

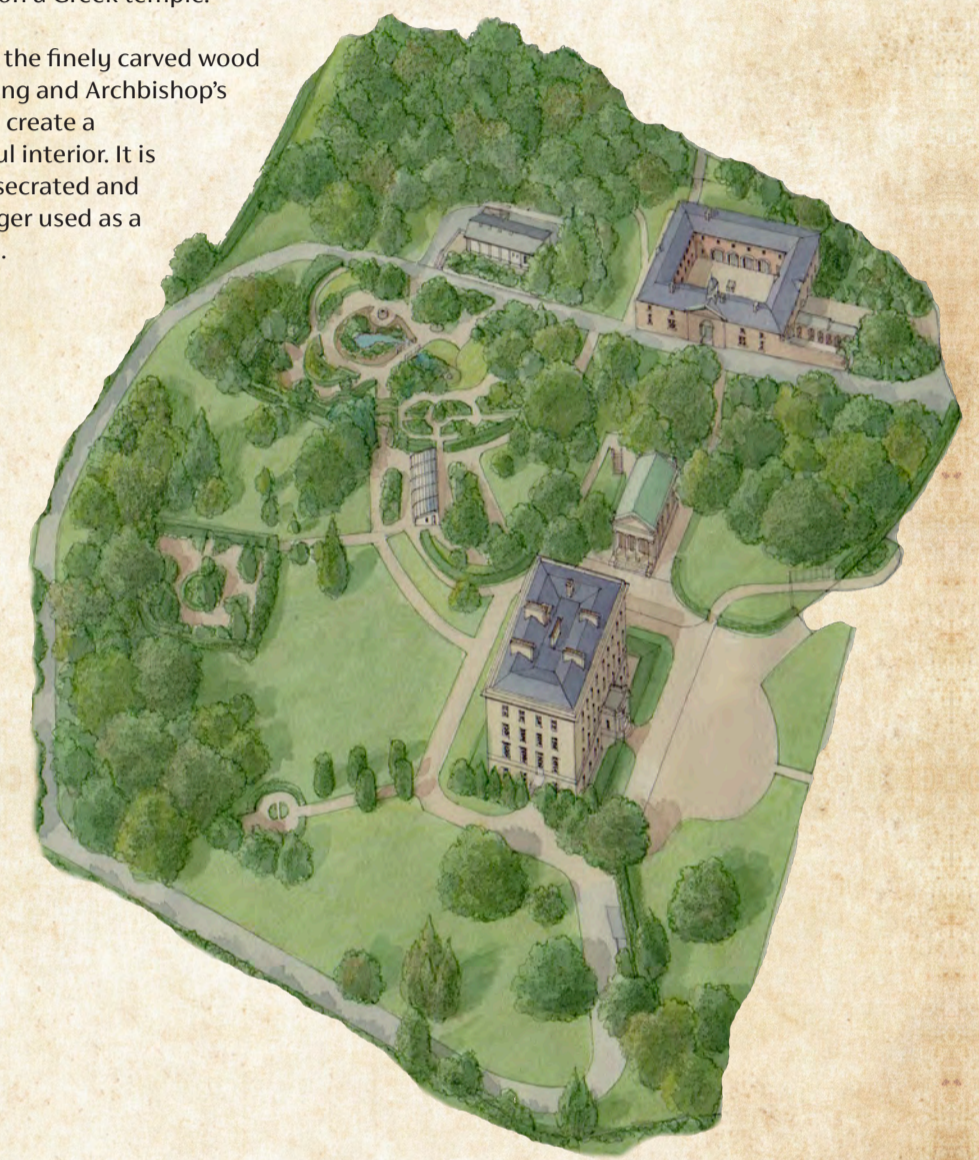


1 Primate's Chapel

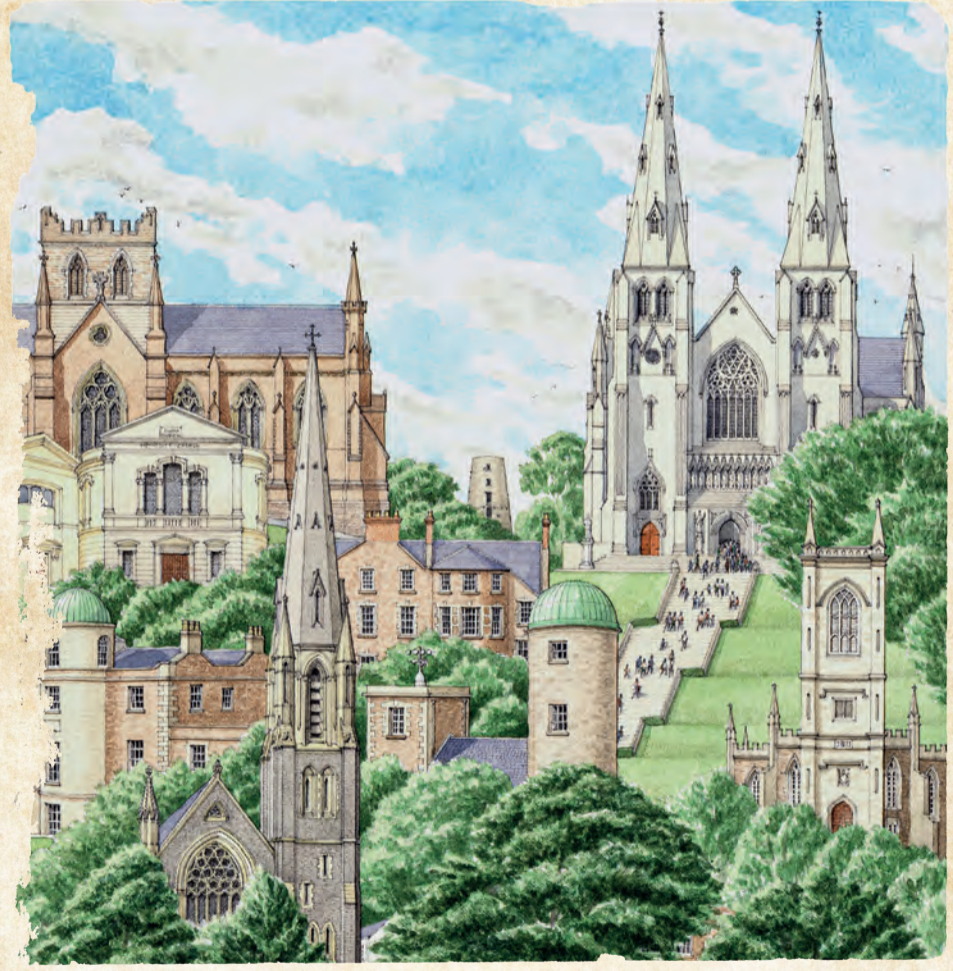
(1780) While dwarfed in size by the Archbishop's Palace, this building outshines it in terms of sheer quality and elegance.

Built in the 1780s, to a design by Thomas Cooley and finished by the famous Armagh architect Francis Johnston, some architectural experts consider this as Armagh's most important building. It has been described as a 'perfect little temple' by one architectural historian, whilst another wrote, it is 'one of the beautiful surviving 18th century ecclesiastical interiors in Ireland'. Built of local ashlar limestone, its design was based on a Greek temple.

Inside, the finely carved wood panelling and Archbishop's throne create a graceful interior. It is deconsecrated and no longer used as a church.



Ecclesiastical Trail

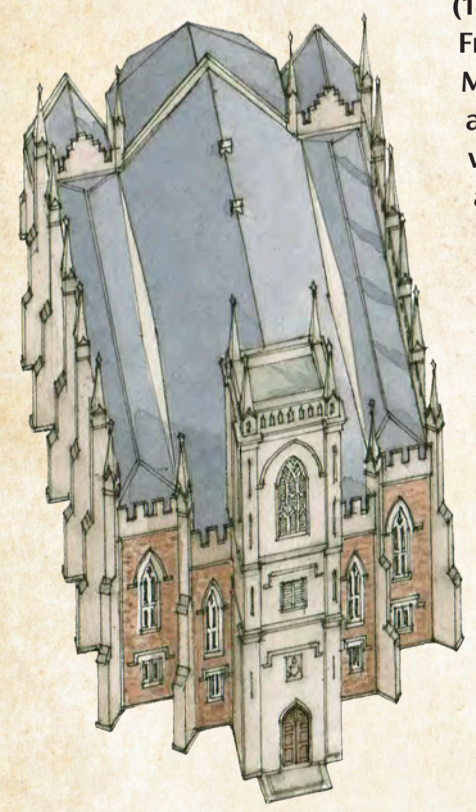


10 St. Mark's Church

(1811) The great Irish architect Francis Johnston designed St. Mark's for Archbishop Stuart as a Chapel of Ease at a time when the Mall was evolving as Armagh's finest public park.

Its long avenue of lime trees and neat churchyard create a pleasant harmony between the church building and the Mall.

St. Mark's was enlarged in the 1820s and again in 1866 which is apparent in the different styles of Gothic architecture preferred by each architect.



2 Franciscan Friary ruins



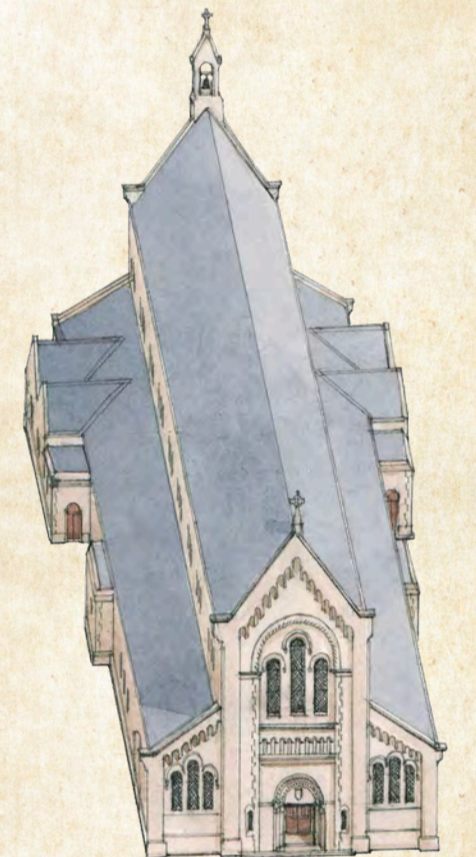
Franciscan Friary ruins (1264) In a city where almost nothing remains of its famous medieval past, the Friary stands alone as a reminder of Armagh's importance as an ecclesiastical centre.

The Friary was founded by Archbishop O'Scannail in 1263 but only the church nave survives of what would have been an extensive complex of buildings. Nevertheless at 50 metres long it is the longest friary church in Ireland. Today it is a protected monument in State Care.

3 St. Malachy's RC Church

(1935-1938) This church was built in Lower Irish Street to replace the old St. Malachy's Chapel on the site of the current St. Malachy's Primary School that had stood nearby in Chapel Lane from 1750.

The Dublin architects, Ashlin and Coleman, designed the building in a style inspired by Irish twelfth century Romanesque architecture and the building work was carried out by local firm P. McKenna & Sons.

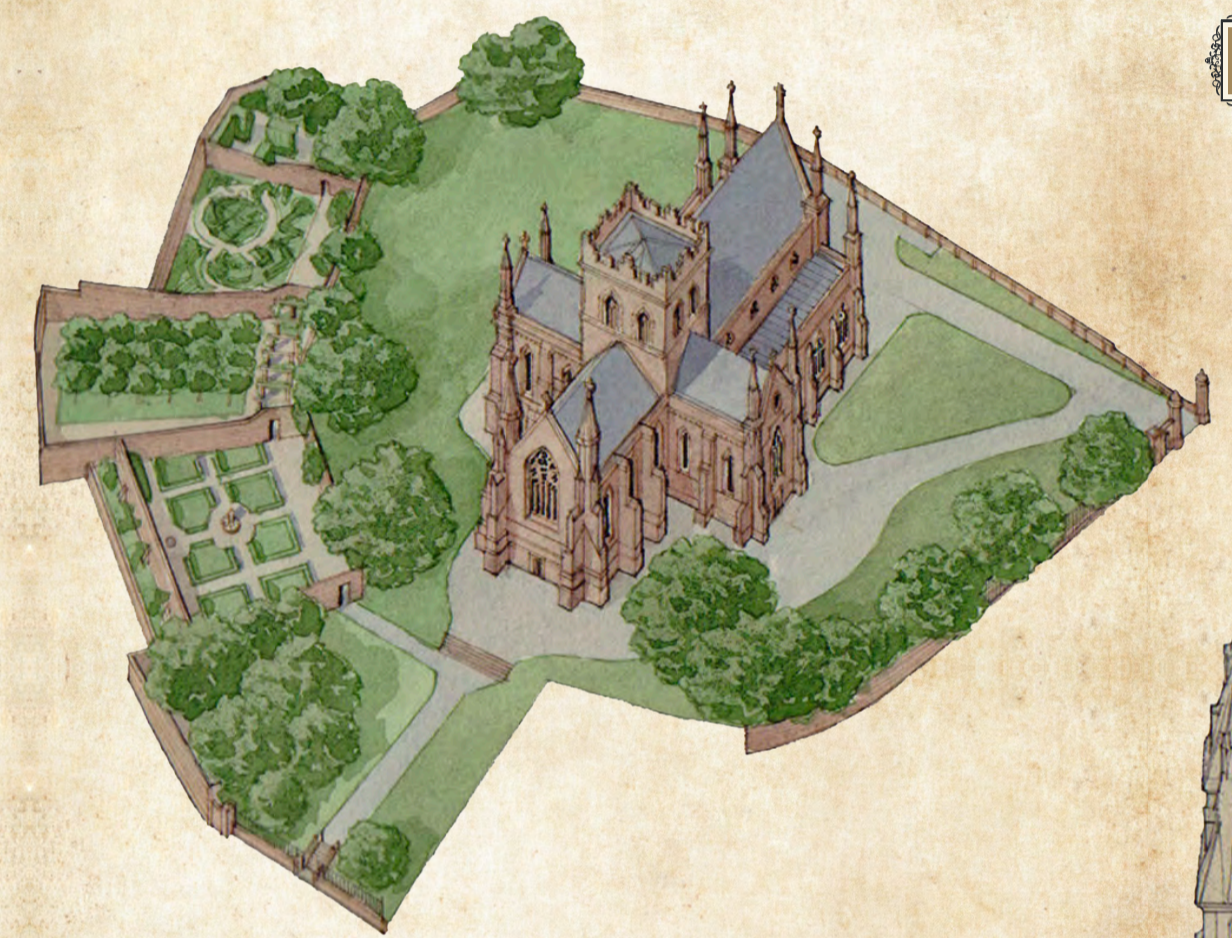


4 St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral

St. Patrick's CofI Cathedral (Medieval with later alterations) The plan of the Cathedral, as it now stands, is the enlarged design of Archbishop O'Scannail in 1268.

The crypt extended the Cathedral building eastwards on the top of the round hill and dates from O'Scannail's time. Although the Church on this hallowed site suffered destruction on at least seventeen occasions, it has always been restored, maintaining an unbroken link with the original foundation attributed to St. Patrick in 445AD. Significant restorations were undertaken during the primacies of Archbishop Hampton (1613), Archbishop Margetson (1660s) and Archbishop Robinson (1780s).

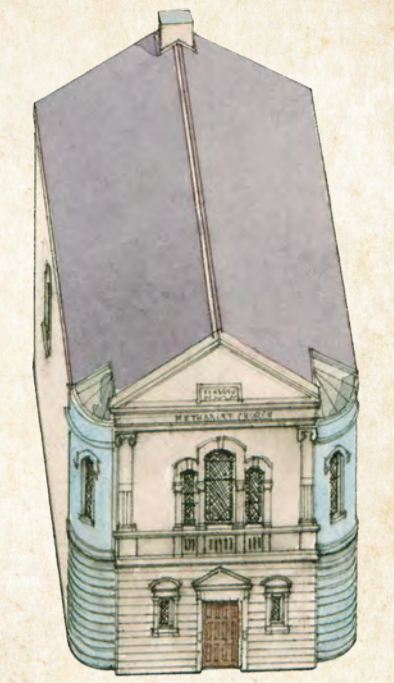
However, it was Lewis Nockalls Cottingham, under the direction and funding of Archbishop Lord John George Beresford, who completely remodelled the building between 1834 and 1940. The Cathedral that we see today is largely Cottingham's work with little of the old medieval stone work visible.



5 Methodist Church

(1835) Situated in one of Armagh's oldest areas, the Methodist Church in Abbey Street sits back at an angle, surrounded by railings.

It replaced an older Methodist place of worship on the same site, erected in 1786, and was itself altered several times, including work by the celebrated architect W. J. Barre in 1860. In the previous year he had designed the neighbouring Wesleyan School that now functions as the Methodist Hall.

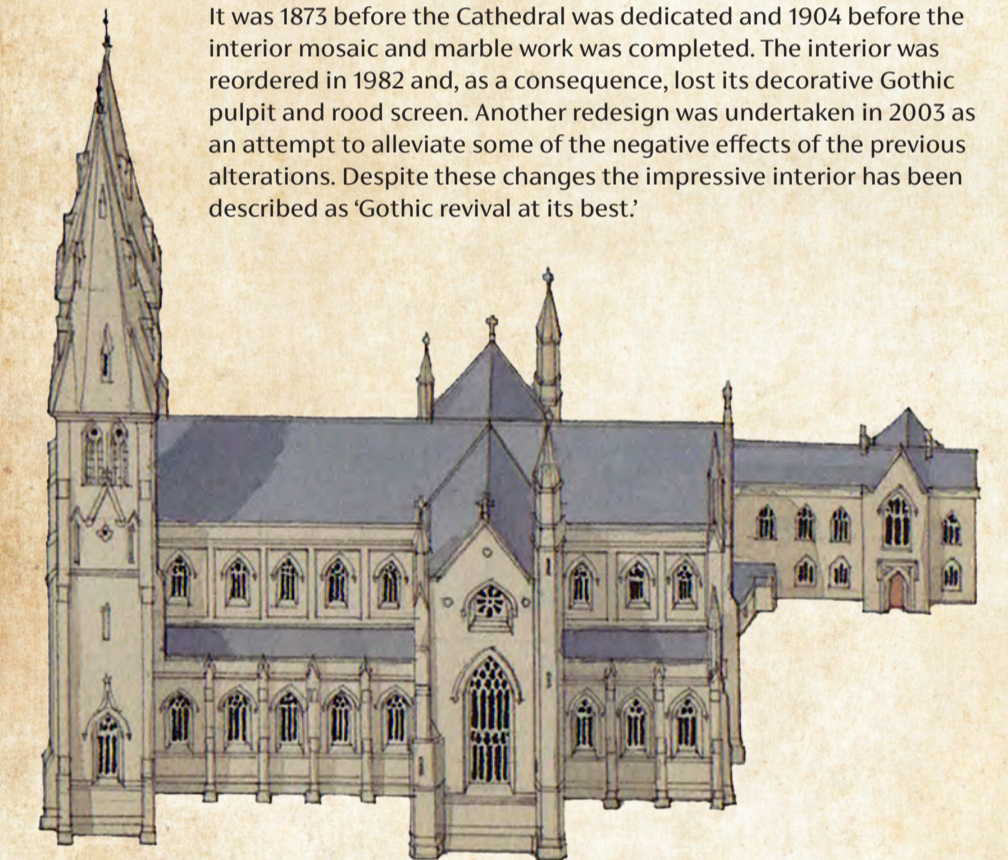


6 St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral

(1840-1904) Archbishop William Crollly instigated the project employing Newry architect Thomas Duff to create a cathedral in the Perpendicular style.

The foundation stone was laid on St. Patrick's Day 1840 but work ceased in 1847 when funds were diverted to famine relief. Duff's death the following year and Crollly's sudden death in 1849 compounded the interruption and it was not until 1854 and the appointment of a new architect, James McCarthy, that work began again.

It was 1873 before the Cathedral was dedicated and 1904 before the interior mosaic and marble work was completed. The interior was reordered in 1982 and, as a consequence, lost its decorative Gothic pulpit and rood screen. Another redesign was undertaken in 2003 as an attempt to alleviate some of the negative effects of the previous alterations. Despite these changes the impressive interior has been described as 'Gothic revival at its best'.



9 Gospel Hall - former Masonic Hall

(1884) Originally built as a Masonic Hall by local architect James Fullerton, this small but eye-catching building has attracted the attention of artists and photographers because of its colourful brickwork and intricate details.

A careful look will reveal some clues about its original function such as the carved 'square and compass' symbol and inverted sword outlined in black bricks above the entrance.

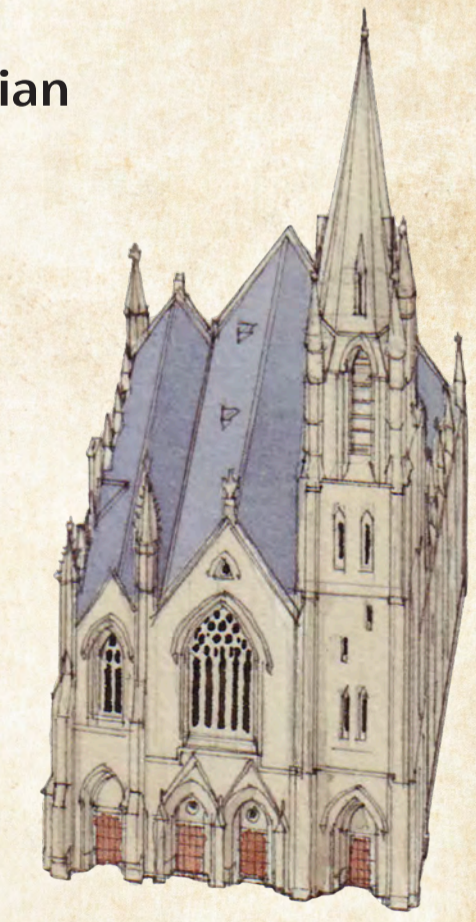


8 First Presbyterian Church

(1878) Apart from the Court House and Jail, this is arguably the most prominent building on the Mall and its spire makes it an elegant addition to Armagh's skyline.

The company Young & Mackenzie were the architects responsible for this ambitious Gothic design, ornamented with carved Dungannon sandstone.

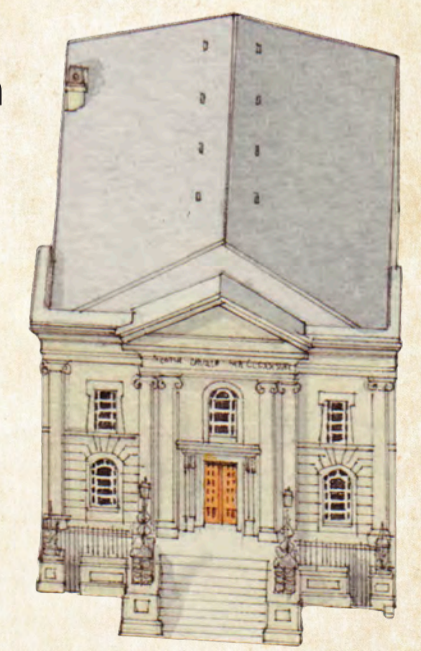
The First Presbyterian congregation has a history in the City that goes back to the 1600s and their Abbey Street Meeting House that was built in 1722 still stands, although no longer a place of worship.



7 Mall Presbyterian Church

(1837) Built by the third Presbyterian Congregation, the architect may have been William Murray.

The congregation was formed in 1837 and initially worshipped in the Primitive Methodist Church in Abbey Street. Although the Roman numerals on the frieze read 1837, the Church did not open until February 1840.



Ecclesiastical Trail



The architectural richness of Armagh is exhibited most obviously in the many church buildings around the city.

The two cathedrals dominate the skyline and their visual impact will be remembered by anyone who visits Ireland's Ecclesiastical Capital. Some church buildings such as the Palace Chapel and Franciscan Friary are no longer places of worship and one (the Gospel Hall) began life as a secular building before its transformation. Nevertheless it is evident that they all make a significant contribution to the city's overall built heritage and this trail highlighting ten churches is an introduction to their history and architecture.



ECCLESIASTICAL TRAIL BUILDINGS

- 1 Palace Chapel
- 2 Franciscan Friary ruins
- 3 St. Malachy's Roman Catholic Church
- 4 St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral
- 5 Methodist Church
- 6 St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral
- 7 Mall Presbyterian Church
- 8 First Presbyterian Church
- 9 Gospel Hall - former Masonic Hall
- 10 St. Mark's Church of Ireland Church

For opening hours please refer to church website.

Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the completion of this brochure. All information supplied is accurate at the time of print.

ARMAGH CITY CENTRE PARKING MAP

Car Park	Free/Pay [Approx]
P1 Mall Shopping Centre [Mall West]*	Pay
P2 Linenhall Street Car Park*	Pay
P3 City Centre Parking	Pay (Free Sunday)
P4 Dobbin Street Lane St Malachy's	Free & Pay
P5 Friary Road Car Park*	Free & Pay
P6 Court House	Free
P7 Lonsdale Road	Free
P8 Mall East [on-street]	Free
P9 The Shambles Yard	Free

Over 180 on-street parking spaces including 24 disabled spaces also available. *Carparks marked are all FREE after 6.30pm and every Sunday.