

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
AT
NAAS TOWN HALL,
MAIN STREET, NAAS
COUNTY KILDARE**

LICENCE NUMBER: 18E0515

FOR: KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I.T.M.: 689221/719481

LICENCEE: DAVE BAYLEY

NOVEMBER 2018

ABSTRACT

Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd has prepared this report on behalf of Kildare County Council, to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological and historical resource of the proposed redevelopment of the Naas Town Hall, which is located on Main Street, Naas, Co. Kildare (ITM 689221/719481). The testing was undertaken by David Bayley and Muireann Ní Cheallacháin of IAC Ltd under licence 18E0515.

The proposed development area is located in the townland of Naas West, parish of Naas, and barony of Naas North. The eastern boundary of the site is on the townland boundary with Naas East, Main Street North.

The proposed development area is within the zone of potential for the historic town of Naas (RMP KD019-030). The proposed development area contains the site of a recorded monument, the site of White Castle (KD019-030018). The existing town hall, which was formerly a gaol, is also listed within the Record of Protected Structures for Kildare (RPS NS 19-047) and the NIAH building survey (NIAH 11814041).

Four site investigation test pits were excavated in the rear yard during June 2018, which were archaeologically monitored. One test trench and one test pit were excavated within the rear yard in October 2018.

The works confirmed the presence of an overburden layer within the yard area and identified the footing of a stone and mortar wall to the immediate west of the town hall structure. This is likely to be post medieval in date and associated with the gaol or town hall. One post medieval stone drain was identified running beneath the southern foundation of the town hall during monitoring of site investigations.

No specific features of archaeological significance were identified during the course of testing and monitoring.

It remains possible that ground disturbances associated with the redevelopment of Naas town hall may have an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. It is therefore recommended that all ground disturbances associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation *in-situ* or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoCHG.

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|--------------|
| ABSTRACT | I |
| CONTENTS | II |
| List of Figures | iii |
| List of Plates | iii |
| 1 INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1.1 General..... | 1 |
| 1.2 The Development | 2 |
| 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND | 3 |
| 2.1 Background | 3 |
| 2.2 Summary of Previous Archaeological Fieldwork..... | 7 |
| 2.3 Cartographic Analysis | 8 |
| 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING | 11 |
| 3.1 General..... | 11 |
| 3.2 Testing Results | 11 |
| 3.3 Conclusions | 17 |
| 4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY..... | 18 |
| 4.1 Impact Assessment..... | 18 |
| 4.2 Mitigation..... | 18 |
| 5 REFERENCES..... | 19 |
| APPENDIX 1 RMP SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA | I |
| APPENDIX 2 STRAY FINDS WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA..... | XII |
| APPENDIX 3 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE | XIV |
| APPENDIX 4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE..... | XVIII |
| APPENDIX 5 MITIGATION MEASURES & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE..... | XX |

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1 Site location
- Figure 2 Plan of the proposed development
- Figure 3 Proposed development area showing surrounding recorded monuments
- Figure 4 Extract from John Longfield's 1824 map of Naas Gaol showing the proposed development area
- Figure 5 Extract from the first edition OS map (1839), showing the proposed development area
- Figure 6 Plan of archaeological investigations

LIST OF PLATES

- Plate 1 Trench 1, facing southwest
- Plate 2 Test Pit 1, facing northwest
- Plate 3 Site Investigation Pit 1 during excavation, facing west
- Plate 4 Site Investigation Pit 3, facing northeast
- Plate 5 Stone drain at the base of Site Investigation Pit 4, facing northeast

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The following report details the results of a programme of archaeological testing undertaken at Naas Town Hall, prior to a proposed redevelopment as the town library (Figure 1). This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource that may exist within the site. The assessment (Licence Ref.: 18E0515) was undertaken by David Bayley and Muireann Ní Cheallacháin of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd (IAC), on behalf of Kildare County Council.

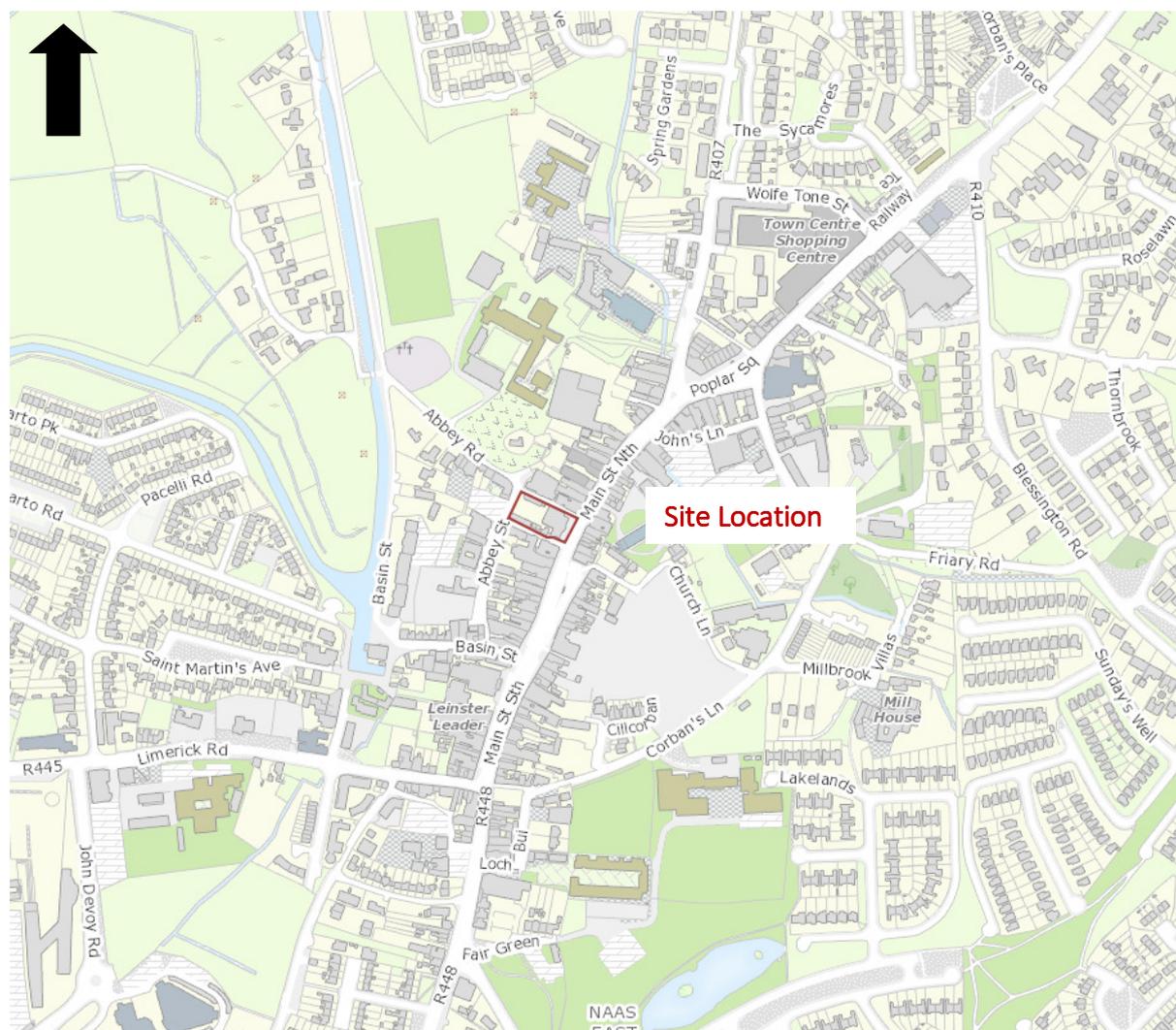


FIGURE 1: Site Location

As part of the original testing methodology, it was proposed to excavate ten test pits within the interior of the town hall structure and one test trench within the rear yard. However, prior to the commencement of testing Kildare County Council informed us that the main town hall structure formerly possessed a basement level, which was backfilled with a minimum of 2m of rubble and concrete a number of years ago. Therefore test pitting within the interior was not possible.

As such, a test pit was excavated to the rear of the upstanding structure, along with a trench within the rear yard. In addition, site investigations were archaeologically monitored within the yard area.

Testing on site was carried out over two days on the 2nd and 26th October 2018. This was carried out using a 13 tonne 360 degree tracked excavator, with a flat, toothless bucket, under strict archaeological supervision. A four site investigation pits were archaeologically monitored during June 2018.

1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development consists of the redevelopment of the existing Town Hall into a public library. The main structure of the town hall will be retained as per Figure 2 and 6. However, new structures will be required to the rear of the town hall. The rear yard will be used as an open space for markets. Some scarping will be required in this location to create a level surface.

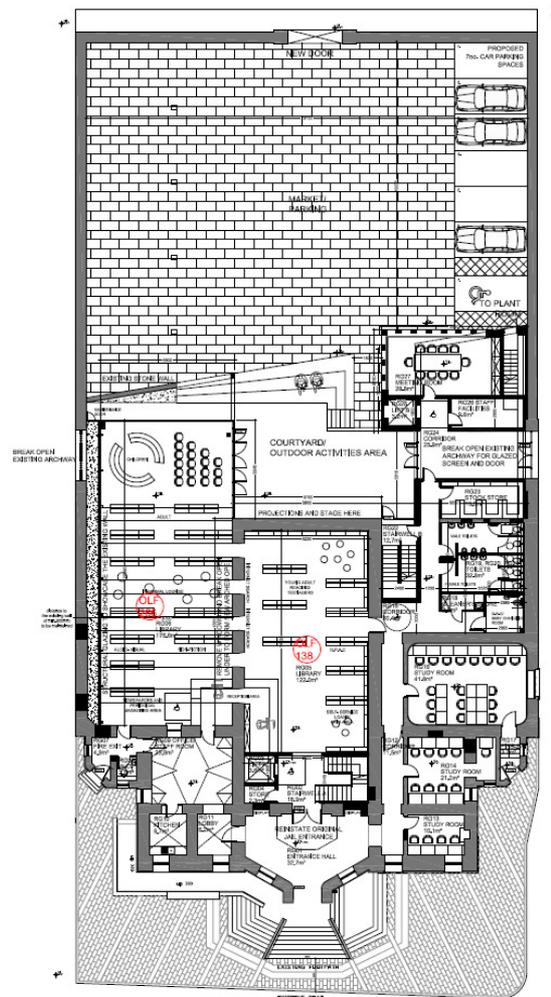


FIGURE 2: Plan of the proposed development

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 BACKGROUND

2.1.1 General

The proposed development area is located in the townland of Naas West, parish of Naas, and barony of Naas North. The eastern boundary of the site is on the townland boundary with Naas East, Main Street North.

The proposed development site is within the zone of potential for the historic town of Naas (RMP KD019-030) (Figure 3). The proposed development area contains the site of a recorded monument, the site of White Castle (KD019-030018). The existing town hall is also listed within the Record of Protected Structures for Kildare (RPS NS 19-047) and the NIAH building survey (NIAH 11814041). There are an additional 20 sub-constraints within 100m of the proposed development, these are listed below in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1: Recorded Archaeological Sites within 100m of the Proposed Development Area

| RMP NO. | CLASSIFICATION | TOWNLAND | DISTANCE FROM SITE |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| KD019-030054 | Historic Town | Naas East/West | 0m |
| KD019-030018 | Site of Castle | Naas West | 0m |
| KD019-030054 | Excavation - miscellaneous | Naas East | c. 5m east |
| KD019-030001 | Town defences | Naas East, Naas West | c. 10m east |
| KD019-030017 | Castle - tower house | Naas East | c. 15m east |
| KD019-030055 | Excavation - miscellaneous | Naas East | c. 15m southeast |
| KD019-030016 | House - 16th/17th century | Naas West | c. 20m east |
| KD019-030008 | Town hall | Naas East, Naas West | c. 40m southeast |
| KD019-030027 | Font | Naas East | c. 50m east-southeast |
| KD019-030009 | Castle - motte | Naas West | c. 55m northwest |
| KD019-030013 | Castle - unclassified | Naas West | c. 55m north-northwest |
| KD019-030026 | Font | Naas East | c. 65m east |
| KD019-030020 | Church | Naas East | c. 70 east |
| KD019-030030 | Tomb - table tomb | Naas East | c. 70 east-southeast |
| KD019-030031 | Graveslab | Naas East | c. 70 east-southeast |
| KD019-030033 | Graveslab | Naas East | c. 70 east-southeast |
| KD019-030025 | Architectural fragment | Naas East | c. 75m east |
| KD019-030032 | Wall monument | Naas East | c. 75m east-southeast |
| KD019-030035 | Wall monument | Naas East | c. 75m southeast |

| RMP NO. | CLASSIFICATION | TOWNLAND | DISTANCE FROM SITE |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------|
| KD019-030052 | Well | Naas West | c. 75m southwest |
| KD019-030034 | Graveslab | Naas East | c. 85m east-southeast |
| KD019-030057 | Graveyard | Naas East | c. 85m south-southeast |



FIGURE 3: Proposed development area showing surrounding recorded monuments

2.1.2 Prehistoric Period

The Bronze Age (c. 2500–800BC) has produced the earliest datable prehistoric activity within proximity to the proposed development area. This period was marked by the widespread use of metal for the first time in Ireland. As with the transition from the earlier Mesolithic to Neolithic periods, the transition into the early Bronze Age was accompanied by changes in society. Megalithic tombs were no longer constructed and the burial of the individual became typical. Cremated or inhumed bodies were

often placed in a cist, which is a stone-lined grave, usually built of slabs set upright to form a box-like construction and capped by a large slab or several smaller lintels.

A Bronze Age burial site was identified in 1935, c. 1.7km west-northwest of the proposed development during the extraction of gravel (KD019-017). Four inhumations were identified, three of which were buried with pottery vessels. A further grave was identified, which contained the remains of four individuals and some pottery, although it was not clear whether this was directly associated with the cemetery or not. While there is some evidence of prehistoric activity in the general area of Kildare there is no evidence of this activity within Naas itself.

2.1.3 Early Medieval Period (AD400–1100)

Kildare is strategically located on main route from Dublin to the west and south of Ireland. Roads were well established in early Ireland as indicated by the ability of the Vikings to land and make quick progress inland and, later, by the Anglo-Normans who had little difficulty in moving inland and who did not need to build roads. Naas became an important population centre in the early medieval period. From early medieval historical texts, it is clear that the idea of a great road system existed and this was formalised in the tradition that five great roadways radiated from Tara. The *Slighe Dhála Meic Umhóir*, one of the five ancient highways traversing the country, made its way from the Hill of Tara in County Meath to the mouth of the River Shannon, passing through Naas and the Curragh. O'Lochlainn (1940) describes the route of the *Slighe Dhála Meic Umhóir*, meaning 'The Road of *Dála*, son of *Umhóir*', (or *Belach Muighe Dála*) as running along the northern boundary of Munster.

The new religion of Christianity, which was established during the early medieval period, was well developed enough by the middle of the 6th century to allow Colmcille, a member of the leading *Cenel Conaill* dynasty, to take a major part in the development of the church throughout Ireland and North Britain. The church introduced to Ireland was organised at first on a diocesan basis reflecting that of the late Roman Empire from whence it had come. As Ireland had never been part of the empire, Christianity here quickly came to take on aspects derived from the political and cultural situation. The resulting church was predominantly monastic, albeit in a distinctly Irish way. Some of these 'monasteries' were centres of asceticism and were situated in isolated locations but others were nearer the important centres of society.

According to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 343–383), Naas was the site of an early Christian monastery known as 'Cill Corbain' or 'Cill Náis' (KD019-030046), the former's name being preserved in the present-day Corban's Lane, whose curving course may preserve the line of a pre-Norman monastic enclosure. However, the precise location of the monastery is uncertain. The town is also known as 'Nás na Rí' or 'The assembly place of the Kings', because between the 8th and 10th century it was a seat of the Kings of Leinster. The fort ('dún') of Naas is first referred to in 705 AD and may subsequently have been incorporated into the Anglo-Norman motte that is located c. 55m northwest of the proposed development area (KD019-030009).

2.1.4 Medieval Period (AD1100–1600)

By the end of the 12th century, Norman settlement was effective over the whole county, as marked by the beginning of the rule of the Fitzgerald family as Earls of Kildare. Naas was granted by John, Earl of Morton, to William Fitzmaurice, together with the adjacent territory and various important privileges, with a market and a very extensive jurisdiction in all pleas except those of the crown.

It was at this time that Naas rapidly rose into importance within the Pale. It was granted a weekly market as early as c. 1186, c. 40m southeast of the proposed development area, where a tholsel or town hall (KD019-030008) once stood. The weekly market was moved to 'the Green of Naas' (presumably the Fair Green at the southern-end of the town), probably in the 16th century. However, it is also possible that it occupied a larger triangular area between the castle (KD019-030009) and the church (KD019-030020), which was later in-filled with houses and is now bordered by Abbey Street to the west and Market Square to the east. White Castle (KD019-030018), which is recorded as occupying the proposed development site before it was redeveloped as a gaol, is recorded as having a 19m frontage onto North Main Street and being 9m deep. The castle also had a walled rear garden, though it seems unlikely any of the structures survived the redevelopment of the site during the late 18th century. No medieval masonry has been identified within the site.

A church (KD019-030020) and associated features are located c. 70m east of the proposed development area. The first mention of this church was in 1212 when it was included in a list of the possessions of St. John of Jerusalem and remained as part of the Hospitallers property throughout the medieval period. Some 13th century features (the nave, for example) still survive.

Naas was reputedly burnt and plundered by Edmund Bruce in 1316 but there is little information on the town in the later middle ages. However, nine parliaments and 13 councils were held there between 1355 and 1484, indicating it did retain importance, while in 1467–8 Naas was described as the 'Key of the County of Kildare in resistance of their Irish enemies'.

Increasing instability resulted in a number of murage grants to the town in the 15th century when, in 1415, there is the first mention of town defences (RMP KD019-030001). While there is little, if any, physical evidence that the town was ever walled, archaeological investigations associated with modern building development has uncovered evidence of a town ditch, which was presumably augmented by an earthen rampart. At least six town gates are also recorded (North Gate, Watergate Castle, Corban's Gate, Green Gate, West Gate and Iago's Gate), and the town also contained some six tower houses or fortified houses, the precise locations of some of which are uncertain.

2.1.5 Post-medieval Period (AD1600-1900)

Naas was incorporated by charter of Elizabeth in 1568. It was burnt again in 1577, when a (probably exaggerated) report by Sir Henry Sidney claimed that between 700 and 800 houses were destroyed. Large garrisons of crown forces were stationed at

Naas from the late 16th century, particularly between 1598 and 1601 and during the wars of the 1640's, when the town changed hands on several occasions. Naas did, however, maintain its status in the 17th century when it was described in 1606 as 'the chief corporate town in the County of Kildare' and a new charter was granted by James 1 in 1609.

By the 18th and 19th centuries, a slightly more stable political climate enabled the landed gentry to establish large houses within the landscape. Often these occupied areas on the outskirts on towns, with Naas being no exception. The first edition OS mapping shows several demesnes and houses of various sizes surrounding Naas during the mid-19th century.

The proposed development area is currently occupied by Naas town hall, which was formerly a gaol. The building was constructed in 1796 and renovated a number of times in the early 20th century. The building is listed on the National Architectural Inventory of Ireland (NIAH 11814041) and is a Protected Structure (RPS NS19-047). A plan of the building as a gaol shows it complete with cells and separate "felon's" and "women's" yards.

2.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of Excavations Bulletin (1970–2017) has revealed that a number of previous excavations have taken place along Main Street North, Naas. Three of which did not discover anything of archaeological significance and five which produced evidence of medieval and post-medieval activity.

Monitoring of the mechanical excavation of pipe trench cuttings for a water main and gas pipes encountered archaeological features along North Main Street, including the discovery of the foundations of a stone building or buildings which may represent the the remains of Lattin's Castle, a double stone culvert and a truncated pit containing animal bones and sherds of the rim, strap handle and body of a 13th/14th-century wine jug of Dublin manufacture (Licence Ref.: 97E0151; Bennett 1997:285).

Testing c. 10m to the north at 19 North Main Street encountered an archaeological layer and the property boundaries in the area, which may have preserved the medieval burgage plot pattern (Licence Ref.: 99E0055; Bennett 1999:416). An extension to this licence (99E0055 ext.) discovered a pit below the archaeological layer during monitoring (Bennett 1999:417).

Rescue excavations were carried out at 14-16 North Main Street, c. 95m to the northeast of the proposed development area. Two pits dating to the 13th century or early-14th century were excavated and 100 sherds of pottery, including eleven of 'Leinster cooking ware'. A ring from a medieval ring-brooch and three sherds of early 16th century Beauvais medallion jugs (both green and yellow) were found in disturbed contexts (Bennett 1977-79:0046).

Excavations at 3 North Main Street c. 145m to the northeast of the proposed development area revealed medieval and early post-medieval deposits (Licence Ref.:

02E0955). These deposits suggested the presence of a medieval building (c. AD 1300), where partial evidence of a house floor and hearth were uncovered. A 19th century deposit of cattle horn-cores suggests that butchering activity occupied here in the early modern period (Bennett 2002:0966).

Test trenching at 1A North Main Street, c. 180m to the northeast of the proposed development area, uncovered five layers, one of which was of archaeological interest. This contained a number of leather scraps and cattle horn-core fragments (Licence Ref.: 97E0299). Several sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were also recovered (Bennett 1997:284).

The following licences did not encounter anything of archaeological significance; 02E0154 (c. 25m east), 02E0162 (c. 40m north), and 07E0171 ext. (c. 200m northeast) (Bennett 2002:0968; 2002:0967; 2008:679).

2.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Down Survey Map of Kildare, Barony of Naas, c. 1655

On this mapping the walled town of Naas can be seen in the townland of Naas in the parish of Naas. The fortifications of the town are depicted surrounding eight structures, although the depiction is too illustrative to define which structures represent buildings recorded in the town.

Noble and Keenan's Map of County Kildare, 1752

The town of Naas is clearly shown on this historic mapping. The road layout is depicted and is very similar to the modern network. Structures are shown flanking either side of the main street, although it is not possible to define the castle that formerly occupied the proposed development area.

Alexander Taylor's Map of the County of Kildare, 1783

As with the above map, structures are shown flanking the main street through Naas. However, the buildings are not annotated and as such the castle that once occupied the site is not defined.

John Longfield's Plan of Naas Gaol and the Adjoining Concerns, 1824

The plan depicts Naas Gaol fronting onto the main street with the surrounding structures on the west side of the street. The gaol was accessed from a front yard that led to a hall which provided access to the southern wing, 'Debtor's side', northern wing, 'Misdemeanants', west wing, 'Felon's cells' and 'kitchen', and the gaol's other floors. At the rear of the gaol were three separate yards for debtors, felons, and women.

The neighbouring structures to the west are marked as dwelling houses, a hospital, and a barracks surrounded by a moat. A chapel with a vestry and gardens and a school house are depicted to the north of the gaol. The structures to the immediate south were in use as a bakery and store house (Figure 4).



FIGURE 4: Extract from John Longfield's 1824 map of Naas Gaol showing the proposed development area

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1839, scale 1:10560 (Figure 5)

The proposed development area is shown and contains the 'Old Jail', which possesses the same footprint as the structure shown in Figure 4. Dividing walls are marked in the rear yard, which are similar to Figure 4. The area flanking the Main Street is shown as fully developed.

Ordnance Survey Map, 1907, scale 1:2500

By the time of this map the town has developed and expanded further. The building previously annotated as the Old Jail has become the Town Hall, there appears to have been some modification to the north and south wings of the structure to facilitate this change of use. The western portion of the proposed development is lined by structures and the open space in-between them is labelled as a market.



FIGURE 5: Extract from the first edition OS map (1839), showing the proposed development area

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING

3.1 GENERAL

Archaeological testing on site was carried out over two days on the 2nd and 26th October 2018. This was carried out using a 13 tonne 360 degree tracked excavator, with a flat, toothless bucket, under strict archaeological supervision. A total of four site investigation pits were archaeologically monitored during June 2018. Any investigated deposits were preserved by record (Figure 6). This was by means of written, drawn and photographic records.

The test trenches were excavated to determine, as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development. Test trenching was also carried out to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and to assess the degree of archaeological survival in order to formulate further mitigation strategies. These are designed to reduce or offset the impact of the proposed development scheme.

As noted in the introduction, it was originally proposed to excavate a number of test pits within the interior of the town hall. Kildare County Council subsequently informed us that a basement level across the footprint of the town hall had previously been backfilled with a minimum of 2m of concrete and rubble. As such, the test pits could not be excavated.

3.2 TESTING RESULTS

Trench 1 was excavated in the rear yard of the existing town hall complex. This area is used for storage by Kildare County Council. The yard area is covered in concrete and tarmac and contains a significant amount of service trenches. As such the dimensions of the trench were reduced.

TRENCH 1 (Plate 1)

| | |
|---|--|
| LENGTH | 5m |
| DEPTH | 0.9m |
| WIDTH | 0.4m |
| ORIENTATION | Northeast-southwest |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–0.9m | Overburden comprising a levelling deposit of moderately compacted rubble and medium brown clayey soil. |
| 0.9m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| No features of archaeological significance were identified. | |

TEST PIT 1 (Plate 2)

This pit was excavated to the immediate northwest of the rear of the existing town hall.

| | |
|---|---|
| LENGTH | 1.5m |
| DEPTH | 0.85m |
| WIDTH | 1.5m |
| ORIENTATION | N/a |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–0.85m | Overburden consisting of rubble and medium brown clay with modern inclusions such as glass and red brick. |
| 0.85m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| The footings of a masonry and mortar wall were exposed at the base of the trench. The exposed width of the wall was 0.6m and it extended beyond the limits of the test pit. The wall is aligned northwest-southwest. Whilst it is probable that the wall is associated with the old gaol, no walls are marked at this location within the historic mapping. | |

SITE INVESTIGATION PIT 1 (Plate 3)

This pit was excavated c. 5m from the rear entrance to the proposed development area.

| | |
|---|---|
| LENGTH | 2m |
| DEPTH | 0.55m |
| WIDTH | 0.4m |
| ORIENTATION | WNW-ESE |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–0.55m | Overburden consisting of rubble and medium brown clay with modern inclusions such as glass and red brick. |
| 0.55m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| No features of archaeological significance were identified. | |

SITE INVESTIGATION PIT 2

This pit was excavated in the south-western portion of the yard to the rear of the existing town hall.

| | |
|---|---|
| LENGTH | 2m |
| DEPTH | 0.55m |
| WIDTH | 0.4m |
| ORIENTATION | Northeast-southwest |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–0.65m | Overburden consisting of rubble and medium brown clay with modern inclusions such as glass and red brick. |
| 0.65m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| No features of archaeological significance were identified. | |

SITE INVESTIGATION PIT 3 (Plate 4)

This pit was excavated in the rear yard c. 12m to the east of SI it 1.

| | |
|---|---|
| LENGTH | 2m |
| DEPTH | 0.65m |
| WIDTH | 2m |
| ORIENTATION | WNW-ESE |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–0.65m | Overburden consisting of rubble and medium brown clay with modern inclusions such as glass and red brick. |
| 0.65m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| No features of archaeological significance were identified. | |

SITE INVESTIGATION PIT 4 (Plate 5)

This pit was excavated in the rear yard to the immediate southwest of the existing town hall structure.

| | |
|---|---|
| LENGTH | 1.3m |
| DEPTH | 1m |
| WIDTH | 1.3m |
| ORIENTATION | N/a |
| STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL | |
| 0.0–1m | Overburden consisting of rubble and medium brown clay with modern inclusions such as glass and red brick. |
| 1m | Natural subsoil: Compact medium brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES | |
| A stone capped drain was identified at the base of the pit, which runs beneath the foundation wall of the town hall. The drain is defined by narrow stone slabs and capped with same. The drain has a width of 0.4m and is likely associated directly with the town hall. | |



PLATE 1: Trench 1, facing southwest



PLATE 2: Test Pit 1, facing northwest



PLATE 3: Site Investigation Pit 1 during excavation, facing west



PLATE 4: Site Investigation Pit 3, facing northeast



PLATE 5: Stone drain at the base of Site Investigation Pit 4, facing northeast

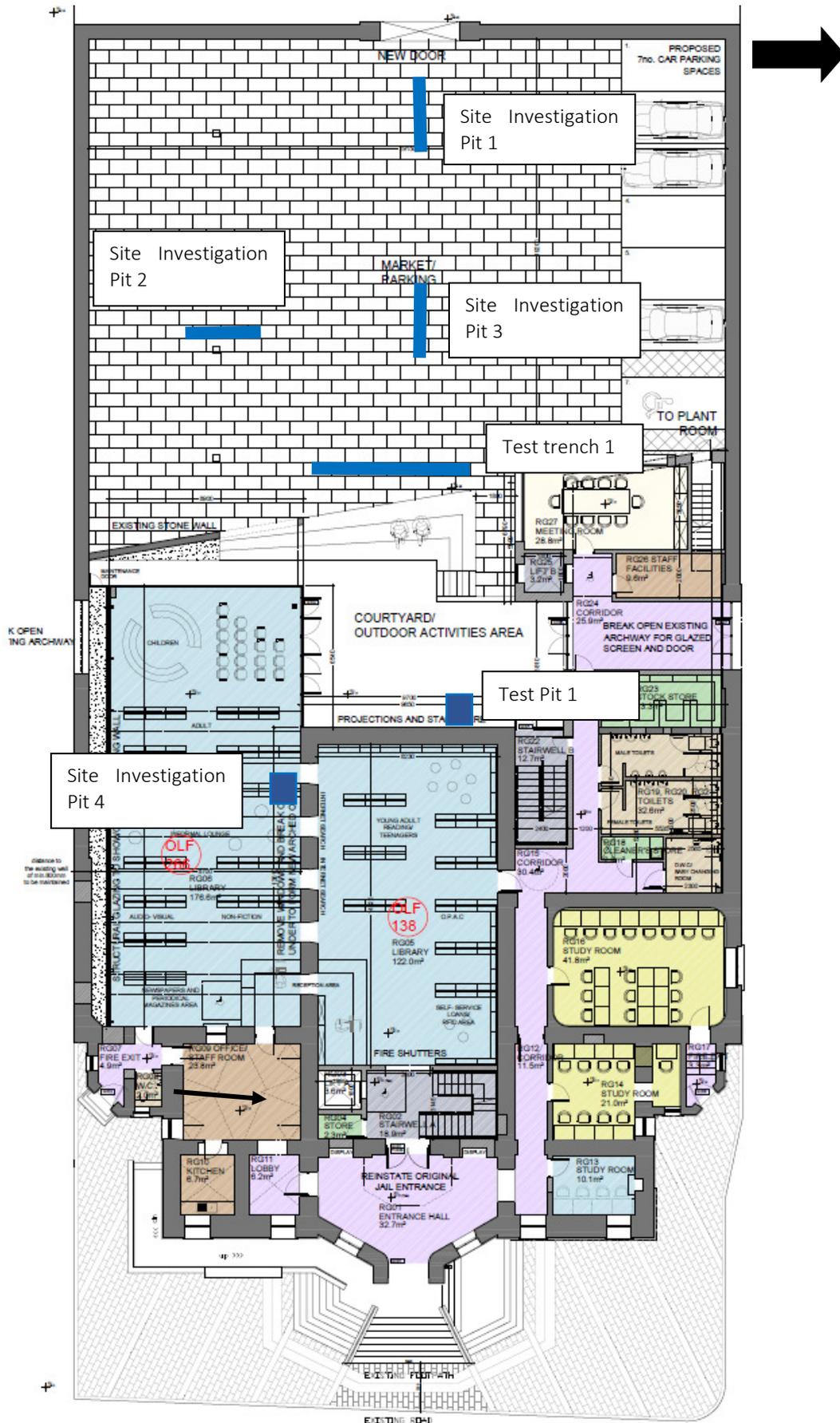


FIGURE 6: Plan of archaeological investigations

3.3 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed development area is located in the townland of Naas West, parish of Naas, and barony of Naas North. The eastern boundary of the site is on the townland boundary with Naas East, Main Street North.

The proposed development area is within the zone of potential for the historic town of Naas (RMP KD019-030). The proposed development area contains the site of a recorded monument, the site of White Castle (KD019-030018). The existing town hall, which was formerly a gaol, is also listed within the Record of Protected Structures for Kildare (RPS NS 19-047) and the NIAH building survey (NIAH 11814041).

Four site investigation test pits were excavated in the rear yard during June 2018, which were archaeologically monitored. These revealed the presence of a levelling deposit across the rear yard area. One post medieval stone drain was identified running beneath the southern foundation of the town hall.

Archaeological testing confirmed the presence of the overburden layer within the yard area and identified the footing of a stone and mortar wall to the immediate west of the town hall structure. This is likely to be post medieval in date and associated with the gaol or town hall.

No specific features of archaeological significance were identified during the course of testing and monitoring.

4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological resources potentially affected. Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; and burial of sites, limiting access for future archaeological investigation.

4.1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- It is possible that ground disturbances associated with the redevelopment of Naas town hall may have an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level.

4.2 MITIGATION

- It is recommended that all ground disturbances associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation *in-situ* or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoCHG.

It is the developer's responsibility to ensure full provision is made available for the resolution of any archaeological remains, both on site and during the post excavation process, should that be deemed the appropriate manner in which to proceed.

Please note that all recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monument Section of the Heritage and Planning Division, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

5 REFERENCES

Bennett, I. (ed.) 1987–2010 *Excavations: Summary Accounts of Archaeological Excavations in Ireland*. Bray. Wordwell.

Bradley, R. et al. 1986 *Urban Archaeological Survey, Vol. IV 343-383* Unpublished report for the OPW.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014a *Standards & Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014b *Standards & Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (Monitoring)*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014c *Standards & Guidance for Field Evaluation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014d *Standards & Guidance for Desk Based Assessments*.

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. 1999a *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*. Dublin. Government Publications Office.

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. 1999b *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation*. Dublin. Government Publications Office.

Environmental Protection Agency. 2015 *Draft Advice Notes on Current Practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)*. Dublin. Government Publications Office.

Environmental Protection Agency. 2017 *Draft Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements*. Dublin. Government Publications Office.

Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023

National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. *Sites and Monuments Record*, County Kildare.

National Museum of Ireland. *Topographical Files*, County Kildare.

O' Lochlainn, C. 1940 *Roadways in Ireland*. In J. Ryan (ed.), *At the Sign of the Three Candles: Essays and Studies Presented to Professor Eoin MacNeill*, 465–74. Dublin.

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Sir William Petty, *Down Survey Map of the Barony of Naas* c. 1655

Noble and Keenan, *Map of County Kildare*, 1752

Alexander Taylor, *A Map of County Kildare*, 1783

John Longfield, *A Plan of Naas Gaol and the Adjoining Concerns*, 1824

Ordnance Survey maps of County Kildare 1839 and 1907

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

www.excavations.ie – Summary of archaeological excavation from 1970–2017.

www.archaeology.ie – DoCHG website listing all SMR sites with aerial photographs.

www.osiemaps.ie – Ordnance Survey aerial photographs dating to 1995, 2000 & 2005 and 6-inch/25-inch OS maps.

www.heritagemaps.ie – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural and natural heritage around Ireland and off shore.

www.googleearth.com – Aerial photographs of the proposed development area.

APPENDIX 1 RMP SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030018 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689240/719472 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Castle - unclassified |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | 0m |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 353), White Castle was situated on the site of the present Town Hall. It had a 19m frontage on North Main Street and was 9m deep. It also had a back premise and a walled rear garden. While some walls to the rear of the Town Hall may be pre-1700 in date, none can be clearly identified as belonging to the castle. (Murtagh 1983-4, 359) |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West, Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689250/719461 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Historic town |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | 0m |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 343-383), Naas was the site of an Early Christian monastery known as 'Cill Corbain' or 'Cill Náis' (KD019-030046----), the former's name being preserved in the present-day Corban's Lane, whose curving course may preserve the line of a pre-Norman monastic enclosure. However, the precise location of the monastery is uncertain. The town is also known as 'Nás na Rí'/'The assembly place of the Kings', because between the 8th and 10th century it was a seat of the Kings of Leinster. The fort ('dún') of Naas is first referred to in 705 AD and may subsequently have been incorporated into the Anglo-Norman motte (KD019-030009-). A second motte (KD019-030023----) may have stood at the S end of the town. After the arrival of the Normans, Naas was granted by Strongbow to Maurice Fitzgerald, and the Augustinian Priory (KD019-030010-) and parish church (KD019-030020-) were both in existence by the beginning of the 13th c. There was also a Dominican Friary (KD019-030012-) in the town. Naas had been granted a weekly market as early as c. 1186, and it may have originally been held at the N end of South Main Street where the tholsel/townhall (KD019-030008-) subsequently stood, before moving to 'the Green of Naas' (presumably the Fair Green at the S-end of the town), probably in the 16th C; and there is a 17th century reference to a market cross (KD019-030047-). Naas was reputedly burnt and plundered by Edmund Bruce in 1316. There is little information on the town in the later middle ages but some nine parliaments and 13 councils were held there between 1355 and 1484, while in 1467-8 Naas was described as the 'Key of the County of Kildare in resistance of their Irish enemies'. Increasing instability resulted in a number of murage grants to the town in the 15th century when, in 1415, there is the first mention of town defences (KD019-030001-). While there is little, if any, |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | <p>physical evidence that the town was ever walled, archaeological investigations associated with modern building development has uncovered evidence of a town ditch, which was presumably augmented by an earthen rampart. At least six town gates are recorded (North Gate, Watergate Castle, Corban's Gate, Green Gate, West Gate and Iago's Gate), and the town also contained some six tower houses or fortified houses, the precise locations of some of which are uncertain: they include the Black Castle (KD019-030013-), Eustace Castle (KD019-030014-), Lattin's Castle (KD019-030015-), The Rose and Crown/Wheatley's Castle (KD019-030016-/KD019-030017-), the White Castle (KD019-030018-) and St David's Castle (KD019-030019-). Naas was incorporated by charter of Elizabeth in 1568. It was burnt again in 1577, when a (probably exaggerated) report by Sir Henry Sidney claimed that between 700 and 800 houses were destroyed. Large garrisons of crown forces were stationed at Naas from the late-16 century, particularly between c. 1598-1601, and during the wars of the 1640's, when the town changed hands on several occasions. Naas did, however, maintain its status in the 17th C: it was described in 1606 as 'the chief corporate town in the County of Kildare' and a new charter was granted by James 1 in 1609. A population of 303 was recorded in 1659. The town has a linear street pattern centred on North and South Main Streets, off which several small lanes run at right angles. South Main Street is wider than North and is reminiscent of 17th century town layout. A burgage plot pattern survives mainly on the W side of North Main Street and on both sides of South Main Street, and the most common dwellings were likely to have been the 'lowe thatched housies' mentioned by Sidney.</p> |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030054 |
| RMP STATUS: | No |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689259/719479 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Excavation - miscellaneous |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 5m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | <p>In 1997, archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 97E0151: www.excavations.ie) of the mechanical excavation of pipe trench cuttings to accommodate a new 1.5m water main and the laying of gas pipes in Main Street (north and south) and adjoining streets in Naas was carried out. In the course of trenching along the western side of North Main Street, to the north of the Town Hall, a portion of a truncated pit was revealed. Part of the western side of the pit had been disturbed and removed at some earlier time in the course of laying other service pipes. The remaining element of the pit was 0.8m east-west, 0.6m north-south and 0.24m deep. It contained dark brown soil, five water-rolled stones varying between 0.1m and 0.15m in thickness, a quantity of animal bones, and sherds of the rim, strap handle and body of a 13th/14th-century wine jug of Dublin manufacture. The rim bears piecrust decoration. Stratification overlying the pit consisted of 0.08m of road surface tarmac and 0.28m of hard-core. The pit had been cut into the underlying boulder clay.</p> |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030001 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East, Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689251/719459 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Town defences |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 10m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | <p>According to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 355-9), there are no references to town defences in Naas before 1415, when the King granted the provosts and burgesses the customs of the town for 20 years in order to fortify it. Further murage grants were made by parliament between 1451 and 1468; the latter being a grant for ten years to pay for the immediate walling of the town which was 'like to be destroyed or burned, unless it is walled'. Charters of 1568 and 1609 both granted tolls and customs to the Corporation to pay for the walling of the town, and a further grant was made by Charles 1 in 1629 'towards repairing of their buildings and walls'. De Burgh (1891-5, 319) refers to a feature mentioned in leases as 'The Barrier' or 'North Barrier', the precise location of which is unknown, but which he suggested may have been in the vicinity of St. David's Castle (KD019-030019-). Murtagh (1983-4, 356) suggests it may have formed an inner defensive line, while Healy (1984, 5) regarded it as the original N-boundary of the town. Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 358) are sceptical of either suggestion. While there are references to a number of gatehouses (see below), little physical evidence of the presence or course of a town wall is known. However, traces of a defensive ditch have been found. In 1996, archaeological excavation (Licence no. 96E0124: www.excavations.ie) identified part of a possible defensive ditch adjacent to Corban's Lane. In 1998 an archaeological evaluation (Licence no. 98E0468: www.excavations.ie) at a site on Friary Road revealed portion of a linear ditch of substantial dimensions. Its location (ITM 689499 719587) and direction suggested it was part of the town defences. A probable continuation was found to the north when in 2002 during an archaeological assessment (Licence no. 02E1788 www.excavations.ie) in advance of a proposed development on a large site at Poplar Square/Friary Road. Eustace Castle (KD019-030014-) stood at the south-western corner of the site, and the presumed line of the town defences runs roughly northwest-southeast across the eastern portion of the site. A large ditch was found (IG 289570 219589 ITM 689496 719634) and although not fully exposed it was 4-5m wide and 0.9 - c. 1.4m deep and 3m wide towards the base. No finds were recovered from the fill of the ditch, but it was interpreted as forming part of the town defences. Conversely in 1997, archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 97E0151: www.excavations.ie) of the mechanical excavation of pipe trench cuttings along the length of the east-west Canal Street revealed no material of archaeological significance, or any evidence of a stone construction which might suggest the route of a suggested town wall or earthen rampart crossing the site from south to north. In 1999, archaeological testing (Licence no. 99E0111: www.excavations.ie) at the site of a proposed rear extension to a premises on the Dublin Road (ITM 689456 719685) revealed a number of sherds of late medieval pottery together with a wall which had been truncated both by the foundation trench of the existing cottage and a service-pipe trench. The wall, although only 1.5m long, was at least 1.1m wide, although its exact width could not be measured as it appeared to continue into the adjacent property. Two rough courses of stone were revealed, standing to a maximum height of 0.43m. It was interpreted as the basal remains of the town wall defences and was subsequently preserved in situ. An alternative interpretation might associate this wall with the North Gate, which is believed to have stood in this general area.</p> <p>The town's defences also comprised the following elements:</p> |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| | <p>1. 'North Gate' (IG 289513 219615 ITM 689444 719645) Not indicated on the OS 6-inch mapping. Located on the N boundary of the town defences possibly at the S end of the Dublin road, but its exact location is unknown (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 357).</p> <p>2. 'Watergate Castle' (IG 289575 219442 ITM 689506 719472) Not indicated on OS 6-inch mapping. Both de Burgh (1891-5, 320) and Murtagh (1983-4, 357) regard the Watergate Castle, recorded in the Civil Survey (1654-6), as a domestic fortified house, but Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 357) state it is almost certainly a gatehouse at the Water Gate, probably on Friary Street at the E of the town.</p> <p>3. 'Corban's Gate' (IG 289353 219181 ITM 689284 719211) was located on the E boundary of the town defences, probably at the junction of Corban's Lane and Church Lane (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 357).</p> <p>4. 'Green Gate' (IG 289228 219136 ITM 689159 719166) was located on the S end of the town boundary where the angle of the building on the corner projects onto the footpath of the Green (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 357).</p> <p>5. 'West Gate' (IG 289144 219178 ITM 689075 719208) was located on the W boundary of the town defences, near New Row (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 358).</p> <p>6. 'Iago's Gate' (IG 289450 219683 ITM 689381 719713) was located on the N boundary of the town defences, but its exact location is unknown (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 357).</p> |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030017 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689261/719463 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Castle - tower house |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 15m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 353), Wheatley's Castle was described in 1788 as being to the E of the Tholsel (KD019-030008-) in Naas town, but it may actually be identifiable with the Rose and Crown (KD019-030016-). |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030055 |
| RMP STATUS: | No |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689255/719449 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Excavation - miscellaneous |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 15m southeast |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| DESCRIPTION: | In 1997, archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 97E0151) of the mechanical excavation of pipe trench cuttings to accommodate a new 1.5m water main and the laying of gas pipes in Main Street (north and south) and adjoining streets in Naas was carried out. A short 12m stretch at the south-eastern section of North Main Street opposite the Town Hall was found to be largely previously undisturbed ground and was excavated manually. At a depth of 0.36m below street surface there was a stratum (T 0.1-0.2m) of black clay and stones, as well as animal bones, cockle and oyster shells and some red brick fragments. Beneath this layer there was a rough paving of cobble-sized stones above the boulder clay. A portion of the former stone-cobbled street drain close to the footpath to the east was also noted. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030016 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689269/719462 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | House - 16th/17th century |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 20m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 351-2), a slated house called the Rose and Crown is mentioned in the Civil Survey (1654), and Costello's suggestion (Leinster Leader, 2 November 1985) is quoted; that it stood opposite the present Town Hall, on the E side of North Main Street, where No. 25 has a stone built N wall with a rounded corner projecting towards the street. It's also suggested that this may have been Wheatley's Castle (KD019-030017-). |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030008 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East, Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689252/719420 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Town hall |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 40m southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 348) there are several references to the Tholsel of Naas between 1664 and 1681, when it was apparently replaced by a new Sessions House. It stood in the market place at the N end of South Main Street and contained assembly rooms, with cellars below and garrets above. The assembly rooms were approached by an external flight of steps on the S side of the building. In 1997, archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 97E0151: www.excavations.ie) of the mechanical excavation of pipe trench cuttings in Market Square found the western face of a lime-mortared stone wall (Wth 1.38m - 1.8m) between 0.31m and 0.5m below the existing road surface. It was built of a mix of thin stones laid on their natural beds (dims. L 0.6m; Wth 0.02m - L 0.14m; Wth 0.06m), pebbles and small pieces of slate. To the east there was a short projecting return wall or partition (L 0.6m: Wth 0.26m) at right angles to the main wall. Back-fill to the east of the wall consisted of mortar, stones and sandy soil, |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| | possibly representing the remains of cellars. The pipe trench was subsequently rerouted to allow the features to be preserved in situ. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030027 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689323/719467 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Font |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 50m east-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 363), an undecorated, almost circular granite basin (diams. 0.68m; 0.62m; H 0.32m), lacking a drain hole, lies against the N wall of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-). |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030009 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689181/719561 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Castle - motte |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 55m northwest |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 354-5), there is no historical record of the construction of the motte, which stands on the highest point of a gravel ridge to the W of North Main Street, possibly on the site of a pre-Norman fort - the 'Dún' of Naas, first referred to in 705 AD. It was presumably erected by Maurice Fitzgerald, to whom Naas was granted by Strongbow. This large, conical, flat-topped mound (base diams. 70m N-S; 58m E-W; summit diams. 29m E-W; 27m N-S) is sharply scarped at the NE, E, and S. A modern house and garden are built on the summit and steps lead E down the side of the mound. A second motte, the 'South Moat' (KD019-030023----) may once have stood at the S end of the town. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030013 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689276/719536 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Castle - unclassified |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 55m north-northwest |
| DESCRIPTION: | The site of the Black Castle is shown immediately E of the motte (KD019-030009-) on the OS 6-inch map. According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 350), it may also |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | have been known as Lyard's Castle. In 1979 rescue archaeological excavations took place at Nos. 14, 15 and 16 Main Street North, an area of c. 1400 m-square adjacent to the motte, and in the environs of the suggested location of the castle. Previous site clearance of most of the area had exposed natural gravel and archaeological deposits survived only as a 13th C circular stone-lined pit, a cess pit and part of a 14th century wall. Finds included some one hundred pottery sherds of local ware including eleven sherds of 'Leinster cooking ware'. The ring from a medieval ring-brooch and three sherds of early 16th century Beauvais medallion jugs (both green and yellow) were found in disturbed contexts. (www.excavations.ie; Murtagh 1983-4, 355-61) |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030026 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689307/719450 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Font |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 65m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 362-3), a late-13/early-14th century, square font (dims. L 0.74m; Wth 0.72m; H 0.5m) of black fossiliferous limestone, with a circular, straight-sided basin (diam. 0.2m) with a plugged central drain-hole, stands on a modern, five-legged pedestal at the W end of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-). The font is decorated in false relief with different sprays of foliage. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030020 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689313/719463 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Church |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 70 east |
| DESCRIPTION: | On the E-side of North Main Street, in a possible graveyard (KD019-030057-). According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 359-66), the first direct reference to the church (of St. David) is in 1212 when it was listed among the possessions of St. John of Jerusalem, and it remained the property of the Hospitallers throughout the Middle Ages. An inquisition of 1606 noted that the church contained three chantries, whose priests formed a corporate body with rich endowments (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 361). This rectangular structure, built of roughly coursed limestone with granite and tufa quoins and jambs, comprises a 13th century nave and S-aisle (only the footings of the S wall of which survive), to which a chancel was added slightly later, and accessed via a pointed chancel arch (nave and chancel dims. L 30m NE-SW; Wth 9.2m; S-aisle dims. L 20.6m; Wth 5.9m). A tower was added to the SW end of the nave in 1781. The nave is entered through a doorway in the SW gable wall, and is lit by three, pointed, twin-light windows in the N wall |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | and by four modern windows in the S wall, set in the blocked-up pointed arches which formerly opened onto the S-aisle. The chancel is lit by a triple-lancet window in the NE gable. The church contains a high medieval font (KD019-030026-) at its W end and a circular font (KD019-030027-) lies against the N wall. Five 17th century memorial stones (KD019-030028-, KD019-030029-, KD019-030033-, KD019-030034- and KD019-030035-) and two armorial plaques (KD019-030031- and KD019-030032-) are contained within or are affixed to the walls of the church, which is also abutted by a 17th century tomb (KD019-030030-). |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030030 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689316/719451 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Tomb - table tomb |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 70 east-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 363-4), the rectangular, limestone end-panel (dims. H 0.91m; Wth 0.66m; T 0.1m) of a table tomb is set against the outer face of the S wall of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-). It bears a Latin inscription commemorating its maker; Peter Walsh 1606. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030031 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689318719457 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Graveslab |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 70 east-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 364-5), a rectangular sandstone slab, in two pieces (dims. L 2.1m; Wth 0.98m), set into the floor of the central aisle of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-) is decorated in low, false relief with a marginal inscription in Roman capitals and an achievement of arms. It commemorates Joshua Carpenter, 1665. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030033 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689319/719457 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Graveslab |
| DIST. TO | c. 70 east-southeast |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| DEVELOPMENT: | |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 365), a black, shaly, rectangular slab (dims. L 1.71m; Wth 0.63) set into the centre aisle of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-) commemorates Susanna Heale, 168(?). |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030025 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 362), there are six small rectangular sandstone window mouldings with bands of dog-tooth decoration, and a limestone chamfered arch with hollow spandrels for a twin light window, lying against the S wall of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-) |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Architectural fragment |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 75m east |
| DESCRIPTION: | 689323/719453 |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030032 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689321/719451 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Wall monument |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 75m east-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 365), two parts of a limestone plaque are built into the outer face of the S wall of S. David's Church (KD019-030020-): the upper (dims. H 0.6m; Wth 0.57m) is decorated in false relief and carries the Fisher coat of arms; the lower (dims. H 0.54m; Wth 0.86m), in four pieces, bears an inscription in mixed Roman and Gothic lettering commemorating Edward Fisher, 1659. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030035 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689317/719452 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Wall monument |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 75m southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 366), a square limestone slab (dims. L 0.61m; Wth 0.61m; T 0.09m) set against the S wall of St. David's Church (KD019- |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | 030020-) bears an inscription in false relief Roman lettering commemorating Thomas Moore, 1699. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030052 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas West |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689189/719395 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Well |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 75m southwest |
| DESCRIPTION: | In 1998, archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 98E0030: www.excavations.ie) of groundworks associated with an extension to the rear of premises on South Main Street uncovered two distinct features of archaeological interest. One was a layer (Wth 0.56m; T 0.1-0.12m) of black, organic silt running along the northernmost edge of the development and into the adjacent property to the north. It lay directly upon the sterile subsoil. The second feature was a well situated in the central area of the extension. The structural integrity of the well was not endangered by the development, and it was covered over with slabs. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030034 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689334/719465 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Graveslab |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 85m east-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 366), a rectangular sandstone slab (dims. L 1.46m; Wth 0.6m) outside the E gable wall of St. David's Church (KD019-030020-) bears an inscription in Roman lettering commemorating Elizabeth Brereton, 1694. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| SMR NO.: | KD019-030057 |
| RMP STATUS: | Yes |
| TOWNLAND: | Naas East |
| PARISH: | Nass |
| BARONY: | Naas North |
| I.T.M.: | 689334/719457 |
| CLASSIFICATION: | Graveyard |
| DIST. TO DEVELOPMENT: | c. 85m south-southeast |
| DESCRIPTION: | Although not recorded on either edition of the OS 6-inch map (1838 and 1938-9), the OS 25-inch map (19-10) names 'Grave Yd.' immediately SE of St David's Church (KD019-030020-). In 1980, during the lowering of the ground level in an adjoining |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | property, burials, medieval pottery, and a medieval tile were uncovered c. 35m to the NE of the church (SMR file). This suggests that the graveyard also extended in this direction away from the church. |
| REFERENCE: | www.archaeology.ie |

APPENDIX 2 STRAY FINDS WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

Information on artefact finds from the study area in Kildare has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic activity in the study area.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| MUSEUM NO | 1955:135 |
| TOWNLAND | Naas West |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Clay 'Marble' |
| FIND PLACE | c. 265m north |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| MUSEUM NO | 1969:75 |
| TOWNLAND | Naas West |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Bronze pin |
| FIND PLACE | c. 1.1km south |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| MUSEUM NO | 1972:85-88 |
| TOWNLAND | Naas East |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Human Bones (Of Four Individuals) |
| FIND PLACE | c. 1.2km northeast |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| MUSEUM NO | - |
| TOWNLAND | Naas East |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Human Skeletal Remains, Frgt. Tile, Medieval Sherd of Pottery |
| FIND PLACE | c. 265m northeast |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| MUSEUM NO | IA/139/2002 |
|------------------|-------------|

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| TOWNLAND | Naas East |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Lead Alloy Medal |
| FIND PLACE | c. 350m east-northeast |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| MUSEUM NO | 1970:221 |
| TOWNLAND | Naas East |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Pottery Vessel |
| FIND PLACE | c. 60m southeast |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| MUSEUM NO | 1981:60; 76-89 |
| TOWNLAND | Naas East |
| PARISH | Naas |
| BARONY | Naas North |
| FIND | Medieval Potsherd (:60), Five Medieval Potsherds, Three Post-Medieval Sherds |
| FIND PLACE | c. 565m southeast |
| DESCRIPTION | - |
| REFERENCE | NMI Topographical Files |

APPENDIX 3 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The cultural heritage in Ireland is safeguarded through national and international policy designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource to the fullest possible extent (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands 1999, 35). This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Valletta Convention), ratified by Ireland in 1997.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The *National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014* and relevant provisions of the *National Cultural Institutions Act 1997* are the primary means of ensuring the satisfactory protection of archaeological remains, which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date except buildings habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes. A National Monument is described as ‘a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto’ (National Monuments Act 1930 Section 2). A number of mechanisms under the National Monuments Act are applied to secure the protection of archaeological monuments. These include the Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places, and the placing of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders on endangered sites.

OWNERSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS

The Minister may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

REGISTER OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS

Section 5 of the 1987 Act requires the Minister 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 on the register is illegal without the permission of the Minister. Two months notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. The register also includes sites under Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders. All registered monuments are included in the Record of Monuments and Places.

PRESERVATION ORDERS AND TEMPORARY PRESERVATION ORDERS

Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These

perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES

Section 12(1) of the 1994 Act requires the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (now the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht) to establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes that such monuments exist. The record comprises a list of monuments and relevant places and a map/s showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. All sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1994. All recorded monuments on the proposed development site are represented on the accompanying maps.

Section 12(3) of the 1994 Act provides that ‘where the owner or occupier (other than the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands) of a monument or place included in the Record, or any other person, proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such a monument or place, he or she shall give notice in writing to the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands to carry out work and shall not, except in case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the work until two months after giving of notice’.

Under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004, anyone who demolishes or in any way interferes with a recorded site is liable to a fine not exceeding €3,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months. On summary conviction and on conviction of indictment, a fine not exceeding €10,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years is the penalty. In addition, they are liable for costs for the repair of the damage caused.

In addition to this, under the *European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989*, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are required for various classes and sizes of development project to assess the impact the proposed development will have on the existing environment, which includes the cultural, archaeological and built heritage resources. These document’s recommendations are typically incorporated into the conditions under which the proposed development must proceed, and thus offer an additional layer of protection for monuments which have not been listed on the RMP.

THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000

Under planning legislation, each local authority is obliged to draw up a Development Plan setting out their aims and policies with regard to the growth of the area over a five-year period. They cover a range of issues including archaeology and built heritage, setting out their policies and objectives with regard to the protection and enhancement of both. These policies can vary from county to county. The Planning and Development Act 2000 recognises that proper planning and sustainable development includes the protection of the archaeological heritage. Conditions relating to archaeology may be attached to individual planning permissions.

Kildare County Development Plan, 2017-2023

It is the policy of Kildare County Council to:

AH 1

Manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of the county, avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest and secures the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest. The Council will favour preservation in – situ in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principals for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1999) or any superseding national policy.

AH 2

Have regard to the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), the Urban Archaeological Survey and archaeological sites identified subsequent to the publication of the RMP when assessing planning applications for development. No development shall be permitted in the vicinity of a recorded feature, where it detracts from the setting of the feature or which is injurious to its cultural or educational value.

AH 3

Secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest, included in the Record of Monuments and Places and their settings, in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHG (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

AH 4

Ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing and to ensure that such proposed developments are subject to an archaeological assessment. Such an assessment will seek to ensure that the development can be sited and designed in such a way as to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features and objects.

AH 5

Contribute towards the protection and preservation of the archaeological value of underwater or archaeological sites associated with rivers and associated features.

AH 6

Contribute towards the protection of historic burial grounds within the county and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles in co-operation with the Historic Monuments Advisory Committee and National Monuments Section of Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DAHRRGA).

AH 7

Promote and support in partnership with the National Monuments Section of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (DAHRRGA), the concept of Archaeological Landscapes where areas contain several Recorded Monuments.

AH 8

Encourage, where practicable, the provision of public access to sites identified in the Record of Monuments and Places under the direct ownership, guardianship or control of the Council and/or the State.

AH 9

Encourage the provision of signage to publicly accessible recorded monuments.

APPENDIX 4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REMAINS

Impacts are defined as ‘the degree of change in an environment resulting from a development’ (Environmental Protection Agency 2003: 31). They are described as profound, significant or slight impacts on archaeological remains. They may be negative, positive or neutral, direct, indirect or cumulative, temporary or permanent.

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological and historical resources potentially affected. Development can affect the archaeological and historical resource of a given landscape in a number of ways.

- Permanent and temporary land-take, associated structures, landscape mounding, and their construction may result in damage to or loss of archaeological remains and deposits, or physical loss to the setting of historic monuments and to the physical coherence of the landscape.
- Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping and the passage of heavy machinery; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; or burial of sites, limiting accessibility for future archaeological investigation.
- Hydrological changes in groundwater or surface water levels can result from construction activities such as de-watering and spoil disposal, or longer-term changes in drainage patterns. These may desiccate archaeological remains and associated deposits.
- Visual impacts on the historic landscape sometimes arise from construction traffic and facilities, built earthworks and structures, landscape mounding and planting, noise, fences and associated works. These features can impinge directly on historic monuments and historic landscape elements as well as their visual amenity value.
- Landscape measures such as tree planting can damage sub-surface archaeological features, due to topsoil stripping and through the root action of trees and shrubs as they grow.
- Ground consolidation by construction activities or the weight of permanent embankments can cause damage to buried archaeological remains, especially in colluviums or peat deposits.
- Disruption due to construction also offers in general the potential for adversely affecting archaeological remains. This can include machinery, site offices, and service trenches.

Although not widely appreciated, positive impacts can accrue from developments. These can include positive resource management policies, improved maintenance and access to archaeological monuments, and the increased level of knowledge of a site or historic landscape as a result of archaeological assessment and fieldwork.

PREDICTED IMPACTS

The severity of a given level of land-take or visual intrusion varies with the type of monument, site or landscape features and its existing environment. Severity of impact can be judged taking the following into account:

- The proportion of the feature affected and how far physical characteristics fundamental to the understanding of the feature would be lost;
- Consideration of the type, date, survival/condition, fragility/vulnerability, rarity, potential and amenity value of the feature affected;
- Assessment of the levels of noise, visual and hydrological impacts, either in general or site-specific terms, as may be provided by other specialists.

APPENDIX 5 MITIGATION MEASURES & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE REMAINS

Mitigation is defined as features of the design or other measures of the proposed development that can be adopted to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset negative effects.

The best opportunities for avoiding damage to archaeological remains or intrusion on their setting and amenity arise when the site options for the development are being considered. Damage to the archaeological resource immediately adjacent to developments may be prevented by the selection of appropriate construction methods. Reducing adverse effects can be achieved by good design, for example by screening historic buildings or upstanding archaeological monuments or by burying archaeological sites undisturbed rather than destroying them. Offsetting adverse effects is probably best illustrated by the full investigation and recording of archaeological sites that cannot be preserved *in situ*.

DEFINITION OF MITIGATION STRATEGIES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The ideal mitigation for all archaeological sites is preservation *in situ*. This is not always a practical solution, however. Therefore, a series of recommendations are offered to provide ameliorative measures where avoidance and preservation *in situ* are not possible.

Full Archaeological Excavation involves the scientific removal and recording of all archaeological features, deposits and objects to the level of geological strata or the base level of any given development. Full archaeological excavation is recommended where initial investigation has uncovered evidence of archaeologically significant material or structures and where avoidance of the site is not possible. (IFA 2014b)

Archaeological Test Trenching can be defined as ‘a limited programme... of intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present test trenching defines their character and extent and relative quality.’ (IFA 2014a)

Archaeological Monitoring can be defined as a ‘formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area or site on land or underwater, where there is possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.’ (IFA 2014c)