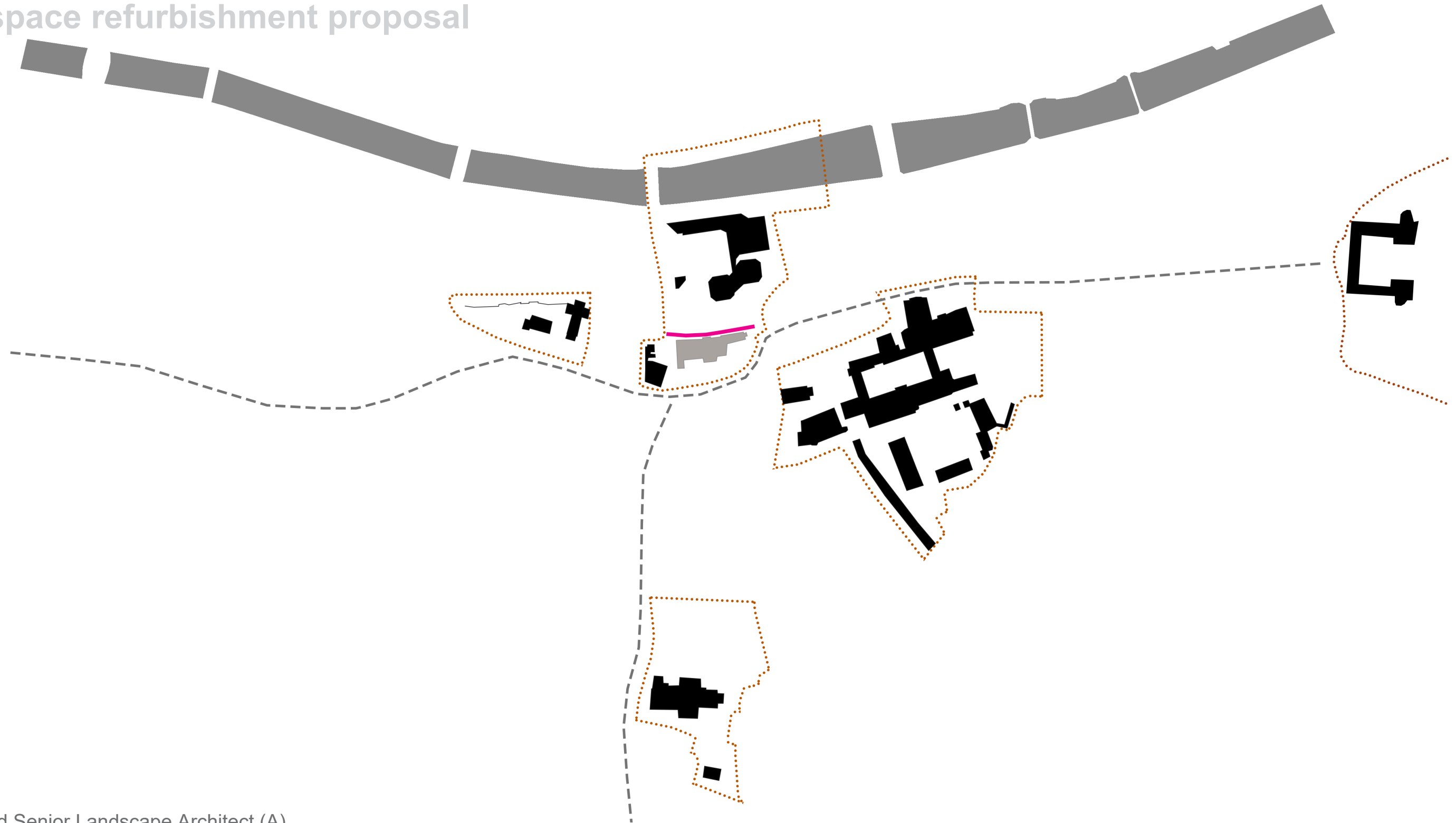


John's Lane East

DRAFT

Open space refurbishment proposal



Peter Leonard Senior Landscape Architect (A)

01.09.23

Parks, Biodiversity & Landscape Services

INTRODUCTION

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services have identified an opportunity to improve access to public open space in the City with a refurbishment proposal for the green space adjacent to Johns Lane which lies on the south side of the Civic Offices.

This existing green space is centrally located within the city but underused. It is adjacent to the civic spine at Dame Street and could serve many visitors and residents in this area, if accessibility was improved and if made more attractive.

Johns Lane is an ancient route in the city and has been documented within the first maps of Dublin. The lane was named for the original St John's Church that existed at the eastern end of the site, the church was demolished 1900's.

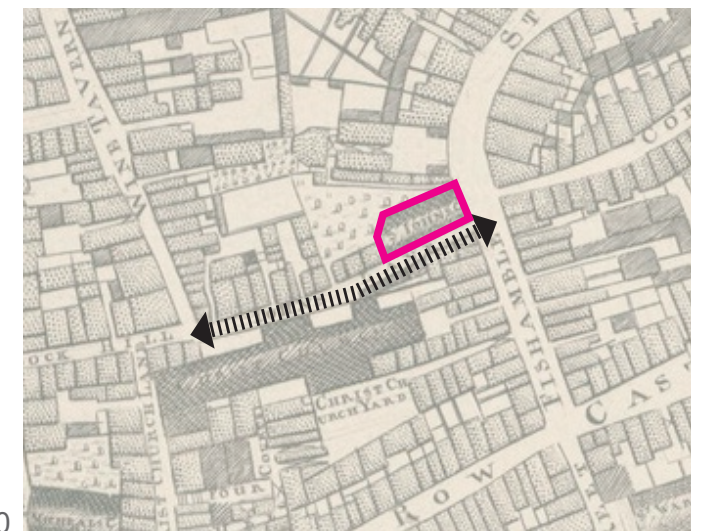
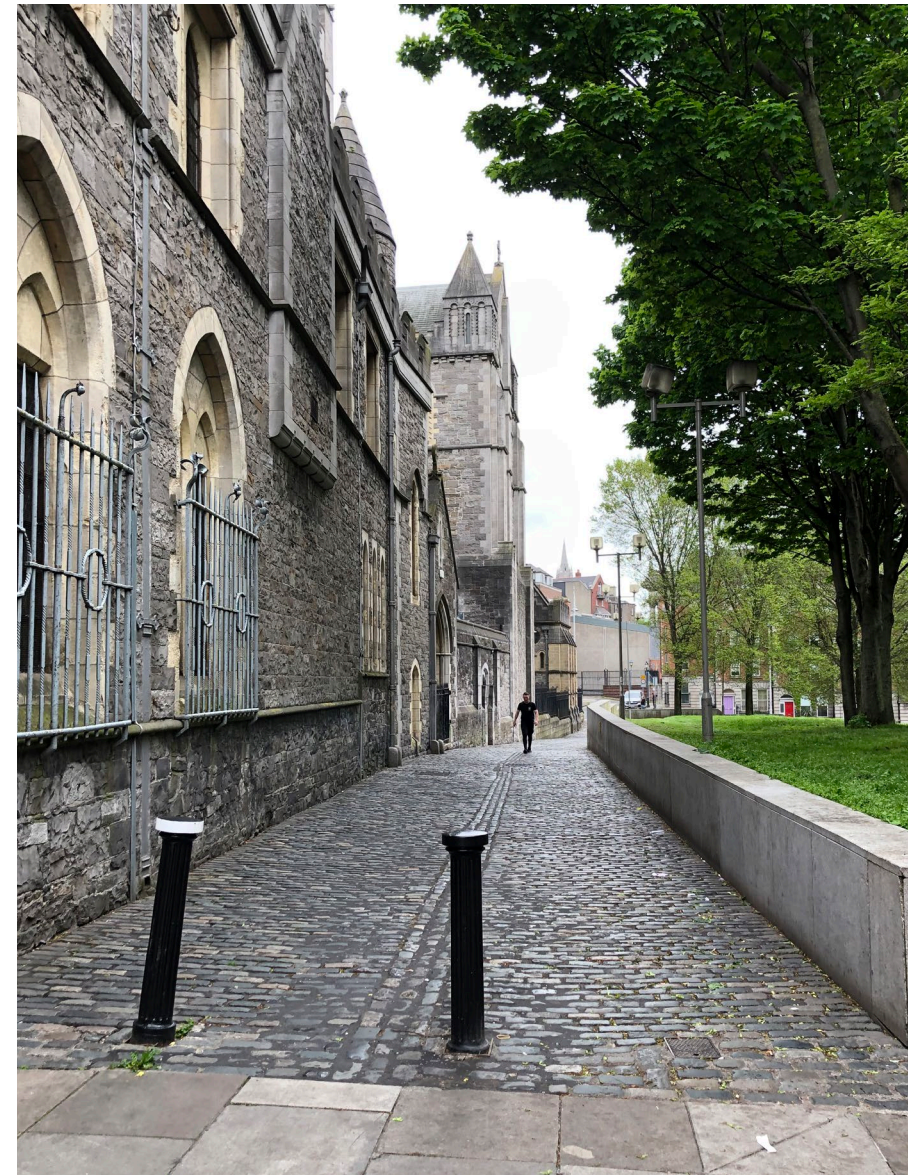
Currently, the lane seems hidden between the northern facade of Christ Church Cathedral and a retaining wall abutting the old graveyard and the inaccessible grounds of the Civic Offices to the north.

By refurbishing the green space adjacent to this lane an opportunity exists to bring this medieval route back into public focus.

This proposal follows a successful program of open space refurbishments in recent years in this area, including St Audoens Park, Peace Park, Christchurch Cathedral and the terrace at St Patrick's Park.

Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services have developed this proposal in collaboration with DFLA, Internal stakeholders and Christchurch Cathedral. The design team is currently engaging with the DPO's. Our next step is to present these plans to local residents and businesses.

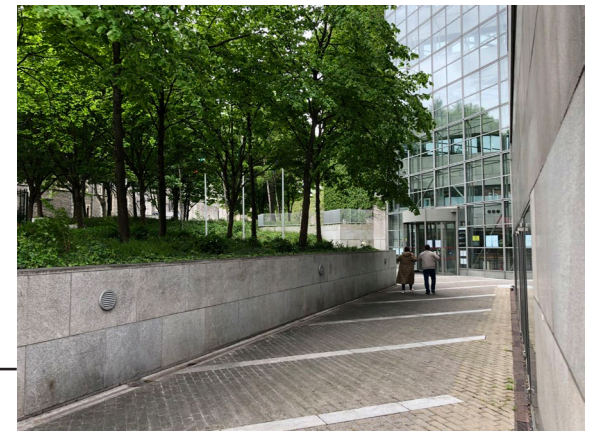
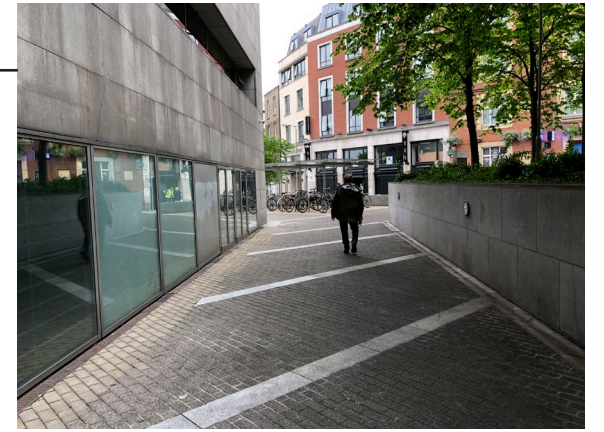
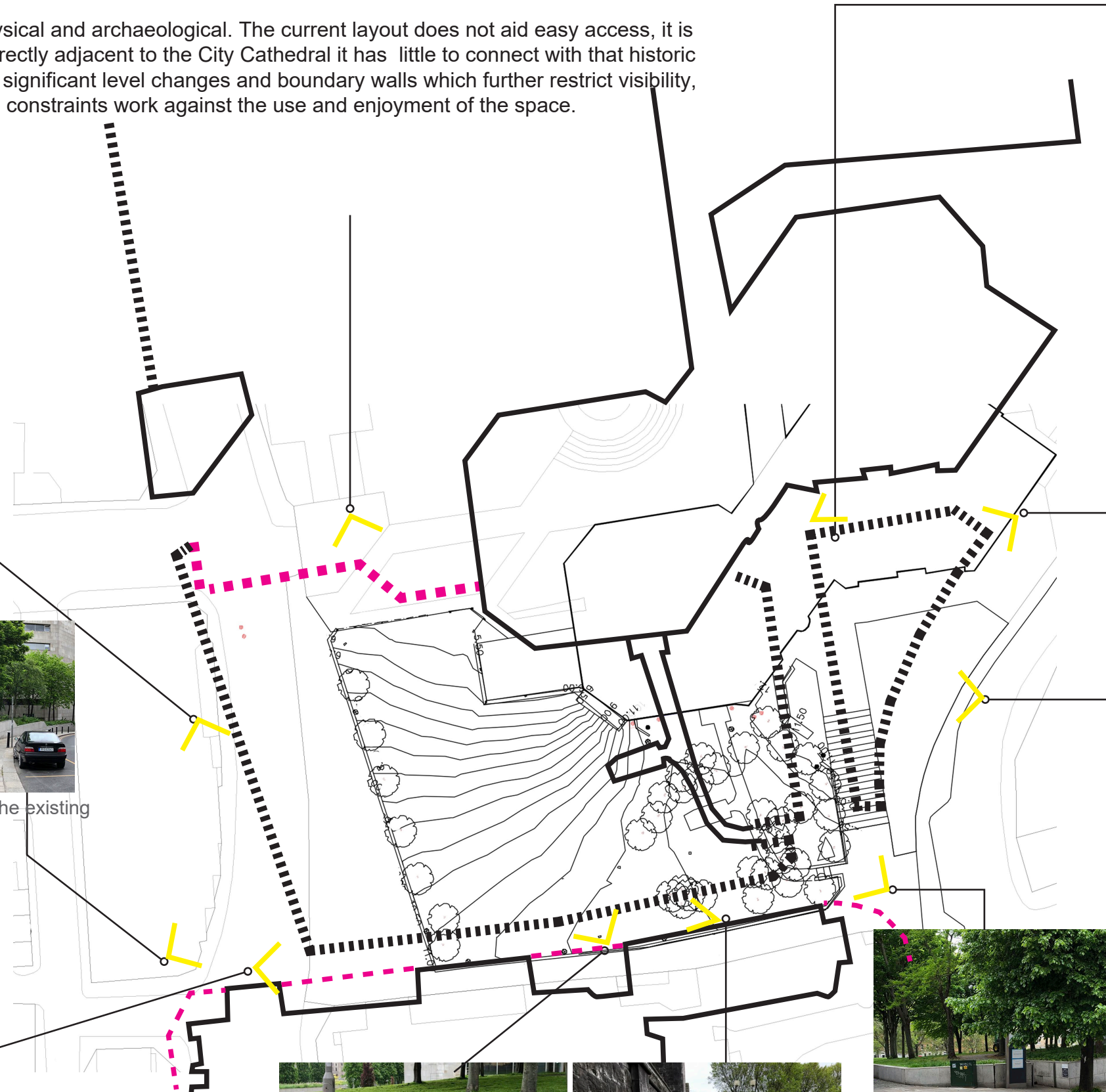
Following consultations, the project will be developed further (detail design) and prepared for tender. The project is exempt under Part 8 and pending support a works tender is expected to issue before the end of the year.



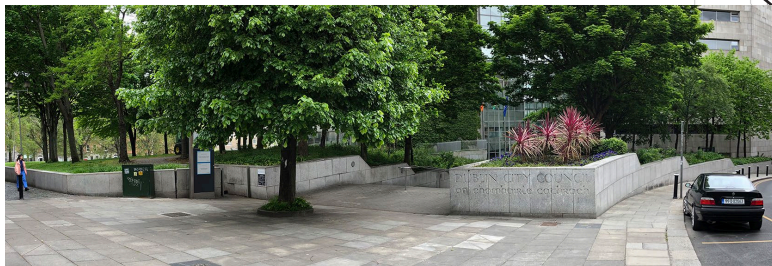
Speed's map - 1750

SITE CONSTRAINTS: TOPOGRAPHY & EDGES

The current site has many constraints both physical and archaeological. The current layout does not aid easy access, it is difficult to enter and exit and despite it being directly adjacent to the City Cathedral it has little to connect with that historic building or to entice a visitor to stay. There are significant level changes and boundary walls which further restrict visibility, access and the enjoyment of the space. These constraints work against the use and enjoyment of the space.



Obscured entrance to DCC



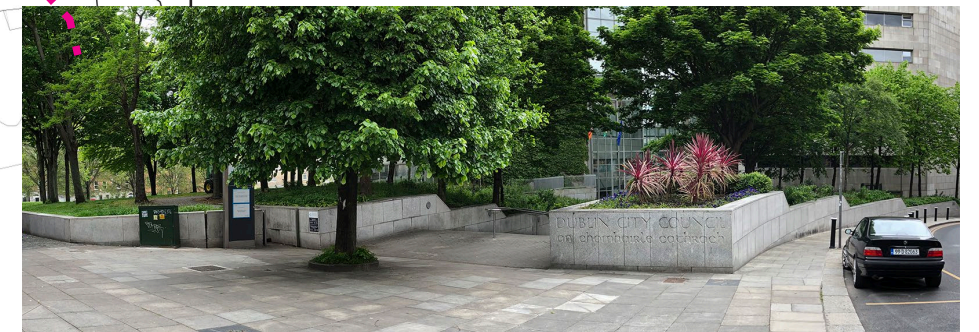
Granite clad retaining walls throughout segregate the existing open space from pedestrian circulation



Narrow entrance to John's Lane



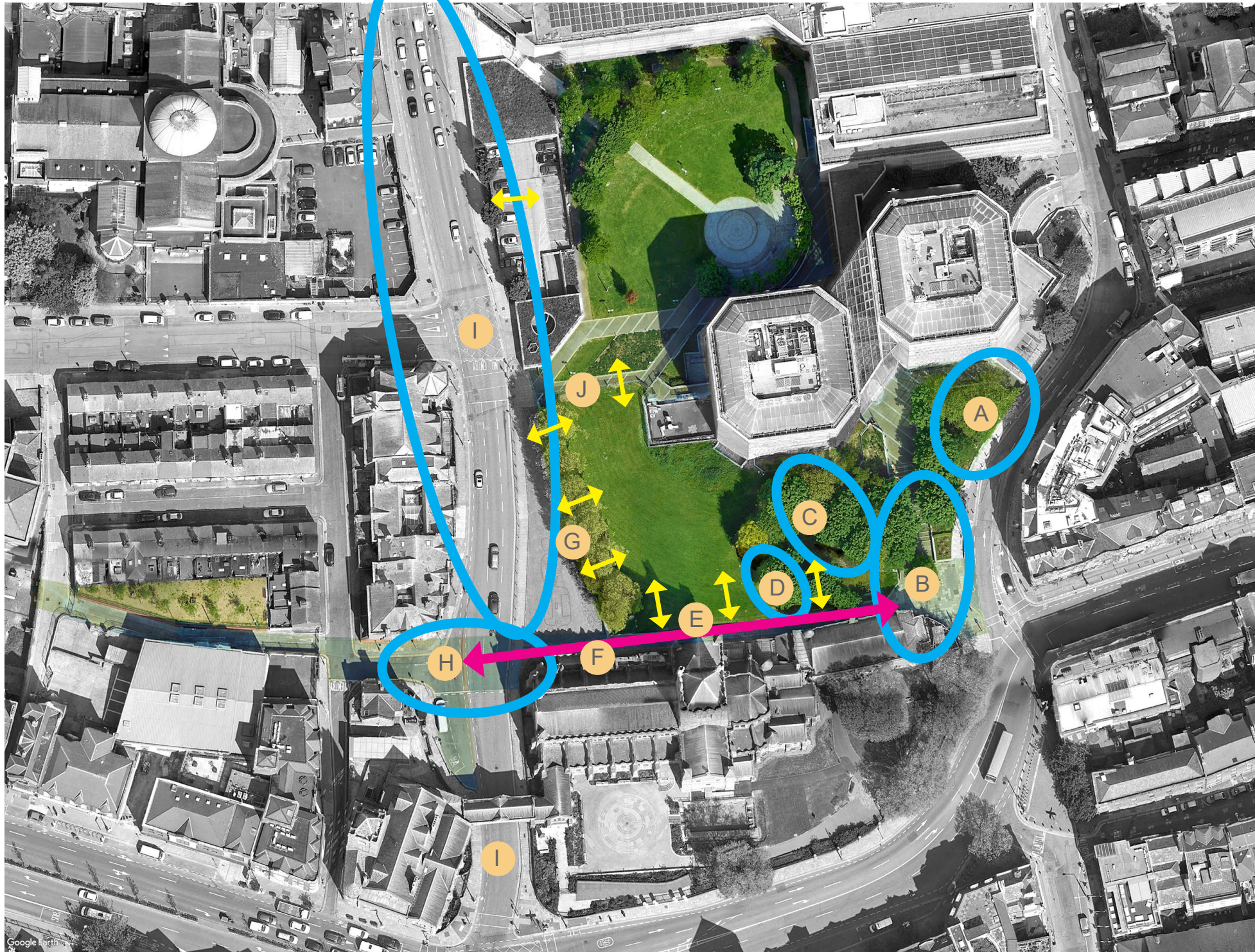
Retaining walls enclose John's Lane and do not allow a visual or physical connection with the existing open space



Existing walls act as barriers to the open space

WIDER SITE OPPORTUNITIES

The current proposal forms part of a wider concept to improve the grounds of the Civic Offices as a public open space that is attractive to and can be used by all. The following opportunities (A,G,H,I,J) are to be explored further and developed at a later date.



- A - Opportunity to reconfigure DCC entrance to reflect and address Fishamble Street
- B- Open up the entrance to the new open space and provide a park threshold.
- C- Provide clear access into the space associated with the existing graveyard.
- D- Compress access to John's Lane, giving a sense of the constricted lane and delineation of the open space.
- E- Remove existing retaining wall, allowing access to open space from John's Lane. Opportunity to create a wider level area to provide a space for passive recreation, markets and a new gathering space for Christ Church Cathedral.
- F- New pedestrian entrance into Christ Church Cathedral.
- G- Open current restricted access and views from Winetavern Street, bringing the currently underutilised area into the wider public open space.
- H- Reinforce crossing point, creating future links to St Audoen's Park.
- I- Potential street improvements, bringing this historic area of Dublin City into focus, creating a connected and legible public realm.
- J- Remove barriers to allow entire open space to be used and connected with John's Lane.

PRECEDENTS & CONCEPT



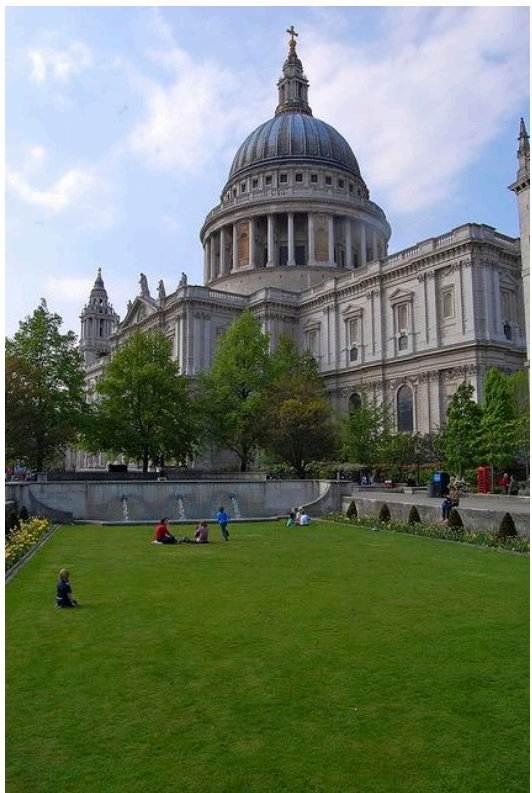
History retold through light projections & moving images (Durham Cathedral, UK)



History embedded in the ground (Iidabashi Plano, Japan)



Oxfordshife Church, UK



Saint Paul's Cathedral, UK



Illustration of a green setting of a church



Removal of existing retaining walls allows easier access, permeability and passive observation within the open space, creating a safer public space.



Opportunity to sit, converse and relax benefits local community and visitors alike

LEVEL CHANGE AND MATERIALS



Integration of steps with existing slope



Simple yet robust detailing (St Audoen's Park)



Use of existing and proposed materials (St Audoen's Park)



High quality natural materials



Concept design development sketch illustrating relation with Christ Church Cathedral (later phase)

CONCEPT SKETCH OF PHASE 1



SKETCH PERSPECTIVE



LANDSCAPE PLAN

- LEGEND AND SCHEDULE OF MATERIALS
- PHASE 1 WORKS BOUNDARY
 - PROPOSED SMALL FORMAT NATURAL STONE PAVING TYPE 1
 - PROPOSED SMALL FORMAT NATURAL STONE PAVING TYPE 2
 - PROPOSED LARGE NATURAL STONE BOULDERS. REFER TO HARD LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATION
 - EXISTING COBBLE PAVING RETAINED
 - PROPOSED STEPS
 - PROPOSED SEATING
 - EXISTING HEADSTONE HORIZONTALLY ON A STEEL PLATE
 - PROPOSED REINFORCED GRASS PATH
 - PROPOSED CARE TERRACE
 - PROPOSED CLIPPED HEDGE
 - PROPOSED PLANTING
 - PROPOSED MANAGED TALL GRASSMEADOW
 - PROPOSED TREE
 - EXISTING TREE RETAINED
 - EXISTING TREE REMOVED



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DFLA