

Appendix 5.4.3 – RMP Sites within the Surrounding Area

RMP No.:	DU018-024
Street name:	Hardwicke Lane
Ward:	Rotunda Ward
Classification:	Well
Dist. from development:	c. 170m north-northeast
Description:	No information in file.
Reference:	SMR File

RMP No.:	DU018-425
Street name:	Parnell Street
Ward:	Rotunda Ward
Classification:	Monumental structure
Dist. from development:	c. 270m southeast
Description:	<p>The following account of this monument is derived from the report on the 'History of monuments. O'Connell Street area' commissioned by Dublin City Council in 2003 (SMR file):</p> <p>'Sackville Street was also to be the location for one of the last sculptural initiatives in the city before independence when, in 1899, the foundation stone was laid for a monument dedicated to Charles Stewart Parnell (1846-1891). On 3 January 1882 a resolution was passed by Dublin City Council to grant the freedom of the city to Parnell. Later that year, on 15 August 1882 Parnell arrived at the unveiling ceremony for the O'Connell Monument accompanying the archbishop in his ceremonial carriage. A scene which would seem unlikely as subsequent events in Parnell's personal life unfolded. The plan for the Parnell monument was instigated by John Redmond (who succeeded Parnell as leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party) partly as a symbolic gesture to honour the 'uncrowned king of Ireland' and to consolidate his aspiration to reunite the constitutionalists under his own leadership. The monument would be funded through the efforts of a voluntary body, the Parnell Committee founded in 1898. The committee was chaired by Lord Mayor Daniel Tallon, other members were Count Plunkett, Dr. J.E. Kenny, John Redmond, MP, Thomas Baker (manager of the Irish Independent) and the Hon. Edward Blake, MP [Redmond Papers, MS 15, 167(2), National Library of Ireland]. The address of the committee was 39 Upper</p>

Sackville Street where the offices of the United Irish League were recorded. It was first proposed to place the monument on the site of the Thomas Moore statue, which they offered to remove elsewhere at their own expense. [Minutes, 1899] The City Council refused to grant this site however and directed that the monument be erected on a site near the Rotunda Hospital, [Minutes, 1899, p. 260] where it now stands in answer the O'Connell statue at the south end and terminates the parade of nationalist statues on the primary thoroughfare of the capital. Owing to the split in the party over the O'Shea case, the ceremony for the laying of the foundation stone on 8 October 1899 [Minutes, 1899, p. 346], was marred by a conspicuous absence of most of the I.P.P., city and county magistrates, as well as Roman Catholic bishops and clergy, proceedings were also marred by heckling from extreme nationalists against Redmond's weak plea for unity [Daily Nation, 9 October, 1899]. Financial support was going to be hard come by in Ireland and Redmond was forced to tour America with a representative of the Parnell monument committee to raise funds. Augustus Saint-Gaudens [Augustus Saint-Gaudens was born in Dublin in 1848 and taken by his parents to the U.S. when he was 6 months old], an Irish-born sculptor and the most eminent in the art of public monuments in the United States, accepted the commission. It was however to prove a protracted project. The demand for Saint-Gaudens' work in America was such that completion of the Parnell project would be fraught with delays. At around the same time he was working on the equestrian statue of General Sherman (1903, New York). For the Parnell monument, he made a scale replica of the buildings and square in Dublin and also a full scale model of the monument in wood in a field near his studio [Rothery, Sean, 'Parnell Monument: Ireland and American Beaux Arts' Irish Arts Review, pp. 55-57]. In 1904 there was a disastrous fire in his studio and only the head of the statue was saved. He appears to have been bitten by the nationalist zeal and is quoted as saying 'More than all the rest of my losses in the fire I regret, as an Irishman, the loss of the Parnell statue.' [New York Daily News] Saint Gaudens planned a monument which would integrate sculpture and architecture. The original concept of a bronze figure of about 8 feet high placed by a bronze table was to be set against a 30 foot pyramid. As this form was already utilised in the Wellington monument obelisk, Saint-Gaudens and the architect Henry Bacon proposed a triangular shaft almost double the height of the original. Saint-Gaudens developed a detailed picture of Parnell from

photographs, cartoons and accounts of his habits, the clothes he wore and his demeanour. He indicated to Redmond that the entire monument should be 'as simple, impressive and austere as possible, in keeping with the character of the Irish cause as well as of Parnell.' He finally presented Parnell in what he considered a noble and calm manner, depicted in an open frock coat, with one hand resting on a table and the other extended dramatically as if making a point at a parliamentary debate. In an incongruous gesture to the neo-classical programme of decoration on the nearby Rotunda, the base of the monument is decorated in swags and bucrania, resulting in an odd proximity of ox-skulls to Parnell's feet. The shaft of the monument is constructed in undecorated ashlar granite. The stone was described in an article in *The Irish Architect and Craftsman* as Shantalla granite from Galway with an "inlaid trefoil of Barna granite embracing the base and pedestal" [*Irish Architect*, (30 September 1911), p. 495]. The names of the thirty-two counties and provinces on bronze plaques around the base were part of an earlier scheme for the four-sided pyramid, representing the four provinces and were retained for the revised triangular shaft. There is a stark contrast between the presentation of Parnell and O'Connell, the former does not symbolically rise above political structures, but tries to find a new form of expression, accessible to the people in the location of the figure. Redmond chose a passage from one of the more extreme Parnell speeches for the inscription, '. . . no man has the right to say to his country, "thus far shalt thou go and no further" and we have never attempted to fix the ne plus ultra to the progress of Ireland's nationhood, and we never shall'. On 1 October 1911, the monument was unveiled to large crowds, many of whom had been absent from the foundation stone ceremony, but there were also strikes and marches indicating the unrest to follow. In June 1913, John Redmond, as Secretary to the Parnell Monument Committee, wrote to the City Council requesting the council to take the Monument into their charge, '. . . on behalf of the Citizens of Dublin. . .' [*Minutes*, 1913, pp 327-28]. The Council agreed to this request and since then, the Parnell Monument has been in the care of the Corporation of Dublin. The inscription on the monument reads:

To Charles Stewart Parnell

No Man has a right to fix the
Boundary to the march of a nation

	<p>No man has a right To say to his country Thus far shalt thou Go and no further We have never Attempted to fix The ne-plus-ultra To the progress of Ireland's nationhood And we never shall</p> <p>At the base of the statue the Irish inscription reads: Go roimhigid Dia Éire da Clainn'</p>
Reference:	SMR File

RMP No.:	DU018-020495
Street name:	North George's Street
Ward:	Rotunda Ward
Classification:	Burial ground
Dist. from development:	c. 275m east
Description:	<p>Transcript from the Irish Builder 1897 p106 "... there were other discoveries made some ten years previously of bones swords and spears when excavations were being made for the foundations of houses in North Great George's Street, Summerhill, Gardiners Row, Mountjoy Square ...From the frequent reoccurrence of such discoveries in the surrounding district during the laying out of streets etc ...there is every reason to believe the Battle of Clontarf commenced somewhere between the site of Capel Street and the right bank of the Tolka."</p> <p>Extract from Dublin Magazine 1763 "Vast quantities of bone were discovered behind New Gardens (Rotunda Gardens) in Britain Street. They were found 2-3ft beneath surface and were also present on Cavendish Row. They are thought to relate to the Battle of Clontarf as the area was consistent with Battle of Clontarf and the bodies that were found had been covered in quick lime, which was typical of Danish practice."</p>
Reference:	SMR File