

CONARC

CONSERVATION

Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA)



LIVING IN CARLINGFORD – VISITING CARLINGFORD RRDF

December 2021
Rev A - Updated March 2023

for

RPS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE

This Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment has been written to inform the development of a Public Realm Scheme for the Historic Town of Carlingford in County Louth.

It is intended that the report will highlight the important Architectural Heritage within the part of the town which has been determined as the subject area for proposed Public Realm works.



Aerial View of Carlingford Town Centre

The Lead Consultant for the work is RPS Landscape Architects team working on behalf of Louth County Council.

The original baseline report was carried out and issued at the Public Consultation stage in advance of completing the design work in order that the findings could inform the design and be factored into the decisions made to ensure that the heritage is protected.

Consarc Conservation, an RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architectural Practice, has been appointed as Heritage Consultant on the team to assess the heritage and have completed this report.

The site visit was carried out by Graeme Moore, Specialist Conservation Architect - RIBA Accredited Specialist Conservation Architect (SCA) on 9th November 2021 to assess the Heritage, Protected Structures and Views for this report.

The Public Consultation event was also attended during the visit.

This report has been prepared to:

- Outline the context of the area, its buildings and structures and their contribution.
- Comment on Protected Structures
- Comment on the Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)
- Comment on Relevant Louth County Council Policy for Protected Structures and ACA

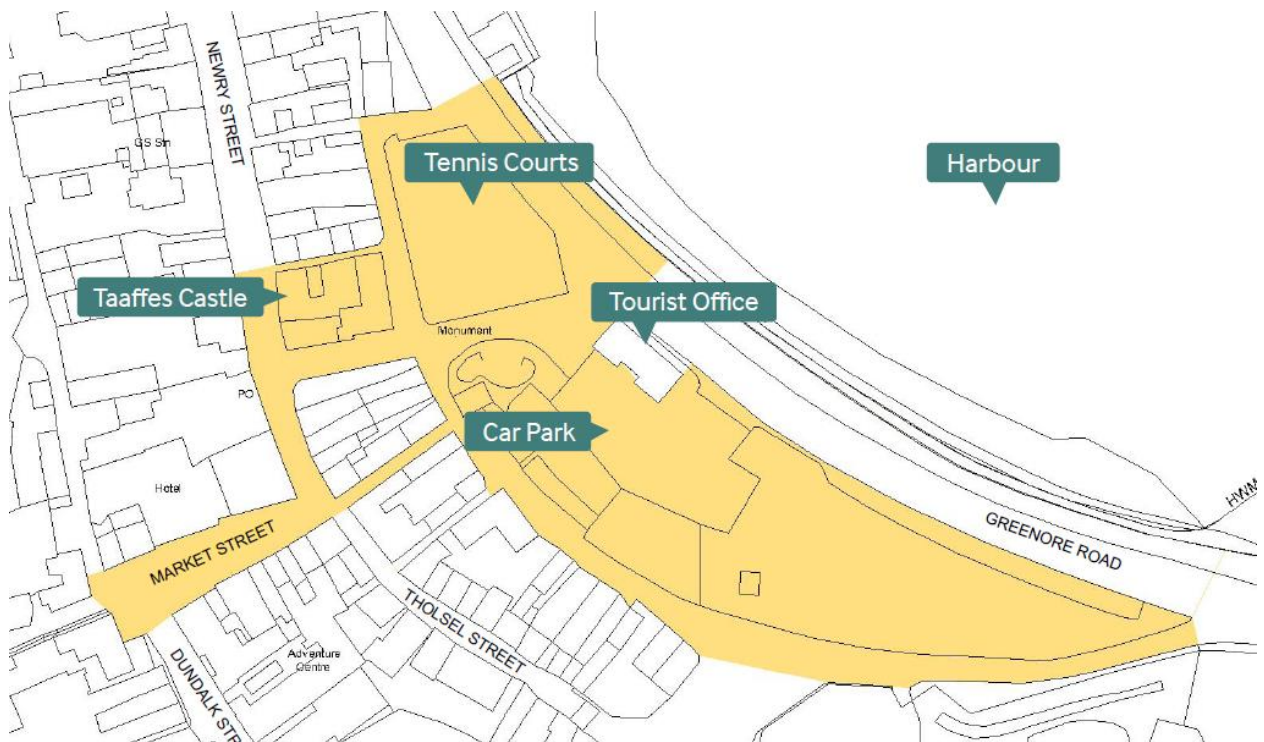
This version of the report has been updated by revisiting the original document to add comment on the Public Realm proposals which have been produced by the Landscape Architects.

1.2 STUDY AREA & EXTENT OF THE WORKS

The proposed works are to be carried out within the footprint of the Carlingford urban area.

The Study Area is as indicated on the map below showing a large proportion of the Heritage Town Centre. RPS have designed proposals for:

- The lower (southern) part of Newry Street
- Market Street to the West
- The Tennis Courts to the North fronting onto the coast road (Greenore Road)
- Car Park bounded to the Northeast by Greenore Road and the historic quay wall to the South.



Proposed Study Area for Public Realm (provided by RPS)

Existing Materials, Historic Surfacing & Green Space

The proposed works will take place within an existing area that is predominantly hard surfaced and it is the intention to create areas that will improve the public realm for pedestrians and visitors.

The selection of materials for use in the enhancement will complement the existing historical context of Carlingford taking cognisance of the surrounding heritage and seeking to enhance this through the use of themes, creation of space, colour scheming and enhancement of vistas.

The design endeavours to retain the same percentage of green space as the existing scenario which may include the reorganisation or relocating of these areas.

1.3 METHODOLOGY

The AHIA has been carried out by a process of:

- Study of background Information and research.
- Communications with Lead Public Realm Designers.
- Site visit and survey to consider the existing Protected Structures and Heritage within the context and consideration of any likely impacts by the proposed scheme.
- Consideration of context of the Architectural Conservation Area (ACA).
- Consideration of the Conservation principles and policies contained within Louth County Council Area Plan and associated documents.

This work was carried out in advance of the proposed design process. An interim version of the report was previously issued to assist the designers with the proposals.

This version of the AHIA includes a review of the Landscape Architects proposals and comment on the suitability of the works from a heritage perspective.

1.4 ASPIRATIONS

The following notes have been summarised from the Project Description as Provided by RPS.

The proposed development works comprise the following works:

- Upgrade of footpath materials and widths to give greater comfort to pedestrian traffic.
- Upgrade of traffic and pedestrian management within the town to give greater emphasis to pedestrians and create a clear hierarchy that puts pedestrians before vehicular traffic within the town centre.
- Resurfacing of existing pavements with quality materials.
- New railings, bollards to discourage illegal parking.
- Bicycle parking.
- Street furniture including bins and seats.
- Traffic calming ramps, pedestrian crossings.
- New trees and vegetation.
- Signage.
- New / replacement street lighting and CCTV.
- Improvements to car parking. Some of this provision is to part of the existing green space to Greenore Road.
- New utility services /upgrading of existing services, including watermains, foul, storm and water drainage, ESB services, Wi-Fi and Broadband.

Objectives of the Works

The Council and Designers Guiding Objectives of this project are:

- Sustainable and inclusive regeneration.
- Transformative social and economic change to benefit the community and attract visitors delivering the objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF) including compact growth, strengthened rural economies and communities as well as sustainable mobility.
- To enabling well-being through pedestrian/cycle movements within and between key heritage assets and beyond as part of a traffic management plan to rationalise vehicular movements and reduce congestion.

The Living in Carlingford – Visiting Carlingford RRDF

This proposes to develop a strategy for enhancing the quality of the village of Carlingford for existing residents and promoting economic and employment opportunities by creating a sustainable tourism strategy also.

This will be achieved with focus on the 5 main objectives of:

1. Improving the key area of arrival in Carlingford.
2. Public Realm improvements to streets and spaces within the historic wall townscape.
3. The development of a traffic management plan.
4. Development of a cohesive signage and orientation plan.
5. The development of a plan for accommodation and management of casual traders in the Medieval Town.

Key Themes and Urban Design Approach

Spaces for Users - The design of the proposed urban realm enhancements will adopt best practice and promote a high quality and inclusive environment to create an attractive, open, and user-friendly environment for the streets.

History - The proposed urban design proposals will be informed by and take account of the Medieval character of the narrow streets and the built environment of Carlingford.

Materials - Natural stone paving will be employed as an appropriate and robust material throughout the scheme to relate to the overall visual quality and aesthetics of the improved streetscape and character of historic Carlingford.

Views - Important views to the historical landmark structures in Carlingford will be maintained and improved where possible through removal of clutter and appropriate tree planting whilst also ensuring no detrimental impact on any existing heritage features.

NB: Existing important views within and through the historic subject area are considered below in Section 3.0.



Existing Clutter at Market Street

Signage - The use of wayfinding signage and plaques inset to paving will be used to create a heritage trail.

Soft Landscaping elements will comprise tree planting, raised planters and grass selected to reflect the coastal location and the local environment.

1.5 CURRENT REPORT

This report has been updated to comment on and provide an assessment of:

- The appropriateness of the Public Realm Proposals as have been developed.
- How any potential negative effects have been eliminated or mitigated.
- How the final proposals align to Heritage Policy.

It is intended that this report will accompany a Planning Application for the proposed Public Realm works for Carlingford.



RPS | Landscape Architects Proposed Layout

2.0 POLICY CONTEXT & HERITAGE DESIGNATIONS

2.1 INTRODUCTION - CARLINGFORD – HISTORIC TOWN

The town of Carlingford is designated as a Historic Town – Ref: LH005-042

The following description is a summary of information from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>

Description - The town of Carlingford is situated at the foot of Slieve Foy along a narrow ledge of land where the mountain slopes meet the sea. The earliest mention of the Carlingford area is with reference to Viking raids in the 9th Century, but nothing is known of any settlement which they might have made.

The placename Carlingford is Scandinavian in origin translating into the 'Fjord of Carlinn' and it is possible that the Vikings may have used the sheltered natural harbour of Carlingford as a temporary base. Apart from the name, no other Viking evidence has been recovered to date.

The next mention of Carlingford is in relation to the Anglo-Normans who arrived in Ireland in 1169. By 1184 they had made their way as far north as Carlingford and a Norman knight, John de Courcy, claimed this part of Louth for himself.

The layout of the town has a distinctive linear pattern forming an elongated H-plan with a centrally placed market place. It began to be enclosed with a town wall in the early 13th century and eventually enclosed an area estimated at c. 8 hectares.

Its trade flourished and by the 15th and 16th centuries the townspeople had obtained sufficient wealth to enable them erect substantial tower houses and have them decorated in the latest architectural style (see Taaffe's Castle (LH005-042005-) and the Mint (LH005-042008-)).

In 1689, the town was burned by the Jacobites in their retreat before the Williamite army and the harbour provided safe anchorage for supply ships for the Williamites.

A new pier was erected in the late 18th century which saw an increase in trade in the 19th century when the produce of newly-opened local quarries on the south side of the town were exploited.



Wall of 18th Century Quay to LHS



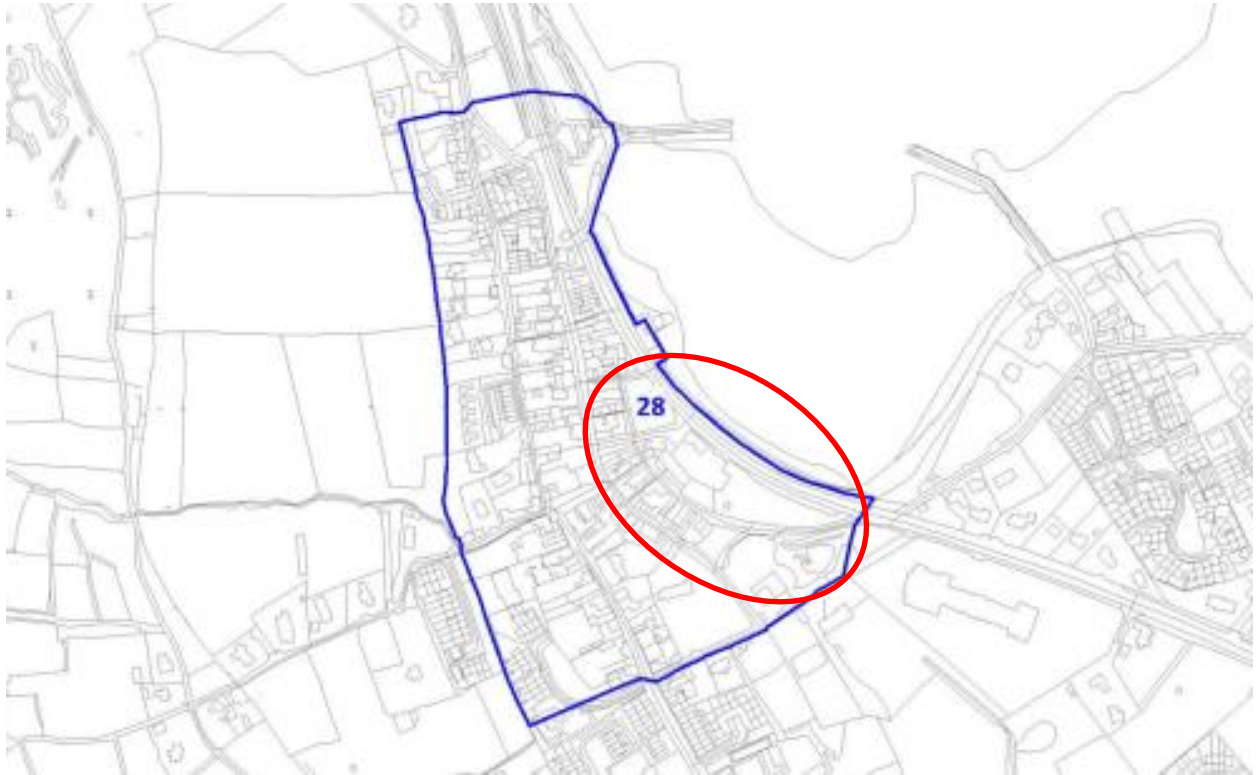
Wall of C18th Quay (LHS) Infilled for railway

The opening of the railway line along the coast from Dundalk to Newry in 1876 necessitated the infilling of the old quay.

Additional works followed when the line was closed in 1952 with the present road built on top of it. A new pier, which remains, was constructed in the 1880s.

2.2 ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA

The Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) boundary for Carlingford is illustrated below. The entire area of the proposed works falls within the ACA to the SE tip of the designation.



Carlingford Architectural Conservation Area (Blue) – Approx Location of Proposed Works (Red)

2.3 ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA POLICIES

The Following Architectural Conservation Area Policies have been extracted from the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021-2027 – Chapter 9 Built Heritage & Culture.

Commentary on these policies has been provided in Section 4.0 of this document. These comments have now been reviewed to assess the completed proposals in this version of the AHIA.

BHC 31 - To require that all development proposals within or affecting an Architectural Conservation Area preserve or enhance the character and appearance of that area, protect architectural features of special interest and ensure that the design respects the character of the historic architecture in terms of height, scale, layout, and materials. All development proposals shall have regard to the Architectural Conservation Area objectives in Appendix 11, Volume 3 and objectives contained in applicable Character Appraisals where available.

BHC 32 - To retain any building within an Architectural Conservation Area which makes a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the area. Demolition of such structures, the removal of features and street furniture which contribute to the character of the area shall only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Applications for demolition shall be accompanied by a measured and photographic survey, condition report and architectural heritage assessment.

BHC 33 - To ensure any new service infrastructure (installed by the Local Authority or Public/Private Sector Utility Companies) shall not be located where it will be detrimental to the character of the Architectural Conservation Area.

BHC 34 - To ensure that the protection of architectural features of special interest within an Architectural Conservation Area are retained as part of any proposed re-development. In certain cases development management guidelines may be relaxed in order to secure their conservation.

BHC 35 -To require that any development on the periphery of an Architectural Conservation Area does not detract from the existing character of the designated Architectural Conservation Area.

BHC 36 - To ensure that new trading bays and all associated signage shall not be located where it will be detrimental to the character of the Architectural Conservation Area or any important building or vista in the Architectural Conservation Area.

BHC 37 - To retain surviving medieval plots and street patterns in the Architectural Conservation Areas and other towns and villages where in evidence and in the course of development, to record and mark evidence of ancient boundaries and layouts etc.

2.4 PROTECTED STRUCTURES

As well as the entire site falling within the Carlingford Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). There are a number of Protected Structures and Heritage which lie within the area of the Proposed Works and just outside to the north and south. These are summarised below.



Protected Structures Map

No.	Building & Type	Location	Reg. No.
Protected Structures within Proposed Public Realm Area			
1	Taaffe's Castle, Tower House	Lane off Newry Street	LH005-042005
2	Carlingford Tourist Office, Former Railway Station	Greenore Road	13825042
3	Medieval House	Old Quay Lane	
4	The Anchor Bar, Shop	Tholsel Street	13825047
5	Market Street, House	Market Street / Tholsel Street	13825056
6	McArdles Boutique, House	Market Street	13825057
7	Newry Street, House	Newry Street	13825003
8	Allure Hair Studio, House	Newry Street	13825004
9	Eblana House, House	Newry Street	13825055
Protected Structures Adjacent to Proposed Public Realm Area			
10	Marian House, House	Newry Street	13825005
11	Newry Street, House	Newry Street	13825006
12	The Boathouse, House	Greenore Road	13825048
13	House	Old Quay Lane / Car Park	13825041
14	The 'Mint', Tower House	Tholsel Street	LH005-042008
15	Tholsel Street, House	Tholsel Street	13825046

Outline information on these buildings has been included below as sourced from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/> with current photos and location map.

Full information on all of the Protected Structures within, and just outside, the study area affected by the proposed works is included in Appendix A of this document.

The overall policy is to retain, restore and enhance the integrity and significance of the buildings within their wider context.

2.5 PROTECTED STRUCTURES WITHIN PROPOSED PUBLIC REALM AREA

1. Taaffe's Castle

Reg No: LH005-042005

Class: Castle – Tower House

Townland: Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Usually referred to as 'Taaffe's Castle', it is four storeys high, excluding the wall-walk level, and is constructed of roughly coursed greywacke and limestone rubble and boulders with a very few hammer- or punch-dressed blocks, but with some finely dressed quoin stones.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Taaffe's Castle

The historic Tower House is constrained by its setting of bitmac with the road extending to the building. There is an opportunity to improve the setting with more sensitive surfacing materials.

Additional infrastructure in the proximity should be avoided as this could have a negative effect on the setting of the asset.

Care should be taken when working in the vicinity of the building.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals in the vicinity

The RPS proposals have improved the setting of the building by introducing natural stone setts as an interface between the structure and an existing bitmac which is to be welcomed.

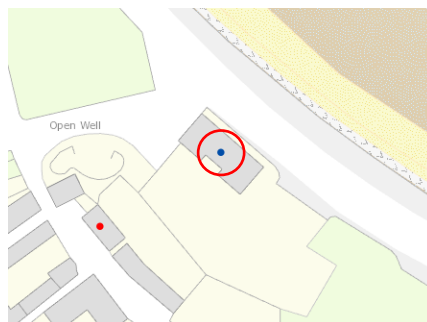
Archeological investigation may be required during works – TBC.

2. Carlingford Tourist Office, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825042

Class: Office

Townland: Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Detached H-plan seven-bay single-storey former railway station, dated 1876, now in use as tourist office.

The former train station at Carlingford is a fine example of the adaptive reuse of an historic building, caused by the closure of the railway line in 1952. The station is built of high-quality materials used with considerable flair.

Rock-faced squared limestone, ashlar sandstone block-and-start quoins, pitched slate roofs, cast iron RWGs and decorative chimney pots. Glazed infill to front between gables.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Tourist Office

The historic former Railway Station is constrained by its setting of the Carpark to the rear and the road to the front. There is an opportunity to improve the setting with more sensitive surfacing materials and increased pedestrian space to the surroundings.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

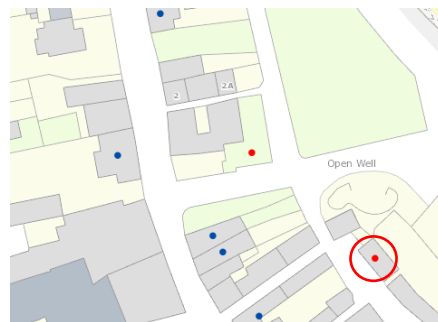
The RPS proposals intend to improve the setting of the building by introducing natural stone setts to the front and stone flags to the rear as well as planting to soften the existing surfaces.

3. Medieval House

Reg No: LH005-042006-

Class: House - medieval

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Bradley and King (1985, 39) suggests that the building located at this site with its 'narrow rectangular loop-like windows in its south wall', may be late medieval in date.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Old Quay Lane

The Medieval House is constrained by its setting of bitmac with the road extending to the building.

There is an opportunity to improve the setting (and more generally to Old Quay Lane) with more sensitive surfacing materials and pedestrian separation, however residents parking will need to be carefully considered.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

This building is outside the proposed area of works and so there will be no negative impact on the building.

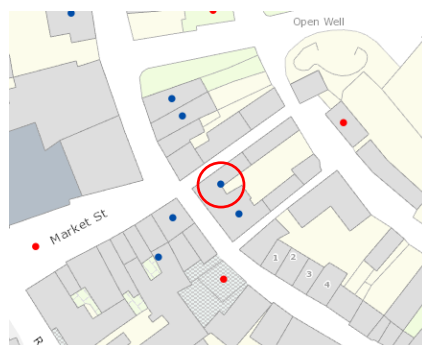
Other proposals in the vicinity will have a positive effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings in the town.

4. The Anchor Bar, Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825047

Class: Shop/retail outlet

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Corner-sited attached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1830, formerly also in use as shop, now in use as licensed premises. Rectangular-plan, two-storey return to east, attached to house to south. Pitched slate roofs, part hidden behind balustraded parapet cast-iron gutters and downpipes.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – The Anchor Bar (PJ's)

The Pub has a Paved pedestrianised street to west the which is outside the scope of the proposed works area.

The survival of the petrol pump provides an unusual piece of street furniture which further enhances the appeal of the structure and its importance within the streetscape. Important that items such as this (and corner boulder wheel guards) are retained within the proposals.

The surfacing of the lane to the north could be improved.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

This surfacing to the front of the building – Tholsel Street is outside the scope of the proposed works and so any impact will be neutral.

The proposal to improve the surfacing of the laneway to the side (North) with stone flags is to be welcomed.

Important that features such as the historic petrol pump and boulders are retained in any proposals.

5. Market Street, Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825056

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Corner-sited attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1780, with shopfront inserted to ground floor. Hipped slate roof, clay ridge and hip tiles, roof lights to south pitch, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe. Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling to ground floor, unpainted roughcast rendered walling to upper storeys.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Market Street

Pavement to front adjacent to road within the scope of works.

Surfacing to the pavement and road could be improved to enhance the setting of the buildings around Market Street and pedestrianisation could be considered.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

This surfacing to the front of the building to the North – Market Street (as referred to above) is to be improved with natural stone setts which will improve the setting of the building.

6. McArdles Boutique, Market Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825057

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Attached two-bay three-storey house, built c. 1780, with shopfront inserted to ground floor. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe. Painted roughcast rendered walling, smooth rendered raised plinth and quoin. Shopfront with rendered fascias, tripartite fixed frame display window.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Market Street - See comments above.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

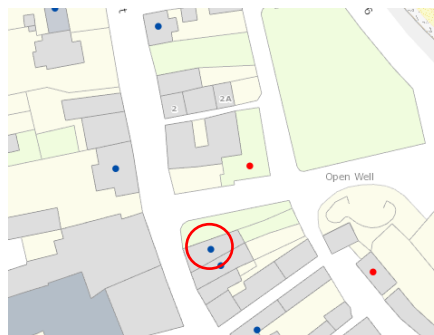
This resurfacing to the front of the buildings along Market Street with natural stone setts will improve the setting of the building and is to be welcomed.

7. Allure Hair Studio, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825004

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Semi-detached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1870, **(NB: Now vacant)**. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, uPVC gutters on exposed rafter ends, circular cast-iron downpipe. Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined painted walling.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Newry Street

Pavement to front adjacent to road is within the scope of works.

Surfacing to the pavement and road could be improved to enhance the setting of the buildings around Newry Street and partial pedestrianisation could be considered.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

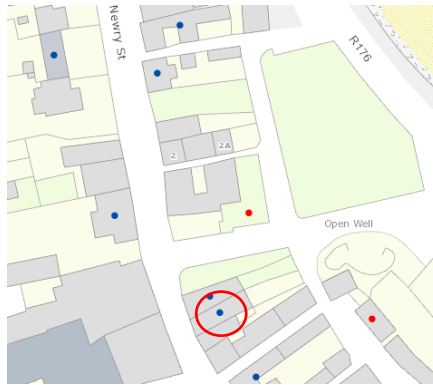
This resurfacing to the front of the buildings along Newry Street with natural stone setts will improve the setting of the buildings and is to be welcomed.

8. Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825003

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Semi-detached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1870. Square-plan, attached house to north. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, block-and-start quoins, painted roughcast-rendered walling to south.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Newry Street

Surfacing to the pavement and road could be improved to enhance the setting of the buildings around Newry Street and partial pedestrianisation could be considered.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

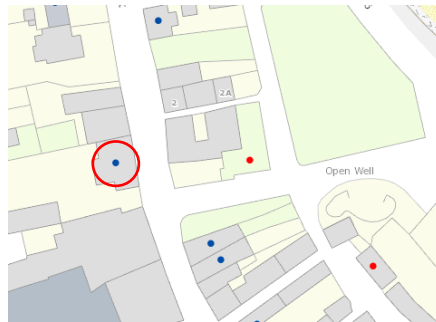
As above – The proposed resurfacing to the front of the buildings along Newry Street with natural stone setts will improve the setting of the buildings and is to be welcomed.

9. Eblana House, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825055

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Attached three-bay two-storey house, built c. 1830, with return to west. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystacks, uPVC windows and gutters on corbelled eaves course, cast-iron downpipe to south-east corner.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Newry Street

Surfacing to the pavement and road could be improved to enhance the setting of the buildings around Newry Street and partial pedestrianisation could be considered.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

As above – The proposed resurfacing to the front of the buildings along Newry Street with natural stone setts will improve the setting of the buildings and is to be welcomed.

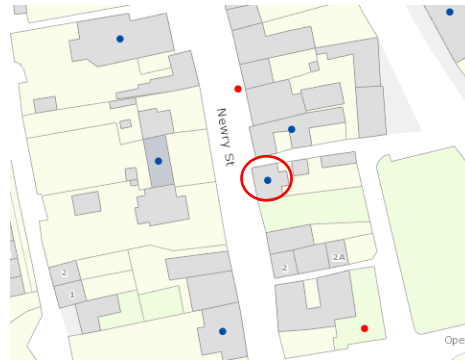
2.6 PROTECTED STRUCTURES ADJACENT TO PROPOSED PUBLIC REALM AREA

10. Marian House, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825005

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of
Carlingford



Description

Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c. 1920.

Rectangular-plan, return to east. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, yellow brick corbelled chimneystacks, concrete and slate verge coping, cast-iron gutters.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, Square-headed window openings, painted stone sills, painted timber one-over-one sliding sash windows, tripartite windows to ground floor.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Newry Street

This building is outside the scope of the proposed works although views into and out of the town should be considered.

Wayfinding and signage should be considered to connect to the wider town, coastline and mountains in all directions.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

This building is outside the proposed area of works and so there will be no negative impact.

Other proposals in the vicinity will have a positive effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings in the town on the approaches to the town centre and views will be unaffected.

11. Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825006

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of
Carlingford



Description

Attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1880.

Rectangular-plan, lean-to return to east. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, uPVC gutters on corbel eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe to south-west corner.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, smooth rendered plinth, quoins, string and platband forming hoods to first floor windows, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows, some uPVC replacement windows, cast-iron window guard to ground floor.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Newry Street

Outside the scope of the proposed works although views, connections and wayfinding should be considered as noted above.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

As noted - Other proposals in the vicinity will have a positive effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings on the approaches to the town centre and views will be unaffected.

12. The Boathouse, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825048

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of
Carlingford



Description

Detached L-plan multiple-bay single-storey former boathouse, built c. 1870, now in use as house. Pitched and hipped slate roofs with rendered chimneystacks. Roughly dressed limestone walls. Replacement fittings to openings.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Greenore Road

This Protected Structure is just outside the scope of the proposed works although the approaches to the town from both directions are of great importance.

Views into and out of the town should be considered.

Wayfinding and signage should be considered to connect to the wider town, coastline and mountains in all directions.

Measures of Traffic calming could be considered on approaches from both directions – See also ‘Views’ section below.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

Although this building is outside the scope of the public realm proposals, the adjacent works in the vicinity on approaches will have a positive effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings on entering the town centre and views will be unaffected.

The traffic calming measures proposed to be introduced are to be welcomed.

13. House at Old Quay Lane, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825041

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of
Carlingford



Description

Detached five-bay two-storey house, built c. 1770. Rectangular-plan, open gabled porch projecting from south elevation. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, painted smooth rendered corbelled chimneystacks, uPVC gutters on painted timber fascia. Painted roughcast rendered walling.

Square-headed window openings, painted smooth rendered reveals and soffits, painted stone sills, painted timber six-over-six (ground floor), three-over-six (first floor) and two-over-two (north elevation) sliding sash windows; timber casement windows to north.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Old Quay Lane

This attractive Protected Structure house is just outside the scope of the proposed works although bounds Old Quay Lane to the NW which is to be included.

NB: The Carpark (currently outside the proposed scope) has a negative effect on the dwelling and other buildings such as the nearby church and this area should also be considered for environmental improvement works.

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

The parking in front of the building is proposed to be retained as it is outside the scope of the public realm proposals, the adjacent works in the vicinity will have a neutral effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings on the periphery.

14. The 'Mint'

Reg No: LH005-042008

Class: Castle – Tower House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

This building is known as the 'Mint'. However, as this name does not appear in print before the late 19th century it likely to be the product of a romantic mind which sought to link it with the license to mint coinage, granted to Carlingford in 1467.

Built of roughly coursed limestone rubble and greywacke (int. dims. 7.1m by 6.1m) the house was three storeys high with the entrance was through a doorway at ground-floor level at the S end of the E wall (the castle is not aligned on a true N-S axis but for the purposes of this description the wall facing out onto Tholsel Street is considered to be E).

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Tholsel Street

Tholsel Street has a paved pedestrianised street to west which is outside the scope of the proposed works area.

Appropriate transition between the existing and proposed surfaces should be considered.

Sensitive interpretation should be considered for this important building.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

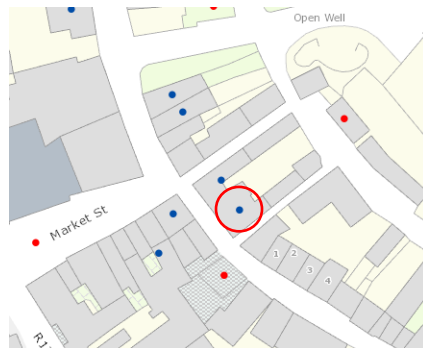
This building is outside the scope of the public realm proposals, the adjacent works in the vicinity on will have a neutral effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings on the periphery of the proposed works.

15. Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Reg No: 13825046

Class: House

Townland:
Liberties of Carlingford



Description

Corner-sited attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1760. Rectangular-plan, return and extensions to east, attached to house to north. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined flat-capped chimneystack, verge coping, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course. Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling to ground floor west and south elevations, pebble dashed render to first floor west elevation, smooth rendered wall top and quoins.

Previously Identified Risks and Opportunities – Tholsel Street

Now part of the adjacent Pub, Tholsel Street has a paved pedestrianised street to west which is outside the scope of the proposed works area.

Appropriate transition between the existing and proposed surfaces should be considered.

Conservation Architect’s Comment on proposals

This building is outside the scope of the public realm proposals, the adjacent works in the vicinity on will have a neutral effect on the setting of this and other heritage buildings on the periphery of the proposed works.

2.7 PROTECTED STRUCTURE POLICY

The Following Protected Structure Policies have been extracted from the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021-2027 – Chapter 9 Built Heritage & Culture.

Commentary on the landscape proposals and how these comply with the policies has been provided in Section 4.0 of this document following a review of the designs.

It is recognised that not all policies will be relevant.

BHC 20 - *To ensure that any development, modification, alteration, or extension affecting a protected structure and / or its setting is sensitively sited and designed, is compatible with the special character and is appropriate in terms of the proposed scale, mass, density, layout, and materials of the protected structure.*

BHC 21 - *The form and structural integrity of the protected structure and its setting shall be retained and the relationship between the protected structure, its curtilage and any complex of adjoining buildings, designed landscape features, designed views or vistas from or to the structure shall be protected.*

BHC 22 - *To prohibit inappropriate development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds of a protected structure. Any proposed development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds must demonstrate that it is part of an overall strategy for the future conservation of the entire complex including the structures, demesne and/or attendant grounds.*

BHC23 - *To require that all planning applications relating to protected structures contain the appropriate documentation as described in the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011) or any subsequent guidelines, to enable a proper assessment of the proposed works and their impact on the structure or area.*

BHC 24 - *To require the retention of original features such as windows, doors, renders, roof coverings, and other significant features which contribute to the character of protected structures and encourage the reinstatement of appropriately detailed features which have been lost, to restore the character of protected structures as part of development proposals.*

BHC 25 - *To promote best conservation practice and the use of skilled specialist practitioners in the conservation of and for any works to protected structures.*

BHC 26 - *To encourage the retention, sympathetic reuse and rehabilitation of protected structures and their settings where appropriate and where the proposal is compatible with their character and significance. In certain cases, development management guidelines may be relaxed in order to secure the conservation of the protected structure and architectural features of special interest.*

BHC 27 - *To permit the demolition or significant modification of a protected structure, only in exceptional circumstances.*

BHC 28 - *To ensure the protection of architectural features of special interest as part of any proposed re-development where there is conflict with other development plan requirements such as open space, car parking etc.*

BHC 29 - *To review and update the Record of Protected Structures on an ongoing basis and to make additions and deletions as appropriate.*

BHC 30 - *To seek funding streams for specific priority projects and to assist owners with the repair and conservation of protected structures and aim to make the structure climate resilient.*

3.0 VIEWS, CONTEXT OF BUILDINGS IN ACA & ADJACENT ENVIRONS

3.1 VIEWS INTRODUCTION

Approaches to the town and views out are important to be considered as part of the Public Realm Works ensuring that there is no detrimental impact to any existing heritage features in the town or those more distant. As the work is involved with Public Realm focused on grade level, no views will be adversely affected and resurfacing is likely to compliment views and heritage assets.

Important views to the historical landmark structures in Carlingford should be maintained and improved where possible through removal of clutter and visually distracting interventions.

Consideration of traffic and pedestrian management (including calming measures) to give greater emphasis to pedestrians could have a dramatic positive effect on the views and approaches to the town.

This could include the upgrading of materials to reduce 'black-top' surfacing to enhance the heritage and visual attractiveness.

3.2 VIEWS – APPROACHES FROM SOUTH-EAST

Consideration of traffic calming measures and more space given over to pedestrians could have a dramatic positive effect on the views and approaches to the town from both directions.

In turn this could encourage greater dwell time rather than the road just passing through the edge of the town.



Approach dominated by a wide Road which bypasses the town



1800's Historic Former Quay Wall to RHS



1800's Former Quay Wall bounding to road to LHS

Conservation Architect's Comment on proposals

The proposed works include the opportunity of providing traffic calming measures to Greenore Road along the coast with a combination of raised tables and changes in the surfacing. This is welcome as it will slow traffic and give greater priority to pedestrians enjoying the shore front.



Traffic calming and changes in surface along the shore front

There is a very valuable open green space with the southern edge formed by the 1800's Quay Wall of the old harbour now infilled. This presents a great opportunity to be retained however would benefit from enhancement to allow greater use of the space.

Conservation Architect's Comment

Although part of the green space has been given over to parking, the advantage of this is that it reduces the parking along the front allowing this space to be more greatly enjoyed by pedestrians.

The parking has been confined to the less usable and narrow end of the area with green space extended to the NW to provide a setting around the Tourist Information Building.



Open Green Space

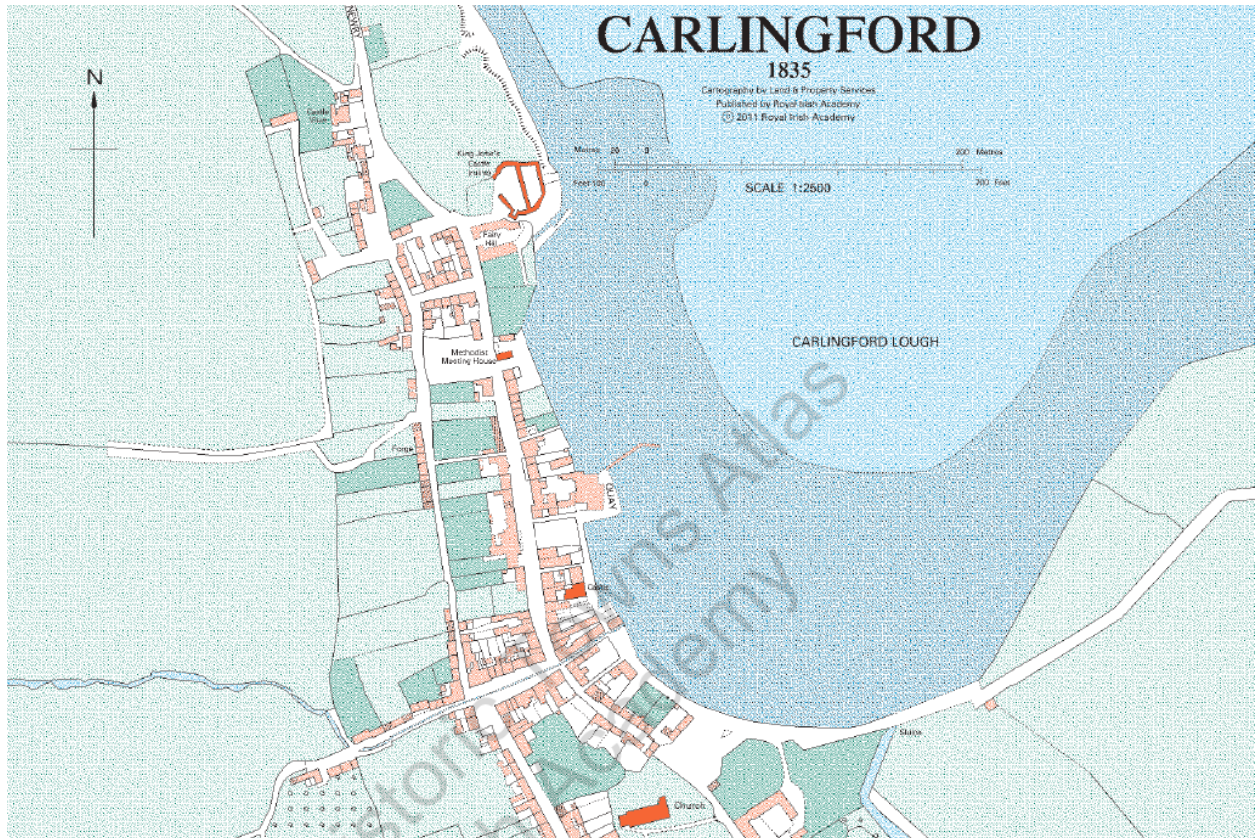


1800's Former Quay Wall to LHS

Conservation Architect's Comment

The wall structure has been carefully considered and incorporated into the proposals due to its historical significance to the town.

The former line of the Quay is shown below on the 1835 Map.



Map 2, Carlingford, 1835. In Harold O'Sullivan and Raymond Gillespie, Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 23, Carlingford. Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, 2011 (www.ihta.ie, accessed 4 February 2016).

The historic former Railway Station (see also Protected Structure section) is constrained by its setting of the Carpark to the rear (west) and the road to the front (east).

There is an opportunity to improve the setting with more sensitive surfacing materials and increased pedestrian space to the surroundings to connect with the coast and harbour.



Greenore Road dominates the frontage and the setting of the Tourist Office with little dwell space

Conservation Architect's Comment

The setting around the Tourist Information Building has been improved with natural stone paving to the front reducing the impact of vehicles and the green space has been increased to the SE of the building.

3.3 VIEWS – APPROACHES FROM NORTH-WEST

Similar to the view heading into the town from the Southeast, the approach is dominated by the wide expanse of the Greenore Road with the same issues of setting to the Tourist Office.

There is a missed opportunity with the tennis courts which are included in the scope area and present a potential opportunity for Public Realm space.



The Greenore Road is a 'sea of black' that dominates the frontage / disconnects the town from the harbour and the setting of the Tourist Office (RHS) could be improved.



Green space and public realm to both sides of the Tourist Information Building



Wide opening to town and lack of legibility and definition of street pattern

Conservation Architect's Comment

The setting around the Tourist Information Building is further improved with green space to the NW, as well as to the SE. This provides a unified shore front area of public realm and green space with a heritage building at its heart.

The route into the town has been improved by narrowing to a scale that aligns to the historic street pattern.

3.4 VIEWS – CAR PARK

The existing carpark is currently outside the proposed scope of works however is considered to have a negative effect on the surrounding heritage, in particular the Protected Structure adjacent as well as views of the Church.

It is understood that this part of the town remains outside the scope of the proposed works and provides necessary parking away from the focus of the shore front.



Setting of house – Protected Structure (RHS) negatively affected by carpark as are views of the church

3.5 VIEWS – OLD QUAY LANE FROM SOUTH-EAST

Old Quay Lane is dominated by Bitmac. This has a negative effect generally on the hierarchy between vehicular traffic and pedestrians as well as negatively affecting the Protected Structures and other historic buildings within the ACA.

There is an opportunity to improve the setting with more sensitive surfacing materials and pedestrian separation, however residents parking will need to be carefully considered.

Various views moving south to north are included below:



3.6 VIEWS – OLD QUAY LANE FROM NORTH-WEST

Similar issues as above with the lane being dominated by Bitmac and negatively affecting the Protected Structures and other historic buildings within the ACA with an opportunity to improve the setting with more sensitive surfacing materials and pedestrian separation.

Various views moving north to south below:





Conservation Architect's Comment

The setting of the buildings and historic structures such as walls within the Architectural Conservation Area is improved with the natural stone surfacing replacing bitmac to Old Quay Lane and other narrow alleyways.

This will also improve the hierarchy between pedestrians and vehicles to allow the heritage to be greater appreciated.

3.7 VIEWS – OFF OLD QUAY LANE



Small setts are successful and more attractive than concrete and bitmac – to remain



Bitmac and concrete have little character – to be replaced

3.8 VIEWS – MARKET STREET FROM NORTH-EAST

Market Street, that has the potential to have the expression of a Market Place and Public Realm Space is dominated by traffic with huge opportunities for improvement.



Market Street looking west – dominated by 'Blacktop' and traffic

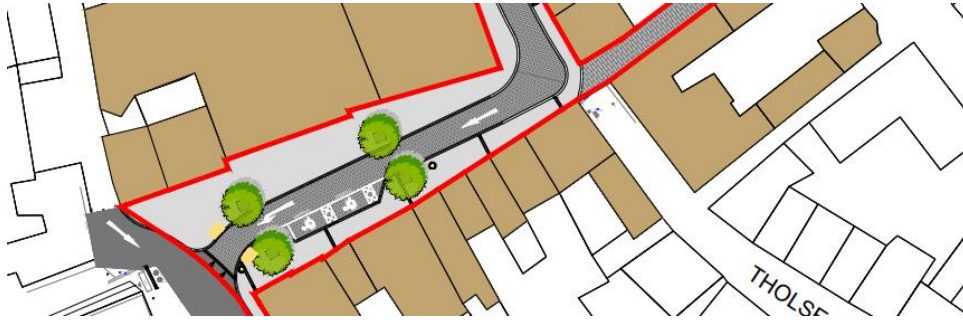


Market Street looking east – dominated by 'Blacktop' and traffic

Conservation Architect's Comment

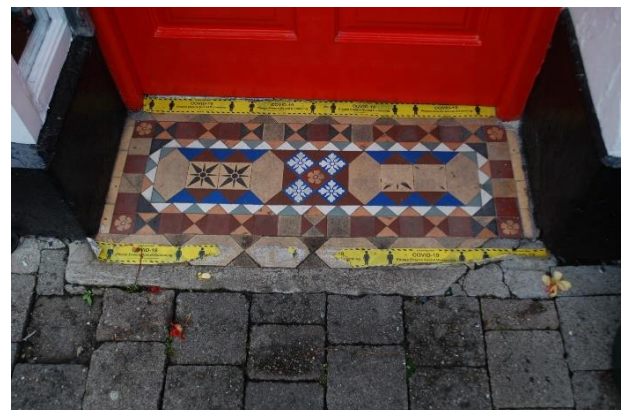
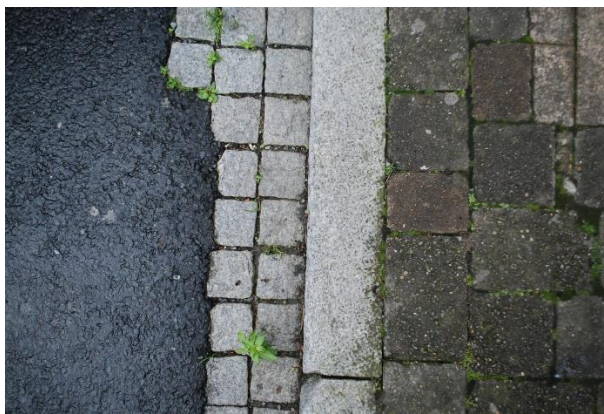
The setting of the historic buildings framing the larger urban space of Market Street is improved by the introduction of wider pedestrian paths, high quality materials and tree planting.

The reduction in traffic and parking will allow the heritage to be better appreciated, however accessible parking is incorporated.



Improved pedestrian experience and historic setting to Market Street

Details - Important consideration needs to be given to the details such as those observed below in Market Street such as glazed basement lights, threshold tiling, and boulders placed at corners to protect buildings from wheels which are a common theme in the town.



Conservation Architect's Comment

These features should be recorded, catalogued and identified on plans to ensure that their character is not lost during works.

3.9 VIEWS – NEWRY STREET FROM SOUTH



Car dominated streetscape with unattractive bollards



Conservation Architect's Comment

The important vehicular route is maintained, however the heritage experience of the street is improved by the enhancement of traditional quality materials such as natural stone to pavements.

3.10 VIEWS – NEWRY STREET FROM NORTH

Car dominated streetscape with bitmac needs to be carefully considered to allow controlled vehicle movements and greater pedestrian consideration which will compliment the historic ACA.



Conservation Architect's Comment

The heritage experience of the street is improved by enhancement with traditional quality materials such as natural stone to pavements with vehicular route maintained for access.



Surfacing to lanes off Newry Street could be considered as opportunities

3.11 VIEWS – FROM COAST TO NEWRY STREET

Again, car dominated streetscape with little legibility of street pattern.

Protected Structures such as Taaffe's Castle are compromised by lack of consideration of setting with opportunities for more appropriate surfacing.



Conservation Architect's Comment

The route into the town has been improved by narrowing to a scale that aligns to the historic street pattern.

The setting of Protected Structures also improved by introduction of natural stone setts to pavements.



4.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF WORKS & RESPONSE TO POLICY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

As the works of this project are related to Public Realm Street Improvements, there will be no harm to the Protected Structures or indeed any other buildings which line the streets.

The proposed Public Realm works will in fact serve to enhance the buildings providing an improved setting for them using appropriate traditional quality materials as indicated on the Landscape Proposal drawings.

Structures which may have potential vulnerabilities have been identified in the street analysis at Section 3.0.

This section also includes notes and observations of where there might be opportunities to improve the heritage settings of the buildings with Public Realm work and these have been incorporated where possible in the proposals.

In general, any works to the site should be carried out in accordance with best conservation practice, as defined by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in the Venice Charter of 1964 and subsequent charters.

The Protected Structures Policy Objectives of Louth County Council have been included below for reference with comments relating to the proposals which have been presented.

The Design works have also been assessed in heritage terms to the streets within the Public Realm Proposals which all lie within the Architectural Conservation Area.

4.2 RESPONSE TO ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA POLICY

The Following Architectural Conservation Area Policies have been extracted from the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021-2027 – Chapter 9 Built Heritage & Culture.

Conservation Architect's commentary on these policies has been provided below relating to the proposals presented.

BHC 31 - *To require that all development proposals within or affecting an Architectural Conservation Area preserve or enhance the character and appearance of that area, protect architectural features of special interest and ensure that the design respects the character of the historic architecture in terms of height, scale, layout, and materials. All development proposals shall have regard to the Architectural Conservation Area objectives in Appendix 11, Volume 3 and objectives contained in applicable Character Appraisals where available.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 31

As the proposed works are concerned with the spaces between buildings, this works will **enhance** the surrounding heritage using appropriate traditional materials and layout with height and scale not expected to be an issue.

BHC 32 - *To retain any building within an Architectural Conservation Area which makes a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the area. Demolition of such structures, the removal of features and street furniture which contribute to the character of the area shall only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Applications for demolition shall be accompanied by a measured and photographic survey, condition report and architectural heritage assessment.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 32

None of the proposed works will remove or demolish any buildings within the ACA. Other features such as walling, street furniture, objects and structures have been carefully considered within the proposals and these will be recorded and retained where appropriate.

BHC 33 - To ensure any new service infrastructure (installed by the Local Authority or Public/Private Sector Utility Companies) shall not be located where it will be detrimental to the character of the Architectural Conservation Area.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 33

The Lead designers have collaborated to date with Louth County Council as well as the Public and Private Sector Utility Companies to ensure that any installations required are appropriate. This might apply to such items as way finding signage, charging points, services etc. This approach will continue as the detail of the design develops.

BHC 34 - To ensure that the protection of architectural features of special interest within an Architectural Conservation Area are retained as part of any proposed re-development. In certain cases development management guidelines may be relaxed in order to secure their conservation.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 34

Any architectural features of special interest within the ACA will be retained and protected. This will include protecting relevant items during the works undertaken.

BHC 35 - To require that any development on the periphery of an Architectural Conservation Area does not detract from the existing character of the designated Architectural Conservation Area.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 35

The proposals presented are entirely within the ACA and are appropriate for the area.

BHC 36 - To ensure that new trading bays and all associated signage shall not be located where it will be detrimental to the character of the Architectural Conservation Area or any important building or vista in the Architectural Conservation Area.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 36

Any infrastructure for street traders, signage will be appropriately considered as part of the proposals as the detail develops.

BHC 37 - To retain surviving medieval plots and street patterns in the Architectural Conservation Areas and other towns and villages where in evidence and in the course of development, to record and mark evidence of ancient boundaries and layouts etc.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 37

Carlingford is recognised as a Historic Town with a Medieval layout at its heart. The proposals retain the street patterns in their historic form with works focused on improving the materials employed. An exception is where the route from the coast into the town has been narrowed to align to the historic street pattern which is considered to be appropriate.

4.3 RESPONSE TO PROTECTED STRUCTURE POLICY

The Following Protected Structure Policies have been extracted from the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021-2027 – Chapter 9 Built Heritage & Culture.

Conservation Architect's commentary on these policies has been provided below relating to the proposals presented.

BHC 20 - *To ensure that any development, modification, alteration, or extension affecting a protected structure and / or its setting is sensitively sited and designed, is compatible with the special character and is appropriate in terms of the proposed scale, mass, density, layout, and materials of the protected structure.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 20

As the proposed works are concerned with the public realm between buildings, rather than the buildings themselves, this work will be compatible with the special character. The works do not include any building development, modification, alteration, or extension affecting a protected structure or its setting other than changes to surface materials which are appropriately selected traditional and natural materials.

BHC 21 - *The form and structural integrity of the protected structure and its setting shall be retained and the relationship between the protected structure, its curtilage and any complex of adjoining buildings, designed landscape features, designed views or vistas from or to the structure shall be protected.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 21

The form and structural integrity of the protected structures will be unaffected by any of the works. Settings and curtilages will only be affected by changes to materials and these changes will have a positive effect on the Protected Structures and their settings.

Designed landscape features will be carefully considered and any designed views or vistas from or to the structure will be unaffected.

BHC 22 - *To prohibit inappropriate development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds of a protected structure. Any proposed development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds must demonstrate that it is part of an overall strategy for the future conservation of the entire complex including the structures, demesne and/or attendant grounds.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 22

The works will not include any inappropriate development within the curtilage or grounds of a Protected Structure other than improvement of surfaces.

BHC23 - *To require that all planning applications relating to protected structures contain the appropriate documentation as described in the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011) or any subsequent guidelines, to enable a proper assessment of the proposed works and their impact on the structure or area.*

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 23

It is understood that any landscaping works will require a Planning Application with the appropriate documentation included such as this AHIA Report.

BHC 24 - To require the retention of original features such as windows, doors, renders, roof coverings, and other significant features which contribute to the character of protected structures and encourage the reinstatement of appropriately detailed features which have been lost, to restore the character of protected structures as part of development proposals.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 24

As works will be confined to Public Realm, it is not anticipated that any original features will be affected. Great care will be taken to protect features such as boulders, thresholds, tiling etc. with the interface between these and the new work carefully considered.

BHC 25 - To promote best conservation practice and the use of skilled specialist practitioners in the conservation of and for any works to protected structures.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 25

Best practice conservation techniques will be used for public realm works with skilled specialist trades people employed for laying of surfacing etc. being made aware of the designations and protections.

BHC 26 - To encourage the retention, sympathetic reuse and rehabilitation of protected structures and their settings where appropriate and where the proposal is compatible with their character and significance. In certain cases, development management guidelines may be relaxed in order to secure the conservation of the protected structure and architectural features of special interest.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 26

This work does not involve the buildings themselves, however the improvements to the streetscape are intended to be a catalyst which will encourage the retention, sympathetic reuse and rehabilitation of Protected Structures as has been demonstrated in other towns.

BHC 27 - To permit the demolition or significant modification of a protected structure, only in exceptional circumstances.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 27

No demolition or significant modification of any Protected Structures is proposed.

BHC 28 - To ensure the protection of architectural features of special interest as part of any proposed re-development where there is conflict with other development plan requirements such as open space, car parking etc.

Conservation Architect's Comment – BHC 28

Architectural features of special interest have been duly considered in this report and in the works presented with the intention that works will improve the setting of Protected Structures as part of any proposed re-development such as with open space, car parking etc. opportunities for improvements can be embraced.

Policies BHC 29 and BHC 30 are not relevant to this work.

5.0 NEXT STEPS & CONCLUSIONS

5.1 This report was initially completed to assist in informing the design work for the Public Realm to ensure that the Protected Structures and other heritage structures within the Architectural Conservation Area are enhanced where the opportunity exists and properly considered.

5.2 This report has now been updated to comment on and provide an assessment of the Landscape Proposals to include:

- The appropriateness of the Public Realm Proposals
- How any potential negative effects have been eliminated or mitigated
- How the final proposals align to Heritage Policy

5.3 **The summary of the Conservation Architects Comments is that the works will improve and enhance the setting of the ACA and the Protected Structures by the introduction of more high-quality traditional materials.**

These both improve the physical setting and allow the pedestrian visitor to more easily appreciate the heritage at close quarters.

5.4 This version of the report will accompany a Planning Application for the proposed Public Realm works for Carlingford.

References:

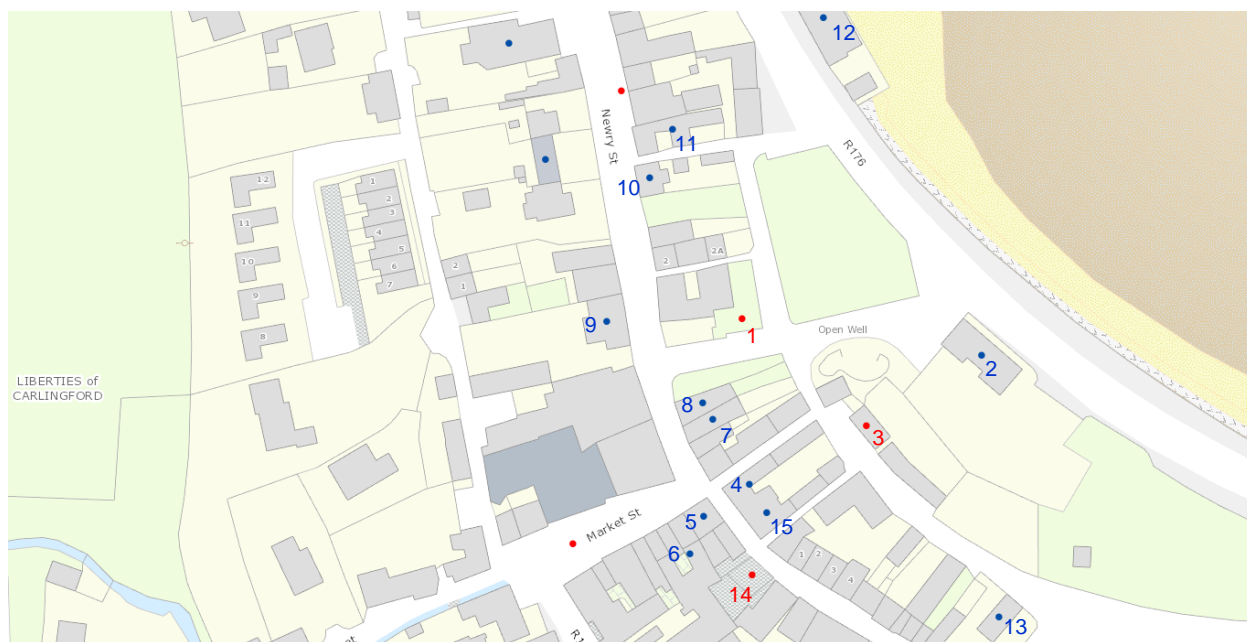
NIAH Website: <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>

Louth County Council Planning Documents

Map 2, Carlingford, 1835. In Harold O'Sullivan and Raymond Gillespie, Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 23, Carlingford. Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, 2011 (www.ihta.ie, accessed 4 February 2016).

APPENDIX A

Records of Protected Structures



Protected Structures Map

No.	Building & Type	Location	Reg. No.
Protected Structures within Proposed Public Realm Area			
1	Taaffe's Castle, Tower House	Lane off Newry Street	LH005-042005
2	Carlingford Tourist Office, Former Railway Station	Greenore Road	13825042
3	Medieval House	Old Quay Lane	
4	The Anchor Bar, Shop	Tholsel Street	13825047
5	Market Street, House	Market Street / Tholsel Street	13825056
6	McArdles Boutique, House	Market Street	13825057
7	Newry Street, House	Newry Street	13825003
8	Allure Hair Studio, House	Newry Street	13825004
9	Eblana House, House	Newry Street	13825055
Protected Structures Adjacent to Proposed Public Realm Area			
10	Marian House, House	Newry Street	13825005
11	Newry Street, House	Newry Street	13825006
12	The Boathouse, House	Greenore Road	13825048
13	House	Old Quay Lane / Car Park	13825041
14	The 'Mint', Tower House	Tholsel Street	LH005-042008
15	Tholsel Street, House	Tholsel Street	13825046

The Town of Carlingford – HISTORIC TOWN

Reg No	LH005-042
Class	Historic Town

Description

Description: The town of Carlingford is situated at the foot of Slieve Foy along a narrow ledge of land where the mountain slopes meet the sea. The earliest mention of the Carlingford area is with reference to Viking raids in the 9th century but nothing is known of any settlement which they might have made.

The placename Carlingford is Scandinavian in origin translating into the 'Fjord of Carlinn' and it is possible that the Vikings may have used the sheltered natural harbour of Carlingford as a temporary base. Apart from the name, no other Viking evidence has been recovered to date.

The next mention of Carlingford is in relation to the Anglo-Normans who arrived in Ireland in 1169 as allies supporting King Dermot MacMurragh in his bid for the throne. By 1184 they had made their way as far north as Carlingford and a Norman knight, John de Courcy, claimed this part of Louth for himself. In this year he gave the rights of the ferry at Carlingford to the Abbot of Downpatrick which indicates that the harbour or somewhere near it was in use as a crossing point. However, the town of Carlingford only developed after the castle, known as King John's Castle (LH005-042002-), was built c. 1200. The castle commanded an important defensive position on the Lough and it was under its shadow and protection that the town gradually developed.

The layout of the town has a distinctive linear pattern forming an elongated H-plan with a centrally placed market place. It began to be enclosed with a town wall in the early 13th century and eventually enclosed an area estimated at c. 8 hectares. Whether this extensive area was ever fully built up is doubtful, but its size suggests something of the hopes and vitality of the early town planners. Its trade flourished and by the 15th and 16th centuries the townspeople had obtained sufficient wealth to enable them erect substantial tower houses and have them decorated in the latest architectural style (see Taaffe's Castle (LH005-042005-) and the Mint (LH005-042008-)). After the dissolution of the monasteries much of their lands in the Cooley peninsula came into the possession of the Bagenal's.

The decline of the town began in early 17th century as the more in-land routes northwards through the Moyry Pass were opened up; the old coastal route via Carlingford was increasingly by-passed.

During the Confederacy period of the 1640s the town remained loyal to the Dublin administration but was taken by the Royalists in 1649; they surrendered to the Parliamentary forces some months later. It seems likely that as a result of Cromwellian confiscations many of the town's old families were dispossessed.

The port was again used during the war of the two Kings (James II and William of Orange). In 1689 it was burned by the Jacobites in their retreating before the Williamite army and the harbour provided safe anchorage for supply ships for the Williamites. It also served as an intermediary hospital station for transfer of the sick and wounded Williamite soldiers to Carrickfergus.

Carlingford continued as a port town though with much reduced trade in the 18th century that was largely dependent on fishing. The lands of the Cooley peninsula, including Carlingford, passed from the Bagenal family to the absentee Angleseys in 1715.

A new pier was erected in the late 18th century which saw an increase in trade in the 19th century when the produce of newly-opened local quarries on the south side of the town were exploited.

The opening of the railway line along the coast from Dundalk to Newry in 1876 necessitated the infilling of the old quay. A more permanent way was to follow when the line was closed the present road built on top of it. A new pier, the present pier, was constructed in the 1880s.

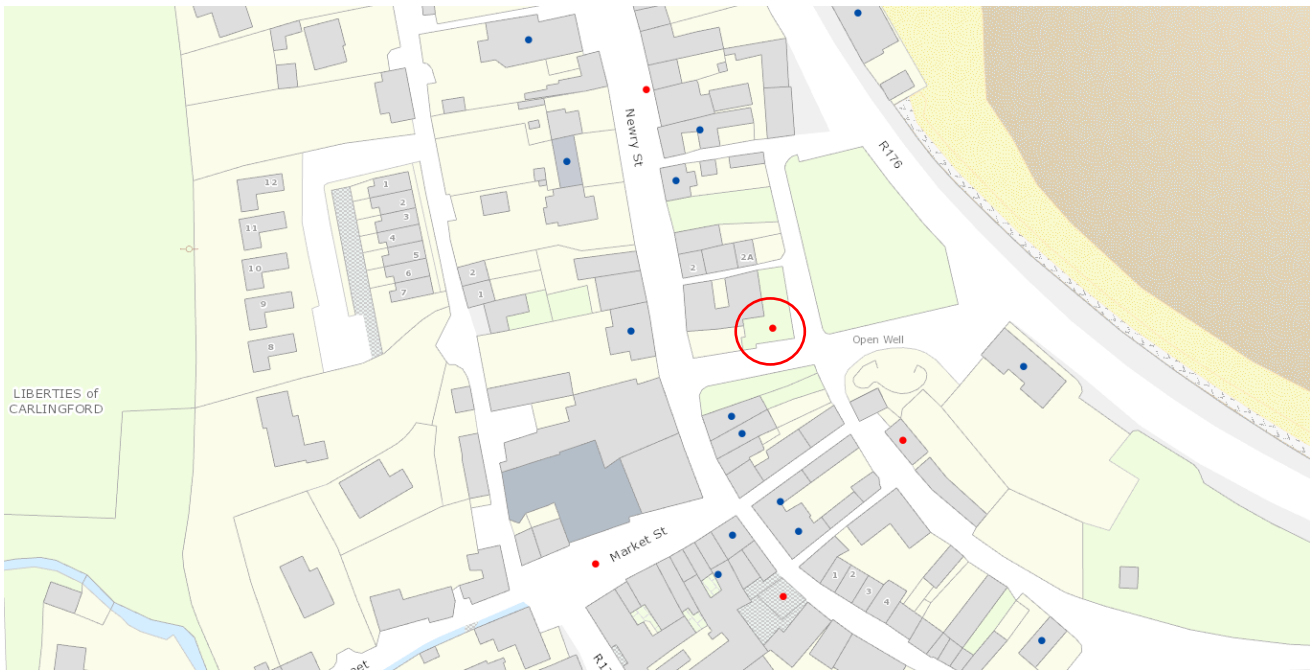
Carlingford endured and through further economic decline preserved much of its ancient core and fabric, thus providing the visitor with a rare glimpse into its medieval past.

Compiled by: Paul Walsh **Date of upload:** 23 May 2016

1. Taaffe's Castle

Survey Data

Reg No	LH005-042005-
Class	Castle – Tower House
Townland	Liberties of Carlingford
Schedules for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP	Yes



Description

Usually referred to as 'Taaffe's Castle', it is four storeys high, excluding the wall-walk level, and is constructed of roughly coursed greywacke and limestone rubble and boulders with a very few hammer- or punch-dressed blocks, but with some finely dressed quoin stones.

It is rectangular in plan with a westward projecting tower at the SW angle which carries the stairwell. The main doorway, situated in the W end of the S wall, has a two-centred arch constructed of nine large blocks of dressed limestone.

The upper parts of the castle are not now generally accessible because it is used as a private warehouse, but it was surveyed by Ms B. Cassidy for a B.A. thesis at Queen's University, Belfast.

The present ground-floor doorway in the SW angle leads to a mural passage running the length of the W wall to the NW angle which contains the stairwell to the first-floor level. It appears that no access to the E-W orientated barrel vault can be gained from the mural passage at ground level, so a separate doorway must have existed in the N wall, where there is now a modern entrance. The original doorway which gave access to the passage and stairwell is now blocked, and is situated in the W wall close to the NW angle. There is a machicolation supported on corbels at the parapet level directly over this doorway.

The E wall, which has a slight base batter, has a very fine central window at second-floor level with hood moulding, decorated corner panels and a cusped ogee-headed arch of punch-dressed limestone. Near the NE angle at the same level there is a plain window with a small single semi-circular punch-dressed arch.

At first-floor level in the NE angle there is a small mural chamber with the remains of a slit window right in the angle, with an ogee head which was at some stage used as a gun loop. The end of the wooden beam to carry this floor level can be seen just to the S of this ope.

At first- and second-floor levels in the S wall there are two similar windows, finely punch-dressed with chamfers on their arch stones and with glazing bar holes in their jambs. There are also two slit opes in this wall at ground level. The SW angle-tower projects westwards by c. 1.5m and has three slit opes in its W wall. There are three more in the main W wall of the tower house, of which two have single-stone semi-circular arches like those to be seen in the S and E walls. Three of the other opes have flat single-stone lintels and in the sixth the window head is broken. There is a chimney stack supported on corbels in the N wall. This wall also has slit opes at the third- and fourth-floor levels at the W end, the lower one having a single-stone semi-circular arch.

The ground- and first-floor levels, which are both contained within the barrel-vaulted area, have antechambers in the SW angle. The stairwell, which is in the NW angle, rises from the ground floor to give access to the first- and second-floor levels, but from there up it is situated in the SW angle over the antechamber. There are garderobes in the NE angle at first-, second- and third-floor levels and access to them is gained through a short mural passage. The exit for the chutes can be seen at ground level at the N end of the E wall.

There are fireplaces in the N wall at the first- and second-floor levels and the remains of a large window in the S wall, now blocked with modern masonry, while the E wall contains the ogee-headed window mentioned above. At third-floor level, which was carried on corbels, there is a small chamber in the NW angle, while at the second floor there is a small enclosed area almost in the centre of the W wall. The crenellations have been removed but part of the parapet survives at the N side. The W portion of the tower house, i.e. the NW and SW angles which contain the stairwells, rise above the level of the parapets.

At the N side of the castle a slightly later building has been added. It is probably of late sixteenth-century date, but considerable alterations have taken place in modern times, especially with the removal of most of the original windows. However, the N gable wall is original and has a now-blocked double-splayed ope in the centre of the ground-floor level as well as an ope with a single-stone rounded arch, slightly chamfered and lightly punch-dressed.

At first-floor level in the W wall there is a blocked doorway with a two-centred punch-dressed limestone arch. It gave access to this level from outside, probably by wooden steps, and must be the original doorway. A chimney stack projects from the N wall at second-floor level and is carried on sandstone corbels. It is the same type as the one on the N wall of the tower house which is also carried on sandstone corbels. The E wall had three windows at first-floor level but they have all been modified in recent times, and the only remains of original stonework are part of a hood moulding in the northernmost one. The E and W walls are crenellated and there is a wall-walk which over sails by c. 0.1m and has drain holes which are at a slightly lower level in the N gable than in the other walls.

The SE angle has the remains of a wall which projects southwards and contains part of an arch. This is obviously part of a bawn wall with an entrance through it, which ran southwards from the castle. The broken wall only extends outwards by c. 0.3m but there is an indication that it had a wall-walk. The remains of the hood moulding in the E wall of the annexe are similar to others in the original building, as is the small round arch and chimney stack in the N wall. It would appear from this evidence that there is little difference in the date of the two structures, both being late sixteenth-century. (Anon 1908, 312-13; Cassidy 1983; Tempest 1952b, 83).

The above description is derived from both the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Louth' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1986, no. 1113). In certain instances, the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.

Date of upload/revision: 17 July 2007

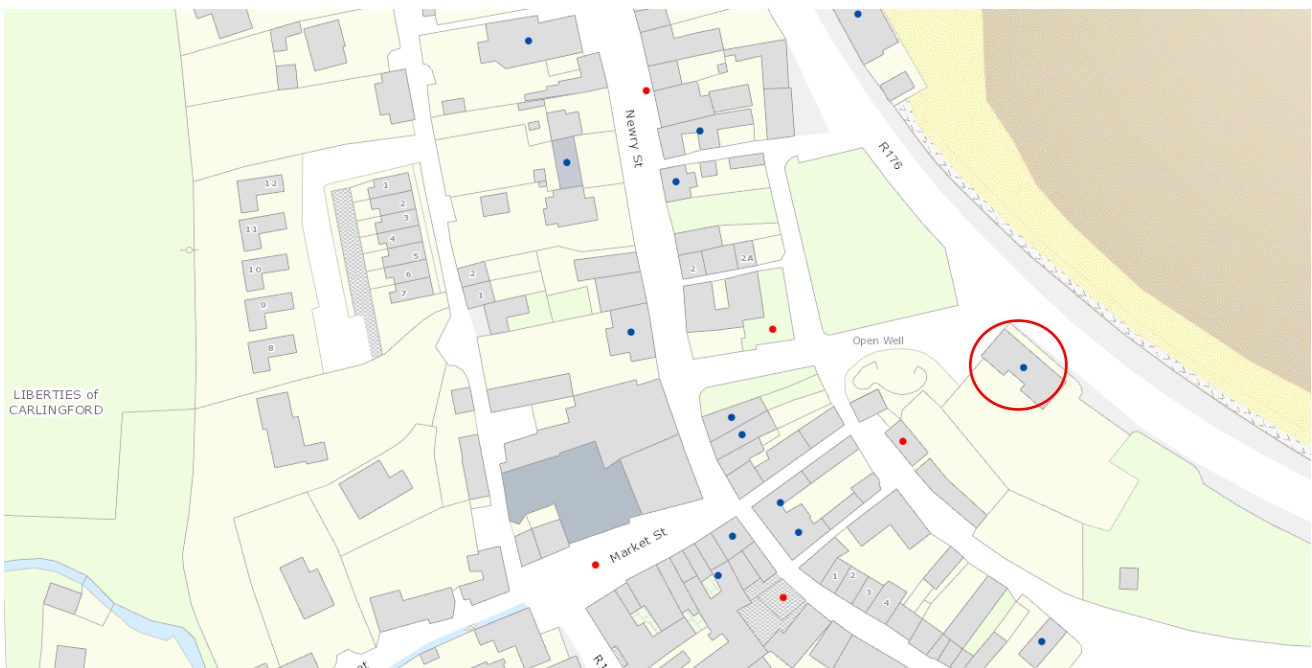
References:

1. Anon. 1908 Proceedings - summer meeting and excursions. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 38, 291-322.
2. Cassidy, B. 1983 Carlingford - a medieval town. Unpublished B.A. thesis. Queen's University, Belfast.
3. Tempest, H.G. 1952 Gossiping guide to Co. Louth (3 parts). Dundalk. Dundalgan Press.

2. Carlingford Tourist Office, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825042
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Artistic, Social, Technical
Original Use	Railway station
In Use As	Office
Date	1875 - 1880
Coordinates	318933, 311685
Date Recorded	08/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Detached H-plan seven-bay single-storey former railway station, dated 1876, now in use as tourist office.

Pitched slate roofs, crested ridge tiles, vitrified brick chimneystacks, yellow clay crenellated chimney pots with barley-sugar and honeycomb patterns, cast-iron gutters on exposed painted timber rafter ends, square-profile cast-iron downpipes.

Rock-faced squared limestone walling, ashlar sandstone block-and-start quoins and plaques to east; unpainted roughcast rendered walling to centre section east elevation, smooth rendered plinth. Square-headed window openings, ashlar sandstone relieving arches to north and south bays, block-and-start ashlar sandstone jambs, flat-arched sandstone lintels and sills, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows; smooth rendered soffits and reveals to recessed section east.

Square-headed door openings, block-and-start ashlar sandstone jambs, flat-arched sandstone lintel, timber over panels, painted timber four-panel doors. Opening onto municipal carpark overlooking sea to east, public toilets located in north elevation.

Appraisal

The former train station at Carlingford is a fine example of the adaptive reuse of an historic building, caused by the closure of the railway line in 1952. The station is built of high-quality materials used with considerable flair.

Its significance is added to by attractive detailing such as the whimsical chimney pots and the contrast between limestone and sandstone. The relieving arches and plaques contribute to a Tudor Revival flavour.

3. Medieval House

Survey Data

Reg No	LH005-042006-
Class	House - medieval
Townland	Liberties of Carlingford
Schedules for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP	Yes



Description

Bradley and King (1985, 39) suggests that the building located at this site with its 'narrow rectangular loop-like windows in its south wall', may be late medieval in date.

Compiled by: Claire Breen

Date of upload: 22 November 2011

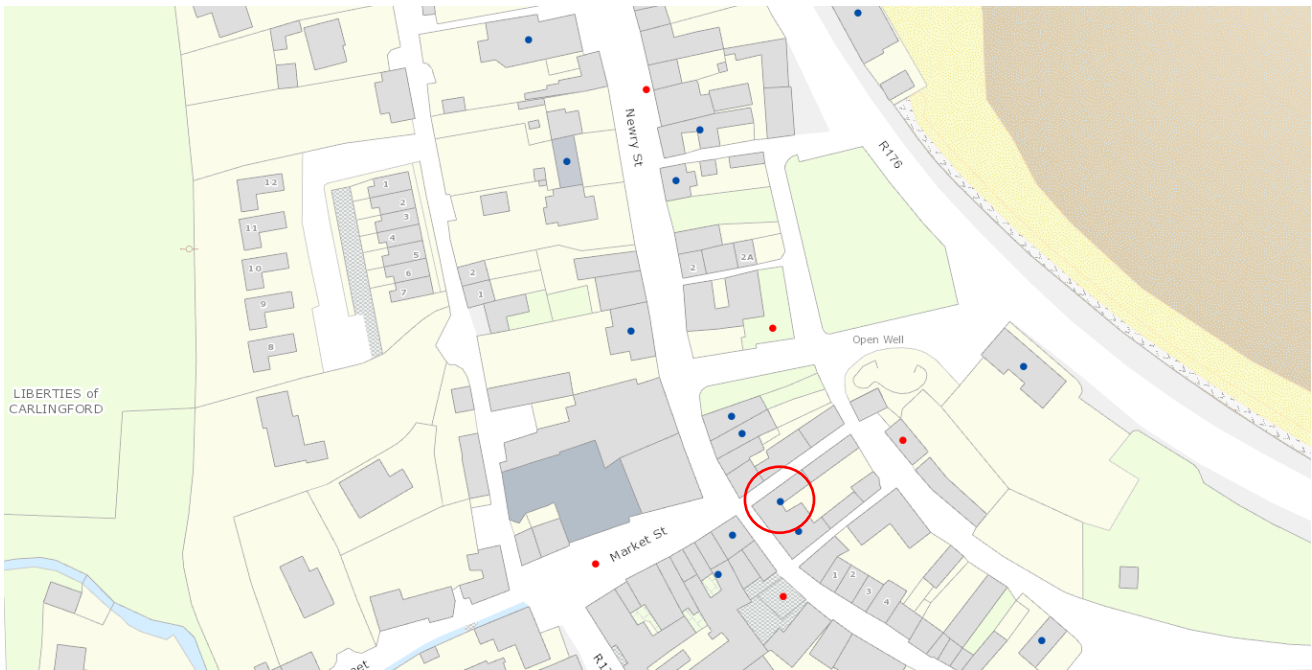
References:

1. Bradley, J. and King, H.A. 1985 Urban archaeological survey - county Louth. Unpublished report commissioned by the Office of Public Works, Dublin.

4. The Anchor Bar, Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825047
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Artistic, Technical
Original Use	House
Historical Use	Shop/retail outlet
In Use As	Public house
Date	1800 - 1860
Coordinates	318865, 311648
Date Recorded	09/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Corner-sited attached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1830, formerly also in use as shop, now in use as licenced premises. Rectangular-plan, two-storey return to east, attached to house to south. Pitched slate roofs, part hidden behind balustraded parapet to west with intermittent panelled piers topped by ball finials, cement ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystacks, unpainted smooth rendered corbelled chimneystack to return, cast-iron gutters on smooth rendered corbelled eaves course to return, circular cast-iron downpipes.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling to ground floor and return, unpainted roughcast rendered walling to first floor; smooth rendered straight quoins, fascia and cornice to west; plaque to west elevation with anchor motif. Square-headed window openings, painted smooth rendered surrounds, granite sills, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows; paired window to first floor west elevation with fluted central mullion; timber casement window to north elevation; timber casement window to ground floor west elevation.

Moulded render shopfront with fluted pilasters on block-plinths, console brackets, fascia with raised lettering and cornice with egg and dart moulding; square-headed fixed frame window on stall riser, brass window guards, square-headed door opening with painted timber three-panel double doors, terrazzo threshold. Square-headed door opening to south of west elevation, painted timber four-panel door with glazed top panels. Retaining interior features. **Paved pedestrianised street to west, disused petrol pump to north-west corner.**

Appraisal

This building is an interesting example of the combined house and commercial premises that was once found throughout Ireland. Its location in the historic medieval core of Carlingford suggests a long habitation history for the site. The finely executed render detailing is particularly noteworthy, especially the delicate mouldings to the shopfront. **The survival of the petrol pump provides an unusual piece of street furniture which further enhances the appeal of the structure and its importance within the streetscape.**

5. Market Street, Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825056
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1760 - 1800
Coordinates	318852, 311638
Date Recorded	09/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Corner-sited attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1780, with shopfront inserted to ground floor. Hipped slate roof, clay ridge and hip tiles, rooflights to south pitch, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling to ground floor, unpainted roughcast rendered walling to upper storeys, smooth rendered block-and-start quoins and string courses at sill and lintel level, unpainted smooth rendered walling to south elevation.

Square-headed window openings; granite sills, painted to upper floors; moulded render lugged and kneed surrounds with keystones to upper floors north elevation; smooth rendered soffits and reveals, unpainted to upper floors east elevation; uPVC windows, painted timber six-over-six sliding sash windows to ground floor.

Recent timber shopfront comprising fluted pilasters, brackets, fascia, smooth rendered stall riser, granite sills, quadripartite display window, timber double doors with glazed panels and bipartite overhead. Square-headed door opening, timber surround, timber four-panel door, plain-glazed overhead, granite steps. Outbuilding to south. Fronting directly on to street.

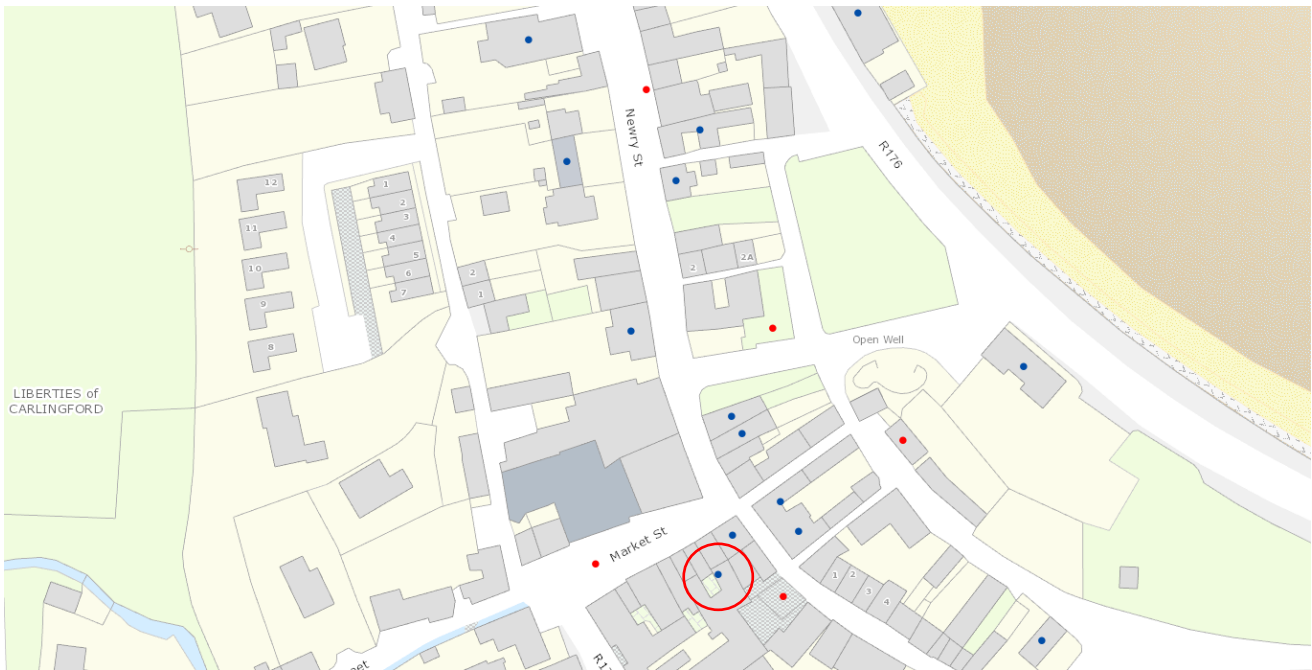
Appraisal

Situated on a prominent corner within Carlingford's medieval core, this fine house forms part of a landmark grouping whose height, compared to its neighbours, adds to the variety of the streetscape thus forming an integral part of the street's character. The render decoration is particularly appealing, with the contrasting use of smooth and roughcast renders and string courses enliven the building and highlight its architectural design.

6. McArdles Boutique, Market Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825057
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1760 - 1800
Coordinates	318848, 311628
Date Recorded	09/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Attached two-bay three-storey house, built c. 1780, with shopfront inserted to ground floor. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe.

Painted roughcast rendered walling, smooth rendered raised plinth and quoin. Square-headed window openings, smooth rendered soffits and reveals, painted stone sills, painted timber six-over-six (first floor) and six-over-three (second floor) sliding sash windows with exposed cases.

Shopfront with rendered fascias, tripartite fixed frame display window, square-headed door opening, moulded render surround, painted timber panelled double doors with glazed top panel. Central square-headed door opening, painted timber six-panel door, plain-glazed overlight. Two-bay single-storey block to west. Street fronted.

Appraisal

Situated within Carlingford's medieval core, this fine house forms part of a landmark grouping whose height, compared to its neighbours, adds to the variety of the streetscape thus forming an integral part of the street's character. Though now altered at ground floor level, it retains its sash windows to the upper floors with exposed cases adding further interest.

7. Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825003
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Artistic
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1860 - 1880
Coordinates	318855, 311666
Date Recorded	12/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Semi-detached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1870. Square-plan, attached house to north. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, terracotta verge coping, moulded cast-iron gutter on painted exposed rafter ends.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, block-and-start quoins, painted roughcast-rendered walling to south.

Square-headed window openings, painted stone sills, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows, cast-iron window guard to ground floor; painted smooth rendered reveals to south windows, six-over-six sliding sash windows.

Square-headed door opening, timber six-panelled replacement door, tooled limestone threshold. Fronts directly onto street. Alley to south-east.

Appraisal

This modest house, together with its adjoining house form pleasing additions to the streetscape. The simple decoration suits the modest façade.

8. Allure Hair Studio, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825004
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1860 - 1880
Coordinates	318852, 311671
Date Recorded	12/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Semi-detached two-bay two-storey house, built c. 1870, now also in use as hairdresser's to ground floor. Square-plan with return to east, attached house to south. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystack, uPVC gutters on exposed rafter ends, circular cast-iron downpipe.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, block-and-start quoins, roughcast-rendered walling to east.

Square-headed window openings, painted stone sills, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows, uPVC replacement windows to north and east.

Square-headed door opening, flanked by painted timber fluted pilasters, painted timber four-panel timber door with cast-iron furniture. Painted timber shopfront to south with fluted pilasters, fascia board, rendered stall riser, uPVC display window, painted stone sill, painted timber four-panel door. Street fronted, yard to east bounded by painted random coursed walls with corrugated-iron gates.

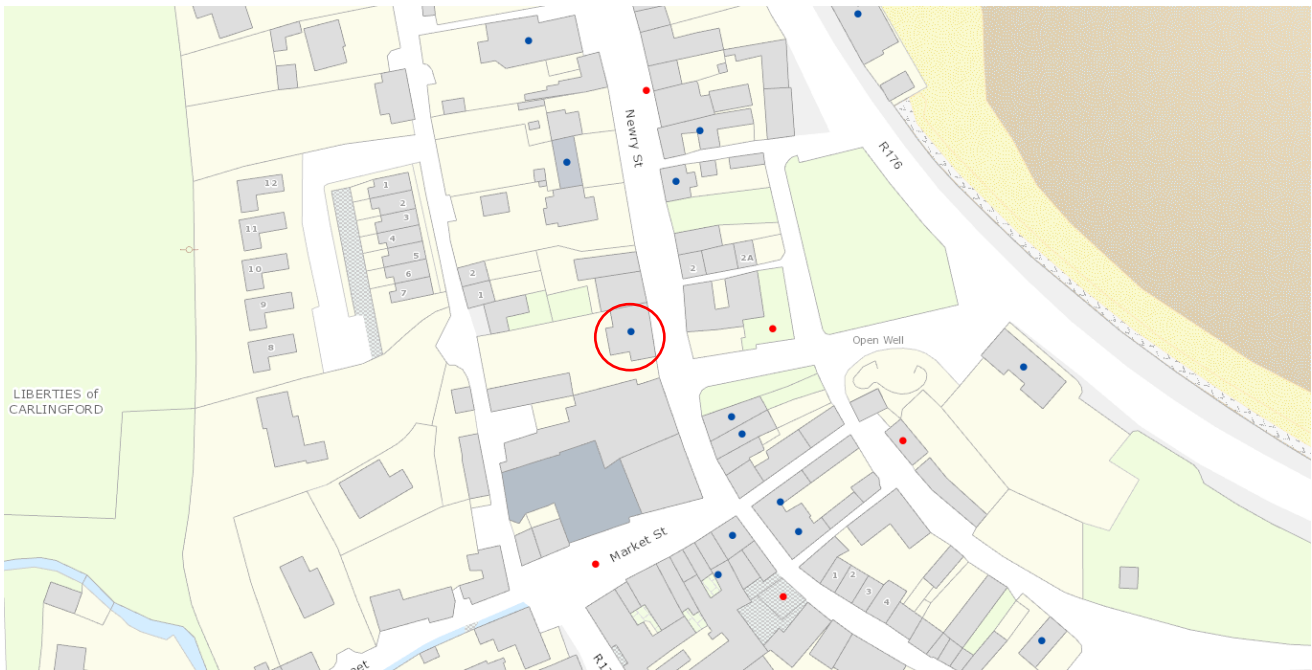
Appraisal

This modest house, together with its adjoining house form pleasing additions to the streetscape. The simple decoration suits the modest façade.

9. Eblana House, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825055
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Artistic, Technical
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1820 - 1840
Coordinates	318824, 311695
Date Recorded	12/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Attached three-bay two-storey house, built c. 1830, with return to west. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystacks, uPVC gutter on corbelled eaves course, cast-iron downpipe to south-east corner.

Painted smooth rendered walling, channelled to east. Square-headed window openings, tooled granite sills, painted timber one-over-one sliding sash window to south, uPVC windows to east.

Segmental-headed door opening, painted roll-top surround, fluted Doric columns flanking door supporting cornice, spider web fanlight, painted timber four-panel door, tooled stone threshold. Street fronted, channelled rendered wall to south, painted timber gates leading to rear yard.

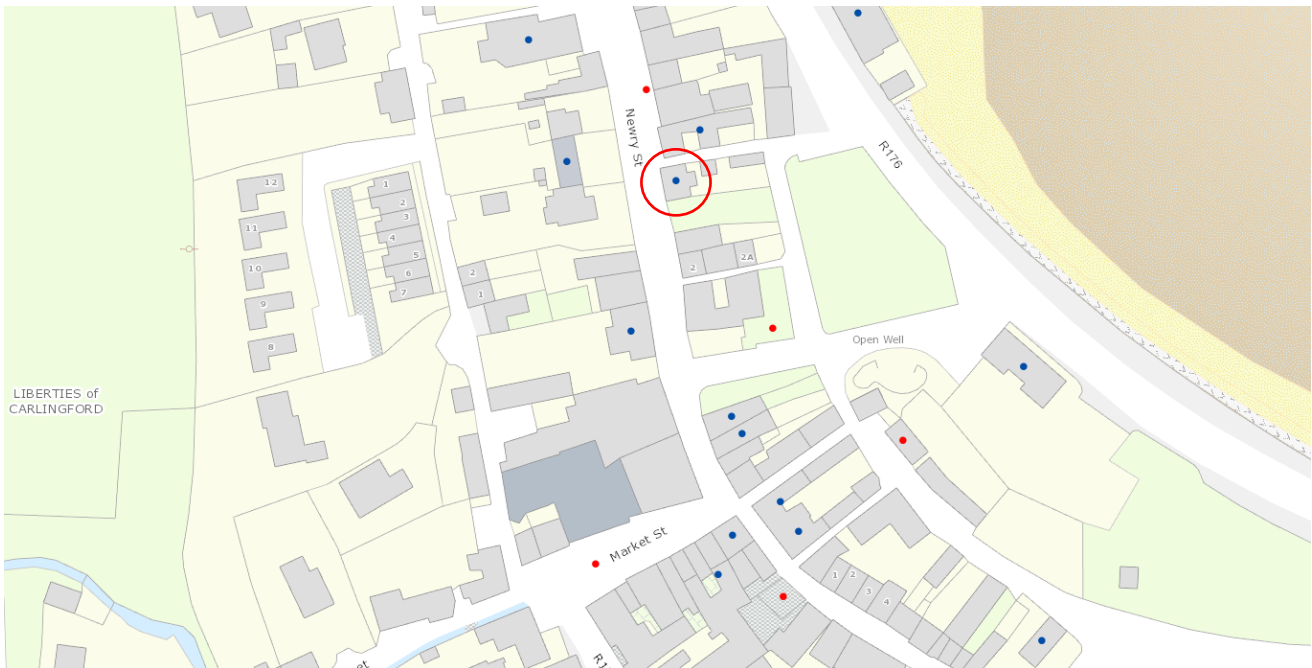
Appraisal

The render detailing to this house is particularly striking. Skillfully executed, it is unique in a streetscape of smooth-rendered facades. The doorcase is particularly noteworthy with its elegant fanlight and position centrally located in the well-proportioned façade.

10. Marian House, Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825005
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1910 - 1930
Coordinates	318837, 311736
Date Recorded	10/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c. 1920.

Rectangular-plan, return to east. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, yellow brick corbelled chimneystacks, concrete and slate verge coping, cast-iron gutters.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, smooth rendered raised plinth and quoins.

Square-headed window openings, painted stone sills, painted timber one-over-one sliding sash windows, tripartite windows to ground floor.

Square-headed door opening, painted timber four-panel door, plain-glazed overlight with house name. Street fronted, alley to west, painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined rendered wall to yard to east with painted random coursed wall further eastwards.

Appraisal

This simple well-proportioned house is a fine example addition to the streetscape. The symmetry of its design is highlighted by the render detailing. The retention of its sash windows is also notable.

11. Newry Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825006
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Artistic
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1860 - 1900
Coordinates	318843, 311750
Date Recorded	12/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1880.

Rectangular-plan, lean-to return to east. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, red brick corbelled chimneystacks with dog-tooth moulding, clay pots, uPVC gutters on corbel eaves course, circular cast-iron downpipe to south-west corner.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling, smooth rendered plinth, quoins, string and platband forming hoods to first floor windows.

Square-headed window openings, painted stone sills, rusticated keystones, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows, some uPVC replacement windows, cast-iron window guard to ground floor.

Square-headed door opening, moulded render surround, rusticated keystone, painted timber panelled door with glazed top panels. Square-headed former carriage arch to south, painted timber panelled door with glazed top panels. Painted stone wheel guards to corners. Fronts directly onto street, alley to south, yard to east with outbuildings, bounded by smooth rendered wall.

Appraisal

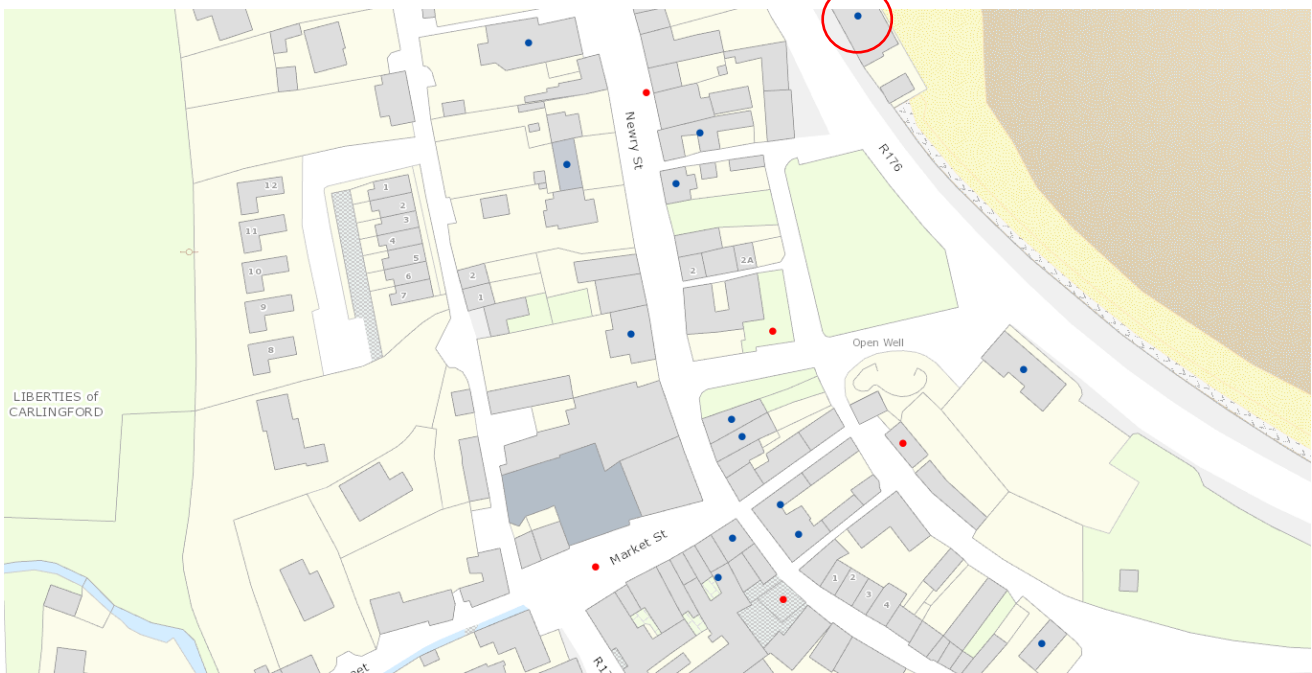
Surrounded by two-storey structures, this striking house forms a landmark within Newry Street. Its façade is enhanced by the render decoration, most notably the rusticated keystones.

The timber sliding sash windows, fine sill guard and wheel guards are interesting features.

12. The Boathouse, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825048
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural, Social
Original Use	Boathouse
In Use As	House
Date	1850 - 1890
Coordinates	318887, 311783
Date Recorded	09/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Detached L-plan multiple-bay single-storey former boathouse, built c. 1870, now in use as house. Pitched and hipped slate roofs with rendered chimneystacks. Roughly dressed limestone walls. Replacement fittings to openings.

Appraisal

Set overlooking the harbour, this former boathouse is an interesting reminder of the maritime history of the town. Built in the latter part of the nineteenth century, it would have played an important role in the local area.

Though altered to accommodate a new use, the building retains much of its original form and character.

13. Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825041
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1750 - 1790
Coordinates	318938, 311609
Date Recorded	08/08/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Detached five-bay two-storey house, built c. 1770. Rectangular-plan, open gabled porch projecting from south elevation. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, painted smooth rendered corbelled chimneystacks, uPVC gutters on painted timber fascia. Painted roughcast rendered walling.

Square-headed window openings, painted smooth rendered reveals and soffits, painted stone sills, painted timber six-over-six (ground floor), three-over-six (first floor) and two-over-two (north elevation) sliding sash windows; timber casement windows to north.

Square-headed door opening set in porch with smooth rendered plinth walls, timber corner posts and carved bargeboards; painted smooth rendered surround, painted timber panelled door with glazed upper panels; square-headed door opening to north, painted smooth rendered soffit and reveals, painted timber door with glazed panels.

Set to side of road, garden to south bounded by painted roughcast wall having square gate piers with pyramidal caps and wrought-iron gate, gravel path to door; garden to north, ruined building, square-headed gate to boundary wall, painted timber vertically-sheeted door.

Appraisal

Thought to have been built in association with Ghan House to the south, this house forms an important part of Carlingford's architectural past. It has a well-proportioned simple design which is representative of eighteenth century architecture.

14. The 'Mint'

Survey Data

Reg No	LH005-042008
Class	Castle – Towe House
Townland	Liberties of Carlingford
Schedules for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP	Yes



Description

This building is known as the 'Mint'. However, as this name does not appear in print before the late 19th century it likely to be the product of a romantic mind which sought to link it with the licence to mint coinage, granted to Carlingford in 1467. No coinage from Carlingford is known and the present building is noticeably lacking in features that one might associate with a mint. The building is, without doubt, a residence of one of the thriving merchant families that prospered in Carlingford and the surviving architectural details are indicative of a 16th century date for the structure.

Built of roughly coursed limestone rubble and greywacke (int. dims. 7.1m by 6.1m) the house was three storeys high with the entrance was through a doorway at ground-floor level at the S end of the E wall (the castle is not aligned on a true N-S axis but for the purposes of this description the wall facing out onto Tholsel Street is considered to be E).

There are three windows in the E wall at ground level facing onto Tholsel Street. They have hood moulding and ogee-headed arches of smoothly-dressed limestone. Two are single-lighted while the third has a double light. The arches are constructed of two stones and have highly decorated panels between the arches and the hood mouldings.

The decoration consists mainly of broad interlace, but a horse and the bust of a man are also depicted. In the E wall there are two double-light windows at first-floor level which are divided by mullions and transoms and have window seats. The S one is blocked from the outside while the N one has four panels under the hood moulding, three of which are decorated with interlace, the fourth being plain. At the second-floor level there is a further window with twin lights and two-stone rounded arches. It has a hood moulding but no decorated panels. The jamb and sill stones on all the windows are decorated with deep punch-marks, sometimes making geometrical designs, normally of lozenge or wheel-like patterns.

There is a large machicolation, c. 1.2m wide, resting on double sandstone corbels directly over the doorway and extending down from the battlements to c. 2m above the arch of the doorway. The doorway for the most part has been destroyed with only the original lower jamb stones extant. The jambs are of smoothly-dressed limestone with various geometric designs lightly punched into their surfaces.

The floor of the second storey was carried on corbels set into the walls just above the level of the windows of the ground floor. Large beam holes can be seen above the second-floor level, and were used to carry the roof.

In the SW angle at first-floor level there is a garderobe with a semi-circular recess and the remains of its seating. It is lit by an ope in the W wall with an ogee-headed arch of limestone and it has a cubby-hole in its E wall. Access to it is gained via a doorway with a single rounded sandstone arch which leads to a short mural passage.

The chute for the garderobe can be seen at the base of the S wall of the SW angle. At ground-floor level in the W wall there is a cubby-hole and a small window of hammer dressed limestone. At first-floor level there is another window directly over that on the ground floor. It has a two-centered arch of limestone with glazing bar holes, and a flat-arched embrasure with single lintel plus window seats.

The N wall has only one window, which is at second-floor level close to the NE angle. It has limestone jambs and is rectangular in shape. There is a well-preserved wide wall-walk with stepped crenellations and irregularly-spaced small opes in the parapets, which Leask (1948, 307) interprets as pistol loops. However, since they are situated so high up it is unlikely that they were used for pistols but rather for muskets.

There is no evidence of a stone stairwell in the tower house so there must have been an internal wooden one. The S wall shows clearly the line of the roof of an earlier building which was lower than that of the present structure and must have extended eastwards. (Anon 1908, 313).

This is a National Monument, in state guardianship: No. 424.

The above description is derived from both the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Louth' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1986, no. 1112).

Revised by: Paul Walsh

Revised date of upload: 23 May 2016

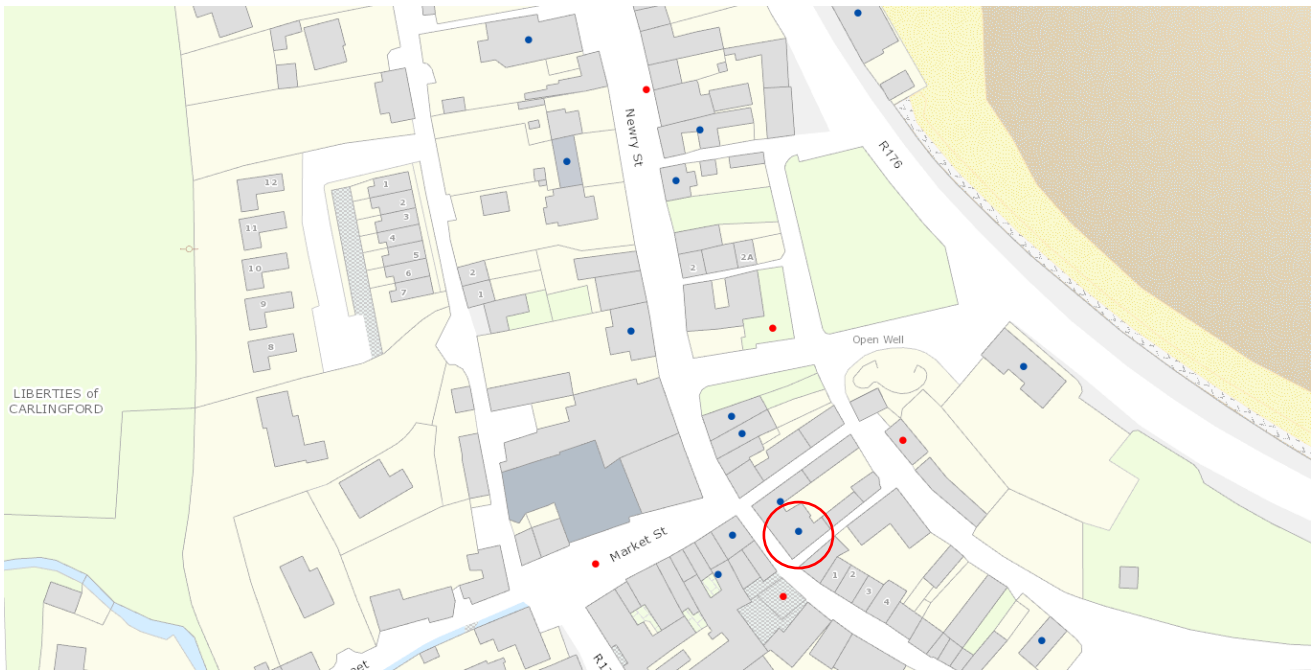
References:

1. Anon. 1908 Proceedings - summer meeting and excursions. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 38, 291-322.
2. Leask, H.G. 1948 The Mint, Carlingford, Co. Louth. County Louth Archaeological and Historical Journal 11 (4), 305-13.

15. Tholsel Street, Liberties of Carlingford, Carlingford, Louth

Survey Data

Reg No	13825046
Rating	Regional
Categories of Special Interest	Archaeological, Architectural
Original Use	House
In Use As	House
Date	1740 - 1780
Coordinates	318871, 311639
Date Recorded	12/07/2005
Date Updated	--/--/--



Description

Corner-sited attached three-bay three-storey house, built c. 1760. Rectangular-plan, return and extensions to east, attached to house to north. Pitched slate roof, clay ridge tiles, painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined flat-capped chimneystack, verge coping, cast-iron gutters on corbelled eaves course.

Painted smooth rendered ruled-and-lined walling to ground floor west and south elevations, pebble dashed render to first floor west elevation, smooth rendered wall top and quoins. Square-headed window openings, smooth rendered surrounds to first floor, tooled granite sills, painted timber two-over-two sliding sash windows, six-over-six sliding sash windows to east with exposed cases, uPVC replacement window to south elevation.

Square-headed door opening, smooth rendered stop-chamfer soffit and reveals, painted timber six-panel door. Corner-sited, street fronted, yard to east bounded by painted smooth rendered wall, now a beer garden to the adjoining pub.

Appraisal

This handsome house, with the varied render treatments to its façade, forms a noteworthy feature to the streetscape. Its location within the historic medieval core of the town near surviving ruins such as the house to the south-west points to a long habitation history for the site. The exposed sash boxes to the rear of this house and the form of the doorway indicate the current structure is of at least eighteenth-century date.