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12. CULTURAL HERITAGE

12.1 Introduction

This archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage chapter was prepared by Tobar Archaeological Services Ltd. It presents the results of an archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact assessment of the Proposed Development. The purpose of this chapter is to assess the potential direct and indirect effects of the Proposed Development on the surrounding archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage landscape. The assessment is based on both a desktop review of the available cultural heritage and archaeological data and a field inspection of the Proposed Development area. An assessment of potential effects, including cumulative effects, is presented.

12.1.1 The Proposed Development

The Proposed Development will comprise the extraction of sand over an area of approximately 6.2 ha, washing plant and all other related infrastructure. The Proposed Development also includes for the following works:

- Installation of processing plant and associated components
- Stockpiling of topsoil removed during quarrying for future implementation of a restoration plan.
- Construction of a refuelling area.
- Installation of a weighbridge and wheelwash and site office.
- Installation of wastewater holding tank.
- Installation of new site entrance along with road reprofiling works.
- Associated works to include installation and upgrade of drainage infrastructure including new fuel/oil interceptor and surface drains on hardstanding.

It is anticipated that the sand quarry will have an operational lifetime of 10 years. Extraction at the site will be at a phased basis.

12.1.2 Location and Topography

The Proposed Development site is located within the townland of Lomaunaghbaun in north-east County Galway. The town of Tuam is located approximately 8.6km to the south-west and the village of Clonberne is located approximately 4.7km to the east. The grid reference coordinates for the centre of the site are X 552253, Y 756481. Current land-use on the subject site comprises agricultural activities in the form of low input extensive grazing. The Proposed Development site is subdivided by hedgerows, treelines and stone walls. The topography of the site is undulating in nature with ground levels ranging from 84mAOD to 96mAOD. The site is bounded by agricultural land to the north, west and south. The L2232 road bounds the site to the east and agricultural land lies beyond. The landscape around the Proposed Development site is characterised by one-off housing. Land use in the area is primarily agricultural with some areas of forestry and quarrying operations.

12.1.3 Statement of Authority

This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been prepared by Miriam Carroll of Tobar Archaeological Services Ltd. Miriam Carroll is a director of Tobar Archaeological Services Ltd. and graduated from University College Cork in 1998 with a Masters degree in Methods and Techniques in Irish Archaeology. Miriam is licensed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) to carry out excavations and is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland. She has been working in the field of archaeology since 1994 and has

undertaken numerous projects for both the private and public sectors including excavations, site assessments (EIAR) and surveys.

12.1.4

Relevant Legislation

Archaeological monuments are safeguarded through national and international policy, which is designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource. This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention). This was ratified by Ireland in 1997.

Both the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2004 and relevant provisions of the Cultural Institutions Act 1997 are the primary means of ensuring protection of archaeological monuments, the latter of which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date. There are a number of provisions under the National Monuments Acts which ensure protection of the archaeological resource. These include the Register of Historic Monuments (1997 Act) which means that any interference to a monument is illegal under that Act. All registered monuments are included on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and consists of a list of known archaeological monuments and accompanying maps. The Record of Monuments and Places affords some protection to the monuments entered therein. Section 12 (3) of the 1994 Amendment Act states that any person proposing to carry out work at or in relation to a recorded monument must give notice in writing to the Minister (Environment, Heritage and Local Government) and shall not commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice. All proposed works, therefore, within or around any archaeological monument are subject to statutory protection and legislation (National Monuments Acts 1930-2004).

The term ‘national monument’ as defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Act 1930 means a monument *‘the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto’*. National monuments in State care include those which are in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Section 5 of the National Monuments Act (1930) allows owners of other national monuments to appoint the Minister for the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht or the relevant local authority as guardian of such monuments, subject to their consent. This means in effect that while the property of such a monument remains vested in the owner, its maintenance and upkeep are the responsibility of the State. Some monuments are also protected by Preservation Orders and are also regarded as National Monuments. National Monuments also includes (but not so as to limit, extend or otherwise influence the construction of the foregoing general definition) every monument in Saorstát Éireann to which the Ancient Monuments Protection Act, 1882, applied immediately before the passing of this Act, and the said expression shall be construed as including, in addition to the monument itself, the site of the monument and the means of access thereto and also such portion of land adjoining such site as may be required to fence, cover in, or otherwise preserve from injury the monument or to preserve the amenities thereof.

Under the Heritage Act (1995) architectural heritage is defined to include *‘all structures, buildings, traditional and designed, and groups of buildings including street-scapes and urban vistas, which are of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest, together with their setting, attendant grounds, fixtures, fittings and contents...’*. A heritage building is also defined to include *‘any building, or part thereof, which is of significance because of its intrinsic architectural or artistic quality or its setting or because of its association with the commercial, cultural, economic, industrial, military, political, social or religious history of the place where it is situated or of the country or generally’*.

12.1.4.1 Granada Convention

The Council of Europe, in Article 2 of the 1985 Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention), states that *'for the purpose of precise identification of the monuments, groups of structures and sites to be protected, each member State will undertake to maintain inventories of that architectural heritage'*. The Granada Convention emphasises the importance of inventories in underpinning conservation policies.

The NIAH was established in 1990 to fulfil Ireland's obligations under the Granada Convention, through the establishment and maintenance of a central record, documenting and evaluating the architectural heritage of Ireland. Article 1 of the Granada Convention establishes the parameters of this work by defining 'architectural heritage' under three broad categories of Monument, Groups of Buildings, and Sites:

- Monument: all buildings and structures of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest, including their fixtures and fittings;
- Group of buildings: homogeneous groups of urban or rural buildings conspicuous for their historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest, which are sufficiently coherent to form topographically definable units;
- Sites: the combined works of man and nature, being areas which are partially built upon and sufficiently distinctive and homogenous to be topographically definable, and are of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest.

The Council of Europe's definition of architectural heritage allows for the inclusion of structures, groups of structures and sites which are considered to be of significance in their own right, or which are of significance in their local context and environment. The NIAH believes it is important to consider the architectural heritage as encompassing a wide variety of structures and sites as diverse as post boxes, grand country houses, mill complexes and vernacular farmhouses.

12.2 Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028

The Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 outlines a number of policies and objectives relating to archaeology as follows:

ARC 1 Legislative Context

Support and promote the preservation, conservation and appropriate management and enhancement of the County's archaeological sites and monuments, together with the settings of these monuments, having regard to the legislative, statutory and policy provisions relevant to the conservation of the archaeological heritage.

ARC 2 Archaeological Sites

Seek to encourage and promote awareness of and access to archaeological heritage of the County for all, through the provision of information to landowners and the community generally, in co-operation with statutory and other partners.

ARC 3 Archaeological Landscapes

To facilitate where possible the identification of important archaeological landscapes in the County.

ARC 4 Protection of Archaeological Sites

Protect archaeological sites and monuments their settings and visual amenity and archaeological objects and underwater archaeological sites that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, in the

ownership/guardianship of the State, or that are subject of Preservation Orders or have been registered in the Register of Historic Monuments, or that are newly discovered and seek to protect important archaeological landscapes.

ARC 5 Development Management

All planning applications for new development, redevelopment, any ground works, refurbishment and restoration, etc. within areas of archaeological potential or within close proximity to Recorded Monuments or within the historic towns of County Galway will take account of the archaeological heritage of the area and the need for archaeological mitigation.

ARC 6 Burial Grounds

Protect the burial grounds, identified in the Record of Monuments and Places, in co-operation with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Encourage the local community to manage burial grounds in accordance with best conservation and heritage principles.

ARC 7 Battlefield Sites

Protect the Battle of Aughrim site and other battlefield sites and their settings.

ARC 8 Underwater Archaeological Sites

To protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites and associated features. In assessing proposals for development, the Council will take account of the potential underwater archaeology of rivers, lakes, intertidal and sub-tidal locations.

ARC 9 Recorded Monuments

Ensure that any development in the immediate vicinity of a Recorded Monument is sensitively designed and sited and does not detract from the monument or its visual amenity.

ARC 10 Zones of Archaeological Potential

To protect the Zones of Archaeological Potential located within both urban and rural areas and around archaeological monuments generally as identified in the Record of Monuments and Places. Any development within the ZAPs will need to take cognisance of the potential for subsurface archaeology and if archaeology is demonstrated to be present appropriate mitigation (such as preservation in situ/buffer zones) will be required.

ARC 11 Industrial and Post Medieval Archaeology

Protect and preserve the archaeological value of industrial and post medieval archaeology such as mills, limekilns, bridges, piers, harbours, penal chapels and dwellings. Proposals for refurbishment, works to or redevelopment/conversion of these sites should be subject to careful assessment.

ARC 12 Archaeology and Infrastructure Schemes

Have regard to archaeological concerns when considering proposed service schemes (including electricity, sewerage, telecommunications, water supply) and proposed roadwork's (both realignments and new roads) located in close proximity to Recorded Monuments and Places and their known archaeological monuments.

The plan also outlines policies and objectives in relation to architectural heritage including Protected Structures.

AH 1 Architectural Heritage

Ensure the protection of the architectural heritage of County Galway which is a unique and special resource, having regard to the policy guidance contained in the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2011 (and any updated/superseding document).

AH 2 Protected Structures (Refer to Appendix 6)

(a) Ensure the protection and sympathetic enhancement of structures including their curtilage and attendant grounds included and proposed for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest, together with the integrity of their character and setting. (b) Review the Record of Protected Structures in order to provide a comprehensive schedule for the protection of structures of special importance in the County during the lifetime of the plan. (c) Ensure that development proposals are appropriate in terms of architectural treatment, character, scale and form to the existing protected structure and not detrimental to the special character and integrity of the protected structure and its setting. (d) Ensure high quality architectural design of all new developments relating to or which may impact on structures (and their settings) included in the Record of Protected Structures. (e) Promote and ensure best conservation practice through the use of specialist conservation professionals and craft persons. (f) Prohibit development proposals, either in whole or in part, for the demolition of protected structures, save in exceptional circumstances.

AH 3 Protection of Structure on the NIAH Give regard to and consideration of all structures which are included in the NIAH for County Galway, which are not currently included in the Record of Protected Structures, in development management functions.

AH 4 Architectural Conservation Areas (Refer to Appendix 7)

Protect, conserve and enhance the special character of the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA) included in this plan through the appropriate management and control of the design, location and layout of new development, modifications, alterations or extensions to existing structures, surviving historic plots and street patterns and/or modifications to the character or setting of the Architectural Conservation Area. Works within the ACA shall ensure the conservation of traditional features and building elements that contribute to the character of the area. The special character of an area includes its traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscape, shop fronts, landscape and setting. New proposals shall have appropriate regard to scale, plot, form, mass, design, materials, colours and function. This will be achieved by;

- (a) Protecting all buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes and all features which contribute to the special character of the ACA from demolition and non-sympathetic alterations.
- (b) Promote appropriate and sensitive reuse and rehabilitation of buildings and sites within the ACA.
- (c) Ensure new development within or adjacent to an ACA respects the established character of the area and contributes positively in terms of design, scale, setting and material finishes to the ACA.
- (d) Promote high quality architectural design within ACAs.
- (e) Seek the repair and reuse of traditional shopfronts and where appropriate, encourage new shopfronts of a high-quality architectural design.
- (f) Ensure that all new signage, lighting, advertising and utilities to buildings within ACA are designed, constructed, and located in such a manner that they do not detract from the character of the ACA.
- (g) Protect and enhance the quality of open spaces within ACAs and ensure the protection and where necessary reuse of street furniture and use of appropriate materials during the course of public infrastructure schemes within ACAs.
- (h) Prohibit development proposals, either in whole or in part for the demolition of a structure within an Architectural Conservation Area that contributes to the special character of the area.
- (i) Protect structures in ACAs from non-sympathetic alterations and encourage appropriate infill developments.
- (j) Works materially affecting the character of a protected structure or the exterior of a building/structure within an ACA will require planning permission;

- (k) Any works carried out to a protected structure or the exterior of a building/structure within an ACA shall be in accordance with best conservation practice and use sustainable and appropriate materials.
- (l) Ensure that any development, modifications, alterations, or extensions materially affecting the character of a protected structure, or a structure adjoining a protected structure, or a structure within or adjacent to an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA), is sited and designed appropriately and is not detrimental to the character or setting of the protected structure or of the ACA.

AH 5 Maintenance and Re-use of existing Building Stock

Promote the maintenance and appropriate re-use of the existing stock of buildings with architectural merit as a more sustainable option to their demolition and redevelopment.

AH 6 Vernacular Architecture

Recognise the importance of the contribution of vernacular architecture to the character of a place and ensure the protection, retention and appropriate revitalisation and reuse of the vernacular built heritage including structures that contribute to landscape and townscape character and resist the demolition of these structures.

AH 7 Local Place Names

Protect local place names as an important part of the cultural heritage and unique character of an area. Support the use of appropriate names for new developments that reflect the character and heritage of the area and that contribute to the local distinctiveness of a place.

AH 8 Energy Efficiency and Traditionally Built Structures

Ensure that measures to upgrade the energy efficiency of protected structures and traditionally built historic structures are sensitive to traditional construction methods, employ best practice and use appropriate materials and methods that will not have a detrimental impact on the material, functioning or character of the building.

AH 9 Local Landscape and Place Assessment

To support proposals from local communities including Tidy Town Committees, Chambers of Commerce and residents' groups in analysing the character of their place and promoting its regeneration for their own use and enjoyment and that of visitors to the area.

AH 10 Designed Landscapes

Protect the surviving historic designed landscapes in the County and promote the conservation of their essential character, both built and natural. Consider protection of the designed landscape by inclusion in an Architectural Conservation Area. Development proposals in designed landscape shall be accompanied by an appraisal of the contributing elements and an impact assessment.

AH 11 Custodianship

Promote an inter-disciplinary approach demonstrating best practice with regard to the custodianship of protected structures, recorded monuments and elements of built heritage.

AH 12 Placemaking for Towns and villages

Promote the value of placemaking in cooperation with communities in their towns, villages and local areas.

AH 13 Traditional Building Skills

Support and promote traditional building skills, training and awareness of the use of appropriate materials and skills within the Local Authority, community groups, owners and occupiers of traditionally built structures.

AH 14 Design and Landscaping in New Buildings

Encourage new buildings that foster an innovative approach to design and acknowledges the diversity of suitable design solutions in appropriate locations while promoting the added economic, amenity and environmental value of good design.

The CDP also outlines policy objectives in relation to cultural heritage.

CUH 1 Cultural heritage

Protect and promote the cultural heritage assets and the intangible cultural heritage assets of County Galway as important social and economic assets.

CUH 2 Special Places of Historic Interest

To protect and promote where possible special places of historical interest.

CUH 3 Placenames/Naming of New Developments

Promote and preserve local place names, local heritage and the Irish language by ensuring the use of local place names or geographical or cultural names which reflect the history and landscape of their settings in the naming of new residential and other developments. All names will be in the Irish language only. The naming and numbering schemes including associated signage must be submitted to the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of a new development.

CUH 4 The Gaeltacht and Linguistic Heritage

(a) To protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht and to promote Irish as a community language. To promote and facilitate the sustainable development of An Ghaeltacht and Island communities in County Galway.

(b) To support organisations involved in the continued promotion and preservation of the Irish language and culture. To work in a positive and encouraging way to create and maintain a bilingual environment in the County, and to ensure the availability of opportunities for the use of spoken and written Irish.

CUH 5 Library and Archives

(a) To facilitate the development and implementation of Galway Library Development Programme 2016-2021 or subsequent programme and support the development and promotion of the library network in the county.

(b) Galway County Council shall support the provision of a purpose-built repository, meeting international archival standards, to house, and ensure the preservation, of this important heritage resource.

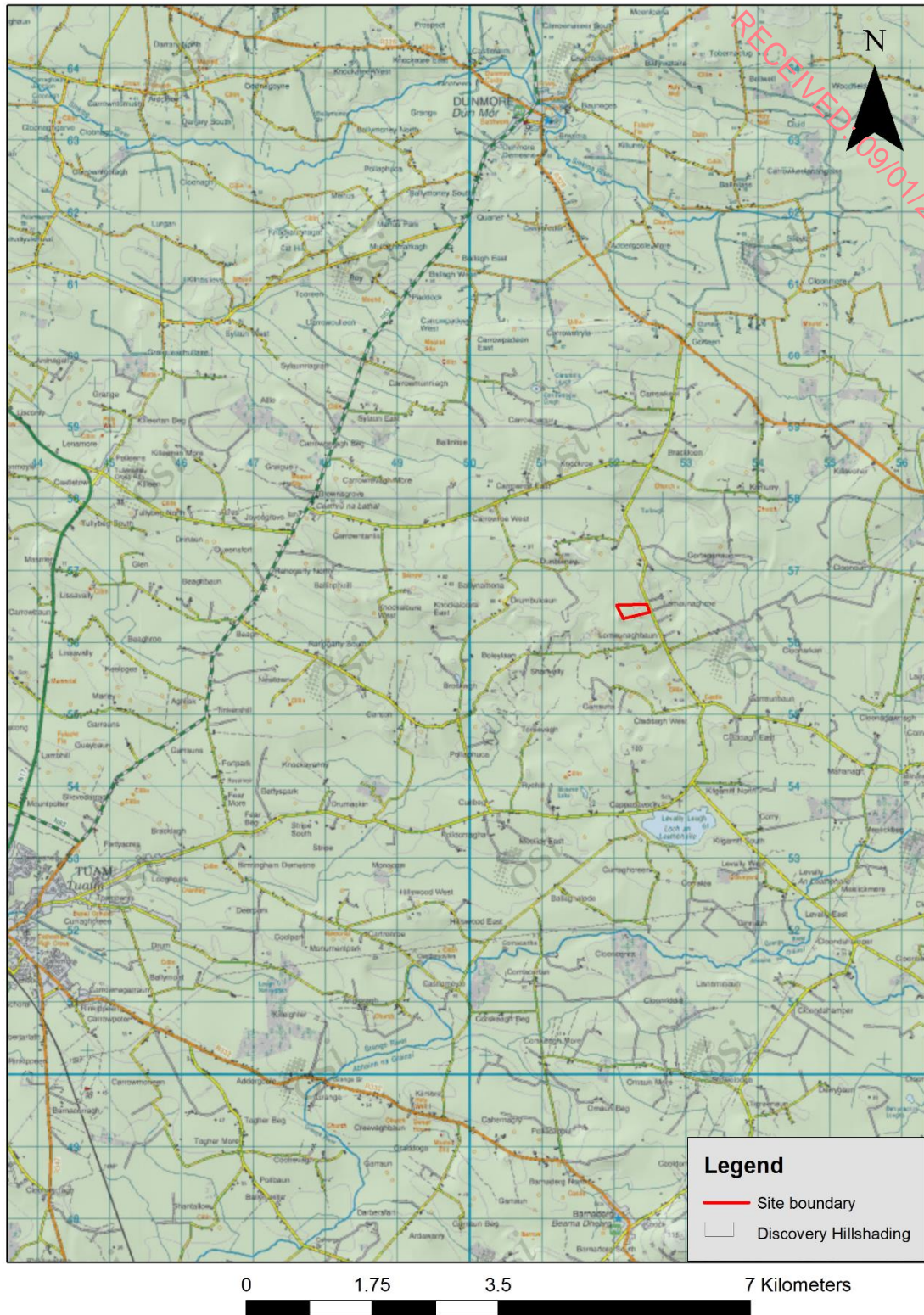


Figure 12.1: Site location map.



Figure 12.2: Proposed Development boundary on aerial background.

12.3 Assessment Methodology

The assessment of the archaeology, architecture and cultural heritage of the Proposed Development included geographic information system (GIS) mapping, desk-based research and field inspection.

12.3.1 Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

GIS is a computer database which captures, stores, analyses, manages and presents data that is linked to location. GIS is geographic information systems which includes mapping software and its application with remote sensing, land surveying, aerial photography, mathematics, photogrammetry, geography and tools that can be implemented with GIS software. GIS was used to manage the datasets relevant to the archaeological and architectural heritage assessment and for the creation of all the maps in this section of the report. This involved the overlaying of the relevant archaeological and architectural datasets on georeferenced aerial photographs and road maps (i.e. Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), where available). The integration of this spatial information allows for the accurate measurement of distances of a proposed development from archaeological and cultural heritage sites and the extraction of information on 'monument types' from the datasets. Areas of archaeological or architectural sensitivity may then be highlighted in order to mitigate the potential negative effects of a development on archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage.

12.3.2 Desktop Assessment

The following sources were consulted as part of the desktop assessment for the Proposed Development:

- The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- National Monuments in State Care County Galway
- The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland on www.heritagemaps.ie
- First edition Ordnance Survey maps (OSI)
- Second edition Ordnance Survey maps (OSI)
- Aerial photographs (copyright of Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI))
- Excavations Database
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)
- Record of Protected Structures

Each of these are discussed in the following sections.

12.3.2.1 Record of Monuments and Places, Sites and Monuments Record and National Monuments

A primary cartographic source and base-line data for the assessment was the consultation of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Galway. All known recorded archaeological monuments are indicated on 6-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) maps and are listed in these records. The SMR/RMP is not a complete record of all monuments as newly discovered sites may not appear in the list or accompanying maps. In conjunction with the consultation of the SMR and RMP the electronic database of recorded monuments and SMRs which may be accessed at www.heritagedata.maps.arcgis.com was also consulted.

A review of all National Monuments in State Care and those subject to Preservation Orders was also undertaken as part of the assessment.

12.3.2.2 Cartographic Sources and Aerial Photography

The 1st (1840s) and 2nd (1900s) edition OS maps for the area were consulted, where available, as was OSI aerial photography.

12.3.2.3 Topographical Files - National Museum of Ireland

Details relating to finds of archaeological material and monuments in numerous townlands in the country are contained in the topographical files held in the National Museum of Ireland. In order to establish if any new or previously unrecorded finds had been recovered from the Proposed Development area these files were consulted for each townland within and adjacent to the same. Heritage Maps (www.heritagemaps.ie) also contains locational detail for Museum find spots.

12.3.2.4 Archaeological Inventory Series

Further information on archaeological sites may be obtained in the published County Archaeological Inventory series prepared by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The archaeological inventories present summarised information on sites listed in the SMR/RMP and include detail such as the size and location of particular monuments, as well as any associated folklore or local information pertaining to each site. The inventories, however, do not account for all sites or items of cultural heritage interest which are undiscovered at the time of their publication. Many sites have been discovered since the publication of the Inventory Series, which have now been added to the Sites and Monuments Record.

12.3.2.5 Record of Protected Structures

The Record of Protected Structures for County Galway was consulted for the schedule of buildings and items of cultural, historical or archaeological interest. The digital dataset for Galway RPS was downloaded from ArcGIS online and added to the constraints mapping.

12.3.2.6 Excavations Database

The Excavations Database is an annual account of all excavations carried out under license. The database is available on line at www.excavations.ie and includes excavations from 1985 to 2023. This database was consulted as part of the desktop research for this assessment to establish if any archaeological excavations had been carried out within or near to the Proposed Development area.

12.3.2.7 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

This source lists some of the architecturally significant buildings and items of cultural heritage and is compiled on a county by county basis by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The NIAH database was consulted for all townlands within and adjacent to the study area. The NIAH survey has been published and the digital dataset was downloaded on to the base mapping for the proposed development (www.buildingsofireland.ie). The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999.

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

12.3.3 Field Inspection

The Proposed Development area was subject to a walk-over survey in November 2022. A photographic and descriptive record was made of the proposed extraction area and any features of interest therein.

12.3.3.1 Limitations Associated with Fieldwork

No limitations were encountered during the site walkover survey of the Proposed Development site and all areas were available for inspection.

12.3.4 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

The likely effects on the existing archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment are assessed using the criteria as set out in the draft *Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports* (EPA, 2022). The following terminology is used when describing the likely effects of the development from a Cultural Heritage perspective.

12.3.4.1 Types of Impact

- Direct impacts arise where an archaeological heritage feature or site is physically located within the footprint of the development whereby the removal of part, or all of the feature or site is thus required.
- Indirect impacts may arise as a result of subsurface works undertaken outside the footprint of the development, secondary environmental change such as a reduction in water levels and visual impacts.
- Cumulative Impacts arise when the addition of many impacts create a larger, more significant impact.
- Residual Impacts are the degree of environmental changes that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented.

12.3.4.1.1 Magnitude of Effects (Significance)

- Profound: Applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects. Reserved for adverse, negative effects only. These effects arise where an archaeological site is completely and irreversibly destroyed.
- Very Significant: An effect which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters most of the sensitive aspect of the environment.
- Significant: An effect which by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment. An effect like this would be where part of a site would be permanently impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological site.
- Moderate: A moderate effect arises where a change to an archaeological site is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the integrity of the site is compromised and which is reversible. This arises where an archaeological site can be incorporated into a modern day development without damage and that all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible.
- Slight: An effect which causes changes in the character of the environment which are not high or very high and do not directly impact or affect an archaeological site.
- Not Significant: An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.
- Imperceptible: An effect on an archaeological site capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

12.3.5 Methodology for the assessment of impacts on visual setting (indirect effects)

Those cultural heritage assets that are considered in this assessment are detailed below Table 12.1 with the relevant distances.

While direct physical impacts to a site or monument can easily be assessed in quantitative terms, the assessment of impacts on setting can be subjective and as such is a matter of qualitative, professional judgement and experience. The distances below used in the assessment of impacts on setting are regarded as appropriate and are based on professional judgement.

Table 12.1: Cultural Heritage Assets considered according to sensitivity

Cultural Heritage Asset	Sensitivity	Distance Considered
National Monuments (State Ownership and Preservation Order Sites)	High	5km of Proposed Development site boundary
Recorded Monuments, RPS	Medium	2km of Proposed Development site boundary
NIAH structures	Low	2km of Proposed Development site boundary
Undesignated sites, if relevant	Low	Within EIAR site boundary

12.4 Existing Environment

12.4.1.1 Archaeological Heritage

Archaeological heritage includes National Monuments, sites which are subject to a preservation order, sites listed in the RMP/SMR and newly discovered archaeological sites. Each of these are addressed in the following sections.

12.4.1.1.1 National Monuments

National Monuments are those recorded monuments which are in the ownership / guardianship of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG). They are frequently referred to as being in 'State Care'. Sites which are subject to Preservation Orders are also considered in the same category as National Monuments as the prior written consent of the Minister is required for any works at or in proximity to such monuments.

No National Monuments or those subject to a Preservation Order are located within the Proposed Development site boundary or in close proximity to same. The nearest national monument is located over c. 6.9km to the north and comprises Dunmore Abbey (Nat Mon No. 273) in Dunmore (Figure 12.3).

The abbey in Dunmore (Nat Mon 273) is described on the Historic Environment Viewer (HEV) as follows:

GA017-005001-

Class: Religious house - Augustinian friars

Townland: ABBEYLAND SOUTH

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

Description: On the N side of Barrack St., in Dunmore town (GA017-002—). This Augustinian friary, a National Monument, is first mentioned in 1425 and it is reputed to have been founded in that year by Walter de Bermingham (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 299). Of the monastery, only the much-modified church survives. Rectangular in plan (E-W; L 35.2m), it comprises the nave and chancel with traces of a S aisle; only a short section (L 2.75m) of the W wall of the latter survives. The division between the nave and chancel is marked by a centrally placed tower that was inserted in the 16th century. There is a fine 15th-century doorway in the W gable, in the S jamb of which is a holy water stoup. The doorway is decorated with three shallow orders which have fluted chamfers and moulded capitals. The side pinnacles and that at the centre of the ogee-form hood are tall and slender and terminate in carved poppy-heads (Leask 1960b, 76). Above the doorway there is the recess for a memorial tablet (GA017-005002-) to the de Berminghams and a single-light pointed arch window. On the S side of the nave (L 15.85m, Wth 6.45m) three large arches that formerly accessed the S aisle were blocked up. Windows subsequently inserted into the central and eastern-most arches were also blocked up. A beautiful carved female head with an elaborate head dress was reused as quoin stone in the eastern window. The tower, of three storeys, springs from a pointed chancel arch flanked by the corbels which supported the rood screen. Some of the original plaster and wicker-centring survives on the underside of its vault and a small carved head is visible on its SE pier. The chancel (L 15.15m, Wth 6.3m) was in use as a Protestant church from the 18th to the early 20th centuries (Neary 1914, 96, 100-1, also 103-4). The three blocked round-headed window embrasures in the N and S walls all date from this period, though they probably occupy the sites of the originals. The E window is also blocked up. A cross-slab (GA017-005004-) (Higgins 1987, 361, no. 83) and two medieval graveslabs (GA017-005003- and GA017-005005-) are associated. See also GA017-138—. (O' Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 23-4; Harbison 1975, 91)

The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Galway Vol. II - North Galway'. Compiled by Olive Alcock, Kathy de hÓra and Paul Gosling (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1999). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.

Updated by: Olive Alcock

Date of revised upload: 24 May 2018



Plate 12.1: Doorway of Dunmore Friary (Nat. Mon. No. 273).



Figure 12.3: Nearest National Monument 273 in relation to the Proposed Development site boundary.

12.4.1.1.2 Recorded Monuments

No recorded monuments are located within the Proposed Development site boundary. A total of thirty-nine monuments are located within 2km of the Proposed Development boundary. They are shown on Figure 12.5 and listed in Table 12.2 below. Of these monuments two are located within 500m of the proposed extraction area boundary and are highlighted in Table 12.2.

Table 12.2: Recorded monuments within 2km of the Proposed Development site boundary.

RMP NO.	ITM E	ITM N	CLASS	TOWNLAND
GA030-062001-	552051	754839	Souterrain	GARRAUNS (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-053—	550386	756600	Ringfort - cashel	DRUMBULCAUN
GA030-055—	551055	757482	Ringfort - rath	DUNBLANEY
GA030-063—	551635	755195	Enclosure	GARRAUNS (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-062—	552051	754839	Ringfort - rath	GARRAUNS (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-042—	553187	755201	Castle - tower house	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-043—	552588	754694	Enclosure	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-052—	550380	756719	Ringfort - rath	DRUMBULCAUN
GA030-056—	551781	757262	Ringfort - rath	DUNBLANEY
GA030-057—	551330	756977	Ringfort - rath	DUNBLANEY
GA030-057001-	551330	756976	Souterrain	DUNBLANEY
GA030-058—	552294	757147	Ringfort - rath	DUNBLANEY
GA030-059—	551641	757412	Ringfort - rath	DUNBLANEY
GA017-024—	552836	758165	Church	BRACKLOON (Ballymoe By.)

RMP NO.	ITM E	ITM N	CLASS	TOWNLAND
GA017-134—	551287	758405	Ringfort - rath	KNOCKROE (Ballymoe By.)
GA017-134001-	551286	758404	Souterrain	KNOCKROE (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-007001-	550198	756875	Souterrain	BALLYNAMONA (Dunmore By.)
GA030-007—	550198	756875	Ringfort - rath	BALLYNAMONA (Dunmore By.)
GA030-030—	550469	757217	Ringfort - rath	CARROWROE WEST (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-039—	553486	754850	Ringfort - rath	CLADDAGH EAST
GA030-040—	552724	755435	Ringfort - rath	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-040001-	552724	755436	Children's burial ground	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-041—	552181	755273	Ringfort - rath	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-067—	553442	757351	Ringfort - rath	GORTAGARRAUN
GA030-094—	552304	755683	Ringfort - rath	LOMAUNAGHBAUN
GA030-095—	552052	756061	Enclosure	LOMAUNAGHBAUN
GA030-097—	552601	755992	Ringfort - cashel	LOMAUNAGHBAUN
GA030-122—	550938	755396	Ringfort - rath	SHANVALLY (Dunmore By.)
GA030-125—	550899	755002	Ringfort - rath	TONREVAGH
GA030-126—	551449	754999	Ringfort - rath	TONREVAGH
GA017-024001-	552844	758171	Graveyard	BRACKLOON (Ballymoe By.)

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RMP NO.	ITM E	ITM N	CLASS	TOWNLAND
GA017-024002-	552844	758171	Ecclesiastical enclosure	BRACKLOON (Ballymoe By.)
GA030-054—	550396	756539	Kiln - lime	DRUMBULCAUN
GA030-040002-	552724	755437	Souterrain	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-042001-	553204	755222	Enclosure	CLADDAGH WEST
GA030-127—	550518	755898	Redundant record	BOLEYLAAN
GA030-128—	550533	755806	Redundant record	BOLEYLAAN
GA030-130—	550819	755733	Burial	SHANVALLY (Dunmore By.)
GA030-132—	550644	756389	Ringfort - cashel	DRUMBULCAUN

The nearest of these monuments comprise an enclosure GA030-095— and ringfort GA030-097— which are located c. 296m and 469m to the south of the Proposed Development boundary, respectively. The monuments are described on the HEV as follows:

GA030-095— : Enclosure : LOMAUNAGHBAUN

Description: In rough scrubland. An overgrown oval enclosure (E-W 50m, N-S 40m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall visible intermittently through the overgrowth. The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Galway Vol. II - North Galway'. Compiled by Olive Alcock, Kathy de hÓra and Paul Gosling (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1999). Date of upload: 05 August 2010

GA030-097— : Ringfort - cashel : LOMAUNAGHBAUN

Description: On S-facing slope of a ridge in undulating grassland. Very poorly preserved oval cashel (E-W 32m, N-S 23.7m) defined by a low grassed-over dry stone wall. No visible surface trace of the enclosing wall survives from W to N due to quarrying and the construction of a shed. Gaps at N and S appear modern. In NE portion of the interior, a low grassed-over drystone wall, running NE-SW, possibly marks an internal division. To W of it is a quarried out area, L-shaped in plan (E-W 6.4m, N-S 5.8m), possibly a souterrain but more likely an excavation trench for the nearby shed. The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Galway Vol. II - North Galway'. Compiled by Olive Alcock, Kathy de hÓra and Paul Gosling (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1999). Date of upload: 05 August 2010

A review of the available orthophotography for the area of both monuments suggests that little above-ground remains of either monument is extant. Ringfort GA030-097— is located on or adjacent to land which was subject to quarrying as shown on Mapgenie imagery (2001-2005 and 1996-2001) (Figure 12.4). While the outline of the enclosure GA030-095— is depicted on the 25-inch OS map, it is not readily apparent on the available orthophotography.



Figure 12.4: Extract from the HEV (Mapgenie 2001-2005 background) showing area of ringfort GA030-097— adjacent to quarry. Note the quarry has subsequently been reinstated.



Figure 12.5: Recorded monuments within 2km of the Proposed Development boundary.

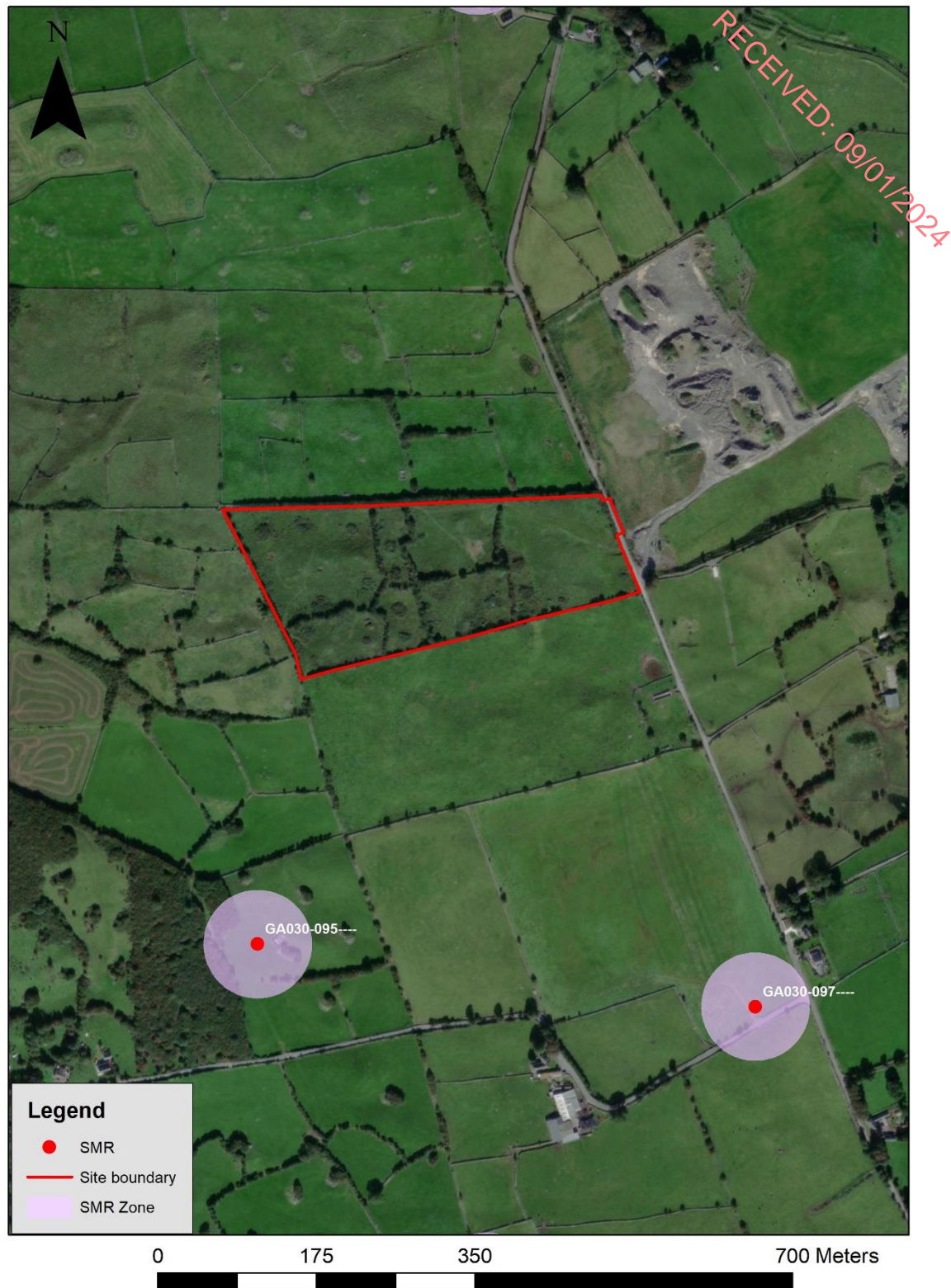


Figure 12.6: Nearest recorded monument to Proposed Development boundary.

12.4.1.1.3 Results of Field Inspection

No previously unrecorded above-ground monuments or items of cultural heritage merit were noted within the Proposed Development site during the walk-over survey. A photographic record was made of the Proposed Development area which predominantly comprised rough pasture sub-divided into

seven fields, on a gradual east-facing slope. Scrub and bracken covered some areas at the time of survey.



Plate 12.2: East side of Proposed Development site, looking WSW.



Plate 12.3: East side of Proposed Development site, looking E.



Plate 12.4: Field to west of easternmost field at south side of Proposed Development site, looking NW.



Plate 12.5: south-westernmost field looking NE.



Plate 12.6: North-western field, looking N.



Plate 12.7: As above, looking NE.



Plate 12.8: Small field at north side of Proposed Development site, looking N.



Plate 12.9: Field at centre-north of Proposed Development site, looking W.

12.4.1.1.4 **Excavations Database**

The database of excavations carried out in Ireland (www.excavations.ie) was consulted for any such licensed work which took place on or adjacent to the proposed development site. One entry was returned for the townland of Shanvally which is located c. 910m to the south-west and relates to the discovery of human remains in a quarry in 2001.

Shanvally, Co. Galway, Galway*NMI Burial Excavation Records**County: Galway Site name: Shanvally, Co. Galway**Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR GA030-130SMR GA030-122 Licence number: –**Author: –**Site type: GRAVES OF INDETERMINATE DATE**Period/Dating: –**ITM: E 550819m, N 755732m*

The discovery of human remains in a quarry at Shanvally, near Tuam, Co. Galway, was reported in February 2001 to the NMI by Prof. Jean Folan-Curran, Dept of Anatomy, NUIG.112 The remains had been found in July 2000. The site was inspected by Mary Cahill in June 2001—it was not possible to visit it earlier owing to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease that year. At that stage no evidence of the burial site was visible. A report from An Garda Síochána, Tuam, stated that a human skull had been noticed at the base of the quarry. The site was investigated by Gardaí, who collected the bone and sent it to NUIG. A further inspection of the site did not reveal any archaeological evidence. The quarry-owner reported that he had not encountered any other human remains in this quarry. A report on the human remains provided by Dr M.N. O'Neill, Lecturer in Anatomy, NUIG, identified them as those of a male in the 40–50-year age range. This was suggested by the fusion of the sphenoccipital suture, which indicates an age in excess of 25 years, while the partial obliteration of the skull sutures suggests an age of 40–50. There was no evidence of ante-mortem trauma. The animal remains included a cannon-bone of a sheep or goat limb, an ulna of sheep or goat, the mandible of a rat and five teeth in a sheep/goat mandible. Only one monument, a ringfort, has been identified in the townland of Shanvally.

12.4.1.1.5 **Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland**

The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland on www.heritagemaps.ie were consulted for archaeological finds from the townlands within or adjacent to the Proposed Development site boundary.

No such find spots are recorded for the townland of Lomaunaghbaun or adjacent townlands, with the nearest find spot, comprising a rotary quern, being c.4.9km to the south-east.

*Name 1972:89**Object Type Upper Rotary Quernstone*12.4.1.2 **Architectural and Cultural Heritage**

A number of documentary and cartographic sources were utilised in order to ascertain the potential for the presence of architectural /cultural heritage features on or within the area of the Proposed Development. The RPS and NIAH for County Galway were downloaded onto the base mapping for the project in order to ascertain if any such structures were located on or adjacent to the Proposed Development site. Cultural heritage includes items such as buildings, farmhouses, gates, bridges, piers, and stone field boundaries.

12.4.1.2.1 Protected Structures

No Protected Structures subject to statutory protection are located within the Proposed Development site boundary or in close proximity to same. The nearest protected structure is located c. 2.5km to the south and comprises Levally Catholic Church (RPS 3898) (Figure 12.7). This structure is also listed in the NIAH (Reg. 30403008) (See section 12.4.1.2.2 below).

12.4.1.2.2 NIAH structures and Historic Gardens

No structures or items listed in the NIAH or historic gardens are located within the Proposed Development site boundary or in close proximity to same. The nearest NIAH structure also comprises the aforementioned catholic church, Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint Jarlath, (Reg. 30403008) which is also a Protected Structure (Figure 12.8). It is described on www.buildingsofireland.ie as follows:

Description

Freestanding gable-fronted Roman Catholic church, dated 1948, having five-bay long elevations, slightly lower single-bay chancel to west end, and gabled porch to north elevation. Pitched slate roof with wide eaves. Rendered walls. Round-headed windows to long elevations with render sills. Square-headed doorway to gable-front with Diocletian window above having stained glass, both openings set within shallow round-headed recess.

Appraisal

This church is a very simple structure built at a period when few were being built. Its position, beside Levally Lough, gives it added attraction.



Plate 12.10: Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint Jarlath NIAH Reg. 30403008. (Photo courtesy of www.buildingsofireland.ie).



Figure 12.7: Nearest Protected Structure to the Proposed Development site.



Figure 12.8: Nearest NIAH structure (Reg. 30403008) to the Proposed Development site.

12.4.1.2.3 Cartographic Evidence

The available historic Ordnance Survey maps were consulted for any items of cultural heritage merit that may be located within the proposed development site.

1st and 2nd Edition OS maps

The Ordnance Survey came to Ireland in 1824 in order to carry-out a precise admeasurement of the country's 60,000 or so townlands as a preliminary to the larger task of reforming Ireland's local taxation system. The townland boundaries were demarcated by a Boundary Commission, and the Ordnance Survey had the task of measuring them. In addition to boundaries the maps are truly topographical in content. Drawn at the large scale of six inches-to-one-mile (1:10,560) it was important to mark all buildings, roads, streams, placenames, etc, that were required for valuation purposes. Ultimately the maps were used as a basis for the rateable valuation of land and buildings in what became known as Griffith's Valuation. Working from north to south, the survey began in Antrim and Derry in 1829 and was completed in Kerry in 1842. It was published as thirty-two county maps between 1832 and 1846, the number of sheets per county varied from 153 for County Cork to 28 for Dublin, each of the 1,994 sheets in the series depicting an area 21,000 by 32,000 feet on the ground. Each county was projected on a different central meridian and so the maps of adjacent counties do not fit neatly together at the edges. Map content stops at the county lines.

The First Edition

The early Ordnance Survey maps are an unrivalled source for the period immediately before the Great Irish Famine (1847-50) when the population was at the highest level ever recorded in Ireland.

The first edition map (1829-41) for the Proposed Development site depicts it as a featureless open area (Figure 12.9).

The Second Edition

The second edition 25 inch map (1897-1913) also depicts the Proposed Development site as open rough pasture with no potential features shown therein (Figure 12.10).

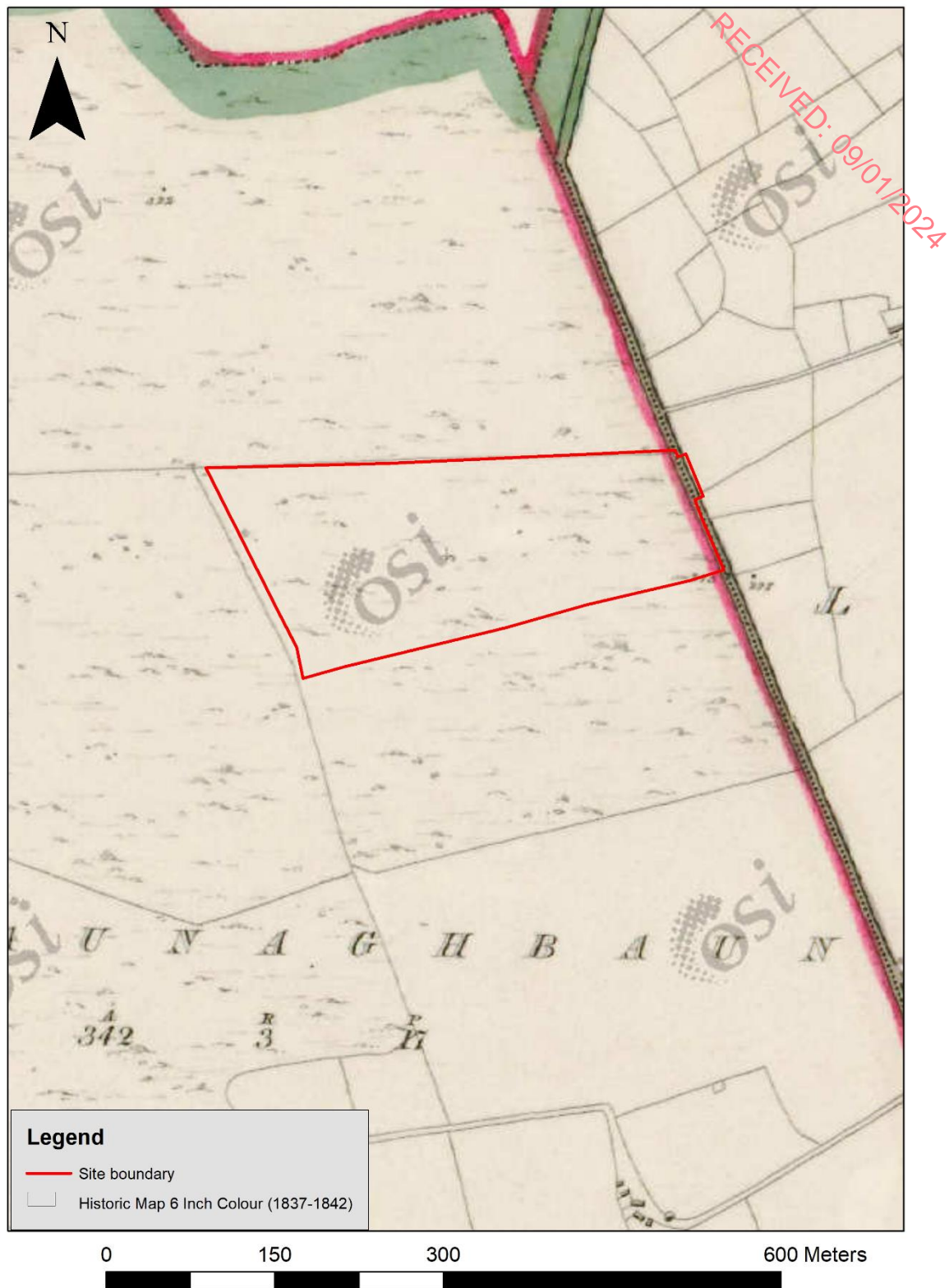


Figure 12.9: Proposed Development boundary on 1st edition OS background.

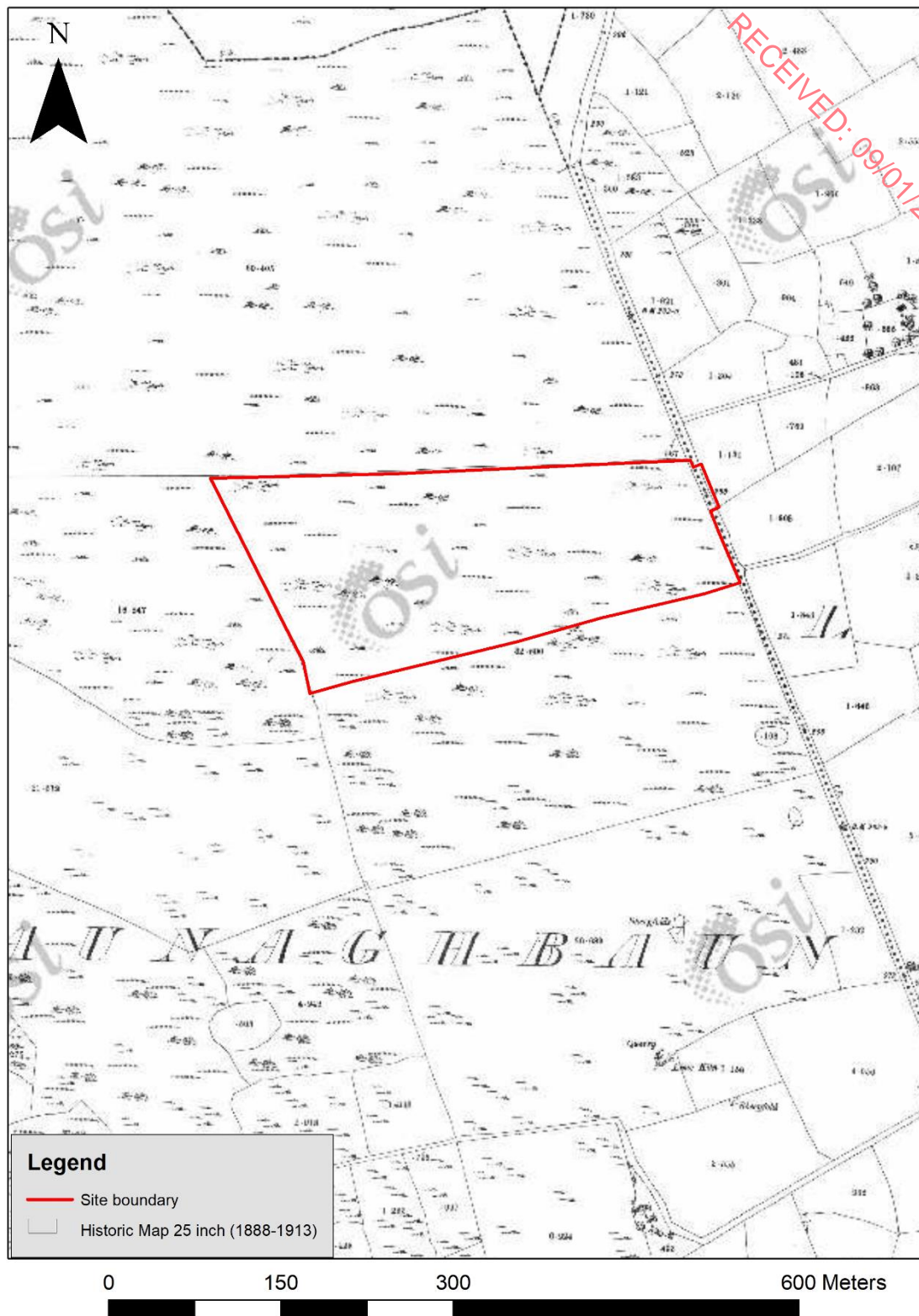


Figure 12.10: Proposed Development boundary on 2nd edition OS background.

12.4.1.2.4

Townlands and Administrative Boundaries

Townlands and administrative boundaries may indicate the presence of archaeological features within a development site. Administrative counties are subdivisions of pre-established counties which were formed for administrative purposes in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Baronies are administrative units larger than civil parishes and originally established as the primary subdivision of counties by the British administration in Ireland. Irish baronies which were formed at the time of the Norman conquest were usually named either after Irish territories, or from places which had been of importance in pre-Norman times. Irish baronies came into existence at different periods. The division of Ireland into counties and baronies was a process which continued down to the reign of James I. The original baronies in Ireland were the domains of the Norman barons; in the final stage of development they were divisions of counties created merely for greater convenience of administration. The word barony is of feudal origin, and was applied to a tenure of a baron, that is, of one who held his land by military service, either directly from the king, or from a superior feudal lord who exercised royal privileges. The origin of the Irish barony (a division of land corresponding to the English hundred) is to be found in the grants of lands which were made to the barons of Leinster and the barons of Meath (Liam Price, 'Ráith Oinn', Éigse VII, lch. 186-7). Civil parishes are administrative units larger than townlands and based on medieval ecclesiastical parishes. Civil parishes, modern Catholic parishes and Church of Ireland parishes may differ in extent and in nomenclature. Counties are administrative units larger than baronies and originally established by the British administration in Ireland between the twelfth and the seventeenth centuries. Some of these were subsequently subdivided into smaller administrative county units.

Townlands are the smallest land units which were determined and established in the Irish administrative system in the first half of the nineteenth century. Many of the townlands were in existence prior to that. Townland names are a valuable source of information, not only on the topography, land ownership and land use within the landscape, but also on its history, archaeological monuments and folklore. Logainm.ie was utilised to ascertain the origin of the townland names within the proposed development site.

The proposed development site is located within the townland of Lomaunaghbaun (barony of Ballymoe) derived from the Irish *Lománach Bhán*. It is recorded since 1607. While no translation of the name is provided, it may mean 'the bare white marsh'.

12.5

Likely Effects and Associated Mitigation Measures

12.5.1

Construction Phase Potential Impacts (Indirect)

Indirect effects, in terms of archaeology, architectural and cultural heritage are considered to be those effects which happen away from 'the site'. This includes impacts on visual setting of any cultural heritage assets in the wider landscape. Since these effects are only possible once development is operational, they are considered operational effects and are therefore discussed in Section 12.5.3 below. No indirect effects were identified which would occur at the construction stage.

12.5.2

Construction Phase Potential Impacts (Direct)

Direct Impact refers to a 'physical impact' on a monument or site. The construction phase of a development may consist of earthmoving activities such as topsoil removal in advance of quarrying. This may have a number of potential negative impacts on the known and potential archaeological heritage. These are outlined below with the suggested mitigation measures.

12.5.2.1 National Monuments

No National Monuments are located on or in close proximity to the Proposed Development site, therefore no direct impacts to such monuments will occur.

12.5.2.2 Recorded Monuments

No recorded monuments are located within the Proposed Development site boundary. The nearest recorded monuments comprise an enclosure GA030-095— and ringfort GA030-097— which are located c. 296m and 469m to the south of the Proposed Development boundary, respectively. No direct impacts to this aspect of the recorded archaeological resource will occur.

12.5.2.3 Newly Recorded Archaeological Sites

No above-ground newly recorded sites were noted during the walk-over survey of the Proposed Development area. No potential direct impacts to this resource are therefore identified.

12.5.2.4 Sub-surface Archaeological Potential

Pre mitigation impact

The Proposed Development site comprises a greenfield area under rough pasture. It is possible that previously unrecorded sub-surface archaeological sites or features are located within the proposed extraction area. Sub-surface archaeological sites or features, if present within the Proposed Development area, may be directly impacted by construction phase activities such as topsoil removal and extraction/quarrying works. The impact is likely to be significant, negative and permanent.

Proposed mitigation measures

- Pre-development archaeological testing of the proposed extraction area should be carried out under licence from the National Monuments Service.
- A report on the testing should be compiled on completion of the work and submitted to the relevant authorities.
- Further mitigation such as preservation in situ (avoidance), preservation by record (excavation), buffer zones and/or archaeological monitoring of topsoil removal may be required depending on the results of the testing.

Residual Impact

Any archaeological sites/features, if detected, during testing will be preserved by record (archaeologically excavated) or preserved in-situ (avoidance) and therefore a full record made of same. In this regard, the potential impact after the implementation of the mitigation measures is likely to be Slight.

Significance of Effects

The construction stage groundworks have the potential to impact on sub-surface archaeological features, if present. The overall significance of effects will be Slight.

12.5.2.5 Architectural Heritage

Architectural heritage sites and features of cultural heritage potential including historic gardens in the vicinity of the Proposed Development were considered in this report. No Protected Structures or NIAH

structures/gardens are located either within or immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development. No direct impacts to such structures will therefore occur.

12.5.2.5.1 **Protected Structures**

No Protected Structures are located within the Proposed Development site therefore no direct impacts to this resource are identified.

12.5.2.5.2 **Structures Listed in the NIAH**

No structures listed in the NIAH or historic gardens are located within the Proposed Development site therefore no direct impacts to this resource are identified.

12.5.2.5.3 **Features of Local Cultural Heritage Merit (Direct effects)**

No items of local cultural heritage merit were identified within the Proposed Development site either as a result of the walk-over survey or from a review of the available historic mapping. No potential direct impacts to this aspect of the Cultural Heritage resource are therefore identified.

12.5.3 **Operational Phase Potential Impacts (Indirect)**

Indirect impacts are where a feature or site of archaeological, architectural heritage merit or their setting is located in close proximity to a Proposed Development. Indirect impacts here are mainly concerned with impacts on setting of cultural heritage sites.

Impacts on settings of sites may arise when a development is proposed immediately adjacent to a recorded monument or cluster of monuments. While the proposed development may not physically impact on a site, it may alter the setting of a monument or group of monuments. There is no standardised industry-wide approach for assessing the degree of impact to the setting of a monument. For purposes of assessing visual impact on setting, the uniqueness of the monuments, the potential interrelationships of monuments, the inter-visibility of monuments, visual dominance and whether a setting is altered or unaltered can be used to assess impact. The nature and dominance of the proposed development is also taken into consideration and the topography within which the development is located.

12.5.3.1 **National Monuments**

No National Monuments are located on or within close proximity to the Proposed Development. The nearest national monument is located over c. 6.9km to the north and comprises Dunmore Abbey (Nat Mon No. 273) in Dunmore.

The distance of this monument from the Proposed Development is such that impacts to the setting of Dunmore Abbey will not occur.

12.5.3.2 **Recorded Monuments**

The potential indirect impacts are assessed, not by visiting individual sites on private land, but rather assessing the nature and type of the monuments (levelled/extant), dominant/low-visibility, the distance of the monument from the proposed quarry site and therefore the likely potential impact on the setting of the monument. Monuments that are levelled or with very little remaining surface trace are not capable of having their 'visual setting' impacted and therefore indirect impacts on such monuments are Imperceptible.

A total of thirty-nine recorded monuments are located within 2km of the Proposed Development, the closest of which comprise an enclosure GA030-095— and ringfort GA030-097— situated c. 296m and 469m to the south of the Proposed Development boundary, respectively. Both sites may be regarded as low-visibility monuments (see Section 12.4.1.1.2 above). They are also separated from the Proposed Development site by intervening field boundaries. The immediate setting of these monuments will not be impacted, however, a change to their wider setting may occur as a result of the Proposed Development.

Pre-mitigation impact

Given the distance of the Proposed Development from the nearest monuments referenced above and their low visibility nature no impact to their immediate setting will occur. A change to their wider setting is acknowledged but is regarded as Not Significant. The impact to the wider setting of the monuments is also regarded as reversible as the proposed extraction area will be restored to agricultural land once the extraction phase of the project is completed.

Proposed mitigation measures

It is not possible to provide a mitigation measure which would alleviate this potential impact.

Residual Effect

Since no mitigation measures are being proposed the residual effect will be Not Significant.

Significance of Effects

The overall significance of effects will be Not Significant.

12.5.3.3 Protected Structures and NIAH sites

No Protected Structures or those listed in the NIAH are located within 2km of the proposed development site, therefore impacts to the setting of such structures will not occur.

12.5.3.4 Features of Local Cultural Heritage Merit

No features of local cultural heritage merit are located on or within the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Development site, therefore impacts to the setting of such features will not occur.

12.6 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impact is defined as ‘The addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant, impact’ (EPA 2022). Cumulative impacts encompass the combined effects of multiple developments or activities on a range of receptors. In this case, the receptors are the archaeological monuments and architectural/cultural heritage sites in the vicinity of the Proposed Development. The potential cumulative impacts between the proposed quarry and the other projects described in Chapter 2 of this EIAR, hereafter referred to as the other projects, have been considered in terms of impacts on archaeology and cultural heritage. The majority of the other project comprise one-off rural dwelling houses. No potential cumulative effects as a result of the Proposed Development and those other projects are identified.

The proposed Clonbern Wind Farm is located less than 1km to the east of the Proposed Development site. Potential direct effects identified at the construction stage of the Proposed Development are those which may occur to hitherto unknown sub-surface archaeological finds, features or deposits. This

potential effect was identified as being permanent, negative and significant. After the mitigation measures are implemented, however, these potential effects will be Slight. The overall significance of effects is therefore Slight. A similar potential construction stage effect could be identified for Clonbern wind farm since groundworks could impact on hitherto unknown archaeological, finds, features or deposits or other cultural heritage assets. In this regard there could potentially be a cumulative effect when the Proposed Development is added to the wind farm site. Mitigation measures seek to alleviate such negative effects if not remove the effect altogether and therefore there will be no significant cumulative effects on sub-surface remains. If the mitigation measures prescribed in this EIAR are implemented then significant cumulative direct effects to unknown sub-surface archaeology will not occur, regardless of the other projects.

Indirect effects to the wider setting of recorded monuments within 2km of the Proposed Development was also considered. Given the distance of the Proposed Development from the nearest monuments referenced above and their low visibility nature no impact to their immediate setting will occur. A change to their wider setting is acknowledged but is regarded as Not Significant. The impact to the wider setting of the monuments is also regarded as reversible as the proposed extraction area will be restored to agricultural land once the extraction phase of the project is completed. When considered cumulatively with the adjacent proposed Clonbern wind farm there is potential for cumulative impacts to the wider setting of recorded monuments, however, no significant effects are identified and no potential cumulative effects to the immediate setting of such monuments will occur.

12.7

Conclusion

This chapter comprises an assessment of the potential impact of a proposed quarry at Lomaunaghbaun, Co. Galway on the Cultural Heritage resource. Cultural heritage includes archaeology, architectural heritage and any other tangible assets. The assessment was based on comprehensive desktop research and field inspection of the proposed extraction area.

No recorded monuments are located within the Proposed Development site and no significant direct or indirect impacts to the recorded archaeological or cultural heritage resource have been identified. No Protected Structures, NIAH structures or historic gardens are located within the Proposed Development boundary or in the immediate vicinity of same. No direct or indirect effects to recorded built heritage or items of local cultural heritage merit are identified. A potential direct impact to sub-surface archaeological sites or features, should they exist within the Proposed Development site, is noted. Mitigation in the form of pre-development archaeological testing of the proposed extraction area is recommended, with the results of same informing any further mitigation which may be required such as preservation in situ, archaeological monitoring, etc. Any potential direct impacts to the archaeological resource will be effectively mitigated through the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures.