



**Architectural
Services
Department**



Appendix B

The proposed design of the public garden

CLONDALKIN ROUND TOWER CENTRE

GARDEN DESIGN



ROUND TOWER GARDEN

The masterplan for the Tower Garden at Clondalkin seeks to find a balance between providing an echo of a mediaeval, monastic garden that could have tended to the spiritual, medicinal and culinary needs of those living within the ancient boundary of Clondalkin; while retaining echoes of the existing back gardens of Millview Cottages. This plan does not propose to recreate or restore the landscape of Clondalkin Tower or Millview Cottages. Rather it seeks to provide an allusion of the past in terms of both its narrative and its proposed plants; while also serving a functional purpose in the life of modern-day Clondalkin.

The lines of existing garden boundaries are reflected in the lines of turf-topped seats and also help delineate the different sections of the garden. These turf-topped seats can be made from stone sourced from the gardens and would be typical of seating provided in Mediaeval gardens. An indicative list of typical plants is included in the descriptions below. The list is not exhaustive and the exact varieties, availability and suitability for the site (both in terms of soil type, site aspect, and future maintenance requirements) will be subject to further research and will be detailed further as the project progresses. The Tower Garden, located between Millview Cottages and Clondalkin Round Tower is divided into 7 sections, as follows:

The Terrace addresses the garden. Its wide generous size allows it to be used as a multi-functional public space and helps to tie together the newly extended Mill Cottages and the Tower Garden beyond.

The Herber Garden leads from the Terrace, is located adjacent to the Meditation Garden. The Herber Garden in monastic life was made up of herbaceous borders. This garden has echoes of the 'Paradise Garden' or the 'Hortus Conclusus' and was dedicated to the glory and worship of God. The flowers provided decoration for holy places. Here will be located the plants typical of the time that provided colour, scent and beauty to the mediaeval garden. Being adjacent to the meditation garden is appropriate, as the beauty of creation and the sounds and scents of nature can be appreciated. Plants that were associated with the symbolism of God or the saints were common. Typical plants include Columbine, Campion, Lilies, White and Red Roses, Honeysuckle, Iris, Lily of the Valley, Violets. Care will be taken to use older varieties.

The Cellarer's Garden; is located adjacent to the Herber Garden and is close to the newly extended Mill Cottages and the terrace with its proposed coffee shop. This garden provided culinary herbs and vegetables to the Monastery kitchen. It is functional and served an important role in Monastic life allowing it to be self sufficient. Raised beds may be considered here. Typical plants include Basil, Bay, Broad Bean, Beet, Borage, Chives, Cabbage, Carrots, Carnation, Dandelion, Dill, Gooseberry, Fennel, Leek, Lettuce, Marigold, Marjoram, Mint, Onions, Parsley, Parsnip, Pea, Radish, Red Dead Nettle, Rocket, Rosemary, Spinach, Thyme, Valerian, Sorrel, Turnips, Wild Garlic

The Arbor Walk reflects the 'Cloister' of the Monastery. It utilises the existing wall adjacent to tower Road and will retain the most appropriate of the existing lines of trees there. The walk can be reinforced by trellis holding vines of fruit-bearing plants if necessary.

The cloister provided shelter, seclusion and shade in the garden and allowed one to meditate without being over-looked.

The Meditation Garden, is proposed as a simple, contemplative space. This alludes to the Central Court of monasteries. The area is square, divided in four and is turfed. The division into quarters reflects the four corners of the earth and the entirety of God's Creation. The green colour symbolises life, re-birth and eternal life. This is a quiet space located away from the thoroughfare. Daisies would have been allowed to thrive in the turf as they symbolised innocence.

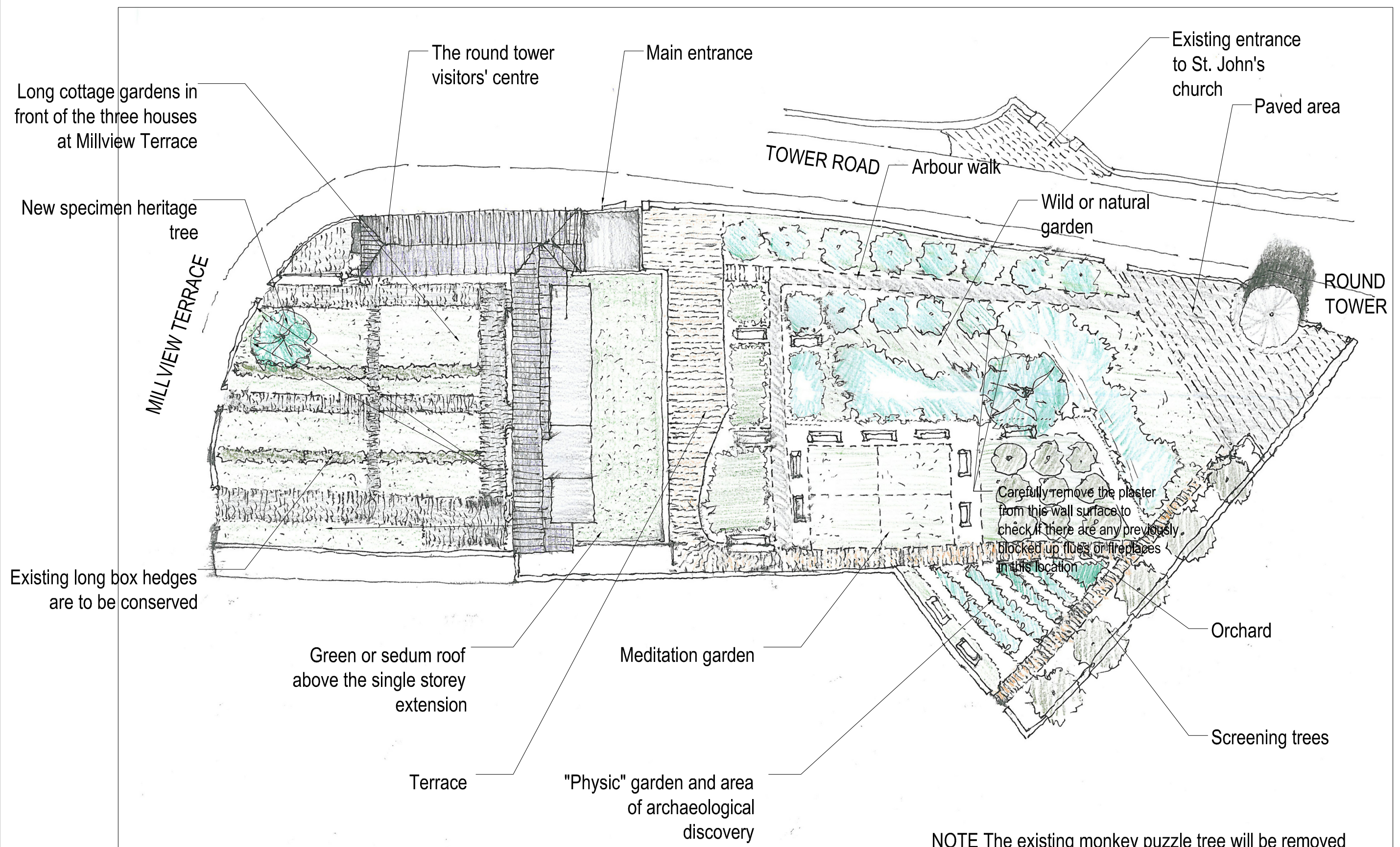
The Orchard is appropriately located leading from the meditation garden, as it too served as a space for contemplation. It also reflects the memory of Henry VIII's orchard. Orchards were extremely common in Monastic Gardens and also provided burial places for monks. It allowed one to contemplate life in the midst of death and reflects the link with nature's cycle of birth, death and re-birth (or resurrection). The orchard is laid out on a grid that facilitated the maintenance of orchards and allowed burials in the spaces between. The orchard will contain fruit varieties (apple, cherry, and pear) typical of the time or will serve as a refuge for Irish heritage species if other varieties cannot be sourced.

The Wild / Natural Garden acts as a buffer between the more formal nature of the garden close to Millview Cottages and the area around the Tower. The natural garden is envisaged as a flowery mead that contains heritage species of meadow and reflects a closeness with nature that did not require human kind to dominate or control nature. The wild garden reflects rather, the oneness with nature and an interdependence that would have been obvious to those at the time.

The Physic Garden, provided medicinal plants to monasteries. This area will be laid out in parallel beds with access paths between the beds. The garden will also incorporate the archeological features present in this area. The medicinal nature of the garden also reflects the presence of the adjacent fever hospital marked on old maps of the area. It is located at a slight remove from the rest of the garden which is also appropriate, as dangerous or poisonous plants may well have been cultivated here and the need to prevent contamination with the Cellarer Garden would be understood. Typical species include Betony, Bugle, Camomile, Catmint, Chervil, Chenopodium, Chicory, Comfrey, Cowslip, Lady's bedstraw, Lady's mantle, Lavender, Lemon balm, Feverfew, Herb Robert, Marigolds, Penny Royal, Sow Thistle, St. John's Wort, Plantains, Wild Sage, Wormwood, Yarrow.

The curtilage of the Round Tower is proposed as a wide generous space which allows Clondalkin Round Tower to stand as a sentinel without distraction. The existing Monkey Puzzle has been examined. Although there are no immediate concerns about its health, there is a risk that its root system will be weakened by the new paving proposed around it and also that it could damage the tower should it ever fall; its growth is mainly upward and the evidence from the photographs in this report are that it could now easily strike the tower should it fall.

The Tower Garden has been designed by South Dublin County Council's Parks and Landscape Services department and Public Realm Officer.



NOTE The existing monkey puzzle tree will be removed from the garden because of the long-term risk it presents to the round tower

18 PROPOSED PUBLIC GARDENS
SCALE = 1:50 @ A1, 1:100 @ A3

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No.	DATE	REVISION

SCALE:- Not to scale

DATE:- May 2014

DRAWN:- CS / FOS

PROJECT TITLE: CLONDALKIN ROUND TOWER VISITORS' CENTRE & PUBLIC GARDEN

DRAWING TITLE: Proposed public gardens

SENIOR ARCHITECT: EC

PROJECT ARCHITECT: FOS

DRAWING NO: SK-24

REV.: