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MOUNT ST JOSEPH CEMETRY, Monastery Road, Clondalkin

Proposed Work to Enclosing Walls

General Summary:

The Cemetery was built c.1820 by the Carmelite Brothers as part of their Monastery.

It was enclosed by high walls built of local calp limestone with a small gate, intended to create a secure enclosure against the risk of grave robbers, active at that time.

Burials occurred between 1825 and 1965.

Prominent local families had elaborate monuments erected.

The Carmelite Brothers left in 1937 and the Monastery was subsequently taken over by the Sisters of the Assumption, who left in 1988.

The site of the Monastery was developed for housing in the 1990s by Kelland Homes, but the Cemetery was retained.

The Cemetery suffered considerable vandalism during that time and eventually Kelland Homes carried out improvements consisting of rebuilding some missing sections of the walls.
(See photos)

In recent years, Clondalkin Tidy Towns have maintained the Cemetery.

Proposed Work:

It is proposed to raise the walls to their original height using similar local calp limestone salvaged from a long boundary wall at Boot Road, at present stored by South Dublin County Council. Lime mortar is to be used.

The following is a summary of the work to the walls on the four sides of the Cemetery:

North - No work necessary.

East - Build-up large ope.
Raise walls at RHS from existing 1.4M above Cemetery floor to 2.4M.

South - Raise walls from existing 1.4M to 2.4M.

West - RHS no work necessary.
LHS raise to 2.4M.

A Consulting Engineer will be retained to advise of the stability of the raised walls.

The new work will be separated by felt lining where it meets the original, in accordance with proper conservation practice.

The proposed raising of the walls will restore the Cemetery to its original enclosed character and make it much more secure.

Further restoration of the grave stores and monuments is proposed by South Dublin County Council.


Peter Ging, FRIAI, Architect

22 Feb 2023