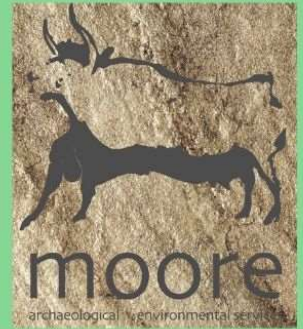

Prepared for
Tobin Consulting Engineers

Presented on
8th May 2023



CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Prepared by
Declan Moore

Our Reference **20187**

Your Reference **11614**

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT – NEW LAWN CEMETARY, OLD DUBLIN ROAD, GALWAY CITY

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Revision History

Revision Reference	Date Issued	Issued To
20187 New Lawn Cemetery CHA	8 th May 2023	Client

Report prepared by: **Declan Moore**
Archaeological Consultant

Purpose

This report describes the results of a preliminary cultural heritage assessment of proposed works associated with the New Lawn Cemetery, Old Dublin Road, Galway City. The results, conclusions and recommendations contained within this report are based on information available at the time of its preparation. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that all relevant data has been collated, the author and Moore Group accept no responsibility for omissions and/or inconsistencies that may result from information becoming available after the reports completion. Moore Group accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the Client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

Filename: 20187 New Lawn Cemetery CHA

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Abbreviations

AAP	Area of Archaeological Potential
ACA	Architectural Conservation Areas

ASI	Archaeological Survey of Ireland
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DLHG	Demesne Landscapes and Historic Gardens
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NMS	National Monuments Service
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
OSI	Ordnance Survey Ireland
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
ZAP	Zones of Archaeological Potential
ZoN	Zone of Notification

Coordinate System

All GPS coordinates given in this report are in Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM).

1 Introduction

Moore Group was commissioned to complete a preliminary cultural heritage impact assessment of the potential impact of proposed works associated with the provision of a circa 1.7-hectare new lawn cemetery at Old Dublin Road Galway. There are no known cultural heritage sites in the immediate vicinity of the subject site.

1.1 Scope of Work

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological and cultural heritage environment (hereafter referred to as cultural heritage environment or cultural heritage resource), to evaluate the potential or likely impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and, where appropriate, to suggest mitigation measures to ameliorate potential impacts, in accordance with the policies of:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The National Monuments Acts (1930-2005).
- Galway City Development Plan (2023-2029).
- Best practice guidelines.

Following on from this, the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on the baseline environment is identified and evaluated.

1.2 Terms and Definitions

Cultural Heritage

The phrase 'cultural heritage' is a generic term used to identify a multitude of cultural, archaeological, and architectural sites and monuments. The term 'cultural heritage', in Environmental Impact Statement compliance with Section 2(1) of the Heritage Act (1995), is used throughout this report in relation to archaeological objects, features, monuments and landscapes as well as all structures and buildings which are considered to have historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social, or technical significance/merit. For the purposes of this report the definition of "cultural heritage" is taken broadly from the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972, which considers the following to be "cultural heritage":

- Tangible cultural heritage.
- movable cultural heritage (artefacts).
- immovable cultural heritage (monuments, archaeological sites, etc).
- underwater cultural heritage (shipwrecks, underwater ruins, and cities); and
- Intangible cultural heritage (oral traditions, folklore etc).

World Heritage Sites

Although not formally recognised in Irish legislation, impacts on World Heritage Sites will nonetheless be a material consideration for developments in their wider vicinity. To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection criteria. A World Heritage Site is a landmark or area with legal protection by an international convention administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific, or other form of significance. The sites are judged to contain "cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity".

National Monuments

On a national level, the highest degree of protection granted to archaeological monuments are those afforded National Monument status, which are protected under the National Monuments Act of 1930 and its various amendments. These are the pre-eminent archaeological sites in Ireland and fall into several categories including:

- Sites that are in the ownership or guardianship of the state.
- Monuments that are the subject of Preservation Orders.
- Monuments in the ownership of a local authority; and
- Walled towns.

Generally National Monuments in state care are numbered amongst the best preserved and most impressive monuments in the country.

Record of Monuments and Places/Archaeological Survey Database

The legislation that affords protection to the archaeology of Ireland has seen several amendments since the first National Monuments Act of 1930 and there is a legacy of several different registers and associated terminology.

A feature recorded in the 'Record of Monuments and Places' (RMP) refers to a recorded archaeological site that is granted statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1930-2004. The RMP is the most widely applying provision of the National Monuments Acts. It comprises a list of recorded monuments and places (resulting from the Archaeological Survey of Ireland [ASI]) and accompanying maps on which such monuments and places are shown for each county. The information contained within the RMP is derived from the earlier non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). However, some entries were not transferred to the statutory record as they refer to features that on inspection by the Archaeological Survey were found not to merit inclusion in that record or could not be located with sufficient accuracy to be included. Such sites however remain part of the SMR. The record is a dynamic one and is updated to take account of on-going research.

The most up-to-date record of archaeological monuments, the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD), is available for viewing and download on the www.archaeology.ie website. This record is continually revised and indicates several additional sites that do not feature in the RMP. The National Monuments Service also makes available SMR Zones of Notification on the website.

Sites and Monuments Record

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) is an inventory of the known archaeological monuments in the State. There are more than 150,800 records in the database and over 138,800 of these relate to archaeological monuments.

An 'area of archaeological potential' refers to an area of ground that is deemed to constitute one where archaeological sites, features or objects may be present in consequence of location, association with identified/recorded archaeological sites and/or identifiable characteristics.

Register of Historic Monuments

Section 5 of the 1987 National Monuments Act states that the Minister is required to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded in the Register without the permission of the Minister is illegal, and two months' notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in

the vicinity of a registered monument. This list was largely replaced by the Record of Monuments and Places following the 1994 Amendment Act. No registered Historic Monuments were identified.

Architectural Conservation Areas

The Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, provides that all Development Plans must now include objectives for preserving the character of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs). An ACA is a place, area, group of structures or townscape of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical interest, or which contribute to the appreciation of protected structures.

In these areas, the protection of the architectural heritage is best achieved by controlling and guiding change on a wider scale than the individual structure, to retain the overall architectural or historic character of an area.

Record of Protected Structures/National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

The importance of our built heritage is enshrined in the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (Part II, Section 10) which places a statutory obligation on local authorities to include in their Development Plans objectives for the protection of structures, or parts of structures, which are of special interest. The principal mechanism for the protection of these structures is through their inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). This list provides recognition of the importance of a structure, protection from adverse impacts and potential access to grant aid for conservation works. The record of Protected Structures is an ongoing process and can be reviewed and added to. In considering additions to the Record of Protected Structures local authorities have recourse to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which provides a source of guidance on the significance of buildings in their respective areas.

Designed Landscapes-Demesnes, Historic Gardens & Country Estates

The Architectural Section of the DHLGH is in the process of a multi-phase study looking at Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens that appear as shaded areas on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps, circa. 1830.

‘The objective of this survey is to begin a process of understanding of the extent of Ireland’s historic gardens and designed landscape. Sites were identified using the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps. These were compared with current aerial photography to assess the level of survival and change.’

1.3 Methodology

1.3.1 Introduction

The methodology used in the preparation of this assessment is broadly based on guidance provided in the National Roads Authority’s (NRA) Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005a), and Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005b) (the ‘NRA Guidelines’), the EPA’s Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and other relevant guidelines.

This impact assessment addresses Cultural Heritage under the two headings of archaeology and architectural/built heritage.

1.3.2 Desktop Assessment

All known cultural heritage sites were reviewed on the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) along with aerial photography and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping. Sites mapped included the following:

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the tentative list of candidate sites.
- National Monuments, be they in the ownership or guardianship of the State, in the ownership of a local authority or monuments under preservation orders.
- Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) from www.archaeology.ie.
- Demesnes Landscapes and Historic Gardens indicated on the OSI First Edition Mapping.

All townlands located within 1 km of the proposed development site were listed and crossed referenced with:

- National Monuments, a list for County Galway available from www.archaeology.ie.
- Preservation Orders, a list available from the National Monuments Service, and
- Lists contained in the Report of the Commissioners of Church Temporalities of Ireland (1879) which contain lists of Churches, School Houses and Graveyards that were vested in the Representative Church Body and the Burial Boards under The Irish Church Act, 1869. These sites which have the potential to be in the ownership of the Local Authorities were highlighted as potential National Monuments.

The Galway City Development Plan (2023-2029) and relevant Local Area Plans were reviewed to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the cultural heritage of the area. The development plans contain lists of cultural heritage sites including national monuments, recorded monuments, architectural conservation areas, protected structures, and protected views as well as baseline assessments of the landscape character of the county.

The plans also outline the county's heritage policies and objectives that aim to protect and promote the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage of the region. This evaluation was carried out with due regard to these policies and other relevant information contained within the plans.

To assess the potential impact of the proposed works the following sources were also consulted or reviewed:

- Excavations Bulletin. The Excavation Bulletin is both a published directory and an online database that provides summary accounts of all the excavations carried out in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 to 2012. The database gives access to over 15,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including Year, County, Site Name, Site Type, Grid Reference, Licence No., Sites and Monuments Record No. and Author.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland. The topographical files of the NMI identify all recorded finds held in the NMI archive that have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation. The files sometimes include reports on excavations undertaken by NMI archaeologists in the early 20th century. Valuable information that can be gleaned might include the exact location, ground type, depth below ground level and condition when found, of each find. However, the amount and the usefulness of the information available on each find can vary considerably. The topographical files are listed by county and townland and/or street name.
- Cartographic Sources. Analysis of historic mapping shows how the landscape has changed over time. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered, or removed over a period. Sometimes features that appear on these early maps are found to be of potential archaeological significance during fieldwork.

- Toponyms. Townland names are a rich source of information for the land use, history, archaeology, and folklore of an area. The placename can have a variety of language origins such as, Irish, Viking, Anglo-Norman and English. The names can provide information on families, topographical features, and historical incidents. In terms of the built environment many names reference churches, fords, castles, raths, graveyards, roads and passes etc. In compiling the following data, several resources were consulted including the Placenames Database of Ireland www.logainm.ie and Irish Names of Places by P.W. Joyce (Joyce, 1913).
- Aerial photographs. The usefulness of aerial photography is that it allows for a different perspective - 'the distant view'. Archaeological sites may show up on the ground surface, depending on their state of preservation, by light and shadow contrasts (shadow marks), tonal differences in the soil (soil marks) or differences in height and colour of the cultivated cereal (crop marks). It is also a useful aid in pinpointing existing features and can assist in ascertaining their extent and degree of preservation.
- Published archaeological inventories; and
- Documentary Sources: several literary references were consulted.

Field Inspection

In addition to documentary and archival research and analysis, a detailed surface-based inspection of the area of the PDA was undertaken by the author.

1.4 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered during the completion of this assessment.

1.5 Description of Project

Galway City Council proposes to develop a circa 1.7-hectare new lawn cemetery at Old Dublin Road Galway. The development will include the provision of a lawn cemetery which will cater for grave plots, urn plots, memorial garden (which will include an area for cremated remains), access roads, junction provision, parking, staff welfare building, machinery shed, boundary treatment, signage, surface water drainage, structure for the interment of cremated remains, headstone foundations and appropriate landscaping throughout the site to minimise the visual impact of the proposed development on the adjoining properties. The works will require a cut and fill exercise across the site to ensure that a minimum of 1m permeable unsaturated subsoils is permanently present between the base of each grave (i.e., below 2.65mbgl) and the water table or bedrock (whichever is shallower). The design of the burial plots shall be in accordance with the Burial Regulations 1888 and subsequent amendments. Each burial plot shall accommodate three burial layers, where ground/ground water conditions permit.

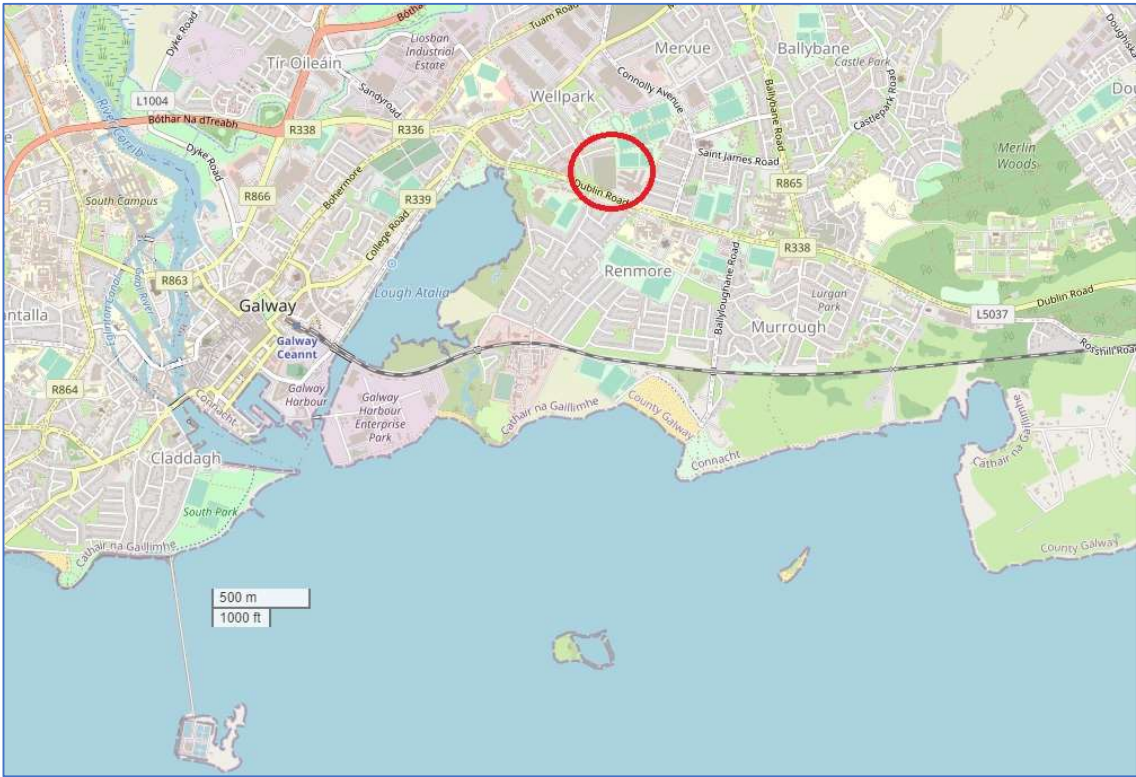


Figure 1 Showing location of Proposed Development Area (PDA) © OpenStreetMap Contributors



Figure 2 Proposed works area (centre of figure).

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Location Details

The site is located on the R338 Old Dublin Road, on recreation & amenity lands adjacent to the Connaught Hotel in Galway City.

Table 1 Location details

County and city/town	Galway, Galway.
Barony	Galway.
Parish	Saint Nicholas.
Street	North of Old Dublin Road.
Townland	Ballybaan Beg.
Archaeological Monuments within 200m	None.
Architectural Sites within 50m	None.
ITM	Centred on 531751/726066

2.2 Archaeological Baseline Data

2.2.1 General Archaeological and Historical Background

Mesolithic activity to date shows a marked concentration in the north-east of Ireland. Evidence for Mesolithic activity in Galway is scarce. The concentration of findspots and sites in the northeast can, in part be attributed to both the availability of flint and the large number of antiquarians and collectors in the region and suggests that activity in this period was widespread in the country, with settlers probably utilising the extensive coastline for fish and shellfish. Finds from Galway include a distally trimmed chert flake from the western shores of Lough Corrib at Oughterard which is later Mesolithic in provenance. “Jim Higgins and Michael Gibbons uncovered some evidence of a Late Mesolithic presence near the junction of High Street and Cross Street in Galway City. Stone artefacts of the Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic times were found only a few miles away near Menlough graveyard, between Menlough Wood and Terryland castle, during the late 1970’s” (Spellissy, 1999, 29).

Neolithic activity is more apparent in the archaeological record of Galway due to the presence of a number of known megalithic monuments. Megalithic monuments can be divided into funerary monuments, communal tombs for the burial of the dead and those with a more esoteric function such as stone circles, stone rows or single standing stones whose function was probably ceremonial. Single standing stones may have acted as foci or markers at the edges of territories. These monuments include the Connemara group of 31 tombs indicating fairly intensive settlement in the area. To date, no passage tomb has been identified in County Galway, although some of the larger hilltop monuments and cairns may contain them. There are two megalithic structures recorded to the west of Galway City centre in Rahoon (GA094:055) and in Townparks townland (GA094:088).

There is also a notable concentration of Bronze Age burials known in an area roughly bounded by Athenry, Tuam and Headford, indicating that activity in this period was widespread in the region and suggesting a significant population density. Barrows, generally dating from the Late Neolithic to the Early Iron Age, along with standing stones are quite common in the Tuam - Headford area. Although there is some debate about the provenance of the standing stones, it is generally accepted that they date from the later part of the Bronze Age. Stone rows or single standing stones were probably ceremonial in function, although single standing stones may have acted as foci or markers at the edges of territories. There are several recorded Bronze Age monuments including a stone circle (GA094:041) located immediately to the southwest of Galway city centre in Pollnaroona East townland and a stone group (GA082:016) recorded in Ballybrit townland. Fulachtaí Fiadh, which consist of small, horseshoe shaped grass covered mounds, are composed of burnt and fire cracked stones and a central pit or trough. They may have functioned as cooking places or as brewing pits. They are common throughout the country, and many are identified each year. There is a Fulacht Fiadh (GA082:043) in Doughiska townland.

Ringforts, hilltop enclosures and other large enclosures are common across County Galway, both as raths (defended settlements defined by an earthen bank) and cashels (defined by a bank of stone). The smaller ringfort settlements are the most common monuments in Galway and are thought to be small farmsteads, enclosing houses, farm buildings and animal pens, enclosed as protection against raiders or wild animals. Excavations of the interiors suggest that the houses were small circular huts, built of stakes with a double skin of wattle and a thatched roof. Their distribution in the region is dispersed and widespread. The Archaeological Inventory of North Galway lists 1104 examples while the Archaeological Inventory of Galway (west) lists 135. The larger hillforts and enclosures are either large secular settlements, dating to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, linked to large 'royal' sites or may be associated with pre-Norman monastic settlements. Limited fieldwork has been carried out on these monuments. There are many Early Historic recorded monuments in Galway city. There are several holy wells located to the east of the medieval town (GA094:096, GA094:097 & GA094:098).

Galway lies at the mouth of the river Corrib which drains Lough Corrib into the northern side of Galway Bay. Traditionally a village called Baile an Sruthán stood here prior to the Anglo-Norman invasion and given its strategic position and importance as a crossing to west county Galway, this is probable. "The name Galway is believed to have derived from the river Corrib, which was once known as Abhainn na Gaillimhe, the Galway River, or from a mythical character, Gaileamh, who drowned in its waters. The earliest reference to this place name mentions an earthwork fortification erected by the native Irish in 124, Dún Gallimh, the fort of Galway. Nowadays Gaillimh is accepted as a derivative of gall and amh, two words that seem to denote a stony river" (Spellissey, 1999, 29). The town is first recorded in 1124 as the castle of Bun Gaillimhe, built by Turlough O' Connor the King of Connaught at the crossing point. Little is known about the form or location of this structure, but it is likely that it was replaced by the Anglo-Norman Castle (Walsh, 2001, 10).

In 1230, Richard de Burgo, came to take possession of Connaught, lands he had been granted. He met the O'Flahertys and the O'Connors at the river crossing and was repelled but returned two years later and succeeded in building a castle, but this was retaken in 1233 by Felim O'Connor. De Burgo returned in 1235 and subdued Felim with a much larger army and established a base, dividing his lands amongst his followers but retaining the plains of Galway and Mayo for his own use. The town, as part of the manor of Loughrea grew up around the castle, acting both as an important crossing but also as a centre of trade. The castle, which stood off present day Flood Street, was partially excavated in 1999.

In the fourteenth century, the grip of the de Burgos on the city was lessened. Infighting and disputes arose between Macwilliam Oughter who controlled the lands around Galway and the crown who took the lands in 1381, to the

opposition of the townsfolk. There were disturbances in 1385 and open revolt three years later. Richard II visited the town in the winter of 1394-95 and knighted Oughter, pardoning the town and granting privileges which wrested influence from the de Burgos. In November 1395 Richard granted the town a new and perpetual murage charter and the town's first Royal Charter, raising the town to the status of Royal Borough. This move, also an attempt to take power from the de Burgos, allowed the townspeople to elect a Sovereign and gave them a greater independence. MacWilliam sacked the town in 1349 and in a placatory measure by Henry IV was granted deputy of Connaught in 1402.

Galway continued to grow through the 15th century importing mainly wine, iron and salt with exports of hides, cloth and fish. In 1461 it was granted the right by Edward IV to mint coins as well as a further charter sealing the existing privileges and granting the right to exclude from the town anyone they wanted including the MacWilliam Burkes (formerly de Burgo). In 1484, the town was given leave to elect its own Mayor, bailiffs and corporation. At this time the town was effectively controlled by a small number of wealthy families who strengthened their ties by intermarrying. "Their descendants with a certain nostalgic hindsight, would honour them with the appellation 'Tribes of Galway'" (Walsh, 2001, 18).

In 1504, the MacWilliam Burkes (formerly de Burgo) again took Galway, however they were ousted by the Kings deputy, the Earl of Kildare. The late 15th and following 16th century were both periods of growth in Galway. The Augustinian and Dominican orders arrived and there was an increase in construction of new buildings, much of it allowed by the fire of 1473 (Walsh, 2001, 19).

2.2.1.1 World Heritage Sites

There are no World Heritage Site or potential World Heritage Site contained in the Tentative List of Candidate Sites within 5km of the study area.

2.2.1.2 National Monuments in State Care, Guardianship or under Protection Order

There are no National Monuments within 200m of the proposed works.

2.2.1.3 Record of Monuments and Places/Archaeological Survey Database/Register of Historic Monuments

The following sections contain information relative to the Register of Historic Monuments (RHM), the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD). Archaeological monuments are general registered by the National Monuments Service using a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) number.

There are no recorded monuments within 200m of the subject site. The nearest recorded monument is a large erratic boundary stone (GA094-030001-) incorporated in a boundary wall which is located roughly 266m to the west of the subject site. Fr. McErlean (1905-6, 149-50) noted that nearly all Irish speakers then knew it under the name of Cloch an Linsig, though it was better known by all, even English speakers, as Cloch an mhíle or the milestone, from its being situated at the distance of an Irish mile from Galway. Fr. Rabbitte, however, writing in 1922, recorded that a 'man now living in Moneenagissah, within a stone's throw of Renmore gate, whose father and grandfather lived near the present Renmore Barracks never heard this rock called Clogh-an-linshee. He is intelligent, speaks English and Irish, and is 82 years of age. His sister who died a few months ago at the age of 96 and spoke Irish only knew the stone as Clogh a veela.' (1922-3, 31, note 97). It would appear that at one time a bush stood close by to this rock and the names 'Mile Bush' and 'Lynch's Stone' were interchangeable, though the former is most frequently found in documents (see Ó Máille 1948-9, sub nomen Cloch an Linsigh and 1950-1, 69 Mile Bush) as

'One close or park near Myle-Bush otherwise . . . Skehagh Clohlylnchy [Skeach cloch an Linsigh - the bush of Lynch's stone]' (Blake 1905, 46). The minor name 'Milestone' is recorded on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey 6-inch map (surveyed in 1838), though in a position c. 150m to the east to the present stone.

2.2.1.4 Map Regression

Primary cartographic sources consulted consisted of the Ordnance Survey 6" and 25" maps. Manuscript map sources included the Down Survey map (1654-56) and Speeds Map of 1610. The First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" maps were completed in 1842. These maps depict the subject area in pre-famine times. An examination of the first edition map, Sheet 94, dated 1838 shows the subject site as being undeveloped consisting of open field. The only structure indicated on the map nearby is a structure to the immediate west of the subject site. Both 'Rinmore' House to the south and Wellpark House to the west are labelled, and the 'milestone' is also labelled to the southwest though in a position c. 150m to the east to the present stone. To the east St. James's Church is also named. The 1945 2nd edition map shows the subject area as greenfield.

2.2.1.5 Aerial Photography

A review of available aerial photographs was undertaken to identify any previously unrecorded anomalies of historical potential. Nothing of cultural heritage significance was noted.

2.2.1.6 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

A review of the online resource www.heritagemaps.ie was completed. No finds are recorded in the vicinity of the subject site. Due to current company policy regardless indoor spaces and COVID 19 the topographical files in the NMI were not inspected. It should be noted that not all recorded finds in the Topographical Files are included in www.heritagemaps.ie. The review of www.heritagemaps.ie indicates that there are no relevant files in the vicinity.

2.2.1.7 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the vicinity

There are no records of previous archaeological fieldwork in the vicinity. Archaeological monitoring carried out by Moore Group along the length of the nearby Wellpark road (03E0460, 03E0601) generally revealed tarmacadam on a bed of compacted hardcore overlying natural grey brown boulder clay interrupted by occasional service trenches.

2.2.1.8 Toponym Analysis

Table 2 Toponyms

Townland Name/ Name	Irish Version	Translation
Ballybaan Beg	An Baile Bán Beag	From 'baile' meaning townland, town, homestead, 'bán' meaning white; lea-ground, grassy and 'beag' meaning big.

2.2.2 Architectural Heritage

2.2.2.1 Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA)

There is no ACA in the vicinity.

2.2.2.2 Record of Protected Structures (RPS)/National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)/Industrial/Vernacular Heritage

There are no recorded sites in the vicinity.

2.2.2.3 Designed Landscapes-Demesnes, Historic Gardens & Country Estates

The subject site is located immediately to the southeast of the (now no longer extant) designed landscape associated with Wellpark House (NIAH Site ID: 5404) and northeast of the lands of Rinmore House.

2.3 Fieldwork

A site inspection was carried out in May 2023 in dry but cloudy conditions. The site is currently used as a grassed sports pitch and consists of flat topography at an elevation of circa 19m OD. Residential properties form the boundaries on its western and northern extents, and it is bounded by the Connacht hotel and the Dublin Road on its eastern and southern boundaries respectively. The Renmore Wastewater Plant (pumping station) is located on the southwest corner of the site. The pitch is currently accessed via the entrance to the Connaught Hotel or from the north via Wellpark Grove. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted during the site inspection.



Plate 1 Looking south across subject site towards the Old Dublin Road.

2.4 Potential Effects

2.4.1 Potential Direct Effects

Direct negative impacts may occur where sites of archaeological and cultural heritage significance are located within the footprint of the proposed development, which would potentially be impacted upon by ground disturbances.

In relation to the proposed development, direct, physical impacts on the archaeological and cultural heritage can manifest themselves in the following ways:

- Where an archaeological or cultural heritage site, structure, monument, or feature is located within an area where works takes place and the works either intentionally or unintentionally entail the alteration or removal of all or part of the site, structure, monument or feature a direct, physical impact will occur.
- Direct, physical impacts can also occur in gaining access to the site. Where archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments, or features are intentionally or unintentionally removed or altered when transporting and/or facilitating access for machinery, equipment and/or materials to or from site a direct physical impact will occur; and
- There is the potential for direct, physical impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological and architectural sites, structures, monuments, or features.

If these effects cannot be remediated, for example if archaeological deposits are destroyed during excavations, then the impacts will be permanent.

2.4.1.1 Potential Direct Effects on Recorded Archaeological Monuments

The proposed development will have no direct physical effect on known archaeological sites and monuments.

2.4.1.2 Potential Direct Effects on Unrecorded Archaeological Monuments or Features

There is low to moderate potential for unrecorded sub-surface deposits surviving below ground at this location.

2.4.1.3 Potential direct Impacts Architectural Sites

The proposed development will have no direct physical effect on known architectural sites.

2.4.2 'Do Nothing Scenario'

If the proposed works were not to proceed, there would be no effect upon the archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage resource.

2.4.3 'Worst case' Effect

Under a worst-case scenario, the works would disturb previously unrecorded deposits, features or objects without proper excavation and recording being undertaken.

2.5 Potential Effects on the Setting

Effects on setting are primarily visual and examine the effect of the proposed works upon the setting of a site within the wider landscape. Impacts on Setting can be reduced with sensitive site development and screening. The impact of the development is usually proportional to the extent to which that development is visible to and from the extant recorded monuments and features.

2.5.1 Archaeological Sites

The proposed development will not impact the visual amenity of any known monuments.

2.5.2 Architectural Sites

The proposed development will not impact the visual amenity of these sites/features.

3 Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects

The mitigation strategies outlined in this section detail the measures to be adopted to ameliorate the effects that the proposed works may have on features of archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage within the study area during both the construction and operational phases of the scheme. The residual effects that will remain once these mitigation measures have been implemented are also identified.

It is recommended that a programme of archaeological testing be carried out in advance of construction, development. 'Test excavation is that form of archaeological excavation where the purpose is to establish the nature and extent of archaeological deposits and features present in a location which it is proposed to develop (though not normally to fully investigate those deposits or features) and allow an assessment to be made of the archaeological impact of the proposed development. It may also be referred to as archaeological testing' (DAHGI 1999a, 27).

A suitably qualified archaeologist should be appointed to advise the design team on archaeological matters, liaise with the relevant authorities, prepare an archaeological licence application and method statement, and complete the archaeological testing work. Testing should be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service at the DHLGH. The application for such a licence requires a detailed method statement, outlining the procedures to be adopted to monitor, record, and recover material of archaeological interest during such work.

Should archaeological material be uncovered at any location, all excavation operations shall cease until the feature has been summarily investigated to determine the form, age, nature, and extent of the feature. The feature will be planned, photographed, and recorded to best professional standards.

Adequate funds to cover excavation, post-excavation analysis, and any testing or conservation work required should be made available if required. Upon completion of the works dissemination of the results will take the form of a stratigraphic report and full report to publishable standard lodged with the licensing section (NMS) and the Planning Section (NMS) and the National Museum of Ireland. A summary of the report will also be submitted to the Excavations Bulletin within six weeks of the end of fieldwork. Should results warrant it, wider dissemination in the form of a full publication may be recommended.

The above recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service at the DHLGH and other relevant authorities.

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Appendix 2 Conventions, Directives and Legislation

Conventions

Ireland has ratified several European and international conventions in relation to the protection of its cultural heritage. This section summarises Ireland's obligations as a signatory to several International and European conventions relating to the protection and conservation of cultural heritage sites. Also included is a synopsis of existing national legislation governing the care and protection of our cultural heritage resources.

ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration, 2005

Ireland is a signatory to an international declaration sponsored by International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, 2005, that endeavours to ensure the safeguard and conservation of the World's cultural heritage as part of its sustainable and human development.

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.

To assist planning and other consent authorities in deciding if significant effects on the environment are likely to arise in the case of development below the national mandatory EIS thresholds, the DHLGH published a Guidance document in August 2003.

The European Landscape Convention 2000

In 2002 Ireland ratified the European Landscape Convention - also known as the Florence Convention, which promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues. It is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all dimensions of European landscape.

Valletta Convention, 1997

In 1997 the Republic of Ireland ratified the Council of Europe, European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valletta Convention'). Obligations under the Convention include provision for statutory protection measures, including the maintenance of an inventory of the archaeological heritage and the designation of protected monuments and areas.

Granada Convention, 1997

Under the European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage (Granada Convention), 1997, the Republic of Ireland is obliged to maintain inventories of architectural heritage, to protect the architectural heritage and adopt conservation policies as integrated planning objectives.

UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972

This Convention provides for the identification, conservation, and preservation of cultural and natural sites of outstanding universal value for inclusion in a world heritage list. The World Heritage status is a non-statutory designation, and no additional statutory controls result from this designation. However, the impact of proposed development upon a World Heritage Site will be a key material consideration in determining planning applications.

Legislation

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 ensures the protection of the archaeological heritage resource by requiring that all applications under this Act are accompanied by an EIAR including information on material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, and the cultural heritage.

The National Monuments Act 1930 to 2004

Irish legislation for the protection of archaeological heritage is based on the National Monuments Acts 1930 and amendments of 1954, 1987, 1994 and 2004. These acts are the principal statutes governing the care of monuments in Ireland. They provide for the protection of national monuments using preservation orders. The overall state archaeological service is provided by the DHLGH and delivered through the Planning and Heritage Section of the DHLGH and the National Museum of Ireland (Irish Antiquities Division) on behalf of the Minister.

Monuments are protected under the National Monuments Acts in several ways:

- National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a local authority.
- National Monuments, which are subject to a preservation order.
- Historic monuments or archaeological areas recorded in the Register of Historic Monuments; and
- Monuments recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).

The Planning and Development Act 2000

Under arrangements which came into operation on 1 January 2000 (The Planning and Development Act 2000), the system of listing buildings was replaced with strengthened procedures for the preservation of protected structures and structures in architectural conservation areas (ACA).

The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act, 1999

This Act provides for the establishment of a national inventory of architectural heritage which forms the basis for recommendation from the Minister to local authorities of sites for inclusion in the local authorities Record of Protected Structures