

Archaeological Monitoring Clinical Block Extension Rotunda Hospital, Dublin 1



GIACOMETTI

24/08/2020

DCC 2162/17

19E0055

SITE NAME

Clinical Block Extension, Rotunda Hospital, Parnell Square, Dublin 1

CLIENT

Rotunda Hospital, Parnell Square, Dublin 1

PLANNING

DCC 2162/17

LICENCE

19E0055

PROJECT REF

AP1818

REPORT AUTHORS

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ABBREVIATIONS USED

DoACG	Dept. of Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht
SDCC	South Dublin County Council
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
NMS	National Monuments Service
OS	Ordnance Survey
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
LAP	Local Area Plan

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Section 1 Introduction

Report summary

A programme of archaeological monitoring took place at the Rotunda Hospital from February 2019 to March 2020, in order to comply with planning permission DCC 2162/17. This took place in the new clinical block hospital extension; a new services building; an extension to the existing services building; and services linking the above three zones.

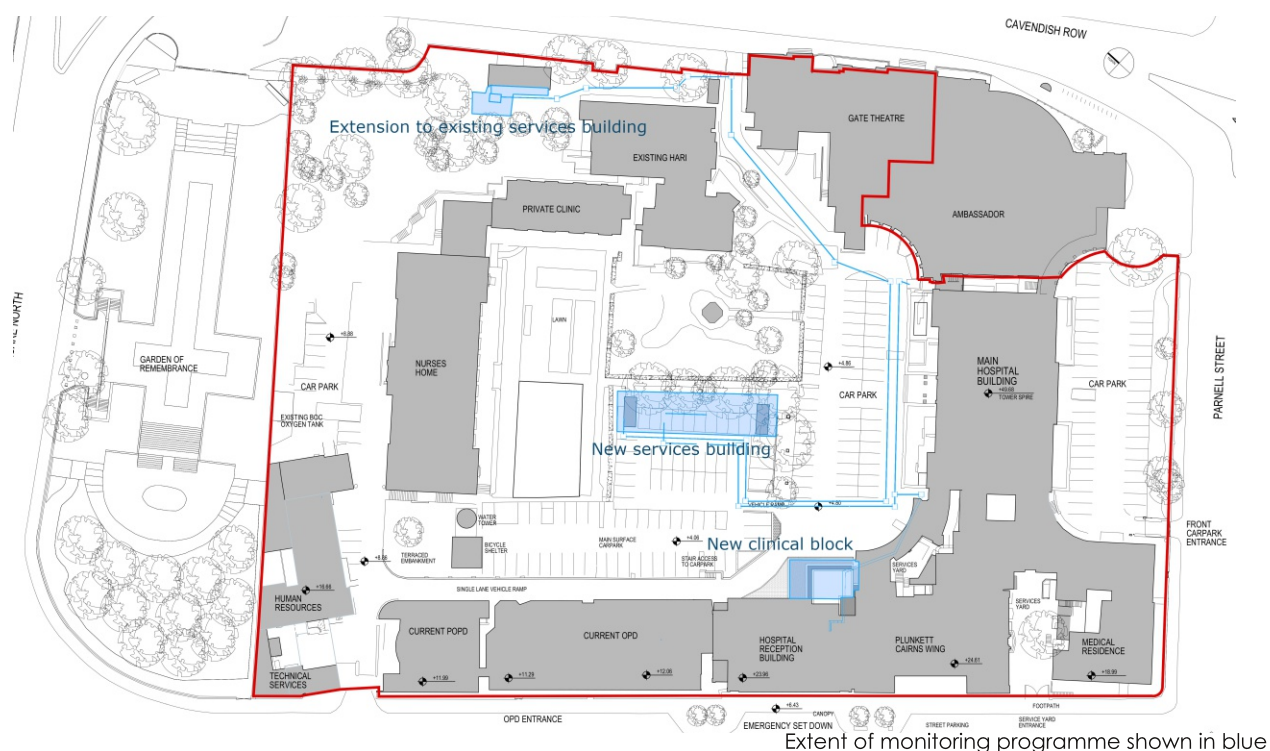
The monitoring programme identified evidence for extensive 19th to 20th century landscaping and disturbance, to a very deep level, throughout the hospital grounds. No evidence for the c. 11th century Scandinavian/Viking cemetery was found. The only discovery of archaeological interest during this programme of works was three walls identified below the new Clinical Block in the southwest of the Rotunda. These walls formed the gate or entrance chamber to the Pleasure Gardens, and date to c. 1750.

Location and development

The Rotunda Hospital is situated on Parnell Square, Dublin 1. It is an architecturally and historically significant hospital, garden and cultural complex, first opened in the mid-18th century.

The 2019 phase of work is for a new Clinical Block Extension to the west wing of the hospital, and associated services through the hospital grounds (formerly the 18th century Pleasure Gardens) including a new services building and an extension to the existing services building.

The development has received a Grant of Planning Permission (2162/17) to carry out this work, subject to archaeological monitoring (Condition 6 a-g). An Architectural Conservation Report for the project (O'Connell Mahon Architects, January 2017) provides a detailed architectural and historical background.



Extent of monitoring programme shown in blue

Section 2 Archaeological Background

Recorded Monuments

One Recorded Monument (RMP DU018-020495-) lies within the site footprint. This is the site of a possible Viking cemetery, which encompasses Dominick Place, Denmark Street Great, Belvedere Place, Dorset Street Upper, Frederick Street North, Gardiner Lane, Gardiner Place, Gardiner Street Middle, Gardiner Street Upper, Georges Street Great North, Granby Row, Greenville Street, Hill Street, Mountjoy Square, Parnell Square, Parnell Street, Rutland Place West and Temple Street. The site may be associated with the Battle of Clontarf of 1014, the presence of which is suggested following the discovery of finds during construction associated with the Rotunda Gardens, Cavendish Row and Granby Row. The finds of spears, swords and rivets associated with vast numbers of human bones found during construction of the “New Gardens” were

published in the Dublin Magazine in June of 1763. The additional reporting by Joseph Walker (1788) of the discovery of a sword and helmet with associated human bones during excavations for the foundations of a house on Parnell Square North compounds this general theory. Additionally, the finds could relate to a lesser skirmish which took place in 1086 and was described as taking place closer to the city in an area named as Crinach, or the Crinans, a name which later appears in the documents of St Mary’s Abbey relating to a plain by the sea (National Council for Educational Awards 1991, 7).

The Parnell Monument to the southeast of the Rotunda is a National Monument. The Gardens of Remembrance situated directly north of the hospital is also likely to be considered to be a National Monument.

Recorded Monuments near development site

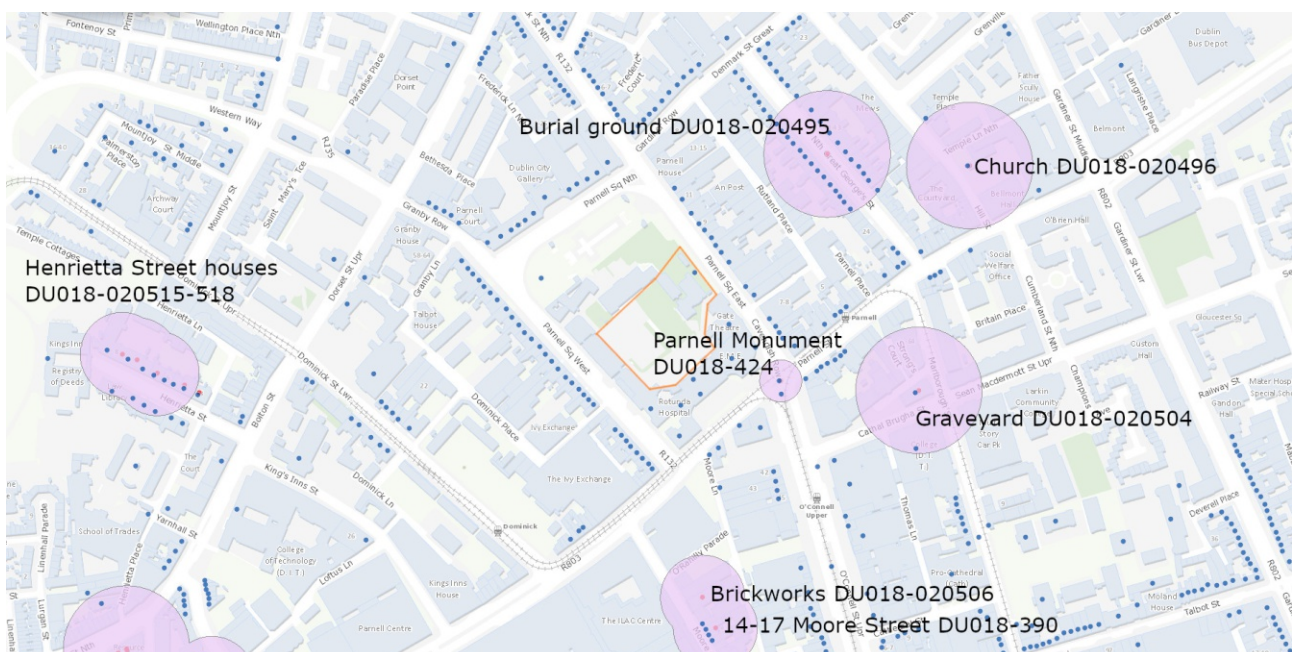


Table of previous excavations in vicinity of development site

License	Location	Director
N/a	Rotunda Hospital	N/a (Carroll)
95E0257	167-168 Parnell Street	Murphy 2005
96E0225	29 Parnell Square	Swan 1996
04E0035	20-21 Parnell Square	O'Donovan 2004
05E1229	9 Rutland Place	Moriarty 2006
08E0956	Metro North Utility Slit Trenching (Parnell Square)	Doyle 2009
11E0280	LUAS works (Parnell Street)	Bolger 2012
13E0197	LUAS Cross City Cellars Investigation (Parnell Street)	Gilligan et al 2017

Previous archaeological work

One previous archaeological excavation is documented in the Rotunda hospital complex. This is a programme of monitoring during construction of a new wing at the Rotunda Hospital, which yielded no finds of archaeological interest (Carroll 1997 pers. comm. cited in O'Donovan 2004, 4). The excavation appears to be unpublished.

Archaeological investigations surrounding the hospital on Parnell Street, North Great George's Street, Hill Street, Dominick Street and Granby Row from the 1990s to the present have identified 18th and 19th cellar material and demolished building rubble.

Archaeological monitoring associated with the proposed METRO North, the LUAS and other utilities Parnell Street/Parnell Square South (Bolger 2012) and on the east side of Parnell Square (Doyle 2009, 7) found modern rubble and red brick coal cellars. Archaeological monitoring

on Parnell Street by McGlade and Gilligan (Gilligan 2017) identified 18th century cellars along Parnell Street just outside the Rotunda Hospital.

A single test trench was hand excavated by Leo Swan at No. 29 Parnell Square. No archaeological features or material were revealed by the trench and only undisturbed natural boulder clay was exposed (Swan 1996) Pre-development testing at 167-168 Parnell Street by Donald Murphy found that the basements of the buildings there had destroyed any archaeology which may have been present on this site (Murphy 1995). Development on north side of square for extension to Hugh Lane gallery. Found 18th century buildings, including a well (O'Donovan 2004). A large scale excavation by Edmond O'Donovan at a site bound by Parnell Street, Moore Street, Moore Lane and O'Rahilly Parade revealed extensive eighteenth century deposits and features including structures and latrines related to domestic habitation. (O'Donovan 1999, 2004).



Section 3 History and Cartography

From the twelfth to sixteenth centuries, Parnell Street (in particular its western extent) formed the northern border of the medieval St Mary's Abbey. It is recorded as the King's Highway in 1328 and c. 1395; Highway in 1488 and 1603 (Clarke 2002). The Rotunda and much of the land around Parnell Street is likely to have been primarily agricultural during the medieval period.

In the 16th century the character of the area changed. This was due to the rapid growth of Dublin at this time, but is also due to the arrival of the Duke of Ormonde in 1662. The Duke took up residence in the eastern side of the city, instigating the initial gentrification and associated development of Parnell Street and its environs.

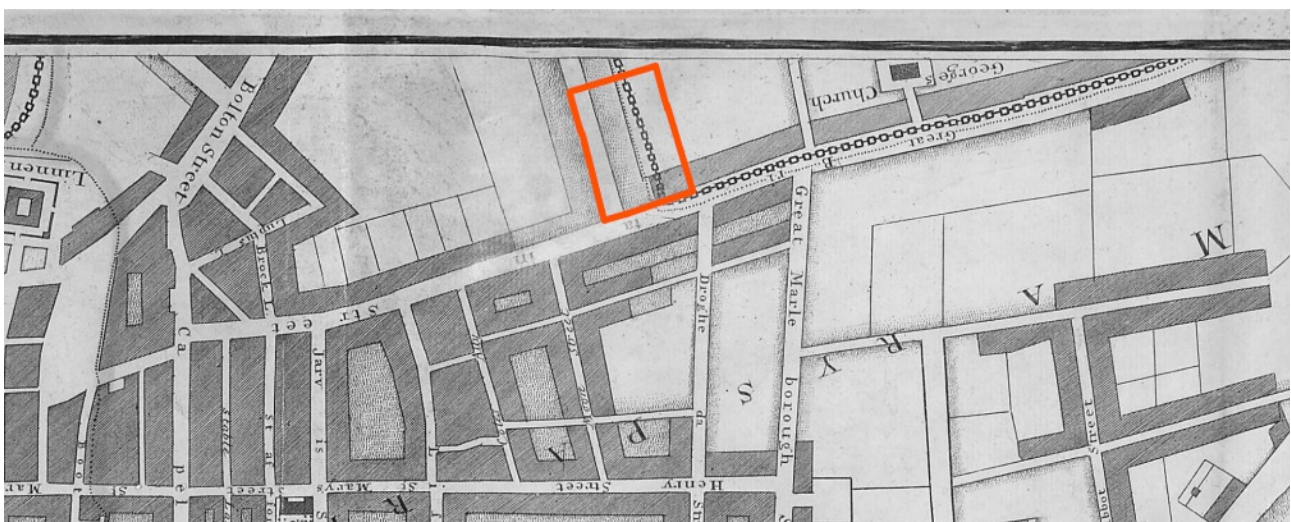
Sir Humphrey Jervis developed the area to the south of Parnell Street from 1674, which established Mary Street and Jervis Street as desirable addresses (Craig 1950, 54; Lennon 2008). At the same time land to east of the Jervis estate was still in the hands of the Moore family (between Liffey and Marlborough Streets) and the land to the northeast belonged to Sir John Eccles.

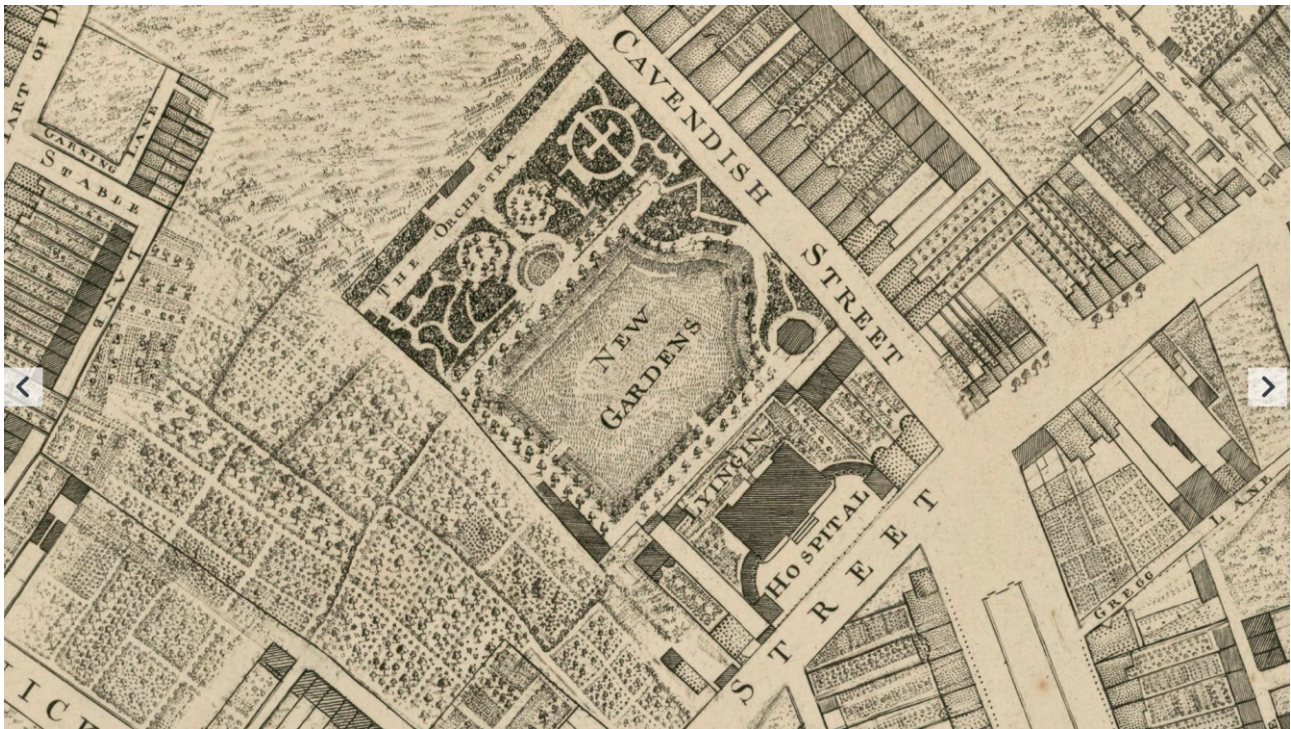
Moore was responsible for the first official incarnation of what was to become contemporary O'Connell Street, known then as Drogheda Street. To the north lay the Dominick Property, within which lay one of the earliest planned and affluent streets; Henrietta Street which was built in the 1720s (Craig 1950, 129).

The prosperity and development of the city was sustained throughout the eighteenth century, especially in the Parnell Street area, and it became fashionable to spend time here. Although many of the grand buildings constructed at this time were later removed for inner city redevelopment, the former glory of the area can be seen in the houses of Mountjoy Square, Gardiner Street and North Great George's Street.

The Moore holding was eventually acquired in 1714 by the first Viscount Mountjoy, Luke Gardiner; a speculator/builder/proto-planner who amassed a large amount of capital in a very short space of time. Mountjoy developed the area between Abbey Street and Moore Street, and by 1721 he had acquired the eastern tip of Jervis (and the Amory holding), which included Parnell Street and Dorset Street (Craig 1950,

Future site of Rotunda on Brooking's map of 1728





Rocque's map of 1756

128). Gardiner widened Dorset Street, but never succeeded in widening Parnell Street. He transformed Drogheda Street into an elongated residential square to be known as Sackville or Gardiner's Mall, adjacent to Parnell Street. Eighteenth-century images show fine houses along the eastern and western sides, with a planted mall delineated in the centre of the square, for the pleasure of its people. In its essence, Gardiner's creation was a great residential project which would ultimately be diluted by the Wide Streets Commission's extension to the south.

Thomas Putland was one of the first to take up residence in the new Jervis estate building a large mansion on a greenfield site on the Bull Park, Ballybough Lane (Parnell Street), taking the original lease in 1706 (Clare 2001, 188). Putland House became Simpson Hospital in 1780 and the site is now occupied by the Parnell Centre. Other large mansions on Parnell Street dating to the eighteenth century included Mrs Trevor's House beside Putland House, Lady Alice Hime's House at the corner of Dominick Street and Parnell Street (the latter which had been taken down and divided into two houses by the late nineteenth century) and Viscount

Duncannon's house (now also divided into two houses) at what is now Nos. 204 and 205 (O'Mahony 1893, 70).

Rocque's map of 1756 shows a large mansion in the southwest corner of Rutland Square (modern Parnell Square). In the original lease for the Lying-In (Rotunda) Hospital dated 15th August 1748, the hospital is described as being bound '...on the west, partly by the house, yard backside, and garden belonging to and now held by Lord Mount Garret...' (O'Mahony 1893b, 268). The origin of this house is unclear. O'Mahony (1893a, 69) names it Kingland House in his description of the 'Old Dublin Mansions', and states that it was built in the middle of the last century by George Barnewall, 5th Viscount Kingsland; 'but in consequence of Dr Mosse having then in contemplation the building of his hospital, Lord Kingland never lived in his new mansion' (ibid). However, later that year O'Mahony changed his mind and suggested instead that Lord Mount Garret's house was built by Edmund Butler, 6th Viscount Mountgarret (O'Mahony 1893b, 268).

This latter explanation is far more likely: the house was already in existence (in 1756) before

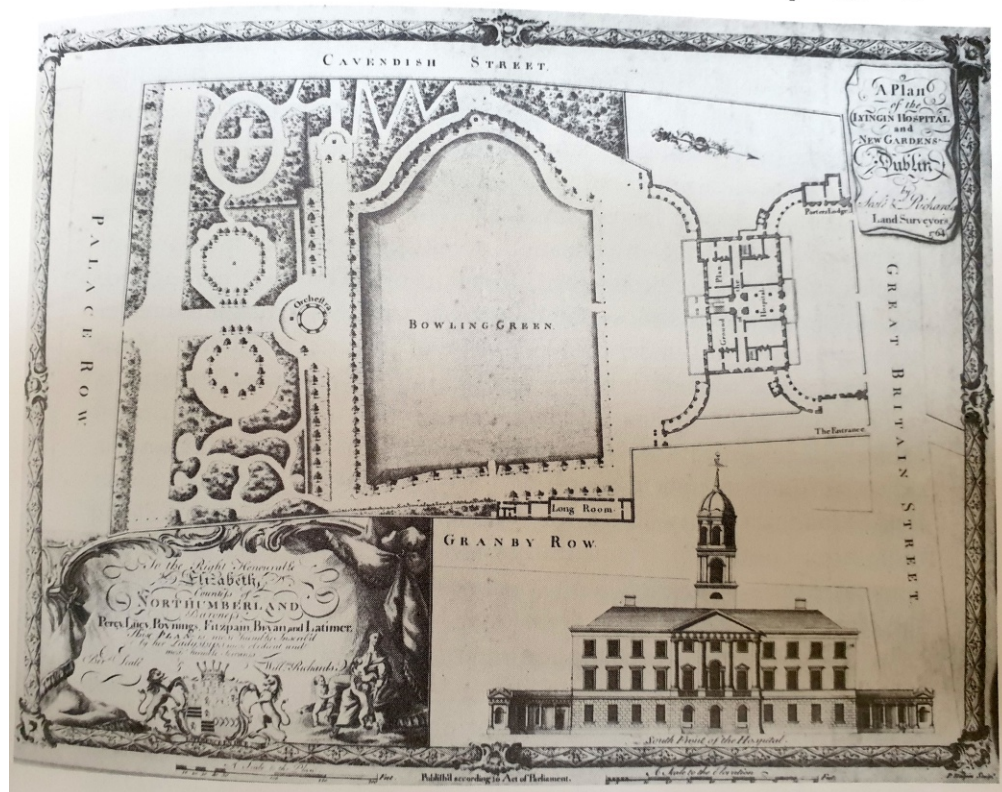
George Barnewall, 5th Viscount Kingsland (1758–1800) was born. Construction by Edmund Butler, 6th Viscount Mountgarret (1663–1735) makes more sense. O'Mahony goes on to state that 'In 1792 William Napler took up possession of the house from Edmund Butler, 11st Viscount Mountgarret, and made a new lease on it to Archibald Redford and John Ball'. In 1809 it became the Richmond National Institution of the Industrious Blind. Then in 1815 the Lying-in hospital purchased it as a residence for pupils and male attendants (O'Mahony 1983b, 268). The 1895 Auxiliary Hospital was constructed on the rear garden and coach house of the Mountgarret house, which by then had been removed.

The programme of archaeological monitoring described in this report identified part of a wall which lay near the rear of the Mountgarret coach house.

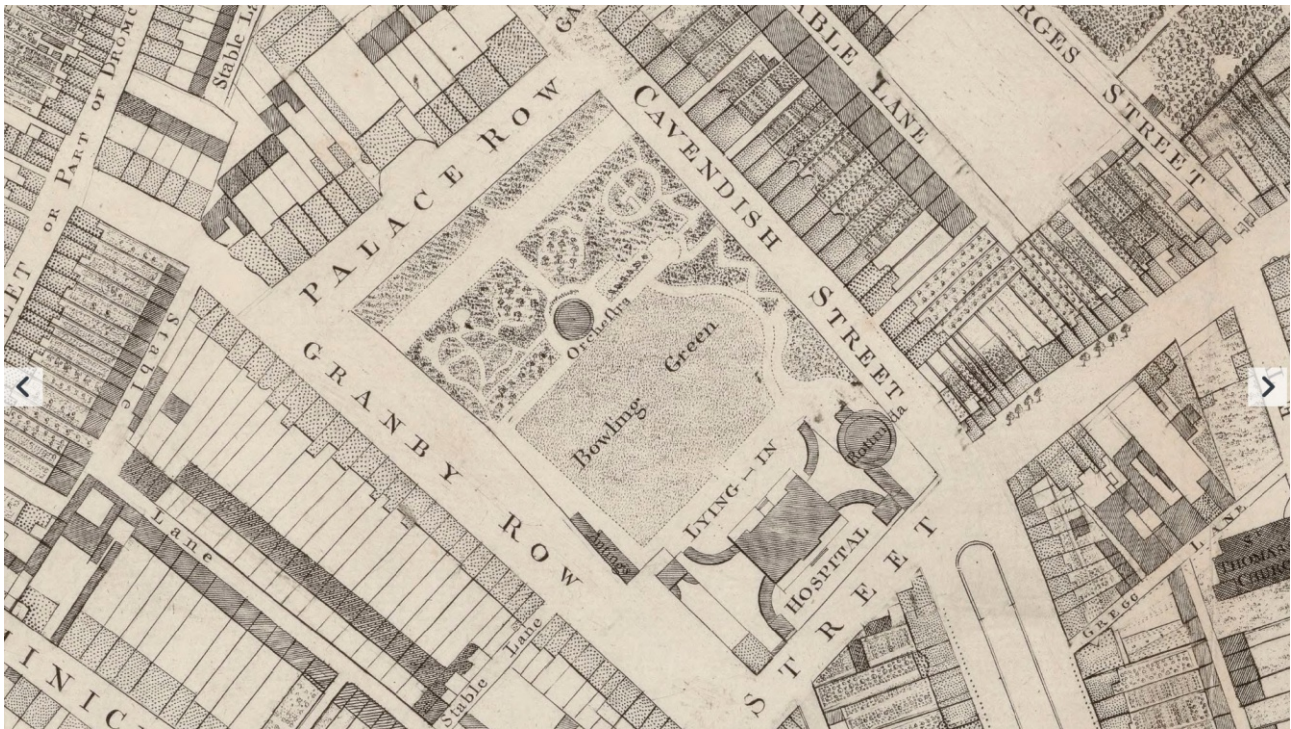
Rocque's 1756 depiction shows it with steps leading to an entrance west of the centre of the façade, the steps rising above what was likely to be a lightwell giving access to the cellars (SLT050-01, SLT050-02, SLT050-03 and SLT050-04). These cellars saw considerably use as coal stores over the years. Each cellar floor

had a deposit of coal dust and all four of the original coal holes had been superseded by a second and, in two instances (i.e. SLT050-03 and SLT050-04), a third coal hole. The existence of two/three coal holes likely reflects changes in the overlying street pattern over time, necessitating restructuring of the coal chutes to facilitate continued use of the cellars. The architectural fragments thought to have originated from the remodelling (and eventual demolition?) of Kingsland House, which were found in cellars SLT050-01, SLT050-03 and SLT050-04, also indicates that these structures served a general storage function. The commemorative tea set stamped with '[Rotu]nda Hospital (1745) Solamen Miseris' from cellar SLT050-01 (see Section 4.1 above) clearly indicates that the cellars were utilised by the hospital for a period of time prior to being sealed.

Other residents of Parnell Street listed in a 1738 street directory included George Gardiner, Dublin Port Surveyor and Agent to the Regiments and Customs Surveyor at Customs House Quay; Major Hector Hammon; Mr Hartley at Mount Eccles (where North Great George's Street would later be laid out); the Rev. Mr Daniel Jackson and Michael Ward, Second Justice at the Court of the King's Bench (Hardi-



The hospital and new gardens as shown in a plan of 1764, from Casey 1989, 43, Fig. 8



Scale's updated map, 1773

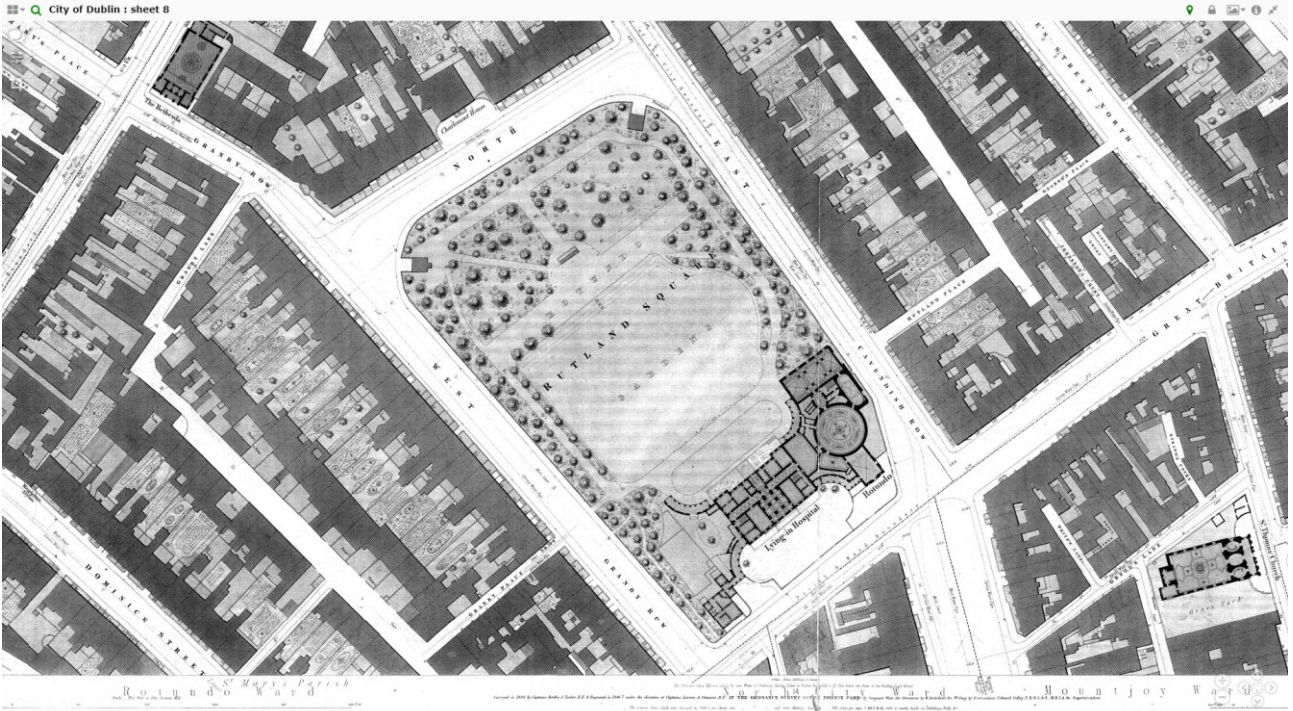
man and Kennedy 2000, 161).

In 1748, Bartholomew Mosse took lease of a parcel of land at the northern end of Sackville Mall which fronted onto Parnell Street to construct the Rotunda Hospital; Europe's oldest purpose-built maternity hospital. This was to replace his earlier Lying-In Hospital on George's Lane near Fade Street (Pearson 2000, 161). The site of the hospital was described as open waste ground on which there were a few thatched cabins, a pool of stagnant water, a 'noddy stand' and a bowling green (Casey 1986, 55). The 'New Gardens' and 'Orchestra', are depicted on John Rocque's *Exact Survey of the City and Suburbs of Dublin* (1756) to the rear of the hospital; these were the pleasure gardens laid out by Mosse's gardener, Robert Stevenson, in 1748 and opened to the public in 1750; the proceeds of admission to the gardens as well as events held there were all used to fund the building of the hospital (Duggan 2006, 8). The 'Orchestra' was a terrace, designed by John Esnor, at the northern end of the gardens. The Rotunda building to the southeast of the hospital grounds, which gives the hospital its name, was not constructed until 1759. The original building is a maternity hospital and is one of the few public buildings in Dublin from this

period still being used for its original purpose (Pearson 2000, 417). The Rotunda now houses the Ambassador Theatre with the Gate Theatre occupying the additional Assembly Rooms to the north of the Ambassador. It was at this time that Gardiner laid out what is now Parnell Square (formerly Rutland Square) and Cavendish Row, with Parnell Street formalised as a route running along the southern end of this square. Rutland Square commemorated Charles Manners, fourth Duke of Rutland and Lord Lieutenant 1784–87, who died while in office.

The Rotunda Hospital was designed by Richard Castle and was constructed between 1751 and 1757, being completed by John Esnor following Castle's death in 1751 (Casey 2005, 162). Castle was a celebrated architect at the time, having previously designed Leinster House as well as Carton and Powerscourt Houses (Casey 2005, 30). The interior of the chapel at the Rotunda is said to be the most eloquent eighteenth-century church interior in Ireland (Casey 2005, 162).

While Mosse had intended the site of the Lying-in Hospital to round off the view from Sackville Street and did not plan for further development in the area, Luke Gardiner saw the fashion for the New Gardens as an opportunity

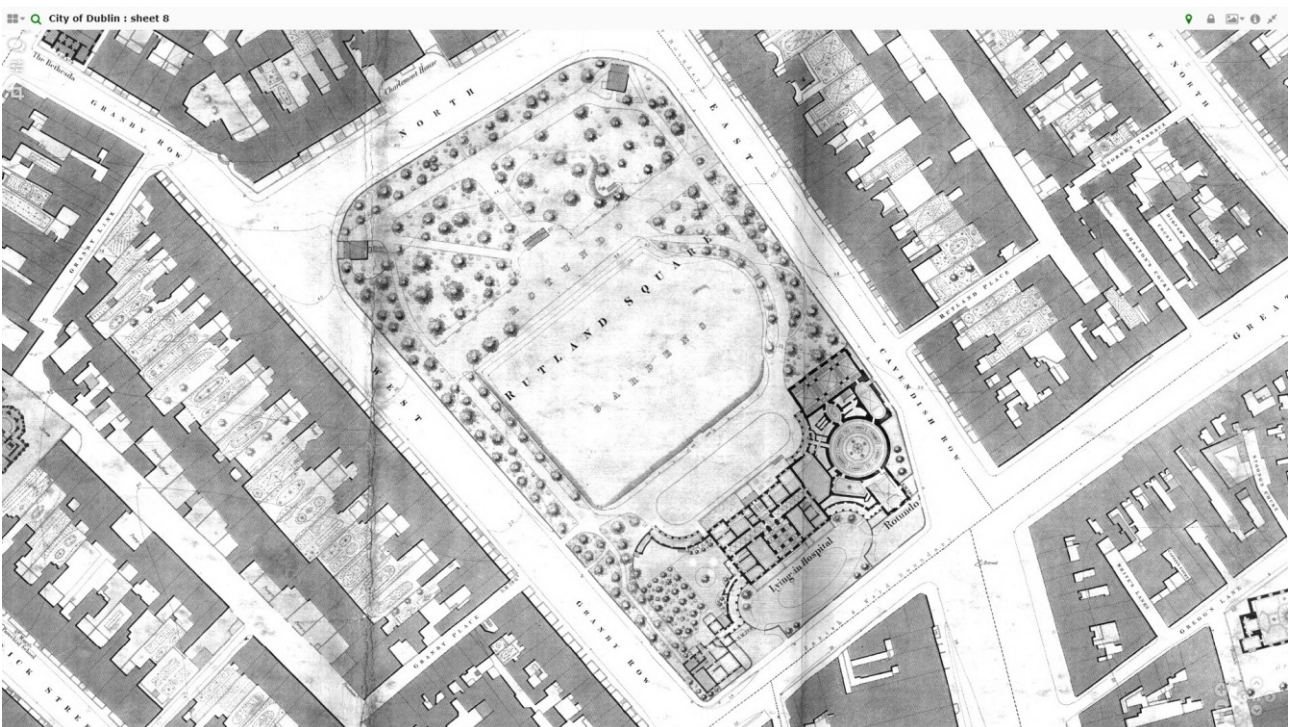


Ordnance Survey detailed map, 1847

and in 1753 began leasing plots on Cavendish Row (Duggan 2006, 10). Gardiner drove a road through an inn known as The Bunch of Keys and an area of enclosed agricultural land known as the Barley Fields to form what is now Parnell Square (Rutland Square) and Cavendish Row;

Parnell Street was formalised as a route running along the southern end of this square. The houses of Rutland Square were leased to workers associated with the building of the hospital. With the development of a square around the gardens now inevitable Mosse himself had John

Ordnance Survey detailed map, 1864





City of Dublin looking northwest, engraving dated 1846, from *Irish Historical towns Atlas, Dublin Part III, Plate 10*

Esnor plan the northern side of the square, then called Palace Row, in 1755. The western side of the square, Granby Row, was opened by 1766 along the line of a boundary marked on Rocque's map (Duggan 2006, 10).

Rocque depicts the morphological development of Great Britain Street (Parnell Street), indicating that while plots had been ordered and delineated, not all had yet been developed. Interestingly, a brick field was located just south of the western portion of Parnell Street and may possibly have been the source for the bricks on this street. Rocque depicts the 'Lying In Hospital' recessed onto Parnell Street to the east of the northern end of Sackville Street, with curvilinear arcaded wings at either side in the Palladian style connecting to ancillary structures. Kingsland House is depicted immediately to the west. This was set back from the street with steps leading to an entrance west of the centre of the façade.

By the late 18th century Parnell Street and Sackville Street (now O'Connell Street) became a fashionable commercial district, rather than solely residential. The Wide Street Commissioners elongated Gardiner's Sackville Mall southwards and the construction of Carlisle Bridge (now O'Connell Bridge) in 1790 further established this as an arterial route through the city.

The Act of Union in 1801 led to the loss of Dublin as a parliamentary capital and resulted in the migration of many peers and MPs from the city, either to the suburbs or the mainland (D'Arcy 1998, 96). In the north inner city this led to the abandonment of the large town-houses, their subsequent disrepair, 'and then on to tenement' (D'Arcy 1998, 97). In 1842 Thackeray stated that the houses on Upper Sackville Street and around the Rotunda looked as if they 'had seen better days' (D'Arcy 1998, 98). The decline in living conditions of Dublin's poor was greatly visible on Parnell Street and as early as 1900 tenements are listed in Thom's Directory in No. 154. The activities of Alderman Joseph Meade (Lord Mayor 1891–92) on Henrietta Street and other speculative landlords elsewhere, forced the extensive subdivision of already crammed former-townhouse into tenements by the turn of the twentieth century. This only served to force the poor into more squalid conditions, thus creating a vicious circle out of which it can be argued, neither the inhabitants nor the area fully recovered (Dublin City Council and The Heritage Council 2004). A photograph of the street taken in 1913 highlights something of the poverty seen in this area around the time of the Lockout.



Engraving of Rotunda Hospital, J & E Harwood, London, 1842

Detail from 'Dublin from the Spire of Saint George's Church, Hardwicke Place', Watercolour by James Mahony 1854, National Gallery of Ireland



Section 4 Monitoring Programme

Introduction

The monitoring programme lasted for one year from February 2019 to March 2020. All ground reduction was archaeologically monitored, and this took place in four zones: the new clinical block hospital extension; a new services building; an extension to the existing services building; and services linking the above three zones.

Aims of the programme

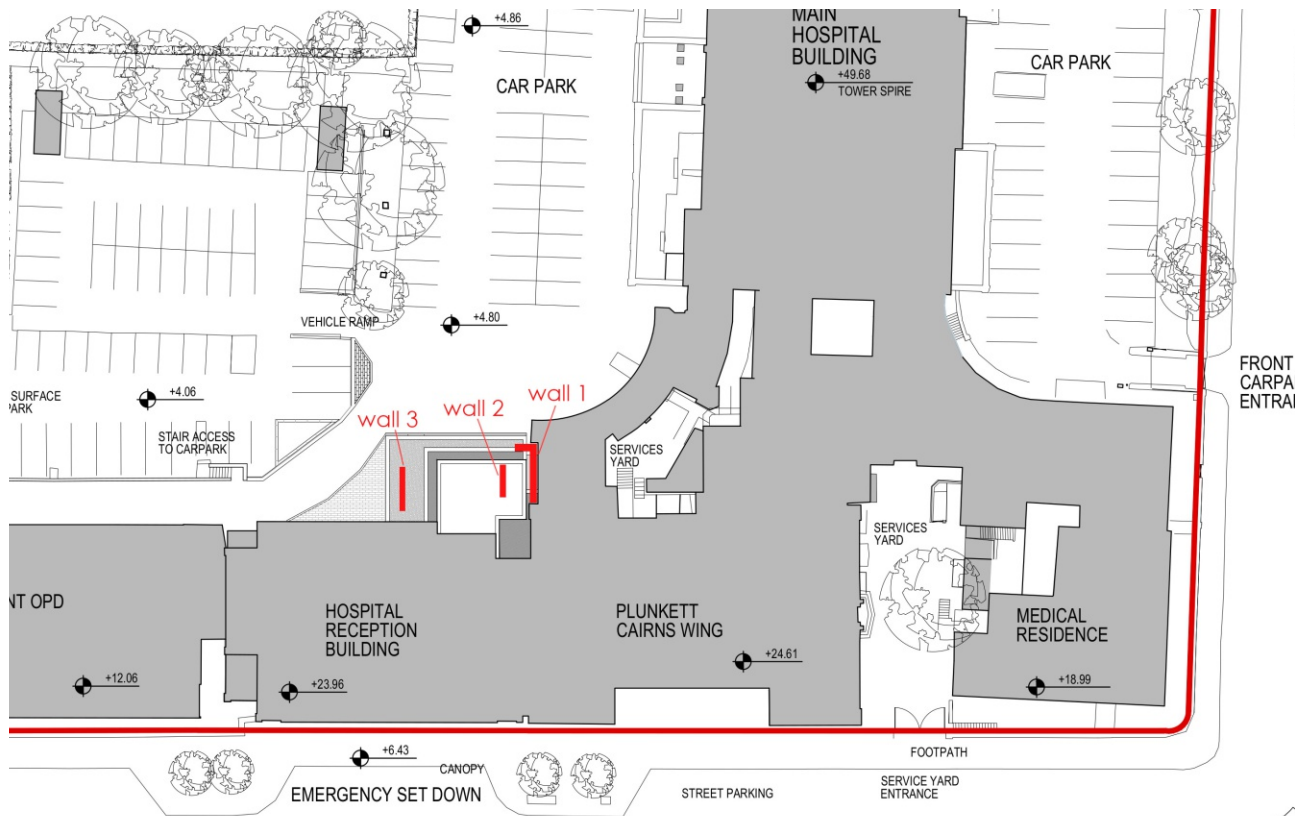
All of the site works were situated within the

former 18th century Pleasure Gardens. These have been completely transformed during the 19th and 20th century as the hospital gradually extended. It is criss-crossed with hospital services and roads, heavily scarped, and has numerous modern hospital buildings built on it. Considering the very low level of underground excavations required by the development proposals, and the extensive disturbance over the years, significant archaeological deposits were unlikely to be encountered.

Despite this, at the onset of the programme it was considered that archaeological works for this development may identify (i) ex-situ park

Extent of monitoring programme shown in blue





Locations of walls 1-3 under new clinical block. Note north to left of image.

furniture associated with the original 18th century Pleasure Gardens, and (ii) ex-situ or in-situ human remains associated with the early phase of the use of the hospital and/or the Viking cemetery. Either of these findings would have been of archaeological significance.

Clinical block hospital extension

The new clinical block hospital extension is situated in the west wing of the hospital. Excavation groundworks reached a depth of c. 2m and extended over a rectangular area c. 8m east-west by 10m north-south. The stratigraphy comprised (i) The upper 1m of disturbed 20th century fill material, (ii) from 1m to 1.7m a re-deposited soil composed of lenses of organic brown sandy-silt and subsoil, and (iii) from 1.7m to 2m a sterile dense brownish-yellow silty-clay, which may have been natural subsoil.

The western 2.77m of the excavation area was situated over a pre-existing service tunnel, accessed from the basement of the existing hospital, and which lies at basement level. This

service tunnel was reinforced under the proposed new extension. It is constructed from concrete and is 20th century in date, at least in this area.

Three wall foundations were identified in the excavation east of the service tunnel. All were cut by the 20th century service tunnel retaining wall to the west.

Wall 1

The southernmost wall foundation formed the southwest corner of a former building. It had been truncated down to 300mm below existing ground level, and was partially re-used as a footing for the 19th century hospital extension sitting directly above part of it. The lower parts of the wall foundation were constructed from masonry, and the upper portions were constructed of red brick, all bonded with lime mortar. The wall foundation measured at least 740mm in width, but only one face was identified so its true width could not be established. The surviving truncated wall extended 2.9m east-west and 1m north-south.



Construction of foundation for new clinical extension



Foundations for new services block



Stratigraphy near old services block, showing extensive modern disturbance

Wall 2

The second wall foundation was situated directly north of this wall, and ran east-west. It was badly truncated and survived very poorly, and was composed of heavily-decayed limestone and slate bonded with lime mortar. Only the northern face survived, and this was 4.16m north of the northern face of Wall 1.

Wall 3

The northernmost wall was situated 7.76m north of Wall 1 and also ran east-west. It comprised a single course of masonry foundation at a depth of 1.3m below the ground, on which was constructed a narrow (0.4m) wall of red brick up 1m to the surface. It was very different in character to walls 1 and 2, and appeared to represent a garden wall or brick-lined pit rather than a structural wall.

New services building

Excavation in this area reached a maximum depth of 700mm from existing ground level in a former carpark space in the centre of the Rotunda complex, directly south of the Master's Garden. Existing ground was at 4.20m OD, and the base of the excavations for the new building was at 3.5m OD (depth of 700mm) with some areas reaching 1m in depth for foundations where piling was not used. The stratigraphy comprised (i) tarmac over a layer of organic disturbed 20th century fill, with rare 20th century pottery artefacts, down to a depth of 630mm; (ii) a sterile yellow clay 300mm in thickness, and (iii) a stony sterile brown clay extending deeper than 1m. One sondage down to a depth of 2m identified a layer of decomposed organic

material below these layers containing a sherd from a tin-glazed earthenware jar of 18th century date.

One feature was identified. This was a cut feature, identified only in natural subsoil, 500mm wide and 0.7-1m deep. It was filled by a loose organic dark-brown mixed topsoil with frequent roots, containing one fragment of clay pipe stem. This is likely to be a modern trench to plant or remove a tree bowl.



Foundations for extension to old services block

Old services building

The existing services building is modern, and is situated at the eastern edge of the Rotunda complex on steeply-sloping ground. Excavation for the foundations of a new extension to this exposed various layers of redeposited natural and organic soils, indicative of landscaping into the slope, perhaps in the 19th or 20th century. Glass is clear so likely 20th century. Building rubble of red brick and lime mortar, and 20th century concrete 1.3m depth.



Service trench to west of site

Service trenches

Excavations for service trenches ran approximately northeast-wouthwest across the centre of the Rotunda hospital complex, linking the old services building, new services building, and new clinical extension. These varied in depth from c. 600mm to 1m below ground level. Only modern 20th century fill was identified, and no archaeological features were noted.



Service trench to east of site

Section 5 Conclusions

The monitoring programme identified evidence for extensive 19th to 20th century landscaping and disturbance, to a very deep level, throughout the hospital grounds.

No evidence for the c. 11th century Scandinavian/Viking cemetery was found (Recorded Monument DU018-020495-). This is despite the finds of spears, swords and rivets associated with vast numbers of human bones during construction of the Rotunda's Pleasure Gardens in the mid-18th century. The absence of any evidence for the cemetery emphasises the extent of the groundworks carried out from the 18th to the 20th century in the hospital grounds.

The only discovery of archaeological interest during this programme of works was three walls identified below the new Clinical Block in the southwest of the Rotunda. These walls ran below the curving colonnade at the rear of the Rotunda. The rear colonnades are not marked on Rocque's 1756 depiction of the Rotunda, but they do appear on Scale's amended map of 1773. The three walls identified in the excavation thus predate 1773.

Comparison between the location of the walls and Rocque's 1756 map of 1756 suggests that two of the walls (Walls 1 and 2) belonged to a rectangular building to the west of the Rotunda. This building is depicted on Rocque's map of 1756 and no longer present on Scale's 1773 revision. The building appears to provide access to the 'New Gardens' and 'Orchestra', to the rear of the hospital. These were the pleasure gardens laid out by Mosse's gardener, Robert Stevenson, in 1748 and opened to the public in 1750. The proceeds of admission to the gardens as well as events held there were all used to fund the building of the hospital (Duggan 2006, 8). The 'Orchestra' was a terrace, designed by John Ensor, at the northern end of the gardens. The building may therefore have functioned like a

ticket office. Wall 3, located just north of walls 1 and 2, is likely to have formed part of a garden wall.

A decorative bollard possibly supporting a light fitting in the northwest of the Rotunda grounds, almost certainly not in its original location, may also have belonged to the Pleasure Gardens.

In the mid-18th century the Rotunda complex was smaller than today, and the walls identified were situated at the very edge of the hospital, close to a large mansion shown in the southwest corner of Rutland Square (modern Parnell

A decorative bollard possibly supporting a light fitting, possibly from the 18th century Pleasure Gardens





Rocque's 1756 map showing the walls of the Pleasure Garden entrance and the adjacent Mountgarret coach-house

Square) on Rocque's map of 1756. The origins of this mansion are obscure. In the original lease for the Lying-In (Rotunda) Hospital dated 15th August 1748, the hospital is described as being bound '...on the west, partly by the house, yard backside, and garden belonging to and now held by Lord Mount Garret...' (O'Mahony 1893b, 268). O'Mahony (1893a, 69) names it Kingsland House in his description of the 'Old Dublin Mansions', and states that it was built in the middle of the last century by George Barnewall, 5th Viscount Kingsland; 'but in consequence of Dr Mosse having then in contemplation the building of his hospital, Lord Kingland never lived in his new mansion' (ibid). However, later that year O'Mahony changed his mind and suggested instead that Lord Mount Garrett's house was built by Edmund Butler, 6th Viscount Mountgarret (O'Mahony 1893b, 268).

This latter explanation is far more likely: the house was already in existence (in 1756) before George Barnewall, 5th Viscount Kingsland

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