



Waterford

...where I live

1 Reginald's Tower

Reginald's Tower is the oldest civic, urban structure in Ireland. It was built on the site of an original Viking foundation of Dundory. During its lifetime the tower has been a prison, castle, mint and a store for guns.



2 St. John's Priory

St John's Priory was a Benedictine Priory from the 13th Century up until 1537 when it was dissolved by King Henry VIII. The land was given to the Wyse family and was their place of burial for centuries. Their funeral vault still occupies part of the surviving ruins.



3 Watch Tower

The Watch Tower was a 13th Century corner tower on the medieval city walls. The absence of windows on the upper elevation of the tower suggests that it functioned exclusively as a defensive structure and was not intended to be occupied as a residence during peace time.



4 Double Tower

The Double Tower is so-called probably because the interior consists of two chambers, one of which comprises a passageway providing access to the Benedictine Priory; the other larger chamber housed a stairway for access to the upper floors and battlements.



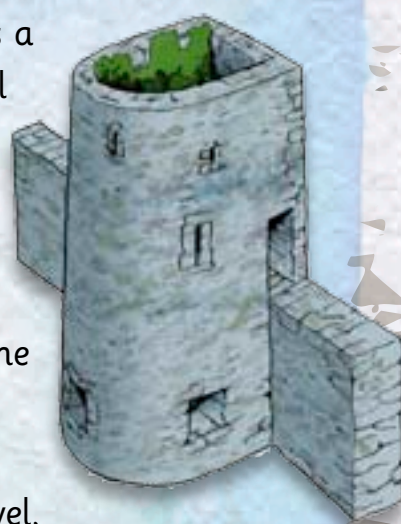
5 French Tower

The French Tower would have given a commanding view out over the surrounding country side. The ground and first floor of the tower date from the mid 13th century when King Henry III allowed the City Council to collect taxes to finance the fortifications of the suburbs.



6 Semi Lunar Tower

The semi-lunar tower is a flanking or "on the wall tower". The purpose of these towers was to make the sectioning of the wall easier and so contain the attackers who got onto it. Because the tower rose well above wall level, it could defend the adjacent wall-walk and act as a lookout and signalling post.



8 St. Martin's Gate

Excavations carried out in 1983 uncovered the remains of St. Martin's Gate, a 13th century gate and portcullis flanked by twin towers. The passage or entrance was kept narrow to hinder invaders and to facilitate the collection of the murage tax levied on goods brought into the city.



10 Blackfriars

Blackfriars was founded in 1226 by the Dominicans and was known as Blackfriars after the colour of the habits worn by the friars. It was dissolved in 1540 by order of King Henry VIII and was later used as a courthouse and theatre.



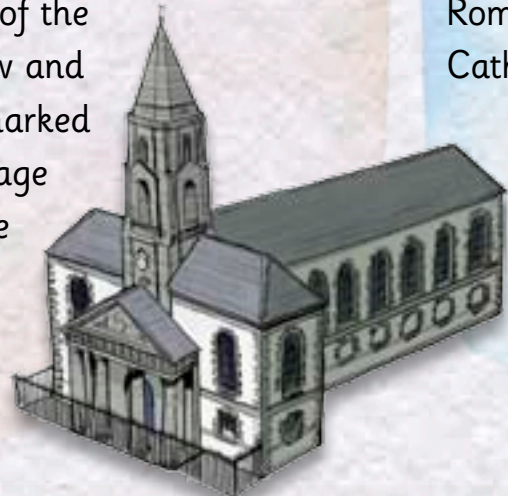
12 Bishop's Palace

The Bishop's Palace was designed in 1741 by architect Richard Cassels. It has been described as one of the largest and finest Episcopal residences in Ireland.



13 Christ Church Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral was designed in 1779 by local architect John Roberts and it is the third building to stand on this site. This was also the site of the marriage of Strongbow and Aoife in 1170 which marked the end of the Viking age in Irish history and the beginning of English involvement in Irish affairs.



14 Holy Trinity Cathedral

Holy Trinity Cathedral was designed by local architect John Roberts and built between 1793 and 1796. It is the oldest Roman Catholic Cathedral in Ireland.



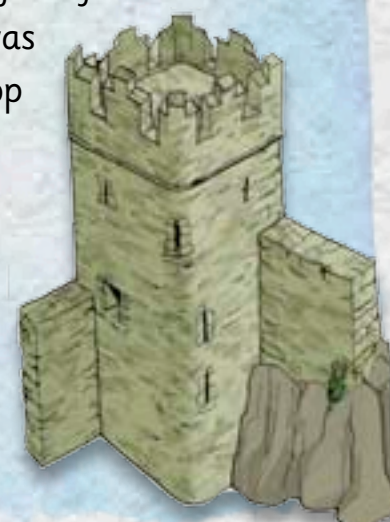
15 Clock Tower

The Clock Tower was built in 1861 and originally called the Fountain Clock as it had three drinking water fountains at its base for horses and dogs.



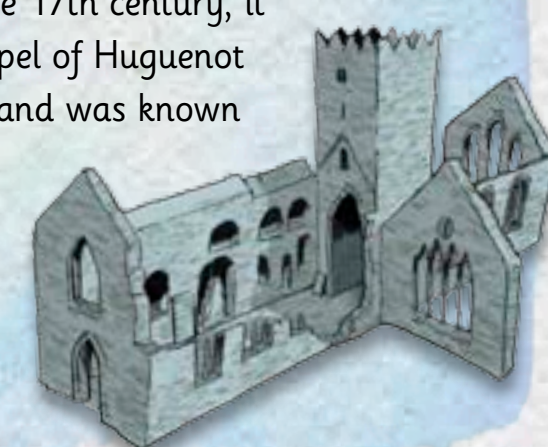
7 Beach Tower

The Beach Tower, with its 15th century Irish crenellations, is one of the finest towers on Waterford's walls. It was built on a rocky outcrop which forms a natural defensive position and during the medieval period, the area between the tower and the river was not developed.



9 Greyfriars

Greyfriars was built as a Franciscan Friary in 1240. It was known as Greyfriars after the colour of the habits worn by the friars as a sign of their humility. From the late 17th century, it was the chapel of Huguenot immigrants and was known locally as the French Church.



11 Undercrofts

The undercrofts comprise a 13th and 15th century undercroft. The 15th century undercroft is a typical merchant's cellar and was used to store wine and other expensive goods. The 13th century Chorister's Hall, is the only upstanding part of Waterford's 13th century Gothic Cathedral.



Waterford is Ireland's oldest City and is also older than all of the Northern European capitals with the exception of London and Paris.

In 914, the great Viking adventurer and pirate, Regnall, a grandson of Ivor the Boneless, established a base here and built a longphort or ships' haven, which in time would become a modern City. In 2014, Waterford City will celebrate its 1100th Anniversary.

