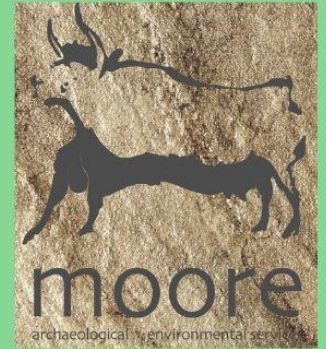

Prepared for
Tobin Consulting Engineers

Presented on
15th August 2023



CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Prepared by
Declan Moore

Our Reference **23086**

Your Reference **NA**

PROPOSED PUBLIC REALM UPGRADE, DUNSHAUGHLIN, CO. MEATH

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



Revision History

Revision Reference	Date Issued	Issued To
23086 Dunshaughlin CHA	5 th May 2023	Client
23086 Dunshaughlin CHA RevA	8 th May 2023	Client
23086 Dunshaughlin CHA RevB	15 th August 2023	Client

Report prepared by: **Declan Moore**
Archaeological Consultant

Purpose

This report describes the results of a cultural heritage assessment of proposed works associated with upgrades to the public realm at Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath. 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.

Filename: 23086 Dunshaughlin CHA RevB

Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	5
1.1	Scope of Work.....	5
1.2	Terms and Definitions.....	5
1.3	Methodology	7
1.4	Description of Project.....	9
2	Existing Environment	11
2.1	Location Details.....	11
2.2	Archaeological Baseline Data	12
2.3	Fieldwork.....	18
2.4	Potential Effects	19
2.5	Potential Effects on the Setting.....	20
2.6	Difficulties Encountered	21
3	Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects	21
Appendix 1	References and Bibliography	22
Appendix 2	Conventions, Directives and Legislation.....	23
	Conventions	23
	Legislation.....	24

List of Figures

Figure 1	Showing location of Proposed Development Area (PDA) © OpenStreetMap Contributors.....	10
Figure 2	Proposed works area plan.....	11
Figure 3	Showing the site location and nearest monuments (PDA in blue).....	14
Figure 4	First Edition OS 6” Map.	15
Figure 5	Extract from 2 nd Edition 25” OS Map.....	15
Figure 6	Google Aerial Image annotated to show possible ‘outer grange’ enclosure to the north of the proposed works (image and annotation provided by Niall Roycroft, Meath County Council).	16
Figure 7	Showing built heritage features in the vicinity.	18

List of Plates

Plate 1	Looking south towards the R147/Main Street.	19
---------	--	----

Plate 2 Looking east towards 'The Bungalows'.....	19
Plate 3 Looking south towards the R147/Main Street.	19
Plate 4 Looking north towards the R147/Main Street.	19

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 proposed works associated with the upgrade of the public realm at Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath. The proposed works are located within the overall ZoN for the Settlement Cluster of Dunshaughlin (ME044-033--).

1.1 Scope of Work

This study aims to assess the baseline 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).
- Meath County Development Plan (2021-2027).
- 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).

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. No registered Historic Monuments were identified.

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

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'), the EPA's Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports 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

All known cultural heritage sites were reviewed on the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) along with aerial photography and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping. Sites mapped included the following:

- 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.
- Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) from www.archaeology.ie.
- Demesnes Landscapes and Historic Gardens indicated on the OSI First Edition Mapping.

All townlands located within 1 km of the proposed development site were listed and crossed referenced with:

- National Monuments, a list for County Meath available from www.archaeology.ie.
- Preservation Orders, a list available from the National Monuments Service, and
- 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.

The Meath County Development Plan (2021-2027) and relevant Local Area Plans 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 county.

The plans also outline the county's heritage policies and objectives that aim to protect and promote the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage of the region. 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 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.
- 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.

1.4 Description of Project

The existing front area of the Courthouse environs will be upgraded to remove car priority and improve permeability and potential for community use. Works at this location will include paving provisions, using the existing pavement as a basecourse, and amended landscaping design. Construction of these works are to take place in tandem with the Dunshaughlin Public Real Scheme Project but will be brought through a separate planning process.

At the R147/The Dales Junction, works will include the construction of a signalised junction to facilitate pedestrian crossings at the focal point of movements within the town will be installed. The existing pavement here will be milled to reach required formation level for the adjoining area. An existing signalised pedestrian crossing situated 20m south of the junction are to be removed.

At the R147/The Bungalows Junction, controlled crossing points for pedestrians to access the residential area of the Bungalows behind the main street to the east will be constructed and installed. The existing pavement will be milled to reach required formation level.

At the R147/Supple Park Junction, controlled crossing points for pedestrians to access the residential area of 'Supple Park' / 'The Bungalows' behind the main street to the west will be constructed and installed. The existing pavement will be milled to reach required formation level.

The R147/Main Street Public Realm Upgrade Works will comprise inclusion of paved/new concrete footways throughout the project extents. Existing pavers will be taken up, cleaned, and reused where possible. Milling of pavement is to be carried out with narrowing of carriageway and rationalising of parking bays. Gullies to the existing sealed surface water drainage system will be installed or drainage will be facilitated through new drainage kerb provision.

The Dales Public Realm Upgrade Works comprise of paved/new concrete footways throughout. Milling of pavement is to be carried out with narrowing of carriageway and formalizing of parking spaces along the westbound side. Gullies to the existing sealed surface water drainage system will be installed.

It is anticipated that the proposed construction works will commence in the latter part of 2023 and last for an approximate duration of 12-16 weeks. No greenfield areas will be required for the works with pre-existing infrastructure in place across the full extent of the scheme.

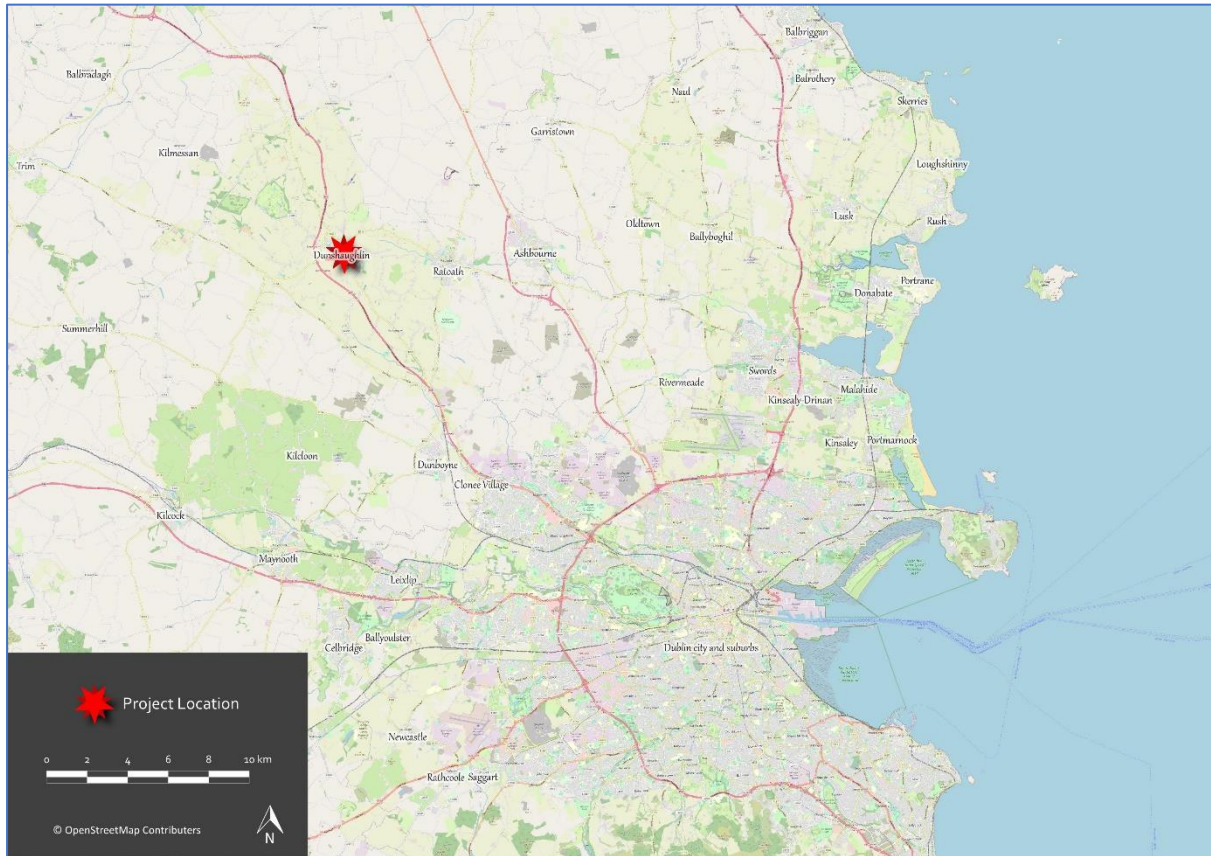


Figure 1 Showing location of Proposed Development Area (PDA) © OpenStreetMap Contributors



Figure 2 Proposed works area plan.

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Location Details

The proposed development is located at Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath.

Table 1 Location details

County and town	Meath, Dunshaughlin.
Barony	Ratoath.
Parish	Dunshaughlin.
Street	R147/Main Street, The Dales.
Townland	Dunshaughlin.
Archaeological Monuments within 200m	See Sections 2.2.2.3.
Architectural Sites within 50m	See Section 2.2.2.3.
ITM	Centred on 696871/752312

2.2 Archaeological Baseline Data

2.2.1 General Archaeological and Historical Background

The name Dunshaughlin (*Dún Seachlainn*) is a distortion of the original form *Domnach Sechnaill* meaning 'the church of Sechnall'. Dunshaughlin was the focal point for a large ecclesiastical settlement in early medieval times. St. Sechnaill is traditionally believed to have been the nephew of St. Patrick. The annals record his arrival in Ireland in 439 AD. The foundation and dedication of *Domnach Sechnaill* has been tentatively dated at 443 (O'Donovan, 1856). It was the church of the kings of south Brega, who occupied the crannog of Lagore (ME038-027----) from the seventh to the tenth century, and thereafter, using the name *Mac Giollashechnaill*, they may have occupied the rath (ME044-033001-) c. 600m to the S of the church. In the aftermath of Sechnaill's death, the monastery continued to thrive for a few Centuries. In 1026, the monastery was attacked by *Gearr-an-Chogaidh*, who was subsequently murdered along with his two brothers by *Muireadhach Ó Céile*. This was part of a period of attacks and retaliations between native Irish kings and Norse rulers in the 11th and 12th Centuries. The church of *Domnach Sechnaill* was attacked and burned in 1143, and subsequently plundered in 1152 by Tigernán Ua Ruairc of Uí Briúin Bréifne. Hencken (1950, 227) viewed the arrival of the Norsemen as a key factor in the decline in influence of Lagore in its later phase (indicated by the relative decline in the quantity of deposited cow bones compared to those of pig and sheep). After the Anglo-Norman settlement Dunshaughlin became a seigniorial manor of Hugh de Lacy (Graham 1974, 42), and the rath might have continued in use as a motte as no other cupot or centre can be identified. In 1200, Walter de Lacy, son of Hugh de Lacy, made large grants to the Augustinian Abbey of St. Thomas the Martyr in Dublin. (Archdall 1873). These grants included the churches of Trevet, Ratoath and "Dunelinsachlin, with the grange, as his father had granted it" (ibid.), referring to a previous grant by Hugh in 1180 (ibid.). The church at Dunshaughlin and its grange lands remained in the possession of the Abbey until the Dissolution. The 15th Century saw several churches in Meath established as perpetual chantries. A perpetual chantry involved a priest or priests receiving a licence from a local bishop to perform masses for the soul of a donor or saint. Chantry chapels or altars were often dedicated with a chapel or cathedral for this purpose. From 1536 onward, Henry VIII pursued his policy of suppressing ecclesiastical houses in Ireland, stripping properties and lands from religious orders. In addition to religious reasons, English authorities believed that monasteries were havens for Irish rebels (Scott, 2005). In 1814, St. Sechnall's Church of Ireland Church was built on the site of the former church of *Domnach Sechnall*. The main road curves around the remains of the medieval monastic enclosure, similar to the curved Stephen's Street in Dublin (Clarke 2002, 2). In 1640, Sir William Parsons, Lord Justice of Ireland, was listed as proprietor of the townland of Dunshaughlin and 'Ladyhill' comprising 366 acres, which included a church, which we can presume was what remained of *Domnach Sechnaill*.

Lewis, in his Topographical Dictionary of Ireland, published in 1837 describes Dunshaughlin as follows:

DUNSHAUGHLIN, a post-town and parish (formerly an incorporated town), in the barony of Ratoath, county of Meath, and province of Leinster, 9¼ miles (S. S. E.) from Navan, and 13¾ (N. w.) from Dublin, on the road to Enniskillen; containing 1548 inhabitants, of which number, 913 are in the town. This place derives its name, signifying "Seachlan's Hill," and its origin, from St. Seachlan, nephew of St. Patrick, who founded a church or abbey here in the middle of the fifth century, which, after being sacked in 1026, and burnt in 1043, appears to have been destroyed by the sept of Hy Bruin in 1152. The provost and commonalty of the town of Dunshaghelyn were, in 1423, ordered to be at Trim with all their power for its defence. The parish comprises 7379 statute acres, of which about 200 are waste and bog, and the remainder arable and pastureland in nearly equal proportions. The town contains about 160 houses: it

has fairs on June 11th and Dec. 10th, a dispensary, and is a constabulary police station. Petty sessions are held every fortnight and quarter sessions half-yearly in a neat courthouse. The living is a rectory and vicarage, in the diocese of Meath, united to Rathregan, and in the patronage of the Crown. the tithes amount to £296, of which £26 is payable to the representatives of Col. Reynell, as lay impropiators of the townlands of Derks and Ballinlough: the gross value of the benefice is £436. The glebe-house, in Rathregan, was built by aid of a loan of £562, in 1822, from the late Board of First Fruits; the glebe comprises 23 acres. The church, which is in the town, was built in 1813, by aid of a loan of £700 from the same Board. In the R. C. divisions, the parish is united with Colmolyn, in each of which is a chapel. There are two public schools in which are about 100 children, and a private school of about 25.

2.2.1.1 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.

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

There are no National Monuments within 200m of the proposed works.

2.2.1.3 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.

The subject site is located within the overall ZoN for the Settlement Cluster of Dunshaughlin (ME044-033--), described below). There are no additional monuments with 200m of the proposed works.

ME044-033----

Class: Settlement cluster

Townland: COOKSLAND, DUNSHAUGHLIN, GRANGEND, KNOCKS, ROESTOWN (Ratoath By.)

Description: Located on a low hill which was the centre of the monastery of St Seachnaill (Secundus) that flourished from its foundation in the fifth century into the twelfth. It was the church of the kings of south Brega, who occupied the crannog of Lagore (ME038-027----) from the seventh to the tenth century, and thereafter, using the name Mac Giollasheachnaill, they may have occupied the rath (ME044-033001-) c. 600m to the S of the church. After the Anglo-Norman settlement Dunshaughlin became a seigniorial manor of Hugh de Lacy (Graham 1974, 42), and the rath might have continued in use as a motte as no other cuput or centre can be identified. Although the church became a parish church, the surviving arcade of probable thirteenth century date indicates a church with aisles and therefore big enough to accommodate a large congregation, which suggests that Dunshaughlin had a sizeable community and was no mere rural parish. No charter is known but it was regarded as being a concentrated settlement or town. In 1423 the portreeve or mayor and the commons of Dunshaughlin were ordered to the defence of Trim, which suggests it was an organised urban area (Lewis 1837, 1, 589; Cogan, 1, 273-4), but its history cannot be elucidated (Bradley and King 1985, 60). According to the Civil Survey (1656) in 1641 the townland of Dunshaughlin was owned by Sir William Parsons, but of the settlement it merely says there were 'many thatch houses and tenements' (Simington 1940, 90). Dunshaughlin had 146 inhabitants c. 1659 (Pender 1939, 486), but

it was never officially incorporated as there is no record of it sending representatives to the Irish Parliament, which was a privilege of incorporated towns.

fdj



Figure 3 Showing the site location and nearest monuments (PDA in blue).

2.2.1.4 Map Regression

The village of Dunshaughlin was recorded on maps of the wider region as far back as the late 16th and early 17th Centuries, such as on Speed's 1610 map of Leinster. By the mid-17th Century, and Joan Blaeu's 1654 Map of Leinster, Dunshaughlin was still represented by a dot. The Down Survey (1656-1658) aimed to map all the Catholic-owned land to be forfeited and re-distributed to Cromwell's loyal followers (downsurvey.tcd.ie). Much of the lands within the parish of Dunshaughlin were to remain 'unforfeited', and, apart from the parish boundary little detail is presented. Likewise little detail is depicted on Taylor and Skinner's 1777 Maps of the Roads of Ireland, although the church to the north and a large structure on the eastern side of the Main Street as well as the road network are depicted. Larkins Map (1812-1817) shows a large fort on the high ground to the south of the proposed works (roughly at the location of the ringfort - ME044-033001). Dunshaughlin acted as a nodal point for the road network. The First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" maps were completed in 1842. These maps depict the subject area in pre-famine times. This map depicted the town as comprising a central spine of buildings with large burgage plots/rear gardens running from Saint Seachnall's Church at the north to the post office and R.C. Chapel. At the northern end of the proposed works, a landscaped square area with a possible bawn/moat or rampart is depicted which may represent the possible location of a fortified house is depicted. This roughly correlates with the structure depicted on the earlier Taylor and Skinner map. The existing junction of the R147 and The Bungalows shows the location of the original Constabulary Barracks on this map. The Second edition map surveyed in 1882 and the later 25" map show a little-changed landscape. As Roycroft notes (pers comm) 'Dunshaughlin seems to have preserved

the original street frontages from the 1837 OS onwards. The present wide, Main Street (now R147) of Dunshaughlin is quite likely the result of some 18th century street widening programme, and the original road may have been much narrower: perhaps as much as half the present width. It is common for an urban road to be widened on one side only; so earlier building remains (along with any cellars) may be present within the existing street.' 'The Dales' which runs west of main street is of recent construction. Several buildings are depicted at the modern junction of The Dales and the R147 on both the 1837 and 1908 OS Maps. The 1908 map shows a nearby Smithy. This may be a precursor to the present Foley's Forge on The Dales.



Figure 4 First Edition OS 6" Map.

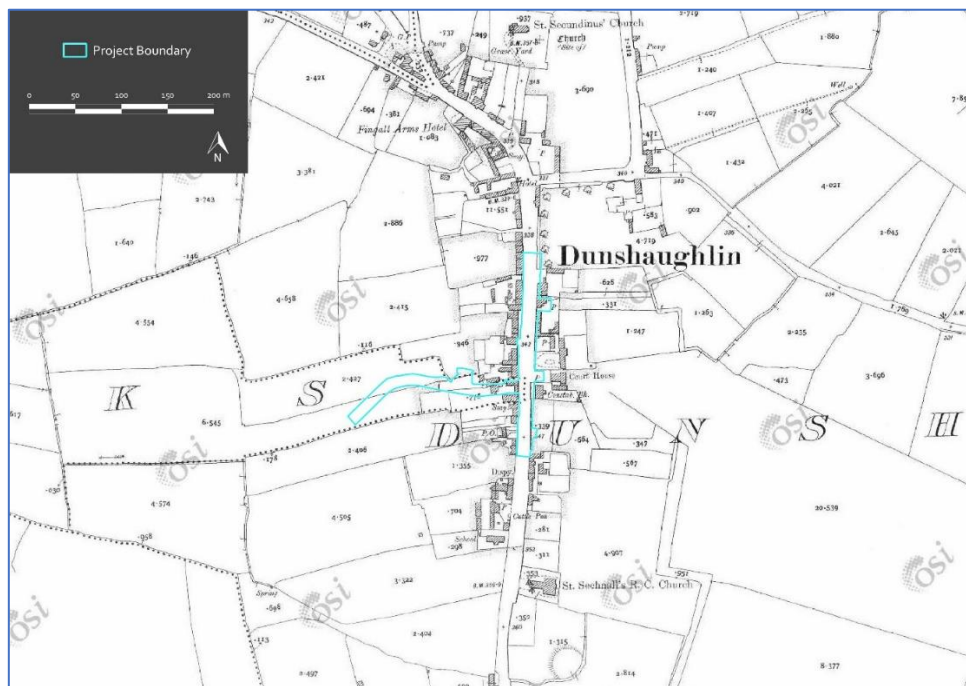


Figure 5 Extract from 2nd Edition 25" OS Map.

2.2.1.5 Aerial Photography

A review of available aerial photographs from 1995 to more recent satellite imagery was undertaken to identify any previously unrecorded anomalies of historical potential. Nothing of cultural heritage significance was noted.

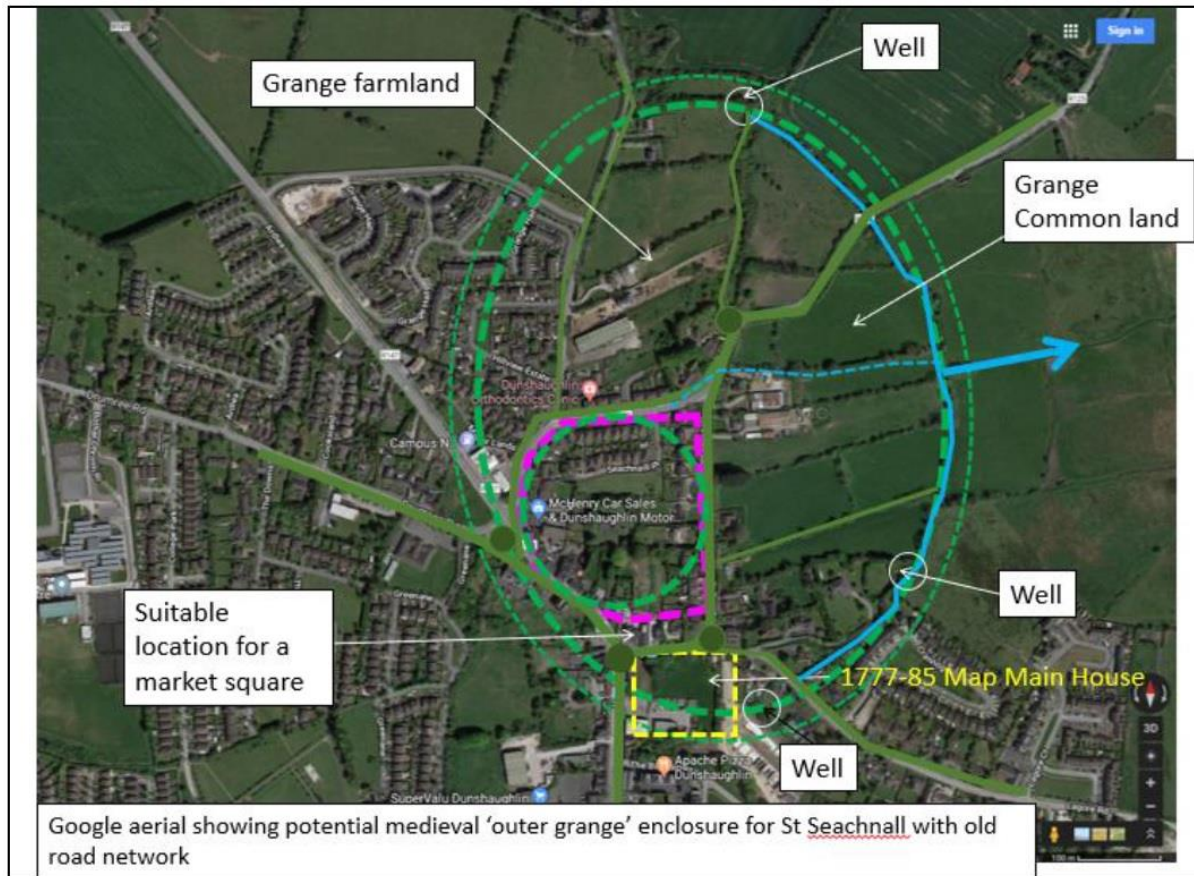


Figure 6 Google Aerial Image annotated to show possible 'outer grange' enclosure to the north of the proposed works (image and annotation provided by Niall Roycroft, Meath County Council).

Roycroft (pers comm) posits that the photo interpretation above suggests an early medieval focus of the village to the north of the proposed works following which the later 'medieval town' was added to the southern side along the main Dublin to Navan Road (R147) between the Church and the southern rath (ME044-033001--).

2.2.1.6 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 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. The review of www.heritagemaps.ie indicates that there are no relevant files in the vicinity.

2.2.1.7 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the vicinity

Remnants of a number of ditches were discovered during excavations at St. Secundinus' Church to the north of the proposed works by Roseanne Meenan in 1991 and Linzi Simpson in 1995, producing features and artefacts dating from the medieval period. Subsequent excavations uncovered further evidence of an inner and outer ditch (Meehan 1999: 683) and a possible ditch and several other small features (Murphy 2002: 1453). It is thought that the

original settlement at Dunshaughlin would have been in the area between the church and the rath/motte (Bradley and King 1985: 64), although archaeological excavations to date have failed to produce positive evidence of it along Main Street connecting the two monuments. However, evidence of settlement becomes more evident with proximity to the church site. Drains were found (01E0219 ext.; excavations.ie 2001:1965) at the south end of Main Street, and evidence of burgage plots in parallel trenches has been found south (17E0502; excavations.ie 2017:615) and east (18E0057; excavations.ie 2019: 584) of the church where they are largely preserved under new developments. The east plots (Wth 15-50m) are defined by slight ditches and run parallel with the mapped field system, extending from the ecclesiastical enclosure around the church onto the low-lying ground (L c. 250m plus). A prehistoric fulacht fiadh (ME044-047----) was found at the same development and this was completely excavated. The fosse of the ecclesiastical enclosure (ME044-033009-) with an outer ditch has also been noted (99E0114: Excavations.ie 1999:683) northeast of the graveyard. Further evidence of an outer ditch on the line of the road was recorded at ESE, SW, and NW in monitoring (03E0089) a sewage trench (O'Carroll 2003). Evidence of possible burgage plots has also come from SE of the church (18E0488: Excavations.ie 2018: 472) where K. Rice identified a wide curving ditch (Wth of top 4m) that may be part of an outer ecclesiastical enclosure, although its centre appears to lie to the S. This portion of ditch will be largely preserved under the development. Any outer enclosure need not be concentric with the innermost one, and a ditch (Wth of top 2.8m; D 1.45m) was also noted (04E0670: excavations.ie 2004:1235) by P. D. Sweetman SW of the graveyard that is probably outside the established enclosure, although no dating evidence was recovered from it.

2.2.1.8 Toponym Analysis

Table 2 Toponyms

Townland Name/ Name	Irish Version	Translation
Dunshaughlin	<i>Dún Seachlainn</i>	A distortion of the original form <i>Domnach Sechnaill</i> meaning 'the church of Sechnall'.

2.2.2 Architectural Heritage

2.2.2.1 Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA)

There is no ACA in the vicinity.

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

The following sites are located within 50m of the proposed works.

Table 3 RPS and NIAH sites in the vicinity

RPS No NIAH no	Date	Description and remarks
RPS No. 91433	c. 1860	Office – Former Toll House. Detached three-bay, single storey former toll house, with central gabled porch.
RPS No. 91434	c. 1800	Detached House. Detached six-bay two-storey house.

RPS No. 91435 NIAH Reg. No. 14335013	1795 - 1805	Detached T-plan gable-fronted double-height courthouse, built c.1800. Tooled stone doorcase, comprising of Tuscan columns supporting cornice and pediment, flanking replacement door. Pitched slate roof. Roughcast rendered walls. Timber sash windows with stone sills.
RPS No. 91436 NIAH Reg. No. 14335014	C. 1880	Detached six-bay two-storey house, built c.1880. Pitched slate roof with rendered chimneystacks. Roughcast rendered walls with channelled quoins. Timber sash windows with stone sills. Channelled door surround to replacement door. Rubble stone gate piers with ashlar caps to the north, leading to rendered outbuildings.

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

The subject site is not located within or in the vicinity of a designed landscape demesne, historic garden, or country estate.



Figure 7 Showing built heritage features in the vicinity.

2.3 Fieldwork

A site inspection was originally carried out in April 2023 in dry and bright conditions. The area of the proposed works is located along the R147/Main Street and west along 'the Dales'. The Dales comprises entirely of relatively

recent modern developments. The Courthouse lies directly across the road from the Dales. The R146/Main Street is lined with relatively recent housing and shops/offices etc... Nothing of additional cultural heritage was noted during the site inspection.



Plate 1 Looking south towards the R147/Main Street.



Plate 2 Looking east towards 'The Bungalows'.



Plate 3 Looking south towards the R147/Main Street.



Plate 4 Looking north towards the R147/Main Street.

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 take 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 works are located within the overall ZoN for the Settlement Cluster of Dunshaughlin (ME044-033--). 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

There is a low to moderate potential for unrecorded sub-surface deposits surviving below ground at the subject site.

2.4.1.3 Potential direct Impacts Architectural Sites

The proposed works involve limited groundworks. There is a low to moderate potential for unrecorded sub-surface features such as basements etc. surviving below ground.

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 '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.

2.5 Potential Effects on the Setting

Effects on setting are primarily visual and examine the effect of the proposed works upon the setting of a site within the wider landscape. 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.

2.5.1 Archaeological Sites

Post construction the scheme will have no surface expression and will not impact the visual amenity of any known monuments.

2.5.2 Architectural Sites

Post construction the scheme will have no surface expression and will not impact the visual amenity of these sites/features.

2.6 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered during the completion of this assessment.

3 Mitigation Measures and Residual Effects

The mitigation strategies outlined in this section detail the measures to be adopted to ameliorate the effects that the proposed works may have on features of archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage within the study area during both the construction and operational phases of the scheme. The residual effects that will remain once these mitigation measures have been implemented are also identified.

It is recommended that a programme of archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the proposed development. 'Archaeological monitoring involves an archaeologist being present during the carrying out of development works (which may include conservation works), to identify and protect archaeological deposits, features or objects which may be uncovered or otherwise affected by the works' (DAHGI 1999, 28).

A suitably qualified archaeologist should be appointed to advise the design team on archaeological matters, liaise with the relevant authorities, prepare archaeological licence application and method statement, and complete the archaeological monitoring work. Archaeological monitoring 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. At the time of writing the NMS is currently advising that 5-6 working weeks are required to process licence applications. The time scale for the project should be made available to the archaeologist, with information on where and when the various elements and ground disturbances will take place. It is essential for the developer to give sufficient notice to the archaeologist/s in advance of works commencing. This will allow for prompt arrival on site to undertake additional surveys and to monitor ground disturbances.

Should archaeological material be uncovered at any location, all excavation operations shall cease until the feature has been summarily investigated to determine the form, age, nature, and extent of the feature. The feature will be planned, photographed, and recorded to best professional standards. Based on this information and in consultation with the NMI and the NMS, further investigation may be required. In the case of unexpected extensive or complex archaeology, the archaeologist will demarcate the area so that it can be avoided by site traffic, inform the Project Engineer along with the relevant authorities. Should excavation or resolution of a site be required a registration number will be sought.

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.

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

Appendix 1 References and Bibliography

- Cogan, Rev. A. 1862-70 Ecclesiastical history of the diocese of Meath: ancient and modern. (3 vols) Dublin.
- Graham, B. 1974 Medieval settlement in County Meath. *Ríocht na Mídhe*, 5, No. 4, 40-59.
- Joyce, P.W., 1913. Irish Names of Places. Vol. III. Dublin.
- Lewis, S. 1837 A topographical dictionary of Ireland, 2 vols. London. Lewis and Co.
- Ó'Cróinín, D., 1995. Early Medieval Ireland, 400-1200. Longman, England.
- O'Keefe, T., 2000. Medieval Ireland, an Archaeology. Tempus, U.K.
- Pender, S. (ed.) 1939 A census of Ireland, c. 1659. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission.
- Simington, R.C. (ed.) 1940 The Civil survey, AD 1654-1656. Vol. V: county of Meath. Dublin. Irish Manuscripts Commission.

Other Sources Referenced

- Dept. of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, 1999. Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, Government publications, Dublin.
- Dept. of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, 1999. Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation. Government Publications, Dublin.
- Department of Environment, Heritage, and Local Government (DEHLG). 2008. National Policy on Town Defences. Dublin: Stationery Office.
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2018. Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Department of the Communications, Climate Action, and Environment. 2000. Landscape and landscape assessment. Guidelines for planning authorities.
- EPA, 2022. Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports. EPA, Dublin.
- European Commission, 2017 Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects: Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.
- Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment, 2013; Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (third edition), Routledge, 170pp.
- National Roads Authority, 2005. Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes.
- The Heritage Council, 2000. Archaeology & Development: Guidelines for Good Practice for Developers. The Heritage Council of Ireland Series, Kilkenny.
- The National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Housing. Sites and Monuments Record, County Dublin.
- National Monuments Acts 1930-1994.

Electronic Sources

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>

<http://www.excavations.ie/>

<https://heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/HeritageMaps/index.html>

<http://www.logainm.ie/>

<http://www.museum.ie/>

<https://www.townlands.ie/>

<http://webgis.archaeology.ie/>

<http://www.worldheritageireland.ie/tentative-list/>

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).

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