

## DUBLIN CITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ARCHIVE

<b>Reference Code</b>	DCAA.01.18
<b>Title</b>	St. Mary's Church, Mary Street, Dublin 1 (98E0236)
<b>Creation Dates</b>	1998-2001
<b>Level of Description</b>	Collection
<b>Extent and Medium</b>	5 boxes, 1 outsize folder
<b>Creators</b>	Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd.
<b>Administrative/Biographical History</b>	Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd., Rath House, Ferndale Road, Rathmichael, Co. Dublin, is a professional archaeological company founded in the early 1980s. The company has carried out numbers of archaeological excavations and development-led investigations arising from the requirements of development control and planning process, in line with legal provisions of the Planning and Development Acts (2000) and the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004) and Amendments Acts. The St. Mary's Church Collection is one of many site archives that has been generated through these development-led excavations.

St Mary's Church (a protected structure) is a late 17th-century galleried church. The church was, most recently, a retail unit. Many of the original fixtures and fittings still survive. The excavations took place in advance of the church's redevelopment and conversion into a licensed premises, including the underpinning of the walls and the insertion of a basement level. The excavation was carried out for Gilroy McMahon, architects. The site is bounded by Mary Street to the north, Wolfe Tone Park to the south, Stafford Street to the west, and Jervis Street to the east.

The first archaeological assessment of the site took place in May 1998 and a number of human skeletal remains were identified in 6 underground crypts. An excavation was carried out in September to record and remove these remains. A second assessment was carried out in December 1998 to the south of the church, in the area between the church and Wolfe Tone Park (originally the graveyard associated with the church). This assessment also uncovered a number of human remains. A second excavation was carried out between 10 May-18 June 1999 to record and remove the identified human skeletal remains in two areas at the south side of the church, to facilitate the construction of fire escapes at crypt/basement level.

A total of 25 full skeletons and 7 partial skeletons were identified and removed during the course of excavation, and the excavation confirmed that the graveyard of the church originally extended right up against the south wall of the church. The excavation produced evidence that the construction of the stepped entrances to the 4 underground crypts may not have been contemporary with the construction of the main structure of the church, but may have been built during a period of restoration to the original structure. The small chamber containing 8 skeletons in lead coffins between the entrance to Crypt 4 and the Jervis Street boundary was also not contemporary with the original church and probably later in date than the crypt entrance. A large quantity of broken and disarticulated bone was recovered from all areas of excavation and at all levels.

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<b>Archival History</b>	Transferred by Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd. To Dublin City Archives, 16 October 2009
<b>Scope and Content</b>	This collection contains archaeological excavation records from the site St. Mary's Church, Mary Street, Dublin 2. Includes reports, licenses, notebooks, feature sheets, correspondence, administrative material, registers, research, photo archive, plans, photographs, and slides.
<b>Appraisal destruction and scheduling information</b>	The monitoring and excavation of the basement and underpinning of the walls revealed evidence of former heating systems. A large stone was also located beneath the floor of the nave. This appears to predate the church.
<b>Accruals</b>	
<b>Arrangement</b>	Collection processed and box lists created by Niamh Collins. Arranged according to document type.
<b>Access Conditions</b>	Available for public research 16 October 2012. During closure period available for research to Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd.
<b>Reproduction</b>	The terms of the Copyright and Related Acts (2000) allows DCLA to provide photocopies of material for research purposes only. Researchers wishing to publish will be obliged to write to Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd. for permission to do so.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements</b>	Slide viewer required
<b>Finding Aid</b>	Box list in reading room and below
<b>Existence of copies/originals</b>	
<b>Related Material</b>	DCAA
<b>Publication Note</b>	Database of Irish excavations reports, <a href="http://www.excavations.ie">www.excavations.ie</a>
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Archivist's Note</b>	Niamh Collins
<b>Rules or Conventions</b>	ISAD(G): General International Standards Archival Description. 2nd ed. Ottawa: International Council on Archives, 2000
<b>Dates of Description</b>	13-16/09/2010