

Kilkenny Central Access Scheme

Ongoing investigations at 21-22 Vicar Street





Historical background

- The manse house of the prebendary of Tascoffin

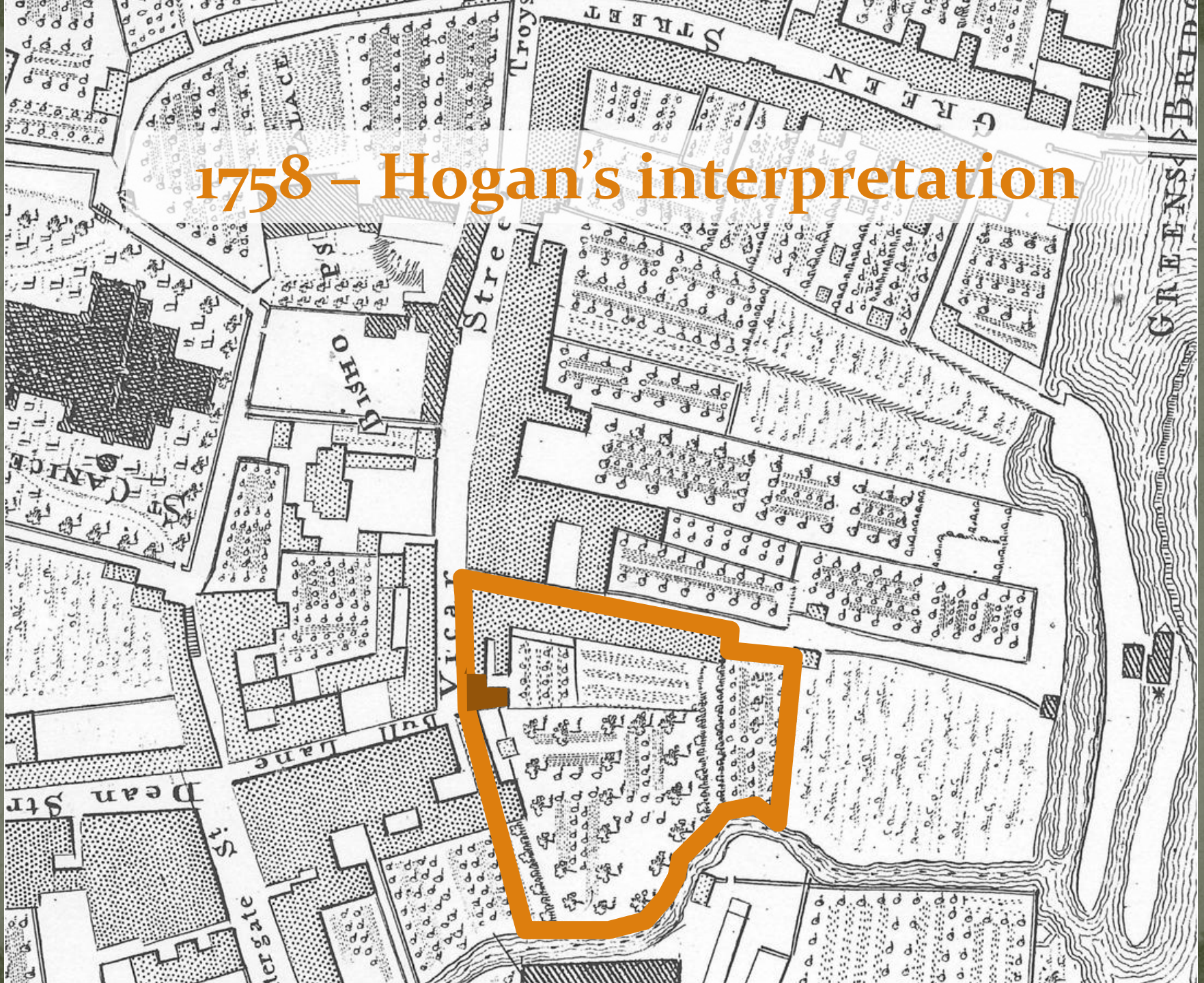
Ledwich, 1786

- The manse house of the prebendary of Tascoffin meared on the E with the chancellor's orchard, on the W with King-street, on the N with the chancellor's orchard and on the S with the vicar's house

Hogan, 1884

- *Manse House of the Prebendary of Tascoffin.* –
- formerly a very extensive premises.
- Rocque's map 1758
- gives the ground plan of the buildings
- extending to the Bregach river
- the garden to the house extending eastwards half-way to the River Nore.
- The licensed premises there now (Mrs. Connery's) is a remnant of the ancient court now fitted up for modern use.

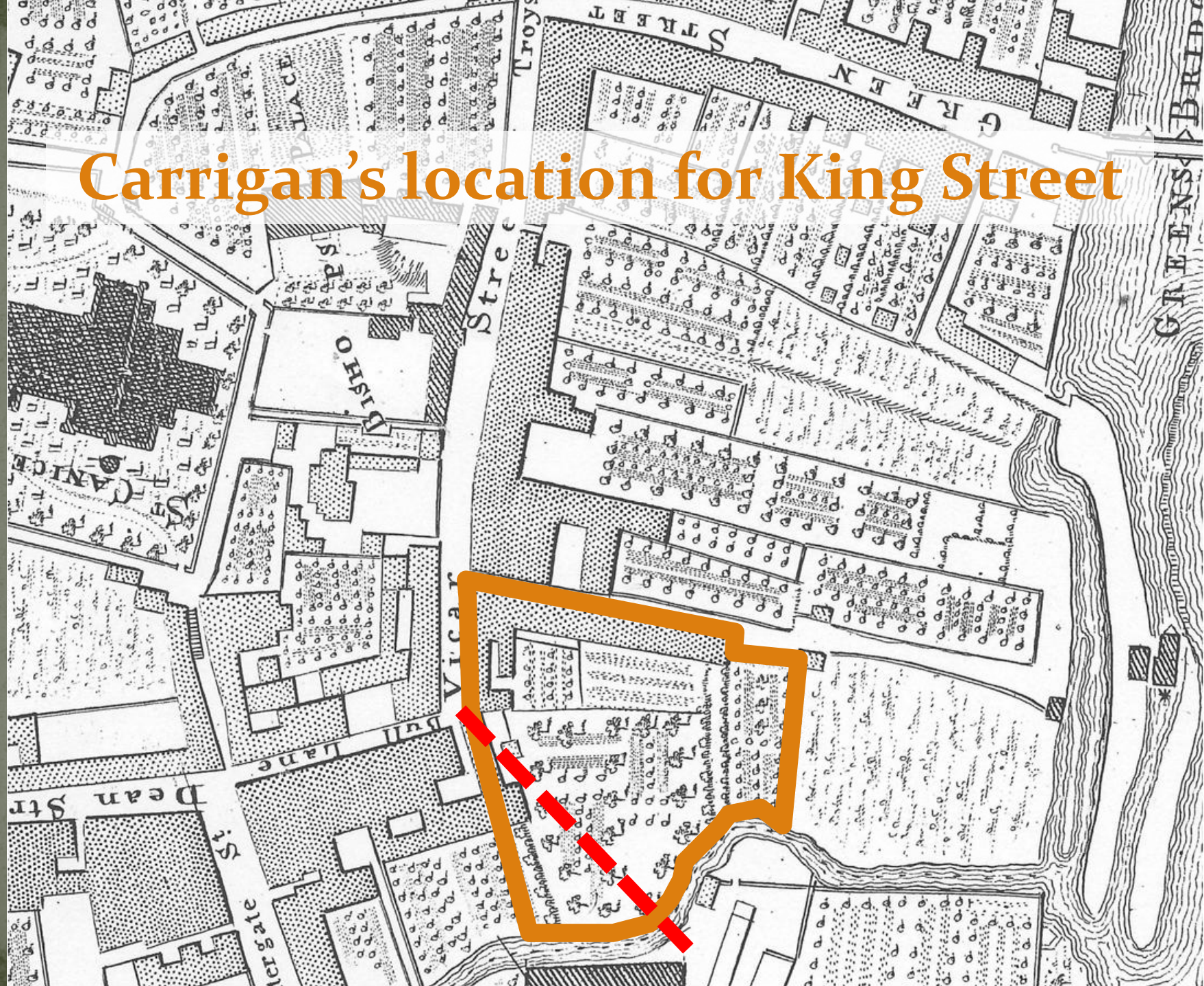
1758 – Hogan's interpretation



Carrigan, 1905

- Prebendary of Tascoffin. –
- the manse house
- The King Street mentioned here is not the street now so called. It was apparently the continuation, in a straight line, of Vicar Street, from Bull Alley to the Bregach river.
- Mr Hogan, with every show of reason, identifies the site of the manse of the Prebendary of Tascoffin with that now occupied by Miss Connery's shop in Bull Alley.

Carrigan's location for King Street



Phelan and Gibb, 1953

- VICAR STREET. Vicar St.,
- The Manse House of the Prebendary of Tascoffin. Carrigan and Hogan both cite this ... at No. 22 Vicar St.
- A piece of the buttress is still to be seen here, otherwise no remains of its ancient ecclesiastical dignity are now visible.

Bishop Otway's visitation, 1679

- 1679, not 1672
- “the king's street”

Summary of writings

- Ledwich misquoted the 1679 visitation
- Hogan drew unsupportable conclusions from the 1758 map
- Carrigan followed Hogan uncritically and interpreted the existence of “King Street”
- Phelan and Gibb offered no new light

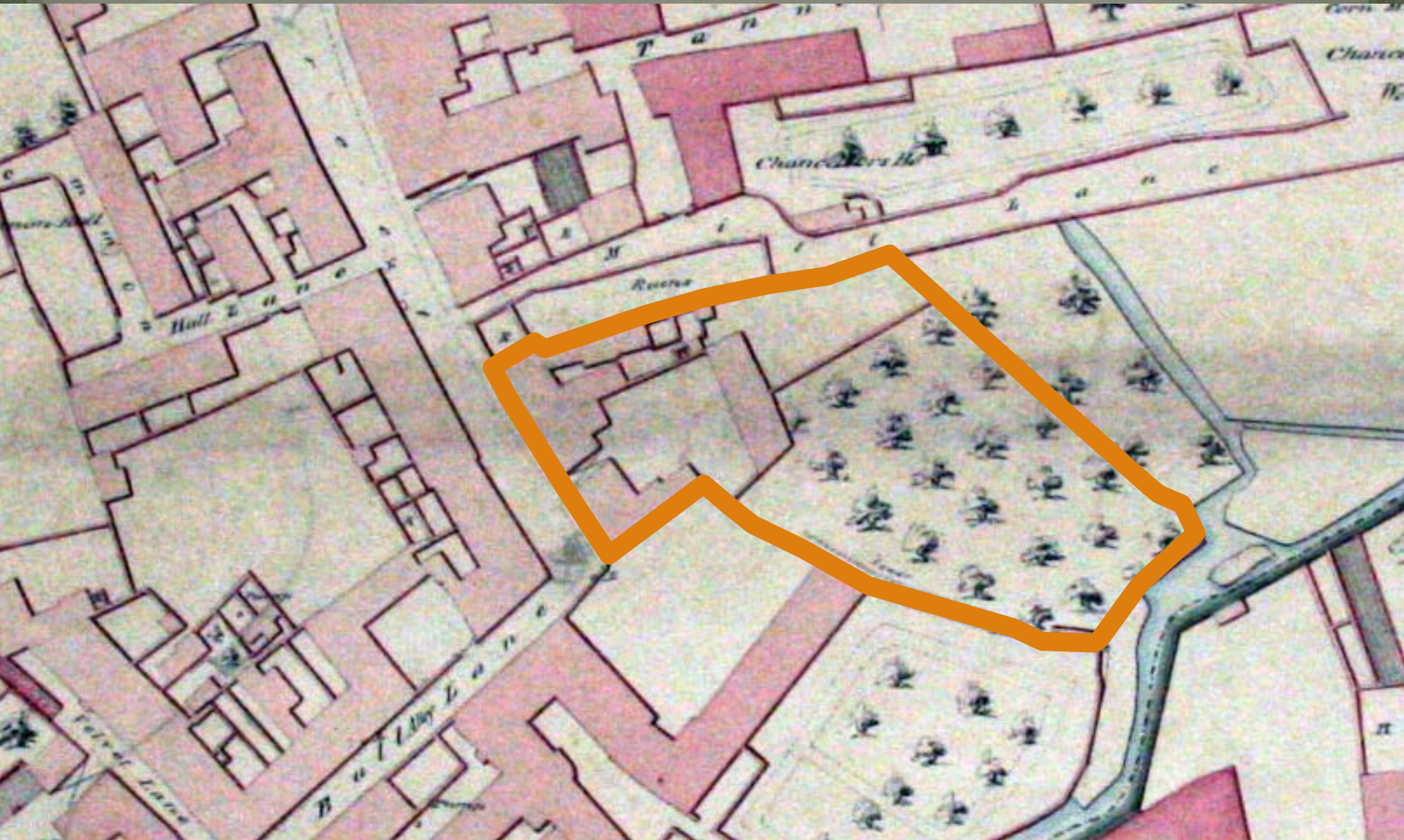
Graves and Prim

- Most prolific writers on Kilkenny
- No record of manse house of Tascoffin
- “History, architecture and antiquities of St Canice’s”
- “Ancient street architecture of Kilkenny” 1849

Findings of research

- Manse house of the prebendary of Tascoffin was gone by 1679
- “a piece of waste ground in Irishtown where formerly the manse stood .. on which there is now a thatched house built”
- 1732: prebendary of Tascoffin’s glebe land “with the cabins houses and tenements built thereon”
- 1824: Lease from prebendary of Tascoffin of his land at 20, 21 and 22 Vicar Street

Glebe land of prebendary of Tascoffin



Building of present houses

- Number 20 rebuilt as two houses by 1840s
- Numbers 20 and 21 rebuilt as shops in 1881
- Number 22 rebuilt in 1908 as a shop and licensed premises

Removal of plaster



Gable end



Findings so far

- The manse house of the prebendary of Tascoffin had gone before 1679 and hence none of the present buildings incorporate its remains.
- As the prebendary of Tascoffin's land did not include the Diageo car park the gable end of the earlier building cannot be a remnant of the manse house.

What is next?

- In order to more fully understand the buildings, including the origins of the gable end wall, we will continue with our process of investigation of the archaeological and architectural heritage, under the direction of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.