



04 PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT
SCALE = 1:500 @ A3

1. Réamhrá (Introduction)

Tá sé ar intinn ag Comhairle Chontae Átha Cliath Theas ionad eolais a fhorbairt do chuairteoirí ar lathair stairiúil i sráidbhailte Chluain Dolcáin, d'fhonn stair áitiúil na háite móide iardheisceart Chontae Átha Cliath. Is léir ó iarsmaí nua-aimseithe gur mhair daoine i gCluain Dolcáin ón Ré cre-umha. Ar ball d'eascair áitreabh luath-mhainistreach Críostaí, a bunaíodh ag naomh Mochua nó Cronán, a d'éag sa bhliain 630. D'fhás an t-áitreabh seo i méid agus i gcáil nó gur dhein bunús an tsráidbhailte atá ann inniu. Is iad na hiasmaí atá fágtha den áitreabh úd, a threoradh ar ball forbairt an ionaid agus an tsráid bhailte ina thimpeall, ná an cloigtheach, eaglais Naomh Eoin agus fothrach eaglaise meánaoisí roimhe sin arís, na crosa, an t-umar baiste agus plean na sráideanna. Is sráid bhailte ar leith é Cluain Dolcáin sa mhéid go bhfuil a leagan amach slán ó na meán aoisearna, agus ceann de na cloigtheithe is iomláine sa tír – laistigh de 10 gkiloméadar ó Iár Bhaile Átha Cliath. Is iomaí chúis atá le forbairt an áitreabh seo in aithréimniú Chluain Dolcáin: failli in úsáid na bhfoirgneamh ar an lathair, agus an meath atá orthu; an tábacht ó thaobh na staire agus na hailtíreachta a bhaineann leo maraon le seasamh an ionaid i meon an phobail mar aonad.

1.1 The project background

South Dublin County Council intends to develop a visitor's centre at the historic site of the round tower in Clondalkin village, to explain the history of the site and the area of south west county Dublin. Previously discovered artefacts show that the Clondalkin area was first settled in the Bronze Age. Later the village became the centre of an early Christian monastic settlement founded by St. Mochua, also known as Cronan, who died AD 630. This settlement grew in size and fame and was the nucleus of the village as we know today. The round tower, the church of St. John, the fragmentary ruin of an earlier mediaeval church, the crosses, baptismal font and the street plan are the extant traces of this settlement, which would determine the future development of the site and the village around it. Clondalkin village is unique in having a largely undisturbed mediaeval town plan, and also one of the most complete and intact round towers in the country - less than 12 kilometres from Dublin city centre. The under-use of the buildings on the site and their deteriorating condition, the historical and architectural significance as well as the strategic position of this site both in the collective identity of the community and as part of the core of the emerging town centre, makes this proposed development an important element in the overall regeneration of Clondalkin.

The project proposes the repair and adaptation of the existing buildings, the design of one new building and the creation of new public spaces and public gardens, all of which are located on a site, which includes the Round Tower, to accommodate a visitors' centre for south county Dublin. No works are proposed to the round tower itself which is owned by the State. Responsibility for its maintenance is devolved by the Minister of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the Office of Public Works. This report addresses the design and conservation aspects of the project. It provides a comprehensive description of the site, the proposals and their impacts. It should be read in conjunction with the drawings and archaeological report prepared by Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.) for South Dublin County Council, included in Appendix D to this report. The vision for the site can be summarised as follows:

- To create a vibrant, high quality and accessible urban quarter in the heart of Clondalkin village.
- To provide a centre for learning and appreciation of the history and culture of south west county Dublin.
- To contribute to the regeneration of Clondalkin village and to boost its economy

AERIAL VIEW OF THE SITE FROM THE NORTH
SOURCE: BINGMAPS.COM

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| SCALE: | VARIES |
| DATE: | 15/05/2014 |
| DRAWN: | CS/FOS |