restore it, or
- (d) to sell it or any part of it for exportation or to export it or any part of it.

Works requiring notification or Ministerial Consent includes preparatory work, enabling works, carrying out of groundworks in proximity to remains of town defences, carrying out of masonry repairs, widening existing openings and rebuilding fallen stretches.

In considering applications for Ministerial Consent for works affecting town defences, it shall be the policy of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (Department of the Environment and Local Government 2008, 10-11):

- To seek the protection and preservation in-situ of these national monuments including the town walls, embankments and ditches, gates, bastions or ancillary fortifications or portions

thereof;

- To seek the preservation of important views and prospects inside and outside the walls so as to preserve the setting of the monuments and to increase the appreciation of the circuit and character of the walled town. The Department may require a satisfactory buffer area to be established between any new development and the town defences in order to ensure the preservation and enhancement of the amenity associated with the presence of town defences within the historic urban pattern;
- To require any proposals for works to town defences to be preceded by a detailed measured survey of the monuments so as to have an appropriately detailed record;
- To provide pre-planning advice to developers where town defences are close to or included in their proposal site;
- To require the involvement of qualified and experienced conservation professionals in the detailed design and overseeing of works to town defences;
- Not to favour new roads crossing the wall or the line of the wall or the formation of any new openings in the wall;
- To favour the minimal intervention necessary to the authentic fabric of the monument and avoidance of unnecessary reconstruction;
- To require good quality, context-sensitive design for development proposals affecting the upstanding town defences that would not detract from the character of the town defences or their setting by reason of the location, scale, bulk or detailing;
- To encourage the enhancement of the setting of town defences including the pedestrianisation of town gates where this can be achieved without requiring new roads to be opened through the circuit of the walls.
- To encourage also the improvement of signage and public utilities structures, etc. where these affect the visual amenity of the defences;
- To require as a condition of Ministerial Consent that appropriate programmes of regular maintenance and repair works to the town defences be put in place;
- To promote the retention of the existing street

layout, historic building lines and traditional burgage plot widths within historic walled towns where these derive from medieval or earlier origins and to discourage the infilling or amalgamation of such plots and removal of historic boundary walls save in exceptional circumstances.

### **Planning and Development Act 2000**

Where the town defences, or elements of the defences, are listed as Protected Structures or located within Architectural Conservation Areas they are also protected under the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010. The Acts require that Local Authority Development Plans include objectives for 'the conservation and protection of the environment including, in particular, the archaeological and natural heritage'. In addition, development plans are to include a Record of Protected Structures which comprises a list of structures or parts of structures which are of 'special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest' within the Authorities boundaries.

The town defences are not included in the Record of Protected Structures in the Cork County Development Plan 2009-2015 but the western portion of the line of the town wall is included in the designated Architectural Conservation Area for Buttevant (Cork County Council 2009, Vol. 3)

**Architectural Conservation Areas** - It is an objective to conserve and enhance the special character of the ACAs included in this plan. These Architectural Conservation Areas are shown on the Architectural Conservation Area Maps in Volume 3 and are also listed in Volume 2 of this Plan. The special character of an area includes its traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscape, landscape and setting (ENV 4-6).

**Areas of Special Planning Controls** - It is an objective (where appropriate) to establish areas of special planning control within Architectural

Conservation Areas. These areas will include a scheme setting out objectives for the conservation and enhancement of the special character of the area, and will be based on an Architectural Appraisal of each town (ENV 4-7).

Additional Architectural Conservation Areas - It is an objective (where appropriate) to continue to identify and establish additional Architectural Conservation Areas. These will be established through proposed variations to the plan (ENV 4-8).

Raising Architectural Awareness - It is an objective to raise awareness of the importance of the County's built heritage in conjunction with the objectives of the County Cork Heritage Plan (ENV 4-9).

New build, in-fill developments and extensions - It is an objective to ensure that all new development located within or adjacent to designated Architectural Conservation Areas will respect the established historical and architectural character of that area and will contribute positively to the existing built environment in terms of design, scale, setting and material specifications. This will be achieved by promoting a contemporary design of high architectural quality within Architectural Conservation Areas. The special character of Architectural Conservation Areas will be maintained through the protection of structures from demolition, non-sympathetic alterations and the securing of appropriate in-fill developments (ENV 4-10).

Alterations, Developments and Demolitions - It is an objective to protect all buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes, and all features that are considered to be intrinsic elements to the special character of Architectural Conservation Areas. This will be achieved by promoting the sensitive and appropriate reuse and rehabilitation of buildings and sites located within Architectural Conservation Areas and by prohibiting alterations, development or demolition of structures and features that contribute to the character of the Architectural Conserva-

tion Area or any relevant protected structure or monument included in the Record of Monuments and Places (ENV 4-11).

Survey and Appraisal of Designated ACAs - It is an objective of Cork County Council to undertake a detailed survey and appraisal of all Architectural Conservation Areas designated under the Development Plan. A set of both general and site specific policies, objectives and guidelines will then be formulated for each Architectural Conservation Area. These measures will be adopted as a means of ensuring the continued preservation, protection and enhancement of the special character of our Architectural Conservation Areas (ENV 4-12).

### **Local Plans and Policy**

Cork County Council is the relevant planning control authority within the town. The town defences are located within the Zone of Archaeological Potential designated for the town. The Cork County Development Plan 2009-2015 contains the following policies and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage:

#### **Sites, Features and Objects of Archaeological Interest**

(a) It is an objective to safeguard sites, features and objects of archaeological interest generally. (b) It is an objective of the Planning Authority to secure the preservation (i.e. preservation in situ or in exceptional cases preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994, and of sites, features and objects of archaeological and historical interest generally. In securing such preservation, the planning authority will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (ENV 3-1)

Newly Discovered Archaeological Sites - It is an objective to protect and preserve archaeological sites discovered since the publication of the

## Record of Monuments and Places (ENV 3-2)

Zones of Archaeological Protection - It is an objective to protect the Zones of Archaeological Potential located within both urban and rural areas as identified in the Record of Monuments and Places (ENV 3-3)

Archaeology and Infrastructure Schemes - The Council will have regard to archaeological concerns when considering proposed service schemes (including electricity, sewerage, telecommunications, water supply) and proposed roadworks (both realignments and new roads) located in close proximity to Recorded Monuments and Places and the Zones of Archaeological Potential (ENV 3-4)

Underwater Archaeology - It is an objective to protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites. In assessing proposals for development, the Council will take account of the rivers, lakes, intertidal and sub-tidal environments (ENV 3-5).

Industrial Archaeology - It is an objective to protect and preserve the archaeological value of industrial sites such as mills, lighthouses, harbours etc. Proposals for refurbishment, works to or redevelopment/conversion of these sites should be subject to a full architectural and archaeological assessment (ENV 3-6).

Raising Archaeological Awareness - It is an objective to raise awareness and improve practice in relation to archaeology in County Cork. Guidance material will be produced setting out the requirements for archaeological protection in the County (ENV 3-7). It is an objective of the Council to develop and maintain an integrated database system for all relevant information pertinent to the archaeological and built heritage of the County (ENV 3-8).

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## HISTORICAL TIMELINE

(after Urban Archaeological Survey 1995)

Century	Buttevant	Ireland	Europe
12th	King Henry of England granted the kingdom of Cork to Milo de Cogan and Robert Fitzstephen (1177).		
	Robert Fitzstephen granted part of his territories to his nephew Phillip de Barry.	Arrival of Anglo-Normans in Ireland (1169), Henry II arrives in Waterford and declares himself Lord of Ireland (1171).	
13th	Castle (King John's Castle) reputed to have been built at Buttevant, Buttevant Old Bridge in existence (early 13th century).		
	De Barry family had established a settlement with a manor and a friary at Buttevant (mid to late 13th century).		
	Augustinian Abbey founded by Phillip de Barry in the townland of Ballybeg to the south of the town (1229).		
	David de Barry obtains a licence to hold a weekly market and an annual fair at Buttevant, clearly indicating that a town was in existence by this time (1234).		
	Franciscan Friary, dedicated to St. Thomas, founded within the town in 1251.		
	References to burgesses (late 13th century).	The first representative Irish Parliament meets in Dublin (1297).	
	Buttevant included in a list of market towns drawn up by the sheriff of Cork in June 1299.		

14th	Manor of Buttevant' and 'Castel of Bothon' first recorded (early 14th century).		
	Records of widespread turbulence and lawlessness in Cork 1316-1318.	Edward de Bruce arrives in Ireland. (1315).	
	Earliest reference to the town walls when de Barry requests £105 be released to the Exchequer in order to enclose the town with walls (1317).		Great European Famine (1315-22), Black Death ravages Europe(1347-8).
	Pipe Roll of Cloyne lists de Barry's 'castle of Buttevant with its orchard and hall and all the tenements which lie between the middle of the mill of Buttevant and the said lane calledn Myinstrete...and extends to the public highway of Buttevant on the west side as far as the roadway and church of St. Bridget on the south side' (1364).		
	Grant made to the provost and community for customs and part of the waste of Buttevant and the North Gate (1375).		
15th	Buttevant was severely damaged during the Munster rebellion of Murrough O 'Brien (1461).		
	Walls mentioned and town said to have contained 'several small town castles' in a will of David Lombard of Buttevant (1479).		
16th	Construction of Lombard's Castle (16th century) .		

	Friary passes into the hands of the de Barry's after the dissolution of the monasteries (c. 1540-41).	Thomas Fitzgerald renounces his allegiance to the Crown (1534).	Henry VIII became King of England (1509).
	David de Barry was created lord viscount Buttevant c. 1555.	Dissolution of the Monasteries (1540s).	Protestant Reformation (1517).
	Lord Deputy Sidney laid siege to and occupied the castle (1568).	Defeat of the Spanish Armada (1588).	
17th	Buttevant is mentioned by Borlase in his history of the Rebellion (1640s), army of the Confederation assembled at Buttevant under lord Mountgarret in 1641, Lord Inchiquin collected forces comprising 4000 foot and 400 horse at Buttevant (1643).		
	The town was burned by Williamite forces. Probability that the walls were not maintained after this date (1690)	Flight of the Earls (1607), Plantation of Ulster (1609), Gaelic Catholic Rebellion of 1641.	Pilgrim Fathers sail for America on the Mayflower (1620), Hostilities between England and Spain (1625-28)
	Lombard's Castle occupied by a 'free-school', remains of the town wall were still extant in 1750 and were described by Smith as comprising of an 'outward wall, which enclosed the other, and took up a considerable circuit of ground'.	Oliver Cromwell storms Drogheda (1649).	
18th	Friars remain on intermittently at Buttevant until 1783	Irish Parliament gains legislative independence from Britain (1782),	French Revolution (1787-89)
	Bridge extended to north by Turnpike Trust (18th century)	Irish Rebellion (1798)	
	The manor and castle of Buttevant sold by Earl Richard to John Anderson Esq. (late 18th c.)		

19th	Substantial flour mill erected by Sir James Anderson on the south-east side of town (c. 1810).		
	Military barracks founded on the north-west edge of the town (early 19th century).		
	Three-storey castellated country house built at Buttevant Castle by John Anderson (early 19th century).		
	Market House constructed at the southern end of town (early 19th century).		Battle of Waterloo (1815).
	Croker states that Buttevant 'though formerly a town of importance and opulence, is now a poor place. It was walled, and governed by a corporation, and traces of its consequence may still be seen in the solid old walls and ruins scattered amongst the mean houses of which it is at present composed' in 1824.		
	Brewer states that 'traces of town walls still obvious in 1825.		
	St. John's Church of Ireland Church constructed 1826, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church built constructed 1836.	Roman Catholic Emancipation (1829).	
	Buttevant Castle purchased by Lord Doneraile in 1831.		





## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Tobar Archaeological Services
- <sup>2</sup> Cotter 2010
- <sup>3</sup> Zajac, Cronin and Kelly 1995
- <sup>4</sup> Thomas 1992
- <sup>5</sup> Gove-White, p 336
- <sup>6</sup> Tobar Archaeological Services, p 24
- <sup>7</sup> Cotter 2010, p i
- <sup>8</sup> MacCotter and Nicholls 1996, pp 64-80
- <sup>9</sup> Gove-White, p 337
- <sup>10</sup> Cotter 2010, p i
- <sup>11</sup> Brash 1852, p 84
- <sup>12</sup> O’Keeffe 2012, p 23
- <sup>13</sup> O’Brien 1993, p 93
- <sup>14</sup> O’Keeffe 2010, p 67
- <sup>15</sup> MacCotter and Nicholls 1996, p 113
- <sup>16</sup> Cotter 2010, p i
- <sup>17</sup> Thomas 1992, p 28
- <sup>18</sup> Gove-White, p 337
- <sup>19</sup> MacCotter and Nicholls 1996, pp 28-29
- <sup>20</sup> Tobar Archaeological Services, p 25
- <sup>21</sup> Lyttleton 2004, 3
- <sup>22</sup> Cotter 2010, p 4
- <sup>23</sup> Smith 1750, p 313
- <sup>24</sup> Grove-White, p 336
- <sup>25</sup> Grove-White, p 336
- <sup>26</sup> Lewis 1837, 236
- <sup>27</sup> Lewis 1837, 235
- <sup>28</sup> MacCotter and Nicholls 1996, pp 28-29
- <sup>29</sup> Ordnance Survey Aerial Photography 1995 (<http://maps.osi.ie/publicviewer/#V1,554153,608404,7,5>)
- <sup>30</sup> TCD MS2891
- <sup>31</sup> Thomas 1992, pp 27-29
- <sup>32</sup> Thomas 1992, p 29
- <sup>33</sup> Cotter 2010, p 9
- <sup>34</sup> Cotter 2010, p 14
- <sup>35</sup> Thomas 1992, p 29
- <sup>36</sup> Cotter 2010, p 7
- <sup>37</sup> Cotter 2010, p 8
- <sup>38</sup> Leigh 2012
- <sup>39</sup> McCleary 2003, pp 7-8
- <sup>40</sup> McCleary 2003, p 8
- <sup>41</sup> O’Donnell and Quinn 2002, 2
- <sup>42</sup> Purcell 2008, 14
- <sup>43</sup> Leigh 2012, p 7



*Howley Hayes Architects are recognised for their work in both contemporary design and for the sensitive conservation of historic buildings, structures and places. The practice has been responsible for the conservation and reuse of numerous buildings of national and international cultural significance, several of which have received RIAI, Opus or Europa Nostra Awards. Under the Conservation Accreditation System, implemented by the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, Howley Hayes Architects is accredited as a Conservation Practice Grade 1 and its director James Howley is a Conservation Architect Grade 1. Over the years the practice has completed many projects for the restoration and conservation of numerous historic buildings, gardens and landscapes including – Larch Hill, Dromoland and Russborough, and James Howley is the author of – The Follies and Garden Buildings of Ireland, published by Yale University Press. Howley Hayes Architects have, to date, been responsible for over one hundred conservation reports and strategic master plans for clients such as the Heritage Council, the World Monument Fund, the Office of Public Works together with numerous local authorities and private clients.*