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RICH, detailed archaeological discoveries at the site of a £6 million development in Cork city centre have slowed construction work.

HISTORY UNFOLDS

However, the city archaeologist Maurice Hurley has said he cannot anticipate if further finds would

planned apartment and office development at

site excavating the remains of a 13th century Domini-can Abbey, while the dig has also brought to light a number of well-preserved

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a site for a farm, and more latterly mills, he stated. The current excavation

at the site began in August and as more and more detail emerged it was necessary to bring in add-tional workers. It is hoped to conclude by mid Octo-ber, but the is and October, but this is subject to

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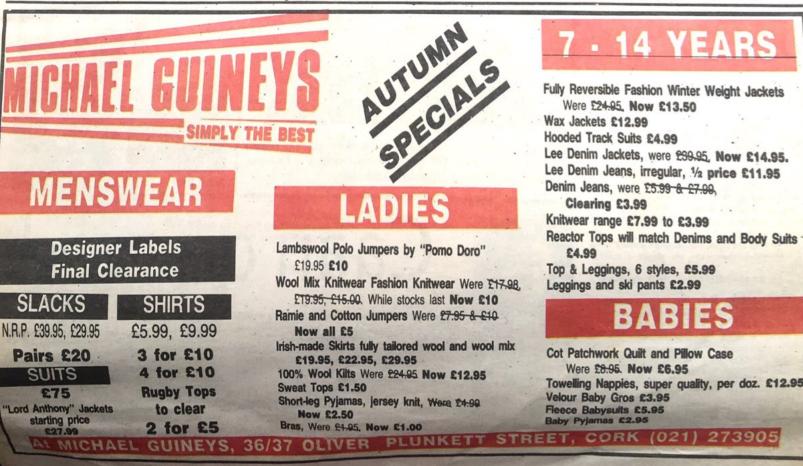
high water level also made progress slow, he said. Review

"We, as the local authority, are reviewing the situation all the time,

comented Mr. Hurley, pointing out that An Bord Pleanala had imposed conditions on the developer, Micahel O'Flynn construction, which must be adhered to. "We are endevouring to facilitate completion of these for the developer - it is not a case of 'them' and 'us', he stated.

• The dig site: first the site of an abbey, then a farm and subsequently a mill. "We are endevouring to archaeologist said he simply could not say -"you are asking me to look around corners," he said. An archaeological dig,

he continued, constantly Asked if he anticipated threw up surprises. "If you knew what to expect and finding such a quantity and what you'd find, there'd quality of information to be no point in doing it, said Mr. Hurley. merit preserving the site in the longer term, the city



...but progress slow at Crosses Green dig



UCC archaeology students stand near a well-preserved skeleton at Crosses Green.



By TOMMY BARKER



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However, the city archaeol said he cannot anticipate

jeopardise part of the planned apartment and office development at Crosses Green.

Currently, a 25-strong archaeological team is on site excavating the remains of a 13th century Dominican Abbey, while the dig has also brought to light a number of well-preserved intact human skeletons.

It was quite normal to have a cemetary next to an abbey, explained Mr. Hurley, who added burials probably continued at the grave yard up, to the 1700 hundreds.

### Farm site

The abbey ceased during the dissolution of the monasteries period in the 16th century, and the location was subsequently a site for a farm, and more latterly mills, he stated.

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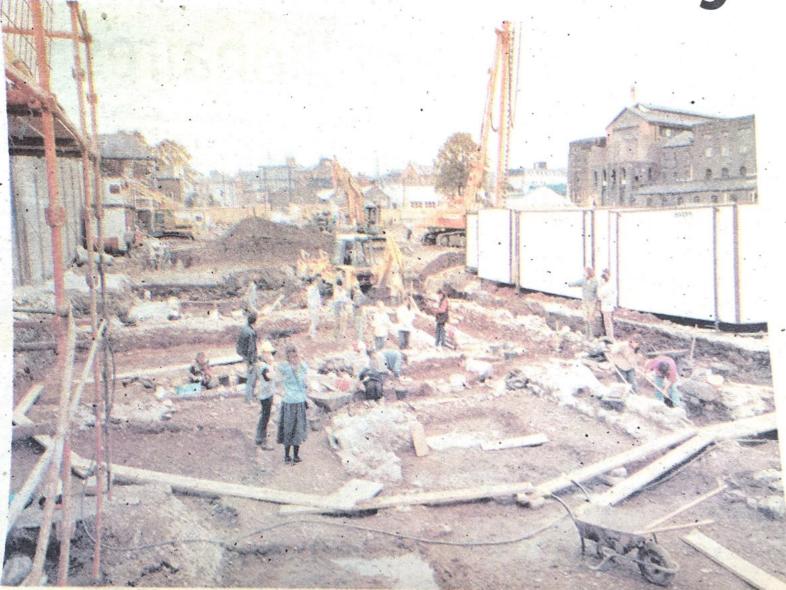
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Asked if he anticipated finding such a quantity and quality of information to merit preserving the site in the longer term, the city archaeologist said he simply could not say – "you are asking me to look around corners," he said.

An archaeological dig, he continued, constantly threw up surprises. "If you knew what to expect and what you'd find, there'c be no point in doing it,' said Mr. Hurley.

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