

DUBLIN CITY - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

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| NAME OF SITE | Temple Bar Street Well |
| Other names used for site | St. Winifred's Well |
| IGH THEME | IGH 16 Hydrogeology |
| TOWNLAND(S) | St. Andrew's |
| NEAREST TOWN/VILLAGE | In Dublin City |
| SIX INCH MAP NUMBER | 18 |
| ITM CO-ORDINATES | 715537E 734190N |
| 1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER | 50 |
| GSI BEDROCK 1:100,000 SHEET NO: | 16 |

Outline Site Description

An historic street well in the middle of Temple Bar.

Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type

The well is a hydrogeological feature of historic and perhaps modern water flow.

Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest

The Temple Bar Street Well is thought to date from between 1680 and 1720, and was dug to supply freshwater for the local inhabitants of the city, which had become protected by embankments. The water was groundwater that flowed into this area of previously saline groundwater.

St. Winifred's Well was an earlier Medieval well thought to have been situated very close to this one, perhaps only 50m away.

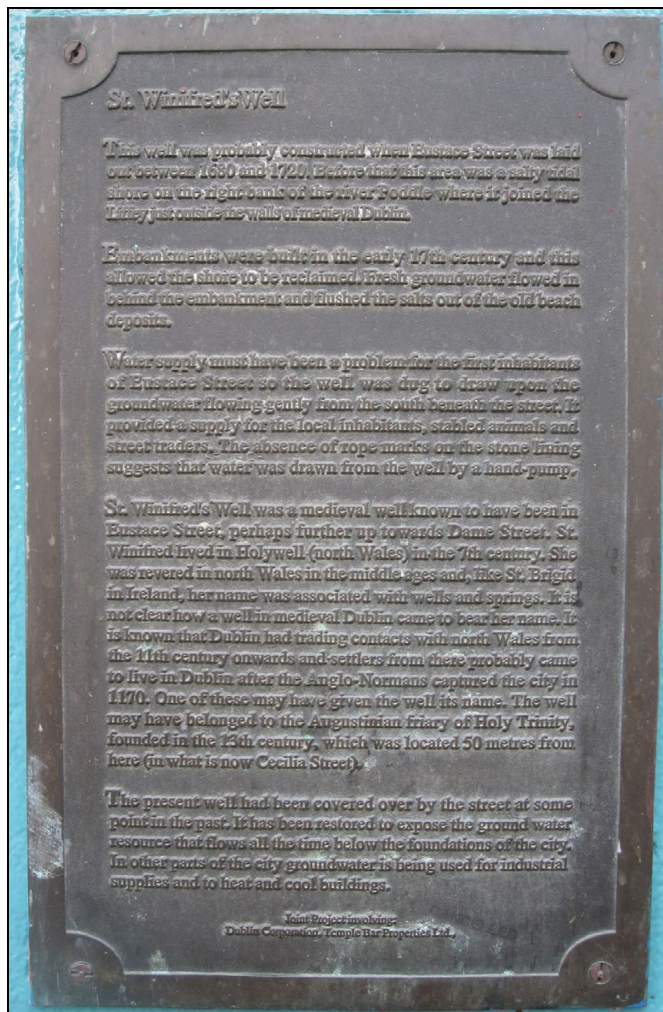
Site Importance - County Geological Site

The site presents an interesting aspect of hydrogeology in a very accessible location.

Management/promotion issues

The location of the 300 year old well means that it is very accessible to local people and to visitors to Temple Bar. There is a wall plaque adjacent to it, that explains the importance and history of this well and the even older St. Winifred's Well in the same general location. However, the location next to pubs in a busy nightlife area means that the well is poorly served by many people who are unaware of its importance. The plaque is not directly attached to the well and is easily overlooked, so an opportunity may be lost for many passers-by.

It is very difficult to propose solutions in a densely occupied and heavily used street, but perhaps an extremely concise panel stating that it is a '300 year old freshwater well tapping a groundwater source' could be attached to the top of the well.



The street sign explaining the well and groundwater flows beneath the area, with the well pictured (right) and the sign on the wall behind.



The streetscape of the well, adjacent to pubs and other premises means it is somewhat 'lost' in the mix, and subject to regular abuse of various types.

