



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



DUBLIN CITY STRATEGIC HERITAGE PLAN 2024-2029



Photograph © Dublin City Council.

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Cover graphic by Paul Bokslag inspired by Peoples Island (1988 - 2017) by Rachel Joynt.
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CLIMATE ACTION AND THE STRATEGIC HERITAGE PLAN

This plan will be delivered in the context of ongoing global Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergencies. The impacts of Climate Change and the need for Climate Action are recurring themes throughout all of the research and consultation that went into the production of this Strategic Heritage Plan.

Understanding the impacts of climate change on our heritage resources and understanding the contribution that our heritage resources can make to mitigating the effects of Climate Change are two key focus areas across all six Strategic Goals included in the Plan.

All projects delivered under the Plan will be required to consider climate impact and sustainability as part of their design.

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Projects delivered under the Plan will be undertaken in accordance with:

- Dublin City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2029. Produced as a part of a collaborative response to the impacts of climate change by each of Dublin's four local authorities. This Climate Change Action Plan features a range of actions across five key areas - Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature-Based Solutions and Resource Management. Actions E37 and E38 will be completed under the auspices of the Strategic Heritage Plan. The climate plan is a living document and now with Dublin City Council joining the 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission there will be an opportunity to explore/consider/ implement actions that are informed by our heritage resources.
- Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage. This was published in 2019 under the National Adaptation Framework. It aims to build adaptive capacity within the sector, reduce the vulnerability of built and archaeological heritage to climate change and identify and capitalise on the various potential opportunities for the sector.
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. This commits the Government to transform the Irish economy into a climate-resilient and climate-neutral economy by the end of 2050. It has far-reaching consequences for us all.



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FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024 – 2029, which builds upon the many successful and ground-breaking initiatives from Dublin’s previous Heritage Plans over the past twenty-three years.

Dublin is renowned for its vibrant and diverse cultural heritage, including its archaeological sites, historic monuments, 18th and 19th-century public buildings, and charming streets and squares. The city’s historic suburbs and urban villages further enrich its character. Equally important are Dublin’s intangible cultural assets, such as its literary heritage, linguistic diversity, social customs, and traditional skills. These elements of Dublin’s built and intangible cultural heritage not only connect us to our past but also shape our present and future, contributing to a strong sense of place. This heritage anchors us in history, giving the city a unique identity that continues to evolve as it embraces the traditions and values of both longstanding and newer communities.

Over the next five years, the implementation of this Strategic Heritage Plan will bring about exciting new projects that will deepen our understanding of Dublin’s heritage and foster greater community engagement. These initiatives will be developed in collaboration with various City Council Departments, particularly the Archaeology and Conservation sections within the Planning and Property Development Department, as well as key partner heritage organizations and academic institutions.

I would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of the expert working groups representing the three pillars of the plan—Archaeology, Built Heritage, and Cultural Heritage—in shaping its goals and objectives. The Heritage Council remains a crucial partner in the plan’s implementation, and I look forward to its continued support through its vital work and the annual County Heritage Plan funding programme. I also welcome the support from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and the Creative Ireland Programme, which will be instrumental in bringing this plan to fruition.

Richard Shakespeare

Chief Executive



Exact Survey of Dublin, published by John Rocque in 1756. Courtesy Dublin City Library and Archive.



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council



Church of the Holy Trinity, Donaghmede.
Photograph © Paul Tierney Photography.

ABOUT US

ABOUT THE HERITAGE OFFICE

Dublin City Heritage Office undertakes a broad range of projects aimed at improving our understanding and appreciation of the rich and complex cultural heritage of Dublin city, both tangible and intangible. It works to ensure that this heritage is safeguarded for our enjoyment today and for the future.

The Heritage Office is based in the Heritage, Archaeology & Conservation Section of the Planning and Property Development Department within Dublin City Council. Working in collaboration with the Archaeology Office, Architectural Conservation Office, other departments of the City Council and a range of external stakeholders, the Heritage Office implements the City Heritage Plan which is grant supported annually by the Heritage Council¹. Additional funding from Creative Ireland, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and other sources of grant aid as they become available, will support the implementation of the plan.

¹ The Heritage Council part funds the network of 31 city/county heritage officers in local authorities across the country. The Heritage Council's vision is that the value of our heritage is enjoyed, managed and protected for the vital contribution that it makes to our identity, well-being and future. For more information on the work of the Heritage Council, please visit www.heritagecouncil.ie

ABOUT THE HERITAGE PLAN

The Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024-2029 sets out Dublin City Council's goals and priorities for heritage over the next five years. The plan acknowledges that many departments and sections within Dublin City Council are actively engaged in the management and interpretation of the city's archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage. While overall coordination of the Strategic Heritage Plan rests with the Heritage Officer, this is a city-wide plan.

The goals and objectives identified in the plan are the outcomes of extensive consultation with state agencies, public bodies, universities, NGOs, and special interest groups; we hope that the plan reflects their concerns and aspirations and that it will be a catalyst for future partnerships and collaborations.

Above all, this is a plan for the communities of place and interest across Dublin who, on a daily basis, care for and engage with the city's heritage in many and diverse ways; we hope that the plan empowers communities to develop the heritage projects that matter to them and to engage more fully with both their own heritage and the heritage of others.

THE KINDS OF PROJECTS WE SUPPORT

A Heritage Highlights document accompanies this plan. It presents some of the many projects delivered under the first Dublin City Heritage Plan



14 Henrietta Street.
Photograph © Paul Tierney Photography.

since 2002. These include: the creation of the 14 Henrietta Street museum, which owes its origins to the Henrietta Street Conservation Plan published by the Council in 2006; the ground-breaking twentieth-century architecture research project published in a three-volume series called More Than Concrete Blocks, of which Vol.3 was published in November 2023; the County Dublin Archaeology GIS project, developed by the Archaeology and Heritage sections of Dublin City Council, in partnership with three other Dublin local authorities; and a wide range of architectural heritage surveys, research projects, online resources, interpretation projects, events and publications.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2022-07/highlights-document-final.pdf>

This new Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024-2029 builds on Dublin City Council's significant investment in the city's heritage since 2002 and on the knowledge base established over twenty years of implementing Heritage Plan projects. In keeping with the Council's ongoing commitment to investing in the city's heritage, in all its diversity, the new Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024-2029 adopts a broad remit - embracing cultural heritage in all of its aspects; tangible, intangible and digital. Often these are intertwined; a project may be centred on a (tangible) building or place, explore the (intangible) oral histories associated with that place, and form part of an online (digital) database.

In the appendices of this plan a broad range of potential projects have been identified for support or implementation. Some of these are the continuation of long-standing projects and others emerged from the working group forums that were convened as part of the consultation process.



POLICY CONTEXT

The Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan (2024-2029) has been written in the context of the following national and regional statutory and non-statutory plans and strategies, and international charters and conventions.

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL POLICIES

The Dublin City Development Plan 2022 - 2028 sets out policies and objectives to guide how and where development will take place in the city over the lifetime of the Plan. It provides an integrated, coherent spatial framework to ensure the city is developed in an attractive place to visit and work. While Chapter 11 of the plan deals with Built Heritage and Archaeology, heritage cuts across many of its 16 chapters, including Chapter 3 (Climate action), Chapter 6 (City economy and enterprise), Chapter 7 (The city centre, urban villages and retail), Chapter 10 (Green infrastructure and recreation), and Chapter 12 (Culture).

Protection, enhancement and raising awareness of natural heritage in Dublin city is guided by the Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan 2021-2025, which is delivered by the Biodiversity Officer and by the Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services division. There are rich links between the natural and cultural heritage. Historic buildings, archaeological sites and monuments can be important refuges and habitats for wildlife. Equally, the effects of climate change will negatively impact both built and natural heritage and a joint approach to identifying the risks posed by such impacts will be beneficial for heritage overall. During the lifetime of the Strategic Heritage Plan and the Biodiversity Action Plan, joint projects will be implemented in the areas of climate change impacts, raising awareness, citizen science and climate change adaptation through buildings for biodiversity.

In addition, the following Dublin City Council documents form a significant part of the framework within which Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024-2029 will be implemented.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and other sources of grant aid as they become available, will support the implementation of the plan.

- Dublin City Development Plan 2022 - 2028
- Dublin City Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024
- Dublin City Culture Strategy 2015 - 2021
- Dublin Climate Action Plan 2024-2029
- Dublin City Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022
- Dublin City Public Art Programme (2021-2026)
- Dublin City Arts Plan 2014-2018
- Dublin City Council Collections Management Policy 2022

NATIONAL POLICIES

Heritage Ireland 2030 is the national heritage plan. It was published in February 2022 following extensive nationwide consultation and engagement. It provides a framework for the protection, conservation, promotion, and management of Ireland's heritage for the next decade. Heritage Ireland 2030 embraces the concept of cultural heritage as a group of resources inherited from the past, and the diversity of heritage in Ireland's multicultural society. It recognises heritage as a bedrock of Ireland's identity, asserting how important heritage is to all objectives of government and to society generally as well as its role in individual and societal wellbeing, economic development, tourism and innovation.

Project Ireland 2040 is the Government's overarching policy initiative with a vision '... to provide a comprehensive social, economic and cultural infrastructure for all our people to flourish...'. A core component of Project Ireland 2040 is for Ireland to be 'a place where we have more opportunity to enjoy our heritage, our language and our landscape'. One of the initiative's 10 strategic outcomes includes Enhanced Amenity and Heritage in which cultural heritage is seen as a key contributor to the sustainable development of our cities, towns, villages, and rural areas.

Heritage at the Heart: Heritage Council Strategy 2018-2022 sets out the Heritage Council's vision for 2018-2022 that heritage will be at the heart of Irish society and decision-making and that Ireland will be internationally recognised as a centre of excellence in heritage management, conservation and community engagement.

Places for People: Ireland's National Policy on Architecture is a recently published National Policy Document on Architecture from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Four key objectives (Sustainability, Quality, Leadership and Culture) frame a vision that architecture and the built environment are valued for their roles in creating sustainable communities and fostering a culture of creativity, rooted in appreciation for the achievements of the past.

INTERNATIONAL POLICIES

The international conventions and policies below form the basis for our approach to delivering heritage projects:

- UN Sustainable Development Goals (New York, 2015). In particular, SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro, 2005)
- UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus, 1998)
- Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1985)
- Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra, 1979)
- ICOMOS Venice Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice, 1964)
- European Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)
- UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Paris, 2001)



- Joint ICOMOS–TICCIH Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures Areas and Landscapes (The Dublin Principles, 2011)
- ICOMOS European Quality Principles for EU-funded Interventions with potential impact upon Cultural Heritage (Revised edition, November 2020)
- ICOMOS Charter for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites (Québec, 2008)
- ICOMOS Charter on Cultural Routes (Québec, 2008)
- ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter: Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance (Mexico, 1999)
- ICOMOS Charter on the Protection and Management of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Sofia, 1996)
- ICOMOS (ICAHM) Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage (Lausanne, 1990)
- ICOMOS Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington, 1987)
- European Quality Principles for EU-funded Interventions with Potential Impact upon Cultural Heritage, (ICOMOS, 2019)
- UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Paris, 2003)

OUR VALUES

These guiding principles will underpin all of the work carried out under this Strategic Heritage Plan.



Photograph © Ripley Photography



Photograph © Brian Cregan Photography.

1. DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We recognise that everyone has the right to have their own cultural heritage respected and that everyone has the responsibility to respect the cultural heritage of others.

2. CREATIVE COLLABORATION

We believe in the value of creative collaboration; in working with partners both within and outside the heritage sector to develop new ways of exploring heritage themes.

3. PROMOTING BEST PRACTICE

We support and encourage the implementation of best practice and the development of best practice guidance across all heritage disciplines.

4. A BROADER DEFINITION OF HERITAGE (A HOLISTIC APPROACH)

We acknowledge the importance of recognising cultural heritage in its broadest sense - tangible, intangible and digital - and we advocate for a holistic approach to heritage projects.



Photograph © Derek Speirs, reproduced courtesy of Pavée Point Traveller and Roma Centre.



Lord Mayor of Dublin Councillor Alison Gilliland and Malcolm Noonan Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform at the Dublin City Heritage Building Skills Weekend 2022, Merrion Square. Photo © Damien Eagers Photography.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

The following Strategic Goals and Objectives were developed out of a long research and consultation process. This began with a review of work carried out under the 2002 Heritage Plan. Following that review, we convened working groups for the three subject areas of Archaeology, Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage. The working groups met twice each individually, and once as a combined larger group. Their focused discussion and analysis produced draft Strategic Objectives that form the basis of this plan. Public engagement workshops were held in five areas across Dublin city during Heritage Week 2021. After refining the results of the research and consultation process, we have produced the six key Strategic Goals listed below. Each goal is further broken down into a number of objectives, under which specific heritage projects will be identified and delivered.

- 1. COMMUNITY-LED AND LOCALLY-FOCUSED
- 2. MAKING ROOM FOR DIVERSE VOICES
- 3. CREATING KNOWLEDGE
- 4. ACCESS TO HERITAGE
- 5. HERITAGE MANAGEMENT
- 6. COMMUNICATING HERITAGE

STRATEGIC GOAL 1:

COMMUNITY-LED AND LOCALLY-FOCUSED

WHY THIS GOAL?
Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

‘Nobody lives in Dublin, they live on Cork Street, or in Phibsboro, or in Dolphin’s Barn...’

Dublin is a city made up of historic and modern, urban and suburban districts. It is a collection of streets and estates, of town centres, school catchment areas and local shops. Dublin is home to many communities; communities of place, faith, culture, language, and interest. Each of those communities has its own network of organisations, supports and social outlets.

It is an aim of the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan that Dublin continues to be a vibrant city of neighbourhoods and communities, and that communities are facilitated to propose and implement the heritage projects that they wish to see happen, with the support of the Heritage Office.

On an administrative level, Dublin city is subdivided into five administrative districts or Local Areas: Central, North Central, South Central, North West and South East. Each of these has its own Area Offices and Council-supported infrastructure.

It is an aim of the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan to engage effectively with existing community and Council networks within the five local areas in order to provide local access to heritage services and to deliver heritage projects with real local impact.

Dublin is a city of layers and complexity. By enabling a community-led, locally-focused approach to heritage projects that is more ‘ground-up’ than ‘top-down’, this Strategic Heritage Plan aims to acknowledge that complexity.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Objectives that will progress this goal.

- 1. Produce a toolkit for the development of local heritage projects in partnership with area offices, including information on how to access existing council-produced resources and interpretative materials.
- 2. Support heritage participation and engagement through the development of community-led local heritage plans, co-created and implemented with local community groups and supported by the City Council.
- 3. Develop an annual local heritage grant scheme to support cultural heritage activities identified in local heritage plans.
- 4. Support community-led projects (from communities of place and of interest) and work collaboratively with existing community organisations, building on and learning from the important work that they are already doing.
- 5. Support capacity building projects and events within communities of place and interest, and facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experience between communities.



St Anne's Community Archaeology excavation. Artwork © Paul Bokslag.

OUTCOMES

Measures of success

- Pilot Local Area Heritage Plans are implemented in each of the five Local Authority Areas.
- An annual local heritage grant scheme is in place, aimed at funding small-scale non-capital heritage actions within local communities.
- Community groups, study groups, heritage project participants and other stakeholders are provided with the tools to develop their own local heritage plans, using participatory community-led processes.
- Communities are supported to develop and lead heritage projects in their area.
- Communities are supported and encouraged to participate in built, archaeological and cultural heritage activities.
- There is increased participation by Dublin-based community groups and custodians of heritage sites in national community heritage schemes.
- Increased community engagement with heritage creates increased community wellbeing.
- Links are in place with Creative Ireland and arts-based funding organisations, within and outside of Council, to encourage a creative approach to community-led heritage projects.



St Anne's Park Community Archeology excavation. Photograph © Archaeology and Built Heritage Ltd.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2:
MAKING ROOM FOR DIVERSE VOICES

WHY THIS GOAL?
Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

Dublin is a city of many voices and a city of many stories. Historically, some of those voices and some of those stories have been heard more than others. This Strategic Plan seeks to address that imbalance by making room for a much greater variety of voices within conversations about Dublin’s heritage, and by actively challenging accepted narratives - seeing old stories from new perspectives, and seeking out new stories that have not yet been told.

In many ways the history of Dublin is the history of inward migration. From the earliest settlers, to the Vikings, Normans, through the period of British rule, to more recent arrivals, the population of Dublin has seen successive waves of expansion and change. Each of those waves bringing with it new languages, cultures and heritages, both tangible and intangible, that have become part of the heritage of Dublin as a whole.

This goal in particular acknowledges the principles of the ‘Faro’ Convention on the value of cultural heritage to society - namely, the fundamental right of everyone to have their cultural heritage respected and the fundamental responsibility on everyone to respect the cultural heritage of others. And the acknowledgment that aspects of heritage may be valuable to different people and to different groups of people for different reasons.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
Objectives that will progress this goal.

- 1. Develop thematic and multidisciplinary heritage projects that include intangible cultural heritage as an integral component. Support thematic projects that explore concepts and practices that are common to all traditions.
- 2. Work with partner organisations to support community-led heritage projects from historically marginalised communities.
- 3. Support projects that view existing heritage resources in a new light or from a previously unexplored perspective. Allow for projects that challenge existing heritage narratives.
- 4. Support projects that explore the heritage of communities of interest and community-based action.
- 5. Support projects that explore the long history of inward and outward migration to/ from and within Dublin.



Photograph © Barry Cronin Photography.

OUTCOMES

Measures of success

- The range of projects supported under the heritage plan has expanded to include the heritages of diverse Dublin communities, both historic and current.
- A number of carefully-managed thematic projects - exploring basic human themes that transcend era or background, such as food culture, ritual, burial etc. - have been initiated.
- The heritage of historically marginalised groups is represented among the projects produced under the remit of the Strategic Heritage Plan.
- The heritage of communities of interest is represented among the projects produced under the remit of the Strategic Heritage Plan.
- Oral history and intangible heritage are recognised as integral to Dublin's heritage.
- Projects that explore a crafts and labour-based history of architectural heritage, as distinct from the history of architect and patron, are supported.
- Projects that explore Dublin's relationship with colonialism are supported.
- Projects that explore community-based activism and the heritage of community spaces are supported.
- Internship and training opportunities are identified within partner organisations.



Photograph © Derek Speirs, reproduced courtesy of Pavée Point Traveller and Roma Centre.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3:
CREATING KNOWLEDGE

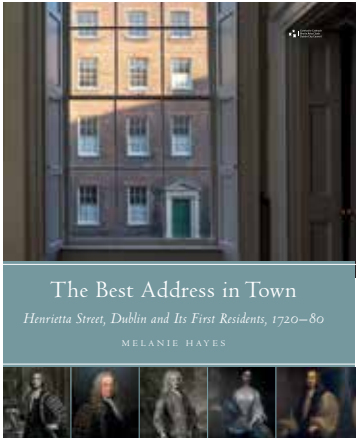
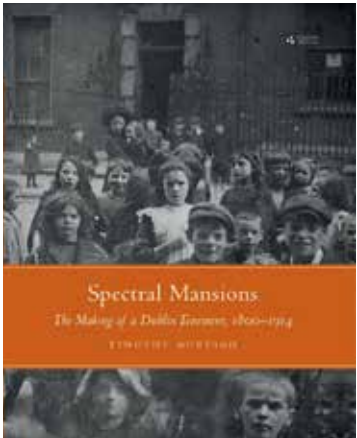
WHY THIS GOAL?
Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

From as early as the Mesolithic era (7,500-4,500BC) Dublin has been a centre of human activity. It was an internationally-important Viking port, Ireland’s first town, a medieval walled city, a colonial capital and the birthplace of the modern Irish state. Dublin has embodied the major social changes of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and Dublin today is a major European capital; a city of many communities, many languages and many stories. There is a lot that we already know about Dublin’s heritage; and there is a lot that we have yet to discover.

In some cases - in the field of archaeology, for instance - a large amount of research data exists, which has either not been organised, not been made accessible, or both. In other cases - in the many fields of intangible cultural heritage, for instance, or in understanding the heritages of immigrant communities in Dublin - little data exists. In the relatively well-researched field of architectural heritage, there are subject matter areas that have yet to be fully explored.

The new Dublin City Heritage Strategy aims to consolidate what we already know by organising the information that already exists, evaluating it and making it accessible to as many people as possible; it aims to add to our existing knowledge by commissioning new research; and it aims to broaden community participation in generating and exploring heritage knowledge.

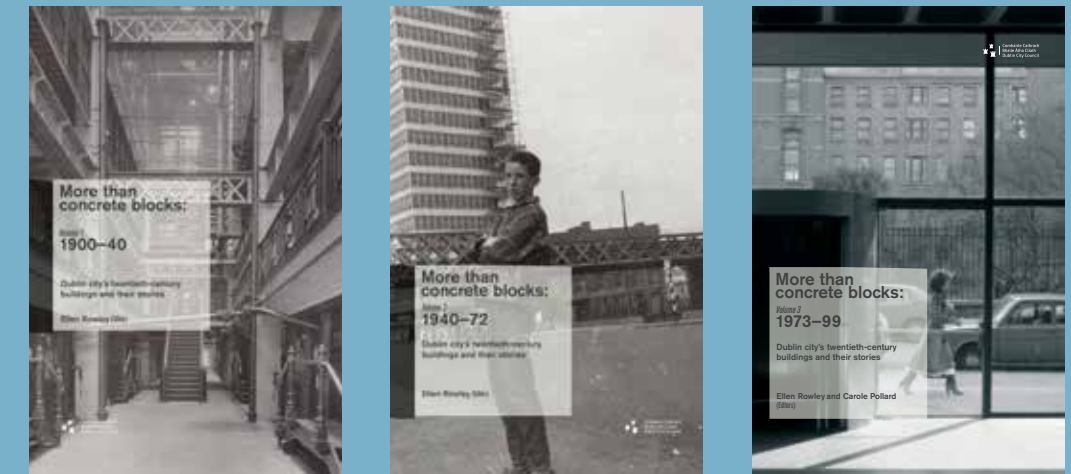
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
Objectives that will progress this goal.
- 1. Build on the success of the previous Heritage Plan to progress existing built, archaeological and cultural heritage research projects and to identify new ones.
 - 2. Continue to identify and collect baseline built, archaeological and cultural heritage data (basic research, thematic surveys and reports) and to archive this data according to best practice guidance.
 - 3. Collaborate with strategic partners to: carry out reviews of existing data and research, to identify gaps and emerging themes; put research strategies in place for individual subject areas; and to review funding opportunities for built, archaeological and cultural heritage-focused research, at national and international level.
 - 4. Support and develop projects that allow for the collection of oral histories, social memory and personal or family artefacts.
 - 5. Support and develop projects that illustrate the contribution that built, archaeological and cultural heritage can make to sustainability, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and to addressing the impacts of climate change.



Measures of success

- [illegible]

Montage of photographs from the Twentieth-century Architecture in Dublin City Research Project Photography © Paul Tierney Photography.



STRATEGIC GOAL 4:

ACCESS TO HERITAGE

WHY THIS GOAL?

Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

Enabling greater access to heritage emerged as a strong theme from the consultation process for this Strategic Heritage Plan. This was centred around three distinct concepts of access:

- a. Universal access - that heritage places and heritage resources must be fully accessible to users of all ages and abilities.
- b. Access to heritage data - that the heritage data produced using public funds must be made freely and publicly available.
- c. Social, cultural and linguistic barriers to access - that the principles of cultural democracy and participation must be embedded into the design and implementation of all heritage projects and by all heritage organisations.

Everyone has the right to access environmental information that is held by public authorities and to participate in environmental decision making (Aarhus Convention, 1998) and everyone has the right to benefit from cultural heritage, contribute to cultural heritage and have their own cultural heritage respected (Faro Convention, 2005). The new Dublin City Heritage Strategy seeks to ensure that all projects carried out under its remit reflect those rights.

It is a goal of the Dublin City Heritage Strategy that accessing Dublin's heritage should be easy and barrier-free for everyone.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Objectives that will progress this goal.

1. Build on projects implemented under the previous Heritage Plan to continue to make heritage data available as an online resource. Work with existing and new geospatial platforms as required to map published and unpublished heritage data.
2. Ensure that access and issues relating to access are fully considered in all built, archaeological and cultural heritage projects carried out under the remit of the Strategic Heritage Plan.
3. Collaborate with groups and individuals who have experienced barriers to accessing or celebrating heritage to identify ways in which improved access can be achieved. Work with groups and individuals to develop tailored opportunities and supports.
4. Develop and support projects and initiatives that value and embrace intangible cultural heritage, including the heritage of living practices.



Photograph © Peter Maybury.

OUTCOMES

Measures of success

- A map-based online platform is in place, providing access to Dublin's heritage data. This may be based on an existing online resource, such as heritagemaps.ie.
- Published material that is currently only available in hardcopy format is republished in more accessible form and made available online.
- Outreach initiatives are provided to people and groups who have experienced barriers to participation in mainstream or official cultural heritage activities.
- Training workshops are provided for people and groups who wish to learn the tools of local history and heritage research.
- A pilot internship programme on themes of intangible cultural heritage and the heritage of living practices is established in collaboration with key organisational partners.



Bathing shelter, North Bull Wall. Photograph © Paul Tierney Photography.

STRATEGIC GOAL 5:

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

WHY THIS GOAL?

Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

Seen as a whole - the result of continuous occupation and change over thousands of years - Dublin may be considered our greatest monument on the island of Ireland. Like any historic monument, it demands careful and attentive management.

Dublin's built, archaeological and cultural heritage is a dynamic, constantly evolving resource. This Strategic Heritage Plan is committed to encouraging a whole-city historic urban landscape approach to heritage management - in which the city is considered not as a collection of individual heritage sites, but as a whole human environment, with all of its tangible and intangible qualities.

Strategic conservation management of vulnerable cultural heritage sites and areas within that environment can be achieved through the Conservation Plan and Conservation Management

Plan process. These are value-focused processes that bring all stakeholders together to identify a site or area's significance, risks to that significance and to agree policies for implementation over time that manage change and safeguard significance.

Through the Dublin City Heritage Plan 2002+ the City Council has so far prepared Conservation Plans for the City Walls and Defences, Henrietta Street, Saint Luke's the Coombe, a draft plan for Pigeon House power station, and a conservation strategy for the Follies in Saint Anne's Park. These plans in turn have provided a foundation for numerous other heritage-focused projects, developed as a result of implementing individual conservation plan policies.

The new Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan is committed to the ongoing implementation and review of these existing plans - by undertaking public engagement activities, new research and conservation works - and to the identification of new sites or structures that would benefit from the conservation plan process.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Objectives that will progress this goal.

1. Promote best practice in built, archaeological and cultural heritage in Dublin city, through guidance, and CPD-accredited training initiatives.
2. Continue to resource the review and ongoing implementation of existing conservation (management) plans and put funding in place to undertake and implement new plans for built, archaeological and cultural heritage places and sites in Dublin city. As part of this objective:
 - a. Encourage the use of the conservation (management) plan process by both the private and community sectors for places and sites not in state ownership.
 - b. Identify and record places or building typologies of particular interest or vulnerability in Dublin city, in both public and private ownership, that would benefit from the conservation plan process.
3. Identify threats to Dublin's built, archaeological and cultural heritage as a result of climate change and as a result of climate adaptation measures. Provide guidance on the management of vulnerable heritage resources and advice on appropriate mitigation measures.
4. Encourage the participation of community groups in actively managing Dublin's built, archaeological and cultural heritage, including participation in national community heritage schemes.

OUTCOMES

Measures of success

- Existing conservation (management) plans are fully implemented and new plans continue to be put in place by Dublin City Council and other parties.
- The conservation (management) plan process is the accepted foundation for managing heritage places and sites in Dublin city - whether these are in public, private or community ownership and care.
- The objectives of the Built and Archaeological Heritage Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan are implemented.
- The city coastline and areas of historically-reclaimed land are mapped and documented and appropriate policies for managing change are in place.



Photograph © Ripley Photography.

STRATEGIC GOAL 6:

COMMUNICATING HERITAGE

WHY THIS GOAL?

Where did this come from? What need is it addressing?

Dublin's heritage - and the wealth of information that has been built up by the people and organisations who study it - is an extremely valuable resource. In order for as many people as possible to benefit from that resource, it must be communicated effectively.

Communicating heritage means making sure that everyone who wishes to know how to access heritage data and heritage research, as well as information about heritage resources, funding and infrastructure, can do so.

Communicating heritage means turning research data into knowledge - in the form of publications, online resources and other media - that can be used to inform tourism, economic, community development and educational activities.

Communicating heritage means promoting the national and international significance of aspects of Dublin's built, archaeological and cultural heritage, including the international significance of Dublin's Viking archaeology.

Communicating heritage means ensuring that the work of Dublin City Council in the heritage field (both within and outside the Heritage Office) and of the Strategic Heritage Plan is clear, visible and accessible to all.



Photograph © Ripley Photography.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Objectives that will progress this goal.

1. Develop a dedicated Dublin heritage website to provide access to heritage information and data and updates on the work of the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan.
2. Continue to disseminate high-quality information on Dublin's built, archaeological, and cultural heritage through different means and media including exhibitions, pamphlets, publications, lectures and training.
3. Collaborate with strategic partners to develop quality approaches to the interpretation of local and national built, archaeological and cultural heritage, based on sound research.
4. Collaborate with strategic partners to produce and disseminate information that highlights the value of heritage to economic development, social wellbeing and environmental sustainability.
5. Support the development and interpretation of collections that are representative of Dublin's artistic, built, archaeological and cultural heritage.

OUTCOMES

Measures of success

- A dedicated Dublin Heritage website has been put in place.
- New publications have been produced on topics relating to Dublin's built, archaeological and cultural heritage.
- An annual programme of events is in place, in collaboration with strategic partners. To include: lecture series, training courses, walking tours, exhibitions and other interpretative media.
- An event - and interpretative materials - to mark the millennium of Christchurch cathedral in 2028 has been planned and organised in collaboration with strategic partners and community groups.
- Clear, knowledge-based communication allows for effective heritage policy to be put in place, across a range of organisations.
- Clear, knowledge-based communication supports the work of other groups and individuals within Council.
- The role of heritage in supporting cultural tourism is recognised and valued.
- The implementation of Dublin City Council's Collections Management Policy is supported and progressed.
- Dublin's participation in the international Viking Cultural Route is supported.
- Where practicable, heritage dissemination will be available bilingually.



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IMPLEMENTATION

During the working group discussions that went into producing this Plan, participants felt strongly that the Plan should be strategic in nature, that it should allow for flexibility and that there should be enough 'space' within the objectives to allow for unforeseen outcomes. The format of the current plan reflects those discussions.

In order to implement the objectives set out in the plan, actions must be identified that give rise to specific heritage projects. This will be achieved by means of a Heritage Forum and an annual Heritage Action Plan, as set out below. A series of potential heritage projects have also been included in the appendices.

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A HERITAGE FORUM FOR DUBLIN CITY

A Dublin City Heritage Forum will be established to support the implementation of the Strategic Heritage Plan and will be composed of public representatives of the Planning and Arts and Culture Strategic Policy Committees, as well as other key stakeholders involved in the research, management and promotion of the city's cultural, archaeological and built heritage.

TRANSLATING OBJECTIVES INTO ACTIONS

Overall coordination of the Strategic Heritage Plan rests with the Heritage Officer who will implement the plan in close collaboration with the Archaeology and Conservation Sections, as well as with the Parks and Landscape Services Division, Arts Office, the Dublin City Library and Archive and external partners and collaborators. While the Strategic Heritage Plan will be delivered by Dublin City Council, in partnership with the Heritage Council and other key partners, it will support the work of other organisations in different areas of Dublin city's heritage.



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TIMELINE AND PROCESS

Each year an annual Heritage Action Plan will be agreed. The Heritage Action Plan will identify the projects for implementation that year, acknowledging that many projects we undertake are multi-annual. The plan will set timeframes for each project and an annual budget.

GRANT SUPPORT

Currently, there are four regular sources of annual grant funding available to support the implementation of the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan.

- County Heritage Plan Grant Scheme (Heritage Council)
- Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)
- Creative Ireland Programme
- Community Monuments Fund (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage)

The funding landscape is changeable. New schemes are launched and existing schemes retired or replaced at intervals. In so far as possible, projects will be planned and scheduled to take advantage of existing funding streams, while always being alert to the possibilities offered by any new or additional funding sources.



APPENDICES

- 1. POTENTIAL PROJECTS
- 2. METHODOLOGY FOR PRODUCING THIS PLAN
- 3. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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1. POTENTIAL STRATEGIC HERITAGE PLAN PROJECTS

ARCHAEOLOGY
Establish a specialist Dublin City Archaeological Forum to communicate the international significance of the city’s archaeological deposits and to support the implementation of archaeological projects in the Strategic Heritage Plan.
Synthesise and map archaeological excavation data for Dublin thematically over time beginning with pre-historic evidence in Dublin city and County and publish the findings.
With key stakeholders produce a robust excavation record for Dublin –with a focus on important unreported sites in the city in order to retrieve the archaeological data, turn that into knowledge and make it publically accessible.
Participate in trans-national research projects to investigate and communicate the international significance of Viking Dublin.
Put in place programmes to communicate international significance of the Viking town of Dublin locally and internationally.
Support publication of archaeological excavation monographs on Dublin city excavations.

Review, update and make publically accessible The Archaeological Remains of Viking and Medieval Dublin: A Research Framework (2010) to identify and safeguard areas of well-preserved archaeological deposits for posterity and to promote the intrinsic value of archaeology to place-making.
Explore feasibility for long-term preservation of ecofacts obtained in excavations in Dublin city for future research purposes.
Review current archaeological practice within the development sector, and define and agree best archaeological practice, and produce guidelines for archaeological excavations in Dublin city, to include all relevant specialist areas including environmental archaeology.
Grow and develop the St Anne’s Park Community Archaeology Programme in partnership with the Parks Biodiversity and Landscape Services Department
Expand and update of the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record
Develop an Industrial Heritage publication series based on Dublin’s administrative areas.
Produce a scoping study for a ‘Museum of Dublin’ archaeological collection.
Support the Christ Church Cathedral Millennium in 2028.
Ensure Dublin City Council’s participation in Destination Viking.
Review and update of City Walls and Defences Conservation Plan.

Put in place a monitoring regime, routine maintenance programme, and a conservation works programme for the City Walls at Ship Street, Cook Street and Lamb Alley.

Commission a series of heritage pamphlets of suburban neighbourhoods looking at archaeological sites, archaeological evidence, and the areas medieval history.

Actively seek sites for applications to the Community Monuments Fund and the Adopt a Monument Scheme.

Update County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project in 2025.

ARCHITECTURE

Complete the Twentieth-Century Architecture in Dublin Research Project; publish More Than Concrete Blocks Vol.III and expand dissemination of the research to reach wider audiences (a digital guidebook and/or architectural audio guide); and develop public engagement programme.

Complete research on the Wide Streets Commissioners in Dublin and their collections in the Dublin City Archives and publish.

Disseminate the Decorative Plasterwork: the Dublin School c. 1745 – c. 1775 and produce and publish a plasterwork conservation guidance document.

Continue to research and publish on Dublin's 18th century townhouses and their residents.

Publish Built to Last: Energy Efficiency Renovation in Dublin Dwellings and undertake new case study research.

Under the Built to Last suite of projects promote effective ongoing maintenance of historic homes in digestible leaflet form.

Case study research to examine cost-benefit of renovation and adaptive reuse rather than demolition and rebuilding for at risk building typologies in Dublin including places of worship and mid-to-late 20th century office buildings.

Production of concise and Dublin-specific conservation guidance documents: sash windows; energy efficiency upgrade measures; external paint schemes; accommodating bike storage, bins storage, car charging points in front gardens; 20th century building materials including concrete, faience, terracotta, and vitrolite; basic annual building maintenance and showcase the traditional building skills practiced in Dublin through various initiatives.

Produce user-friendly public guidelines on how to apply for a Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Historic Structures Fund conservation grant schemes.

Produce a thematic architectural survey of places of worship in Dublin and a review of adaptive re-use case studies.

Thematic survey of 18th and 19th century mews buildings and mews lanes in Dublin city.

Architectural character assessment and conservation guide for Marino to coincide with its centenary.

Continue the annual Conserve Your Dublin Period House CPD course with the Irish Georgian Society.

Investigate the potential impacts of climate change on Dublin's building stock and conservation-led adaptation measures.

Conservation Management Plan and conservation maintenance programme for historic Public Sculpture in Dublin city prioritising works on O'Connell Street and College Green.

Conservation Management Plan for the historic Liffey bridges.

Develop proposals for submission to the Historic Towns Initiative.

Identify the historically important views and vistas in Dublin and develop a methodology for their assessment.

Support the Irish Historic Towns Atlas Dublin Suburbs Series for Irishtown/Ringsend and Kilmainham/Inchicore.

Support the research and fieldwork for Buildings of Ireland volume: Dublin Suburbs and County.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Carry out a baseline audit of oral history collections relevant to Dublin city to identify gaps and support new oral history initiatives based on best practice.

Public access to the Civic Museum Collection through research and exhibition.

Establish an expert working group to guide the development of a Queer Dublin Oral History Project.

Continue the Dublin Through The Ages Heritage Interpretation Programme for Dublin suburban neighbourhoods.

Develop a Dublin Heritage website to provide open access to DCC commissioned surveys and research material and to communicate about Dublin's Heritage.

Develop a Dublin City Heritage Interpretation Plan and implement specific initiatives using up-to-date low-cost technology and printed material.

Update existing heritage trails (i.e. Malton Trail) and support development of new trails using different means and media.

Examine Dublin city's colonial links and legacy, through its collections, street names, and key historical figures in Dublin's history.

Document the heritage of new communities in Dublin.

Establish a Dublin Heritage Communities Network to share experiences and foster participation and active citizenship.

Develop a project around Dublin's Irish language heritage including street names and local folklore.

Work with Dublin city-based Traveller organisations on community-led projects to map and explore traditional camp sites, to understand and promote the Traveller language and the Traveller tradition of assigning nicknames.

2. METHODOLOGY FOR PRODUCING THIS PLAN

Rosie Lynch, Creative Director, Workhouse Union

In the summer of 2021, Dublin City Council Heritage Office initiated a series of working groups and community engagement workshops to inform and shape the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan 2024-2029. Workhouse Union led the engagement process with heritage consultant Eimear O'Connell and Islander Architects. Policies and strategic plans are predominantly vertical processes and less often based on horizontal engagement. Our methodology for producing the plan sought to strike a meaningful balance between those two approaches; to include the experience of those working in the broad heritage sector in Dublin alongside meaningful engagement with communities of place and interest across the city.

The overall process was coordinated by Dublin City Heritage Officer, Charles Duggan, and supported by a steering committee of colleagues from the Archaeology Section, Conservation Section, Arts Office and Dublin City Library and Archive, all of whom are actively engaged in managing and interpreting the city's archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage.

In April 2021, three Working Groups were formed, made up of specialists with diverse experience in the three pillars of archaeology, architecture and cultural heritage. In all, 70 participants - from state agencies, public bodies, universities, NGOs, and special interest groups - met in a series of Working Group Forums aimed at formulating draft Strategic Goals and Objectives for the new Heritage Plan. Each working group met twice, followed by a third and final forum that brought all three groups together to share and exchange perspectives. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the meetings were held online, and the sessions included a mix of presentations, broad discussions and smaller break-out group conversations.



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Forum One created context and depth for each pillar, including a short presentation by relevant professional officers and allowing time and space to hear where each participant was coming from. Forum Two gathered perspectives, focused on priorities, and synthesised major concerns. As a result, cross-cutting themes and the complexity of the plan began to emerge. Forum Three was a convergence of the three pillars and began to explore potential collaborative projects and identify how to measure the impacts of the Strategic Objectives over the lifetime of the Plan. There was a real focus in this final discussion on how to best foster more significant levels of integration across archaeology, architecture, and cultural heritage. We wanted to understand how complex interdisciplinary projects can be supported and implemented within the new plan.

In August 2021, community engagement workshops were hosted in five neighbourhoods across the city. The workshops posed three broad questions:

- What places and Spaces do you cherish?
- How do you celebrate your local heritage?
- What are the overlooked stories and histories of your locality?

DCC selected the outdoor locations for the workshops. They were hosted locally by the library department in Ballyfermot, and by the Parks and Local Area Offices in Kilmainham, Ballyfermot, Coolock, The Coombe, and in St Anne's Park. A total of 62 participants engaged in the workshops, ranging from 2 to 90 years old. Thought and attention ensured that a welcoming space was created and that people readily understood how they could engage in the workshops. The workshop approach utilised various complementary methods and creative tools, including collaborative mapping, conversation and ceramics. Overall, participants expressed their deep connection to their city and neighbourhood. However, the rapidly changing nature of the city and lack of meaningful local consultation was of great concern and distress. Participants expressed their sense of disconnect and disempowerment with the pace and nature of development in the city. Especially in relation to housing. Notably, a relationship to a living history was most felt in The Coombe, where the layers of

built and social heritage are explicit. On the other hand, heritage was a more complex concept to relate to in the suburban neighbourhoods, where it was expressed strongest through a sense of connection to industrial heritage. It was a real privilege to spend time in these neighbourhoods and understand the complexity of people's deep sense of place and the care and concern for where they live.

Following the Working Group Forum sessions and the community workshops, a process of understanding the emerging objectives, how they relate to everyday experience and how they fit within the broader context of policy and funding, informed the development and writing of the current document.

The motivation of the plan is that it reflects the concerns and aspirations of everyone who so generously gave their time and expertise to shaping this document and that it will be a catalyst for future partnerships and collaborations.



Poster design © Paul Bokslag.



Photograph © Ripley Photography.

3. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKING GROUP	
Dr Edel Breathnach	Monastic Ireland
Professor Howard Clarke	RIA/Irish Historic Towns Atlas
Dr Niall Colfer	Dublin City Council (Archaeology)
Tom Condit	National Monuments Service
Dr Steve Davis	UCD (School of Archaeology)
Ian Doyle	RIA (Standing Committee for Archaeology)
Professor Seán Duffy	Friends of Medieval Dublin
Sinead Gargan	Office of Public Works (National Monuments)
Dr Ruth Johnson	Dublin City Council (City Archaeologist)
James Kyle	Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland
Paul Mc Mahon	Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland
Mary McDonald	Dublin City Council (Conservation Officer)
Franc Myles	Irish Post Medieval Archaeology Group
Donncha Ó Dúlaing	Dublin City Council (Parks)
Ragnall Ó Floinn	Archaeologist, Historian
Dr Nessa O'Connor	National Museum of Ireland
Professor Aidan O'Sullivan	UCD (School of Archaeology)
Dr Emer Purcell	NUI (York-Dublin Axis Project)
Linzi Simpson	Archaeologist
Michael Stanley	Transport Infrastructure Ireland

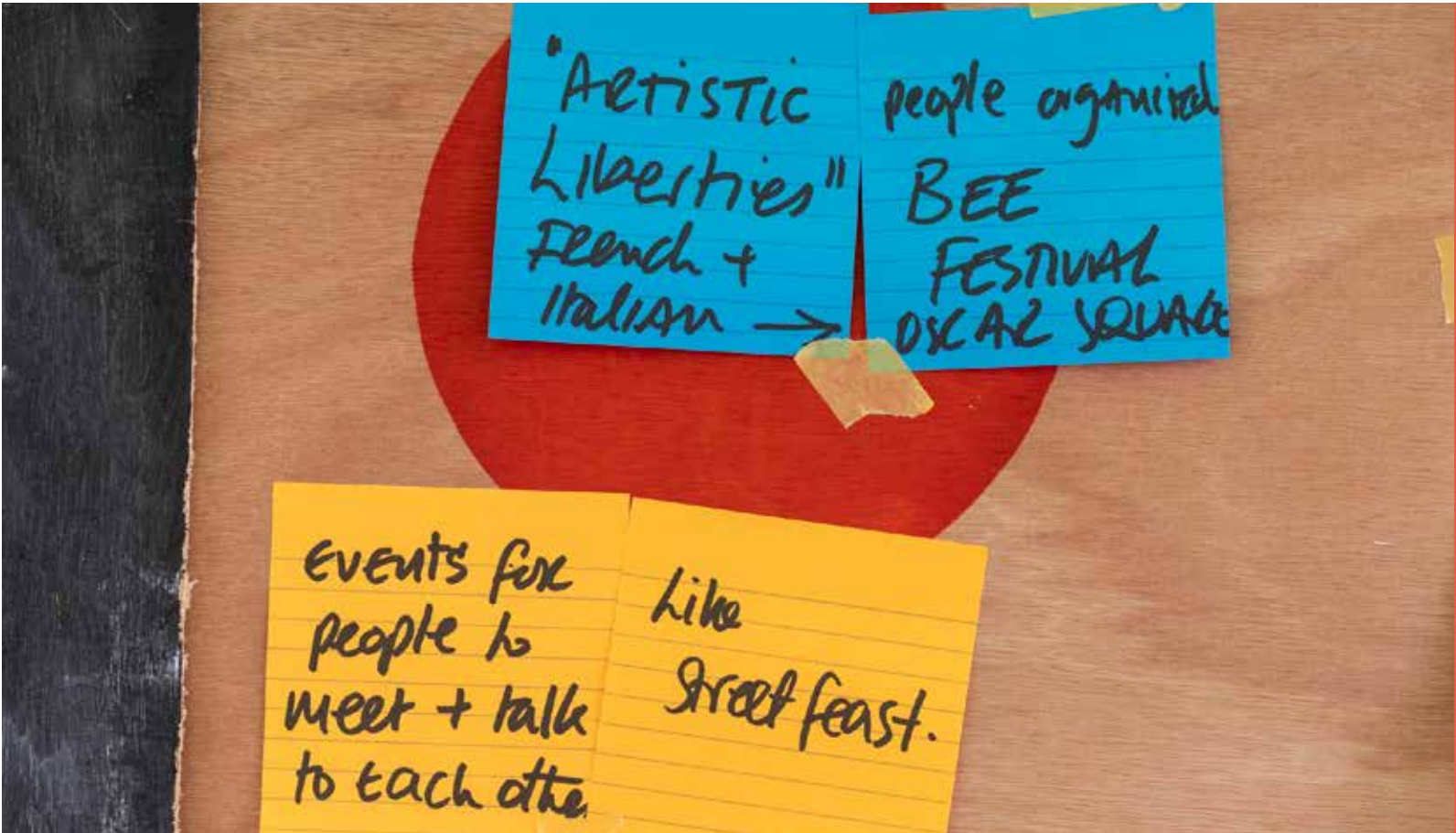
ARCHITECTURE WORKING GROUP	
Triona Byrne	Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
Stephen Coyne	Dublin City Council (South Central Area Office / Liberties.ie)
Dr Philip Crowe	UCD (School of Architecture Planning and Urban Policy - Earth Institute)
Willie Cumming	ICOMOS Ireland
Dr Sabrina Dekker	Dublin City Council (Climate Action Regional Office)
Audrey Farrell	Office of Public Works (Intermediate Projects - Architecture)
Emma Gilleece	Architectural Historian
Dr Lisa Godson	National College of Art and Design
Emmeline Henderson	Irish Georgian Society
Graham Hickey	Dublin Civic Trust
Dr Ruth Johnson	Dublin City Council (City Archaeologist)
Deirdre Joyce	Irish Green Buildings Council
Oiseen Kelly	Dublin City Council (City Architects Division)
Niamh Kiernan	Dublin City Council (Senior Executive Conservation Officer)
Jeanette Lowe	Jeanette Lowe Photography
Nicola Matthews	Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (Architectural Heritage Policy)
Mary McDonald	Dublin City Council (Executive Architectural Conservation Officer)
Alan Mee	UCD (School of Architecture Planning and Urban Policy)

Leslie Moore	Dublin City Council (Parks and Landscape Services)
Colm Murray	The Heritage Council
Dr Elene Negussie	Swedish National Heritage Board (Department for Cultural Environment)
Michael O'Boyle	Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (Historic Buildings Committee)
Tomás O'Connor	Office of Public Works (Assistant Principal Architect)
Blaithin Quinn	Irish Architecture Foundation
Carl Raftery	Dublin City Council (Conservation Research Officer)
Susan Roundtree	Conservation Architect
Geraldine Walsh	Dublin Civic Trust

CULTURAL HERITAGE WORKING GROUP	
Tobi Balogun	Artist
Ludovic Beaumont	Dublin City Council (Parks and Landscape Services)
Dr Joseph Brady	UCD (School of Geography)
Iseult Dunne	Dublin City Council Culture Company
Margarita Cappock	Dublin City Council (Arts Office)
Dr Arlene Crampsie	Oral History Network of Ireland
William Derham	Office of Public Works (Dublin Castle)
Dr Kelly Fitzgerald	UCD (School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore)
Róise Goan	Arts Admin. UK
Tommy Graham	History Ireland Magazine
Dr Lisa Griffith	Dublin History Research Group
Dr Ruth Johnson	Dublin City Council (City Archaeologist)
Lar Joye	Dublin Port Company
Caoimhe McCabe	Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre
Dr Rosaleen McDonagh	Human Rights Commissioner, Playwright, Activist
Mary McDonald	Dublin City Council (Assistant Conservation Officer)
Dr Ruth McManus	DCU (School of History and Geography)
Ailbhe Murphy	Create Ireland
Brian O'Donnell	National Library of Ireland

Gina O'Kelly	Irish Museums Association
Dr Ellen Rowley	UCD (School of Architecture Planning and Urban Policy)
Brendan Teeling	Dublin City Council (City Library and Archives)
Mary-Liz Walshe	Dublin City Council (Water Framework Directive Team)
Emily Wazack	Artist

FACILITATION	
Charles Duggan	Dublin City Council (Heritage Officer)
Niall Colfer	Dublin City Council
Stephen Coyne	Dublin City Council
Niamh Kiernan	Dublin City Council
Rosie Lynch	Workhouse Union
Hannah Mc Cormick	Workhouse Union
Sinead Phelan	Workhouse Union
Eimear O'Connell	Heritage Consultant



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Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

To get in touch with us:

Dublin City Council Heritage Office,
Planning and Property Development Department,
Block 3, Floor 3, Civic Offices, Dublin City Council,
Wood Quay, Dublin, D08 RF3F.
Email: heritage@dublincity.ie.

You can also find us on:

 @Heritage_Dublin

 @Heritage_Dublin

 Dublin City Council Heritage Office