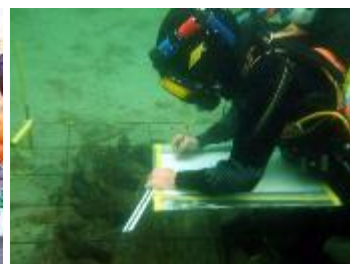


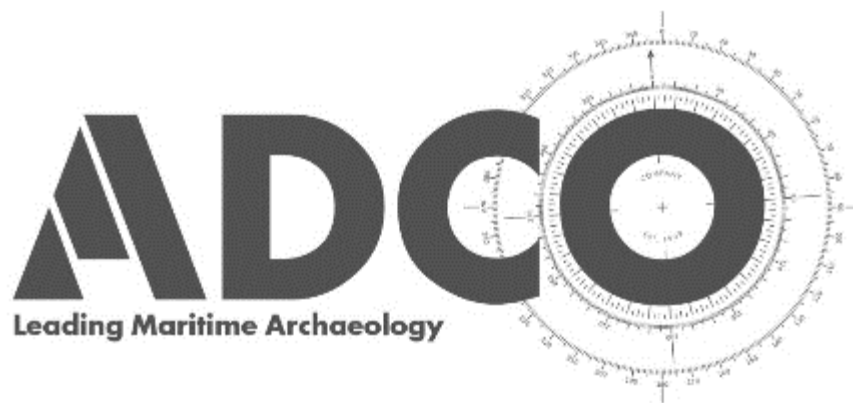
Appendix 10B

Archaeological Marine Monitoring Report 2024



**Archaeological Monitoring
Deep Water Quay, Dredging
Ros an Mhíl (Rossaveel), Co. Galway
24D0056, 24D0009, 24R0010**





**Archaeological Monitoring
Deepwater Quay, Dredging
Ros an Mhíl (Rossaveel) Co. Galway
24D0056, 24D0009, 24R0010**

Issued

12 August 2024

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Abbreviations

ADCO -	Archaeological Diving Company Ltd
DAFM -	Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine
DHLGH -	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
E -	Easting
EIAR -	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EIS -	Environmental Impact Statement
GDG -	Gavin Doherty Geosolutions
ITM -	Irish Transverse Mercator
N -	Northing
NGR -	National Grid Reference
NIAH -	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
OD -	Ordnance Datum
RMP -	Record of Monuments and Places
SMR -	Sites and Monuments Record
UAIA -	Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment
W&B -	Ward and Burke

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- Plate 1: Drone image showing development of breakwater adjacent to the berthing circle.
- Plate 2: Drone image showing development of breakwater adjacent to the berthing circle. Dredge material designated placement area (yellow box).
- Plate 3: The dredging plant comprised a long-reach excavator mounted on to pontoon barge.
- Plate 4: The barge *Madelene*, which conveyed dredging risings to shore.
- Plate 5: Extract from project drawing showing locations of the three phases of proposed dredging activity.

Executive Summary

The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd (ADCO) has carried out archaeological monitoring for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine's (DAFM) deepwater quay project at Ros an Mhíl (Rossaveel), Co. Galway, under archaeological licensed consent granted by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH).

Archaeological monitoring commenced on 10 January 2024 and continued through 23 May 2024. The works completed focused on rock blasting of bedrock. Risings removed from the seabed were inspected ashore. No material of archaeological significance was encountered.

The project was halted in May 2024. Once the project recommences, further archaeological monitoring is anticipated.

Recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

1.0 Introduction

The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd (ADCO) has carried out archaeological monitoring for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine's (DAFM) deepwater quay project at (Rossaveel), Co. Galway, under archaeological licensed consent granted by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH). The works are being completed under Galway CC Planning Ref. 17/967. Ros an Mhíl

The project is constructing a 200m-long deepwater quay and blasting/dredging a 150m-diameter ship turning circle.

Archaeological monitoring commenced on 10 January 2024 and continued through 23 May 2024. The works completed focused on rock blasting of bedrock. Risings removed from the seabed were inspected ashore. No material of archaeological significance was encountered.

The project was halted in May 2024. Once the project recommences, further archaeological monitoring is anticipated.

The results and observations are described in the present report.

2.0 Archaeological background

Archaeological assessment for the project was completed by ADCO in 2018.¹ The assessment observed a seabed of exposed bedrock over much of the development area, with limited areas of accumulated silt. Archaeological monitoring was anticipated during dredging works focused on the removal of the soft sediment deposits.

3.0 Construction works

Construction has been ongoing since January 2023, focused on reclaiming the foreshore by extending out approximately 130m from the existing shoreline (Plate 1). These works infilled the shoreline directly on to bedrock.

In anticipation of the construction of the 200m-long quay, several finger platforms were extended 40m long by 14m wide at right angles to the future quay, and projecting over a berthing pocket. In addition, a temporary breakwater was constructed on the channel side, to facilitate works (Plate 1).

¹ Niall Brady, 'Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment, Rossaveel, Co. Galway, 17D0085, 17R0240', ADCO report for DAFM, 2018.

A narrow linear trench measuring 14m wide was dredged along the toe of the future quay wall (Figure 1). The risings were recovered to the reclaimed area (Plate 2).

The works completed in 2023 anticipated a large-scale dredging campaign within the berthing pocket and turning circle, which would be the focus of the archaeological monitoring. The dredging campaign was scheduled to take place between January and March 2024.

4.0 Archaeological monitoring

4.1 Protocols

In anticipation that deposits existed over bedrock within the berthing pocket and the wider turning circle, archaeological monitoring commenced on 10 January 2024. ADCO was appointed directly by the DAFM, and the communication on site was directly between the DAFM's resident engineer represented by Gavin Doherty Geosolutions (GDG) and ADCO. The main works contractor was Ward and Burke (W&B), and the dredging work was conducted by Cara Plant Hire Ltd. ADCO had a direct line of communication with Cara, in the event that observations were made in the course of the monitoring work, to facilitate rapid recovery of material of potential archaeological interest.

The dredging was carried out using a long-reach excavator mounted on an unpropelled pontoon barge (Plate 3). ADCO had access to the barge for monitoring when necessary, and could also monitor from the shore when the barge was in proximity to the shore.

Dredged risings would be transferred to the barge *Madelene*, which would transport the risings to shore, where the risings would be unloaded to a dump truck that would in turn transfer the risings to the reclaimed area for inspection (Plate 4).

An Archaeology Management Plan setting out the lines of communication and the protocols to be followed during archaeological monitoring and in the event of a potential archaeological discovery was in place (as included in the archaeological licence application).

The archaeological team and on-site attendance:

- Niall Brady, Licence holder and project manager, Week 1
- Sinéad Marshall, Licence-eligible archaeologist, Week 1
- Pere Massó Bachpol, archaeological supervisor, Weeks 1-12
- Joop Werson, archaeological supervisor, Weeks 13-15
- Shem Caulfield, Weeks 16-17
- Dan Lenehan, Weeks 18-19
- ADCO's archaeological dive team was off-site and on standby for deployment if required.

4.2 Site progress

Although dredging was scheduled to commence in January, the works could not proceed until Cara had completed drilling and rock blasting. These elements would take longer to achieve than expected.

The risings of the drilling and rock blastings were inspected but only showed rock fragments.

In the weeks that followed, work focused on rock-breaking and drilling within the berthing pocket. Risings that were recovered consistently comprised rock, which was fragmented from the blasting and rock-breaking processes. This work would achieve bed levelling so that the placement of the caissons that serve as the foundation for the deep-water quay could be achieved.

No dredging took place outside the berthing pocket.

No archaeological material was identified in the course of the monitoring operation.

When re-commenced, the dredging will proceed in three phases, focusing on an area to the west of the berthing pocket (Phase 1), followed by an area south of the dredging pocket (Phase 2), with the final area being the turning circle to the west of the deep-water quay (Phase 3) (Plate 5). Such work should require archaeological monitoring.

5.0 Acknowledgements

ADCO acknowledges the assistance of Billy Moyles of GDG and the W&B staff on site.

6.0 Bibliography

Brady, Niall, 'Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment, Rossaveel, Co. Galway, 17D0085, 17R0240', ADCO report for DAFM, 2018.



Plate 1: Drone image showing development of breakwater adjacent to the berthing circle.

Source: GDG



Plate 2: Drone image showing development of breakwater adjacent to the berthing circle. Dredge material designated placement area (yellow box).

Source: GDG



Plate 3: The dredging plant comprised a long-reach excavator mounted on to pontoon barge.

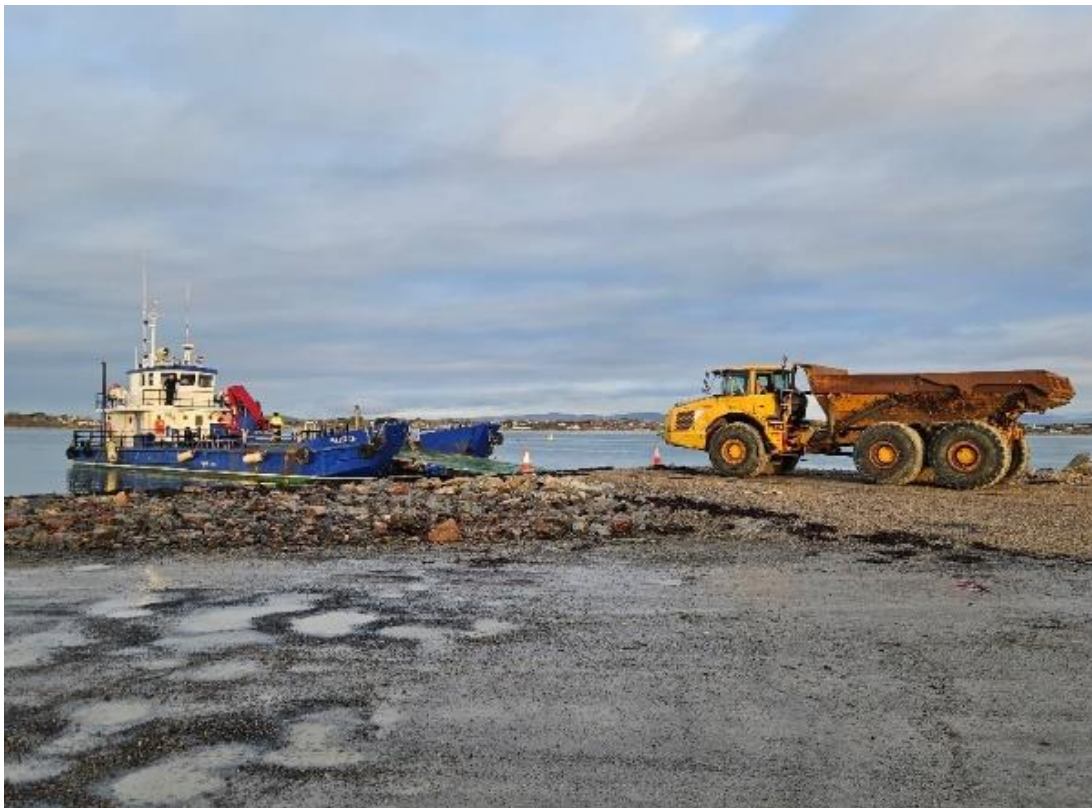


Plate 4: The barge Madelene, which conveyed dredging risings to shore.

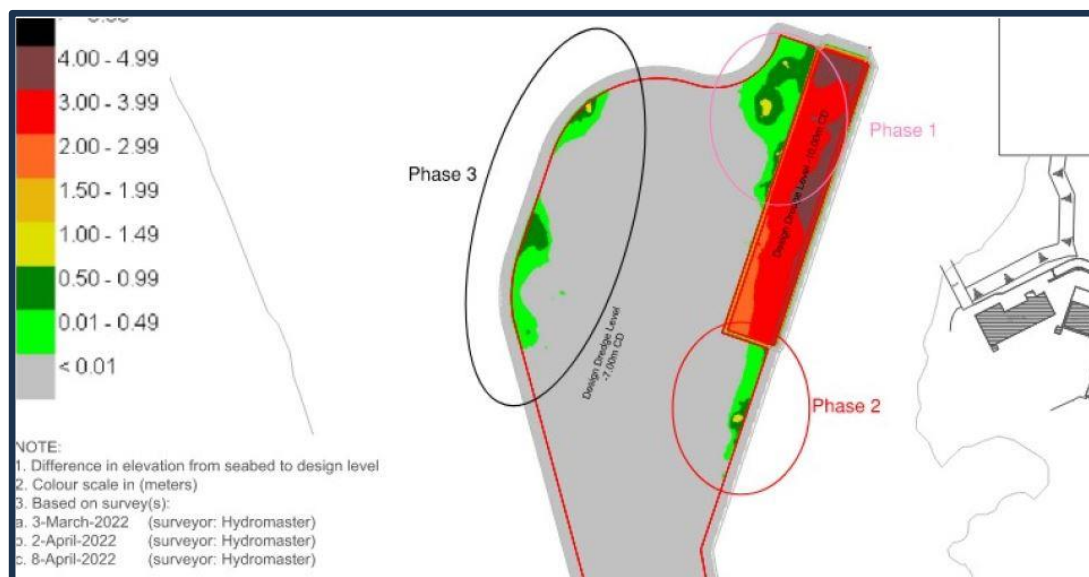
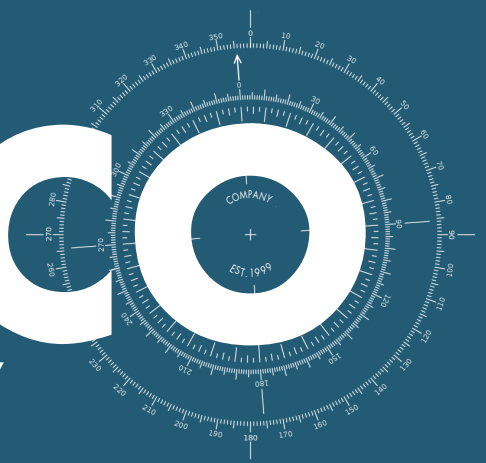


Plate 5: Extract from project drawing showing locations of the three phases of proposed dredging activity.

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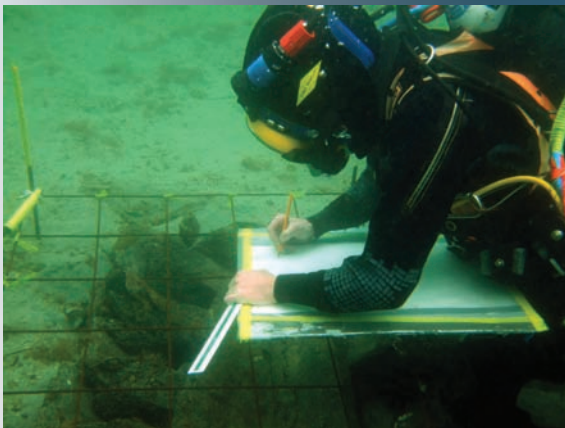
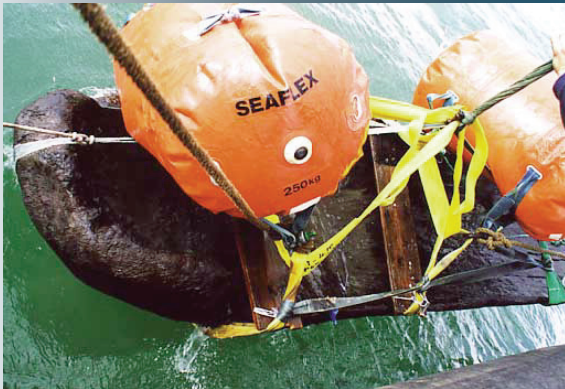


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