

## **CMF 2021 Grant Projects**

Ruth Johnson, City Archaeologist and Christina Todd, Landscape Architect

IMAGE: Dublin City Council Logo

### **Community Monuments Fund**

- The Community Monuments Fund was established by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in 2020 to provide investment in Ireland's archaeological heritage.
- Part of this funding is prioritised for local authorities, private owners and custodians and community groups for the care, conservation, maintenance, protection and promotion of archaeological monuments and the provision of measures to ensure safe access during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The core aims of this fund are the conservation, maintenance, protection and presentation of archaeological monuments.

IMAGE: Government of Ireland Logo

### **Community Monuments Fund**

#### **Aims**

- Enable conservation works to be carried out on monuments which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support;
- Encourage access to monuments and improve their presentation;
- Build resilience in our monuments to enable them to withstand the effects of climate change.
- The Department encourages project promoters to incorporate a traditional skills training element in projects.

The CMF applications for Dublin City are assessed by a professional team from DCC Archaeology, Conservation and Heritage section coordinated by the City Archaeologist.

## Introduction

- The nine projects pertinent to Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape and Archaeology Section are outlined in the next table.
- Drimnagh Castle is a community led project guided by the Heritage Officer, Conservation and Archaeology.
- The projects are streamed as follows:

(1.) Conservation works/repairs

(2.) Conservation Management Plans

(3.) Interpretation and Access

Table

Project Title/Location	Stream	Project Deliverable
Clontarf Graveyard and Church	1	Conservation works to the church ruins
Donnybrook Graveyard	1	Conservation of the Boundary wall
St Nicholas Within	2	Conservation Management Plan (report)
Merrion (Bellevue) Cemetery	2	Conservation Management Plan (report)
Bluebell Cemetery	2	Conservation Management Plan (report)
St Canice's Graveyard	2	Conservation Management Plan (report)
Jewish Cemetery, Ballybough	3	Interpretation Strategy & Audio-Guide
Huguenot Cemetery, Merrion Row	3	Interpretation Strategy & Audio-Guide
Cabbage Garden	3	Interpretation Strategy & Audio-Guide
Drimnagh Castle	1	Conservation works

IMAGE: Location plan showing CMF sites outside Dublin city centre

1. Bluebell Graveyard & Cemetery, Drimnagh; 2. Drimnagh Castle; 3. St. Canice's Graveyard, Finglas; 4. The Jewish Cemetery, Ballybough; 5. St John the Baptist, Clontarf; 6. Bellevue, off Merrion Road; 7. Donnybrook Graveyard, Donnybrook Road.

IMAGE: Location plan (city centre sites), marked on aerial photo: 1. St Nicholas Within 2. Cabbage Garden 3. Huguenot Cemetery

### **St Canice's Graveyard, Finglas**

IMAGE: Illustration of Finglas High Cross 2021, By Katy Ruth Halpin

The Conservation Management Plan for St Canice's Graveyard in Finglas is of particular note, due to the significance of the site and the scope and complexity of the research undertaken.

The project is managed by the City Archaeologist, steered by Finglas Area Office and Parks, and supported by Survey and Mapping, the Conservation Officer and DCLA Historians in Residence.

The consultant team is broad and multi-disciplinary and there has been early public engagement including an online public lecture, as well as in-person meetings on site with elected representatives and local interest groups.

An application for Stream 1 conservation works to the church ruin and mortuary monuments is a priority for 2022.

### **Drimnagh Castle - Community Project**

IMAGE: Photograph showing Drimnagh Castle, from the courtyard

Description of works -*Original application:*

- Removal of vegetation
- Localised rebuilding of tower parapet
- Localised repointing of tower
- Reconstruction of a section of moat

*Potential for additional works subject to approval*

### **Clontarf Graveyard and Church Conservation works to the church ruins**

IMAGE: Photograph showing Clontarf Church interior and grave markers

### **Donnybrook Graveyard Conservation works to the boundary walls**

Image illustrating the external elevation of the boundary wall (facing the Crescent), showing the proposed buttresses

### **Church of St Nicholas Within Conservation Management Plan (report)**

IMAGE: Historic drawing of the church elevation c.1786, from Wikipedia

IMAGE: Photo of the church walls and a window ope illustrating the extent of vegetation growing on the ruin

### **Merrion (Bellevue) Cemetery Conservation Management Plan (report)**

IMAGE: Photograph of Merrion cemetery showing grass, trees, path, gate and grave markers.

### **Bluebell Cemetery Conservation Management Plan (report)**

IMAGE: Aerial photo of Bluebell Cemetery showing the ruined church in the south eastern corner and the gravemarkers, boundary wall, paths and watercourse to the north.

### **Jewish Cemetery, Ballybough Interpretation Strategy**

IMAGE: Photo of plaque on the mortuary house that reads 'Built in the year 5618' as per Hebrew calendar (Gregorian Calendar 1857)

IMAGE: Photograph of grave markers with text inscribed in Hebrew.

### **Huguenot Cemetery, Merrion Row Interpretation Strategy**

IMAGE: Photograph of Merrion Row cemetery showing walls, trees, path and grave markers.

### **Cabbage Garden Interpretation Strategy**

IMAGE: Photo of grave marker in the Cabbage Garden, located at the eastern boundary

IMAGE: Site location map with the Cabbage Garden burial ground marked with a red outline.

## **CMF 2021 Grant Allocation & Planning for 2022**

- The CMF is a new grant fund established in 2020 and is going to be an annual DCC item.
- € 4.2m was allocated by the Government of Ireland to the CMF in 2021, nationally.
- The allocation to the ten Dublin City projects was originally valued at €309,937. It has since been increased by €30,000 to a total of €339,937, of which the Drimnagh Castle Community Project grant is for €43,308.
- All ten Dublin City CMF projects are currently underway and on track for completion by the grant deadline.
- Budget 2022 announced €5m for the Community Monuments Fund 2022, supporting 1650 projects nationwide.

## **Summary**

- Assessing and managing the grant funding and associated projects requires professional and administrative resource input from both the Archaeology Conservation and Heritage Section of the Planning Property and Economic Development Department and Parks CRES of Dublin City Council.
- This work includes the preparation and assessment of grant applications, procurement and management of specialist consultants, overseeing project delivery, and the assessment and certification for the drawdown of grants by local authority heritage professionals.
- Extensive guidance is given by local authority heritage professionals to community led projects.
- Engagement between the National Monuments Service and the CMF team of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government with the team of local authority heritage professionals is ongoing throughout the process.

**Thank you for your time, we welcome your questions.**

Ruth Johnson, City Archaeologist, Archaeology, Conservation & Heritage

Christina Todd, Landscape Architect, Parks, Biodiversity & Landscape

IMAGE: Dublin City Council Logo