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Archaeological Impact Assessment
at Parkmore Industrial Estate, Dublin 22

February 2025

Client: Watfore Limited.

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Non Executive Summary

It is proposed to develop a site at Parkmore Industrial Estate, Dublin 22. The site is occupied by 20th century industrial units and associated car park. No original ground exists at the site. No recorded monuments are located close to the site and an examination of excavations ie did not reveal any recently discovered archaeological deposits in the area. The site was previously part of a quarry as visible on the 25" map for the site. It is unlikely that any archaeological deposits could exist at the site. The archaeological potential for the study area is low. As a result of this no further archaeological input is required.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the local authority and the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.

1 Introduction

It is proposed to develop a brown field site at Parkmore Industrial Estate, Dublin 22. The site is occupied by modern industrial units. This report details the potential impacts on the archaeological landscape of the proposed development. The site does not include any archaeological monuments and no potential archaeological features were identified as a result of this report.

The report includes a desktop study, a site inspection and a geophysical survey. The desktop section of the report was compiled using: The Records of Monuments and Places; buildings of Ireland, Excavations Bulletin; historic maps; aerial photographs; place names and historic books and journals.

Field walking was undertaken in February 2023. John Purcell Archaeological Consultancy undertook this report.

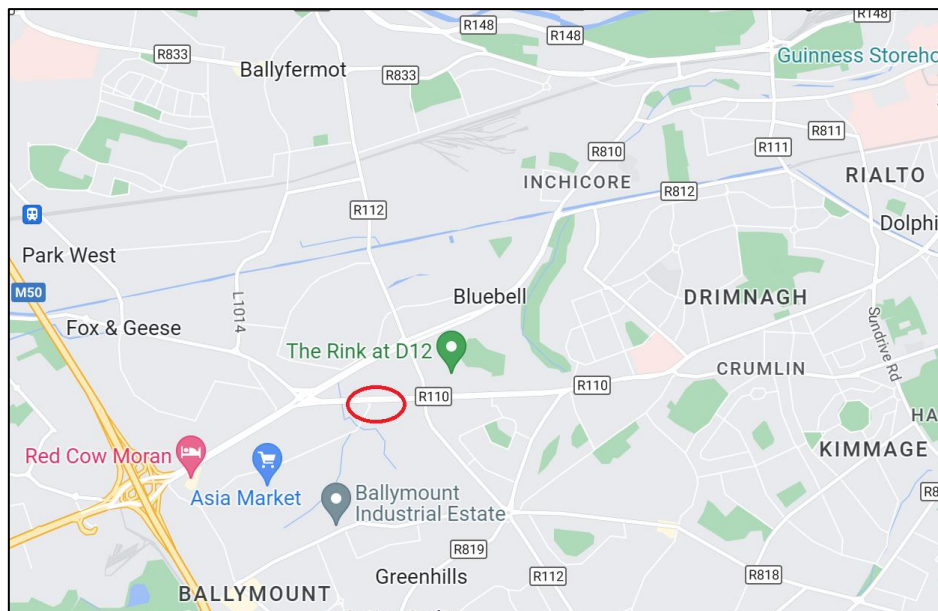


Figure 1: Location of the proposed development

2 **Assessment Methodology**

2.1 **Study Methodology**

This assessment consists of a paper survey identifying all recorded sites within the vicinity of the proposed development and a site inspection. The methodology has been conducted based on the guidelines from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG.).

2.2 **Desktop Survey**

The desktop survey undertaken consisted of a document and cartographic search utilising a number of sources including the following:

- **Record of Monuments and Places (RMP);** The RMP records known upstanding archaeological monuments, the original location of destroyed monuments and the location of possible sites identified through, documentary, cartographic, photographic research and field inspections. The RMP consists of a list, organised by county and subdivided by 6" map sheets showing the location of each site. The RMP data is compiled from the files of the Archaeological Survey.
- **National Inventory of Architectural Heritage;** The inventory of architectural heritage lists all post 1700 structures and buildings in the country. This includes structures of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, social, scientific or technical importance.
- **County Development Plans;** The Development plan was consulted to ascertain if any structures listed in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) and/or any Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs). The Record of Protected Structures lists all protected structures and buildings in Dublin. This includes structures of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, social, scientific or technical importance.
- **Cartographic Sources;** The following maps were examined: Down Survey, 1st edition Ordnance Survey Maps (1836-1846) and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Maps (1908), Rocque Map and the Cassini Map.
- **Literary Sources;** Various published sources, including local and national journals, were consulted to establish a historical background for the proposed

development site. Literary sources are a valuable means of completing the written record of an area and gaining insight into the history of the environs of the proposed development. Principal archaeological sources include:

The Excavations Bulletin; Local Journals; Published archaeological and architectural inventories; Peter Harbison, (1975). *Guide to the National Monuments of Ireland*; and O'Donovan's *Ordnance Survey Letters*.

A comprehensive list of all literary sources consulted is given in the bibliography.

2.3 Site Inspection

An archaeological field inspection survey seeks to verify the location and extent of known archaeological features and to record the location and extent of any newly identified features. A field inspection should also identify any areas of archaeological potential with no above ground visibility.

3 Receiving Environment and Characteristics of the Development

The development will comprise a Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD) on a site at Parkmore Industrial Estate, Long Mile Rd, Robinhood, Dublin, 12. The proposed development will comprise the demolition of existing industrial units, and construction of a mixed use, residential-led development within 4 no. blocks ranging in height from 06 to 10 storeys over semi-basement. The development will comprise the following: 436 no. apartments (studios; 1 beds; 2 beds and 3 beds) with commercial/employment units, creche, café and library. Provision of car, cycle and motorbike parking. Vehicular accesses from Parkmore estate road and additional pedestrian/cyclist accesses from the Long Mile Road and Robinhood Road. Upgrade works to the estate road and surrounding road network. All associated site development works and services provision, open spaces, ESB substations, plant areas, waste management areas, landscaping and boundary treatments.

4 Archaeological and Historic Summary

4.1 Brief Archaeological Background Dublin

Dublin city's origins trace back to the 9th century when it was founded by Viking settlers on the banks of the River Liffey. The name "Dublin" is derived from the Irish "Dubh Linn," meaning "black pool," which referred to a dark tidal pool where the River Poddle met the River Liffey. Archaeological excavations have revealed Viking longhouses, burial sites, and artifacts, underscoring Dublin's significance as a Viking trading and military hub. By the late 11th century, there was a suburb of Dublin north of the Liffey centred around Smithfield and Stonybatter.

Following the Norman invasion of Ireland in the late 12th century, Dublin underwent significant transformation. The Normans established Dublin Castle as a seat of power. In 1152, the Bishop of Dublin was made an Archbishop. Between 1172 and 1191, the Cathedral of Christchurch was rebuilt. In 1213, the parish Church of St. Patrick was also made a cathedral. In the early 13th century, a stone wall was constructed to protect the settlement. In 1229, Dublin gained its first mayor. Dublin grew rapidly and may have had a population of 8,000 by the 13th century. The street pattern from this period survives in parts of the city's current layout.

During the late medieval period, Dublin continued to grow as a commercial center. The city saw the establishment of numerous religious institutions, such as monasteries and abbeys, which played vital roles in education and healthcare, extending the city's wealth and influence. The dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII led to the transfer of this wealth to a new ruling elite.

In the 16th century, Dublin expanded outside the walled town. In 1591, Queen Elizabeth granted a charter for a new university, Trinity College. The first students were admitted in 1594. In 1621, a Custom House was built. In 1662, Phoenix Park was laid out as a deer park. The 17th and 18th centuries marked continued expansion of Dublin. The city saw the construction of Georgian buildings, wide streets, and public squares. Developments include the construction of St. Stephen's Green, the Four Courts, and several hospitals. The 17th century also saw an influx of Huguenot settlers expelled from Catholic France. Many of these settled in the Newmarket area of the city.

The 19th century brought industrialization, further urban expansion, and social changes. Dublin's port facilities were modernized, facilitating increased trade. The development of the canal, railway networks, and improved road networks connected Dublin more efficiently with the rest of Ireland.

4.2 Drimnagh

Drimnagh is a suburb in Dublin, Ireland, with a rich history that stretches back several millennia. Evidence of prehistoric activity in the area is highlighted by the presence of a Linkardstown burial and a flat cemetery recorded nearby, indicating early human settlement. During the medieval period, Drimnagh was primarily agricultural land, initially owned by various monasteries and later by Anglo-Norman families following the Norman invasion of Ireland in the 12th century. The lands of Drimnagh were eventually granted to the Barnewall family, who constructed Drimnagh Castle in the early 13th century. This castle remains one of the last surviving medieval moated castles in Ireland. Over the centuries, Drimnagh gradually transitioned from rural farmland to a suburban area, especially in the early 20th century. The construction of housing estates during the 1930s and 1940s marked a significant shift in its development, transforming Drimnagh into a well-established residential suburb.

4.3 Archaeological Monuments

The study area does not include any archaeological monuments, a number are located in the wider area these are detailed below (all information taken from archaeology.ie).

DU018-037----

Class: Linkardstown burial

Townland: DRIMNAGH

Excavated in 1938 by Kilbride Jones (1939, 190-220). The site comprised a circular mound (diam.21.5m, H 1.22m). It had a composite make-up comprising a primary mound of decayed sods overlain by a mound of gravel and sand of Mid-Late Bronze age. The primary mound covered a stone-setting and an oval cairn which covered a central cist (L1.30m, Wth 1.20m, H 0.37m) orientated N-S containing a hanging bowl and extended burial. Secondary burials were inserted into the mound. These were cremations accompanied by a Food Vessel. At a later stage in the early Late Bronze Age a mantling mound had been placed over the primary mound obtained from a

surrounding ditch. A pit inserted into this contained two burials, orientated East to West. In Walkinstown Park. There are no visible surface remains.

DU022-001----

Class: Ritual site - holy well

Townland: WILKINSTOWN

Formerly situated in a Green off Walkinstown Crescent. Known as 'Toberacreena' it was regarded as a holy well. The water was thought to cure eye troubles. A bush with rags attached had overhung the well (Ua Broin 1942, 109-110). There are no visible remains above ground.

DU022-002----

Class: Flat cemetery

Townland: GREENHILLS

These burials were first uncovered in 1892 during the quarrying of a sand and gravel ridge (NMI 1892:48). The remains comprised a burial with a bowl food vessel and an uncontexted vase food vessel. In 1898 there were further discoveries of two cists with two pit burials and two other possible pit burials (Plunkett 1898-190, 388). One contained an urn, the other a food vessel/urn (Waddell 1970, 116; 1990, 83). There is a development on the site.

DU018-036----

Class: Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle

Townland: DRIMNAGH

Now located on the grounds of the Christian Brother's monastery and school on the Long Mile Road, this castle is associated with the Barnewall family from the 13th to the early 17th century (Ball 1899, 95-6; Ball 1906, 125-132; Mc Dix 1897, 49-50; Anon 1914, 780). A rectangular moat (L 61m, W 45m) crossed by a stone-arched bridge (1780) on the E side leads onto a three-storey oblong tower incorporating a segmental-arched gateway. It has a projecting stair turret on the S side, lit by slit loops and a flattened arched ope with chamfered jambs. The main chambers of the gate tower are lit by later inserted windows. The gate tower adjoins the S end of a great hall of 14th-16th-century date. This rises to two storeys over a vaulted basement and is entered from the courtyard by an outer staircase. This building has

been considerably altered. The N wing rises to two storeys and is of probable 17th century date. An isolated NE tower may be part of the early defences of the castle. Limited excavations in 1992 and 1993 at the NW of the castle within the area enclosed by the moat revealed a stone-filled pit which contained 13th-15th century pottery and a drilled roof slate (Mullins 1993, 14; Mullins 1994, 13).



Figure 2: Proposed site layout

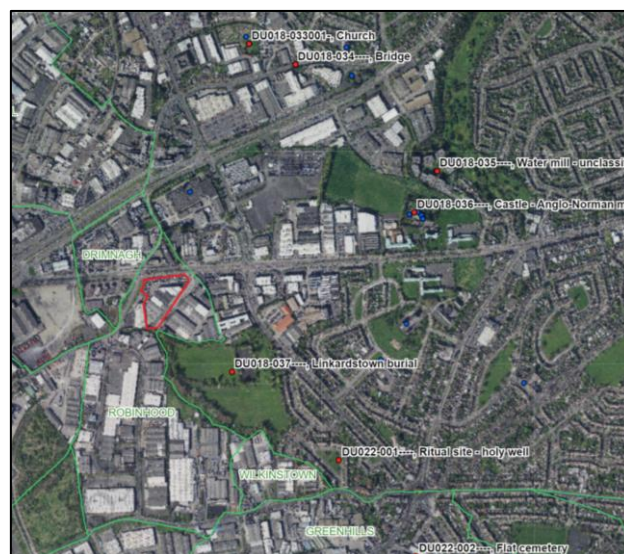


Figure 3: RMP extract for the site

4.4 Previous Archaeological Works

No entries are listed in the are listed in the database of Irish archaeological excavations for the townland of Robinhood. Twelve entries are listed for the townland of Drimnagh (excavations.ie). Two of these entries were close to the study area, to the northeast of the proposed development.

Licence number 20E0292

Test excavation was carried out between 1 and 10 July 2020 at the site of the former Nissan Plant, east of the junction of Naas Road and Walkinstown Avenue, Dublin 12. A total of 10 trenches were machine excavated. No finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were found during the course of the test excavation.

Licence number 17E0373

Archaeological test excavations were undertaken at Carriglea Industrial Estate, Muirfield Drive, Naas Road, Drimnagh, Dublin 12. Eight test trenches were excavated across the site, each one in the location of one of the proposed housing blocks. The trenches were 28-55m in length, and were investigated to a maximum depth of 5m. The site was originally part of the curving valley of a small river, 60m from the thirteenth-century Drimnagh Castle. There was a mill 80m downstream from at least the seventeenth century, but probably for at least as long as the castle was present. The infilled valley comprises about five-sixths of the area in the site. The remaining one-sixth of the area of the site, in the eastern part of the site, is on what was the higher ground next to the valley. The original ground surface appears to have been little altered apart from the removal of the sod layer. Traces of spade cultivation furrows have survived. Nothing relating to Drimnagh Castle was uncovered. The infilling of the valley means that the area with the greatest potential for archaeology is buried up to 10m beneath the surface and was probably disturbed in the course of infilling.

5 Impact on the Cultural Heritage Landscape

5.1 Recorded Monuments

The study area does not include any archaeological monuments. No other recorded monument is located in the vicinity of the study area. The closest recorded monument is over 230m to the south of the study area (Figure 3). This is a Linkardstown burial excavated in the 1930's. This is at a remove from the proposed works.

5.2 Site Survey

A site visit was undertaken in February 2023. This has shown that the study area is occupied by modern structures. No evidence of archaeological remains are visible at ground level. The development of these structures would have involved large scale excavation works at the site.

5.3 Cartographic Evidence

An examination of the cartographic evidence for the area of proposed development was undertaken. The 1762 Rocque map of Dublin shows the area was in use for agriculture and quarrying the exact detail of the site is not visible in this map (Figure 4). The first edition OS map shows the site as a large field with a gravel pit to the south (Figure 5). The 25" map of the early 20th century shows the quarry has been extended into much of the study area (Figure 6). By the 1930's the quarry is disused (Figure 7). The maps do not include any features or anomalies that may be indicative of archaeological remains.



Figure 4: Extract of Rocque map for the area

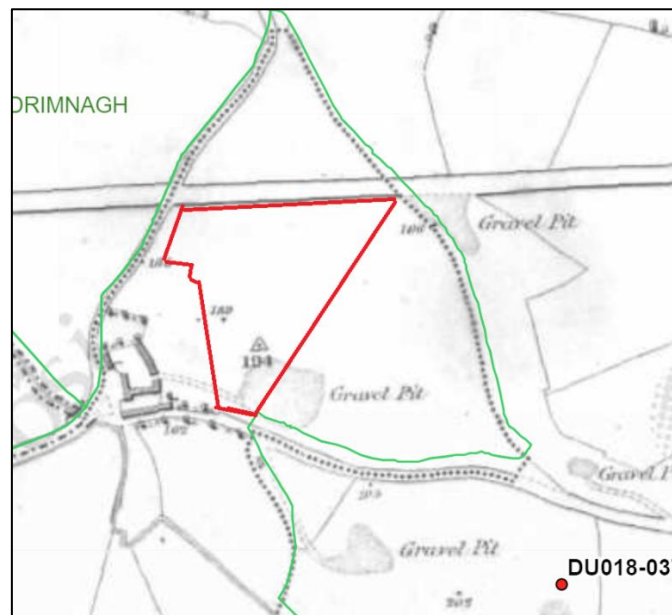


Figure 5: 1st edition OS map for the site

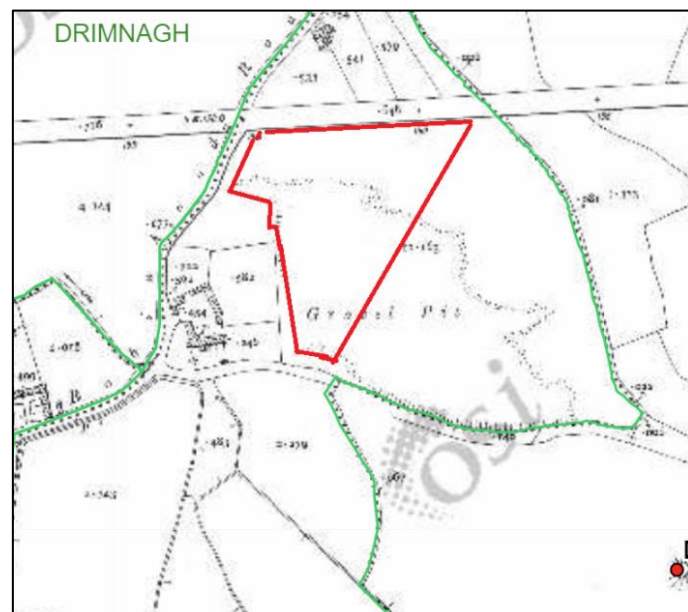


Figure 6: 25" map of the proposed site

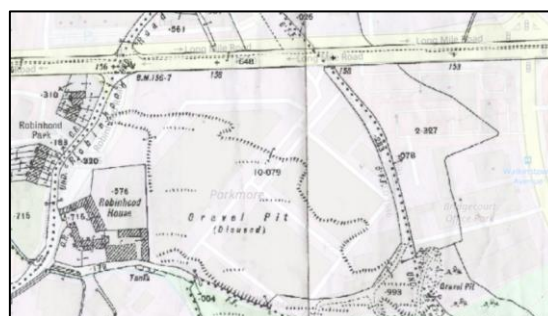


Figure 7: 1930's 25 inch map for the site showing the disused quarry

5.4 Archaeological Potential

The study area does not include any visible archaeological remains. No recorded monuments are located close to the site and an examination of excavations.ie did not reveal any recently discovered archaeological deposits in the area. The site is fully occupied by 20th century structures. The development of these structures would have involved wide spread excavation works. Also the 25" map shows that much of the site was in use as a quarry in the early 20th century. As a result of these elements it is unlikely that any archaeological deposits could exist at the site. The archaeological potential for the study area is low.

6 Mitigation Strategies

The study area includes a site that has been fully occupied by modern structures and surfaces. No original ground remains at the site, in addition the site was occupied by a quarry in the first half of the 20th century. Potential for archaeological deposits to be uncovered as a result of development is low. As a result of this no further input is required.

7 Conclusions

It is proposed to develop a site at Parkmore Industrial Estate, Longmile Road, Dublin 22. The site is occupied by 20th century structures including a number of industrial units. No original ground exists at the site. No recorded monuments are located close to the site and an examination of excavations.ie did not reveal any recently discovered archaeological deposits in the area. The site was in use as a quarry in the early 20th century. It is unlikely that any archaeological deposits could exist at the site. The archaeological potential for the study area is low. As a result of this no further archaeological input is required.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the local authority and the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.



Plate 1: Looking west at the proposed development



Plate 2: Looking west at the study area



Plate 3: Looking northwest over the study area