

**Adaptive Reuse + Conservation /
Bridging the Past and Future of
Ireland's Built Heritage**

WORKING BACK MOVING FORWARD

**Nuns' Island Theatre
12 September 2025
Galway City**



**Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe**
Galway City Council

Architectural
Conservation
Caomhnú
Ailtireachta

In partnership with



NBHS

An tSeirbhís Oidhreachta
Tógtha Náisiúnta
National Built
Heritage Service

**2nd Annual Galway City
Architectural Conservation
Gathering**

RIAI CPD LINKS
RIAI Recognised CPD Providers

**Programme + Booking /
www.galwaycity.ie/adaptconserve**

Nearly a fifth of Ireland's buildings are historic or traditionally built, being constructed from stone or brick, many are underused, vacant, or derelict.

These structures not only embody our cultural heritage but also represent a significant resource.

By carefully adapting and reusing these buildings, we can help lower carbon emissions and create much needed spaces for homes, businesses, and communities.

WORKING BACK = MOVING FORWARD focuses on this historic potential, bringing leading voices from urban design, architecture, and conservation for an all day event focused on the adaptive reuse and conservation of historic buildings / places.

The event is structured around three sessions:

CONCEPT / THINKING IT OVER

Explore the key challenges and driving forces that shape adaptive reuse and conservation projects.

STRATEGY / DESIGNING IT THROUGH

Hear from leading architects and planners as they share creative approaches to urban strategies and community participation.

REALITY / MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

Delve into case studies of built projects from Ireland's leading architects, as they share the process of making change a reality.

WORKING BACK MOVING FORWARD

9:00 / Coffee / Tea / Registration

9:20 Welcome / Michael Scott

Architectural Conservation Officer
Galway City Council

1 / CONCEPT THINKING IT OVER

9:30 / Valerie Mulvin

McCullough Mulvin Architects

**In Plain Sight – Unlocking Potential in
What's Around Us**

10:00 / Nicki Matthews

National Built Heritage Service

**EU Perspectives and Approaches on
Adaptation and Reuse**

10:20 / Triona Stack

University College Dublin

**Building Regulations - Barriers to
Adaptive Reuse?**

10:40 / Ciarán Molumby + Laura Carroll

Islander Architects

**Demolition Take Down, Power to
Renovation**

11:00 / Emmet Humphries

Senior Architect / Galway City Council

Session Q+A

3 / REALITY MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

2:30 / Grainne Shaffrey

Grainne Shaffrey Architects

**Recovering Historic Urban Fabric /
Project Studies**

2:50 / Lucy O'Connor

Howley Hayes Cooney Architects

New Life for Old Buildings

3:10 / Conor Sreenan

Office of Public Works

**Public Buildings: Adaption, Reuse and
Conservation**

3:30 / Thomas O'Brien

TOB Architect

**The Quay: Adaption + Reuse of an
Historic Building**

3:50 / Peter Carroll

A2 Architects

**Perspective on Adaptive Reuse / Recent
Projects**

4:10 / Joe Lawrence

Lawrence and Long Architects

Three Dublin Projects

4:30 / Máire Henry

Vice President of the Royal Institute of the
Architects of Ireland / dnb Architects

Closing Remarks / Session Q+A

WORKING BACK MOVING FORWARD

11:30 / Coffee / Tea

2 / STRATEGY DESIGNING IT THROUGH

12:00 / Alistair MacDonald

Allies and Morrison Urban Practitioners

**Thrive Integrated Urban Strategy – West
Area of Galway City**

12:30 / Morris Conway

Waterford City + County Council

**Cappoquin Town Centre Regeneration
Strategy – A Collaborative + Integrated
Approach**

12:50 / Helena McElmeel

Helena McElmeel Architects

**Reimagine Tuam, working with
communities to bring buildings back**

1:10 / Conor Sreenan

State Architect and Principal Architect /
Office of Public Works

Session Q+A

1:30 - 2:30 / Lunch (provided)