

Archaeological Response Note:

Drumcliff Burial Ground Extension, Drumcliff, Ennis, Co. Clare

ACP Ref.: 323742-25

Date: 5 February 2026

This note is submitted in response to the archaeological submission of the DAU dated 11 November 2025.

The DAU observations are acknowledged and accepted. In particular, it is acknowledged that further baseline archaeological investigation is required to support an informed archaeological recommendation and to ensure appropriate protection of the archaeological resource prior to commencement of any works.

In response, Clare County Council commits to the following actions and compliance measures:

- **Pre-commencement Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA)**
A suitably qualified archaeologist will be engaged to prepare and complete an AIA in advance of any site preparation works and groundworks, including enabling works, site investigation works, topsoil stripping, site clearance, or construction works.
- **Archaeological geophysical survey**
The AIA will include an archaeological geophysical survey undertaken for archaeological purposes. The results will be interpreted by the archaeologist and used to inform the design of targeted intrusive investigation.
- **Licensed test trenching / test excavation**
A programme of targeted archaeological test trenching will be undertaken at locations selected by the archaeologist, informed by the development drawings and the results of the archaeological geophysical survey. Test excavation will be undertaken under the appropriate statutory licensing/consent regime, including (as applicable) an excavation licence under Section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) and any agreed method statements required by the competent authorities.
- **Ministerial consent / notification and statutory compliance**
Where works are proposed at, in relation to, or in proximity to protected archaeological monuments, the relevant Ministerial consent and/or notification procedures will be followed, as applicable. No intrusive works will proceed unless and until all required statutory authorisations are in place.

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- **Mitigation hierarchy and preservation in situ**

Where archaeological remains are identified, preservation in situ will be the preferred mitigation response, consistent with national policy principles. Where preservation in situ is not feasible, alternative mitigation (including preservation by record and/or archaeological monitoring) will be implemented as agreed with the Planning Authority in consultation with the National Monuments Service.

- **Stop-work and consultation procedure**

If archaeology is identified during investigative works or subsequent enabling/construction works, works will be suspended in the affected area pending further archaeological assessment and agreement on mitigation measures with the Planning Authority, in consultation with the National Monuments Service.

- **Reporting and CEMP integration**

A comprehensive AIA report (including an archaeological impact statement and mitigation strategy) will be prepared and submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of any site preparation and construction works. Final reporting (including post-excavation requirements, where relevant) will be provided to the Planning Authority and the National Monuments Service following completion of archaeological works. The Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will include the location of archaeological/cultural heritage constraints and will set out mitigation measures to protect the archaeological environment during all project phases.



Risteard UaCróinín BA, MA, MIAI, RSAL
Archaeologist and Built Heritage Advisor.
Dysert O'Dea, Corofin, Ennis, Co. Clare
Phone: 087-2905122
Email: dickrue@gmail.com

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