The background is a vibrant yellow. It is decorated with several abstract geometric shapes in shades of blue and teal. These include circles, semi-circles, and rounded rectangular shapes, some of which are layered or overlapping. The shapes are scattered across the page, with a notable concentration in the top right and bottom left corners. The text is positioned in the middle-left area of the page.

Appendix A15.4
Archaeological Monitoring
Report - GI



De Faoite Archaeology

Unit 10
Riverside Business Centre
Tinahely
Co. Wicklow



GROUND INVESTIGATIONS IRELAND

Archaeological Monitoring Report

BUS CONNECTS

MORE PEOPLE, TO MORE PLACES, MORE OFTEN.

Route 14

UCD, Ballsbridge To City Centre. Licence 21E0053

Yvonne Whitty

July 2021

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Abstract

This report concerns the results of an archaeological monitoring carried out for Ground Investigations Ireland in conjunction with the BusConnects Dublin. This is a major investment programme to improve public transport in the city. This report concerns Route 14 only which is the route only which is the UCD, Ballsbridge to Centre Core Bus Corridor.

Site investigations were the first phase of works to be carried out. The project is at the design stage at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed.

This phase of works involved the excavation of boreholes and trial pits through the ground surface to identify the location of any existing services and establish the ground conditions. Given the results of the desk-based assessment it was recommended that in total two GI locations be monitored under licence which were in two Areas of Archaeological Potential. One of the trial pits was cancelled in Archaeological Area 1. No RMP sites or RPS structures will be impacted upon by this route.

Once the design and construction scenario are finalised further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Areas of Archaeological Potential 1 and 2. Shell fragments were noted in the fill of the trial pit in Area 2 which may indicate sub surface archaeology given the location of the site within a rich archaeological landscape as will be discussed in this report.

This strategy will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/ deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

1 Introduction

This Archaeological monitoring report has been prepared by De Faoite Archaeology on behalf of Ground Investigations Ireland (GII) for the BusConnects Dublin project.

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's programme to greatly improve bus services in Irish cities including the Network Redesign and the Core Bus Corridors along 16 different routes in the city (Figure 1).

This report concerns monitoring of ground investigation (GI) works along Route 14. The UCD, Ballsbridge to Centre Core Bus Corridor (CBC) in which priority for buses is provided along the entire route,

The project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. There were no GI works along large sections of the project as the ground disturbance will be minimal as the routes will be along modified existing roads (Figures 3-6). The most intrusive works will be at the locations of the GI works which comprise four bore holes and two dynamic sampling pits.

This monitoring report will address the likely impacts of these works on areas of archaeological potential and will define an appropriate archaeological mitigation for the main contract. Given the results of the desk-based assessment it was recommended that in total two GI locations were monitored under archaeological licence 21E0053.

2 Route 14 Description

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's programme to greatly improve bus services in Irish cities. It is a key part of the Government's policy to improve public transport and address climate change in Dublin and other cities across Ireland. BusConnects Dublin includes the Network Redesign and the Core Bus Corridors. Overall, there are 16 routes and this report only concerns Route 5 (Figure 1).

The UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Core Bus Corridor (CBC) commences on Fitzwilliam Street at the junction with Mount Street Upper/Merrion Square South/ Merrion Square East (Figure 2). It routes along Fitzwilliam Street, turning onto R816 Baggot Street Lower at its junction with Fitzwilliam Street Lower and is then routed along Baggot Street Lower, Baggot Street Upper, Pembroke Road, through its junction with Lansdowne Road. It continues onto Pembroke Road, through Ballsbridge village and Merrion Road to its junction with Nutley Lane. It travels along Nutley Lane from Merrion Road to the Stillorgan Road where it meets the Bray to City Centre CBC (Figures 2-7).



Figure 1: Bus Connects all 16 routes.

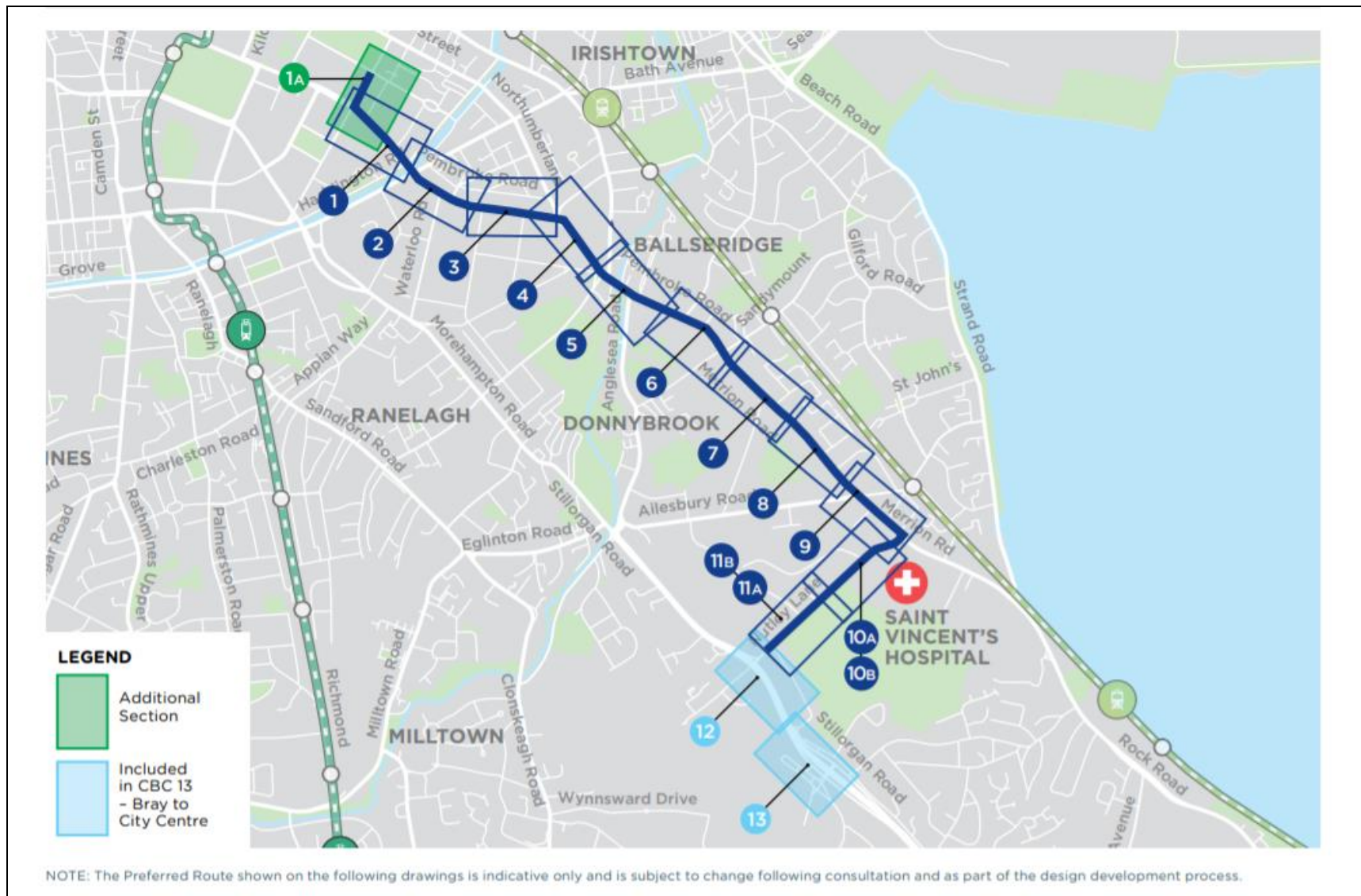


Figure 2: Route 14 UCD, Ballsbridge to City Centre GI work locations on maps 6, 9, 10 and 11.

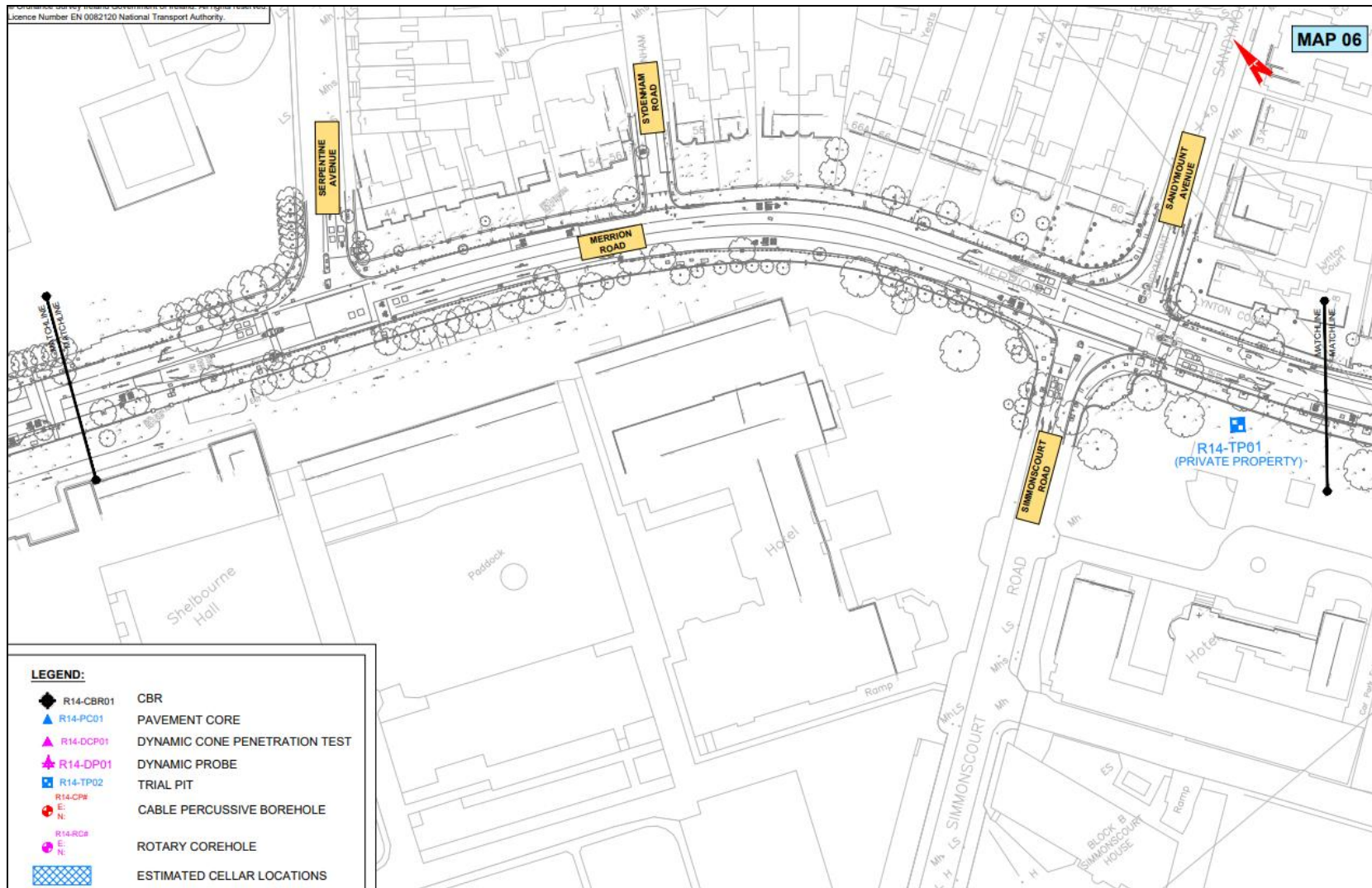


Figure 3: Route 14 location of GI works extract from map 6.

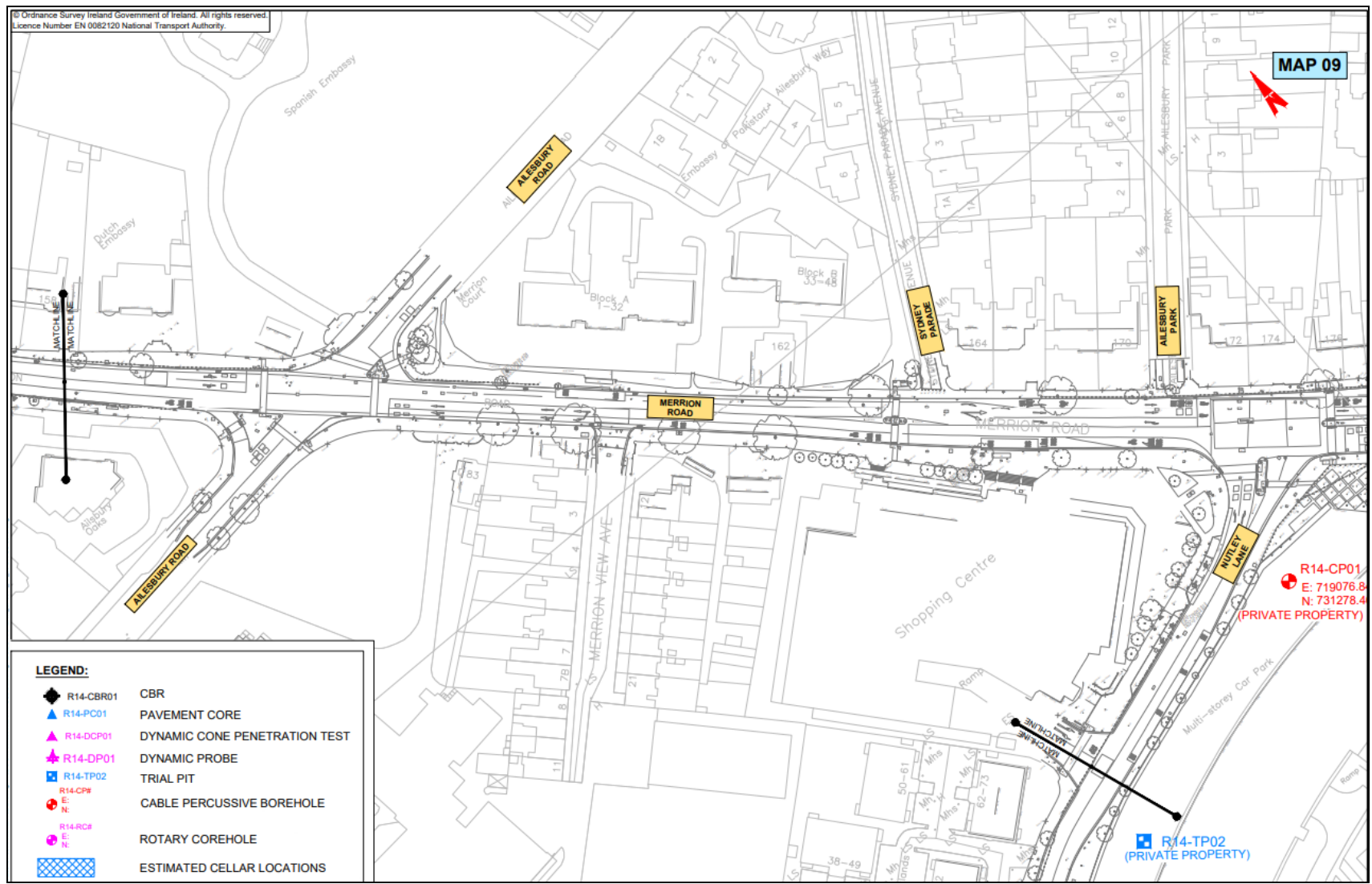


Figure 4: Route 14 location of GI works extract from map 9.

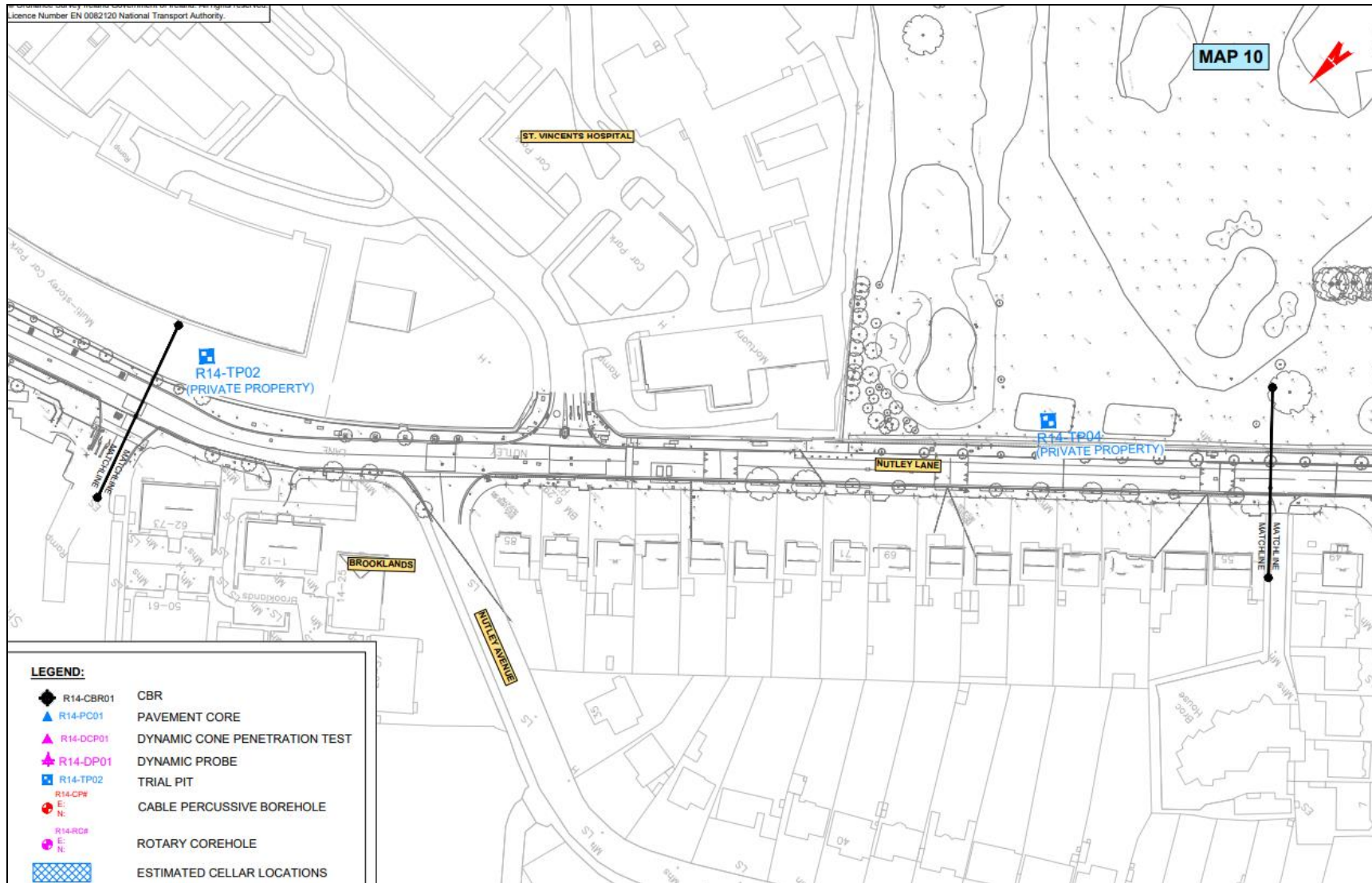


Figure 5: Route 14 location of GI works extract from map 10.

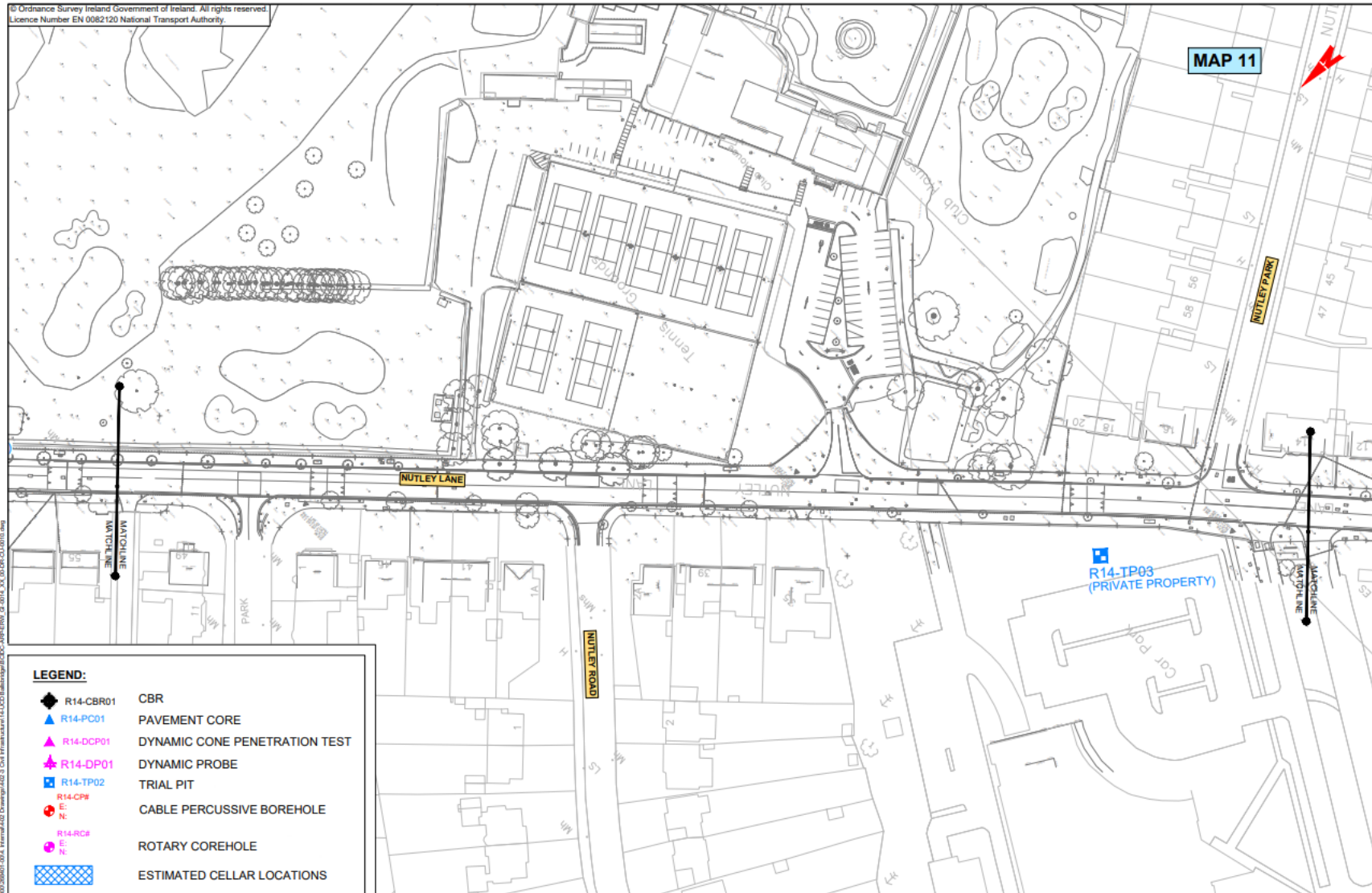


Figure 6: Route 14 location of GI works extract from map 11.

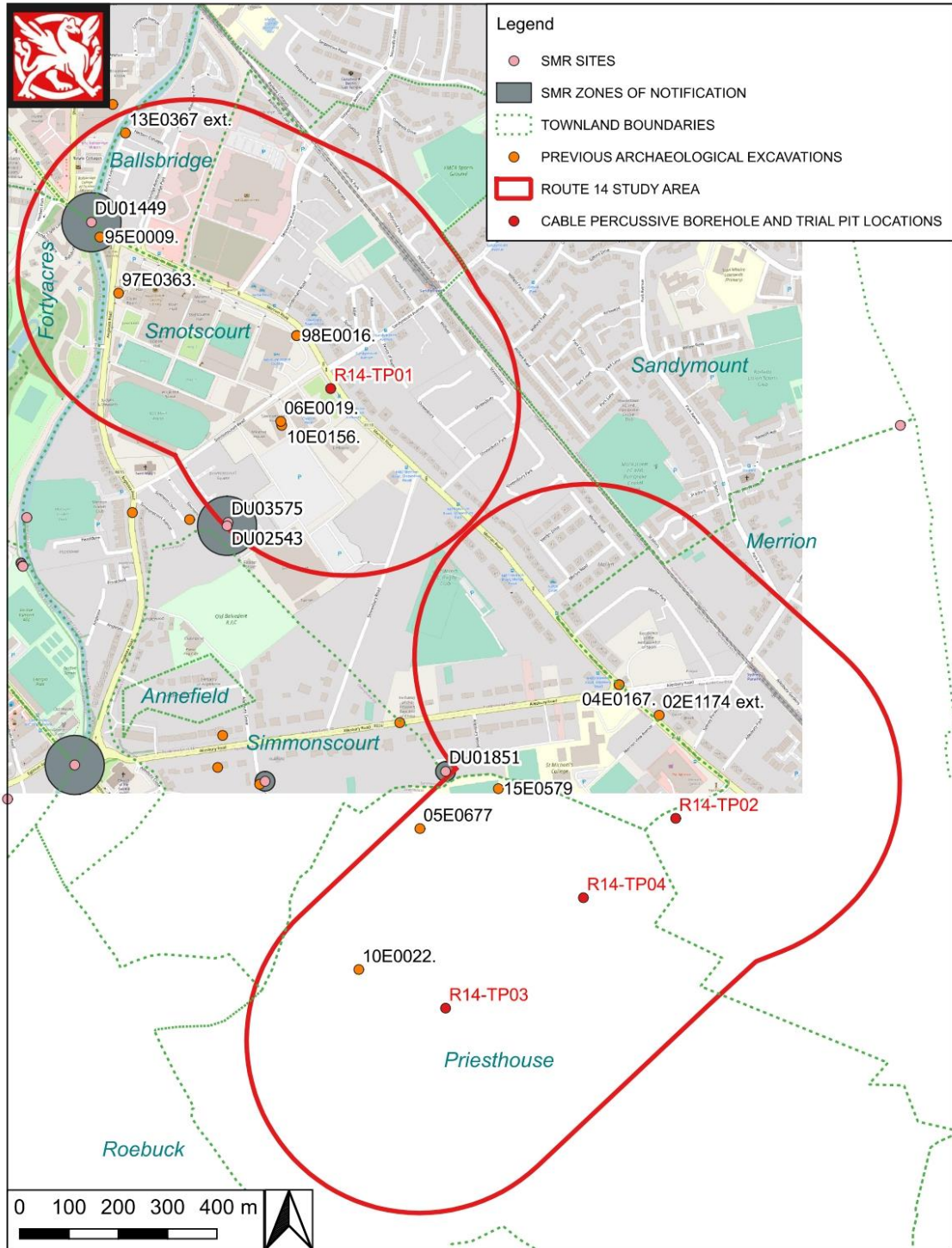


Figure 7: Route 14 study area overview¹.

¹ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

3 Methodology

The client has requested an archaeological assessment in the form of a desktop study of the proposed Route 14 UCD, Ballsbridge to City Centre Bus Corridor. The archaeological desktop report will ascertain if there are any archaeological constraints present in relation to the proposed development, using the resources listed below. The study area encompassed a radius of 350m around the location of the GI works for excavations, stray finds, townland boundaries and RMP sites. The study area was confined to 150m for Recorded Protected Structures (Figure 7).

The following sources were consulted in the preparation of this report:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- Published sources.
- A review of previous archaeological assessment s/ investigations.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland.
- Ordnance Survey (OS) and pre-Ordnance Survey maps.
- Aerial photography.
- Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022 Volume 4.pdf

4 Legislative Framework

This assessment and monitoring report is guided by relevant legislation, standards and guidelines in respect of archaeology, built and cultural heritage, as follows:

European Legislation

- Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and National Heritage, 1972
- Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe, (the 'Granada Convention') ratified by Ireland in 1997
- European Convention Concerning the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valetta Convention') ratified by the Republic of Ireland in 1997

National Legislation

- National Monuments Act 1930, amended 1954, 1987, 1994, 2004 and 2014;
- Heritage Act 1995
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999
- Planning and Development Act 2000-2018 (as amended).

Guidelines and Standards

- Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1999, Department of the Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands
- Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation (1999), Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands
- The Heritage Council, 2000. Archaeology & Development: Guidelines for Good Practice for Developers (2000)
- Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022 Volume 4.

5 Archaeological Assessment

5.1 Archaeological & Historical Background

The locations of the GI works along the UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Core Bus Corridor were in two areas. The first at the RDS in Ballsbridge and the other on the Merrion Road at St Vincent's Hospital and continuing along Nutley Lane as far as RTE (Figure 2).

The GI works were located in the townlands of Merrion, Priesthouse and Simmonscourt. There was only one trial pit in Simmonscourt and the rest of the five GI investigations were located within a 700m stretch along Nutley Lane. The archaeology in this area is discussed in the following paragraphs.

The GI works were in lands which were originally granted to Walter de Ridelsford, Lord of Bray, by Strongbow in 1173. The lands in this area changed hands many times. The Fitzwilliam family had holdings that stretched from Wicklow to the middle of the River Liffey and acquired the area in the 14th century when William who was sheriff of County Dublin took over the lands of the Bagod family. Merrion Castle (DU023-001001) 600m to the south of the GI works under discussion was the primary seat of the Fitzwilliam family from the 15th to the early 18th centuries.

The Fitzwilliam's were responsible for developing Merrion Square, Fitzwilliam Square and what is today known as Dublin 4 (Pearson, 2001). They established vast brickfields at Merrion and used granite from their quarry at Ticknock to fund their building developments. The brickfields were known as Lord Merrion's Brickfields.

Archaeology dating to this period and within the study area comprises a towerhouse (DU018-063001-) and gatehouse (DU018-063002-) at Simmonscourt. The name Simmonscourt is derived from a family called Smothe who occupied the land in the 14th century. The castle was first mentioned by Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam in the mid-1500s, who described it as church property, which had been rented to the Fitzwilliam's. William Fitzwilliam, 3rd Viscount Fitzwilliam is recorded residing at Simmonscourt c. 1660. As was the case with Merrion Castle which the Fitzwilliam's owned Simmonscourt Castle was destroyed in the 1641 rebellion and left in ruins.

The locations of the GI works along Nutley Lane were just under 1km southeast of Donnybrook village which has a lengthy history expanding from prehistoric times. The name Donnybrook has its origins in the Early Christian period and its origins in the foundation of an 8th century settlement on the banks of the River Dodder.

The most significant archaeology is located 600m NW of the GI works on the grounds of the German Embassy (DU022-084). In 1877 a circular mound (diam. c. 30m) covering an estimated fifty human remains was discovered near Donnybrook village. The burials were all piled on top of each other with the exception of one extended inhumation which lay north-south and was accompanied by an iron sword, its handle inlaid with gold and silver. The finds included weapons and personal jewellery. It was thought that it was a Viking cemetery or as a mass grave of victims of Viking raids. O'Brien (1992) subsequently reappraised this evidence and it is likely that it simply represents the burial of a Viking individual in an earlier or contemporary 'Irish' burial ground.

5.2 Record of Monuments and Places (RMP Files)

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under section 12 (1) of the 1994 National Monuments (Amendment) Act and provides that the Commissioners (now the Minister) shall establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes there are monuments, such record to be comprised of a list of monuments and relevant places and a map or maps showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. It is based on the older non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record and information from county archaeological inventories. It 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 following table lists the GI works of which there are six in total in relation to distance from Recorded Monument Sites (Figure 7).

Route 14	Type	RMP within 350m of GI works
R14-TP01	Trial Pit	336m SW DU018-063001 Castle-Towerhouse and DU018-063001-Gatehouse
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-CP01	Cable Percussive Bore Hole	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP04	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP03	Trial Pit	None

Table 1: RMP sites within 350m of GI works.

There is a total of two RMP sites all in the townland of Dublin South City within 350m of the GI works (Figure 7, Table 1, Appendix 2). No RMP sites will be directly impacted upon by the works, the closest is a Towerhouse (DU018-063001) and Gatehouse (DU018-063001-) at Simmonscourt 336m from the GI works. A Towerhouse is a fortified residence in the form of a rectangular tower, usually four or five storeys high and the majority date to the 15th and 16th centuries. There are no extant remains of the tower house at Simmonscourt however two drawings by Beranger in 1776 illustrate the castle. All that remains of this complex is the gatehouse (12th-16th centuries AD). Simmonscourt Castle was replaced by a Victorian residence in the beginning of the 18th-century.

RMP	Townland	Class
DU018-063001-	Dublin South City	Castle Towerhouse
DU018-063002-	Dublin South City	Gatehouse

Table 2: RMP summary within 350m of GI works.

5.3 National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files

The topographical files are held in the National Museum of Ireland in Kildare Street. All files relating to the townlands where the GI works are located were inspected to ascertain whether any artefacts had been thus far recorded in the townlands in which the GI works are located. These files identify all recorded finds which are held in archive and have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation.

Route 14	Type	Finds within 700m of GI works
R14-TP01	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-CP01	Cable Percussive Bore Hole	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP04	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP03	Trial Pit	490m NW Spindle Whorl, Bone Comb-Simmonscourt 623m NW Viking Sword-Simmonscourt

Table 3: Topographical files finds within 700m of the GI works.

The discovery of artefacts can be an important indicator of past levels of activity in an area and therefore a useful guide to the archaeological potential of a site. Finds were recorded from the townland of Simmonscourt southeast of the village of Donnybrook associated with the burial

site DU022-084 discussed in section 4.1 above. A Viking sword from Donnybrook was spotted on display in the sword collection of the Castle Museum, Nottingham. This sword has since been acquired on loan by the National Museum of Ireland and is on display in the Viking display at Kildare Street.

Name	SA1900:29, 30; SA1900:41	2007 41
Object Type	Spindle whorl bone (29); Bone Comb Plate (30); Flint Charcoal Flake (41)	Viking Sword

Table 4: Finds from Topographical files.

5.4 Cartographic Sources

Analysis of historic mapping shows the human impact on the landscape and its evolving nature over clearly defined time intervals. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered or removed over a period of time.

The maps analysed include John Rocque’s Exact survey of Dublin, published in London in 1756 and the first and third edition Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 8-12).

Rocque’s map provides a vivid snapshot of the city at this period (Figure 8). Although this map is overlaid with the proposed works and not completely accurate it does illustrate that the area of the proposed GI works was quite developed in 1756. There are no structures within the footprint of the GI works.

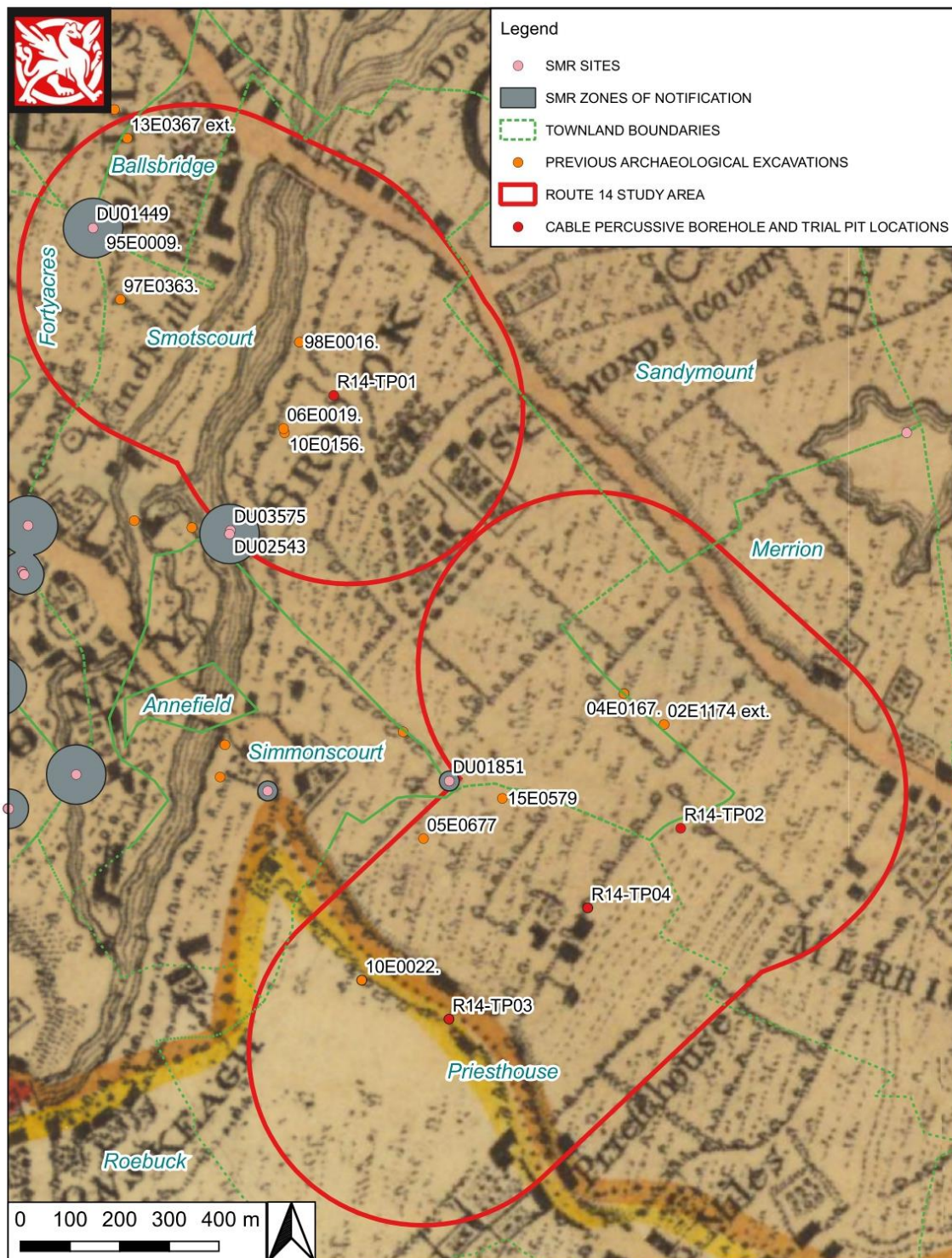


Figure 8: Route 14 study area overview in relation to John Roque Map 1756.²

² The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

At the time of the first edition map surveyed in 1837 and published 1843 the GI works are located in demesne landscapes (Figure 9). There are no major changes by the time of the third map published in 1938.

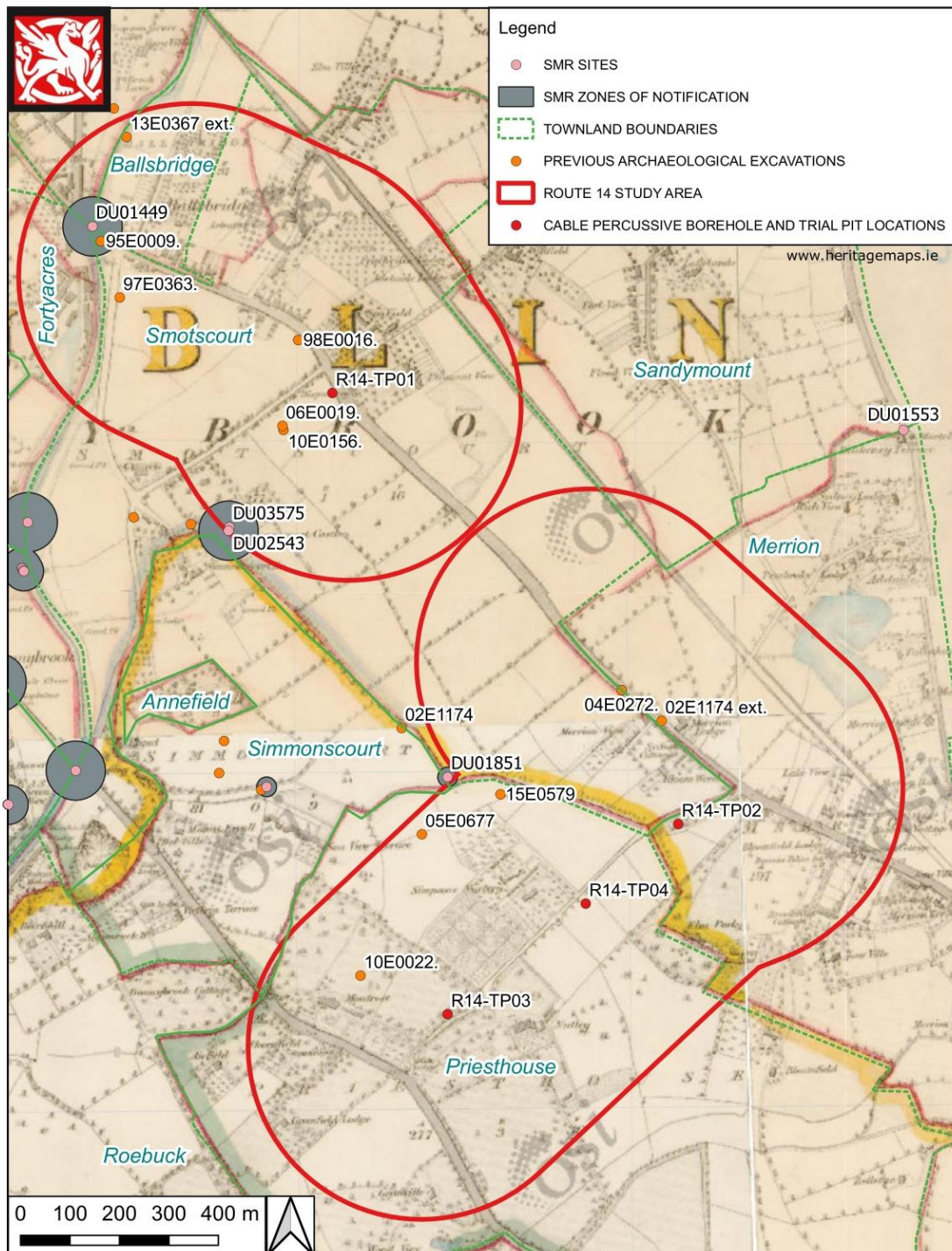


Figure 9: Route 14 study area in relation to first edition map 1837.³

³ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

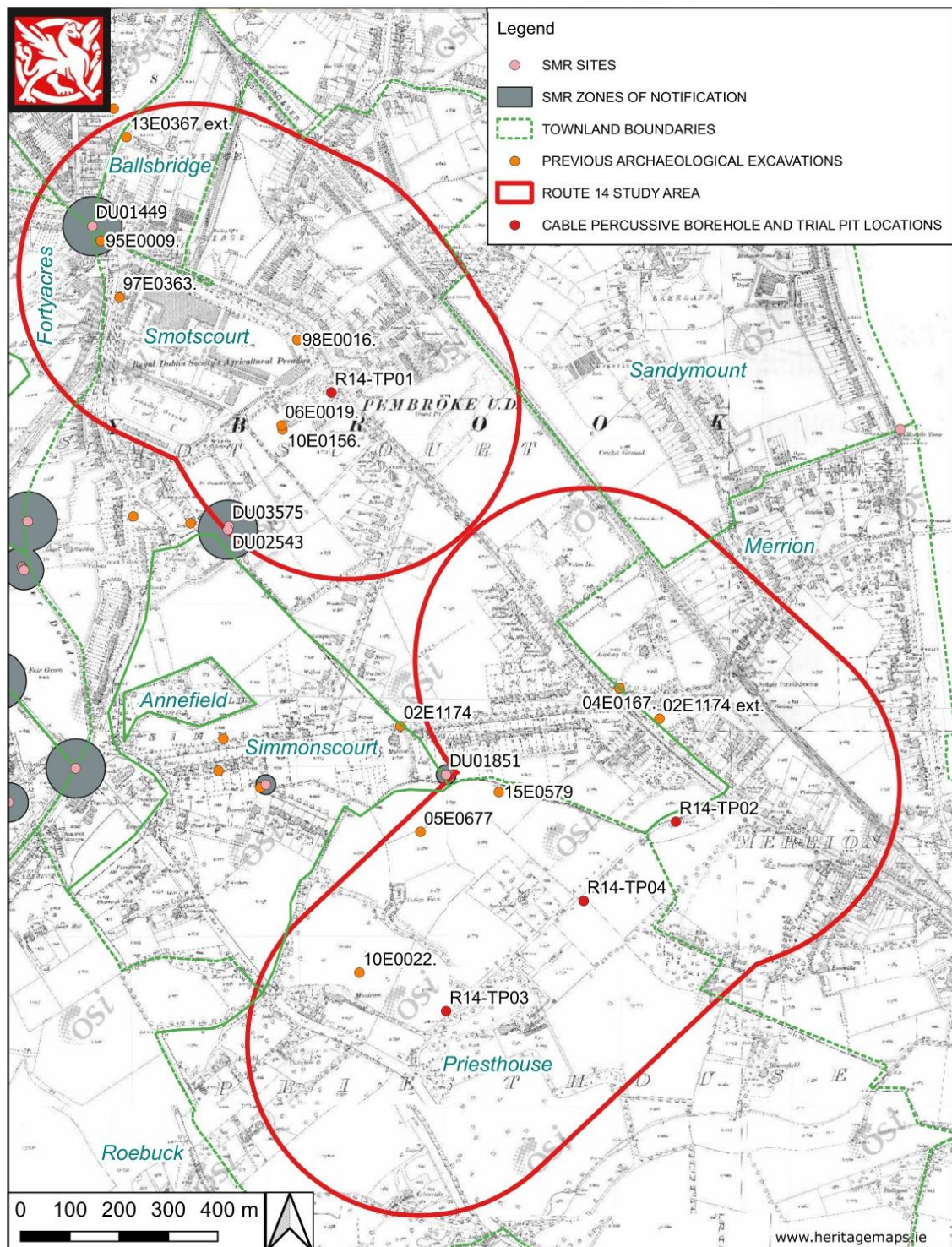


Figure 10: Route 14 study area in relation to third edition map 1938.⁴

The following figures focus on GI locations where archaeological monitoring will be required based on the desk-based assessment (Figure 11 and 12).

⁴ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

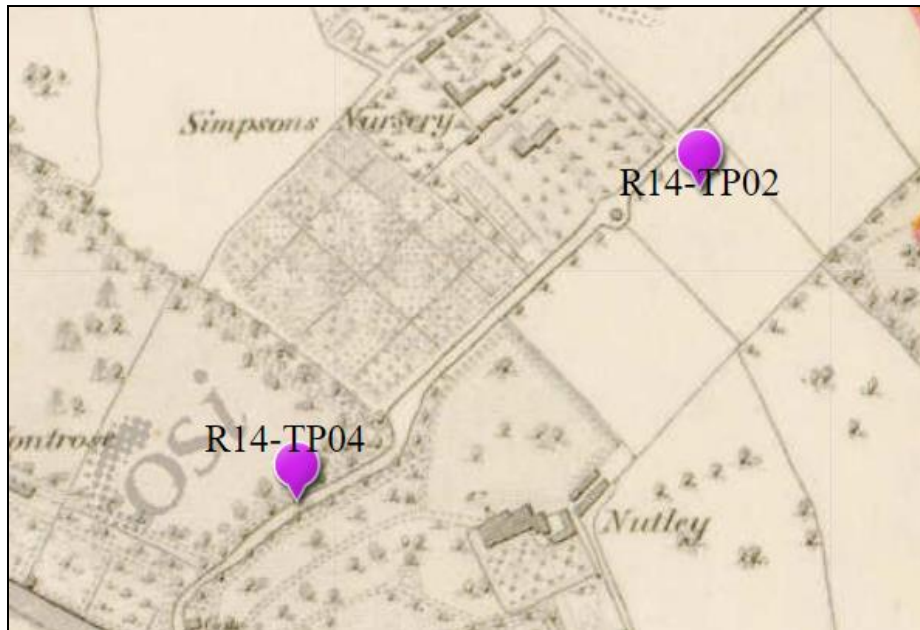


Figure 11: First edition map 1837.

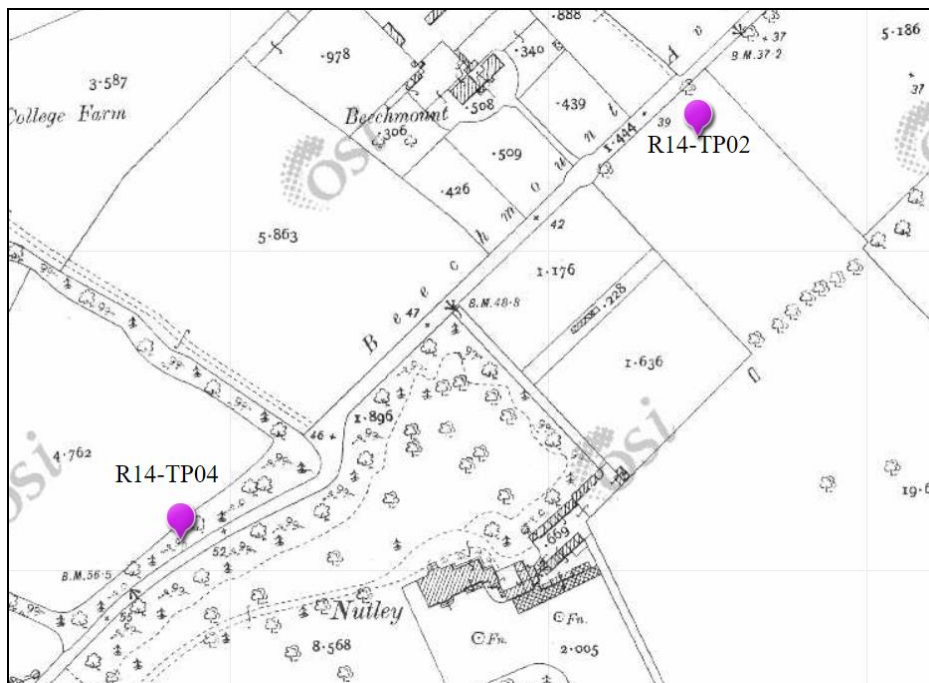


Figure 12: Third edition map 1938.

5.5 Architectural Heritage

All GI exploratory hole locations were checked on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage's (NIAH) website. The NIAH is a section within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht whom identifying and record the architectural heritage of Ireland, from 1700 to the present day.

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 was inspected in accordance with Part IV of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2006 which requires every development plan to include a record of Protected Structures (RPS). A protected structure is a structure that a Planning Authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical point of view.

Route 14	Type	NIAH within 150m of GI works
R14-TP01	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-CP01	Cable Percussive Bore Hole	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP04	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP03	Trial Pit	None

Table 5: NIAH listed buildings/structures within 150m of GI works.

No NIAH listed buildings or structures are within 150m of the GI works.

5.6 Previous Archaeological Excavations

Route 14	Type	Excavations within 350m of GI works
R14-TP01	Trial Pit	140m SW 06E0019 128m NW 98E0016 143m SW 95E0167 290m SW 95E0056 327m SW 10E0156 253m NE 05E0677
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-CP01	Cable Percussive Bore Hole	None
R14-TP02	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP04	Trial Pit	None
R14-TP03	Trial Pit	180m NW 10E0022

Table 6: Excavations within 350m of GI works.

A total of seven excavations are recorded within 350m of the locations of the GI works as summarized in Table 6 below (Figure 7). The closest excavation 98E0016 is trial pit R14-TP01 which is 128m SE of the GI works. No archaeology was uncovered during any of these excavations.

Licence	Address	Description
98E0016	Four Seasons Hotel at the Royal Dublin Society	post-medieval or early modern features

95E0056	Simmonscourt Rd., Donnybrook	No archaeology
95E0167	New Grandstand, Royal Dublin Society Premises, Anglesea Rd., Dublin	No archaeology
05E0677	19 Sandymount Avenue, Dublin	No archaeology
06E0019	Simmonscourt, Ballsbridge	No archaeology
10E0022	RTE Campus, Montrose, Donnybrook, Dublin 4	No archaeology
10E0156	Simmonscourt Pavilion, Area 1, Simmonscourt Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin	No archaeology

Table 7: Summary of excavations within 350m of GI works see Appendix 1 for further information.

5.7 Field Inspection

The locations of the GI works along the UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Core Bus Corridor are in two areas. The first at the RDS in Ballsbridge and the other on the Merrion Road at St Vincent’s Hospital and continuing along Nutley Lane as far as RTE. The locations of the two areas which are deemed of archaeological potential based on stray find analysis are illustrated below (Plates 1 and 2). Both of these test pit locations will be excavated through a grass surface.

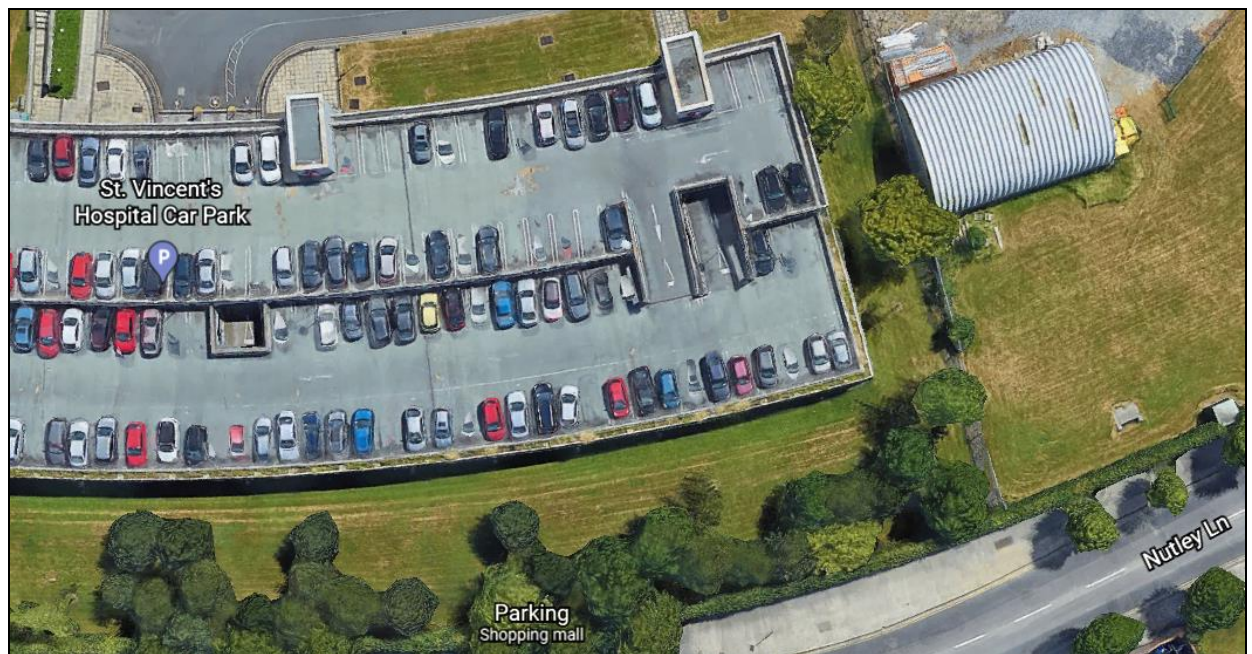


Plate 1: Location of R14-TP02 at Saint Vincent Hospital.

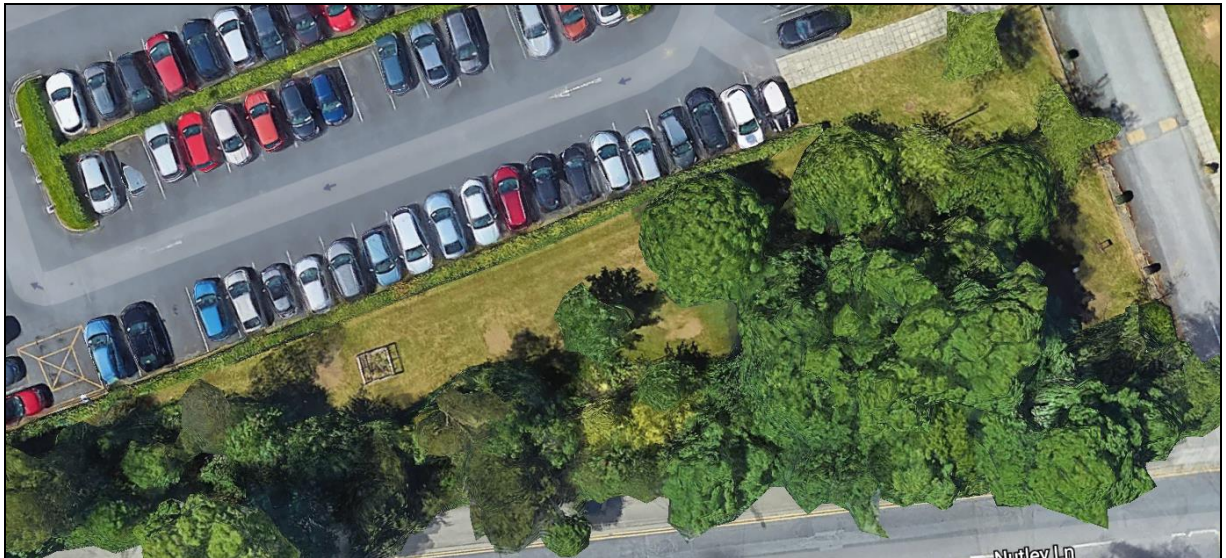


Plate 2: Location of R14-TP03 at RTE.

6 Impact Assessment and Monitoring Recommendations

The aim of this archaeological impact assessment and monitoring report is to describe all of the aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected by the GI works. This report describes the existing environment within the location of the GI works in terms of its archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage setting. It aims to address the potential impacts of the proposed works and recommends an appropriate archaeological mitigation which shall be agreed in consultation with the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland.

Ground investigations were the first phase of works to be carried out. The project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the development as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. The most intrusive works will be at the locations of the GI works which comprise nineteen exploratory holes.

The desk-based assessment has looked at all RMP sites, stray finds, excavations, boundaries including rivers within a 350m radius of the GI works. Recorded Protected Structures within a 150m radius were detailed for this report. Two areas of archaeological potential were identified (Figures 13 and 14). In order to protect the archaeological heritage, the following GI investigations were recommended to be monitored R12-TP02 and R12-TP03 based on their location within 100m of an RMP site, townland/parish/river boundaries, stray finds and RPS buildings/structure (Table 8). Trial Pit R12-TP02 was cancelled however. No RMP sites will be directly impacted upon by the works, the closest is a Towerhouse (DU018-063001) and Gatehouse (DU018-063001-) at Simmonscourt 336m from the GI works.

6.1 Area of Archaeological Potential 1 (AAP 1)

The GI trial pit R14-TP02 is located in Area of Archaeological Potential 1 based on its location on a townland boundary between Merrion and Smotscourt⁵ and the fact that it was in lands which were originally granted to Walter de Ridelsford, Lord of Bray, by Strongbow in 1173 (Figure 9 and 13).

⁵ The name Simmonscourt is derived from a family called Smothe who occupied the land in the 14th century.

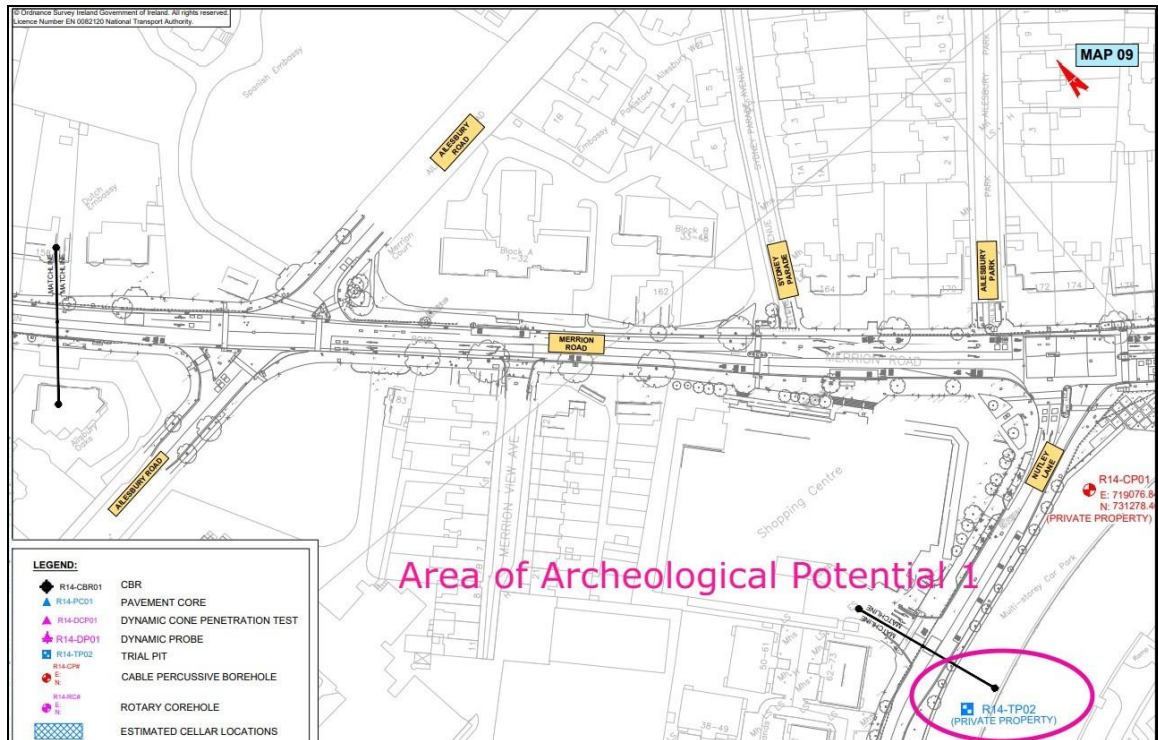


Figure 13: Area of Archaeological Potential 1 at R14-TP02.

6.2 Area of Archaeological Potential 1 (AAP 2)

The GI Trial Pit R14-TP03 was located in Area of Archaeological Potential 2 given its proximity just under 1km southeast of Donnybrook village which has a lengthy history expanding from prehistoric times (Figure 14). The most significant archaeology is located 600m NW of the GI works on the grounds of the German Embassy (DU022-084) where an estimated fifty human remains was discovered near Donnybrook village. The burials were all piled on top of each other with the exception of one extended inhumation which lay north-south and was accompanied by an iron sword, its handle inlaid with gold and silver. This represents a Viking burial in an 'Irish' cemetery. The finds included weapons and personal jewellery.

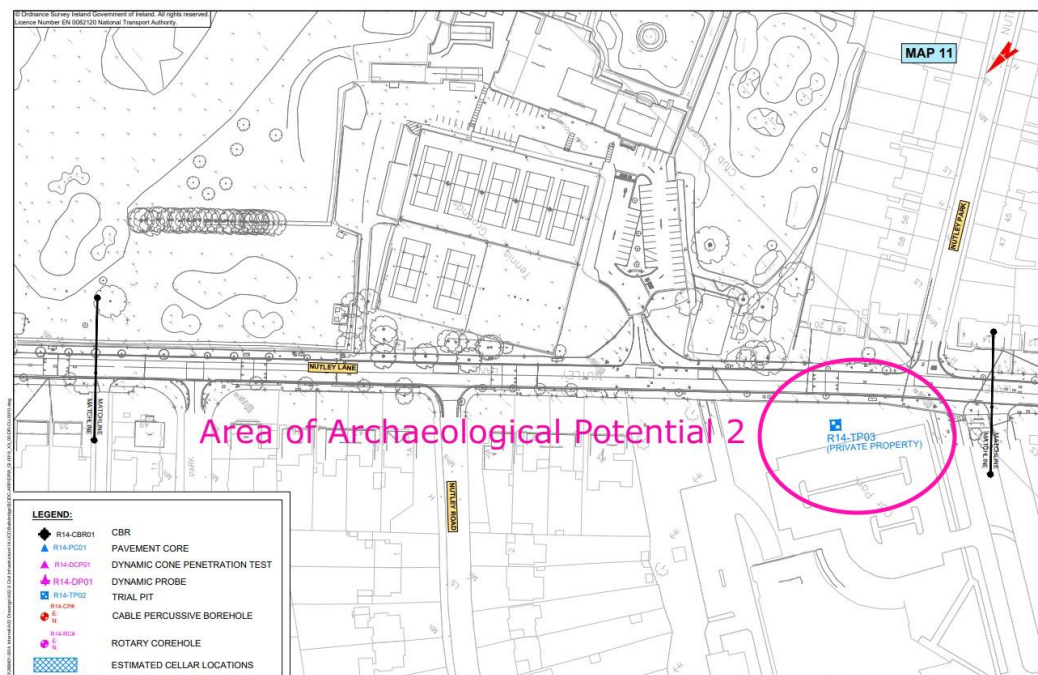


Figure 14: Area of Archaeological Potential 2 at R14-TP03.

Scenario: within of less than 100m of:		R14-TP01	R14-TP02	R14-CP01	R14-TP04	R14-TP03
	RMP	N	N	N	N	N
	Stray Find	N	N	N	N	Y**
	Boundary	N	Y	Y*	N	N
	RPS	N	N	N	N	N
	Previous Excavation	N	N	N	N	N
Monitoring Required	N	Y	N*	N	Y	

* Grounds of St Vincents 10m from boundary and given it's a bore hole and lack of archaeology in area monitoring not required as R14-TP-02 will be monitored.

** Stray finds

Table 8: Monitoring Requirements Route 14.

7 Monitoring Results

The trial pits were excavated by a 3T Tracked Excavator with a flat grading bucket.

Based on the results of the desk-based assessment two GI works were recommended for monitoring R14-TP02 and R14-TP03, however the Trial Pit R12-TP02 was cancelled.

Trial Pit R14-TP03

This trial pit was excavated on 06/10/2020. It was located in Area of Archaeological Potential 2 given its proximity to finds which were recorded from the townland of Simmonscourt southeast of the village of Donnybrook associated with the burial site DU022-084 (Figure 14). The finds located within 652m of the site comprised a Spindle Whorl, Bone Comb and a Viking Sword. This trial pit was excavated to a depth of 1.30m on 06/10/2020 at ITM 718522.5 E 730860.8 N. It was 2.00m (L) x 0.40m (W) x 1.30m (D). The stratigraphy comprised a dark brown sandy gravelly topsoil was 0.25m in depth, below this was a firm brown sandy slightly gravelly clay which was 0.25m in depth. This overlay another brown gravelly clay which had occasional cobbles and shell fragments and was 0.55m in depth. Below this was a mid-yellowish brown compact gravelly clay which contained occasional cobbles of varying sizes and was 0.55m in depth. This layer which was interpreted as natural ground was exposed at a depth of 0.75m below ground level and it overlay bedrock.



Plate 3: Trial Pit R14-TP03.



Plate 4: Trial Pit R14-TP03.

8 Conclusion

The Dublin Bus Connects project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. There were no GI works along large sections of the project given the ground disturbance will be minimal as the routes will be along modified existing roads. The most intrusive works which may involve for example widening a corridor etc will be at the locations of the GI works.

The desk-based assessment has looked at all RMP sites, excavations, townland boundaries within a 350m radius of the GI works. Recorded Protected Structures within a 150m radius were detailed for this report and the topographical files were checked for stray finds within any of the townlands in which the GI works are located. No RMP sites or RPS structures will be impacted upon by the works.

Two areas where the GI works are located were deemed to be of archaeological potential and designated Areas of Archaeological Potential 1 and 2. Based on the results of the desk-based assessment two GI locations were recommended for monitoring R14-TP02 and R14-TP03, the first one was cancelled however.

Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions and so the following mitigation for Areas 1 and 2 are outlined below.

8.1 Area of Archaeological Potential 1 (AAP 1) (Figure 13)

Impact Assessment AAP 1 (Figure 13)

The GI borehole R14-TP02 is located in Area of Archaeological Potential 1 based on its location on a townland boundary between Merrion and Smotscourt⁶ and the fact that it was in lands which were originally granted to Walter de Ridelsford, Lord of Bray, by Strongbow in 1173.

Further Archaeological Mitigation AAP 1 (Figure 13)

Trial Pit R14-TP02 was cancelled. Once the design and construction scenario are finalised further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Area of Archaeological Potential 1 given that the terrain is suitable. This will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

8.2 Area of Archaeological Potential 2 (Figure 14)

Impact Assessment AAP 2 (Figure 14)

The GI borehole was located in Area of Archaeological Potential 2 given its proximity just under 1km southeast of Donnybrook village which has a lengthy history expanding from prehistoric times. The name Donnybrook has its origins in the Early Christian period and its origins in the foundation of an 8th century settlement on the banks of the River Dodder. The most significant archaeology is located 600m NW of the GI works on the grounds of the German Embassy (DU022-084). In 1877 a circular mound (diam. c. 30m) covering an estimated fifty human remains was discovered near Donnybrook village. The burials were all piled on top of each other with the exception of one extended inhumation which lay north-south and was accompanied by an iron sword, its handle inlaid with gold and silver. This represents a Viking burial in an 'Irish' cemetery. The finds included weapons and personal jewellery.

⁶ The name Simmons court is derived from a family called Smothe who occupied the land in the 14th century.

Further Archaeological Mitigation AAP 2 (Figure 14)

Shell fragments were identified in the layer above the natural ground a brown gravelly clay which was 0.55m in depth. This may be occupation debris or may indicate settlement in the wider landscape. Once the design and construction scenario are finalised further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Area of Archaeological Potential 2 given that the terrain is suitable. This will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

These recommendations are the professional opinion of the writer and based upon the findings of the desktop assessment, field inspection and monitoring results. All archaeological recommendations are subject to further consultation and agreement with The National Museum and The National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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Joyce, W. (1921). *The Neighbourhood of Dublin: Its Topography, Antiquities and Historical Associations*. Dublin: M.H. Gill & Son.

O'Brien, E. 1992 *A Re-assessment of the 'Great Sepulchral Mound' containing a Viking Burial at Donnybrook, Dublin*. *Medieval Archaeology* Vol.XXXVI,1992. pp.170-173. (London).

Online sources

www.archaeology.ie

www.excavations.ie

www.heritagemaps.ie

www.logainm.ie

9 Appendix 1 Previous Archaeological Excavations

County: Dublin **Site name:** Simmons court Rd., Donnybrook

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 95E0056

Author: Cia McConway, ADS Ltd, Power House, Pigeon House Harbour, Dublin 4.

Site type: Medieval

ITM: E 723124m, N 739025m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.387024, -6.149063

The site fell within a zone of archaeological interest, lying to the immediate north-west of Simmons court Castle.

Eight trenches were mechanically opened up under supervision covering the entire area of the site. Until recently the site had been used mainly as a carpark with a small garden nursery in the south corner. To facilitate the carpark, the area had been scarped by c. 0.8m, which had truncated the various pits and gullies which cut the subsoil.

Trench 1, 34.5m x 1.1m, ran east-west along the south of the site. Immediately underlying the tarmac and cutting both a sticky, silty sterile brown subsoil and the underlying natural sands and gravels were three gullies and two pits. One gully was quite clearly to accommodate an old sewage line while the remaining gullies and the two pits all suggested, by the nature of their fills, a post-medieval date.

Trench 2, 41m x 1.1m, ran east-west parallel to Trench 1. The natural sands and gravels were reached at 0.6m below present ground surface and underlay a redeposited grey sticky clay with shell, animal bone and red brick fragments. Two gullies were located, both of which were to accommodate modern sewage-pipes.

Trench 3, 35m x 1.1m, was located in the southern corner of the site and ran north-east/south-west. Towards the north-east the trench cut through an area of disturbance with concrete blocks and squared timber in section; these had been the foundations for the greenhouse which had stood here until recently. Along the south-west of the trench a homogeneous layer of sandy, yellow/grey/brown clay containing charcoal, red brick fragments, shell and animal bone had been introduced into the site to fill up a substantial hollow in this corner. It would appear that the underlying sands and gravels had been quarried out to leave a hollow or basin which had later been infilled to facilitate the nursery. The date of this quarrying was not determined.

Trenches 4 and 8, both located within the grounds of the old nursery, showed a continuation of this quarried hollow in section.

Trenches 5, 6 and 7 cut through areas of undisturbed subsoil resting directly on the natural sands and gravels.

There was no evidence for activity directly associated with the castle.

County: Dublin **Site name:** New Grandstand, Royal Dublin Society Premises, Anglesea Rd., Dublin

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 95E0167

Author: D.L. Swan, Arch-Tech Ltd, 32 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

Site type: Urban

ITM: E 715737m, N 734149m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.344894, -6.261845

In compliance with a condition of the planning permission, archaeological testing was carried out on the site of the New Grandstand, at the premises of the Royal Dublin Society, Anglesea Rd., Dublin 4.

Four trenches were mechanically opened under archaeological supervision, extending the full length and width of the site. In all cases these were dug to reveal the underlying natural deposits. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed and in no case were deposits of archaeological significance encountered.

County: Dublin **Site name:** THE ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY, SIMMONSCOURT ROAD, BALLSBRIDGE

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 98E0016

Author: Malachy Conway, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Site type: Urban post-medieval

ITM: E 718225m, N 732227m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.327074, -6.225209

An archaeological assessment followed by a stage of archaeological monitoring took place at the site of the proposed Four Seasons Hotel at the Royal Dublin Society at the corner of Merrion Road and Simmonscourt Road, Dublin 4. The assessment was carried out on 14-15 January 1998, and monitoring of groundworks was undertaken from 6 to 26 May 1998.

Both the assessment and monitoring episodes failed to reveal soils, features or deposits of archaeological potential. The initial stage of monitoring, along the Merrion Road side, revealed several post-medieval or early modern features, including red brick wall foundations and dump deposits comprising slag, cinder, iron fragments, patterned ceramics, glass bottles and butchered animal bone.

Three post-medieval features were uncovered in the northern corner of the eastern portion of the development area fronting onto Merrion Road. F1, 0.65m east of the north-west corner of the development area, consisted of a flat-based feature 0.5m wide and 0.68m deep, filled with black, humic soil containing a sherd of blackware. F2, 4m east from F1, was a large trench-like feature 1.8m wide and 1.7m deep containing red brick rubble and fragments of iron. F3, 3m east of F2, comprised a wall foundation of a structure (fronting onto Merrion Road) 2.7m wide and surviving to 0.65m high (situated c. 0.68m below old ground level). The wall foundations were constructed of red and occasionally yellow brick and were on average 0.35m wide and 0.65m high.

A large area comprising 19th- and early 20th-century waste was revealed within the eastern half of the development area. The deposit measured at least 25m north-south by 35m and was up to 2m deep. It seems likely that gravel quarrying had taken place in this area, which ultimately led to the filling in of the quarry pit(s) with locally generated domestic waste.

Ground reduction works within the south-west and south-east areas of the development did not reveal features, soils or artefacts of archaeological significance. There was a notable fall off in the number and quantity of post-medieval or early modern features, with the exception of modern drainage channels.

County: Dublin **Site name:** 19 SANDYMOUNT AVENUE, DUBLIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 05E0677

Author: Stephen J. Linnane, Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd, Unit 21, Boyne Business Park, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718475m, N 731227m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.318038, -6.221833

The site was until recently occupied by office buildings, which have since been demolished. The proposed development comprises the construction of two apartment blocks with associated services and roadways. The investigation took the form of mechanically excavated test-trenches, excavated by a thirteen-ton tracked excavator equipped with a 2m-wide grading bucket. Subsoil was exposed in most of the trenches; several also revealed rubble fill deposits associated with deep basements. No archaeological deposits were present in any of the test-trenches.

County: Dublin **Site name:** RDS Simmonscourt, Ballsbridge
Sites and Monuments Record No.: - **Licence number:** 06E0019
Author: Bernice Molloy, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.
Site type: Urban, modern
ITM: E 718193m, N 732053m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.325519, -6.225754

Monitoring was conducted at the site of a proposed development at the RDS, Simmonscourt, Ballsbridge, Dublin 2. A large-scale upgrading and construction programme in the RDS included the construction of two office buildings with underground car parking fronting on to Simmonscourt Road. This development lies to the east of the site of Simmonscourt Castle (DU010-009).

Geological test-pits were initially monitored in various locations across the site. High levels of contamination were recorded across the site and no materials from the trenches could be handled. Bulk excavation of the site commenced in February 2006. Deposits of 19th-/early 20th-century domestic and industrial waste were identified running across the site. The deposits consisted mainly of cinders and ash, and contained a lot of broken white and brown earthen jars, broken glass tubes and broken glass bottles. There were occasional deposits of butchered animal bone. This material may have been used to backfill or level up ground.

County: Dublin **Site name:** RDS Pavilion, Ballsbridge
Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 10E0156
Author: Colm Moriarty, Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.
Site type: No archaeological significance
ITM: E 718195m, N 732045m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.325447, -6.225727

Monitoring was carried out at the RDS Pavilion, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, over various dates in July and August 2010. The site was located just outside the RMP exclusion zone for Simmonscourt Castle (DU010-009, no longer extant). The works monitored involved the addition of small toilet/service blocks, measuring c. 15m x 5m, to the north-western and north-eastern façades of the pavilion. Nothing of archaeological interest was noted during these works. Modern deposits directly overlay natural boulder clay, which was in turn truncated by numerous service trenches.

County: Dublin **Site name:** Donnybrook
Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 10E0022
Author: Declan Moore, Moore Archaeological & Environmental Services Ltd, Corporate House, Ballybrit Business Park, Ballybrit, Galway.
Site type: No archaeological significance
ITM: E 718351m, N 730941m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.315497, -6.223799

Testing was carried out in greenfield areas at the RTÉ Campus, Donnybrook, Dublin 4, between 27 and 29 January 2010. The proposed development consists of the future provision of a new broadcasting facility at the RTÉ Campus. The work entails the construction of a new studio block in the north-western greenfield area of the campus and also includes the site of the existing radio building, a multi-storey carpark and areas of surface car-parking and associated services. There are two protected structures on the site, Montrose House and Mount Errol House (but not included in the application site). The proposed development is also on previously undeveloped land beside the zone of archaeological potential for DU022-084, a viking burial.

Testing revealed extensive disturbance throughout the site, comprising modern field

drains, modern service cuts, imported soils, building rubble, bedding surfaces for temporary accommodation huts/prefabs, a brick surface and pockets of decaying stone and natural subsoil. Nothing of an archaeological nature was evident.

County: Dublin **Site name:** Seaview Terrace, Donnybrook

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 10E0199

Author: Gill McLoughlin, Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, 120b Greenpark Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718150m, N 731317m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.318919, -6.226673

A programme of monitoring was carried out at Seaview Terrace, Donnybrook, Dublin 4, in response to the construction of the gas pipeline replacement scheme. The work was carried out for Arup Consulting Engineers on behalf of Bord Gáis Éireann. The gas pipeline travels from Irishtown to Belfield in the southern part of Dublin city and was confined to the existing road network.

The pipeline running along Ailesbury Road and Seaview Terrace (Simmons Court Ward) passes through the RMP constraint surrounding DU022–084, a burial site. This burial mound was excavated in the late 19th century without archaeological supervision and as such only a vague report remains on the site. A report presented by Sir William Frazer in 1879 states that 600–700 individuals were interred in the mound accompanied by weaponry and numerous grave goods. Although there is confusion over Frazer's directions for the location of the burial mound, it is thought by Hall (1978) that the site was situated to the west of Seaview Terrace and to the south of a disused road. A reassessment of the site by Elizabeth O'Brien in 1992 interpreted the burial mound as an Early Christian enclosed cemetery with a later insertion of a Viking warrior burial (O'Brien 1998, 220).

A continuous archaeological presence was maintained for all ground disturbances within the vicinity of the constraint of the mound DU022–084. Intermittent monitoring of the remainder of the scheme was also undertaken.

Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered. Monitoring of the construction work will continue into 2011.

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Hall, R.A. 1978 A Viking-age grave at Donnybrook, Co. Dublin. *Medieval Archaeology* 22, 64–83.

O'Brien, E. 1998 The location and context of Viking burials at Kilmainham and Islandbridge, Dublin. In H.B. Clarke, M. Ní Mhaoinaigh and R. Ó Floinn (eds), *Ireland and the Scandinavia in the Early Viking Age*, 203–221. Cornwall.

10 Appendix 2 RMP Files

DU018-063001-

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated in flat terrain E of the river Dodder. Two drawings by Beranger in 1766 show a towerhouse and adjoining farm buildings (Harbison 1998, 64-7). A gate tower (DU018-063002) is the only surviving remnant of the castle complex. (Grose 1791, I, 21 Plate 21; Ball 1900, 308, 316, 317; Ball 1903, 29-32; Ball 1907, 18) Simmons Court Castle was replaced by a Victorian residence in the beginning of the 18th-century.

DU018-063002-

Class: Gatehouse

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of uploading information.



De Faoite Archaeology

Unit 10
Riverside Business Centre
Tinahely
Co. Wicklow



GROUND INVESTIGATIONS IRELAND

Archaeological Monitoring Report

BUS CONNECTS

MORE PEOPLE, TO MORE PLACES, MORE OFTEN.

Route 15

Blackrock to Merrion Core.

Licence 21E0053

Yvonne Whitty

July 2021

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Abstract

This report concerns the results of an archaeological monitoring carried out for Ground Investigations Ireland in conjunction with the BusConnects Dublin. This is a major investment programme to improve public transport in the city. This report concerns GI works on Route 15 only which is the route from Blackrock to Merrion Core.

Site investigations were the first phase of works to be carried out. The project is at the design stage at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed.

This phase of works involved the excavation of boreholes and trial pits through the ground surface to identify the location of any existing services and establish the ground conditions. Given the results of the desk-based assessment it was recommended that in total four GI locations be monitored under licence which were in three Areas of Archaeological Potential.

Once the design and construction scenario are finalised further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Areas of Archaeological Potential 1 given the location of the works adjacent to the Zone of Notification for RMP site RMP DU023-053. In Archaeological Area 2 monitoring of works under licence may be sufficient depending on the construction scenario. In Archaeological Area of Potential 3 test trenching is recommended given the location of the site in close proximity to the Peafield Baths which are illustrated to the east of the GI location on the first edition map and were built by the Merrion Promenade Pier and Baths Company in the late 1800s. Test trenching is recommended in advance of construction in this area.

This strategy will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/ deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

1 Introduction

This Archaeological monitoring report has been prepared by De Faoite Archaeology on behalf of Ground Investigations Ireland (GII) for the BusConnects Dublin project.

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's programme to greatly improve bus services in Irish cities including the Network Redesign and the Core Bus Corridors along 16 different routes in the city (Figure 1).

This report concerns monitoring of ground investigation (GI) works along Route 15 (Figure 2). The Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor (CBC) in which priority for buses is provided along the entire route.

The project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. There were no GI works along large sections of the project as the ground disturbance will be minimal as the routes will be along modified existing roads (Figures 3-6). The most intrusive works will be at the locations of the GI works which comprise seven bore holes and two test pits (Figures 3-8).

Given the results of the desk-based assessment it is recommended that in total four GI locations were monitored R15-TP01, R15-TP02, R15-CP03 and R15-CP05 under archaeological licence 21E0053. This report describes the results of monitoring the GI works. It also describes the existing environment within the location of the GI works in terms of its archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage setting and recommends an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy for the project.

2 Route 15 Description

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's programme to greatly improve bus services in Irish cities. It is a key part of the Government's policy to improve public transport and address climate change in Dublin and other cities across Ireland. BusConnects Dublin includes the Network Redesign and the Core Bus Corridors. Overall, there are 16 routes and this report only concerns Route 5 (Figure 1).

The Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor (CBC) commences on Merrion Road at its junction with Nutley Lane. Buses are proposed to be routed along Rock Road joining the N31 at the Mount Merrion Avenue junction. The proposed CBC terminates at the junction of Temple Hill/Monkstown Road and Stradbroke Road. Priority for buses and cyclists is provided along the entire route, consisting primarily of dedicated bus lanes in each direction, and continuous segregated cycle tracks. The Blackrock to Merrion CBC connects to the route of the UCD to City Centre CBC at the junction of Merrion Road and Nutley Lane, providing a continuous route from Blackrock to the City Centre. (Figure 2). The following figures 3-8 illustrate the locations of the GI works locations.



Figure 1: Bus Connects all 16 routes.

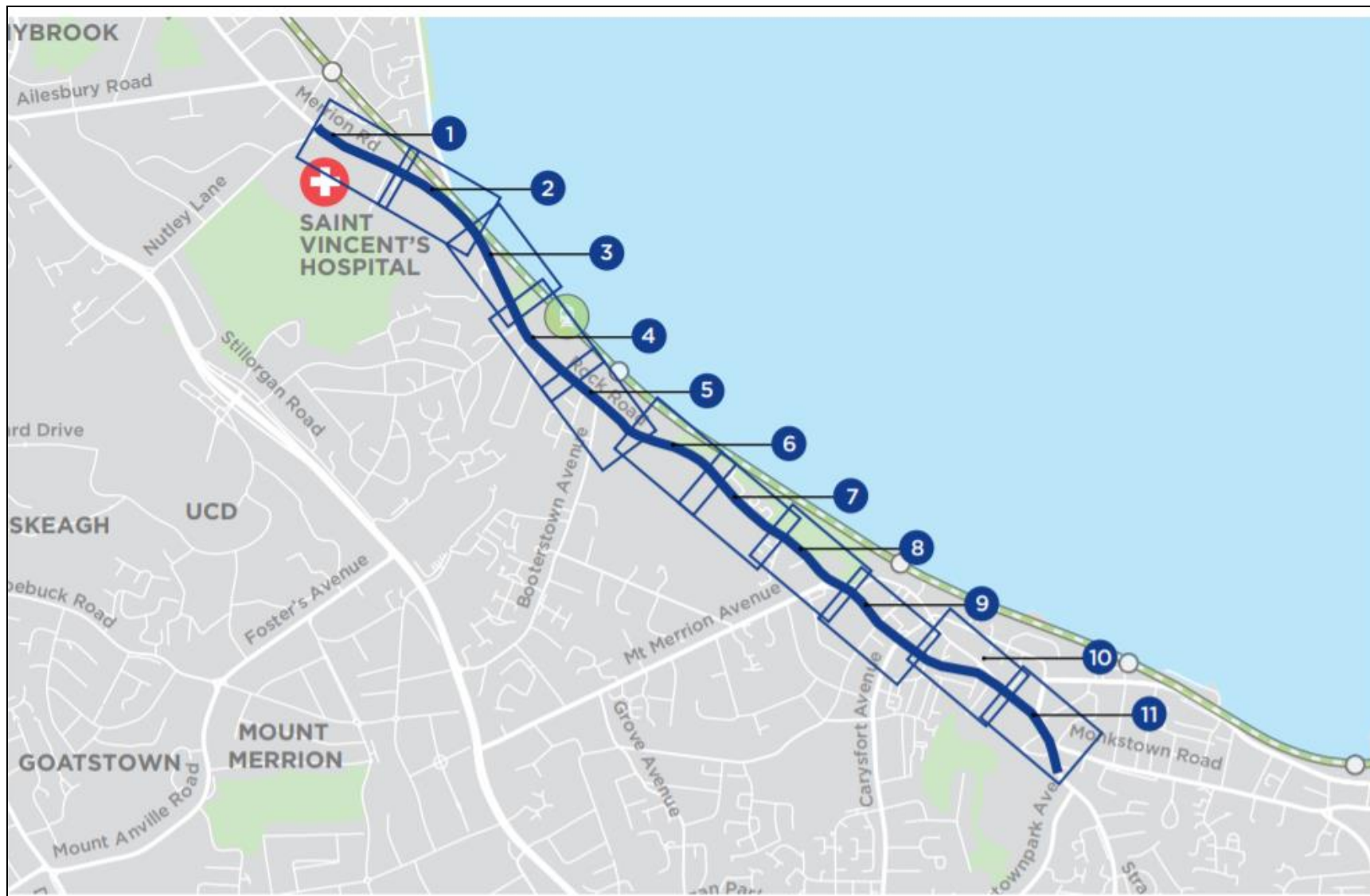


Figure 2: Route 15 Blackrock to Merrion Core GI works which will take place at locations on maps 3, 4 6, 7, 8 and 11.

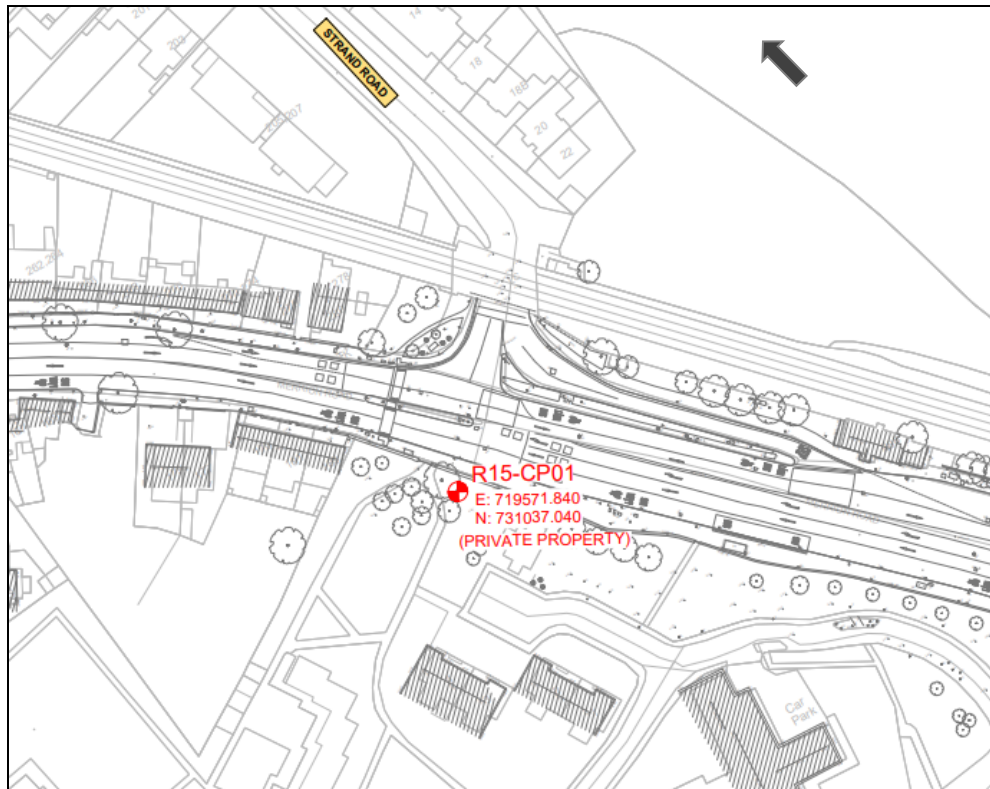


Figure 3: Cable percussive borehole R15-CP01 location Route 15, map 3.

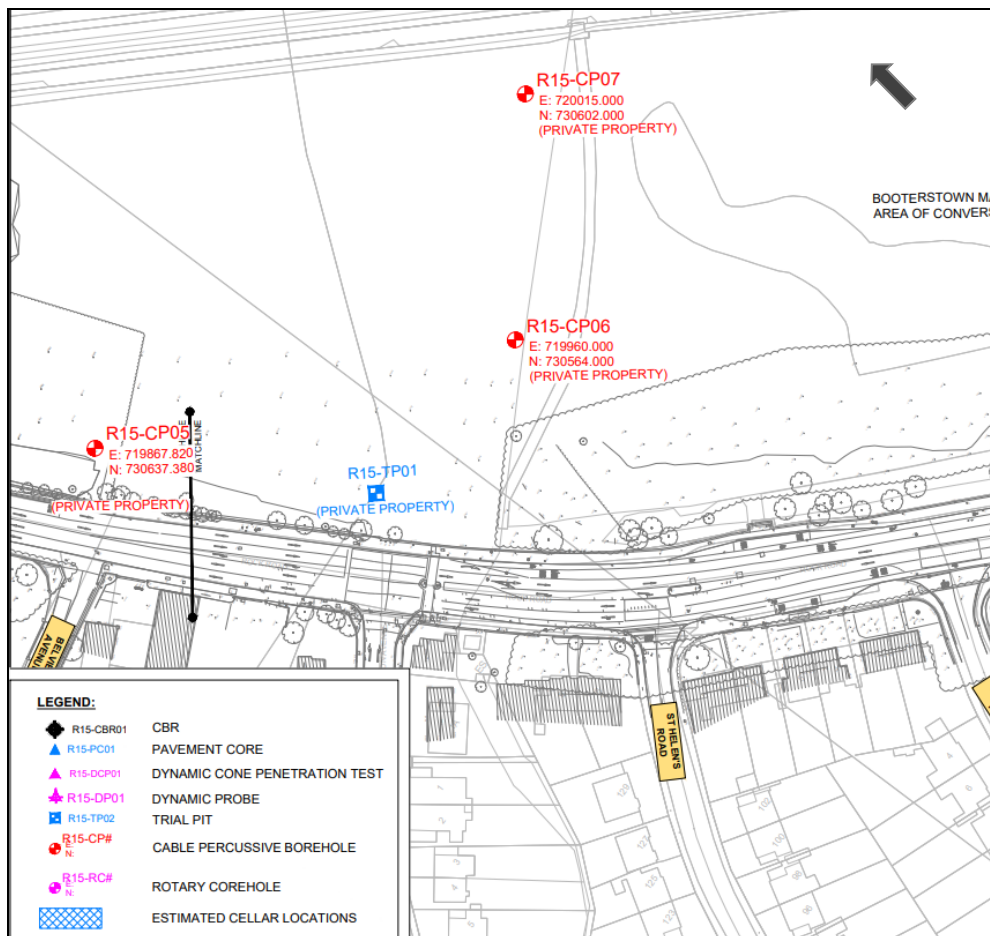


Figure 4: Cable Percussive Boreholes R15-CP05-07 and Test Pit R15-TP01 locations Route 15, map 4.

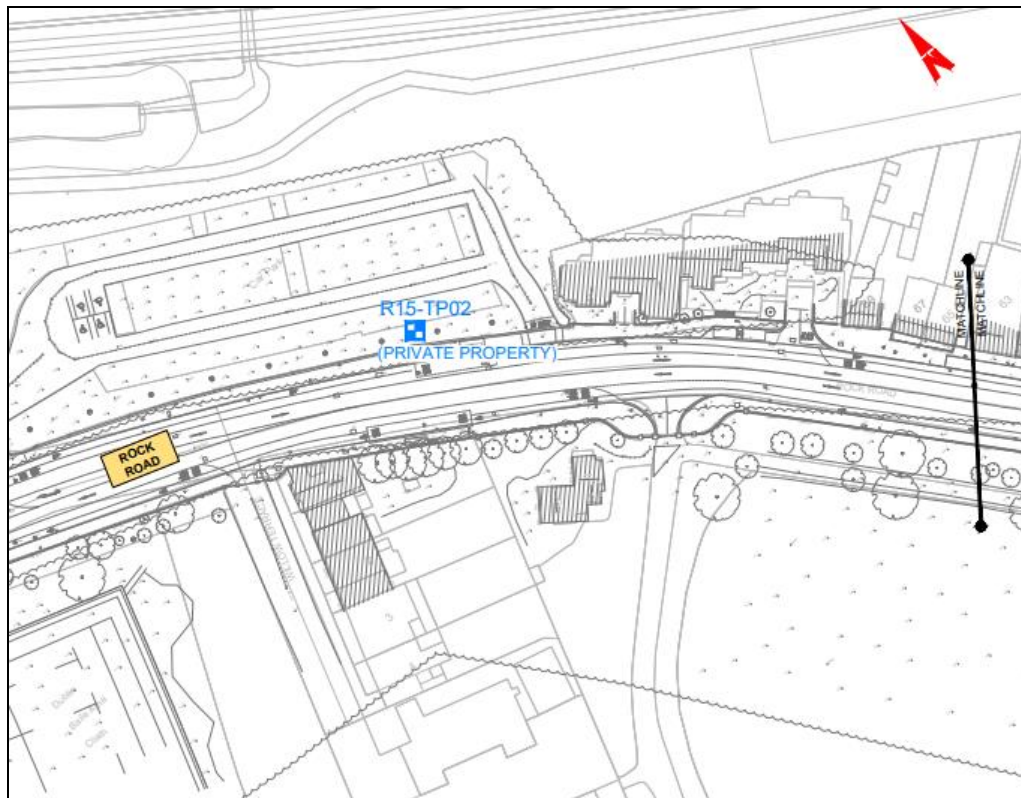


Figure 5: TP02 locations Route 15, map 6.

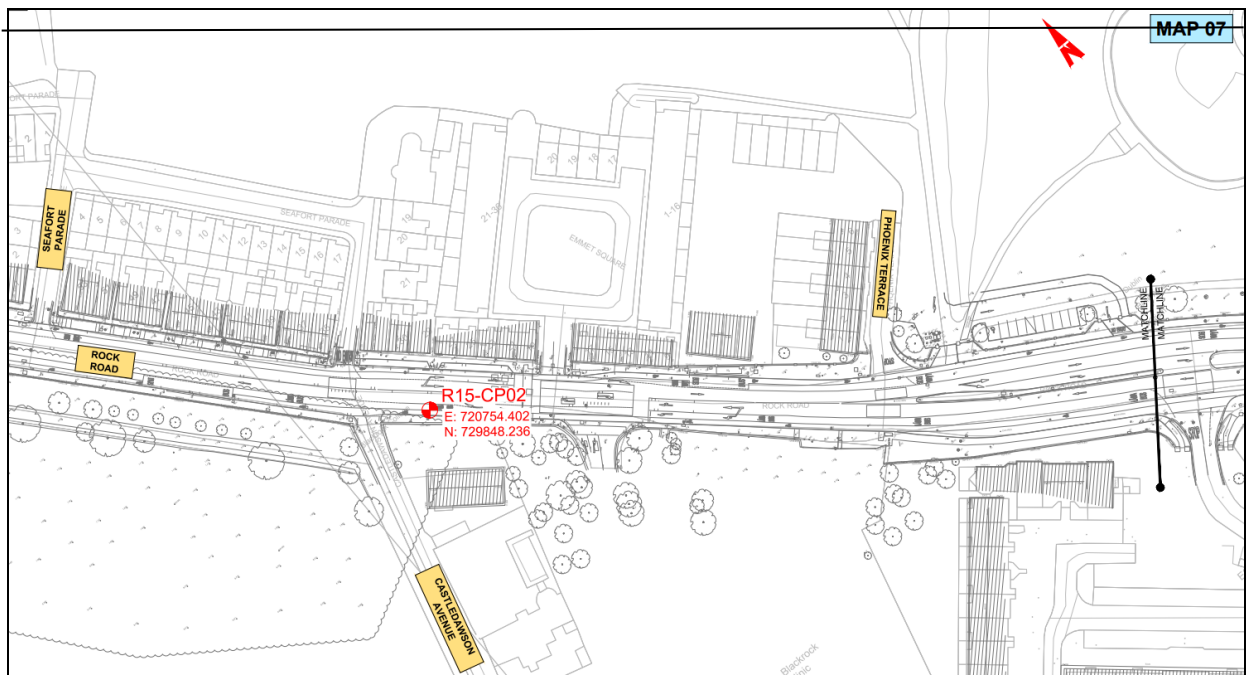


Figure 6: Cable Percussive Boreholes R15-CP02 locations Route 15, map 7.

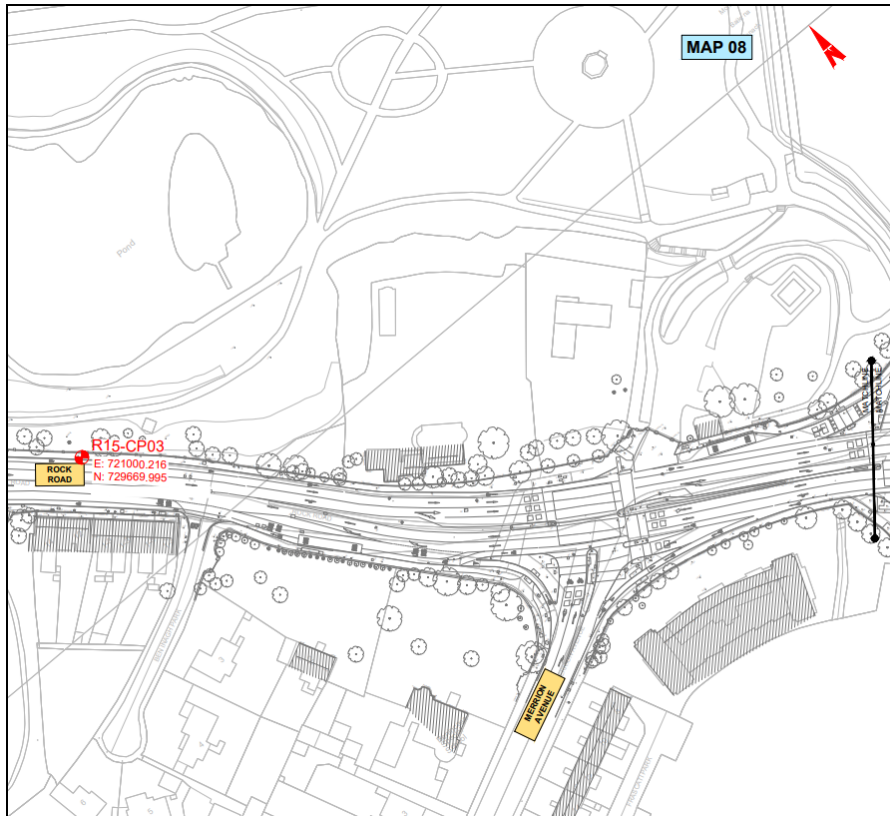


Figure 7: Cable Percussive Boreholes R15-CP03 location Route 15, map 8.

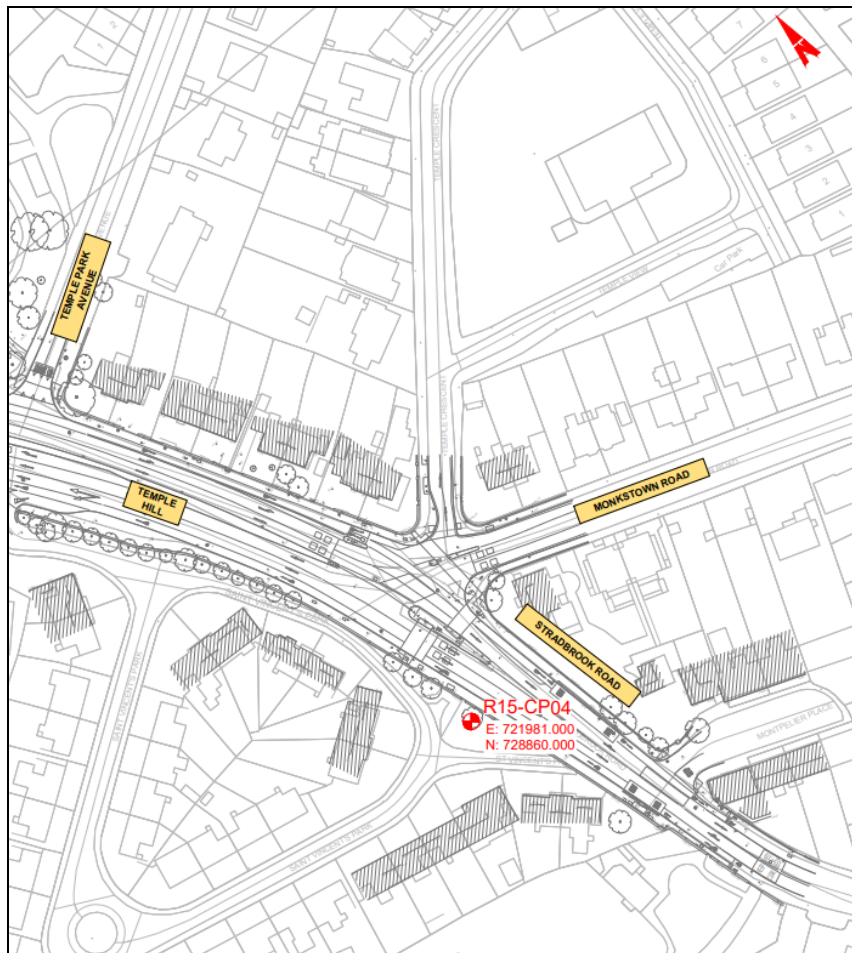


Figure 8: Cable Percussive Boreholes R15-CP04 location Route 15, map 11.



Figure 9: Route 15 study area overview.¹

¹ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

3 Methodology

The client has requested an archaeological assessment in the form of a desktop study of the proposed Route 15 UCD, Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor. The archaeological desktop report will ascertain if there are any archaeological constraints present in relation to the proposed development, using the resources listed below. The study area encompassed a radius of 350m around the location of the GI works for excavations, stray finds, townland boundaries and RMP sites. The study area was confined to 150m for Recorded Protected Structures (Figure 7).

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- Published sources.
- A review of previous archaeological assessment s/ investigations.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland.
- Ordnance Survey (OS) and pre-Ordnance Survey maps.
- Aerial photography.
- Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022 Volume 4.

4 Legislative Framework

This assessment and monitoring report is guided by relevant legislation, standards and guidelines in respect of archaeology, built and cultural heritage, as follows:

European Legislation

- Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and National Heritage, 1972
- Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe, (the 'Granada Convention') ratified by Ireland in 1997
- European Convention Concerning the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valetta Convention') ratified by the Republic of Ireland in 1997

National Legislation

- National Monuments Act 1930, amended 1954, 1987, 1994, 2004 and 2014;
- Heritage Act 1995
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999
- Planning and Development Act 2000-2018 (as amended).

Guidelines and Standards

- Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1999, Department of the Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands
- Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation (1999), Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands
- The Heritage Council, 2000. Archaeology & Development: Guidelines for Good Practice for Developers (2000)
- Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022 Volume 4.

5 Archaeological Assessment

5.1 Archaeological & Historical Background

The Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor commences on Merrion Road at its junction with Nutley Lane and terminates at the junction of Temple Hill/Monkstown Road and Stradbrook Road. This route is along the coast and the GI works are located in the townlands of Merrion, Intake, Williamstown and Rockfield. This area is low lying and close to the sea and the archaeology along this 4km stretch is discussed in the following paragraphs.

The earliest archaeology in the vicinity of the GI works may date as far back as the early medieval period. The south County Dublin area was occupied in the fifth century by the Dal Meisin Corb, an early Leinster sept whose power declined in the seventh and eighth centuries. In the seventh century, the area was known as the land of Cuala which was later divided into Ui Cellach Cuallan and Ui Briuin Cuallan.

Little is known about the early history of the Irish church but by the first half of the fifth century there was a significant Christian community living in Ireland. In the year 431 the bishop Palladius was sent by Pope Celestine to the "Christians in Ireland" (Edwards 1999, 99). The late fifth century saw the beginnings of extensive missionary activity in Ireland. Christianity quickly took hold and the process of full conversion was complete by the seventh century. Archaeological evidence for early medieval Christianity includes cemeteries, hermitages, and pastoral church sites along with large and small monasteries.

In the study area a church site (DU023-053001-) is located along the coast road within a walled graveyard (DU023-053002-). There are no traces above ground of this church which is described in the Down Survey Map (1655-56) as the 'chapel of Merryon'. (Joyce 1921, 29-30). There is a reference in the 16th century that one of the Fitzwilliam family 'bequeathed a gown and a chamlet, a doublet of satin to make vestments' (Ball 1900, 312). The graveslabs in the present graveyard date from the 18th and 19th century and it is also the burial place of a number of soldiers who drowned in a shipwreck in 1807 (Baker, 2003).

The GI works are in lands around Merrion which were originally granted to Walter de Ridelsford, Lord of Bray, by Strongbow in 1173. The lands in this area changed hands many times. The Fitzwilliam family mentioned in relation to the church above had holdings that stretched from Wicklow to the middle of the River Liffey. They acquired the area in the 14th century when William who was sheriff of County Dublin took over the lands of the Bagod family. The Bagod's had a castle at Merrion which was built by Sir John Cruise as mentioned in a deed of 1334 (DU023-001001, RMP files). The Fitzwilliam's were responsible for developing Merrion Square, Fitzwilliam Square and what is today known as Dublin 4 (Pearson, 2001). They established vast brickfields at Merrion and used granite from their quarry at Ticknock to fund their building developments.

Merrion Castle (DU023-001001) was the primary seat of the Fitzwilliam family from the 15th to the early 18th centuries although it was damaged in the 1641 rebellion. Today the site of the Fitzwilliam castle is today occupied by Saint Mary's Home for the Blind. This complex comprised a tower-House, dwelling house; armorial stone; and a stone head. From an extant archaeological viewpoint only the last two components comprising an armorial stone and the stone plaque. This plaque bears the Fitzwilliam coat of arms and both this and the stone are incorporated into the wall of a new community building called the 'Fitzwilliam Hall'.

Although damaged after the 1641 rebellion the castle was subsequently repaired but was eventually abandoned when for a new house on the hill in Mount Merrion in 1711. This work was overseen by Richard, fifth Viscount Fitzwilliam. An article in a newspaper of the time described the castle as a hiding place for 'highwaymen and footpads' (Tobin, 2000). A sketch of the castle by Beranger in 1776 shows it in ruins however its scale was considerable. By 1781 the castle was completely demolished.

Another contemporary castle at the eastern extent of the GI works is a castle in Newtown/Blackrock (DU023-008) which is located adjacent to Merrion Strand and now occupied by Seapoint Manor. This castle which may date from the late 12th to the 16th century was described as slated and in the ownership of Walter Cheevers in the Civil Survey in 1665-65 (RMP files).

The latest archaeology in the study area at the southern limit of the GI works is a Martello Tower (DU023-002). Nine such coastal defensive towers were built in Dublin in 1804 erected

as part of the anti-invasion defences during the Napoleonic Wars (1804-1812). This Martello Tower north of Blackrock is built of dressed granite.

5.2 Record of Monuments and Places (RMP Files)

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under section 12 (1) of the 1994 National Monuments (Amendment) Act and provides that the Commissioners (now the Minister) shall establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes there are monuments, such record to be comprised of a list of monuments and relevant places and a map or maps showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. It is based on the older non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record and information from county archaeological inventories. It 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.

'Protection of Monuments and Places included in the Record Section 12 (3) of the Act provides for the protection of monuments and places included in the record stating that "When the owner or occupier [not being the Minister] of a monument or place which has been recorded under subsection (1) of this section any person proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such monument or place, he shall give notice in writing of his proposal to carry out the work to the Minister and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice." A person contravening this requirement for two months notification to the Minister of proposed works at or in relation to a recorded monument or place shall (under Section 13 of the Act) be guilty of an offence and be liable summary conviction to a maximum penalty of a £1000 fine and 12 months imprisonment and on conviction on indictment to a maximum penalty of a £50,000 fine and 5 years imprisonment.'

<https://archaeology.ie/monument-protection>

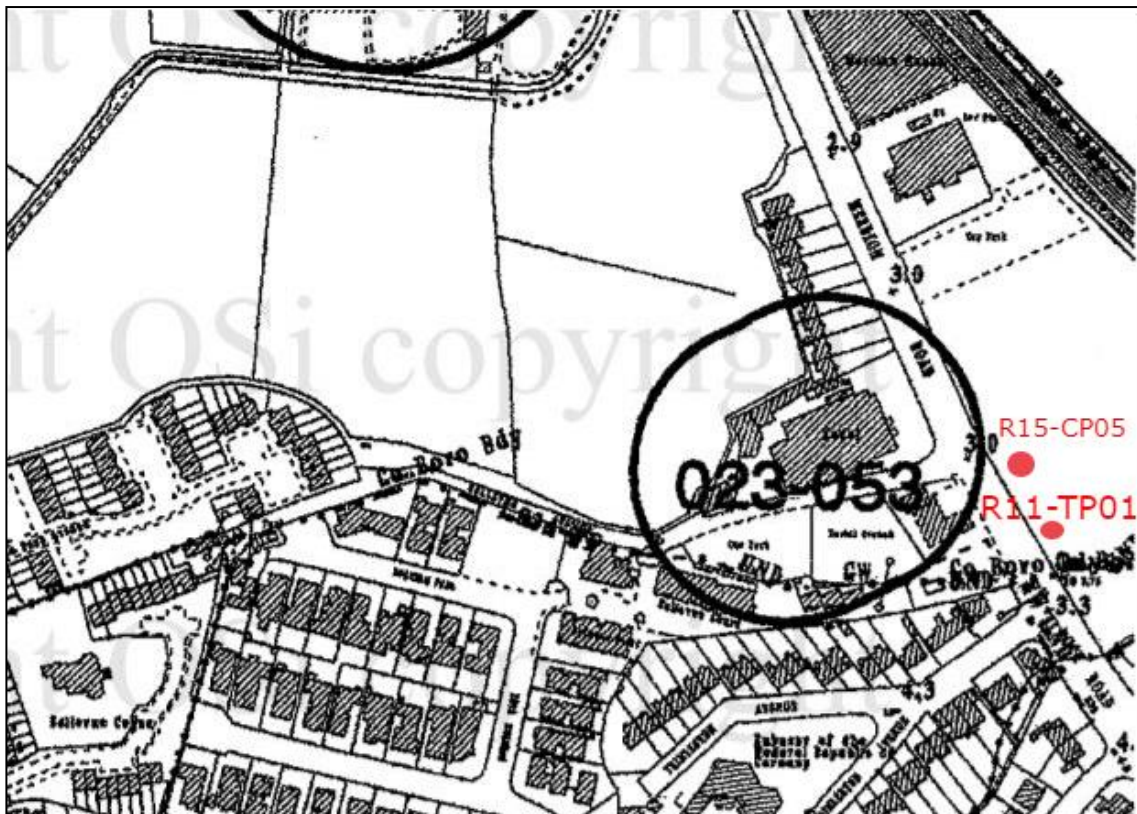


Figure 10: Extract from published RMP map 3329 showing zone of notification in relation to RMP site DU023-053 and proposed GI works outside of zone of notification.

The following table lists the GI works of which there are nine in total in relation to distance from Recorded Monument Sites. No works will directly impact on any RMP sites, however R11-CP05 and R11-TP01 are just outside the zone of notification associated with RMP DU023-053.

Route 15	Type	RMP within 350m
R15-CP01	Cable Percussive Borehole	137m SE DU023-001003-Armorial plaque, DU023-001004-Stone head, DU023-001001 Castle - tower house, DU023-001002-House - 18th century, DU023-001005-Fish-pond
R15-CP05	Cable Percussive Borehole	77m SW DU023-053001-Church, DU023-053002-Graveyard
R15-TP01	Test Pit	110m SW DU023-053001-Church, DU023-053002-Graveyard
R15-CP06	Cable Percussive Borehole	153m NW DU023-053001-Church, DU023-053002-Graveyard
R15-CP07	Cable Percussive Borehole	212m NW DU023-053001-Church, DU023-053002-Graveyard
R15-TP02	Test Pit	150m SE DU023-002-Martello tower
R15-CP02	Cable Percussive Borehole	150m SE DU023-002-Martello tower
R15-CP03	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP04	Cable Percussive Borehole	317m N DU023-008-Castle

Table 1: RMP sites within 350m of GI works.

There is a total of 10 RMP sites within 350m of the GI works (Table 1, Appendix 2). The closest to the works are R15-TP01 and R15-CP05 which are just outside the zone of constraint associated with a church (DU023-053001) and graveyard (DU023-053002-) (Figure 10). There are no traces above ground of this church within the graveyard which was described on the Down Survey (1655-6) map as 'chapel of Merryon'. The graveslabs date from to 18th and 19th century.

RMP	Townland	Class
DU023-001001	Merrion (Dublin By.)	Castle - tower house
DU023-001002-	Merrion (Dublin By.)	House - 18th century
DU023-001003-	Merrion (Dublin By.)	Armorial plaque
DU023-001004-	Merrion (Dublin By.)	Stone head
DU023-001005	Merrion (Dublin By.)	Fish-pond
DU023-002----	Intake	Martello tower
DU023-008-	Newtown, Blackrock	Castle
DU023-053001-	Dublin South City	Church
DU023-053002	Dublin South City	Graveyard

Table 2: RMP summary within 350m of GI works.

Other monuments in the vicinity comprise four recorded monuments which are all components of the complex that centred on the site of Merrion Castle (DU023-001001-4). Today the original site is occupied by Saint Mary's Home for the Blind. This complex comprises a tower-house, dwelling house; armorial stone and a stone head. From an extant archaeological viewpoint only the last two components comprising an armorial stone and the stone survive. Merrion Castle was the primary seat of the Fitzwilliam family from the 15th to the early 18th centuries although it was built by Sir John Cruise as mentioned in a deed of 1334 (RMP files). Also associated with these monuments is a fish pond DU023-001005. This group of monuments are 137m SE of cable percussive borehole R15-CP01.

The remaining monuments in the vicinity of the GI works comprise a Martello Tower (DU023-002) which is a coastal defensive tower, built as part of the anti-invasion defences during the Napoleonic Wars (1804-1812 AD). This tower is within 150m of the GI works (R15-CP02 and R15-TP02). Within the wider landscape 317m N of the GI works is a Castle at Newtown which is now occupied by Seapoint Manor. It was mentioned in the Civil Survey (1654-56) as having being slated and in the ownership of Walter Cheevers.

5.3 National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files

The topographical files are held in the National Museum of Ireland in Kildare Street. All files relating to the townlands where the GI works will be carried out were inspected to ascertain whether any artefacts had been thus far recorded in the townlands where these works will take place. These files identify all recorded finds which are held in archive and have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation.

Route 15	Type	NIAH within 150m
R15-CP01	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP05	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-TP01	Test Pit	None
R15-CP06	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP07	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-TP02	Test Pit	None
R15-CP02	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP03	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP04	Cable Percussive Borehole	92m SE Rockfield House - Reg. No. 60230087 95m SE Rockfield House - Reg. No. 60230087

Table 3: Topographical files finds within townlands of GI works.

No stray finds were recorded in the townlands of Merrion, Intake, Williamstown or Rockfield.

5.4 Cartographic Sources

Analysis of historic mapping shows the human impact on the landscape and its evolving nature over clearly defined time intervals. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered or removed over a period of time.

The maps analysed include John Rocque's Exact survey of Dublin, published in London in 1756 and the first and third edition Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 11-19).

Roques's map provides a vivid snapshot of the city at this period (Figure 11). Although this map is overlaid with the proposed works and not completely accurate it does illustrate that the area of the proposed GI works was quite developed in 1756. There are no structures within the footprint of the GI works.

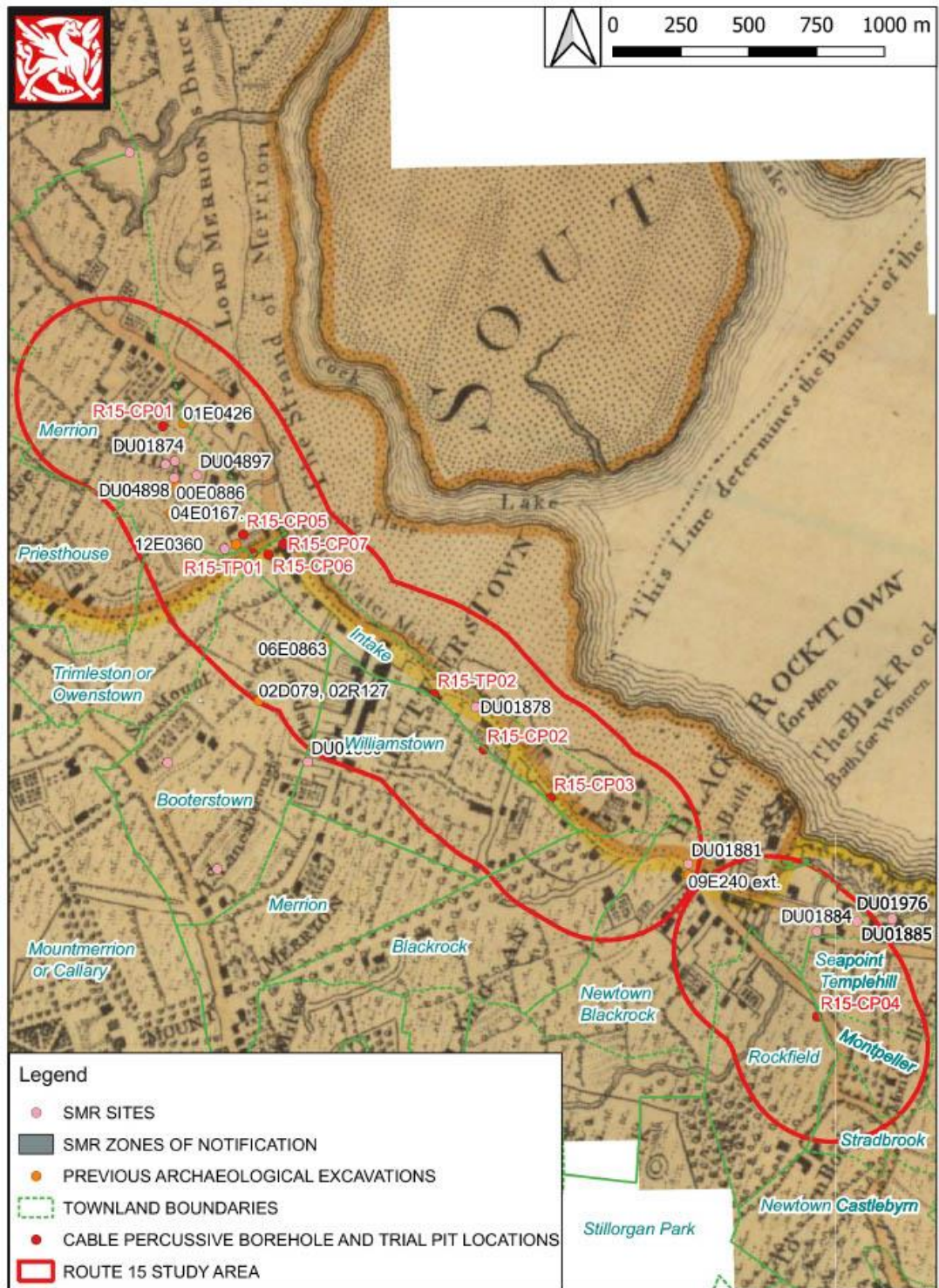


Figure 11: Route 15 study area in relation to John Roque's map 1756.²

² The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

Townland boundaries are visible on the first and third edition Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 11 and 12). Gaelic land ownership required a clear definition of territories for each sept and a need for strong permanent fences around their territories. Townland boundaries along ridge-tops, streams, or bogs are more likely to be older in date than those composed of straight lines. Christianity introduced the system of parish boundaries, whilst Anglo Normans introduced baronies and counties. These boundaries were looked at in terms of the impact of the GI works on such boundaries.



Figure 12: Route 15 study area in relation to first edition ordnance survey map 1837.³

³ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

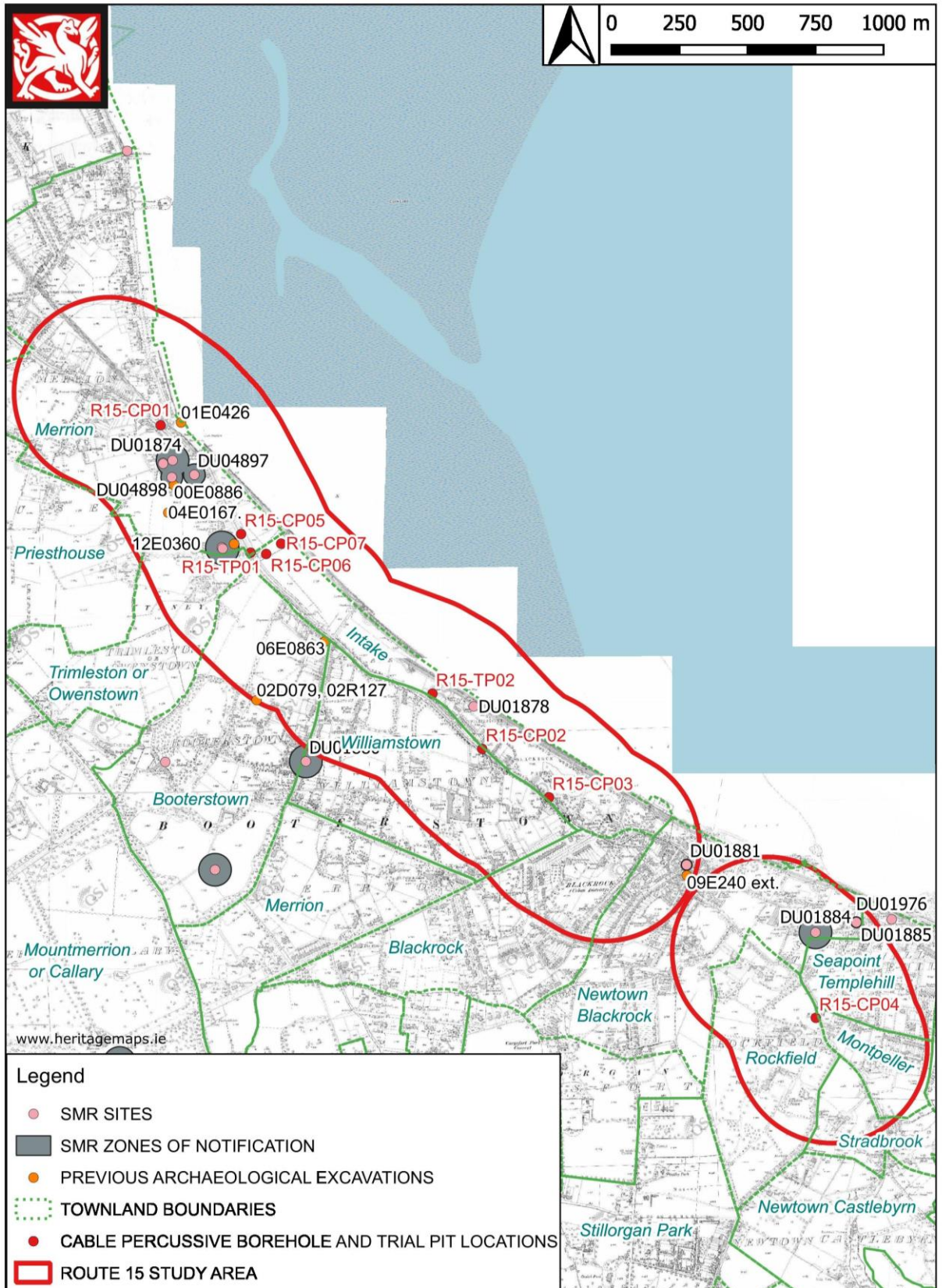


Figure 13: Route 15 study area in relation to third edition map 1938.⁴

⁴ The text in the grey circles/SMR zones of notification are Monument Identifier Numbers (www.heritagemaps.ie).

The first and third edition map were looked at for the purpose of this assessment which were published in 1837 and 1938 respectively (Figure 11 and 12). The GI locations were mapped and for the purpose of this report the locations that have been deemed of archaeological potential are illustrated below (Figures 13-18).

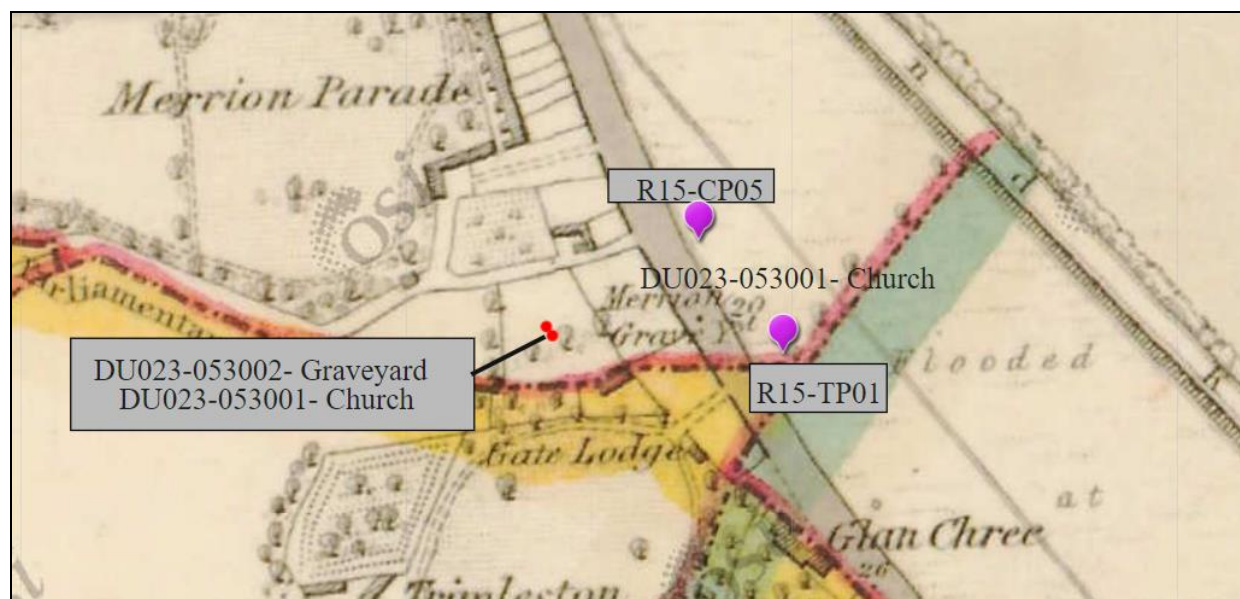


Figure 14: First edition OS map 1837 with locations of GI works illustrated.

At the time of the first edition map the above GI works are location in the townland of Merrion in the vicinity of the church and graveyard which are RMP sites (Figure 13). The borehole R15-CP05 is located just west of the Merrion Road and Test Pit R15-TP01 is located along the townland boundary between Merrion, Trimlestown to the southwest and Intake to the south. This is also a parish boundary between Donnybrook (north), and Booterstown (south). As discussed previously these boundaries may preserve much earlier land divisions.

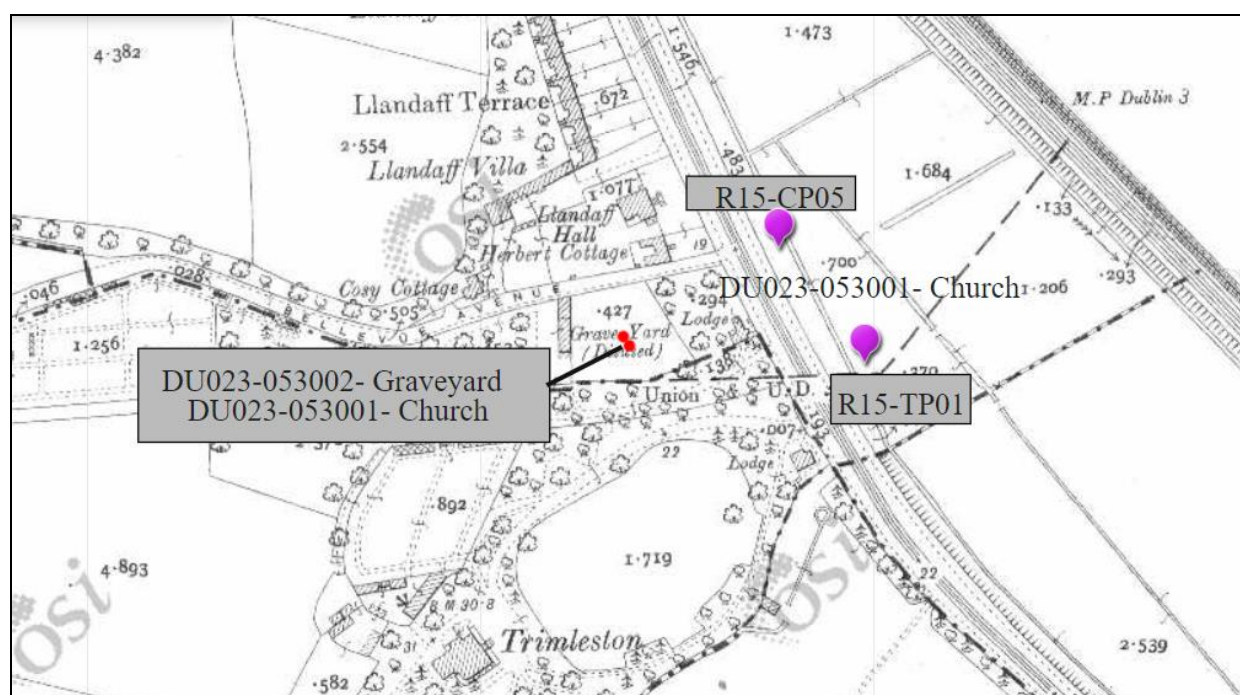


Figure 15: Third edition OS map 1938 with locations of GI works illustrated.

At the time of the third edition map in 1938 the main change is that a tramway has been developed on the Merrion Road. The graveyard is marked as disused (Figure 14).

Further south in the townland of Intake the second area of archaeological potential comprises the location of Test Pit R15-TP02. It is located just west of the Rock Road. Baths and the Martello Tower are depicted to the southeast and the north comprises a strand and to the west small houses with well planted gardens. There are several changes though by the time of the third edition map in 1938 the major one being the addition of the tramway. The 'Baths' are no longer labelled and the strand area has been subdivided into plots of ground (Figure 16).

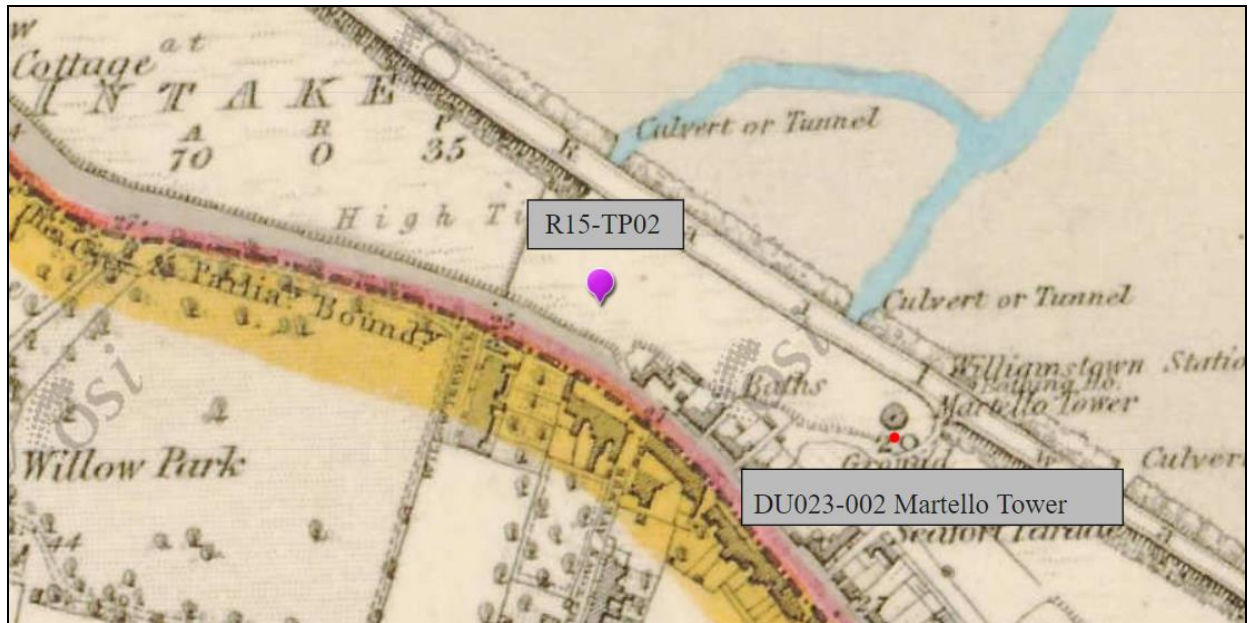


Figure 16: First edition OS map 1837 with locations of GI works illustrated.

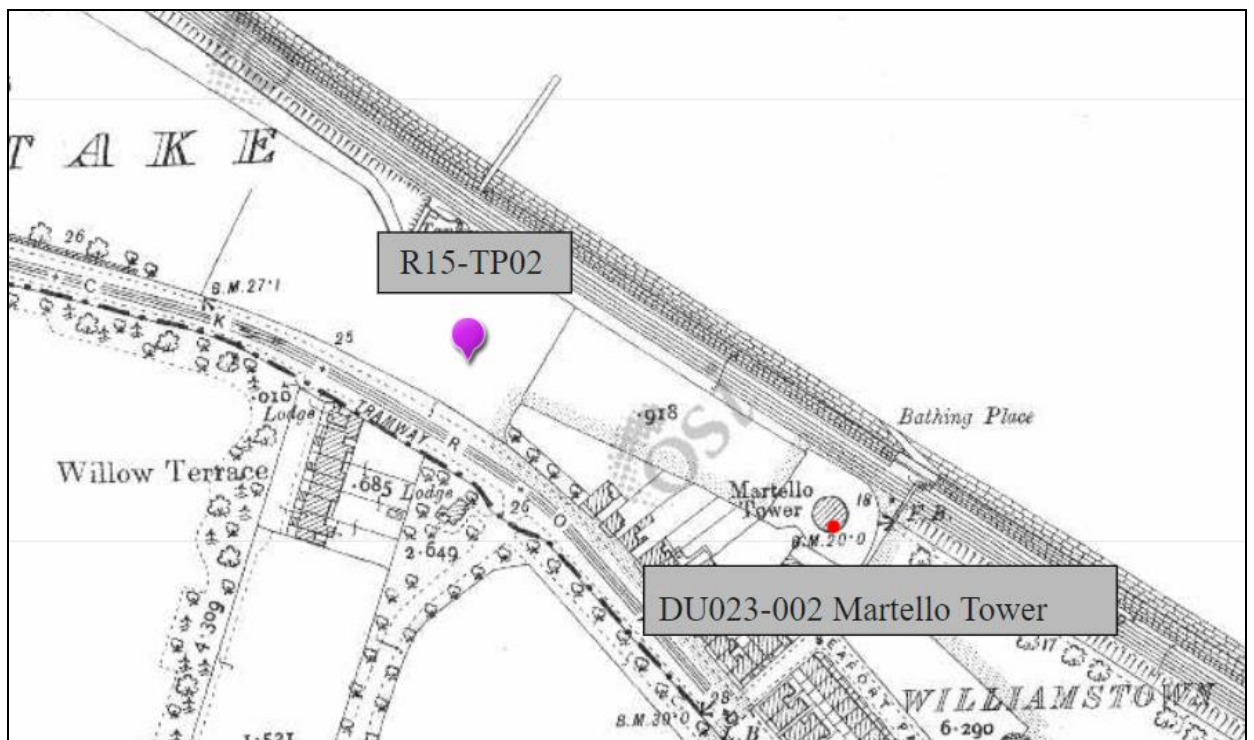


Figure 17: Third edition OS map 1938 with locations of GI works illustrated.

Further south on Rock Road the final area of archaeological potential is at the location of borehole R15-CP03 which is located in the townland of Intake on what is known today as Rock Road. The road is also the townland boundary between Intake and Williamstown (Figure 17). The surrounding landscape is dotted with many houses, gardens and well planted small estates. The Peafield Baths are illustrated to the east of the GI location. These were built by the Merrion Promenade Pier and Baths Company in the late 1800s. The baths were replenished with sea water and divided into male and female sections. The strand in this area was reclaimed by the time of the third edition map in 1938 and turned into Blackrock Park (Figure 18). The tramline is also developed along the Rock Road by the time of the third edition map.

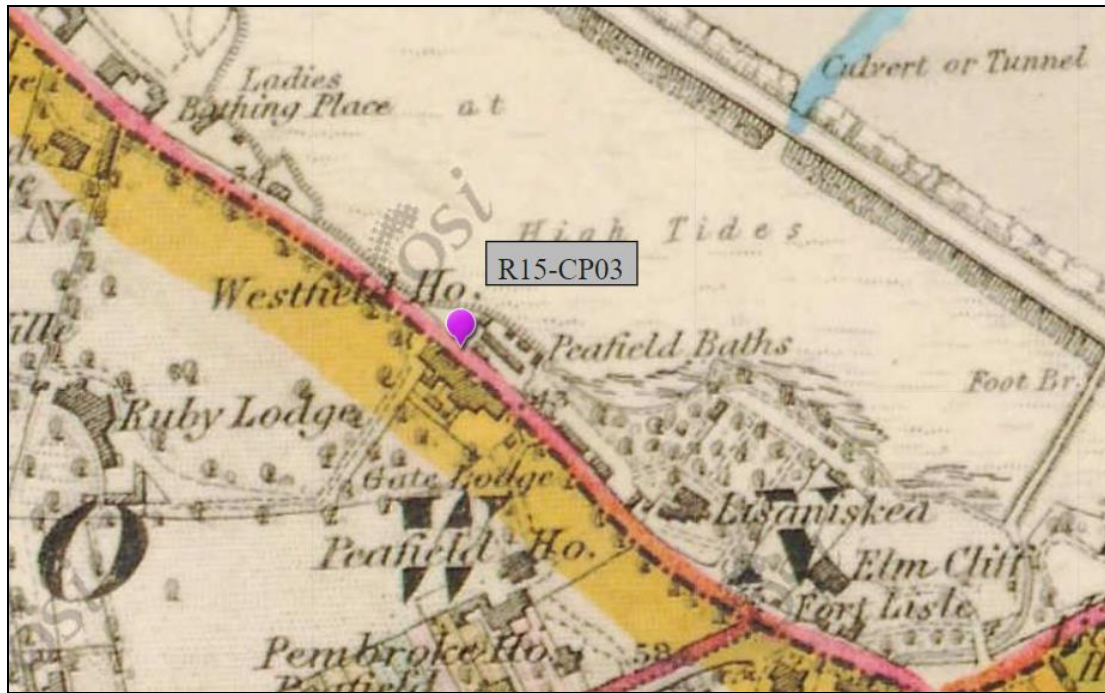


Figure 18: First edition OS map 1837 with locations of GI works illustrated.

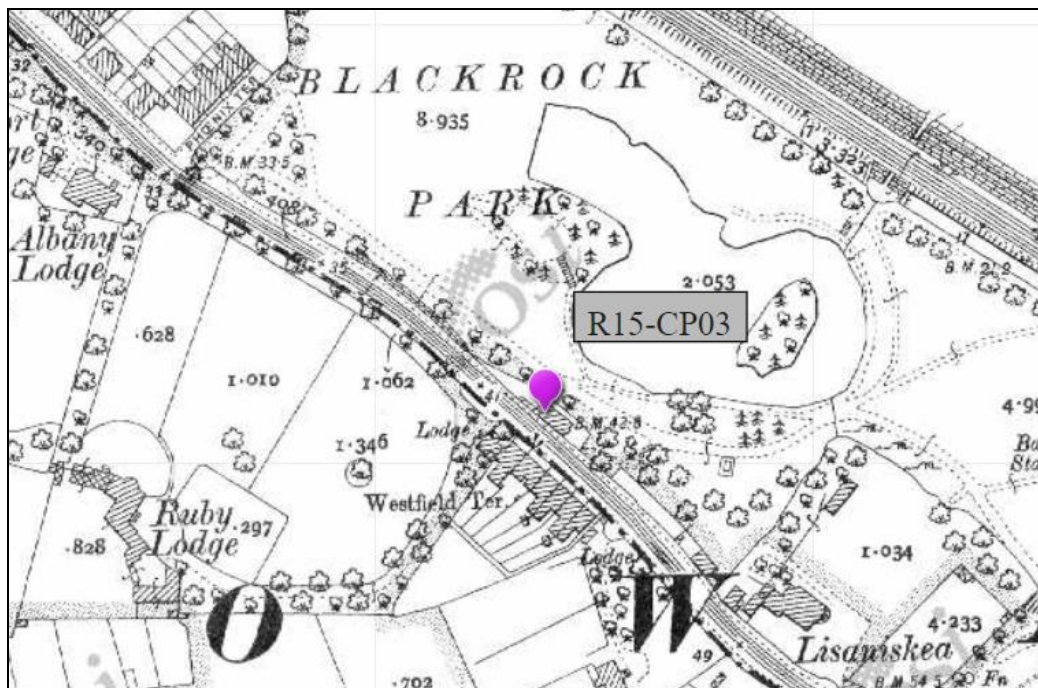


Figure 19: Third edition OS map 1938 with location of GI works illustrated.

5.5 Architectural Heritage (Appendix 1)

All GI exploratory hole locations were checked on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage's (NIAH) website. The NIAH is a section within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht whom identifying and record the architectural heritage of Ireland, from 1700 to the present day.

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 was inspected in accordance with Part IV of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2006 which requires every development plan to include a record of Protected Structures (RPS). A protected structure is a structure that a Planning Authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical point of view.

Route 15	Type	NIAH within 150m of GI works
R15-CP01	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP05	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-TP01	Test Pit	None
R15-CP06	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP07	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-TP02	Test Pit	None
R15-CP02	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP03	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP04	Cable Percussive Borehole	92m SE Rockfield House - Reg. No. 60230087 95m SE Rockfield House - Reg. No. 60230087

Table 4: NIAH listed buildings/structures within 150m of GI works.

A detached three-bay single-storey gate lodge dated 1907 and gateway are located 92m SE of the GI works. These are not RPS and will not be impacted upon by the GI works.

5.6 Previous Archaeological Excavations

Route 15	Type	Excavations within 350m of GI works
R15-CP01	Cable Percussive Borehole	80m NE 01E0426 150m SW 00E0886 326m SE 02E1260 326m SE 04E0167 326m SW 04E0272
R15-CP05	Cable Percussive Borehole	100m W 03E1407 270m NW 02E1260 270m NW 04E0167 270m NW 02E1260
R15-CP06	Cable Percussive Borehole	255m W 03E1407
R15-CP07	Cable Percussive Borehole	255m W 03E1407
R15-TP02	Test Pit	None
R15-CP02	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP03	Cable Percussive Borehole	None
R15-CP04	Cable Percussive Borehole	None

Table 5: Excavations within 350m of GI works.

A total of six excavations are recorded within 350m of the locations of the GI works as summarized in Table 6 below. Archaeology was exposed in three of the excavations which were all located on former lands of the Sisters of Charity on Merrion Road although these excavations are some distance from the GI works (Table 5). These excavations are just south of the complex of monuments that centred on the site of Merrion Castle (DU023-001001-4) which is today occupied by Saint Mary’s Home for the Blind (02E1260, 04E0167 and 04E0272). The more intensive medieval activity appears to have occurred on the higher, flatter ground in the south-west corner of the site. This area was in agricultural use from the medieval period 13th- 15th centuries between Merrion Castle to the north and the Merrion burial-ground to the south. The material assemblage was dominated by Leinster Cooking Ware pottery. The contemporary metal artefacts recovered were associated with ironworking, carpentry and horse shoeing.

Licence	Address	Description
00E0886	185-203 Merrion Road, Dublin	No archaeology
01E0426	Sandymount Strand and Merrion Strand	No archaeology
02E1260	Former Lands of the Sisters of Charity, Merrion Road, Dublin	Medieval/post-medieval
03E1407	Tara Towers Hotel, Merrion Road, Dublin	No archaeology
04E0167	Elm Park Merrion Road	Medieval/post-medieval
04E0272	Merrion Road	Manorial settlement

Table 6: Summary of excavations within 350m of GI works see Appendix 1 for further information.

5.7 Field Inspection

The Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor (CBC) commences on Merrion Road at its junction with Nutley Lane. Buses are proposed to be routed along Rock Road joining the N31 at the Mount Merrion Avenue junction. The proposed CBC terminates at the junction of Temple Hill/Monkstown Road and Stradbroke Road. The following plates illustrate the site-specific conditions at the locations of archaeological potential based on the results of the desk-based assessment. At the location of bore-hole R15-CP05 the area is very overgrown and in accessible R15-TP01 is located in a scrub grass area, elsewhere the GI works will be through existing road surfaces.



Plate 1: View NE towards location of R15-CP05 which is located in overgrowth to rear of stone wall.



Plate 2: View E towards location of R15-TP01.



Plate 3: View SE towards location of R15-TP02.



Plate 4: View towards location of R15-CP03 on Rock Road, facing N.

6 Impact Assessment and Monitoring Recommendations

The aim of this archaeological impact assessment and monitoring report is to describe all of the aspects of the environment that are likely to be significantly affected by the GI works. This report describes the existing environment within the location of the GI works in terms of its archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage setting. It aims to address the potential impacts of the proposed works and recommends an appropriate archaeological mitigation which shall be agreed in consultation with the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland.

The desk-based assessment has looked at all RMP sites, stray finds, excavations, boundaries including rivers within a 350m radius of the GI works. Recorded Protected Structures within a 150m radius were detailed for this report. There will be no direct impacts upon any RMP sites or RPS buildings/structures.

Ground investigations were the first phase of works to be carried out. The project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the development as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. The most intrusive works were at the locations of the GI works which comprise nineteen exploratory holes.

In total it is recommended that four locations be monitored as detailed in Table 7 of the following page R15-TP01, R15-TP02, R15-CP03 and R15-CP05.

6.1 Area of Archaeological Potential 1 (AAP 1) (Figure 20)

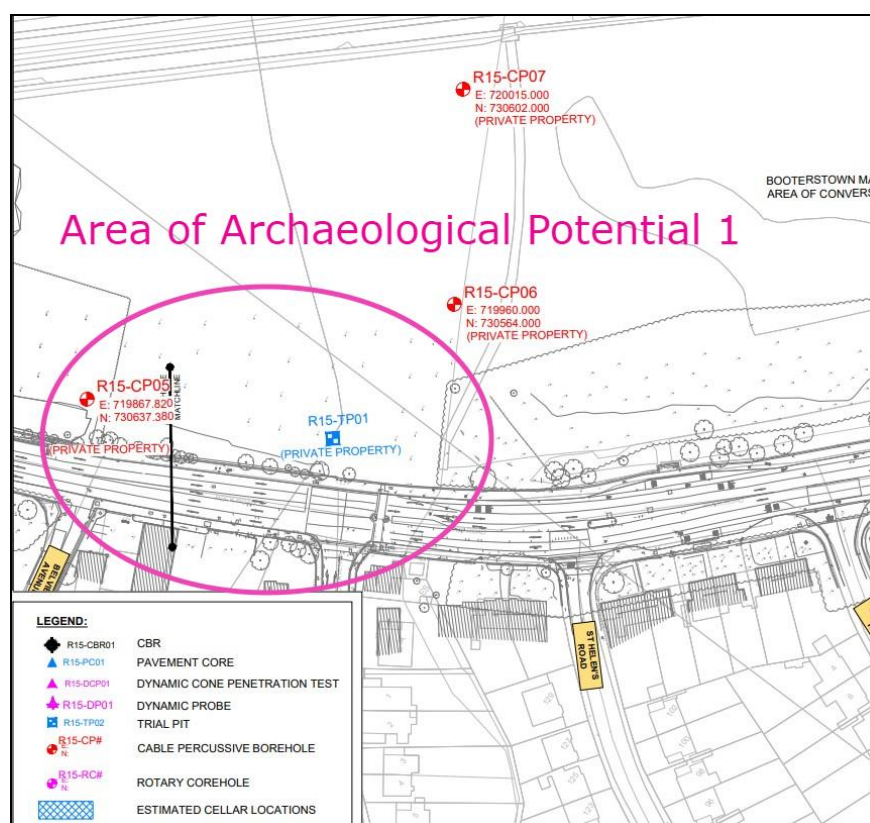


Figure 20: Area of Archaeological Potential 1.

Archaeological Area of Potential 1 is located in the vicinity of GI works R15-TP01 and R15-CP05 which are just outside the zone of constraint associated with a church (DU023-053001) and graveyard (DU023-053002-) (Figure 10). There are no traces above ground of this church within the graveyard which was described on the Down Survey (1655-6) map as 'chapel of

Merryon'. The graveslabs date from to 18th and 19th century. Test Pit R15-TP01 is located along the townland boundary between Merrion, Trimlestown to the southwest and Intake to the south. This is also a parish boundary between Donnybrook (north), and Booterstown (south). As discussed previously these boundaries may preserve much earlier land divisions.

6.2 Area of Archaeological Potential 2 (AAP 2) (Figure 21)

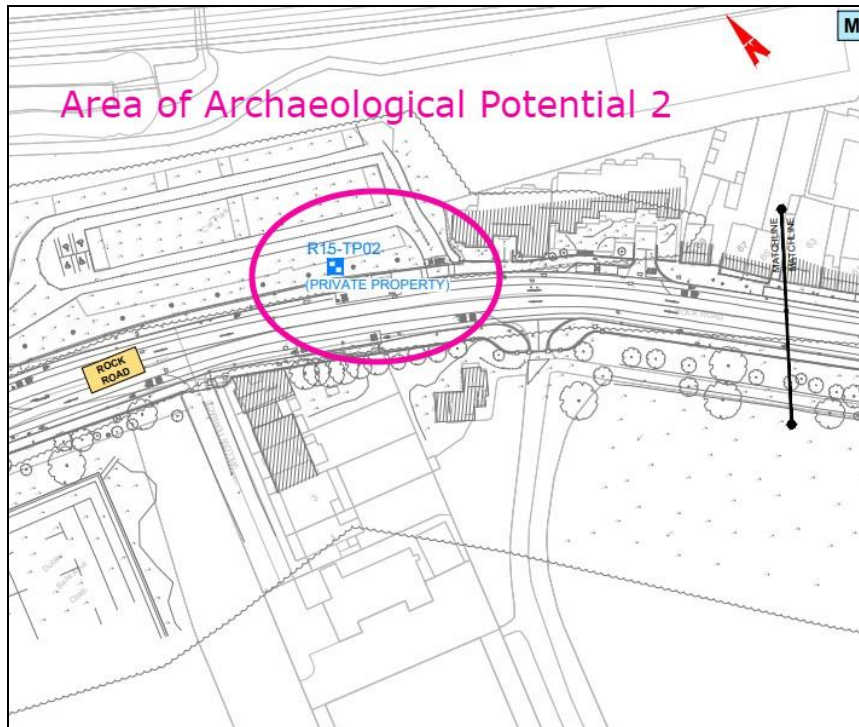


Figure 21: Area of Archaeological Potential 2.

Archaeological Area of Potential 2 is located in the vicinity of GI works R15-TP02 where the trial pit is located just west of the Rock Road in the vicinity of 'baths' as labelled on the first edition map and outside the constraint area for Martello Tower DU023-002.

6.3 Area of Archaeological Potential 3 (AAP 3) (Figure 22)

Further south on Rock Road is the third Area of Archaeological Potential 3 at the location of borehole R15-CP03. This is also located adjacent the Rock Road which is also a townland boundary between Intake and Williamstown (Figure 17). The Peafield Baths are illustrated to the east of the GI location. These were built by the Merrion Promenade Pier and Baths Company in the late 1800s and were replenished with sea water.

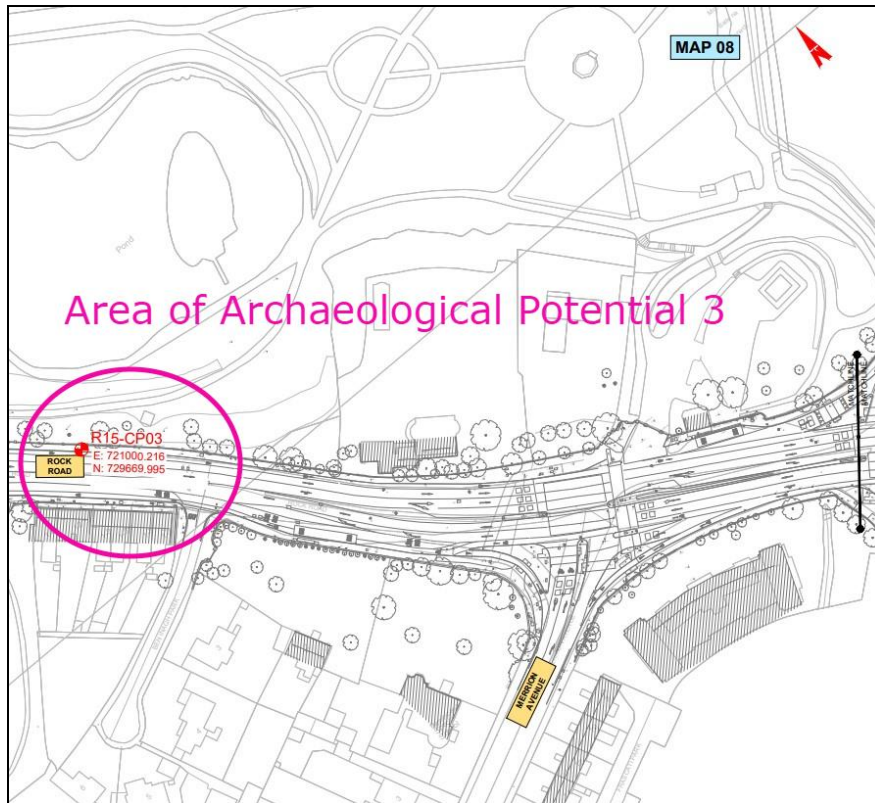


Figure 22: Area of Archaeological Potential 3.

		R15-CP01	R15-CP05	R15-TP01	R15-CP06	R15-CP07	R15-TP02	R15-CP02	R15-CP03	R15-CP04
Scenario: within of less than 100m of:	RMP	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Stray Find	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Boundary	N	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y****	Y**	Y***	Y**
	RPS	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Previous Excavation	Y no arch	Y no arch	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
	Monitoring Required	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N

* 60m from boundary

** 5m from boundary nothing on first ed map

***Peafield Baths

****Parish and Townland boundary

Table 7: Monitoring Requirements Route 15.

7 Monitoring Results

The trial pits were excavated by a 3T Tracked Excavator with a flat grading bucket.

Bore hole sampling was carried out using a 5 Dando 2000 Cable Percussion boring rig with a rotary core follow on using a Beretta T44. The boring technique allows the installation of a casing tube inside the borehole. Upon completion, the tube is withdrawn, and the plastic liner removed and sealed for logging by a Geotechnical Engineer.

Based on the results of the desk-based assessment four GI works were recommended for monitoring R15-TP01, R15-TP02, R15-CP03 and R15-CP05 and the results are detailed below.

Trial Pit R12- TP01

This trial pit was excavated to a depth of 2.30m on 09/11/2020 at ITM 719906 E 730577.2 N. It was 1.60m (L) x 0.30m (W) (Plate 5). The stratigraphy comprised a brown sandy gravel topsoil 0.10m in depth, below this were layers of made ground comprising brown gravelly clays which contained concrete and red brick (to a depth of 2m) which sealed a greyish brown gravel 0.50m in depth. Natural ground was not exposed indicating the degree of disturbance for a depth of up to 2.30m.



Plate 5: R12- TP01.

Trial Pit R15-TP02

This trial pit was excavated to a depth of 2.40m on 19/11/2020 at ITM 720571.1 E 730051.4 N. It was 1.50m (L) x 0.30m (W) (Plate 6). The stratigraphy comprised a brown sandy gravel topsoil 0.10m in depth, below this were layers of made ground comprising sandy gravelly gravelly clays which contained modern pottery, concrete and red brick glass, metal, plastic, red brick and wood. to a depth of 2.40m. Natural ground was not exposed indicating the degree of disturbance for a depth of up to 2.40m.



Plate 6: R12- TP01.

Bore Hole R15-CP03

This borehole was excavated on 05/11/2020- at ITM 720998.3 E 729671.7 N. It was 200mm cased to 4.50m where it hit a large boulder or rock. Its stratigraphy comprised two layers of concrete and made ground to a depth of 1.70m. It for the most part comprised a brownish grey slightly sandy gravelly clay which contained occasional fragments of glass. Natural ground appears to be exposed below this layer and was a compact brown slightly sandy gravelly clay which contained occasional subangular to sub rounded cobbles. The borehole indicated that this natural layer was 2.30m in thickness and it became cover compact for a depth of 0.10m at the interface of the boulder which was 4.50m below ground level.

Bore Hole R15-CP05

This borehole was excavated on 04/11/2020- at ITM 719872.2 E 730641.6 N. It was 200mm cased to 4.30m where it hit a large boulder or rock. Its stratigraphy comprised topsoil which was a brown sandy gravel 0.20m in depth, below this was a made ground laver a greyish brown sandy gravelly clay which had fragments of red brick and was 0.80m in depth. What

appeared to be another possible fill layer was below this layer containing red brick and comprised a soft greyish brown silty clay which had a depth of 1.20m. Below this was a compact grey gravelly silty clay which contained occasional cobbles and had a depth of 1.20m. Just above the interface with the rock which was exposed at 4.30m this layer became dark grey.

8 Conclusion

The Dublin Bus Connects project is in the design phase at the moment and there will be changes to the route as that process continues and after the GI works are completed. There were no GI works along large sections of the project given the ground disturbance will be minimal as the routes will be along modified existing roads. The most intrusive works which may involve for example widening a corridor etc will be at the locations of the GI works.

The desk-based assessment has looked at all RMP sites, excavations, townland boundaries within a 350m radius of the GI works. Recorded Protected Structures within a 150m radius were detailed for this report and the topographical files were checked for stray finds within any of the townlands in which the GI works are located. No RMP sites or RPS structures will be impacted upon by the works. Four GI locations which were in three Areas of Archaeological Potential were recommended for monitoring; R15-TP01, R15-TP02, R15-CP03 and R15-CP05.

Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions and so the following mitigation for Areas 1 to 3 are outlined below.

8.1 Area of Archaeological Potential 1 (AAP 1) (Figure 20) *Impact Assessment AAP 1 (Figure 20)*

Archaeological Area of Potential 1 is located in the vicinity of GI works R15-TP01 and R15-CP05 which are just outside the zone of constraint associated with a church (DU023-053001) and graveyard (DU023-053002-) (Figure 10 and 20). There are no traces above ground of this church within the graveyard which was described on the Down Survey (1655-6) map as 'chapel of Merrion'. Pit R15-TP01 is located along the townland boundary between Merrion, Trimlestown to the southwest and Intake to the south. This is also a parish boundary between Donnybrook (north), and Booterstown (south). As discussed previously these boundaries may preserve much earlier land divisions. The possibly early medieval graveyard may have extended beyond the confines of that which is marked on the first edition map and although the ground at the trial pit location indicated that the ground was disturbed to a depth of 2m the limited size of the trench cannot rule out the potential for previously unrecorded archaeology including burials to be encountered.

Further Archaeological Mitigation AAP 1 (Figure 20)

Once the design and construction scenario are finalised further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Area of Archaeological Potential 1 given that the terrain is suitable. This will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/ deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies. The works are in proximity to the RMP site described as 'chapel of Merrion' in 1655 and it is possible that burials may have extended beyond the confines of the modern graveyard.

8.2 Area of Archaeological Potential 2 (AAP 2) (Figure 21)

Impact Assessment AAP 2 (Figure 21)

Archaeological Area of Potential 2 is located in the vicinity of GI works R15-TP02 where the trial pit is located just west of the Rock Road in the vicinity of 'baths' as labelled on the first edition map and outside the constraint area for Martello Tower DU023-002.

Further Archaeological Mitigation AAP 2 (Figure 21)

The monitoring of R15-TP02 confirmed that the ground in this area is made up in recent times by a depth of 2.40m as evidenced by the modern pottery, concrete and red brick glass, metal, plastic, red brick and wood. Archaeological monitoring of works in this area may be the appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy in consultation with the relevant bodies.

8.3 Area of Archaeological Potential 3 (AAP 3) (Figure 22)

Impact Assessment AAP 3 (Figure 22)

Area of Archaeological Potential 3 is at the location of borehole R15-CP03. This is also located adjacent the Rock Road which is also a townland boundary between Intake and Williamstown (Figure 17). The Peafield Baths are illustrated to the east of the GI location. These were built by the Merrion Promenade Pier and Baths Company in the late 1800s and were replenished with sea water.

Further Archaeological Mitigation AAP 3 (Figure 22)

The results of the borehole R15-CP03 indicates that red brick was uncovered in a fill layer below the topsoil which had a depth of 0.80m, rock/boulder was hit at 4.30m below ground level. The size of the borehole casing 20mm was not enough to confirm the nature of archaeology or if any of the baths would be impacted upon by the works. It is recommended that once the design is finalized further archaeological consultation will be required prior to construction which may involve archaeological test trenching under licence in Area of Archaeological Potential 3 given that the terrain is suitable. This will enable the identification of any previously unrecorded features/ deposits of archaeological significance which may be impacted upon by the works so that an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy can be applied in advance of any construction works and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

These recommendations are the professional opinion of the writer and based upon the findings of the desktop assessment, field inspection and monitoring results. All archaeological recommendations are subject to further consultation and agreement with The National Museum and The National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Bibliography

Baker, C., 2003. *Archaeological Assessment Tara Hotel Dublin 4*, s.l.: Unpublished.

Ball Elrington, F. (1903). *A History of the County of Dublin: The People, Parishes and Antiquities From the Earliest Times to the Close of the Eighteenth Century*. Dublin.

Edwards, T., 2000. *Early Christian Ireland*. Cambridge: s.n.

Joyce, W. (1921). *The Neighbourhood of Dublin: Its Topography, Antiquities and Historical Associations*. Dublin: M.H. Gill & Son.

Pearson, P., 1998. *Between the Mountains and the Sea: Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County*. Dublin: O'Brien Press.

Tobin, R., 2000. *Archaeological Assessment 185-203 Merrion Road*, s.l.: Unpublished.

Online sources

www.archaeology.ie.

www.excavations.ie.

www.heritagemaps.ie

www.logainm.ie

9 Appendix 1 Previous Archaeological Excavations

County: Dublin **Site name:** 185–203 MERRION ROAD, DUBLIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 00E0886

Author: Redmond Tobin, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Site type: Medieval castle (site of)

ITM: E 719621m, N 730817m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.314098, -6.204800

The area required assessment because of its association with and proximity to four recorded monuments. The four sites listed are all components of the complex that centred on the site of Merrion Castle. The assessment was necessary to ascertain whether any archaeological material will be disturbed in the course of the development. These sites are: SMR 23:00101, 'Tower-House Site'; 23:00102, 'Dwelling Site'; 23:00103, 'Armorial Stone'; and 23:00104, 'Stone Head'. From an extant archaeological viewpoint only the last two components are still evident on the site, displayed in the wall of Fitzwilliam Hall.

Three trial-trenches did not yield any features or artefacts of archaeological significance. This would suggest that this area, while adjacent to the castle, was not in contemporary use. However, some fragments of post-medieval pottery were noted in the spoilheaps, which might relate to the latest occupation of the castle. This material cannot be accurately provenanced as it was spread at this location from earlier excavations and developments within the St Mary's complex.

County: Dublin **Site name:** Sandymount Strand and Merrion Strand

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 01E0426, 01R0039

Author: Niall Gregory, 7 Roselawn Close, Cashel, Co. Tipperary, for Babbie Group.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 633247m, N 819947m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 54.127487, -7.491347

ESB Engineering Ltd undertook the installation of 220Kv underground cables on Merrion and Sandymount strands as part of the Carrickmines to Shellybanks and Irishtown scheme. Groundwork excavation in advance of cable-laying within the intertidal zones of Sandymount and Merrion strands was monitored between 9 May and 12 July 2001. Cable trench excavation measured 1260m in overall length. The groundworks involved the machine excavation (with a 15-ton track excavator) of a 2.4–4m-wide trench that tapered vertically to a basal width of c. 2m. The trench measured 1.8–2.2m in depth. Tidal considerations necessitated that the trench excavation, concrete-pouring and pipe-laying were conducted within approximately five-hour periods during low tide. Trench-digging generally took place within the first two hours and installation of the cables and backfilling composed the remainder. The length of trench excavation varied between 24m and 48m each day, depending on tidal conditions and the solidity of the ground into which the machine was excavating. Resumption of the work from the previous occasion's pipe-laying consisted of digging a 10–14m² area to relocate the sealed pipe ends before the trench excavation could continue.

The Sandymount section of the works extended north-eastwards from 10m south of the northern end of Strand Road carpark, across the intertidal zone on the western side of Irishtown Nature Reserve. The monitoring requirement for this section of the

works was conducted between 9 May and 21 June 2001. The Merrion Strand section of the works extended southwards from the southern end of Strand Road carpark, across the intertidal zone, and circumnavigated a row of residential buildings to the west, from which it terminated 55m to the south of Merrion Gates. The monitoring requirement for this section of the works was conducted between 2 and 11 July 2001. No structures, shipwrecks or artefacts of an archaeological or historical nature were encountered.

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 02E1260

Author: Ron Humphrey, AOC Archaeology Group Ltd, St Margaret's Business Centre, Moor Mead Road, Twickenham, London TW1 1JS.

Site type: Medieval/post-medieval

ITM: E 719525m, N 713781m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.161088, -6.212629

Testing was carried out before proposed development works at the former lands of the Sisters of Charity, Merrion Road and Bellvue Avenue, Dublin 4. The site is an irregularly shaped green field, c. 6ha in extent, and is subdivided into smaller parcels by hedges and a stream. The testing (38 trenches) was carried out from 14 to 27 August 2002.

The trenches revealed a low density of archaeological features quite evenly spread across the site. These consisted of an area of medieval activity that included ditches, a pit and medieval finds (early medieval unglazed pottery and glazed medieval pottery, as well as animal bone and marine shells) from the overburden, several lines of undated and poorly dated ditches and gullies, a remnant of an undated, but possibly medieval, stone rubble foundation, and several post-medieval ditches and pits. Dating evidence from the site was sparse; where features did not contain any medieval or post-medieval finds, it is assumed that they are potentially of medieval date, as generally post-medieval features—as well as including datable pottery—contain obvious inclusions of that date.

The area of most intense medieval activity was centred on the south-eastern part of the site, with a lesser concentration of finds and features in adjacent areas. These adjacent areas contained potentially medieval field boundaries and drainage ditches some distance from medieval activity of an intensity that resulted in rubbish becoming incorporated in the fills. They included a triple ditch that ran east–west in the western half of the site and appeared to follow the contours of the land as it ran along the base of a pronounced slope to the north. At least one of these ditches was of post-medieval date, and it is probable that they represent a potentially long-lived boundary, the last line of which was depicted on the first-edition OS map of 1843. The boundary is not shown on the second-edition OS map of 1869.

The remnant of an unmortared stone rubble foundation was recorded in an area adjacent to the area of most intense medieval activity. It was of uncertain date, but, as there were no inclusions or associated material of obviously post-medieval date, it is possible that this was part of a medieval structure. Stone for the construction of a mid-20th-century grotto in the grounds of the Sisters of Charity Home for the Blind was collected from the area of Trench 14 (information from the Sisters' of Charity groundsman), which may imply the robbing or collection of stone from a ruined structure. The nature of this structure is uncertain.

The large numbers of ditches and post-medieval field drains, as well as areas that

may represent former seasonally active watercourses across the site, indicate that it has long been a wet area. This is supported by information from local residents and workers, who remember streams flowing in several places across the site in the past. The more intensive medieval activity appears to have occurred on the higher, flatter ground in the south-west corner of the site, with little activity apart from grazing occurring elsewhere on the site, which has been divided into smaller plots and drained, probably from the medieval period onward. The fact that there were few features other than ditches and drains in the main area of the site supports this. It is likely to have been an area of fields between Merrion Castle to the north and the Merrion burial-ground to the south.

County: Dublin **Site name:** Tara Tower Hotel, Merrion Road and Bellvue Avenue, Dublin

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 23:53 **Licence number:** 03E1407 and ext.

Author: Christine Baker, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 715826m, N 734698m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.349805, -6.260308

A number of test-trenches were excavated at this site as part of an assessment of proposed development works. The site is within the zone of archaeological potential for Merrion churchyard. The proposed development relates to the construction of a rear extension to the existing hotel on Merrion Road and to the construction of a single edifice, carpark and planting adjacent to the churchyard on Bellvue Avenue. The initial excavation work (September 2003) was confined to the excavation of two trenches on the footprint of the proposed foundations of the extension to the hotel. These were excavated to the level of the underlying natural subsoil. Trench A measured 7.5m north-south by 0.9m by 2m deep; Trench B measured 5.1m north-south by 0.9m by 1.96m deep. The site had been very disturbed by the initial construction of the hotel, with the original garden soil identified at a depth of 0.8m below the current ground surface. No artefacts or stratigraphy of an archaeological nature were identified.

A second phase of testing was undertaken in October 2003. This took place in the vicinity of the carpark on Bellvue Avenue, which was beside the churchyard. A further five trenches were excavated. These ranged in length from 11 to 20m, and in depth from 1.2 to 2.3m. All were 1m in width. No artefacts or stratigraphy of an archaeological nature were identified.

County: Dublin **Site name:** MERRION ROAD, DUBLIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 23:1-4 **Licence number:** 04E0167

Author: Christine Baker, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Site type: Monitoring

ITM: E 718879m, N 731519m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.320572, -6.215671

An eight-week monitoring programme took place at the former lands of the Sisters of Charity, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, the southern limit of which corresponds with the former parliamentary boundary of the city of Dublin, now the city limits. The site had been subject to an assessment carried out in August 2002 by Ron Humphrey, where 38 trenches had been opened resulting in the identification of archaeological features across the site including 'undated ditches' (Excavations 2002, No. 563, 02E1260).

The monitoring programme consisted of three elements. The first was the developer-led removal of topsoil to allow for the construction of an access road and show apartments, the second was undertaken as an archaeological exercise in the areas of potential identified by the previous testing programme. The third was the removal of topsoil over the remainder of the site.

The first element of monitoring established the nature of those remains previously identified in the testing programme as ditches of indeterminate date. A series of hand-dug sondages identified these features as drainage and cultivation ditches dating to the 18th/19th centuries. The topsoil removal along the line of the access road acted as a section across the entire east-west extent of the site. It showed a landscape which had been modified over the centuries. The subsoil within the majority of Field 1 consisted of sand, terminating in an extensive bank of water-rolled stone and gravel in a sand matrix towards its western limit. This indicates that the shoreline in this area was once much further west. Not only must this area have been reclaimed, but the frequent identification of land drains points to an area prone to flooding and its subsequent management. There was, however, little to indicate when such reclamation would have taken place. No revetments were identified and any deposits in this area relate to dump episodes of the 19th century.

The second element of monitoring revealed activity possibly dating to the 18th/19th century towards the northern limit of the site. Although severely truncated by a concentration of land drains, the clay deposits may infer the production of bricks, as illustrated on Rocque's map of 1760. The continued use of the area is exemplified by the presence of 19th-century pottery and the discovery of a 19th-century well. Medieval activity was identified adjacent to the southern limit of the site. Consisting of a series of truncated pits and surfaces, it was excavated under licence 04E0272 (No. 559 below). Topsoil removal over the remainder of the site revealed no features or artefacts of archaeological significance.

County: Dublin **Site name:** MERRION ROAD, DUBLIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 23:1-4 **Licence number:** 04E0272

Author: Christine Baker, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Site type: Manorial settlement

ITM: E 718879m, N 731519m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.320572, -6.215671

Excavation was carried out over a six-week period on a site located on an east-west ridge of high ground (average 7m OD) to the south of the site, which turns into the south-east corner of the site. The ridge drops relatively sharply to low-lying flat ground (average 3.8m OD) that extends northwards to the stream that forms the northern boundary.

The lands around Merrion were originally granted to Walter de Ridelsford, Lord of Bray, by Strongbow in 1173. Merrion seems to have been held in conjunction with the manor of Thorncastle, which extended between Merrion and Blackrock. By the 15th century, Merrion became the property of the Fitzwilliams, who had holdings that stretched from the Dublin Mountains to the middle of the River Liffey. The Fitzwilliam's owned brickfields to the north of the castle and developed Merrion Square, Fitzwilliam Square and most of what is now called Dublin 4 (Pearson 2001). In 1866 the site was acquired by the Irish Sisters of Charity and a convent and home for the blind was constructed there.

An area of c. 40m north-south by 70m was topsoil-stripped (No. 558 above, 04E0167), within which the archaeological remains were not defined but were dispersed. In total 94 distinct features were identified, the majority of which were cut into subsoil and under the plough zone. The site has been subject to extensive modification through cultivation and the insertion of drainage, resulting in extensive truncation of the archaeological deposits.

Pits and depressions characterised the majority of features on site, although they were not morphologically consistent, inferring a variety of functions. However, the artefacts recovered, especially the pottery and metal finds, indicate a relatively contemporary date.

The main foci of activity were towards the western and eastern limits of the site, which was defined by its topography – that is, a high ridge sloping down to the north and east. The eastern activity consisted of several pits (F6, F25, F26, F16, F27, F86, F87), a ditch (F2) and metallised surfaces (F9, F93, F91). Ditch F2 may have had a delineating function but is probably more likely to have been for drainage. The western activity consisted mainly of drainage features and a metal processing area. Intercutting pits F52, F53, and F54, which contained slag, were the primary evidence for both in situ burning and metal processing on site. In relative proximity were closely set parallel drainage ditches (F61, F66) that extended from the high ground downslope to where they intersected.

The northern focus of activity consists of a large shallow pit (F15), associated metallised surface (F13) and various pits (F11, F12, F72) and spreads (F83, F84). The metallised surface (F13) was abutted by drains (F79, F80) on either side, indicating contemporary activity, and was cut to the west by the pit F15. Except for a processing element, no obvious function can be attributed to this group of features.

The material assemblage was dominated by pottery, preliminarily identified as Leinster cooking ware, datable from the late 12th to mid-14th centuries. The metal artefacts recovered were also of this date range and were associated with ironworking, carpentry and horse shoeing. Radiocarbon dates indicate occupation of the site from the late 13th to the early 15th century. Analysis by Conor Brady has identified two flints of particular note, a single barbed and tanged arrowhead and a heavily utilised tertiary flint flake. The former may date from the Beaker period, while the latter is possibly a Late Mesolithic Bann Flake.

Combined with the lack of structures, the evidence for rendering rather than consumption, and in advance of complete analysis of the evidence, the excavation site can be interpreted as a working/ processing area located at the periphery of the manor of Merrion.

Reference

Pearson, P. 1998 *Between the mountains and the sea*. Dublin.

10 Appendix 2 RMP Files

DU023-001001-

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: MERRION (Dublin By.)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on a flat built up urban site to the W (c.200m) of Dublin Road and the coastline. The earliest mention of a castle at this site is in a deed of 1334, the castle was built by Sir John Cruise (Ball 1900, 312-16). It came into possession of a branch of the Fitzwilliam family in the early 1400's and was made seat of the family by Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam c. 1550's serving as the country ancestral home until the early 18th century.

The building as depicted on a manuscript map by John Barker 'A Map of the Old Merrion and Simmonscourt' (NAI, Mss. 2011/2/2/2) was shown as a pair of adjacent crenelated castles one of which was three storeys high, the adjacent one two. It was damaged in the 1641 rebellion but was afterwards restored. In 1710 the castle was abandoned by the 5th Viscount Fitzwilliam being replaced as the country seat of the family by a new Merrion House in Mount Merrion (DU023-006----) in 1711.

In the Down Survey (1655-6) Parish terrier it is described as a 'faire stone castle and a grove of trees'.

A drawing by Beranger dated 1766 shows a long hall-like roofless building with stepped battlements above a wall-walk, with a roofed corner tower at the N end (Harbison 1998, 38-9). The three-storey over semi-basement sea-facing facade is pierced by both flat-headed and round-headed windows some with over-sailing hood mouldings with the landward elevation pierced through by closely spaced large openings.

In 1780 when Austin Cooper inspected the remains; the ground floor had been used as a cow-house and part of the outlying buildings as a stable (ibid.316). Duncan's map (1821) shows the castle as still standing.

On Barker's map an unusual feature depicted as a d-shaped enclosure bound by a curving earthwork with one edge bound by the shore. At this location on the first edition of the OS 6 " maps a serpentine Fish Pond is indicated (DU023-001005-).

An armorial plaque (DU023-001003; L 0.33m; Wth 0.44m) with the Fitzwilliam Coat of Arms is built into the S gable of a new building called 'Fitzwilliam Hall' on the site of an older coach house. A carved stone head (DU023-001004-) and a house 18th/19th century (DU023-001002-) are also located within the grounds.

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Revised upload on: 21 May 2018

References:

- 1. Harbison, P. 1998 Beranger's antique buildings of Ireland. Dublin. Four Courts Press in association with the National Library of Ireland.

DU023-001002-

Class: House - 18th century

Townland: MERRION (Dublin By.)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Shown on the first edition of the OS 6 " maps as Merrion Castle this structure lay just S of the original castle (DU023-001001-) which the Fitzwilliam family occupied as their primary seat from the 15th to the early 18th century. In 1711 a new

rural seat was established by the fourth Viscount at Mount Merrion (DU023-006----) as the original castle at Merrion was run down. In 1737 an agent of the Fitzwilliam family Richard Mathews remarked that 'no gentlemen could pretend to sit down there, in a Cleane way' (O'Kane 2016, 108). Nearby, another agent of the Fitzwilliam family, Bryan Fagan 'built a house of Bricke and Slatted and Encompassed a large Garden with a Stone wall nine feet high' in 1738 as recounted in correspondence between Richard Mathews and Lord Fitzwilliam (NAI MSS 97/46/1/2/3/1; O'Kane 2011, 99).

Updated: 8 April 2020

Compiled by: Margaret Keane

References:

- 1. O'Kane, Finola, 2016, 'Dublin's Fitzwilliam Estate; A Hidden Landscape of Discovery, Catholic Agency and Egalitarian Suburban Space' in Eighteenth Century Ireland, Vol 31, pp94-118.

DU023-001003-

Class: Armorial plaque

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: St. Mary's Home for the Blind is built on the site of Merrion Castle, the ancestral home of the Fitzwilliam family since the 15th-century. Within the present building complex, a plaque with the Fitzwilliam Coat of Arms has been built into the S gable of a new building called 'Fitzwilliam Hall' on the site of the coach house which had contained this plaque (L 0.33m; Wth 0.44m).

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Uploaded on: 22 May 2018

DU023-001004-

Class: Stone head

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated within the flat urban site of St. Mary's Home for the Blind located to the W (c.200m) of Dublin Road and the coastline. A carved stone head (L 0.33m, Wth 0.18m).

Compiled by Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Revised upload on: 22 May 2018

DU023-001005-

Class: Fish-pond

Townland: MERRION (Dublin By.)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated along the shore, just south of, and probably associated with, Merrion Castle. On Barker's 'A Map of Old Merrion and Simonscourt' of 1862 (NAI MSS. 211/2/2/2) an unusual feature is depicted as a d-shaped enclosure bound by a curving earthwork with one edge defined by the shore. At this location on the first edition of the OS 6 " maps a serpentine 'Fish Pond' is indicated (DU023-001005-).

Uploaded on: 7 April 2020

Compiled by: Margaret Keane

DU023-002----

Class: Martello tower

Townland: INTAKE

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on a E facing slope with views of the coastline N of Blackrock, now a park bordering on the railway line. Built of dressed granite, the tower is free-standing. Doorway is in the south. There are no traces of a machicolation which may have defended it. The upper parapet is carried on a double corbel. There are two openings in this on the west side above a blocked-up tall narrow opening which was probably the original entrance.

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Revised upload on: 22 May 2018

DU023-008----

Class: Castle - unclassified

Townland: NEWTOWN, BLACKROCK

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on flat terrain adjacent to Merrion Strand currently occupied by Seapoint Manor. The present residence is shown as 'Castle Byrn' on the 1843 OS 6-inch map (Stokes 1895, 8). A castle described in the Civil survey (1654-6) as a slated castle located at Newtown. It was held by Walter Cheevers in the Civil survey (1654-6) (Simington 1945, 267).

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Revised upload on: 22 May 2018

References:

- 1. Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1940 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. V: county of Meath. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission.
- 2. Stokes, Rev. G.T. 1895 The antiquities from Kingstown to Dublin. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 25, 5-15.

DU023-053001-

Class: Church

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated along the coast road, on the S side of Churchyard Lane. A church located within a walled graveyard (DU023-053002-). There are no traces above ground of this church within the graveyard. The church is described on the Down Survey (1655-6) map as 'chapel of Merryon'. (Joyce 1912, 29-30). In the 16th century one of the Fitzwilliam family bequeathed to the church a gown and a chamlet, a doublet of satin to make vestments (Ball 1900, 312). The graveslabs in the present graveyard date from the 18th and 19th century.

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Padraig Clancy

Uploaded on: 2 April 2009

References:

- 1. Ball, E.F. 1900b The Antiquities from Blackrock to Dublin. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland 30, 307-18.
- 2. Joyce, W. St. John, 1912 (1988 ed.) Neighbourhood of Dublin. Monkstown.

DU023-053002-

Class: Graveyard

Townland: Dublin South City

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated along the coast road, on the S side of Churchyard Lane. A walled graveyard, irregular in shape (N-S 40.3m, E-W 53.5m). The graveyard originally enclosed the church of Merrion (DU023-053001-) described on the Down Survey (1655-6) map as 'chapel of Merryon' (Joyce 1912, 29-30). The graveslabs in the present graveyard date from the 18th to 19th century.

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout and Pádraig Clancy

Revised upload on: 6 July 2018

References:

- 1. Joyce, W. St. John, 1912 (1988 ed.) Neighbourhood of Dublin. Monkstown.

11 Appendix 2 NIAH listed buildings/structures.

Date: 1900 - 1910

Original Use: gates/railings/walls

In Use as: gates/railings/walls

Rating: Regional

Description

Gateway, installed 1905; extant 1907, on a symmetrical plan comprising pair of granite ashlar panelled piers on moulded cushion courses on plinths having pine cone-finial topped "Cyma Recta"- or "Cyma Reversa"-detailed cornice capping supporting wrought iron double gates. Road fronted at entrance to grounds of Rockfield House.

Appraisal

A gateway forming part of a self-contained group alongside an adjacent gate lodge (see 60230088) with the resulting ensemble making a pleasing visual statement in a suburban street scene at a long obsolete entrance on to the grounds of the Rockfield House estate. NOTE: Allegedly reclaimed by William Purser Geoghegan (1843-1935) from the Rochestown House estate (Dean 2016, 144-8).

Rockfield House - Reg. No. 60230087

Date: 1900 - 1910

Original Use: gate lodge

In Use as:

Rating: Regional

Description

Detached three-bay single-storey gate lodge with half-dormer attic, dated 1905; extant 1907, on a T-shaped plan centred on single-bay single-storey gabled projecting porch. Hipped terracotta tile roof centred on flat roofs to window openings to half-dormer attic; pitched (gabled) terracotta tile roof (porch), terracotta ridge tiles with terracotta finials to apexes, red brick Running bond central chimney stack having corbelled stepped capping supporting terracotta pots, and cast-iron rainwater goods on timber eaves boards on slightly overhanging timber boarded eaves having timber consoles retaining cast-iron downpipes. Red brick Flemish bond walls (ground floor) on red brick header bond cushion course on red brick Flemish bond base; roughcast surface finish (half-dormer attic). Square-headed central door opening with cut-granite step threshold, and concealed lintel framing glazed diagonal timber boarded door. Square-headed window openings ("cheeks") with red brick header bond chamfered flush sills, and concealed lintels framing timber casement windows having square glazing bars. Square-headed window openings in bipartite arrangement (ground floor) with red brick header bond chamfered flush sills, and concealed lintels framing timber casement windows. Square-headed window openings in tripartite arrangement (half-dormer attic) with timber sills on nail head-detailed timber spandrels, and timber surrounds framing timber casement windows. Set back from line of road at entrance to grounds of Rockfield House.

Appraisal

A gate lodge erected by William Purser Geoghegan (1843-1935) illustrating the continued development or "improvement" of the Rockfield House estate at the turn of the twentieth century with the architectural value of the composition, one attributed to Laurence Aloysius McDonnell (1867/8-1925) of Hume Street owing to stylistic

similarities with a contemporary gate lodge at Lumville Farm (1923) in County Kildare (Dean 2016, 148), confirmed by such attributes as the compact plan form centred on a canopied porch; the "stepping up" of the multipartite openings on each floor; and the timber work embellishing a slightly oversailing roofline. Having been well maintained, the elementary form and massing survive intact together with substantial quantities of the original fabric, both to the exterior and to the interior, thus upholding the character or integrity of a gate lodge forming part of a self-contained group alongside an adjacent gateway (see 60230088) with the resulting ensemble making a pleasing visual statement in a suburban street scene.