Bernard
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Landscape
Architects

Tallaght Village Enhancement Scheme

Landscape Statement
Planning - Part 8
November 2026

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Design Aims

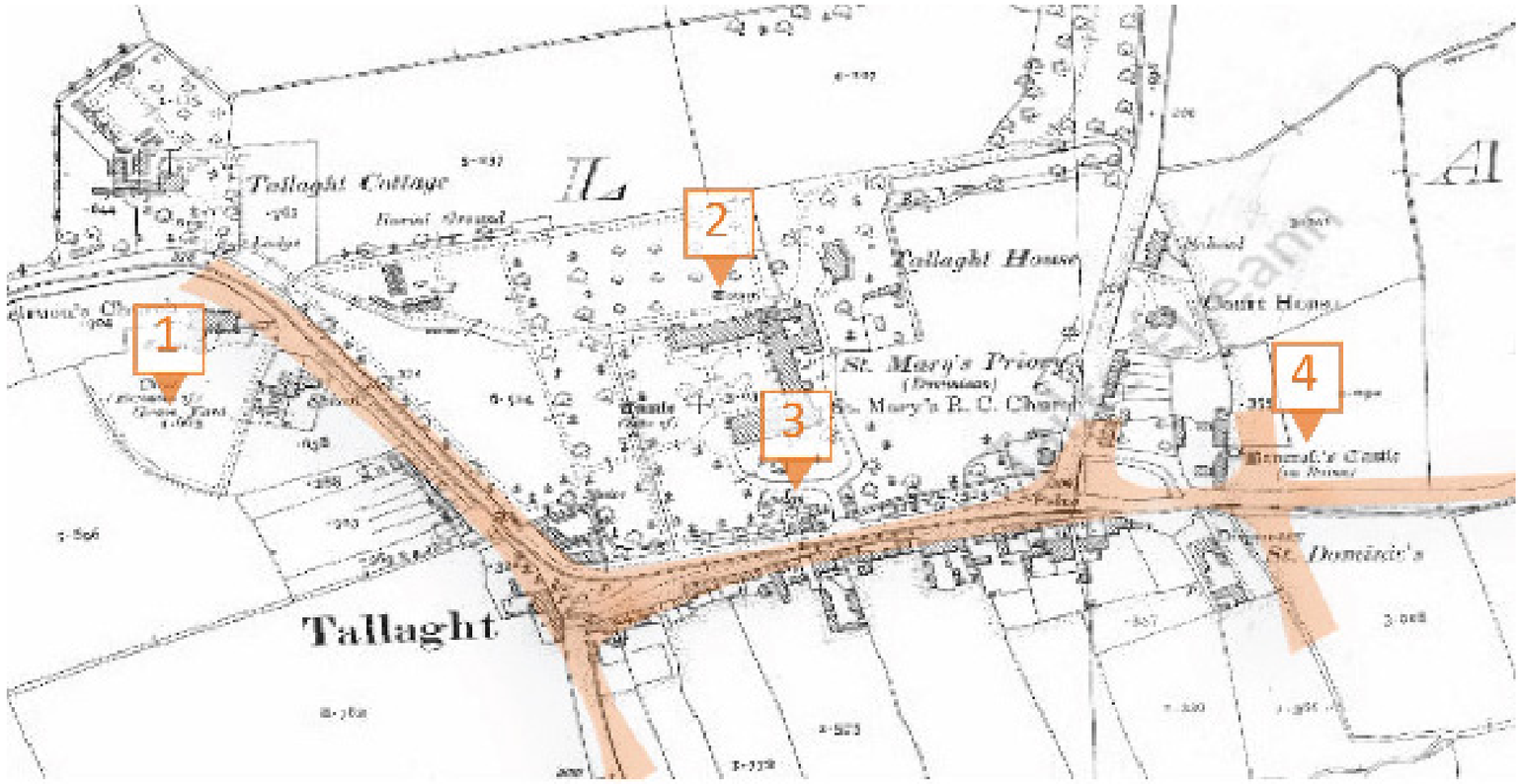
The overall design improvements aim to make Tallaght village a better place for people to be in. Existing hardscape can be reduced to make way for planting beds, trees and low-maintenance planting options. Traffic calming measures will create a safer, more pedestrian friendly environment, and an improved, cohesive material palette will unify the space and elevate its quality. New places to linger and sit will encourage people to spend time in the street, supporting community wellbeing and social interaction. The integration of Tallaght's heritage and history into the new scheme will reinforce local identity, and together these enhancements to the public realm will give Tallaght a stronger sense of place and improve the urban experience. The introduction of additional planting and trees will also deliver a significant benefit to local biodiversity.



Artistic impression of view on Main ST looking west towards junction at Dragon Inn.

Historical Context

Here we explore structures, landscapes and features that have been lost or significantly altered over time. Understanding these elements helps reveal historic settlement patterns, land use and cultural identity, informing sensitive design responses that acknowledge heritage while supporting contemporary use.



Footprint of current village site (orange) overlaid on historic map

1 Graveyard/Tomb

A graveyard containing a number of 17th century tombs. (Unsure if they are still located in the graveyard)



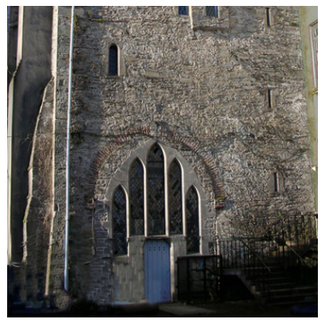
2 Ritual Site - Holy Tree

There is a mature walnut tree on the grounds of Saint Mary's Priory, It is associated with St. Maelruain.



3 Gatehouse Lodge

A gatehouse lodge was located on the site of the Dominican Priory. (Unsure if its stil standing)



4 Castle - Tower House

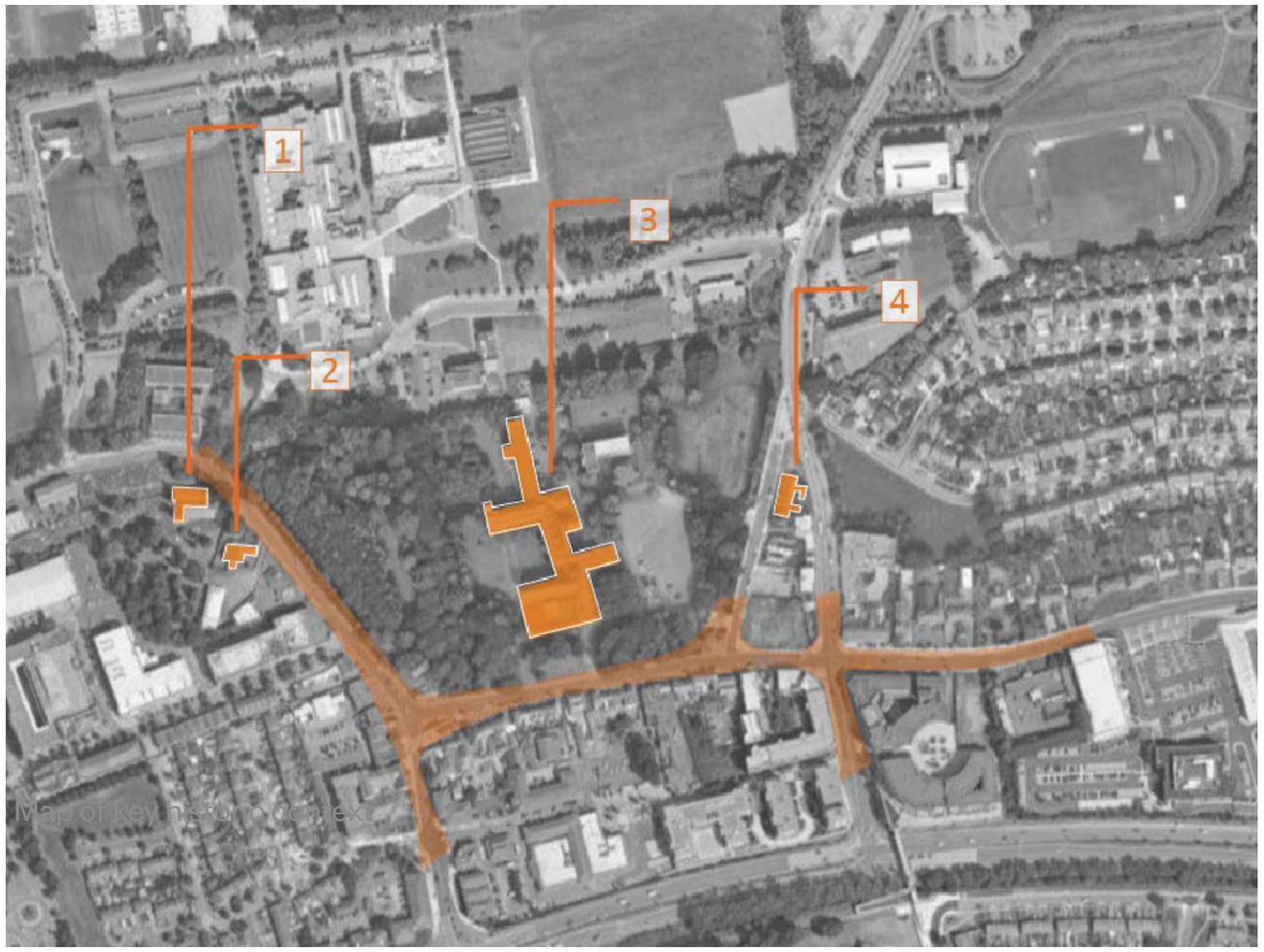
It was demolished in 1952.

In 1898 the lower half of the tower was still standing. There is no visible remains.



Current Context

This map illustrates the present-day aerial overview identifying the key landscape, built and infrastructural elements that define the site today, providing a baseline understanding to inform design decisions and future interventions.



Map of key heritage assets

1 Saint Maelruain's Church

Category: Archaeological, Architectural, Historical

Original Use: Church/Chapel

Current Use: Church/Chapel

Build Date: 1825-1835

2 Tallaght National School

Category: Architectural

Original Use: Presbytery/Parochial/ Curate's house

Current Use: Presbytery/Parochial

Build Date: 1800-1850

3 Saint Mary's Priory

Category: Architectural, Artistic, Social

Original Use: Church/Chapel

Current Use: Church/Chapel

Build Date: 1880-1890

4 Saint Basil's

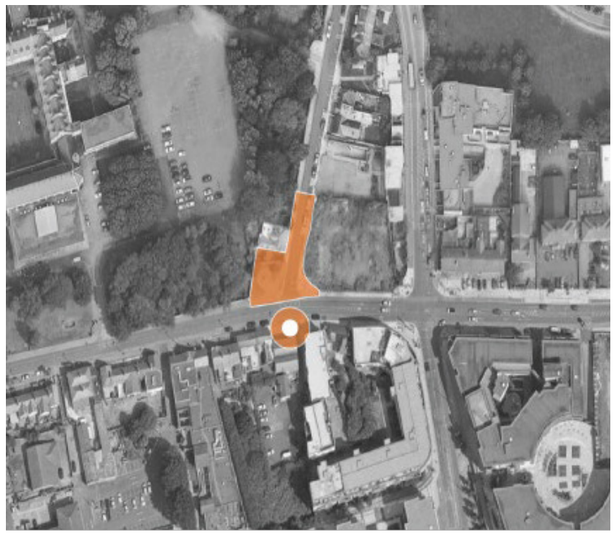
Category: Architectural, Social

Original Use: National School/ Engine Shed

Current Use: -

Build Date: 1930-1950

Key Nodes : Old Greenhills Road Junction





1. Harsh Visual Reality of Tallaght Village.

A lack of cohesive streetscape design, a sharp visual and functional contrast between the left and the right of the image.

On the left you can see the more naturalistic, historic-looking landscape compaired to the temporary construction fencing used to contain a site on the right.

2. Dead Public Space

The small plaza on the left appears underutilized

There is no seating and no real visual interaction with the surrounding area.

The sculpture is isolated, with no connection (lighting, informal signage) to its surroundings

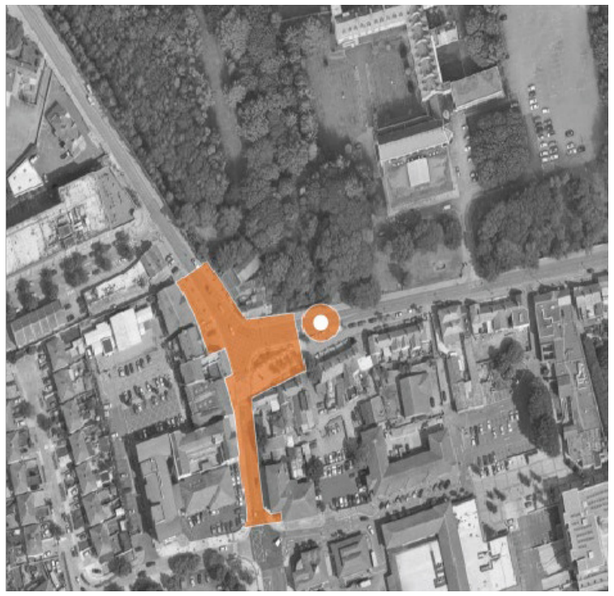
3. Pedestrian Experience

Large paved areas, with no street trees or vegetation along the streetscape.

Minimal use of street furniture, and a lack of a cohesive planting scheme beyong a few trees and unkept planting beds.

A feeling of neglect towards the public realm.

Key Nodes : Old Blessington Road Junction





1. Large Roadway

The majority of the space is allocated to cars, with limited pedestrian orientated space. there is a feeling that pededtrians are secondary to vehicle flow, minimal crossways.

Visual clutter on the pathways, lots of poles, bollards, planters. No unifying design language used in materiality of the streetscape.

2. Inactive building edges

Although the buildings in Tallaght village are a mix of commercial and residential, there is very little engagement with the streetscape at a pedestrian level.

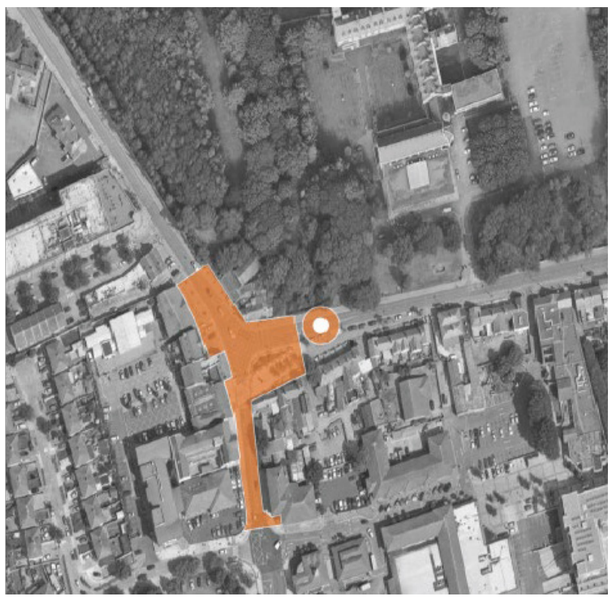
There is not enough public space currently in the village to encourage such interaction. There is no outdoor seating, soft edges ect. it is all very hard and harsh visually.

3. Lack of Green Infrastructure (GI)

Aside from the minimal landscape intervention to the left there is very little green space. The intersection is dominated by hardscape, contributing to its poor aesthetics.

The introduction of vegitation would not only help with the visual appeal but also act as a shelter for people from the changeable irish weather.

Key Nodes : Old Blessington Road





1. Spatial Fragmentation

The language of the streetscape is disjointed. There are different paving textures used, with out any obvious hierarchy.

The pathway lacks visual identity, there are differant looking bollards and planters long the roadway.

A unified, coordinated streetscape would look and work better.

2. Green Infrastructure Improvements

A few small planters on the pathway are not large enough to have a significant ecological impact.

The planters almost feel like an after thought, with no integration into the surrounding area.

Large inground planting beds might be an alternative.

3. Bike & Public Transport

No visible bike or public transport infastructure in the image. The area favors cars, and to a point walking. With large roadways and large (in parts) pathways.

There is no visable cycle lane or bus lane on the road/pathway. This can cause traffic congestion and be a potential safety issue for walkers.

Integrating Nature with Engineering

Opportunities to integrate planting, rain gardens and expanded tree canopy are explored within the planned upgrades in Tallaght Village. These interventions strengthen biodiversity, support sustainable drainage by filtering surface water, and allow wider planting areas to replace street clutter while improving the quality and legibility of the public realm.

A myriad of existing bollards and freestanding planters currently clutter the frontages onto Main St. providing opportunity for a more integrated solution while capturing surface run off and promoting new portions of high biodiversity that contribute positively to the visual presentation of Tallaght Village.

In other conditions, rain gardens can be placed along the kerb where sufficient available width allows a footway to continue on the inside of a new planted verge to define the carriageway.



Rain filters from the road into new planters

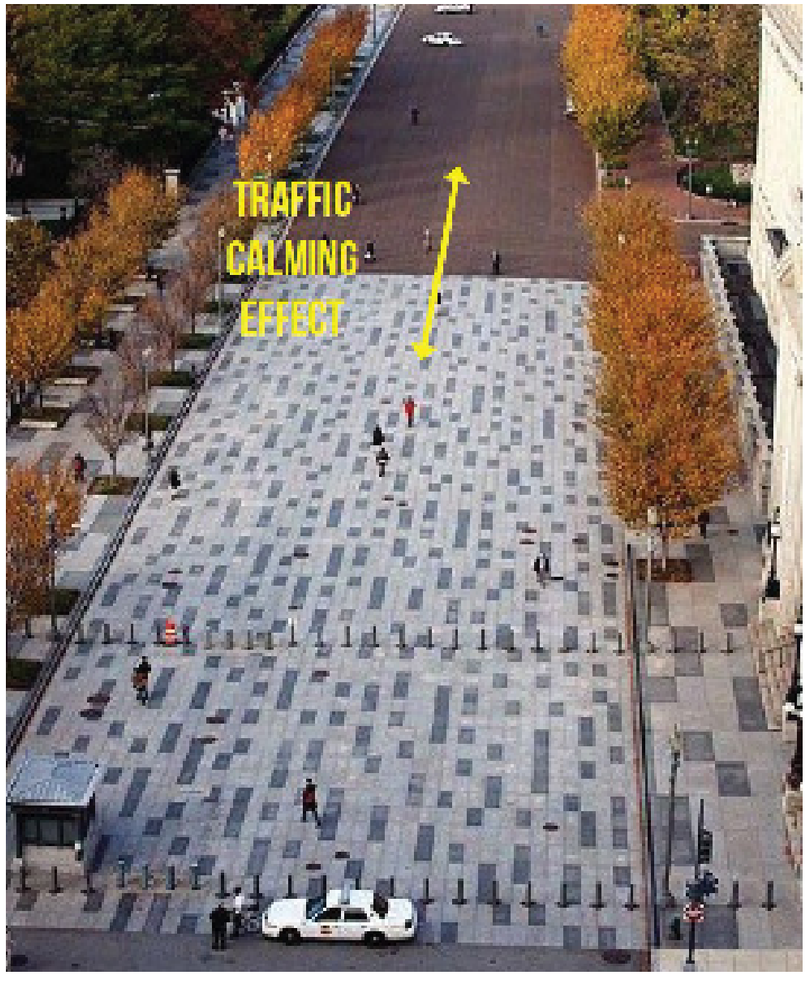


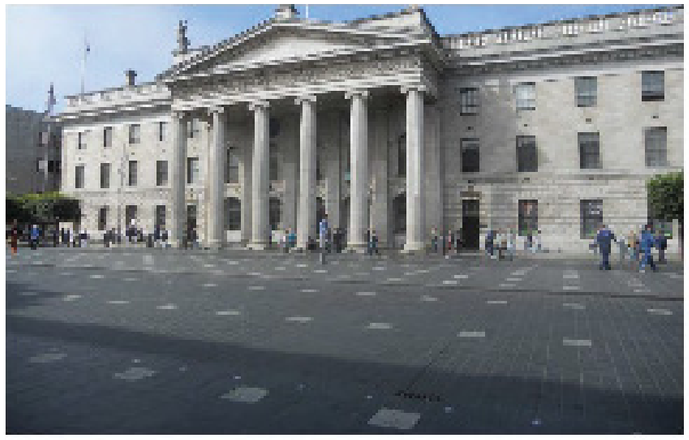
Photomontage of a rain garden placed along the existing kerb line

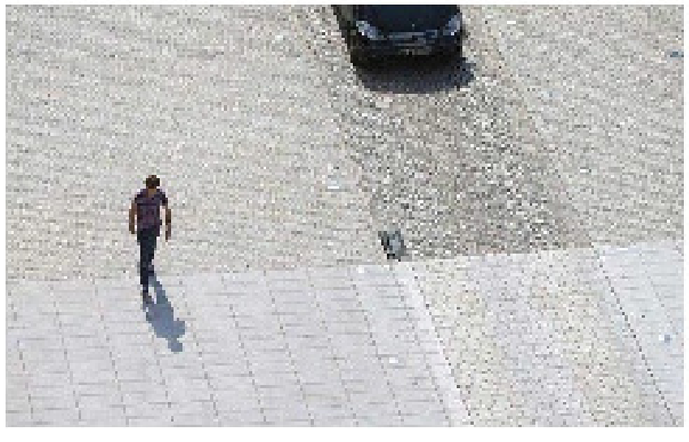
Spatial Hierarchy & Traffic Calming

Surface materials and detailing can reinforce pedestrian and vehicular hierarchy by subtly influencing behaviour. Changes in texture, colour and pattern signal shifts in priority, encouraging vehicles to slow and recognise pedestrian focused areas while maintaining safe and legible shared movement spaces.

HABITUAL ROAD COLOUR	**= DARK**
HABITUAL PEDESTRIAN COLOUR	**= LIGHT**









Material Palette

Natural stone across footways and carriageways creates a continuous surface that strengthens the perception of pedestrian priority. Silver and buff granites add warmth and texture, while selective insertions of contrasting materials introduce visual interest, subtle wayfinding and opportunities for interpretative detailing to give specific nods to Tallaght Village and its history.



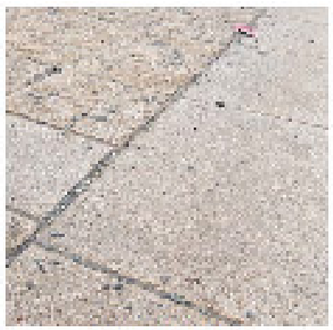
SILVER GRANITE



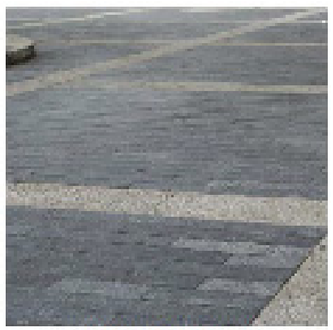
DARK GRANITE



PINK GRANITE



BEIGE GRANITE



BLUE LIMESTONE



BRASS/METAL

LIGHT

DARK

COLOUR

Right:

Example of hierarchy of use dictated by material palette

Bad Saltzdetfurth, Germany



Material Palette

Carriageway

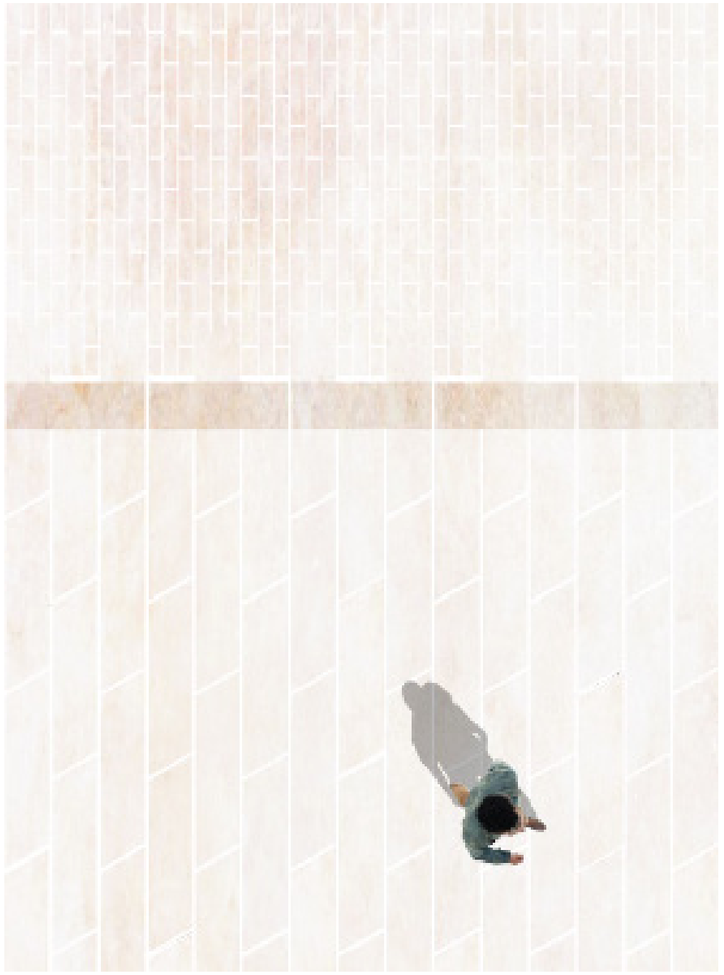
(stone setts)

Wide Kerb

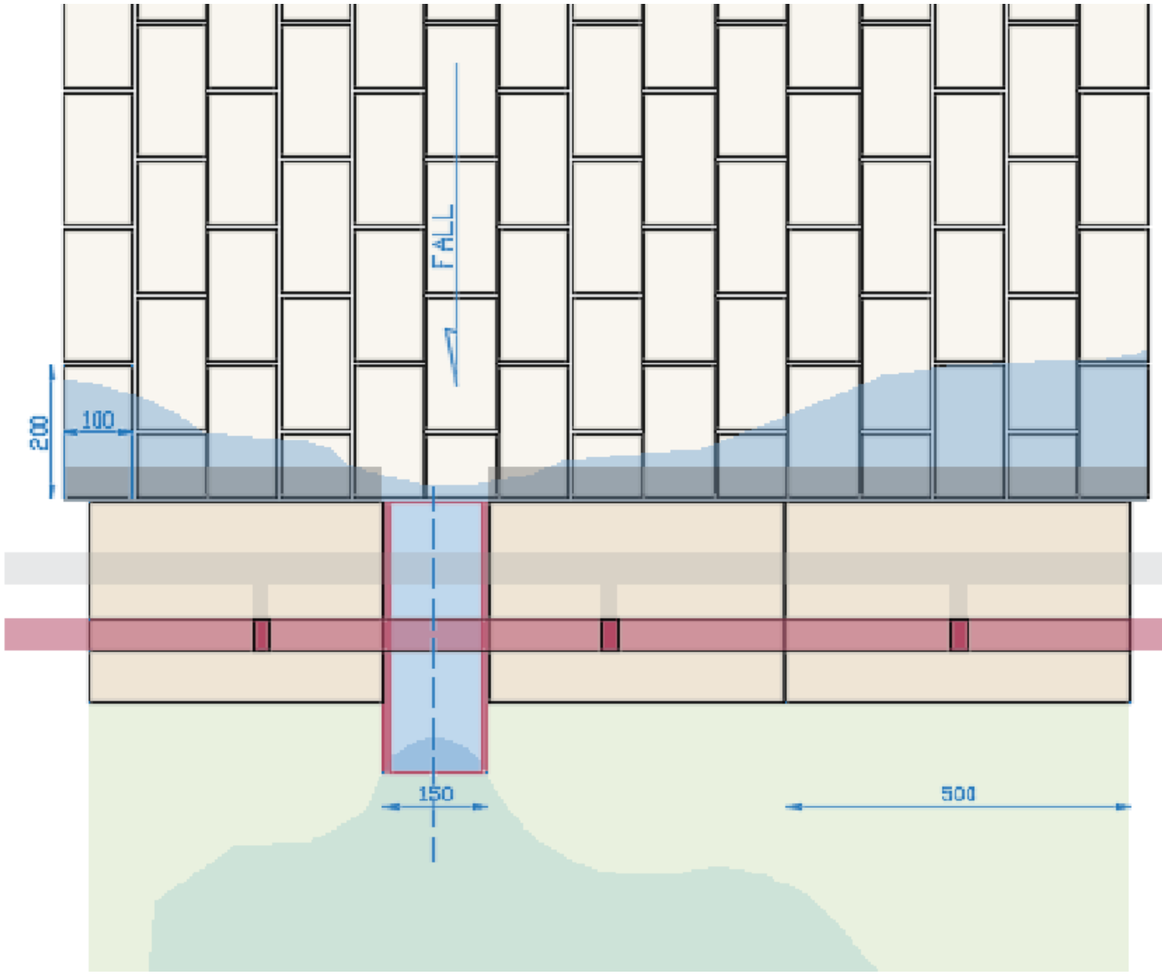
(stone)

Footway

(stone slabs)



Footway & Carriage way interface



Carriageway

(stone setts)

Kerb + Inlet

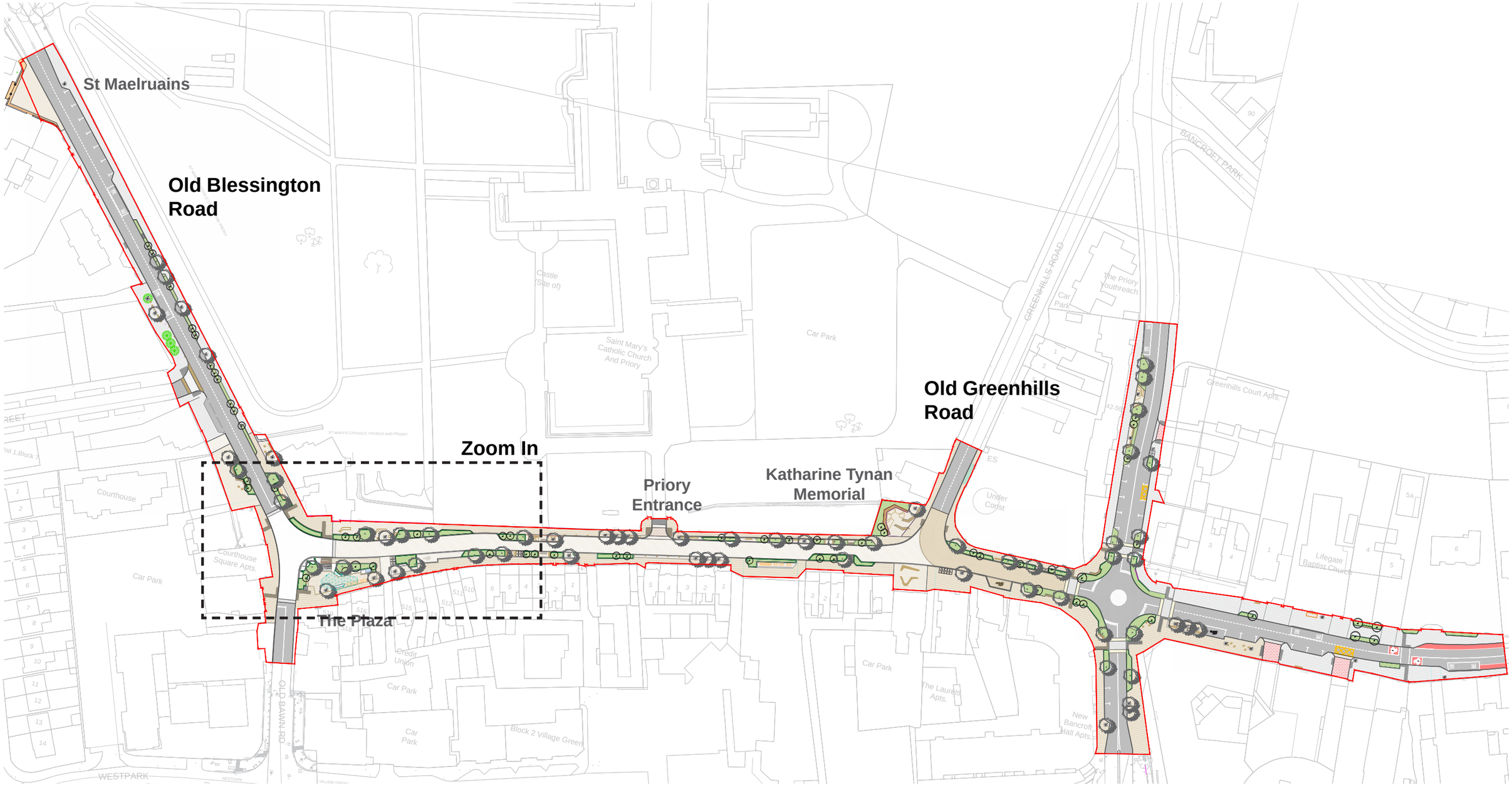
Rain Garden

(planted)

Raingarden & Carriage way interface

Landscape Masterplan

Design Overview



Masterplan, refer to full masterplan scaled drawing for more detail

Main Street

Design Aims



Render Plan of streetscape

Natural stone across footways and carriageways creates a continuous surface that strengthens the perception of pedestrian priority. Silver and buff granites add warmth and texture, while selective insertions of contrasting materials introduce visual interest, subtle wayfinding and opportunities for interpretative detailing to give specific nods to Tallaght Village and its history. Significant greening from The Old Greenhills Rd along to the Old Blessington Rd will improve the existing roadscape

1. Traffic calming

2. Rain gardens to green the context, increase biodiversity and improve drainage

3. South facing benches to enjoy the sun

4. Integration of historical information

Village Plaza: Artist's Impression



1. Raised granite planters doubling as seating edges

2. Trees in ground, multi-stemmed shrubs

3. Retention of Sculpture 'The Victors by Dick Joynt'

4. Pollinator-friendly planting bring seasonal colour and biodiversity,

5. Clear width & pathway delineation retained for pedestrian movements.

6. Pergola, with space for cafe tables & chairs underneath

Village Plaza: Artist's Impression



1. Stepped granite outcrops, that hold the edge.

2. Channels for rain to feed raingarden planting.

3. Level access to plaza

4. Stepped access

5. Clearspace plaza area for gathering

6. Pergola, with space for cafe tables & chairs underneath

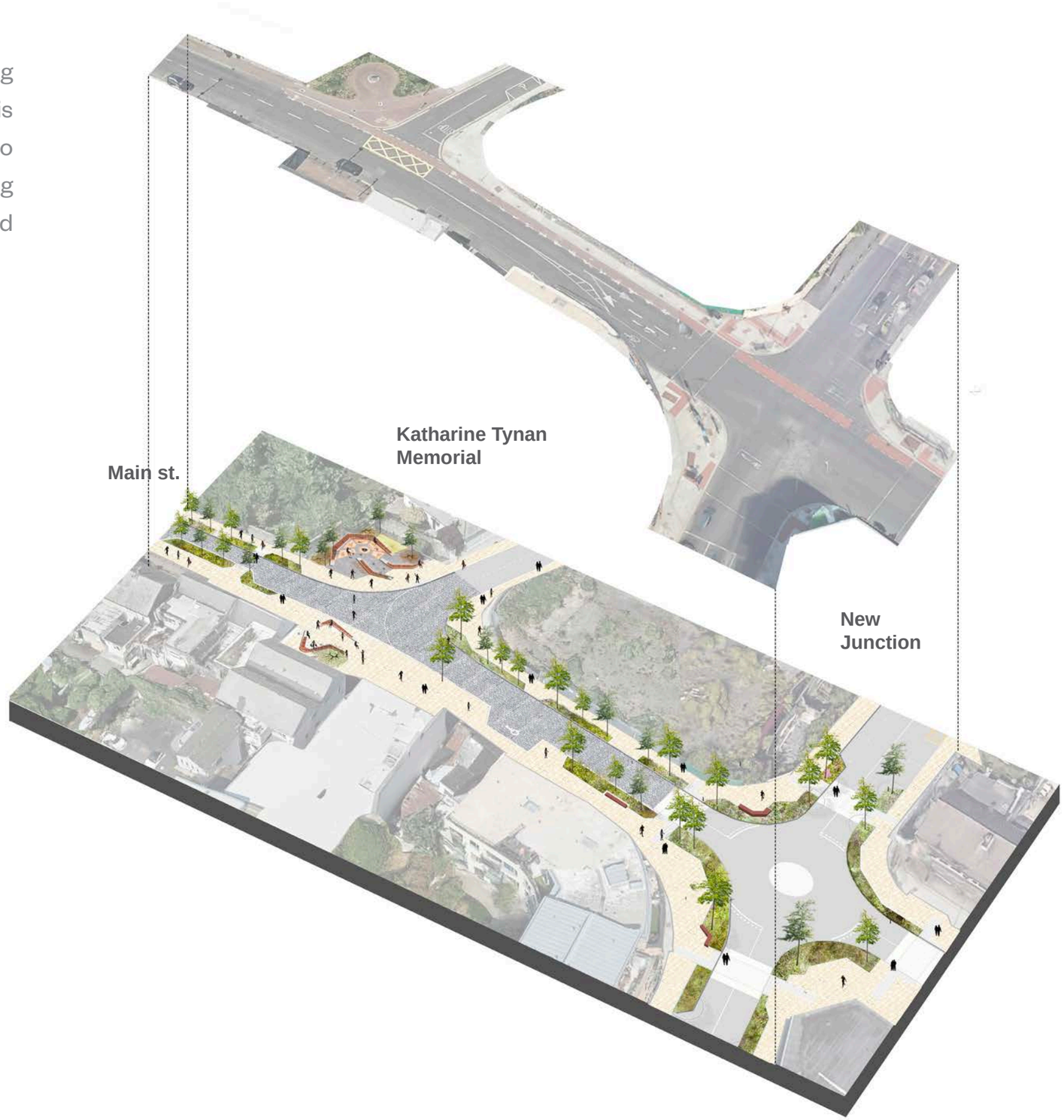
Main Street

Old Blessington Rd - Old Greenhills Rd

Narrowing the carriageway allows wider footpaths and generous planting beds with street trees, improving the pedestrian experience along this stretch of Tallaght Village. New crossings make the junction easier to navigate. The Katharine Tynan pocket park is improved with new planting and paving, and wraparound granite seating, with engraved inserts around the retained statue, sharing her work and story.



Katharine Tynan Memorial sketchplan



Eastern Gateway: Katherine Tynan Park

The Katharine Tynan pocket park gets a refreshed planting & paving treatment, with wraparound granite benches providing plenty of seating, where before there was none. Engraved text inserts on the ground plane around the statue will display examples of Tynan's work and tell her story.



Artistic impression of Katherine Tynan pocket park & surrounding streetscape

Surface Treatments

Material Finishes

Standard Footway

Proprietary block paving with stone aggregate

600x300x50mm

Standard Carriageway

Asphalt to SDCC standards

Paved Carriageway

Silver grey granite, 200x100x80mm, flamed finish

Technical build up to engineer detail

Pedestrian Footway Mix

Buff granite, sandblasted finish, 900x600mm

Silver grey granite, flamed finish, 900x600mm

Technical build up to engineer detail

Heritage Mix

Buff granite, sandblasted finish, 900x600mm

Corten Steel inserts, Panels to various sizes

Technical build up to engineer detail

Plaza Mix

700x300 & 300x150x50mm

Silver grey granite,lamed finish

Buff granite, sandblasted finish

Silver granite, flamed finish

Black granite, flamed finish

Technical build up to engineer detail



Refer to Masterplan for full layout

Surface Treatments

Interpretation

Heritage items will focus on weaving the history of Tallaght village into the scheme, celebrating its place and its people. This will help reveal some of Tallaght's built history, including The Priory and St Maelruan's, as well as figures from the literary and art world with connections to Tallaght. These stories will be integrated into the paving and seating through a series of techniques, such as engraving and metal inlays.

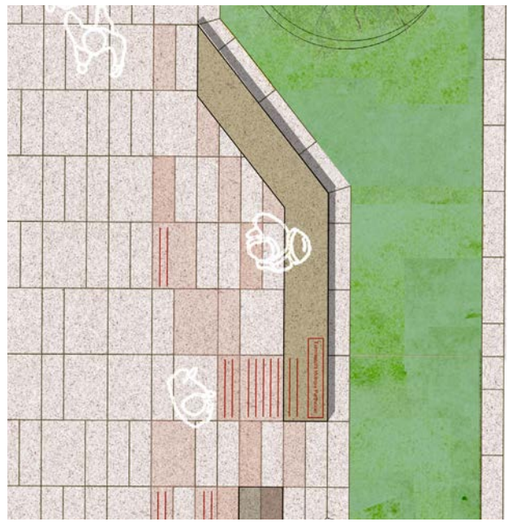
Type: Paving mat with storytelling on ground plane
Method: Metal inlays / CNC engraving directly on paving





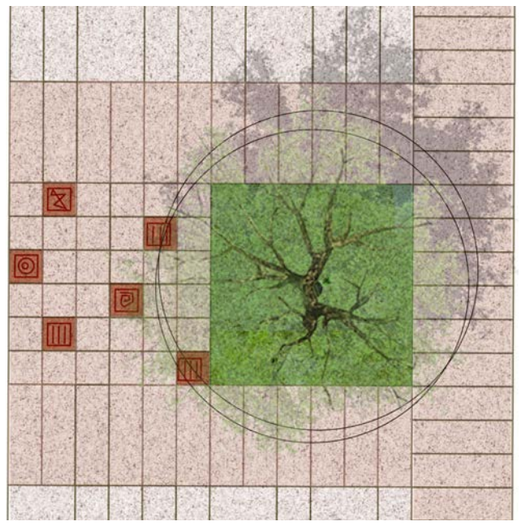


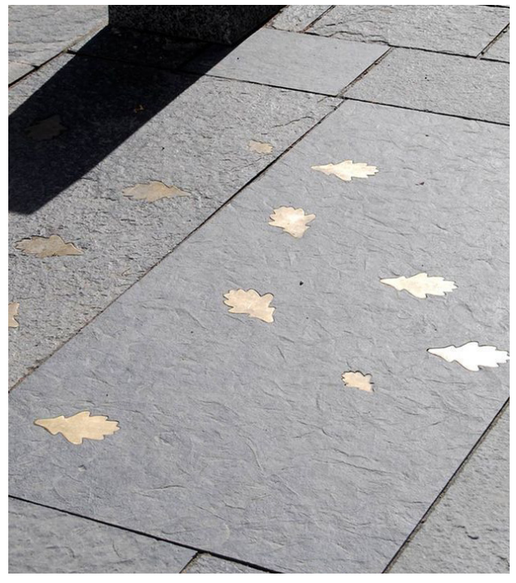
Type: Sculpture / bench / public art commission
Method: Objects set on paving with pattern / tone





Type: Embedments / iconography
Method: Metal motifs stamped flush in paving

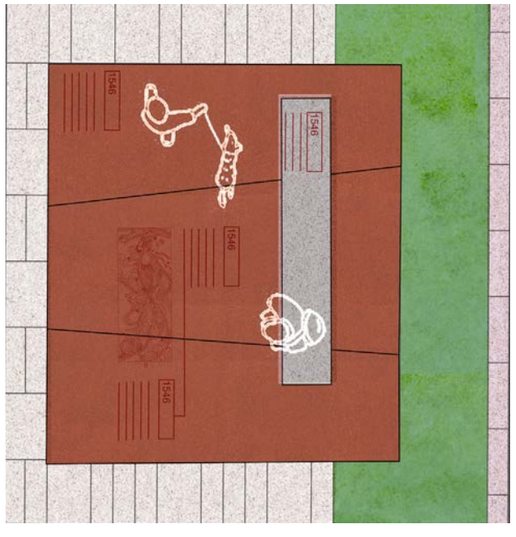




Surface Treatments

Interpretation

Type: Paving mat with storytelling on ground plane
Method: Metal inlays / CNC engraving directly on paving



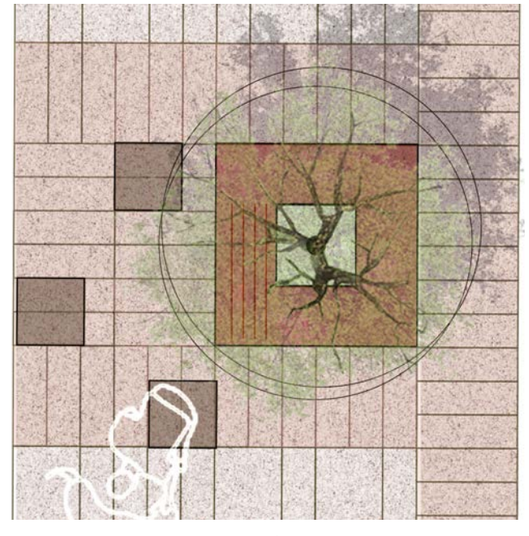


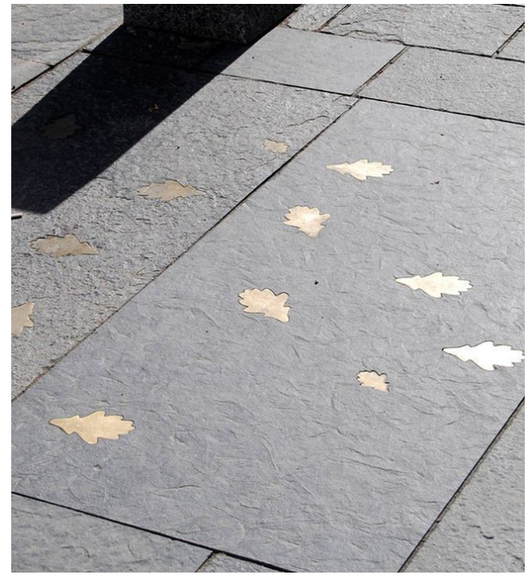
Type: Sculpture / bench / public art commission
Method: Objects set on paving with pattern / tone





Type: Iconography
Method: Brass motifs stamped flush in paving





Surface Treatments

Greening the Streetscape

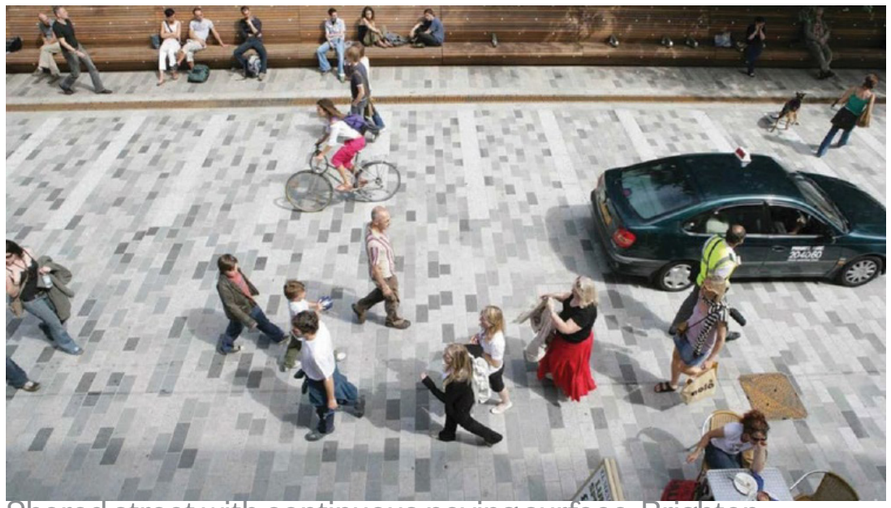
Aswell as slowing vehicle traffic, Build-outs into the carriageway create new space for people, accommodating planting beds and trees that soften the streetscape and support biodiversity. A continuous granite surface unifies the street with a durable, high-quality finish, while integrated seating invites people to linger. Historical information woven into the paving and furniture celebrates Tallaght's heritage, together creating a more cohesive and attractive street.



Renderplan of build out outside the The Priory.



Street Planting with paving insert



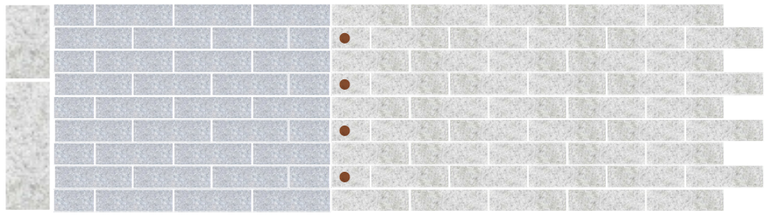
Shared street with continuous paving surface, Brighton

Surface Treatments

Paving Formats

Carriageway Paving

- Smaller units suitable for vehicular loading
- Restrained colour palette for surface legibility
- Delineation strip or studs in metal
- Darker tone to outline parking bays for example



Unit sizes: 200x100x80mm, kerb 900x500mm



Plaza Paving

- Unit sized increased as a ratio of carriageway setts
- Warmer tones introduced with more pattern variation



Unit sizes: 700x300x50mm



Pedestrian Footway Paving

- Large format slabs to simplify ground plane
- Clean, crisp, uncluttered footways



Unit sizes: 900x600x80mm

Heritage Items

- Panelled insertions of contrasting material
- Canvas to receive historical interpretation
- Sandstone, corten, concrete for example
- Stone benches





Surface Treatments

Paving Performance

Carriageway Paving
Plaza Paving
Pedestrian Footway Paving
Heritage Items
Key extracts of typical performance standard

Bulk Specific Gravity	not less than	2.55
Water Absorption	not greater than	0.30 %
Flexural Strength	not less than	8.6 n/mm2
Skid/Slip Resistance USRV	not less than	45

Standard Footway
High performance, premium, reconstituted granite aggregate flagstones with a ‘flamed’ effect finish.

Durable and hard wearing with a minimum surface layer of 8mm.

Surface protectant is supplied as standard for easy clean and maintenance

Not less than 90% natural granite and quartz aggregate in surface layer

>70 low to extremely low potential for slip.

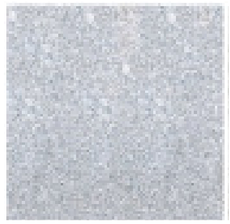
Frost Resistance / Abrasion Resistance

Technical Conformance of Paving Proposed:



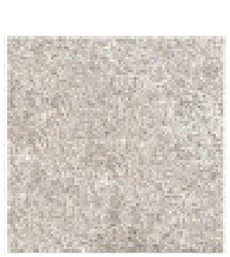
1. Buff granite EU-G011 sandblasted finish

Bulk Specific Gravity	2.60
Water Absorption	0.30%
Flexural Strength	12n/mm2
Skid/Slip Resistance USRV	71



2. Silver grey granite G-S-004 flamed finish

Bulk Specific Gravity	2.64
Water Absorption	0.30%
Flexural Strength	14.8n/mm2
Skid/Slip Resistance USRV	104



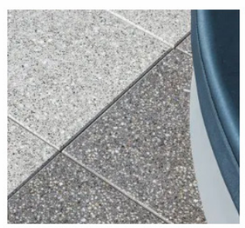
3. Dark yellow granite EU-G016 bush hammered finish

Bulk Specific Gravity	2.61
Water Absorption	0.6%
Flexural Strength	10.2n/mm2
Skid/Slip Resistance USRV	72

Concrete product alternatives:



FIAMMA
Premium flamed effect, granite aggregate flagstones



TERRAPAVE®
Advanced granite flagstones



PLAZA
Premium granite water-etched paving

Planting Strategy

Site Overview

Criteria for raingarden plant selection:

- Meet surrounding landscape characteristics.
- Drought tolerance – capable of surviving extended dry periods.
- Tolerance of free-draining engineered soil mix.
- Tolerance of occasional inundation.
- Tolerance of expected pollution loads.
- Meet maintenance requirements; hardy & robust, simple cut back

Trees in paving

Clearstem to 2m, 6-8m tall

Trees in raingarden

Planted to edge or on mounded area to avoid prolonged wet feet

Planting _A

Herbacecous Non-rain garden planting with emphasis on flowering plants: E.g.: Rudbeckia fulgida ‘Goldsturm’, Echinacea purpurea, Achillea millefolium, Sanguisorba officinalis, Allium ‘Purple Sensation’.

Rain Garden_B

Rain Garden Mix for North facing beds: Eg. Geranium ‘Rozanne’, Persicaria amplexicaulis, Liriope muscari, Dryopteris filix-mas, Deschampsia cespitosa.

Rain Garden_C

Rain Garden Mix for South facing beds: E.g.. Geranium ‘Rozanne’, Persicaria amplexicaulis, Echinacea purpurea, Achillea millefolium, Molinia caerulea ‘Moorhexe’.



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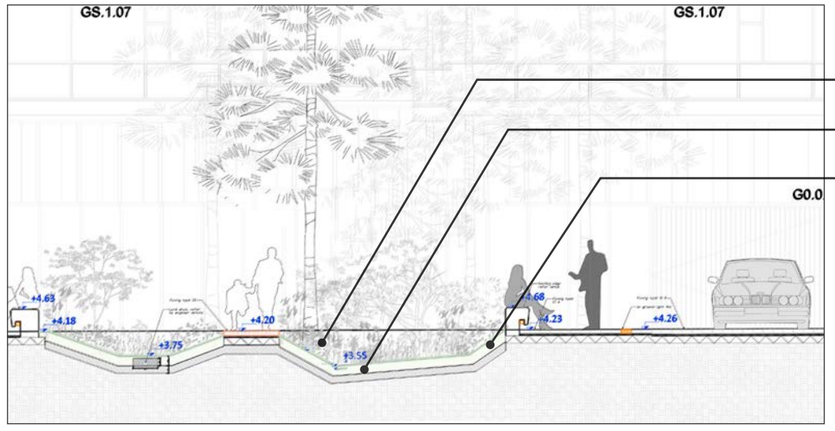
Rain Garden_B

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Rain Garden_C

Rain Garden Mix for South facing beds: E.g.. Geranium ‘Rozanne’, Persicaria amplexicaulis, Echinacea purpurea, Achillea millefolium, Molinia caerulea ‘Moorhexe’.







Planting Strategy

Vision For Main Street

Key Changes:

1. Informal crossing at priory entrance

2. Widened footway

3. Raingardens & Planting

4. New Seating

5. Heritage & History items



Current Streetscape



Proposed photomontage view

Planting Strategy

Vision For Main Street

Key Changes:

1. Widened Footway.

2. Setts for roadway.

3. Raingardens & street trees

5. Heritage & History items



Current Streetscape



Proposed photomontage view