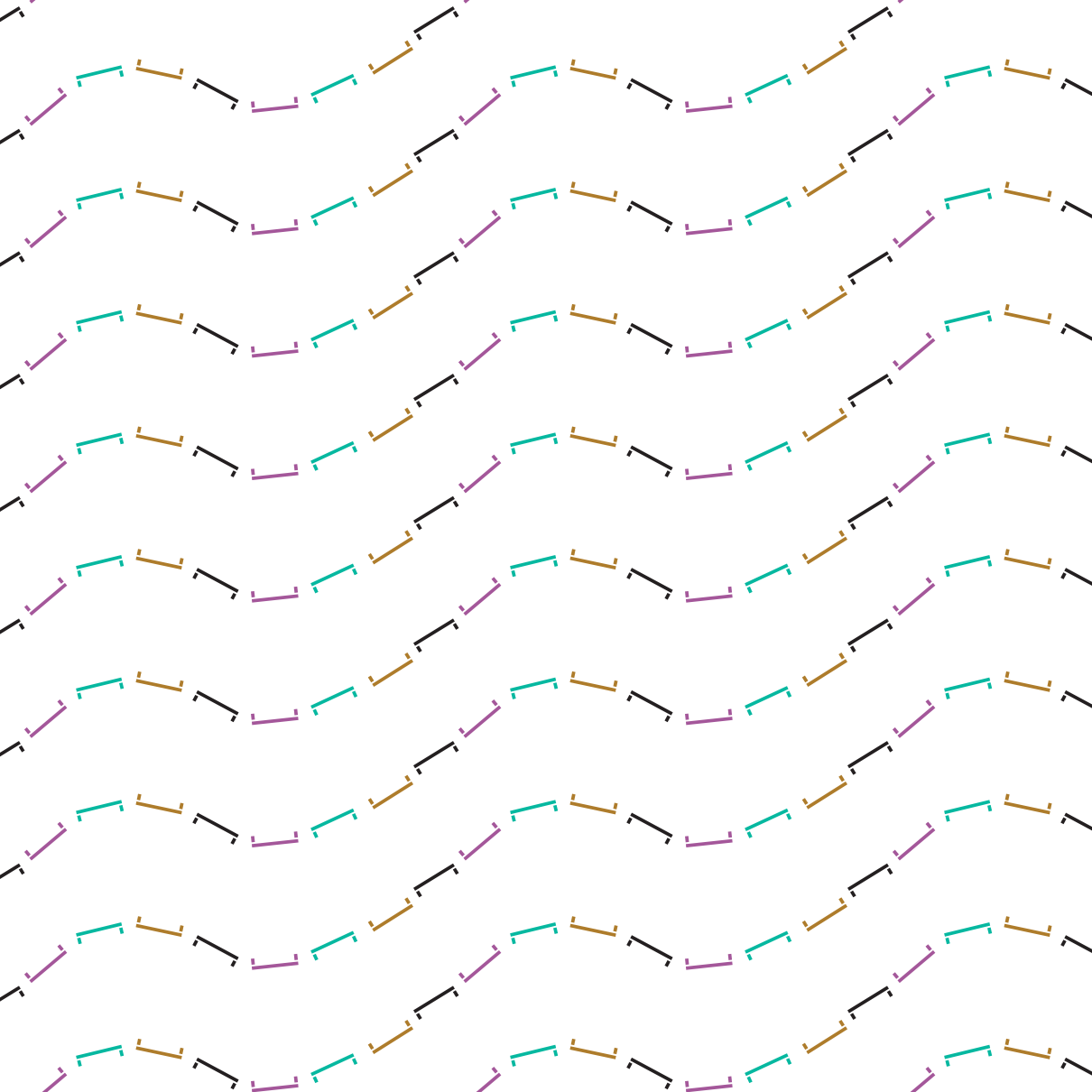


GRANGEGORMAN

HISTORIES

FOUNDATION DOCUMENT



GRANGEGORMAN HISTORIES: A PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECT

Dublin City Council (DCC)

Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA)

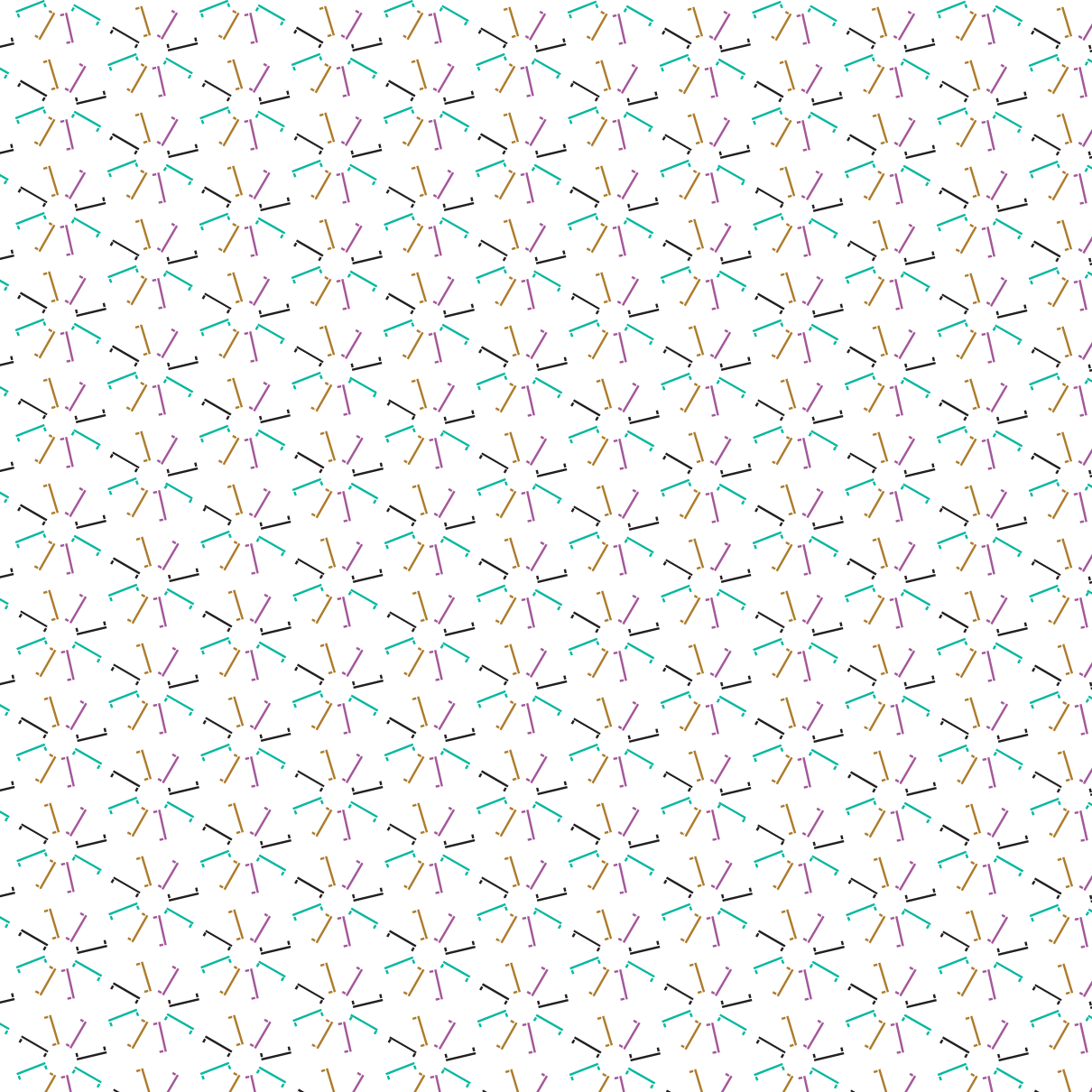
Health Service Executive (HSE)

Local Communities

National Archives, Ireland (NAI)

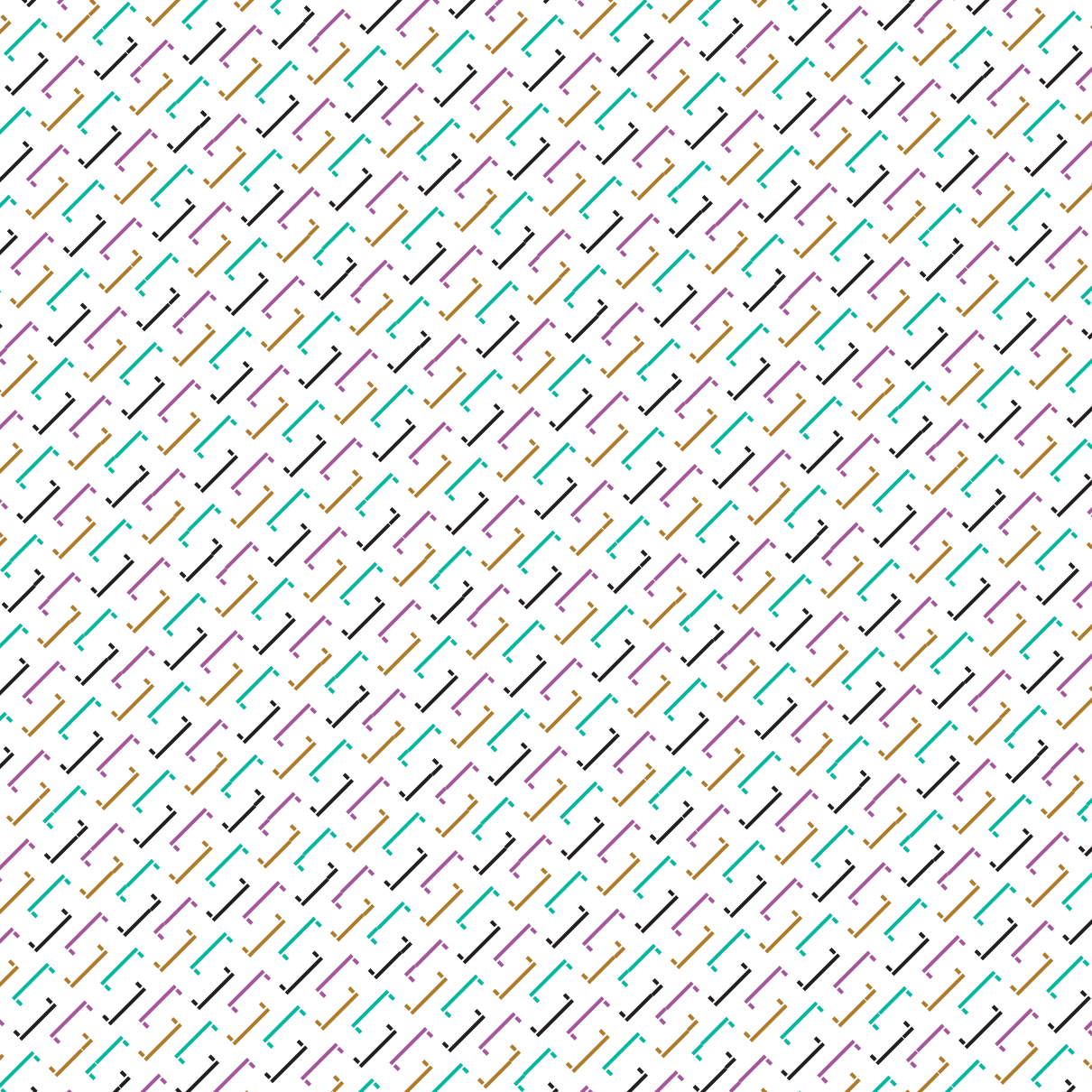
Royal Irish Academy (RIA)

Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin)



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FOREWORD

This *Foundation Document* sets out the mission, vision and values informing our activities, the historical context, the founding partners, funding, essential governance matters and – finally – the implementation plan for the three years of the Grangegorman Histories project.

The Grangegorman Histories Expert Working Group (GHWG) is made up of representatives of our partners and experts in areas relevant to our work. We have an oversight and management role.

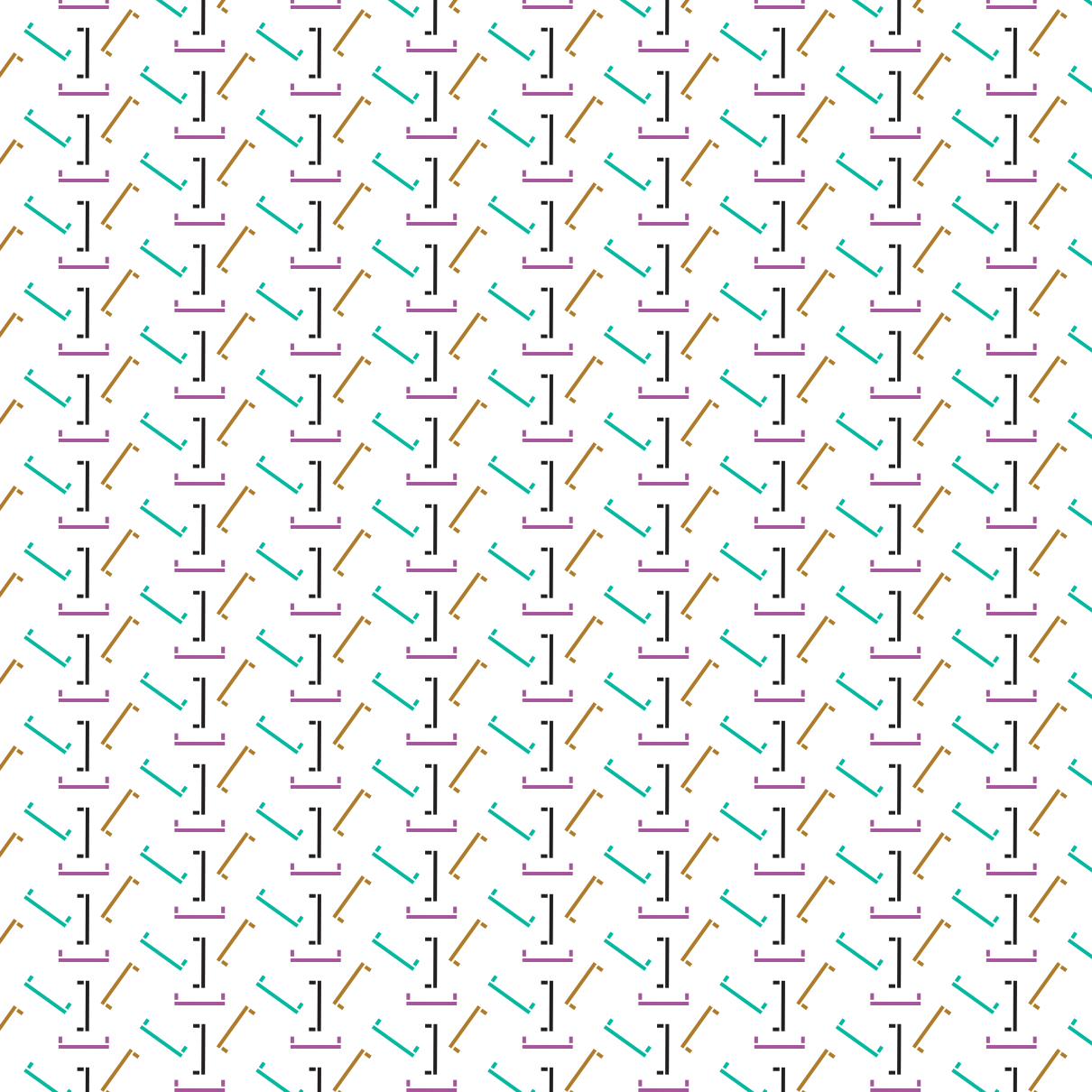
It has taken time for the Grangegorman Histories project to reach this stage. We acknowledge the work of the many dedicated

people who have gone before us. But now we are established we anticipate future developments will be rapid and far-reaching. You are encouraged to study the document and to consider ways in which you can engage with us – for your own benefit and for the benefit of others.

This is a working document and the project will continue to evolve. The implementation plan, therefore, may be considered indicative only.

I look forward to collaborating with you all to achieve our aims.

Dr Philip Cohen
Chair, Grangegorman Histories
Expert Working Group
May 2020



ABOUT GRANGEGORMAN HISTORIES

In the past 250 years, Grangegorman has been the site of a workhouse, a hospital, a prison and now it is to be integrated into the city as a health and education campus. The buildings of Grangegorman stand as architectural monuments to that past and its complex histories.

The Grangegorman Development Agency Act of 2005 and

Grangegorman Strategic Plan of 2011 made provision for the development of historical research into this significant site. The Grangegorman Development Agency and the Royal Irish Academy will lead this public history programme of research and shared discovery. This diverse programme of events, publications and learning opportunities will help to uncover the history of the site

and surrounding communities. The Grangeorman Histories Expert Working Group has been appointed to realise the programme.

Throughout this document and within the context of the programme, original language and terminology from the past and from various archives and reports are maintained, except where explicitly indicated otherwise. This reflects an attempt to remain faithful to historical sources and does not reflect an endorsement of the broader use of such terminology in contemporary settings.

MISSION

Grangeorman Histories will provide a series of opportunities to contribute to the important work of uncovering, cataloguing and commemorating the eventful history of this site and the surrounding area.

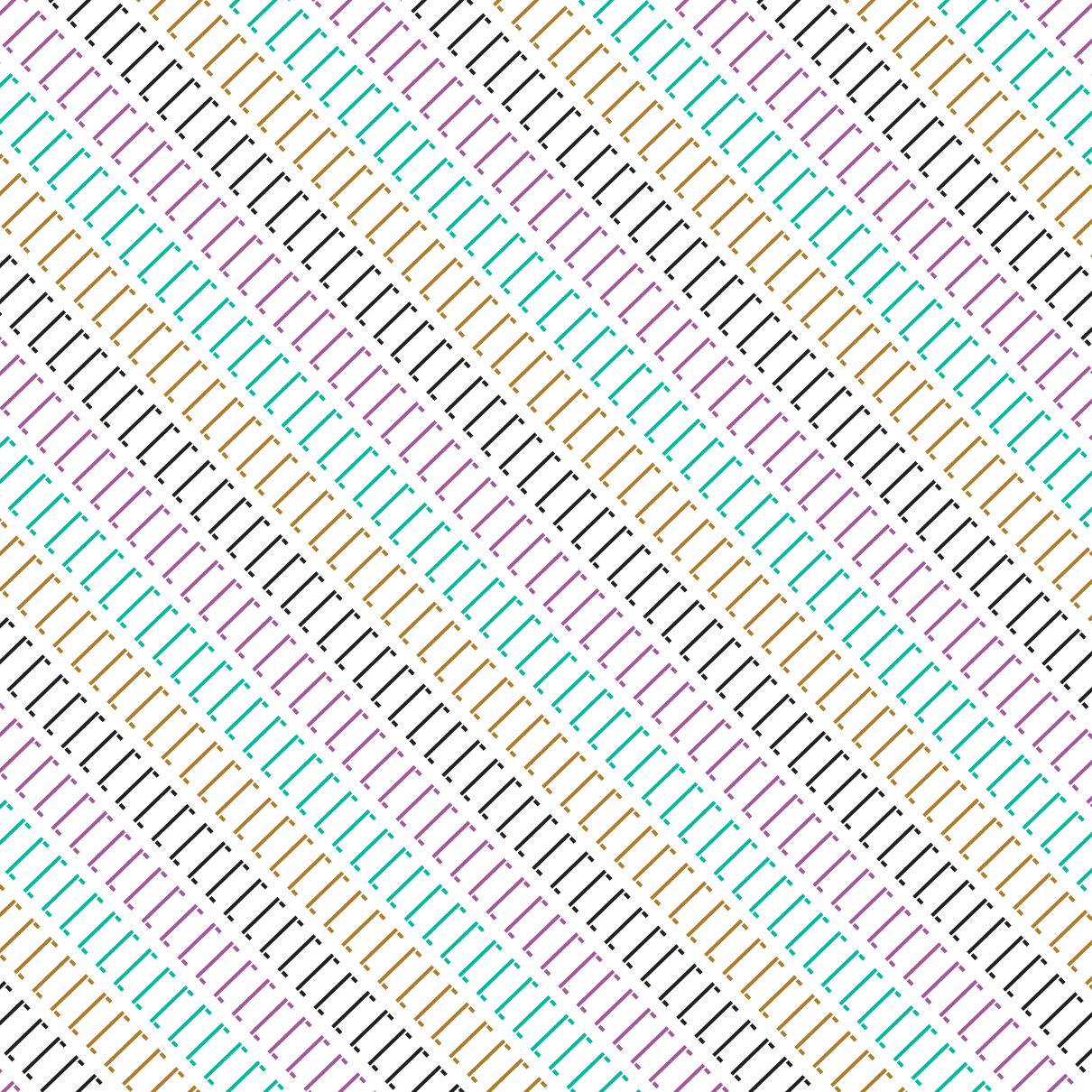
VISION

We will stimulate awareness of the multi-faceted histories of the Grangeorman area and will support the creation of an ambitious, wide-ranging and challenging programme that will benefit local, national and international stakeholders.

VALUES

The Project will be:

- Comprehensive, embracing multiple aspects of the area's history
- Relevant, acknowledging the complex nature of our past to help to destigmatise mental illness and institutional confinement
- Respectful, recognising the sometimes-distressing nature of personal stories
- Transformative, fostering understanding of difference to build a better society
- Pluralist, reaching out to local, national and international stakeholders
- Accessible, ensuring its activities are open to all
- Inspirational, stimulating active research and opening minds through education



A BRIEF HISTORY

The Grangegorman area was in agricultural use until the expansion of Dublin in the 18th century. Since then, it has been the site of immense human activity, which frequently implemented ideas that were radical at the time.

In the 1760s the North Circular Road was laid out, enclosing the site inside urban Dublin. In 1810 the Royal Canal was operating as

a trading route to the west, with its terminal at Broadstone. The Midland Great Western Railway Company purchased the canal in 1845 in order to construct a railway alongside and its terminus building at Broadstone was completed in 1850.

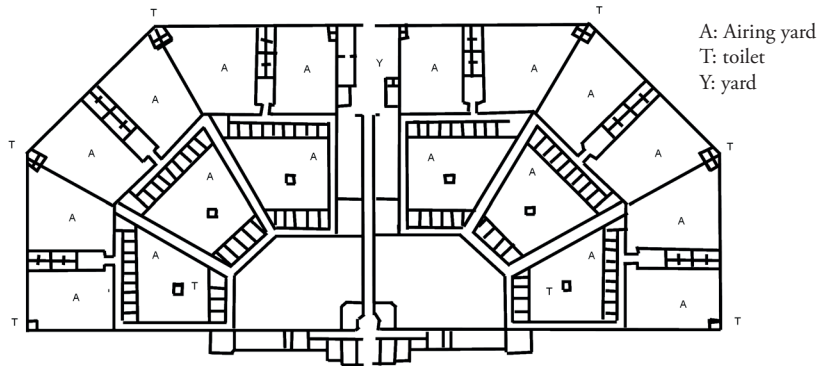
In 1772 legislation was introduced in Ireland which radically changed the system of ‘managing’ the poor

and orphans. In 1773 the *Dublin House of Industry* was built in the south-east quarter of the site (the greater part of it on what is now the location of the Legion of Mary hostel). The House of Industry was an institution for the relief of the poor in the County of Dublin. It became the Poorhouse for the county and included sections used as asylums for the ‘aged, infirm, homeless children’ and others.

The *Richmond Lunatic Asylum* (now the ‘Lower House’) was one of the first public psychiatric hospitals in Ireland, built immediately to the west of the Poorhouse and opened in 1814. It was named after the Duke of Richmond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The asylum aimed to deal with patients whose mental illnesses were considered to be treatable and, in the early years,

a high quality of accommodation and environment was maintained for these patients. By the 1820s, however, changes in legislation led to overcrowding and to the reception of patients deemed by the courts of the time to be ‘criminally insane’.

The *Richmond Penitentiary* (now the ‘Clock Tower’) was constructed in 1820, immediately to the north of the asylum. The building held both male and female offenders, the first prison in Ireland to emphasise reform and ‘moral management’ of prisoners rather than punishment. In 1832 it was taken over for an extended period for use as a cholera hospital and saw particularly heavy usage during the epidemic of that time. In 1836 the penitentiary became the *Grangegorm Female Penitentiary*, the first exclusively



Architectural drawing of the Richmond General Penitentiary by Francis Johnston (1811)

female prison in Great Britain and Ireland. This was used as the Grangegorman Transportation Depot between 1840 and the 1880s, when over 3,200 women and children were held there on their way to Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania). In the 1860s the penitentiary was extended and improved. It was again taken over for hospital use in 1897 during

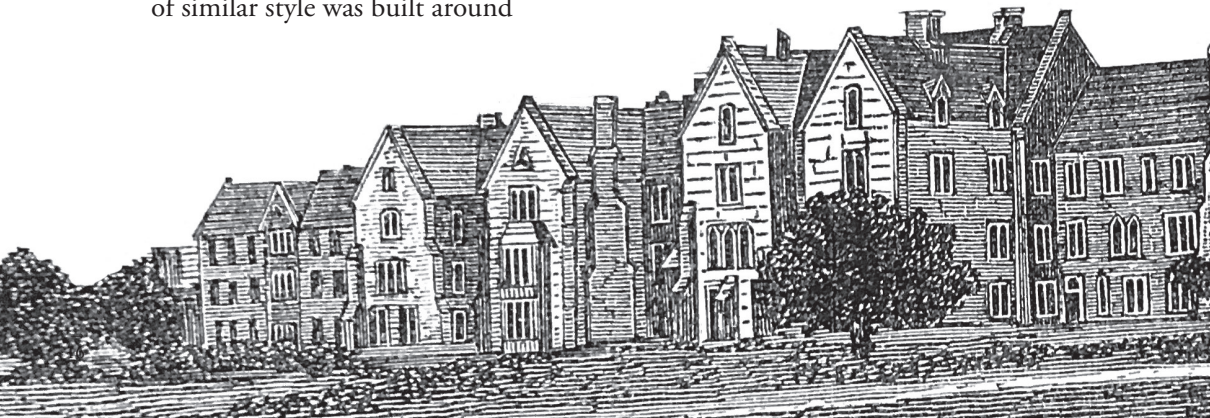
typhoid and beriberi outbreaks and was never returned to prison use. The last patients were removed in the 1930s and the buildings mostly demolished over the next few decades.

By 1836 the lands to the west of Grangegorman Lane were in use as recreational gardens for the benefit of the patients in the asylum (from

1851 access was by a tunnel built under the road to connect the two sites). In c.1851 a chapel, initially serving both Catholic and Protestant patients, and two infirmaries were built on those lands to the west. Following this the new *Richmond District Lunatic Asylum* was built in the centre of the grounds, which housed males only. The Church of Ireland Chapel was built nearby in 1860.

The single-storey brick Laundry building (now part of the HSE Primary Care Centre) was built c.1894 and the mortuary building of similar style was built around

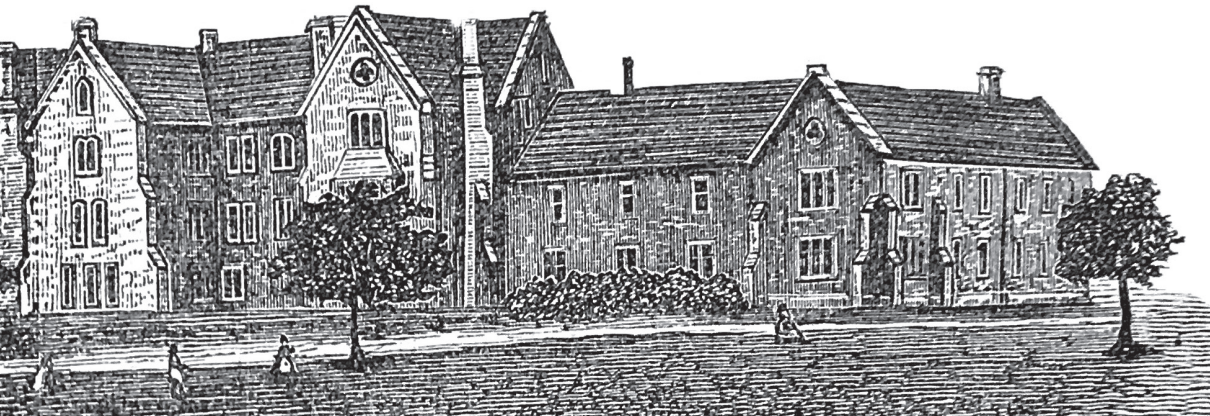
the same time. St. Dymphna's (now known as the Conolly Norman House) was built in 1905, on land fronting onto the North Circular Road. Three detached doctors' houses were built in the same location c. 1936. In 1938, the Nurses' Home was completed immediately south of the penitentiary. This building was extended in 1949. Further institutional buildings were developed in the twentieth century and the complex was renamed *St. Brendan's Hospital* in 1958.



The Nurses' Home and other buildings from the *St. Brendan's Hospital* complex were removed during a 2013 GDA contract for demolitions and enabling works. The population of the asylum complex rose from *c.* 283 patients in the 1850s to *c.* 2,000 patients by the 1940s. The development of community-based alternatives resulted in a decline in the number of patients, so there were only *c.* 100 patients by 2013. That year, the patients moved to the new *Phoenix Care Centre* and the rest of the site ceased to function as a hospital.

The Dublin 7 Educate Together Temporary School opened in 2009, the first DIT (now TU Dublin) students arrived on the site in 2014, and the *Grangegorman Primary Care Centre* opened in 2018. In late 2020 some 10,000 TU Dublin students will arrive on the campus. Thus, a new chapter begins.

Adapted from the Grangegorman Development Agency Strategic Plan (2011): 2. Project Vision and Context; 2.2 Historical Context
<http://ggda.ie/strategic-plan>
http://ggda.ie/assets/GG_Strategic_Plan_S2.pdf





FOUNDING PARTNERS

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL -CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

The Dublin City Council Central Area is one of five administrative areas used by Dublin City Council to coordinate the delivery of services in the city. The Central Area includes the north city centre, Broadstone, North Wall, East Wall, Drumcondra, and Ballybough. The re-development of Grangegorman heralds a new era for the area, however, the Committee wishes to recognise and acknowledge the history of Grangegorman, particularly the people who experienced life there, with access to the records of these people and their experiences, even if that is sometimes a difficult process.

GRANGEGORMAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (GDA)

The Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA) was set up under the GDA Act 2005 to re-develop the grounds of *St Brendan's Hospital* into a new urban quarter for Dublin City.

This quarter has health, education, and community at its heart and is underpinned by the principles of connectivity, accessibility, and sustainability. It includes new healthcare facilities for the HSE; a consolidated city campus for TU Dublin, Ireland's largest third level institution; and contains public amenities such as a primary school, sports pitches, playgrounds, and parkland areas.

As part of the overall re-development it is vital that the Agency captures in some way the rich and significant history of the site and the surrounding area, and this was committed to in the Grangegorman Strategic Plan 2011.

HEALTH SERVICE EXECUTIVE (HSE)

The Health Service Executive (HSE) are former custodians of the Grangegorman site and have already been involved in a major transformation in Grangegorman, with the development of the award-winning *Phoenix Care Centre* and the *Grangegorman Primary Care Centre*. The HSE are developing the first housing project on the site, the Residential Care Neighbourhood with 100 bed spaces due to open in 2023. The HSE have responsibility for the archives and artefacts from the former *St Brendan's Hospital* and historical mental health facilities on the site. They will provide guidance on appropriate access to those materials to support the Working Group in its mission to uncover, catalogue and memorialise these aspects of the history associated with this site.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Grangegorman borders many neighbourhoods and communities within the north inner city and the north western suburbs. These communities are part of the past and the future of Grangegorman, with many of the residents having some connection to the site. They are a vital part of the project and will be an important resource as the project progresses.

The contributions, reflections, participation and engagement of the Grangegorman local communities are integral to the Grangegorman Histories programme. The project will seek opportunities to engage with local communities and place their contributions at the centre of the programme delivery. A key measure of the success of Grangegorman Histories will be the response of the local communities to this work.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES, IRELAND

The National Archives collects, manages and preserves the public record of Ireland, ensuring its availability both as a resource and to safeguard citizens' rights. Instrumental to the discovery and rescue of the historical records of the Grangegorman mental health institutions in recent years, the National Archives has ensured the preservation and availability of this remarkable and valuable national resource. The National Archives aims to stimulate active engagement with these records to transform understanding of the former mental health institutions on this site.

ROYAL
IRISH
ACADEMY
(RIA)

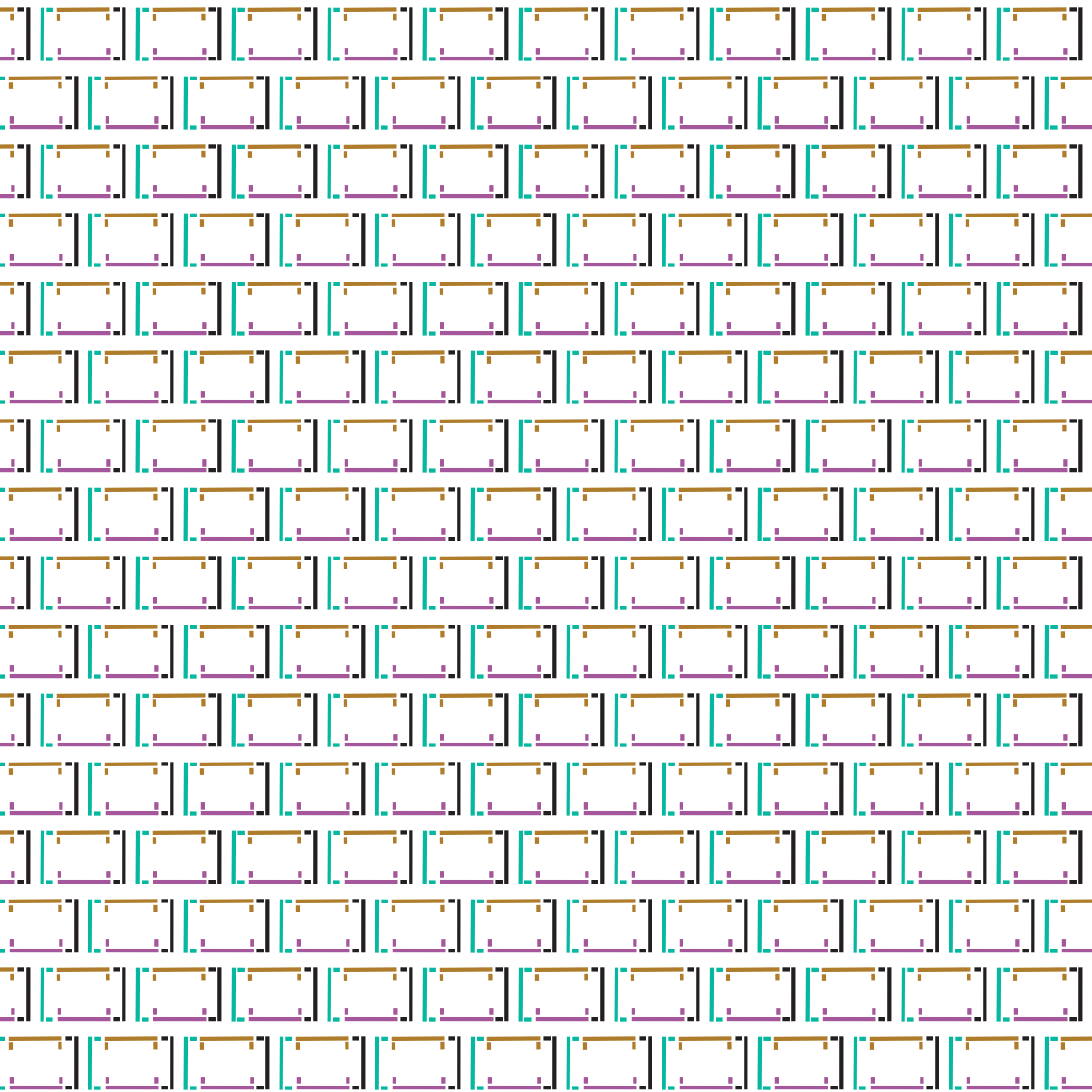
The Royal Irish Academy (RIA) is an independent, all-island learned society established under Charter in 1785. The RIA champions research. It identifies and recognises Ireland's world class researchers. It supports scholarship and promotes awareness of how science and the humanities enrich our lives and benefit society. It believes that good research needs to be promoted, sustained and communicated. The RIA is run by a Council of its members. Membership is by election and considered the highest academic honour in Ireland.

The RIA has a research interest in serving society by using archives to understand our past including mental illness and has commissioned Professor Brendan Kelly to write a book *Grangegorman Histories: Inside the Asylum*. The RIA approached TU Dublin, the National Archives and the GDA about a partnership to deliver a wider history research and public engagement project. As this coincided with the GDA's own thinking, the RIA has agreed to partner with the GDA to help co-ordinate and deliver the Grangegorman Histories project.

TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY
DUBLIN
(TU DUBLIN)

Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) is Ireland's first Technological University, offering a unique range of programmes and disciplines, with pathways to graduation from foundation and apprenticeship to undergraduate and doctoral levels. TU Dublin is the university where the arts, business, sciences, engineering and technology converge, and its 28,500 students and researchers come from all over Ireland and from all parts of the globe.

The new University has well-developed campuses in Dublin City and in the two largest areas of population growth in the Greater Dublin Region – Blanchardstown and Tallaght. Now, a new city campus is being developed within the 73 acre site at Grangegorm in central Dublin. This is the largest higher education development project in Europe. The campus will provide an exceptional learning environment that supports research, innovation, and the advancement of knowledge and will welcome more than 10,000 students in late 2020. A further 4,000 students will relocate to the campus by 2023.

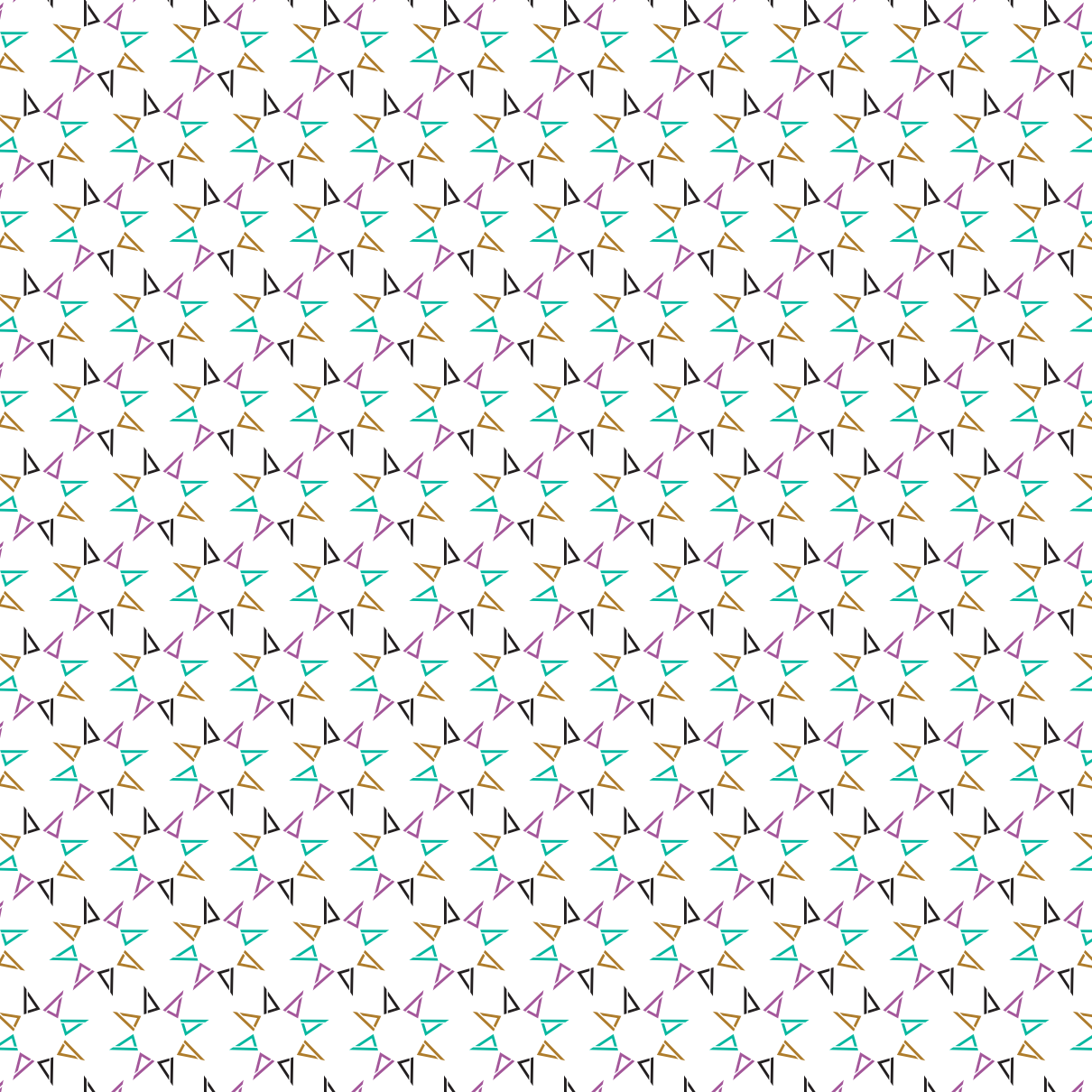


FUNDING

The RIA and the GDA will contribute resources to deliver Grangegorman Histories from 2019 when the project was launched, to its initial three years period from 2020-2022. The GDA has allocated €25,000 per annum to the RIA to support the co-ordination costs of the project. The programme costs are made up of €10,000 per year from Dublin City Council, TU Dublin and the GDA. The total budget therefore is €165,000 over three years: €75,000 for co-ordination and €90,000 for the programme costs. Additional funding will be sourced, as

necessary, to deliver the programme. If you would like to make a philanthropic contribution, please email communications@ggda.ie Each of the founding partners will contribute significant in-kind resources to the initial three-year phase of the project.

The GHWG does not require funding for its day-to-day operations. All members volunteer their time and expertise without recompense. Consequently, all funding allocated to the project will go directly to the implementation of its programme.



GOVERNANCE

The project will be overseen by the Grangegorman Histories Expert Working Group (GHWG). The Working Group will set the strategy, manage the funds and devise the work programme to achieve the project aims.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The GHWG will devise and manage a programme of events and a range of resources appropriate to this multi-layered area of study, ensuring that the values of the project are adhered to at all times. The specific functions of the GHWG are to:

- a) Develop a strategy and programme of high reputation and good practice in line with national policy
- b) Oversee and sustain a clear, cohesive curatorial vision of ambition for history projects on-site and off-site
- c) Agree and sanction processes for the development and realisation of projects, events and resources
- d) Develop and support mechanisms for the review and evaluation of project outputs
- e) Oversee the budget for the project and maximise

opportunities for applications to other appropriate funding sources

- f) Develop a comprehensive communication method regarding the promotion and documentation of the Working Group's activities
- g) Collaborate with new and existing GDA working groups, committees and other stakeholders to ensure a cohesive cross-agency programme delivery.

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The Working Group is appointed by and reports to the Chief Executive Officer of the GDA. The Chair will report to the CEO through the GDA staff member on the Working Group and will seek approval for its activities

where necessary. While the GHWG has the remit and authority to decide on the type of events and resources to procure, the CEO will formally sign off on each project and, as with all financial matters on the project, a Purchase Order must be raised before any commitment is made to procure services or work from any source. These processes will be managed by the GDA staff member on the GHWG.

In addition to the above, the Chair of the Working Group will complete a quarterly report to the CEO of the GDA. The report should include the following:

- Recent progress to date
- Upcoming projects
- Financial commitments in the next quarter
- Any issues which are current or foreseen
- Minutes from the GHWG meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

In common with membership of any public board or working group, members are expected to:

- Disclose any potential conflict of interest and absent themselves from relevant discussions and decision making
- Avoid receiving corporate gifts and or hospitality which might affect the ability of the recipient to make independent judgements
- Respect the confidentiality of the GHWG's deliberations and decisions
- Act with integrity in all decision making
- Consult the Chair of the GHWG and or the Corporate Affairs Manager of the GDA where in doubt on any of the above matters

The GHWG is made up of the following members from the founding partners:

- Philip Cohen (Chair)
- Danny Connellan (HSE)
- Catriona Crowe (RIA)
- Stephanie Dickenson (Communications, arts and local communities)
- Brian Donnelly (NAI)
- Charles Duggan (DCC)
- Noel Fitzpatrick (TU Dublin)
- Ruth Hegarty (RIA)
- Brendan Kelly (TCD and Tallaght University Hospital)
- Mary Muldowney (DCC Historian-in-residence and local communities)
- Nora Rahill (GDA)
- Una Sugrue (GDA)

Other expert members may be added as deemed appropriate by the Working Group.

DATA PROTECTION

Data Protection Law in Ireland is governed primarily by the Data Protection Acts 1988–2003 and 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU/2016/679). The GDA and the RIA will be joint data controllers and processors, (in some cases) sharing responsibility for compliance with the obligations of this regulation and responsibility for the fair and secure processing, appropriate retention and secure disposal (subject to agreed retention periods) of personal data. Over the course of the project, the Working Group, with the approval of the GDA and the RIA, will develop policies and processes in response to the programme needs on a case-by-case basis. The Working Group members will adhere to the data protection obligations under

the GDPR when carrying out any activities that involve access to personal data.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The length of the term of office for the Working Group is the length of the initial funding commitment, which is three years.

For the purposes of governance, initially the Working Group will meet on a monthly basis; thereafter, the group will meet at least once per quarter. Minutes will be prepared for these meetings recording issues raised, discussion and decisions.

A quorum will constitute a minimum of 50 per cent of the Working Group membership plus one member.

DECISION MAKING AND ISSUE RESOLUTION

All decisions will be made in a collegiate manner if possible and only by a majority vote if this is not possible. If the Working Group fails to reach a decision, the Chair will have the deciding vote. Minutes will be taken at all meetings and agreed at the next meeting.

Conflicts or issues may arise from time to time, either within the

GHWG or between the Working Group and another body. In the event of an internal conflict the matter should be referred to the Chair. Once the issue has been resolved a report should be made by the Chair to the GDA Chief Executive Officer outlining the nature of the issue and how it was resolved. Should a conflict arise between the GHWG and an outside body the matter will be referred to the CEO by the Chair of the Working Group. In such instance the CEO will decide how to proceed in resolving the matter.



IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The GHWG will devise a detailed work programme for the three years from 2020 to 2022. This programme will address all aspects of the project's mission and vision and embrace all founding partners. Key Performance Indicators will be developed and applied to ensure the efficacy of the programme and its delivery. A sustainable infrastructure and legacy of resources will be left in place at the end of the project in 2022.

In order to inform the programme development, a brainstorming session was held at the Grangegorman campus in May 2019, in conjunction with the

RIA Seminar on Historical Mental Health Records. Participants included international experts and local stakeholders.

The key questions addressed were:

- What should the project do in its initial 3-year phase?
- What are the delivery mechanisms for doing it?

The outputs from the session were combined with initial ideas from the project partners, including proposals prepared for the Dublin City Council Central Area Committee and the Royal Irish Academy.

LEARNING PATHWAYS

The Grangegorman Histories Programme will engage with the history of the site from three perspectives: People, Places and Practices.

PEOPLE

Life in Grangegorman will be explored through a number of public events, discussions and other activities. The focus will be on people and the range of their experiences in relation to the site and our programme will provide for:

- **Preservation of the collection of artefacts from the site** to allow access for research and exhibition.
- **An Oral history project** to capture, record and share the many voices and (hi)stories of Grangegorman.
- **Seminar to explore new approaches to the exhibition** of sensitive material with the objective of providing a robust people-centred narrative of institutional experience.
- **Commissioning three historical reviews** specifically relating to the lives and people of Grangegorman e.g. ‘Grangegorman and food’, ‘Grangegorman and sport’ and

‘Life in Grangegorman female penitentiary’. The reviews will identify gaps in current published historical research of the area and will be adapted for blogging and other uses.

- **Open call to communities/institutions/bodies in the Grangegorman neighbourhood** to seek funding for contributions to the Grangegorman Histories programme that complement the mission, vision and values of the programme.
- **Schools engagement** programmes for each of the nine schools in the Grangegorman neighbourhood to explore and foster identity with the histories of the site.
- **Participation in international collaboration in the ‘Change**

minds’ Programme. ‘Change Minds’ is a transformative archival adventure for people living with mental illness, carers, volunteers and staff. This is achieved by supporting participants to research historical mental health records to learn more about the lives of people treated for mental illness in previous centuries. Participants engage in facilitated workshops with artists to produce a creative response for exhibition and sharing with their community. Originating in Norfolk, ‘Change Minds’ has invited Grangegorman Histories to engage in a further, international expansion of this successful programme.

- **Collaborating with TU Dublin** to share the history of Grangegorman with staff and

students new to the campus to foster an appreciation of the history associated with the site.

- **Opening Exhibition of TU Dublin Academic Hub.** The exhibition will publicly share the artefacts and documents relating to the institutional history of the site through the records of lived experience to gain a greater

understanding and appreciation for the history of the site.

- **Collaborate with academic departments within TU Dublin** to explore creative and academically fruitful opportunities for student engagement with the histories of Grangegorman.

PLACES

Grangegorman is the site of rich architectural and spatial importance with a considerable impact on both the inhabitants and its hinterland.

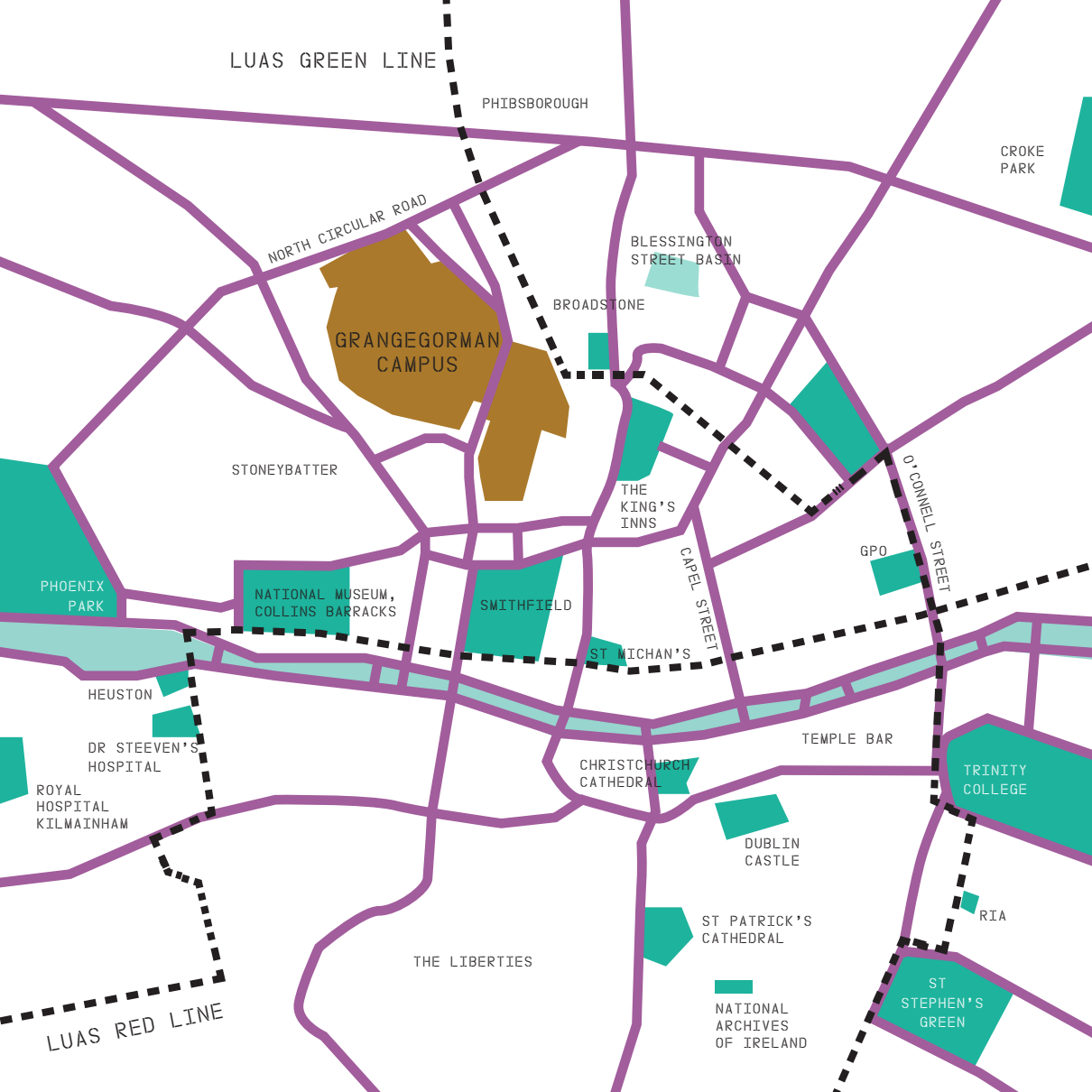
- **Support academic research to capture the architecture of Grangegorman** within the context of Irish and international institutional history.
- **Commissioning three historical reviews** specifically relating to the built environment of Grangegorman e.g. 'The architects of Grangegorman', 'Grangegorman: transport and access' and 'The walls of Grangegorman'. The reviews will identify gaps in current published historical research of the area and will be adapted for blogging and other uses.
- **Collaborate with local, existing resources** including Stoneybatter Pride of Place and Stoneybatter Festival, Dublin Festival of History, Culture Night, Open House, and others as opportunities arise.
- **Develop a 'Grangegorman History Trail'** sharing the history of the Grangegorman site with all Grangegorman stakeholders, users and visitors including HSE services users, staff and students of TU Dublin and the local community.
- **Research the possibility of creating a self-guided cycling trail linking Grangegorman to other institutions on Dublin's North side** (e.g. Collins' Barracks, Kings' Inns, Glasnevin Cemetery, Botanic Gardens, Henrietta Street and Phoenix Park).

PRACTICES

Historically, Grangegorman has been synonymous with institutional confinement. Examining these institutional practices, their origins, evolution and impact is key to the mission and legacy of this project.

- **Seminar on historical mental health records** and their use to examine the current status of and access to historical mental health records in Ireland, with opportunities discussed to consider alternative approaches in other countries which might serve as practice models for Ireland. This seminar took place in May 2019 and the report from the event is available at <https://www.ria.ie/sites/default/files/report-on-historical-mental-health-records-seminar-16-may-2019.pdf>
- **Engage with the HSE and other stakeholders to encourage the development of national protocols for research access to and publication of historical mental health records.**
- **Seminar to examine the use of historical language and terminology associated with institutional confinement** in a contemporary context and the impact of this on the use of appropriate language and terminology for Grangegorman Histories and beyond.
- **From September 2020, images representing some of the histories of Grangegorman to**

- be displayed in the Lower House,** which will house facilities including catering and Student Union spaces for the more than 10,000 students scheduled to arrive at the new campus in late 2020.
- **Publication of *Grangegorman Histories: Inside the Asylum* by Brendan Kelly,** Professor of Psychiatry, Trinity College Dublin and Consultant Psychiatrist at Tallaght University Hospital. Grangegorman lay at the heart of Ireland's vast network of mental hospitals for two centuries. This book will tell the stories of its patients – complicated stories of care, abandonment and the perils of institutional excess.
 - **Preservation and engagement with the historical mental health records** from the site to encourage access.
 - **Commissioning three historical reviews** specifically relating to institutional systems of confinement associated with Grangegorman, e.g. 'Grangegorman and transportation in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries', 'Procedures: the evolution of admittance, routine, treatment and discharge from the Richmond District Asylum', and 'Innovative approaches to the treatment of mental illness in Grangegorman'. The reviews will identify gaps in current published historical research of the area and will be adapted for blogging and other uses.
 - **Documenting and archiving Grangegorman Histories** to demonstrate the impact and legacy of this project.



LUAS GREEN LINE

PHIBSBOROUGH

CROKE PARK

NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD

BLESSINGTON STREET BASIN

BROADSTONE

GRANGEGORMAN CAMPUS

STONEYBATTER

THE KING'S INNS

O'CONNELL STREET

PHOENIX PARK

NATIONAL MUSEUM, COLLINS BARRACKS

SMITHFIELD

GPO

ST MICHAN'S

CHAPEL STREET

TEMPLE BAR

TRINITY COLLEGE

HEUSTON

DR STEEVEN'S HOSPITAL

ROYAL HOSPITAL KILMAINHAM

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DUBLIN CASTLE

RIA

ST STEPHEN'S GREEN

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