
Prepared for
McCauley Daye O'Connell

Presented on
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CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Prepared by
Declan Moore

Our Reference 24138

Your Reference NA

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT MCAULEY PLACE, NAAS, CO. KILDARE

Moore Archaeological & Environmental Services Limited. T/A Moore Group
Registered in the Republic of Ireland - Registration Number: 341912
Registered Address: 3 Gort na Rí, Athenry, Co. Galway, Ireland
Phone: +353 (0)91 765640
Web: www.mooregroup.ie



Moore Group Project Manager: Declan Moore

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Report prepared by: Declan Moore
Archaeological Consultant

Purpose

This report describes the results of a preliminary cultural heritage assessment of a proposed development at McAuley Place, Naas, Co. Kildare. The results, conclusions and recommendations contained within this report are based on information available at the time of its preparation. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that all relevant data has been collated, the author and Moore Group accept no responsibility for omissions and/or inconsistencies that may result from information becoming available after the reports completion. Moore Group accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the Client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

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Abbreviations

AAP	Area of Archaeological Potential
ACA	Architectural Conservation Areas
ASI	Archaeological Survey of Ireland
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DLHG	Demesne Landscapes and Historic Gardens
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NMS	National Monuments Service
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
OSI	Ordnance Survey Ireland
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
ZAP	Zones of Archaeological Potential
ZoN	Zone of Notification

Coordinate System

All GPS coordinates given in this report are in Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM).

1 Introduction

Moore Group was commissioned to complete a cultural heritage impact assessment of the potential impact of a medium-scale housing development of 44 units at McAuley Place, Naas, Co. Kildare as described herein. The proposed development is located on the western side of Sallins Road, approximately 165m from the intersection of North Main Street and Poplar Square.

There are no recorded archaeological monuments recorded by the NMS within the boundary of the subject site. The subject site is partially within the overall archaeological ZoN for Naas (KD019-030---- : Historic town). The nearest recorded monument is located roughly 60m to the southeast of the subject site (KD019-030058- : Font). There are two NIAH or RPS sites within the immediate vicinity of the subject site. The nearest RPS or NIAH sites are RPS no. NS19-205, NIAH no. 11814115, both in reference to the Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David and its associated graveyard/cemetery, and NIAH no. 11814097, Beaufort house. These sites are located to the immediate west and east of the subject site respectively.

1.1 Scope of Work

This study aims to assess, as far as reasonably possible from existing records, the archaeological and cultural heritage environment (hereafter referred to as cultural heritage environment or cultural heritage resource), to evaluate the potential or likely impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and, where appropriate, to suggest mitigation measures to ameliorate potential impacts, in accordance with the policies of:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The National Monuments Acts (1930-2005).
- The Naas LAP (2021-2027) and the Kildare County Development Plan (2023-2029).
- Best practice guidelines.

Following on from this, the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on the baseline environment is identified and evaluated.

1.2 Terms and Definitions

Cultural Heritage

The phrase 'cultural heritage' is a generic term used to identify a multitude of cultural, archaeological, and architectural sites and monuments. The term 'cultural heritage', in Environmental Impact Statement compliance with Section 2(1) of the Heritage Act (1995), is used throughout this report in relation to archaeological objects, features, monuments and landscapes as well as all structures and buildings which are considered to have historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social, or technical significance/merit. For the purposes of this report the definition of "cultural heritage" is taken broadly from the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972, which considers the following to be "cultural heritage":

- Tangible cultural heritage.
- movable cultural heritage (artefacts).
- immovable cultural heritage (monuments, archaeological sites, etc).
- underwater cultural heritage (shipwrecks, underwater ruins, and cities); and
- Intangible cultural heritage (oral traditions, folklore etc).

Cultural heritage comprises archaeology, architectural heritage, folklore, and history. Archaeology is the study of past societies through surviving structures, artefacts, and environmental data, and is concerned with known archaeological sites and monuments, areas of archaeological potential and underwater archaeology. Architectural heritage comprises structures, buildings, traditional and designed, and groups of buildings including streetscapes 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. Architectural heritage and archaeology together form 'built heritage' or 'tangible heritage'. Folklore and history are aspects of 'intangible heritage', which also includes language, musical traditions, traditional crafts and skills, townland names, poetry and so on. These forms of cultural heritage are "non-moveable, non-material and largely non environmental although by their associations with certain sites and places, add to the character of an area".

World Heritage Sites

Although not formally recognised in Irish legislation, impacts on World Heritage Sites will nonetheless be a material consideration for developments in their wider vicinity. To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection criteria. A World Heritage Site is a landmark or area with legal protection by an international convention administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific, or other form of significance. The sites are judged to contain "cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity".

National Monuments

On a national level, the highest degree of protection granted to archaeological monuments are those afforded National Monument status, which are protected under the National Monuments Act of 1930 and its various amendments. These are the pre-eminent archaeological sites in Ireland and fall into several categories including:

- Sites that are in the ownership or guardianship of the state.
- Monuments that are the subject of Preservation Orders.
- Monuments in the ownership of a local authority; and
- Walled towns.

Generally National Monuments in state care are numbered amongst the best preserved and most impressive monuments in the country.

Record of Monuments and Places/Archaeological Survey Database

The legislation that affords protection to the archaeology of Ireland has seen several amendments since the first National Monuments Act of 1930 and there is a legacy of several different registers and associated terminology.

A feature recorded in the 'Record of Monuments and Places' (RMP) refers to a recorded archaeological site that is granted statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1930-2004. The RMP is the most widely applying provision of the National Monuments Acts. It comprises a list of recorded monuments and places (resulting from the Archaeological Survey of Ireland [ASI]) and accompanying maps on which such monuments and places are shown for each county. The information contained within the RMP is derived from the earlier non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). However, some entries were not transferred to the statutory record as they refer to features that on inspection by the Archaeological Survey were found not to merit inclusion in that record or could not be located with sufficient accuracy to be included. Such sites however remain part of the SMR. The record is a dynamic one and is updated to take account of on-going research.

The most up-to-date record of archaeological monuments, the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD), is available for viewing and download on the www.archaeology.ie website. This record is continually revised and indicates several additional sites that do not feature in the RMP. The National Monuments Service also makes available SMR Zones of Notification on the website.

Sites and Monuments Record

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) is an inventory of the known archaeological monuments in the State. There are more than 150,800 records in the database and over 138,800 of these relate to archaeological monuments.

An 'area of archaeological potential' refers to an area of ground that is deemed to constitute one where archaeological sites, features or objects may be present in consequence of location, association with identified/recorded archaeological sites and/or identifiable characteristics.

Register of Historic Monuments

Section 5 of the 1987 National Monuments Act states that the Minister is required to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded in the Register without the permission of the Minister is illegal, and two months' notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. This list was largely replaced by the Record of Monuments and Places following the 1994 Amendment Act.

Architectural Conservation Areas

The Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, provides that all Development Plans must now include objectives for preserving the character of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs). An ACA is a place, area, group of structures or townscape of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic,

cultural, scientific, social, or technical interest, or which contribute to the appreciation of protected structures.

In these areas, the protection of the architectural heritage is best achieved by controlling and guiding change on a wider scale than the individual structure, to retain the overall architectural or historic character of an area.

Record of Protected Structures/National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

The importance of our built heritage is enshrined in the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (Part II, Section 10) which places a statutory obligation on local authorities to include in their Development Plans objectives for the protection of structures, or parts of structures, which are of special interest. The principal mechanism for the protection of these structures is through their inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). This list provides recognition of the importance of a structure, protection from adverse impacts and potential access to grant aid for conservation works. The record of Protected Structures is an ongoing process and can be reviewed and added to. In considering additions to the Record of Protected Structures local authorities have recourse to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which provides a source of guidance on the significance of buildings in their respective areas.

Designed Landscapes-Demesnes, Historic Gardens & Country Estates

The Architectural Section of the DHLGH is in the process of a multi-phase study looking at Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens that appear as shaded areas on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps, circa. 1830.

'The objective of this survey is to begin a process of understanding of the extent of Ireland's historic gardens and designed landscape. Sites were identified using the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps. These were compared with current aerial photography to assess the level of survival and change.'

1.3 Methodology

1.3.1 Introduction

In this assessment, tangible cultural heritage resources are captured under the relevant sections of archaeology and architectural/built heritage., while non-tangible associations with these sites and the wider study area (i.e., history and folklore) are assessed, where known, in the archaeological and historical background section of this report, with further information presented in relevant sections.

Evaluation of the potential impacts of the proposed development upon the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage resource is based on a desktop study of written, graphic, photographic, cartographic, and electronic information sources followed by a field survey. Considering, amongst other aspects, the legislative protection afforded to the cultural heritage resource, this report evaluates the archaeological, architectural, cultural, and historical importance of the subject area and examines the potential impacts of the proposed development and the effects on that resource.

The methodology used in the preparation of this assessment is broadly based on guidance provided in the National Roads Authority's (NRA) Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005a), and Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005b) (the 'NRA Guidelines'), Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects (TII Publication Number PE-ARC-02009), the EPA's Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA 2023) and other relevant guidelines.

This impact assessment addresses Cultural Heritage under the two headings of archaeology and architectural/built heritage.

1.3.2 Desktop Assessment

Known cultural heritage sites were reviewed on the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) along with aerial photography and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping and other relevant sources. The following information sources, where relevant, were used for this report:

Archaeological Heritage

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the tentative list of candidate sites.
- National Monuments, be they in the ownership or guardianship of the State, in the ownership of a local authority or monuments under preservation orders.
- Potential National Monuments in the ownership of a local authority.
- Walled Towns.
- Archaeological Monuments that are the subject of both Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders.
- The Register of Historic Monuments.
- Archaeological Survey Database (ASD) from www.archaeology.ie (Sites and Monuments Record available through the Historic Environment Viewer).
- Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) for County Kildare.
- National Monuments Service (NMS) Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) Zones of Notification.
- Lists contained in the Report of the Commissioners or Church Temporalities of Ireland (1879) which contain lists of Churches, School Houses and Graveyards that were vested in the Representative Church Body and the Burial Boards under The Irish Church Act, 1869. These sites which have the potential to be in the ownership of the Local Authorities were highlighted as potential National Monuments.

Architectural Heritage

- Architectural Conservation Areas from the Kildare County Development Plan.
- Protected Structures from the Kildare County Development Plan.
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) and NIAH Garden Survey.
- Demesnes Landscapes and Historic Gardens indicated on the OSI First Edition Mapping.

Where appropriate, sites considered of exceptional value or sensitivity in the broader area were also reviewed.

The Kildare County Development Plan (2023-2029) and the Naas Local Area Plan (2021-2027) were reviewed to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the cultural heritage of the area. The development plans contain lists of cultural heritage sites including national monuments, recorded monuments, architectural conservation areas, protected structures, and protected views as well as baseline assessments of the landscape character of the city.

The plans also outline the county's heritage policies and objectives that aim to protect and promote the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage resource. This evaluation was carried out with due regard to these policies and other relevant information contained within the plans.

To assess the potential impact of the proposed works the following sources were also consulted or reviewed:

- Excavations Bulletin. The Excavation Bulletin is both a published directory and an online database (www.excavations.ie) that provides summary accounts of all the excavations carried out in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 to 2012. The database gives access to over 15,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including Year, County, Site Name, Site Type, Grid Reference, Licence No., Sites and Monuments Record No. and Author.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland. The topographical files of the NMI identify all recorded finds held in the NMI archive that have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation. The files sometimes include reports on excavations undertaken by NMI archaeologists in the early 20th century. Valuable information that can be gleaned might include the exact location, ground type, depth below ground level and condition when found, of each find. However, the amount and the usefulness of the information available on each find can vary considerably. The topographical files are listed by county and townland and/or street name.
- Cartographic Sources. Analysis of historic mapping shows how the landscape has changed over time. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered, or removed over a period. Sometimes features that appear on these early maps are found to be of potential archaeological significance during fieldwork.
- Toponyms. Townland names are a rich source of information for the land use, history, archaeology, and folklore of an area. The placename can have a variety of language origins such as, Irish, Viking, Anglo-Norman and English. The names can provide information on families, topographical features, and historical incidents. In terms of the built environment many names reference churches, fords, castles, raths, graveyards, roads and passes etc. In compiling the following data, several resources were consulted including the Placenames Database of Ireland www.logainm.ie and Irish Names of Places by P.W. Joyce (Joyce, 1913).
- Aerial photographs. The usefulness of aerial photography is that it allows for a different perspective - 'the distant view'. Archaeological sites may show up on the ground surface, depending on their state of preservation, by light and shadow contrasts (shadow marks), tonal differences in the soil (soil marks) or differences in height and colour of the cultivated cereal

(crop marks). It is also a useful aid in pinpointing existing features and can assist in ascertaining their extent and degree of preservation.

- Lidar. The Geological Survey Ireland Open Topographic Data Viewer was consulted for available 1m/2m DTM Lidar data of the PDA¹.
- Published archaeological inventories; and
- Documentary Sources: several literary references were consulted.

Field Inspection

In addition to documentary and archival research and analysis, a detailed surface-based inspection of the area of the PDA was undertaken by the author. This also involved visiting selected accessible monuments to appraise the possible effects that the proposed development would have on the receiving archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage environment as well as to determine sites' current extent and condition. Field inspection is necessary to determine the extent and nature of archaeological, architectural, and historical remains and can also lead to the identification of previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds through topographical observation and local information.

1.4 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered during the completion of this assessment.

1.5 Description of Project

McAuley Place aims to contribute to the well-being of its residents by fostering autonomy, dignity, and overall well-being. While there have been advancements in medical care and general accessibility to buildings, studies highlight the negative impact of loneliness and social isolation on independently living seniors. The main aim of McAuley Place is to address these challenges. By creating a thoughtful campus that encourage social interaction and engagement, they can promote a sense of community among residents.

The proposed layout intends to improve connectivity and accessibility across the existing and proposed McAuley Place developments, making it a campus that facilitates smooth and intuitive movement for residents, visitors, and staff alike. The logical arrangement of the blocks in an east to west orientation aligns with the existing street layout, and Beaufort House follows a logical arrangement that allows for a transition between the existing and new structures.

Emphasising continuity, the design includes active frontages along each elevation, embracing the street, courtyard, and rear gardens. It is proposed to create a central courtyard designed to foster community engagement and interaction. Balancing pedestrian and cyclist access with a designated drop-off zone and accessible parking, the courtyard will serve as a vibrant hub for movement and casual encounters.

¹ <https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer>

By prioritising people over vehicular traffic, the layout establishes a clear spatial hierarchy, promoting a pedestrian friendly environment while minimising vehicular presence on the premises.

The proposed development will deliver a residential development containing 43 units for older persons at 13 & 18 Sallins Road, Beaufort Cottage and Beaufort, Sallins Road, Naas West, Naas, Co. Kildare. The development is spread across 3 blocks. Beaufort House will be retained and repurposed as community facilities ancillary to the residential use. Demolition of the non-original fabric alterations and additions to Beaufort is proposed. Demolition of the three existing terraced cottages fronting Sallins Road is proposed.

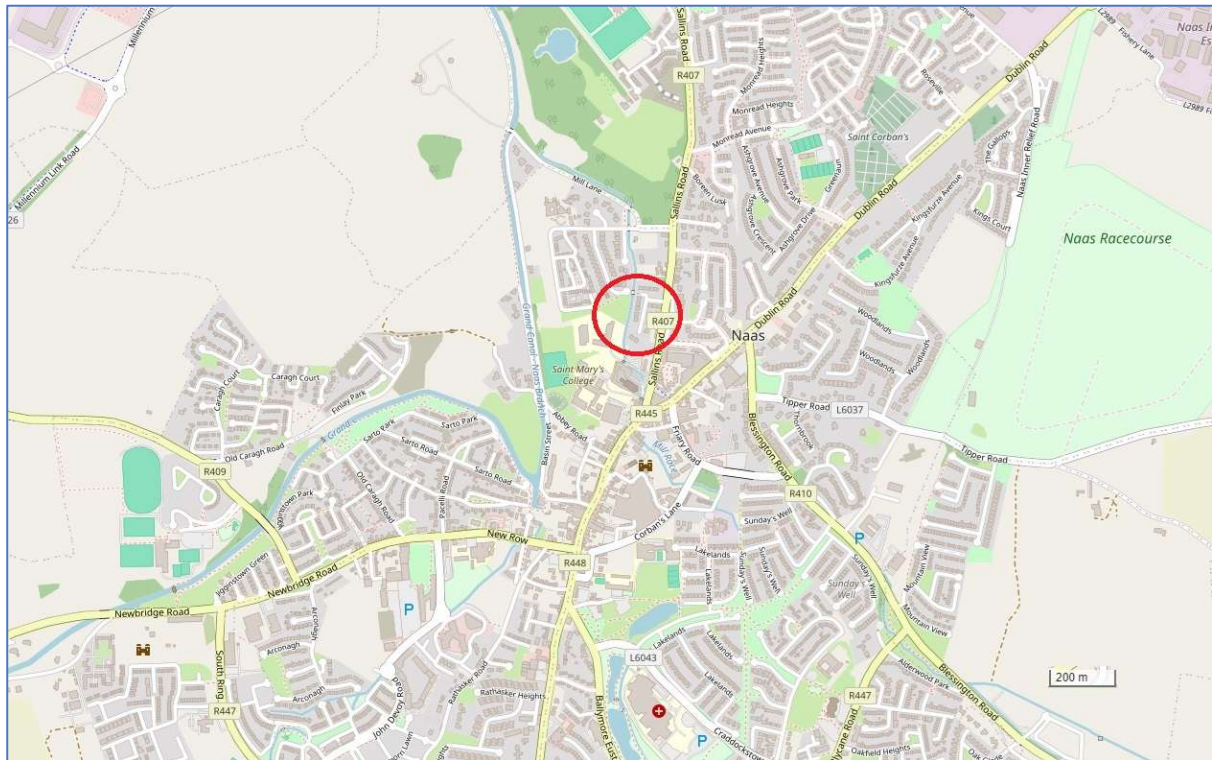


Figure 1 Showing location of Proposed Development Area (PDA) ©OpenStreetMap Contributors.

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Location Details

The PDA is in Naas West townland to the north of the town centre. The subject site is comprised of existing cottages and rear garden plots. To the west the site also incorporates Luisne Garden which is public sensory garden and woodland separated from the main site area by a north south running mill race which is fed from the Naas Canal, a branch of the Grand Canal.

Table 1 Location details

County	Kildare.
Barony	Naas North.
Parish	Naas.
Town/City	Naas.
Townland (s)	Naas West.
Road	West of Sallins Road.
Recorded Archaeological Sites within 100m	KD019-030058- : Font, KD019-030010- : Religious house - Augustinian canons, KD019-030056- : Burial ground.
Architectural Conservation Area	Naas Architectural Conservation Area is located roughly 35m to the south of the PDA.
Recorded Architectural Sites within 50m of works	There are numerous NIAH or RPS sites in the vicinity. Two NIAH or RPS sites are immediately vicinity of the subject site. RPS no. NS19-205, NIAH no. 11814115, the Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David and its associated graveyard/cemetery, and NIAH no. 11814097, Beaufort house.
ITM	Centred on 689332, 719797

2.2 Archaeological and Architectural Baseline Data

2.2.1 General Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1.1 Archaeological Background

2.2.1.1.1 Prehistoric Activity (7000 BC – 400 AD)

The Mesolithic (middle stone age) people were the first inhabitants of Ireland, arriving about 9000 years ago. They were a mobile society relying on wild resources for food, which was hunted and gathered using stone tools as well as boats, nets and traps. Settlement was in temporary and semi-permanent groups of huts constructed of wood slung with hide, which may have operated as seasonal or hunting camps. There is no evidence for the Mesolithic activity in the vicinity.

Farming was first adopted in the Middle East but spread gradually across Europe in succeeding centuries, arriving in Ireland about 4000 BC. Tending of crops and animals required a more sedentary lifestyle and larger permanent settlements were built. The megalithic (from the Greek mega – large and lithos – stone) monuments of the Neolithic people built as communal tombs or for ceremonial purposes, are relatively common in the landscape. New methods were adopted for shaping stone tools and the first long distance trade networks were established. There are no recorded site dating to the Neolithic in the surrounding area.

As stone tools were replaced using copper, later combined with tin to make bronze, the structure of society also changed over centuries. While some communal megalithic monuments, particularly wedge tombs continued to be used, the Bronze Age is characterised by a movement towards single burial and the production of prestige items and weapons, suggesting that society was increasingly stratified and warlike.

In late Bronze Age Ireland, the use of the metal reached a high point with the production of high-quality decorated weapons, ornament and instruments, often discovered from hoards or ritual deposits. Iron objects are found rarely, but there is no evidence for the warrior culture of the rest of Europe, although the distinctive La Tène style of art with animal motifs and spirals was adopted. Life in Iron Age in Ireland seems to have been much as it was in the early historic period – mixed farmers living in or around small, defended settlements known as ringforts or stone cashels. There are no recorded archaeological sites dating from the later prehistoric period in the surrounding area.

2.2.1.1.2 Early Medieval Period (ca. 400 – 1169 AD)

The placename *An Nás* means ‘place of assembly’ and is mentioned as early as the third century. Throughout this period, it was an important base for the kings of Leinster. From the middle of the sixth century onwards, hundreds of small monastic settlements were established around the country, many of which became very important. Naas was the site of an Early Christian monastery known as *Cill Corbhán* or *Cill Náis*. De Burgh (1891-5, 324) notes that “the monastery of *Tulach Fomhair* was at Millbrook, near Corban’s Mill...it was founded in the seventh century by *St. Fechin of Fobhair* and built upon lands given

by a king of Leinster. Comerford (1830-3, 107) also states that this was the site of the monastery. However, Bradley (1987, 344) argues that 'despite these suggestions...the precise location of *Tulach Fomhair* cannot be established'. It has been suggested that Corbans Lane (which curves from South Main Street, east to Friary Road), may be indicative of the southeastern outline of the early medieval monastic enclosure (Bradley, Halpin & King, 1986).

2.2.1.1.3 Late and Post-Medieval Period

Naas came under Anglo Norman control in the mid to late 12th century. This marks the beginning of the late medieval period in Ireland with the post-medieval period beginning ca. 1550. The Norman conquest meant the eclipse of many Gaelic lords and chieftains, but the invaders soon adopted Gaelic customs and began to marry with the native Irish and became as the phrase has it: 'more Irish than the Irish themselves'. This process of Gaelicisation is best exemplified in the adoption by various Norman families and branches of families of new surnames based on Gaelic-style patronyms. The Barony of Naas was granted by Strongbow to Maurice Fitzgerald in 1175. This grant was confirmed to his son, William Fitzmaurice, by Henry II in 1177 and reconfirmed by Prince John who, as king, visited Naas in 1206 and 1210 when he held a council in the town. An Augustinian priory was established before the end of the twelfth century and the parish church, dedicated to St. David, was in existence by the early thirteenth century.

Information on Naas in the Later Middle Ages is scanty. The town was apparently burned and plundered by Edmund Bruce in 1316, but it clearly recovered and its importance in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries may be gauged from the fact that at least nine parliaments and thirteen councils were held in Naas between 1355 and 1484. In addition, a Dominican Friary was founded by the FitzEustace family in 1355 and an Augustinian Friary in 1484. Although there are no indications that the town was walled at this period, there are references to town gates as Henry V granted to the Corporation the power to collect tolls at all the entrances to the town in 1413. In 1534 the Lord-Deputy, Skeffington took the town from the Fitzgeralds as that family were then in open rebellion with the Crown. Naas was incorporated by charter of Elizabeth I in 1568 and in 1577 the town was attacked and burned, during which an estimated 150 houses were burned. The town maintained its status in the seventeenth century, being described in 1606 as 'the chief corporate town in the county of Kildare' and granted a new charter by James I in 1609. Large garrisons of crown forces were stationed at Naas from the late sixteenth century. In 1648 it was garrisoned by the Earl of Ormonde who surrendered the town the Cromwellian forces under the command of Cols. Hewson and Reynolds in 1650. The population of the town in 1659 is recorded as 303 and a plan of the town and environs (Naas Parish) at this time is illustrated below in Figure 2. The census of 1659 records 273 English and 30 Irish, with the 'titulados' named as Richard Strecklan, Robert Moore, William Foster, Charles Hall, John Birkett, James Sherlocke, Will Dounebabane, Thomas Tate, William Sandes, Richard Horribon and the earl of Stafford; in 1670, the townland of Naas West was owned by Sir William Hamilton and the Lord Chief Baron and comprised 133 acres of 'profitable' land (www.downsurvey.tcd.ie). Further charters were granted to the town by Charles I in 1628 and Charles II in 1671.

The following description is excerpted from the 'Topographical Dictionary of Ireland' by Samuel Lewis, 1837:

NAAS, an incorporated market, post, and assize town (formerly a parliamentary borough), and a parish, partly in the barony of SOUTH SALT, but chiefly in that of NORTH NAAS, county of KILDARE, and province of LEINSTER, 17¾ miles (N. B. by N.) from Athy, and 15¾ (S.W.) from Dublin, on the great southern road to Cork; containing 4777 inhabitants, of which number, 3808 are in the town. This place, which is of very great antiquity, was at a very early period the residence of the Kings of Leinster; and after the invasion of Ireland by the English, was granted by John, Earl of Morton, to William Fitzmaurice, together with the adjacent territory and various important privileges, with a market and a very extensive jurisdiction in all pleas except those of the crown. It was soon after surrounded with a wall and strongly fortified; several castles were erected and many houses built; and from its central situation within the English pale, it rapidly rose into importance. A priory was founded here in the 12th century by the Baron of Naas, for Canons Regular of the order of St. Augustine, and dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which flourished till 1316, when the town was sacked by the Scots; but it was soon restored. In 1355, a convent for Dominican Friars was founded here by the family of Fitz-Eustace. Hen. V., in the 2nd year of his reign, granted to the "Portreeve, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the town of Naas" certain tolls for 20 years, to enable the inhabitants to wall their town.

In 1419 a parliament was held at this place, and in 1484, a convent for friars eremites of the order of St. Augustine was founded, but by whom is uncertain. The lord-Deputy Skeffington, in 1534, took the town from Lord Thomas Fitzgerald, who was then in open rebellion and had made himself master of it. In 1569, Queen Elizabeth granted a charter, which, without reciting or alluding to any previous charter, declares that the town of Naas shall be a free and undoubted borough. In 1577, between 700 and 800 thatched houses were burned on the night of a festival, by Roderick Oge O'Moore and Cormuck O'Conor, at the head of a party of insurgents from the country to the west of the English pale. The charter of Elizabeth was confirmed and extended by Jas. I., in 1609; and the borough, which was supposed to have existed only by prescription, was incorporated by the designation of the "Sovereign, Provosts, Burgesses, and Commonalty of Naas." A new charter was afterwards granted by Chas. II, in 1628, but the town has been always governed by the charters of Elizabeth and Jas. I. It was garrisoned by the Earl of Ormonde in 1648, and after experiencing many vicissitudes, in which it suffered severely, was finally taken for Cromwell by Cols. Hewson and Reynolds, in 1650. During the disturbances of 1798, this place was the scene of the first open act of insurrection; a party of insurgents attacked the town on the 24th of May, but were repulsed by the garrison, commanded by Lord Gosford, which, in anticipation of an assault, had been previously reinforced. The insurgents sustained for some time the attack of the Armagh militia and of Sir W. W. Wynne's fencible corps but retreated after the loss of about 150 of their men....

The principal trade is in corn, which is generally bought by the neighbouring millers; in the neighbourhood are several extensive flourmills, each capable of producing from 8000 to 10,000 barrels annually. A considerable traffic is also derived from its situation on a great public thoroughfare, and from the influx of persons attending the assizes and quarter sessions. A branch from the Grand Canal, commencing about a mile below Sallins, passes through the town and terminates at Corbally, in the parish of Carnalloway; it was completed in 1789, at an expense of £12,300, and affords great facility of conveyance for corn, coal, culm, and turf, and various articles of merchandise, which are brought to the town in great quantities for the supply of the surrounding neighbourhood....

The only remains of antiquity are the moat and St. David's Castle, the present glebe-house. Near the old gaol is a modernised house, now a baker's and butcher's shop, which was formerly one of the numerous castles of this place, of which all the others have long since disappeared in the progressive improvements of the town. There are no remains of any of the monasteries, all of which subsisted till the dissolution. The rath, in the centre of the town, is a high conical mount, where the states of Leinster are said to have held their general assemblies; at the foot of it was a religious house, of which only the cemetery is now remaining.

2.2.2 Archaeological Heritage

2.2.2.1 World Heritage Sites

There are no World Heritage Site or potential World Heritage Site contained in the Tentative List of Candidate Sites within 5km of the study area.

2.2.2.2 National Monuments in State Care, Guardianship or under Protection Order

There are no National Monuments in State Care (Ownership or Guardianship) or Monuments that are subject to a preservation order within the vicinity of the proposed development.

2.2.2.3 Record of Monuments and Places/Archaeological Survey Database/Register of Historic Monuments

The following sections contain information relative to the Register of Historic Monuments (RHM), the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD). Archaeological monuments are general registered by the National Monuments Service using a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) number.

Given the significant number of sites in the town a Zone of Archaeological Potential (ZAP; KD19- 030-- ; Historic Town) has been established and included in the Record of Monuments and Places. The subject site is partially located within the ZAP. The ZAP includes several individual monuments and complexes of monuments; one of these (KD019:030012-- & KD019-030-021--; Religious House – Dominican Friars & Graveyard; ITM: 689099 719636) is located at approximately 60m from the eastern extent of the subject site.

There are 8 recorded monuments within 200m of the subject site (several of which are excavation records). These sites are listed and described in Appendix 2.



Figure 4 Showing nearby recorded monuments (green line indicates part of PDA which intersects the ZAP for KD19- 030--, Historic Town.

2.2.2.4 Map Regression

Taylor's map of 1783 provides some topographical details of the area at that time, including watercourses within and in the immediate environs of the subject site, together with some tree planting; in particular the mill race (?) associated two mills (Friar Mill, which lies immediately to the north of the subject site and Flower Mill). This watercourse is presumably connected to the newly opened Grand Canal (1780) to the north. There are church ruins (Ch. Rs.) indicated to the south of the subject site.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1837 indicates the layout of the subject site and environs at that time. This indicates that the main site area incorporated two-three rear garden plots with a row of cottages fronting the Sallins Road to the east. At the west of the site the mill race widens into a large (decorative?) pond. To the north a lane is depicted with 'Meeting Hse' named. The site of the Augustine Abbey is also indicated.

By the time of the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1908/9 the rear gardens have been subdivided into several narrower plots, with 'Convent' named at the subject site. The small church of Our Lady and Saint David and its associated graveyard/cemetery are also depicted.

2.2.2.5 Aerial Photography

A review of available aerial photographs was undertaken to identify any previously unrecorded anomalies of historical or archaeological potential. Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the PDA held by the Ordnance Survey (1995-2013), Google Earth (2002-2020) and Bing Maps was completed. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

2.2.2.6 LiDAR Review

A review of the Geological Survey Ireland Open Topographic Data Viewer was carried out. The tile for the subject site revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

2.2.2.7 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

A review of the online resource www.heritagemaps.ie was completed. No finds are recorded in the immediate vicinity of the subject site. Due to current company policy regardless indoor spaces and COVID 19 the topographical files in the NMI were not inspected. It should be noted that not all recorded finds in the Topographical Files are included in www.heritagemaps.ie.

Object 1955:135, a Clay ‘marble’ is recorded 236m south of the subject site.

2.2.2.8 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the vicinity

Many archaeological excavations have been conducted in Naas over the past years. These have been carried out at both the northern and the southern end of the town, on either side of the ‘North Barrier’, an earthwork or wall that divides the medieval town in two. The placename ‘North Barrier’ implies an earthwork or wall on the northern side of a medieval settlement. The distinction between Main Street North and Main Street South is likely to derive from the existence of the ‘North Barrier’. Jim Higgins (Excavations 1998, No. 330, 98E0070) carried out limited excavations on the property adjacent to 3 Main Street (McDonalds Restaurant), where he identified clear evidence of early post-medieval deposits (c. AD 1550–1650). Clare Mullins (Excavations 1999, Nos 416–17, 99E0055) excavated a medieval pit at 19 Main Street North, although other evidence of archaeological activity was scant. At the southern end of the town, Finola O’Carroll (Excavations 1996, No. 196, 96E0124) identified part of the (13th–14th-century) earthen defensive ditch adjacent to Corban’s Lane and Gate. On the basis of the results of current excavated sites, medieval settlement had occurred on both sides of the ‘North Barrier’ by AD 1300. However, the presence of the ‘North Barrier’ implies sequential or staged development of the medieval town. The location of the market and the medieval parish church on the southern side of the ‘North Barrier’ suggests its primacy.

There are numerous records in the vicinity of the subject site. The closest of these are listed in Appendix 1 herein.

2.2.3 Architectural Heritage

A detailed report on the architectural heritage and potential impacts and mitigation is presented in a separate report prepared by Sinead Flynn of Flynn Associates.

2.2.3.1 Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA)

Naas Architectural Conservation Area is located roughly 35m to the south of the PDA.

2.2.3.2 Record of Protected Structures (RPS)/National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)/Industrial/Vernacular Heritage

There are numerous NIAH or RPS sites in the vicinity. Two NIAH or RPS sites are immediately vicinity of the subject site. RPS no. NS19-205, NIAH no. 11814115, the Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David and its associated graveyard/cemetery, and NIAH no. 11814097, Beaufort house. These are described below.

Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David, Sallins Road, NAAS WEST, Naas, KILDARE

Reg No.: 11814115

Rating: Regional

Original Use: Graveyard/cemetery

In Use As: Graveyard/cemetery

Date:1800 – 1830

Description: Graveyard with various wrought iron grave markers, c.1800-present, and one cut-stone marker. Detached five-bay single-storey rubble stone building, c.1800, to north with two-bay single-storey lower end bay to left (west). Renovated, c.1840, with recessed niches inserted containing statuary. Gable-ended roofs with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Random rubble stone walls. Lancet-arch recessed niches inserted, c.1840, containing statuary. Trefoil window in cut-stone surround. Fixed pane fitting. Rubble stone boundary wall, c.1800, to site on a U-shaped plan. Renovated, c.1840, with lancet-arch opening inserted approached by flight of steps having cut-stone voussoirs, crow-stepped parapet and wrought iron gate.

Appraisal: This graveyard is of considerable social interest, having been established for the internment of deceased nuns of the nearby convent. The graveyard forms and picturesque feature in the grounds shared with the Catholic church and convent and is entered through an attractive gateway containing an early iron gate. The grave markers, which are good examples of early surviving iron work, are of some artistic values, as are the various items of statuary to the walls of the building to the north, and to the boundary wall.

Beaufort, Sallins Road, NAAS WEST, Naas, KILDARE

Reg No.: 11814097

Rating: Regional

Original Use: House

In Use As: House

Date:1880 - 1920

Description: End-of-terrace four-bay single-storey house with dormer attic, c.1900, probably originally detached with round-headed door opening. Extended, c.1970, comprising two-bay two-storey flat-

roofed return to rear to west. Reroofed and refenestrated, c.1990. Gable-ended roof. Replacement artificial slate, c.1990. Red clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks. Square rooflights, c.1990. Iron rainwater goods. Flat roof to return. Bitumen felt. Rendered walls to front (east) elevation. Painted. Rendered dressings including channelled piers to ends. Roughcast walls to remainder. Painted. Square-headed window openings. Stone sills (concrete to return). Moulded rendered surrounds to front (east) elevation. Replacement uPVC casement windows, c.1990. Round-headed door opening. Moulded rendered surround and archivolt. Timber panelled door. Stained glass overlight. Set back from road in own grounds. Forecourt to front. Section of replacement iron railings, c.1970, to forecourt.

Appraisal

Beaufort (House) is a fine late nineteenth-/early twentieth-century house of balanced proportions that has been much renovated in the late twentieth century. The house incorporates decorative render work to the front (east) elevation, including moulded surrounds to openings, which is a good example of the high-quality craftsmanship in the locality. The house retains very little of its original features and materials, and the re-instatement of timber fenestration might restore a more accurate representation of the original appearance of the house. The house is an attractive feature of the streetscape of Sallins Road leading out of Naas to the north.

2.2.3.3 *Designed Landscapes-Demesnes, Historic Gardens & Country Estates*

The subject site lies within a formal garden referred to as Spring Gardens. This is no longer extant.

2.2.4 Folklore, Other Cultural Heritage Features and Areas of Potential

Other than the mill race no additional non-designated cultural heritage features were noted during the desk study or during field inspection.

2.2.4.1 *Rivers, Streams, and Wetlands*

Rivers and streams are important cultural as well as physical features of the landscape, and archaeological sites and features are often related with waterways including features such as fulachtaí fia, fords, bridges, and mills. Riverbanks have been favoured for human occupation since prehistoric times for their proximity to food sources and fresh water and they served as routeways, boundaries, defences and as a focus for ritual.

A mill race runs through the western part of the site, dividing the cottage rear gardens from Luisne Garden and the church and graveyard.

2.2.4.2 *Townlands, Townland Boundaries and Toponym Analysis*

The townland is an Irish land unit of considerable longevity as many of the units are likely to represent much earlier land divisions. However, the term townland was not used to denote a unit of land until the Civil Survey of 1654. It bears no relation to the modern word 'town' but like the Irish word *baile* refers

to a place. Many of the townlands are mapped within the Down Survey of the 1650s, so called as all measurements were carefully 'laid downe' on paper at a scale of forty perches to one inch.

No townland boundary will be directly impacted by the proposed works.

The subject site is located within the townland of Naas West (*An Nás Thiar*) translated as 'the Place of Assembly'.

2.2.4.3 Folklore Commission

A review of the National Folklore Collection was completed on www.Dúchas.ie. There are numerous references to Naas and Naas West townland. There is one record referencing the Sallins Road:

Collected from: Naas (Mercy Convent). **Archival reference:** The Schools' Collection, Volume 0776, Page 410. **Informant:** Kathleen Molanphy.

'Bladders Lane [now the entrance road to the Sycamores housing estate and Victoria Terrace to the east of the subject site] is situated at the north end of Naas. About twenty yards up this lane there is a gate, locally called the "Black Gate". After nightfall it is said that the ghost of a man traverses this lane, and it then stands at the gate for fully a half of an hour. This figure is supposed to be the devil, and it is said that his eyes are balls for fire. On Sallins Road about 200 yards out of Naas town there is a large stone, situated on the side of the road. A tiny woman dressed in a white frock, and a black hat is occasionally seen sitting on this stone, after midnight.'

2.3 Fieldwork

A field inspection was carried out on the 9th of August 2024 which entailed walking the proposed development site and its immediate environs, noting, and recording the terrain type and land usage, the presence of features of archaeological or historical significance and visually investigating any suspect anomalies observed to determine their nature and provenance where possible. The site comprises Luisne Garden to the west, a wooded area with a meandering pathway that leads to an open area at the end of the garden which consists of the original Nuns Gazebo room used for reflection in the nun's former garden space and a staging area. The eastern part of the site is separated from Luisne garden by the old mill race which runs roughly from north to south. This area comprises the rear gardens of the cottages facing onto the Sallins Road. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted during the site inspection.



Plate 1 Looking east at RPS no. NS19-205, NIAH no. 11814115, the Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David.



Plate 2 Looking north at RPS no. NS19-205, NIAH no. 11814115, the Catholic Church of Our Lady and Saint David and associated graveyard.



Plate 3 Looking north west to rear gardens of cottages.



Plate 4 Looking east at rear gardens of cottages.

2.4 Potential Effects

2.4.1 Potential Direct Effects

Direct negative impacts may occur where sites of archaeological and cultural heritage significance are located within the footprint of the proposed development, which would potentially be impacted upon by ground disturbances.

In relation to the proposed development, direct, physical impacts on the archaeological and cultural heritage can manifest themselves in the following ways:

- Where an archaeological or cultural heritage site, structure, monument, or feature is located within an area where works takes place and the works either intentionally or unintentionally

entail the alteration or removal of all or part of the site, structure, monument or feature a direct, physical impact will occur.

- Direct, physical impacts can also occur in gaining access to the site. Where archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments, or features are intentionally or unintentionally removed or altered when transporting and/or facilitating access for machinery, equipment and/or materials to or from site a direct physical impact will occur; and
- There is the potential for direct, physical impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological and architectural sites, structures, monuments, or features.

If these effects cannot be remediated, for example if archaeological deposits are destroyed during excavations, then the impacts will be permanent.

2.4.1.1 Potential Direct Effects on Recorded Archaeological Monuments

The proposed development will have no direct physical effect on known archaeological sites and monuments.

2.4.1.2 Potential Direct Effects on Unrecorded Archaeological Monuments or Features

The subject site is located partially within the overall ZoN/ZoP for the historic town of Naas (KD019-030---). The subject site is located outside the conjectural line of the medieval town defenses. Although there are no known or recorded monuments within the PDA, given the proximity of the site to known archaeological monuments and previous archaeological investigation which have revealed medieval and post medieval deposits (including burials) the potential for direct impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological material at this location was assessed as moderate to high.

2.4.1.3 Potential direct Impacts Architectural Sites

A detailed report on the architectural heritage and potential impacts and mitigation is presented in a separate report prepared by Sinead Flynn of Flynn Associates.

2.4.2 'Do Nothing Scenario'

If the proposed works were not to proceed, there would be no effect upon the archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage resource.

2.4.3 Potential Effects on Setting/Operational Effects

Impacts on Setting can be reduced with sensitive site development and screening. The impact of the development is usually proportional to the extent to which that development is visible to and from the extant recorded monuments and features.

2.4.3.1 Archaeological Sites

The proposed development will not impact the visual amenity of any known monuments.

2.4.3.2 Architectural Sites

A detailed report on the architectural heritage and potential impacts and mitigation is presented in a separate report prepared by Sinead Flynn of Flynn Associates.

2.4.4 Cumulative Effects

The permitted and proposed developments within a 500m study area have been considered as part of the cumulative impact assessment. No cumulative impacts upon the archaeological resource have been identified.

3 Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects

3.1 Mitigation Measures

It is recommended that a programme of archaeological testing of the subject site in areas where excavation/disturbance is anticipated be carried out well in advance of construction. 'Test excavation is that form of archaeological excavation where the purpose is to establish the nature and extent of archaeological deposits and features present in a location which it is proposed to develop (though not normally to fully investigate those deposits or features) and allow an assessment to be made of the archaeological impact of the proposed development. It may also be referred to as archaeological testing' (DAHGI 1999a, 27).

A suitably qualified archaeologist should be appointed to advise the design team on archaeological matters, liaise with the relevant authorities, prepare an archaeological licence application and method statement, and complete the archaeological testing work. Testing should be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service at the DHLGH. The application for such a licence requires a detailed method statement, outlining the procedures to be adopted to monitor, record, and recover material of archaeological interest during such work.

Should archaeological material be uncovered at any location, the feature will be summarily investigated to determine the form, age, nature, depth, and extent of the feature. The feature will be planned, photographed, and recorded to best professional standards.

Adequate funds to cover excavation, post-excavation analysis, and any testing or conservation work required should be made available if required. Upon completion of the works dissemination of the results will take the form of a stratigraphic report and full report to publishable standard lodged with the licensing section (NMS) and the Planning Section (NMS) and the National Museum of Ireland. A summary of the report will also be submitted to the Excavations Bulletin within six weeks of the end of fieldwork. Should results warrant it, wider dissemination in the form of a full publication may be recommended.

In addition, the report on the results of the test excavation and an impact statement will be submitted to the relevant authority to inform the archaeological site strategy. Where archaeological material is identified, the developer will submit an archaeological mitigation strategy and a detailed method

statement for written agreement with the relevant authority detailing proposed mitigation including, preservation in situ by way of avoidance or redesign, and/or archaeological excavation under a Section 26 licence in advance of development.

The agreed archaeological mitigation (preservation in situ/full excavation) shall take place under licence prior to the commencement of development. The developer shall make provision for excavation, post excavation, interpretation, and publication of the results. A preliminary report detailing the findings of the agreed resolution shall be submitted to the planning authority within four weeks of the licence expiry and a full and final report shall be submitted to the planning authority within 1 year of the licence expiry date.

The above recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service at the DHLGH and other relevant authorities.

3.2 Residual Impact Assessment

This section assesses potential significant environmental impacts which remain after mitigation measures have been implemented.

3.2.1 Construction Phase

There will be no significant residual impacts on the archaeological resource.

3.2.2 Operational Phase

Not applicable to the archaeological and architectural resource.

3.2.3 Summary of Post-mitigation Effects

There are no predicted residual impacts on the archaeological resource.

3.2.4 Cumulative Residual Effects

No cumulative impacts have been identified upon the archaeological resource and as such there will be no residual cumulative effects.

3.3 'Worst case' Effect

Under a worst-case scenario, the works would disturb previously unrecorded deposits, features or objects without proper excavation and recording being undertaken.

Appendix 1 Previous Excavations in the vicinity

Licence number: 03E1707

2005:772 - NAAS: Convent of Mercy, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: NAAS: Convent of Mercy

Sites and Monuments Record No.: KD019-030042

Author: Ellen O'Carroll, The Archaeology Company

Site type: Graveyard

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750-AD 2000)

ITM: E 689221m, N 719817m

Archaeological excavations of 40 human skeletons were carried out in the grounds of the former Convent of Mercy, Sallins Road, Naas, in February and April 2005. These remains were uncovered during testing in October 2003 (Excavations 2003, No. 965). Excavations revealed that nearly all of the skeletons were interred in wooden coffins, which survived as wood fragments, coffins or nails. Orientation of the burials was east-west, with the head resting on the western side of the grave. All skeletons in the graveyard have been removed within the footprint of the proposed building, which has been conclusively tested to the level of natural subsoil.

It is likely that the human remains were buried c. 100–140 years ago. The excavated skeletal remains should be reinterred following the compilation of the osteoarchaeological report.

Licence number: 02E0955

2002:0966 - NAAS: Burkes Pharmacy, 3 Main Street, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: NAAS: Burkes Pharmacy, 3 Main Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Author: Edmond O'Donovan, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd.

Site type: Historic town

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 689281m, N 719679m

Small-scale excavations were conducted on the site. They revealed medieval and early post-medieval deposits behind the buildings on the street front. These deposits suggest the presence of a late medieval building (c. AD 1300), where partial evidence of a house floor and hearth were uncovered. The superstructure of the building was fashioned from timber, as no masonry remains were identified on the old ground surface (1.6m below present ground level). The occupation level was followed by evidence of cultivation. The cultivation was identified by the presence of garden soils dating from the medieval to the early post-medieval period. This deposit sequence was followed by later, cobbled occupation

surfaces, indicating the presence of a yard to the rear of the premises that fronted onto Main Street. A 19th-century deposit of cattle horn-cores suggests butchering activity in the early modern period. Given the lack of significant excavations of medieval habitation deposits in Naas, these excavations allow for some analysis of the models proposed by Thomas (1992, 170) for the growth and development of the town.

Pottery was the principal dating tool on-site and dated occupation from the 13th to the 18th century. Diagnostic pottery finds included a single sherd of Isabella polychrome ware dating from the 16th century. The sherd was retrieved from the basal deposits of the garden soil. Other diagnostic pottery types identified include Ham Green B and locally manufactured medieval jugs. A secure medieval date can be postulated for these types. This has established a framework for the settlement history of the archaeological deposits on-site and indicates that the earliest deposits, the house floor etc., date from the medieval period (c. AD 1300). These structures were then abandoned, and gardens were developed at the site. This was followed by the development of a series of cobbled yards (18th century), most likely associated with outbuildings up to the 19th century, where butchering was practised on the site.

The presence of a variety of seed types associated with medieval deposits (oat, wheat and barley) indicates the supply of cereal crops from outside the town; however, the identification of a charred pea associated with common weeds suggests that the garden soil may have been used for the production of vegetables. The evidence of meat consumption in the town (in spite of the small size of the bone assemblage) indicates that the same variety of meat-yielding animals were slaughtered as have been recognised in other towns and points to an established local economy geared to providing food for the inhabitants of Naas. The presence of the imported pottery from Britain (in the medieval period) and Spain (in the early post-medieval period) demonstrates wider trade connections, most likely via Dublin.

Reference

Thomas, A. 1992 Walled towns of Ireland. Dublin.

Licence number: 22E0060

2022:781 - St Mary's College, Sallins Road, Naas West, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: St Mary's College, Sallins Road, Naas West

Sites and Monuments Record No.: KD019-030012-

Author: Camilla Brännström

Site type: Non-archaeological

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 689200m, N 719675m

A programme of archaeological monitoring of twenty geotechnical investigation (GI) trenches and the excavation of four archaeological test trenches was implemented within the boundaries of a proposed development at St Mary's College, Naas. A portion of the site is located within the Naas Zone of

Archaeological Potential. The site of Dominican Friary KD019-030012- may extend within the boundaries of the proposed development area.

No archaeology was found.

Licence number: 07E0171 ext.

2008:679 - 35–37 Main Street North, Naas, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: 35–37 Main Street North, Naas

Sites and Monuments Record No.: KD019–030

Author: Martin E. Byrne, Byrne Mullins & Associates, 7 Cnoc Na Greine Square, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare.

Site type: No archaeological significance

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 689346m, N 719575m

Monitoring was undertaken at the site of a mixed-use development at 35–37 North Main Street, Naas. The grant of planning originally included a condition requiring that the site be subjected to pre-development testing. However, due to the density of existing buildings on the site, the development was subjected to a non-intrusive impact assessment, following which it was agreed that demolition works and site preparation/disturbance works would be monitored.

All stone building fabric was examined and all ground-reduction works associated with the provision of services, ground beams and underpinning works required of the development were monitored. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered during the course of the works.

Licence number: 00E0842

2000:0507 - NAAS: Dublin Road, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: NAAS: Dublin Road

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Author: Michael Tierney and Sarah Halpin, Eachtra Archaeological Projects

Site type: Graveyard

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400-AD 1600)

ITM: E 689431m, N 719629m

The site is on the western side of the Dublin Road immediately to the north-east of the heart of Naas town centre, in an area abutting the site of what may be an Augustinian foundation. An Augustinian priory dedicated to St John the Baptist was founded in this area in the late 12th century.

This subrectangular linear site is delimited by the divergence of the Dublin Road and the Sallins Road. Between 13 November and 1 December 2000, licensed monitoring and subsequent test excavations were undertaken to determine the limits and density of burial in the cemetery. Prior to this project, a number of test excavations were undertaken by Clare Mullins in December 1995 to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site (Excavations 1995, 47, 95E0279). She found significant human skeletal remains in the southern portion of the site. Furthermore, these burials were located in and around the relict remains of recently demolished cottages that fronted onto the Dublin Road.

The current excavations uncovered the remains of 81 skeletons. Of these, 26 were fully excavated and removed, and a further 55 were only partially uncovered. The burials were not distributed evenly over the burial area but occurred in localised concentrations, with the greatest density occurring in the south corner of the site; elsewhere they appear to be only one or two deep. Most of the inhumations were placed in unlined graves, although there were two examples of a stone-lined construct. The positioning of the skeletons suggested that the bodies were originally wrapped in shrouds. There was a general paucity of grave finds, reflecting general medieval burial practices. Finds consisted generally of sherds of medieval pottery. Burials were typically orientated in a west–east direction.

Individual grave-cuts were not apparent for the majority of burials excavated, except in cases where they cut an earlier inhumation or where they were cut into the subsoil. From the limited number of grave-cuts, some stratigraphic relationships and trends could be discerned. Three possible phases of burial have been identified from the orientation of the burials. Phase 1 consisted of west–east-oriented burials, eleven of which were excavated. Phase 2 consisted of west-north-west/east-south-east-oriented burials. These made up the majority of the burials excavated, with a total of 43. Phase 3 consisted of south-west/north-east-oriented burials. There were only seven burials oriented in this direction.

The northern edge of the burial area is delimited by a wide gravel bank, which also forms the limit of the excavated area. Mullins's test-trenches in December 1995 found nothing of archaeological significance in the north of the site. Two stone walls were found just outside the north-eastern side of the enclosing element, both of which were probably medieval/late medieval in date. The burials evidently pre-date the later 19th-century cottages, and fragments of possible medieval pottery were found that support a medieval date.

T. O'Connor in the 1837 Ordnance Survey Letters located the Augustinian priory on the site of the parochial house, known as St John's Abbey, which is located to the west of the development site. The method of burial (simple shroud burials placed in unlined graves, and two stone-lined burials), coupled with the possible links of the site to an Augustinian foundation, support a 13th-century date. Work is ongoing, and results are preliminary. Specialist reports will aid more accurate dating and interpretation of the site.

Licence number: 98E0070

1998:330 - NAAS: Main Street, Kildare

County: Kildare Site name: NAAS: Main Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Author: Jim Higgins

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Post Medieval (AD 1600-AD 1750)

ITM: E 689478m, N 719693m

Monitoring took place at the site of Moloneys Bakery, North Main Street, Naas, Co. Kildare, in advance of it being developed as a new McDonald's fast-food outlet.

The foundations of the structural walls of the new building were monitored once all of the buildings (apart from the facade and part of the shell of the structure fronting onto the main street) had been demolished and most of the concrete flooring had been removed. The rest of the site was to remain undisturbed, and the area was to be raised above the present floor level.

Cutting 1, which was 6m long, 0.9–1.05m wide and 1.6–1.8m deep, was to the rear of the site and at right angles to a stone boundary wall. Below several modern layers were found Contexts 7 and 8, which are fundamentally the same. Context 7 was a black, organic deposit with oyster and mussel shells (some small fragments of limpet shell were also noted, and, while animal bone also occurred, it was less common than in Context 8). It contained post-medieval pottery fragments, the occasional piece of twig, many pieces of limestone, stone and numerous pieces of crushed slate, mainly greyish-blue. Some very small pieces of schist also occurred.

Context 8 was a thick deposit of dark, organic material very rich in animal bone, including the remains of cattle, sheep and pigs. Again small stones and a large amount of broken slate also occurred. Among the finds was a variety of post-medieval pottery, some pieces of mortar and a fragment of ridge-tile. Also occurring was some imported German stoneware (?Raeren), a fragment of a stoneware 'Bellarmine' or 'Grey beard' jug and some pieces of wood. A piece of wine glass also occurred. Below this was boulder clay.

Cutting 2 was made along almost the entire length of the site. It produced little of archaeological consequence. In only two areas was there any undisturbed stratigraphy. One section produced a short segment of cobbled flooring. This was undoubtedly late, as a piece of willow pattern plate was found in the gravel beneath the cobbles and a clay pipe stem fragment was also found in this context.

The stratigraphy in Cutting 3 was similar to that in Cutting 1.

As the foundations of the new building were designed not to extend more than 0.2m below the present surface, and as no archaeological deposits would be disturbed, it was recommended that the building work should proceed as planned.

Appendix 3 Recorded Monuments within 200m of the subject site

KD019-030-----: Historic town: NAAS EAST, NAAS WEST

Description: According to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 4, 343-383), Naas was the site of an Early Christian monastery known as 'Cill Corbain' or 'Cill Náis' (KD019-030046-----), the former's name being preserved in the present-day Corban's Lane, whose curving course may preserve the line of a pre-Norman monastic enclosure. However, the precise location of the monastery is uncertain. The town is also known as 'Nás na Rí'/'The assembly place of the Kings', because between the 8th and 10th century it was a seat of the Kings of Leinster. The fort ('dún') of Naas is first referred to in 705 AD and may subsequently have been incorporated into the Anglo-Norman motte (KD019-030009-). A second motte (KD019-030023-----) may have stood at the S end of the town. After the arrival of the Normans, Naas was granted by Strongbow to Maurice Fitzgerald, and the Augustinian Priory (KD019-030010-) and parish church (KD019-030020-) were both in existence by the beginning of the 13th c. There was also a Dominican Friary (KD019-030012-) in the town. Naas had been granted a weekly market as early as c. 1186, and it may have originally been held at the N end of South Main Street where the tholsel/townhall (KD019-030008-) subsequently stood, before moving to 'the Green of Naas' (presumably the Fair Green at the S-end of the town), probably in the 16th C; and there is a 17th century reference to a market cross (KD019-030047-). Naas was reputedly burnt and plundered by Edmund Bruce in 1316. There is little information on the town in the later Middle Ages but some nine parliaments and 13 councils were held there between 1355 and 1484, while in 1467-8 Naas was described as the 'Key of the County of Kildare in resistance of their Irish enemies'. Increasing instability resulted in a number of murage grants to the town in the 15th century when, in 1415, there is the first mention of town defences (KD019-030001-). While there is little, if any, physical evidence that the town was ever walled, archaeological investigations associated with modern building development has uncovered evidence of a town ditch, which was presumably augmented by an earthen rampart. At least six town gates are recorded (North Gate, Watergate Castle, Corban's Gate, Green Gate, West Gate and Iago's Gate), and the town also contained some six tower houses or fortified houses, the precise locations of some of which are uncertain: they include the Black Castle (KD019-030013-), Eustace Castle (KD019-030014-), Lattin's Castle (KD019-030015-), The Rose and Crown/Wheatley's Castle (KD019-030016-/KD019-030017-), the White Castle (KD019-030018-) and St David's Castle (KD019-030019-). Naas was incorporated by charter of Elizabeth in 1568. It was burnt again in 1577, when a (probably exaggerated) report by Sir Henry Sidney claimed that between 700 and 800 houses were destroyed. Large garrisons of crown forces were stationed at Naas from the late-16 century, particularly between c. 1598-1601, and during the wars of the 1640's, when the town changed hands on several occasions. Naas did, however, maintain its status in the 17th C: it was described in 1606 as 'the chief corporate town in the County of Kildare' and a new charter was granted by James 1 in 1609. A population of 303 was recorded in 1659. The town has a linear street pattern centred on North and South Main Streets, off which several small lanes run at right angles. South Main Street is wider than North and is reminiscent of 17th century town layout. A burgage plot pattern

survives mainly on the W side of North Main Street and on both sides of South Main Street, and the most common dwellings were likely to have been the 'lowe thatched housies' mentioned by Sidney.

KD019-030010---: Religious house - Augustinian canons : NAAS WEST

Description: According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 4, 367-8), the Augustinian Priory of St John the Baptist was founded in the late 12th-century (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 189), but there are few references to it prior to the 14th -century. The church is described in an extent of 1540 as being used as a barn, while the precinct also included a hall, a tower, stables, a dovecote, a watermill and an orchard (White 1943, 154-5). The priory was probably on, or near, the site of the present parochial house, and was known in the 19th-century as St John's Abbey. Digging in the area in the 1950's revealed sections of stone walls which may have belonged to the priory. In 1990, archaeological testing (O'Carroll F. Excavation Licence No. 90E0022) identified a ditch (Wth 3.3-3.7m; D 1.2m; est. traceable L c. 25m N-S) from which two sherds of medieval Leinster Cooking Ware were recovered. The ditch was interpreted as possibly forming a boundary for the priory. A font (KD019-030058-) was also recorded at the site. In 1995, archaeological testing led in 2000 to archaeological monitoring and excavation at a previously unrecorded graveyard (KD019-030042-) associated with the priory.

KD019-030041---: Excavation – miscellaneous: NAAS WEST

Description: Archaeological trial-trenching (Licence no. 97E0299: www.excavations.ie) undertaken at No. 1A North Main St. revealed five layers of which one, the basal layer, was of archaeological interest. It consisted of a dark brown/black soft clayey silt which was organic in nature. This material generally existed in pockets/depressions in the underlying subsoil, but a continuous layer was also uncovered. The material had an average thickness of 0.1m and produced a number of leather scraps and cattle horn-core fragments. However, no features or structures were encountered, although a number of sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from the upper non-archaeological layers. The lowering of ground level by up to 0.3m across the entire rear area of the site and the excavation of building foundations were also monitored (Licence no. 97E0299 ext.). A number of sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the upper layers and one sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the silty basal layer.

KD019-030042---: Graveyard: NAAS WEST

Description: In 1995, archaeological testing (Licence no. 95E0279: www.excavations.ie) led in 2000 to archaeological monitoring and excavation (Licence nos. 01E0094, 00E0842 and 00E0849) in the vicinity of the Augustinian priory site (KD019-030010-). Archaeological excavation uncovered the remains of 81 skeletons, 26 of which were fully excavated and removed, with 55 being only partially uncovered. The burials were not distributed evenly over the burial area but occurred in localised concentrations, with the greatest density occurring in the south corner of the site. They were typically orientated in an east-west direction. Most were in unlined graves, but two stone-lined graves were found. The positioning of the skeletons suggested that the bodies were originally wrapped in shrouds. There was a general paucity

of grave finds, apart from sherds of medieval pottery. A strategy was agreed with Dúchas for the preservation of the human remains in situ. It was concluded that the human remains were part of the graveyard of the 13th-century Augustinian priory.

Further excavation (Licence no. 01E0094: www.excavations.ie) immediately north of the graveyard uncovered two main lines of field boundaries marked by the remains of ditches that produced large quantities of medieval pottery dating from the 13th and 14th c. They ran across the site with a broad east-west orientation, from the Sallins Road. Eleven rubbish and storage pits with frequent sherds of medieval pottery were excavated, along with eight modern pits with material remains dating from the 18th and 19th c. These were broadly positioned so as to be associated with settlement activity along the modern Sallins Road. Four stone-lined wells were excavated. All produced large quantities of medieval pottery. A silver penny dating from the early 14th century was found on top of one of them. The first well was constructed with unbonded limestone. Four steps were cut to the side of a circular stone-lined well, which was 1.57m deep. It measured 4.02m east-west by 2.09m. The second well was 5m to the west of this. It was stone-lined and was cut to a maximum depth of 1.91m. It measured 1.68m north-south by 1.65m. The water was accessed from the south-western corner, where there was a large flat stone in situ that looked like the core of a small platform. Across from the platform area the wall had the appearance of containing a recess, possibly for a shrine of some kind. Immediately to the west of this was a smaller well, circular in shape with a 2.3m-diameter cut and depth of 1.59m. The wall was 1.64m in diameter and 1.26m deep, with flat stones on the southern side possibly giving access. The fourth well was 10m to the south. It measured 3.12m north-east/south-west by 2.5m. Access was from the north-west, where two steps were cut into the natural, one of which showed evidence of being gritted with coarse pebbles. The stone-lined well was 1.29m in diameter with a depth of 1.4m. The pottery from all wells was broadly similar, being given a tentative 13th- and 14th-century date. It was noted that there was a higher proportion of exotic pottery in the well backfills than in the rubbish-pits. It is likely that the wells were deliberately backfilled or went out of use at the same time. A grave containing four individuals was found in the eastern part of the site, 6m from the Dublin Road. The cut was 1.53m north-east/south-west and 0.7m wide, with a depth of 0.58m. The bodies gave the appearance of having been thrown casually into the grave, rather than being placed in, either in coffins or shrouds. At least two individuals showed evidence of possible trauma to arm bones. The grave was c. 75m north-east of the graveyard found under the earlier test excavations, and so appeared to be on unconsecrated ground. This raises the possibility that these individuals were social outcasts of some kind (Leigh Fry 1999). Medieval pottery was found in the backfill. A layer of redeposited and badly fragmented human remains found over 25m north of the edge of the graveyard. They were spread over an area measuring 1.95m east-west by 1.63m, with a maximum depth of 0.35m, and were found in a layer of building rubble which may have come from the construction of the cottages along the Dublin Road. It is likely that the human remains were gathered up and deposited at this location during site clearance works for these cottages in the 19th c.

KD019-030048----: House – medieval: NAAS WEST

In 2002, archaeological excavation (Licence no. 02E0955: www.excavations.ie) revealed medieval and early post-medieval deposits behind the buildings fronting the W side of the N end of North Main St. These deposits suggest the presence of a late medieval building (c. AD 1300), where partial evidence of a house floor and hearth were uncovered. The superstructure of the building was presumably fashioned from timber, as no masonry remains were identified on the old ground surface (1.6m below present ground level). The occupation level was followed by evidence of cultivation indicated by the presence of garden soils dating from the medieval to the early post-medieval period. This deposit sequence was followed by later, cobbled occupation surfaces, indicating the presence of a yard to the rear of the premises that fronted onto Main Street. A 19th-century deposit of cattle horn-cores suggests butchering activity in the early modern period. Pottery finds included Ham Green B and locally manufactured medieval jugs and indicated occupation from the 13th to the 18th century.

KD019-030049----: Excavation – miscellaneous: NAAS WEST

In 1998, archaeological excavation (Licence no. 98E0070: www.excavations.ie) in advance of a private development on the W side of the N end of North Main St. uncovered early post-medieval organic deposits of oyster and mussel shells, cattle, sheep and pig bones and pottery fragments.

KD019-030056----: Burial ground: NAAS WEST

Archaeological testing (Licence no. 03E1707: www.excavations.ie) was carried out in the walled garden to the rear of the Convent of Mercy in Sallins Road, Naas. Ten skeletons, a much-degraded wall feature and an area of clay and red brick (possibly dump material) were uncovered. The skeletal remains were quite widely dispersed, averaging 1m apart and appearing to be only one layer deep. They were buried at a depth of 0.6-0.8m. All were aligned north-northeast/south-southwest, with the head at the southern end. Wood staining was noted around the perimeter of Burial No. 1 and an iron nail was uncovered close to the skull. The wood staining is probably associated with the remains of a coffin. As this was archaeological testing, the full extent of any of the bodies was not exposed. There were no archaeological remains uncovered in the northern portion of the garden. Two trenches were also excavated to the front of the convent and to the north of the church. There was nothing of archaeological significance uncovered in this area. The stratigraphy revealed layers of backfill and redeposited material possibly associated with the construction of the church and convent in the 1820s and 1830s.

KD019-030058----: Font: NAAS WEST

On the site of the Augustinian Priory of St John the Baptist (KD019-030010-). In 1990, archaeological testing (O'Carroll F. Excavation Licence No. 90E0022) in advance of a proposed development recorded a sub-rectangular granite font, of possible medieval date, at the site.

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Appendix 2 Conventions, Directives and Legislation

Conventions

Ireland has ratified several European and international conventions in relation to the protection of its cultural heritage. This section summarises Ireland's obligations as a signatory to several International and European conventions relating to the protection and conservation of cultural heritage sites. Also included is a synopsis of existing national legislation governing the care and protection of our cultural heritage resources.

ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration, 2005

Ireland is a signatory to an international declaration sponsored by International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, 2005, that endeavours to ensure the safeguard and conservation of the World's cultural heritage as part of its sustainable and human development.

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.

To assist planning and other consent authorities in deciding if significant effects on the environment are likely to arise in the case of development below the national mandatory EIS thresholds, the DHLGH published a Guidance document in August 2003.

The European Landscape Convention 2000

In 2002 Ireland ratified the European Landscape Convention - also known as the Florence Convention, which promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues. It is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all dimensions of European landscape.

Valletta Convention, 1997

In 1997 the Republic of Ireland ratified the Council of Europe, European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valletta Convention'). Obligations under the Convention include provision for statutory protection measures, including the maintenance of an inventory of the archaeological heritage and the designation of protected monuments and areas.

Granada Convention, 1997

Under the European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage (Granada Convention), 1997, the Republic of Ireland is obliged to maintain inventories of architectural heritage, to protect the architectural heritage and adopt conservation policies as integrated planning objectives.

UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972

This Convention provides for the identification, conservation, and preservation of cultural and natural sites of outstanding universal value for inclusion in a world heritage list. The World Heritage status is a non-statutory designation, and no additional statutory controls result from this designation. However, the impact of proposed development upon a World Heritage Site will be a key material consideration in determining planning applications.

Legislation

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 ensures the protection of the archaeological heritage resource by requiring that all applications under this Act are accompanied by an EIAR including information on material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, and the cultural heritage.

The National Monuments Act 1930 to 2004

Irish legislation for the protection of archaeological heritage is based on the National Monuments Acts 1930 and amendments of 1954, 1987, 1994 and 2004. These acts are the principal statutes governing the care of monuments in Ireland. They provide for the protection of national monuments using preservation orders. The overall state archaeological service is provided by the DHLGH and delivered through the Planning and Heritage Section of the DHLGH and the National Museum of Ireland (Irish Antiquities Division) on behalf of the Minister.

Monuments are protected under the National Monuments Acts in several ways:

- National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a local authority.
- National Monuments, which are subject to a preservation order.
- Historic monuments or archaeological areas recorded in the Register of Historic Monuments; and
- Monuments recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).

Section 12(3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 provides for the protection of monuments and places 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 or 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 work for a period of two months after having given the notice”.

The Planning and Development Act 2000

Under arrangements which came into operation on 1 January 2000 (The Planning and Development Act 2000), the system of listing buildings was replaced with strengthened procedures for the preservation of protected structures and structures in architectural conservation areas (ACA).

The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act, 1999

This Act provides for the establishment of a national inventory of architectural heritage which forms the basis for recommendation from the Minister to local authorities of sites for inclusion in the local authorities Record of Protected Structures