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An Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Swords Cultural Quarter, Swords, Co. Dublin.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential archaeological and cultural heritage environment of the proposed Swords Cultural Quarter development, Swords, Co. Dublin. This study was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd for O'Donnell + Tuomey Ltd. on behalf of Fingal County Council, in association with a Part VIII planning application.

The application is seeking permission for a Civic and Cultural Building, public realm works, demolition works, and all associated site works at a site located in the middle of Swords town centre, on the junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Main Street and Bridge Street adjacent to Swords Castle, and Fingal County Offices (Figure 1).

The proposed development will comprise of public realm upgrade works and the construction of the proposed Swords Civic and Cultural Building, located on the existing Fingal County Council car park site at Seatown Road and St. Michaels House Centre, ranging in height from 2-4 storeys. The proposed Swords Civic and Cultural Building will include for: A 165-no. seated theatre with associated control/sound rooms & light lobbies; Dressing rooms and rehearsal spaces; An art gallery; Café/theatre bar; Exhibition spaces; Workshop and study areas; Meeting rooms; Public library; Offices; Storage rooms, toilets and other ancillary uses. The proposed development will consist of minor external works to the southern entrance of the Swords District Court House (Protected Structure) (Figures 11–18).

The archaeological assessment of the proposed Swords Cultural Quarter development identified 23 sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise three sites listed on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMPs), one of which, Swords Castle, is also a Protected Structure and a National Monument, six protected structures (PS) which are also listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), one other structure listed in the NIAH, four areas of archaeological potential (AAP), two townland boundaries (TB) and seven unregistered cultural heritage sites (UCH). The results indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential (Figure 2).

It is expected that most impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks associated with the development of the Civic and Cultural Building and the re-profiling and landscaping works associated with the installation of the Public Realm Works infrastructure.

At the site of the SCC Building, likely significant impacts have been identified in relation to the historic town of Swords, which is an RMP (CH002), AAP CH015 –an area of medieval and post medieval activity and two UCH sites: the remnants of a 19th century dwelling (CH021) formerly fronting onto North Street and a former smithy (CH022).

The results of a programme of archaeological test trenching at the site of the SCC Building, AAP CH015, revealed localised pockets of surviving archaeological remains across the site (Figure 10). Garden soils containing medieval pottery were identified in the east and northern half of the site, which sealed a series of medieval features consisting of a metalled surface, a limestone drain and an undated mortared stone wall. In the southern part of the site, a possible linear boundary ditch, a very compact mettled surface and a number of pits and plough furrows were identified, with many producing medieval pottery. A series of furrows were also evident in the north of the site, but no diagnostic material was recovered from these features (Appendix 6; Bayley 2022). The proposed development groundworks (foundation and drainage) will impact on the sub-surface remains identified at this site.

Impacts are also likely to occur during the groundworks phase associated with the development of the Public Realm Works (Figures 15–18). The likely significant impacts associated with the reprofiling of the existing streetscape relate to the historic town of Swords (CH002), an AAP at Bridge Street (CH016) and the site of a former water pump, UCH CH017, located at the junction of North Street and Seatown Road. Impacts may also occur during the soft and hard landscaping proposals adjacent to Swords Castle and at the entrance to Swords Park (associated with AAPs CH013 and CH014) and a number of 19th century UCH sites, consisting of the remnants of former early 19th century structures along North Street (CH018 and CH019). It should also be noted that the remaining extant structures to the east of Swords Castle (Nos. 17 and 17A) and the single-story structure within swords park (CH020) are scheduled for demolition.

The results of an architectural survey of the single-storey structure (CH020) located at the entrance to Swords Park, revealed that the structure most likely consists of an early nineteenth century building that has been altered and reconstructed in modern times. The building is in a ruinous condition supported internally by a single leaf of concrete blocks. Original masonry fabric, consisting of roughly dressed limestone, is present at the front and side (north) elevations. However, the upper portion of the side (north) elevation and almost the entire rear elevation appears to have been reconstructed. The side (south) elevation is no longer extant having been replaced by a modern concrete block wall. The southwestern corner has also been replaced with modern concrete blocks. The incorporation of high-quality building materials (dressed limestone blocks and finely tooled limestone quoins) indicate that considerable effort and expense was put into the design and construction of the original structure. Attributing a purpose/ function to this building is somewhat problematic due to its unusual street façade, and simplistic layout. The absence for evidence of a door opening to the front façade, suggests the structure may have served as an outbuilding (either as a store or to house animals). It may have had an association with the two-storey building located to the south of this structure that is depicted on historic photographs of Swords town (Appendix 7; Hanbidge and Lydon 2022).

Although the proposed works will not impact upon the upstanding remains of Swords Castle (CH001), situated to the west of the development, the proposed SCC Building will impact on the setting of the National Monument (Figures 19–21). Views towards the proposed SCC Building from within the National Monument are currently unobstructed, with just the corner of Fingal County Hall visible to the southeast. Upon completion, the upper stories of the SCC Building will be visible from within the internal space of the Castle. However, this impact is considered to be moderate, as the building has been carefully designed to lessen the visual impact by reducing the overall height by approximately 2 m and incorporating a brise soleil feature across the exterior. This breaks up the hard façade of the building and reduces the overall visual impact from within the grounds of the Castle.

Views from the SCC development site (currently the Fingal Executive Car park) towards the National Monument are partially obstructed by the last remaining structures on North Street, (Nos. 17 and 17A), although the Chapel, the Curtain Walls, the East Tower and the walls of the Great Hall still dominate. The removal of the remaining buildings will create a clear sightline towards the National Monument from the SCC building. This will allow Swords Castle to be fully appreciated and add an amenity value to Swords Town that is not currently present. In addition, further positive impacts will be created from the upper floors of SCC Building. Members of the public will be able to enjoy unobstructed views of the Castle from the second floor and the second-floor balcony. The balcony will also provide views of St Columba's Round Tower, RMP DU011-034005; views which are not currently available from any public buildings at the north-eastern extent of the town.

Currently, views towards the National Monument from publicly accessible areas of the Public Realm, in an arc from north to east are obstructed by extant housing along North Street (17 and 17A). Less

obstructed views are generally only available from the south and southeast. Demolishing the remaining structures on North Street and exposing the full breadth of the Castle walls will allow the monument to be more fully enjoyed and add to the amenity value established by the removal of the derelict properties at Nos. 3 to 13. In addition, the incorporation of the proposed green space around the eastern perimeter of the Castle will help to retain the overall geometry of the existing streetscape and return Swords Castle to its historic focal point at the top of Main Street, whilst also drawing together the new elements of the Swords Cultural Quarter.

Note: An Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) undertaken by JCA Architects accompanies the Part VIII application. The AHIA provides further detail on the possible impacts of the proposed development on the historical architectural character and setting of Swords Castle & Swords Court House (McClatchie 2022).

The following mitigation measures are recommended:

1. A programme of archaeological excavation shall be carried out at the site of the proposed SCC Building (CH015) in advance of/ conjunction with the construction groundworks programme, to fully investigate and record the medieval and post-medieval features impacted by the proposed works. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
2. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass the proposed Public Realm Works adjacent to Swords Castle (within AAPs CH013 and CH014), including enabling, demolition, conservation/ stabilisation works and the soft and hard landscaping proposals (green space, paths, seating and planting) extending around the castle perimeter. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under Ministerial Consent in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Should any sub-surface archaeological features be identified during this process, it is recommended that they are preserved *in situ* and protected from any intrusive groundworks.
 - b. Preservation *in situ* will comprise cleaning back and surveying the extent of the identified remains, followed by strategic environmental sampling, prior to applying a protective covering comprised of successive layers of terram/ other geotextile layer and sand.
 - c. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - d. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHGLH).
3. A detailed architectural survey will be undertaken of Nos. 17 and 17A prior to demolition to fully record the wall fabric. The removal of renders or other works to determine the nature and composition of the wall fabric will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced contractor under the direction of a conservation architect and archaeologist.
4. A programme of conservation/ stabilisation works will be undertaken at the exposed section of the curtain wall of Swords Castle to the rear of Nos. 17 and 17A. The extent, form and detail of the required works will be designed and undertaken by a suitably qualified structural

engineer. Any detailed proposals for such works will be agreed in advance with the Conservation and Heritage Officers within Fingal County Council and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).

5. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass all remaining groundwork elements associated with the Public Realm Works along North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street, including (but not limited to) all enabling, and demolition works as well as construction groundworks and the landscaping proposals at County Hall. This should be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under license and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Where possible, every reasonable effort should be made to preserve *in situ* or reduce the impact on any identified archaeological material. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - b. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
6. Written reports shall be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken for submission to the National Monuments Service.

Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

1 INTRODUCTION

This report details the archaeological and cultural heritage issues that need to be addressed in respect of the proposed development of the Swords Cultural Quarter (ITM 718265, 746986). These works were undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd. for O'Donnell + Tuomey Ltd. on behalf of Fingal County Council in support of a Part VIII planning application.

The Swords Cultural Quarter development consists of:

- Swords Cultural Centre (SCC)
- Public Realm Works

This document builds on the archaeological strategy document compiled for the scheme in July 2021 (Bolger and Pawle 2021). That document was prepared to inform and assist in the development of appropriate approaches for the evaluation and management of archaeological heritage during all phases of development of the Swords Cultural Quarter.

1.1 Site location

The site is located in the middle of Swords town centre, on the junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Main Street and Bridge Street adjacent to Swords Castle, and Fingal County Offices (Figure 1).

1.2 Project Background

In 2015, Fingal County Council commissioned an Architectural Masterplan for Swords Civic and Cultural Quarter. The masterplan sought to: *'draw out the potential of the existing town centre focusing on the castle environs as a new cultural hub- an area which can instil and foster a sense of place and civic pride and also act as a counterpoint to the shopping and business areas of the town'*.

The project hopes that the creation of a new cultural destination or Quarter at the heart of Swords, with new and enhanced amenities for both local people and tourists, will create a diverse and vibrant town centre, improve the town's connection to its historic fabric - most notably Swords Castle and promote the town as destination.

The Swords Civic and Cultural Building is to be sited on the existing Fingal County Council Executive Car park, located to the north of the junction between North Street and Seatown Road. This building will wrap around the Swords District Courthouse (a Protected Structure) and play a critical role in defining a new and distinct visual identity for Swords Cultural Quarter. The building will bring a mix of cultural and educational facilities providing new consolidated public county library facilities, theatre, art gallery, exhibition area, study areas, meeting rooms, administrative offices, café and restaurant. The completed building will provide a centre for learning and cultural exchange whilst also available for the local communities of Swords and surrounding localities.

The Public Realm Works covers the remaining area of the site, around North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street incorporating the vacant plots No.'s 3-13 North Street adjacent to Swords Castle, No.17 North Street, 17A Chamber House North Street, the existing side entrance area of Swords Park accessed from North Street and the existing external public space to the immediate west / front of Fingal County Hall.

The Public Realm Works aim to link the northern end of Main St, the Fingal County Council Offices, Swords Castle and North Street by creating an urban plaza. This will be achieved through a new high-

quality paved surface and the installation of carefully located planting, street furniture/ seating, and street lighting, so as to also create a comfortable public space for informal meeting and congregation. This space will also provide Swords with a much-needed main square or 'forum' located to the west of the SCC building, that can be used for outdoor markets, festivals and performances. The public realm proposals will also see the implementation of a green area that runs in a wide arc around Swords Castle, allowing universal access to, and circumnavigation of, the historic site.

1.3 Proposed Development

The application is seeking permission for a Civic and Cultural Building, public realm works, demolition works, and all associated site works at a site located in the middle of Swords town centre, on the junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Main Street and Bridge Street adjacent to Swords Castle, and Fingal County Offices.

The proposed development will comprise of public realm upgrade works and the construction of the proposed Swords Civic and Cultural Building, located on the existing Fingal County Council car park site at Seatown Road and St. Michaels House Centre, ranging in height from 2-4 storeys. The proposed Swords Civic and Cultural Building will include for: A 165-no. seated theatre with associated control/ sound rooms & light lobbies; Dressing rooms and rehearsal spaces; An art gallery; Café/theatre bar; Exhibition spaces; Workshop and study areas; Meeting rooms; Public library; Offices; Storage rooms, toilets and other ancillary uses. The proposed development will consist of minor external works to the southern entrance of the Swords District Court House (Protected Structure) (Figures 11–18).

1.4 Study area

The study area for this assessment has been defined in respect of two factors: 1.) the ability of sites/information sources to provide information pertaining to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, and 2.) the potential physical impact, as well as impact on setting, that the proposed scheme may have on sites of cultural heritage significance (Figure 2).

Taking these factors into account the study area has been defined as follows:

Subject	Study area
National Monuments and Recorded archaeological monuments (RMPs)	Within 100 m of proposed development site
Protected Structures and/or their curtilage	Within approx. 100 m proposed development site
Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAS)	Within approx. 100 m proposed development site
Structures recorded in the NIAH	Within approx. 100 m of proposed development site
Unregistered features of cultural heritage	Within proposed development site
Townland boundaries	Within proposed development site
Areas of archaeological potential	Within proposed development site
Previous Excavations	Within street bounding and adjacent to the proposed development site including Main Street, North Street, Seatown Road and Bridge Street
Topographical files	Within respective townland incorporated by the proposed development site and study area

Table 1 – Dimensions of the study area

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment, evaluate potential impacts that the proposed works will have on this environment, and provide mitigation measures in accordance with the policies of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) and Fingal County Council, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 and best practice guidelines, to ameliorate these impacts.

In order to provide a comprehensive assessment, an extensive desktop study in addition to a field inspection of the proposed development area was undertaken.

The scope and methodology has been devised with reference to the following guidelines:

- EirGrid (2015) 'Cultural Heritage Guidelines for Electricity Transmission Projects. A stand approach to archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact assessment of high voltage transmission projects.'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2002) 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2003) 'Advice notes on current practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2017) 'Draft Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)'
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DAHGI) (1999) 'Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage'
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2004) 'Architectural Heritage Guidelines'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes'

2.2 Desktop Study Methodology

The present assessment of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the proposed development area is based on a desktop study of a number of documentary and cartographic sources. The desktop study was further augmented by an examination of aerial photography as well as a field survey. The main sources consulted in completing the desktop study are listed here.

- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
- Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023
- National Museum of Ireland (NMI) Topographical Files
- Excavations Bulletin
- Dublin County Archaeology GIS
- Aerial Photographs
- Cartographic Sources

2.3 Field Inspection Methodology

Field inspections of the proposed development site were undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd on 27 April 2021 and 23 February 2022 (Plates 1–21).

The primary purpose of a field inspection is to assess local topography in order to identify any potential low-visibility archaeological and/or historical sites that are not currently recorded and which may be impacted upon negatively by the proposed development. It is also the purpose of the field inspection to survey any known monuments or sites and to consider the relationship between them and the surrounding landscape, all of which need to be considered during the assessment process.

The methodology used during the field inspection involved recording the present land use as well as the existing topography for the entire area comprising the proposed development site. A photographic record and written description were compiled for any known and/or potential sites of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural significance.

2.4 Test Trenching Methodology

Archaeological test trenching was undertaken by IAC Archaeology Ltd. over the course of four days from the 15 February 2021. This involved:

- The mechanical excavation of 9 test trenches measuring a total of 144 linear metres. Some deviation from the original planned trench layout was required due to the presence of known underground services. The investigation complied in full with *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation* (DAHG 1999).
- The exposed subsoil was examined for archaeological features. When potentially archaeologically significant features/ deposits were identified, mechanical excavation ceased, and the features were cleaned back, and exploratory sections dug by hand.
- Recording was carried out by Irish Archaeology Consultancy (IAC) Ltd using their standard methods and undertaken on *pro forma* record sheets. All contexts and trenches were given unique numbers (Bayley 2022).

2.5 Built Heritage Survey Methodology

A Type B Survey of the single-story pavilion (CH020) at the entrance to Swords Park was undertaken on the 24 February 2022. The survey involved:

- The compilation of a single general description of the structure/feature making reference to its location and setting, condition, fabric, dimensions, and any visible evidence for its use or probable history. The terminology followed a standard architectural dictionary.
- The structure/feature was then photographed displaying at a minimum the setting of the structure (including any related features), the main elevation and any other elevation showing features of special interest as well as detailed photographs of these features. Photogrammetry software enabled the production of a 3D model of the exterior of the building. The survey was limited to the exterior of the building as access to the interior was not possible.
- The location of the feature/ building was surveyed in. The survey data was digitally recorded, and all drawings generated in CAD compatible formats. Survey drawings were produced at a scale appropriate to the size and complexity of the features being recorded, interpretatively annotated, located in the National Grid and fit for publication.

2.6 Methodology used for assessing baseline value of sites

In order to categorise the baseline environment in a systemised manner, ‘baseline values’ have been assigned to each identified site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within the study area. The baseline value of a site is determined with reference to the ‘importance’ and ‘sensitivity’ of the site.

In accordance with NRA Guidelines, the importance of a site is determined based on the following criteria: legal status, condition, historical associations, amenity value, ritual value, specimen value, group value and rarity.

The sensitivity of a site is determined based on the presence of extant remains and/or the potential for associated sub-surface remains of the feature to be present *in situ*.

It should be noted that the National Monuments Act 1930-2004 does not differentiate between recorded archaeological sites on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity. In addition, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 2000 does not differentiate between Protected Structures or Areas of Architectural Conservation on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity either. Consequently, professional judgement has been exercised to rate these features based on their perceived importance and sensitivity in relation to physical impacts and impacts on setting.

Taking the above factors into consideration, the criteria that have been defined are provided in Table 2 below.

Subject	Baseline Value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recorded Archaeological Monuments - Protected Structures - Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) 	Very High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites listed in the NIAH that are not Protected Structures - Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in good condition and/or which are regarded as constituting significant cultural heritage features - Unrecorded features of archaeological potential 	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in poor condition - Unregistered cultural heritage sites (not including built heritage sites) that comprise extant remains - Townland boundaries that comprise extant remains - Marshy/wetland areas 	Medium/High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains but where there is potential for associated subsurface evidence - Townland boundaries for which there are no extant remains 	Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains and where there is little or no potential for associated subsurface evidence 	Low

Table 2 – Baseline values of sites

Caution should be exercised when assessing the perceived significance of an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site as such categorisation is open to subjectivity. In addition, the

perceived levels of importance as identified in this report are liable to future revision in the instance where new information, through the undertaking of further archaeological investigations, is provided.

2.7 Type of impacts

The following table lists the type of impacts that a proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource:

Type of Impacts	Definition
Direct	Direct impacts arise where an archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage feature or site is physically located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, whereby the removal of part, or all of the feature or site is thus required.
Indirect	Indirect impacts arise when an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage feature is not located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, and thus is not impacted directly. Such an impact could include impact on setting or impact on the zone of archaeological potential of site whereby the actual site itself is not physically affected.
Cumulative	The addition of many impacts to create a large, significant impact.
Undeterminable	Whereby the full consequence that the proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource is not known
Residual	The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.

Table 3 – Type of impacts

2.8 Impacts on Setting (Visual Impacts)

There is considerable debate over definitions of setting and approaches to the assessment of setting impacts, with no standardised industry-wide approach. The assessment methodology outlined below has been developed in house by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.

The definition of setting follows the guidance set by English Heritage (now Historic England) as they have developed a range of comprehensive guidance specific to heritage assets (English Heritage 2005; 2008; 2011; Historic England 2015). Hence setting is not simply the visual envelope of the asset in question. Rather, it is those parts of the asset's surroundings that are relevant to the significance of the asset and the appreciation thereof.

In most instances setting will relate to the historical value of the asset, where an appreciable relationship between the asset and an element of its surroundings helps the visitor understand and appreciate the asset. This may be in terms of a physical relationship, such as between a castle and the natural rise that it occupies, or a more distant visual relationship, such as a designed vista or the view from, for example, one ringfort to another. The former is referred to as immediate setting and the latter as landscape setting. Many assets will only have an immediate setting. Some assets will have aesthetic value that relates to the surrounding landscape, such as in the case of a designed view incorporating a distant hill, or that relates to the contribution the asset makes to the local landscape, for example a church spire providing a focal point in a view down a valley.

English Heritage has provided a list of factors to be considered when assessing impacts upon setting. These are broad factors and have been taken into consideration when assessing magnitude of impact and sensitivity. They are summarised in Table 4.

Factor	Discussion
Visual dominance	Where an historic feature (such as a hilltop monument or fortification, a church spire, or a plantation belonging to a designed landscape) is the most visually dominant feature in the surrounding landscape, adjacent construction of the proposed development may be inappropriate.
Scale	The extent of a proposed development and the number, density and disposition of its associated elements will also contribute to its visual impact.
Intervisibility	Certain archaeological or historic landscape features were intended to be seen from other historic sites. Construction of a proposed development should respect this intervisibility.
Vistas and sight-lines	Designed landscapes invariably involve key vistas, prospects, panoramas and sight-lines, or the use of topography to add drama. Location of a proposed development within key views, which may often extend beyond any designated area, should be avoided.
Movement, sound or light impacts	The movement associated with a proposed development may be a significant issue in certain historic settings. Adequate distance should always be provided between important historic sites and proposed developments to avoid the site being overshadowed or affected by noise.
Unaltered settings	The setting of some historic sites may be little changed from the period when the site was first constructed, used or abandoned. Largely unaltered settings for certain types of sites, particularly more ancient sites, may be rare survivals and especially vulnerable to modern intrusions such as wind turbines. This may be a particular issue in certain upland areas.

Table 4 – Factors to be considered when assessing impacts upon setting

The following are guides to the assessment of magnitude of impact on setting:

- *Obstruction of or distraction from key views.* Some assets have been sited or designed with specific views in mind, such as the view from a country house with designed vistas. The obstruction or cluttering of such views would reduce the extent to which the asset could be understood and appreciated by the visitor. Developments outside key views may distract from them and make them difficult to appreciate on account of their prominence and movement. In such instances the magnitude is likely to be greatest where views have a particular focus or a strong aesthetic character. Sympathetic development may improve key views by removing features that obstruct or distract from key views and hence preserve or enhance the importance of the asset.
- *Changes in prominence.* Some assets are deliberately placed in prominent locations in order to be prominent in the surrounding landscape, for example prehistoric cairns are often placed to be silhouetted against the sky and churches in some areas are deliberately placed on ridges in order to be highly visible. Developments can reduce such prominence and therefore reduce the extent to which such sites can be appreciated or the contribution that they make to the local landscape. Similarly, sympathetic development can enhance the setting of such sites by, for example, removing modern forestry that would otherwise compromise the setting of a cairn that had been placed on a skyline.

- *Changes in landscape character.* A particular landuse regime may be essential to the appreciation of an asset’s function, for instance the fields surrounding an Improvement period farmstead are inextricably linked to its appreciation. Changes in land use can leave the asset isolated and reduce its value. In some instances, assets will have aesthetic value or a sense of place that is tied to the surrounding landscape character. Conversely, sympathetic development may restore or preserve the relevant landuse and hence preserve or enhance the relevant value of the asset.
- *Duration of impact.* Impacts that are long term or permanent are generally of greater magnitude than those that are short term.

Readily reversible impacts are generally of lesser magnitude than those that cannot be reversed. Impacts upon the defined setting will be of greater magnitude than those that affect unrelated elements of the asset’s surroundings or incidental views to or from an asset that are unrelated to the appreciation of its value. The magnitude of impacts can be rated from Negligible to Major using a similar scale to that for physical impacts.

2.9 Methodology used for assessing magnitude of impacts

The methodology used to assess the magnitude of potential pre-mitigation impacts, as well as residual impacts, of the proposed development on the baseline environment is presented in Table 4 below.

Impact magnitude	Criteria
Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects. Reserved for adverse, negative effects only. These effects arise where an archaeology site is completely and irreversibly destroyed. - An impact that obliterates the architectural heritage of a structure or feature of national or international importance. These effects arise where an architectural structure or feature is completely and irreversibly destroyed by the proposed development. Mitigation is unlikely to remove adverse effects.
Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An impact which, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the environment. An impact like this would be where part of a site would be permanently impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological feature/site. - An impact that by its magnitude, duration or intensity alters the character and/or the setting of the architectural heritage. These effects arise where an aspect or aspects of the architectural heritage is/are permanently impacted upon leading to a loss of character and integrity in the architectural structure or feature. Appropriate mitigation is likely to reduce the impact - A beneficial or positive effect that permanently enhances or restores the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.

Impact magnitude	Criteria
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A medium impact arises where a change to a site/monument is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the archaeological integrity of the site is compromised, and which is reversible. This arises where an archaeological feature can be incorporated into a modern-day development without damage and that all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible. - A medium impact to a site/monument may also arise when a site is fully or partly excavated under license and all recovered data is preserved by record. - An impact that results in a change to the architectural heritage which, although noticeable is not such that alters the integrity of the heritage. The change is likely to be consistent with existing and emerging trends. Impacts are probably reversible and may be of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation is very likely to reduce the impact. - A beneficial or positive effect that results in partial or temporary enhancement of the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.
Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An impact which causes changes in the character of the environment, such as visual impact, which are not high or very high and do not directly impact or affect an archaeological feature or monument. - An impact that causes some minor change in the character of architectural heritage of local or regional importance without affecting its integrity or sensitivities. Although noticeable, the effects do not directly impact on the architectural structure or feature. Impacts are reversible and of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation will reduce the impact. - A beneficial or positive effect that causes some minor or temporary enhancement of the character of an architectural heritage significance which, although positive, is unlikely to be readily noticeable.
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An impact on archaeological features or monument capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences. - An impact on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measure merit but without noticeable consequences. - A beneficial or positive effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

Table 5 – Criteria used for rating magnitude of impacts

2.10 Methodology used for assessing significance level of impacts

The significance level of a construction or operation impact on a feature is assessed by combining the magnitude of the impact and baseline value of the feature. The matrix in Table 6 provides a guide to

decision-making but is not a substitute for professional judgement and interpretation, particularly where the baseline value or impact magnitude levels are not clear or are borderline between categories. The permanence of the effects are also taken into account, with irreversible effects being more significant while temporary or reversible changes are likely to be less significant.

Magnitude of Impact	Baseline Value				
	Very High	High	Medium/High	Medium/Low	Low
Severe	Very significant	Very significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
Major	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible
Minor	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Table 6 – Criteria for assessing significance level of impacts

2.11 Difficulties experienced

No difficulties were encountered during the undertaking of this project.

3 BASELINE/ RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Designated archaeological sites

3.1.1 Record of Monuments and Places (RMPs)

Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments Act 1994 made provision the establishment and maintenance of a Record of Monuments & Places (RMP). Under this Act, each site recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places is granted statutory protection. When the owner or occupier of a property, or any other person proposes to carry out, or to cause, or to permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to a recorded archaeological monument they are required to give notice in writing to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage two months before commencing that work.

There are three recorded archaeological monuments incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These are Swords Castle (CH001), the Historic Town of Swords (CH002) and the site of a mill (CH009) (Plate 1; Figures 2 and 4).

3.1.2 National Monuments

National monuments are broken into two categories: National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the state and National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of a local authority. Section 8 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954 provides for the publication of a list of monuments, the preservation, of which, are considered to be of national importance. Two months' notice must be given to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage where work is proposed to be carried out at or in relation to any National Monument.

There is one National Monument incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). Swords Castle (CH001) is a National Monument (No. 340) in the ownership of Fingal County Council (Plate 1; Figures 2 and 4). There will be no impact to the upstanding remains of the monument.

3.1.3 Sites with Preservation Orders

The National Monuments Act 1930-2004 provide for the making of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders in respect of National Monuments. Under Section 8 of the National Monument Act 1930 (as amended) the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, can place a Preservation Order on a monument if, in the Ministers' opinion, it is a National Monument in danger of being or is actually being destroyed, injured or removed or is falling into decay through neglect. The Preservation Order ensures that the monument shall be safeguarded from destruction, alteration, injury, or removal, by any person or persons without the written consent of the Minister.

There are no sites with preservation orders incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.2 Designated architectural heritage sites

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000, and the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999, made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage.

3.2.1 *Record of Protected Structures*

The Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023 was consulted for schedules of Protected Structures. These are buildings that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, and/or technical point of view. Protected Structures receive statutory protection from injury or demolition under Section 57 (1) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000. Protected structure status does not exclude development or alteration but requires the developer to consult with the relevant planning authority to ensure that elements which make the structure significant are not lost during development.

There are seven Protected Structures within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These include Swords Castle (CH001), two former school buildings (CH003; CH007), Swords Courthouse (CH005), a bridge (CH008), and two houses (CH004; CH006) (Plates 1, 3, 6, 7 and 8; Figure 2).

3.2.2 *Architectural Conservation Areas*

The Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023 was consulted for records relating to Architectural Conservation Areas (hereinafter 'ACAs'). The stated objective of ACAs is to conserve and enhance the special character of the area, including traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscapes, landscape and setting.

There are no areas listed as ACAs within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.2.3 *National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)*

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (hereinafter the 'NIAH') is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and was established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999. Its purpose is to identify, record and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently, as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

There are seven structures listed in the NIAH within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These include two former school buildings (CH003; CH007), Sword's courthouse (CH005), a bridge (CH008), a former bank (CH010) and two houses (CH004; CH006) (Plates 3, 5 and 8; Figure 2).

3.3 *Undesignated cultural heritage sites within the proposed development site*

This section deals with sites that are considered to be of cultural heritage value, but which do not fall within the above categories as they are not registered. Such sites may include lime kilns, dwellings/outhouses, trackways or townland boundaries etc. identifiable on the First Edition 6/25-inch OS maps and/or noted during the field visit.

3.3.1 *Townland Boundaries*

There are two townland boundaries within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These are the townland boundaries between Townparks and Swords Glebe to the east of the site (CH011) and between Townparks and Swords Demesne (CH012), which largely follows the western side of Seatown Road and Main Street through the development area (Figure 2).

3.3.2 *Sites identifiable on cartographic sources*

There are seven undesignated cultural heritage site identifiable on cartographic sources within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These are a series of dwellings on depicted on both sides of North Street (CH018–CH022) on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping, the site of a pump (CH017) depicted at the corner of North Street and Seatown Road on the Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910/11) and Swords House (CH023) (Plate 9). Two sites (CH020 and CH021) have extant upstanding remains (Plate 15; Figure 2).

3.3.3 *Sites identifiable on aerial photography*

There are no undesignated cultural heritage sites identifiable on aerial photographs within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.3.4 *Sites identified during field inspection*

The proposed development site and surrounding lands were inspected by Ivan Pawle of Rubicon Heritage on 27 April 2021 and James Hession on 23 February 2022. No undesignated cultural heritage sites were identified during field survey within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

3.4 *Areas of archaeological potential*

3.4.1 *Previous Investigations*

Previous archaeological excavations within and immediately adjacent to the site for the Cultural Quarter have indicated a number of areas of archaeological potential (Figures 2 and 3):

- CH013—extends along the south and southeast of the curtilage of Swords Castle. A series of archaeological excavation have identified an enclosure ditch and other features relating directly to the later medieval manor and castle. Further later medieval features and deposits are expected to be present.
- CH014—extends along the east and north curtilage of Swords Castle. Investigations in this area have been limited to a single test trenching programme that only identified post-medieval features. However, the proximity to Swords Castle and limited scope of the previous investigations mean that significant unknown archaeological features could still be present. In addition, CH014 also contains the single-story structure located at the entrance swords park (CH020), which is scheduled for demolition.
- CH015—Proposed SCC building/ Fingal Executive car park. Archaeological monitoring of geotechnical investigations confirmed the presence of post-medieval features and deposits as well as deposits producing later medieval ceramics and highlighted the potential for significant archaeological features or deposits (Collins 2019). Recent archaeological test trenching undertaken in February 2022 identified isolated pockets of surviving medieval features (ditches, drains, surfaces and pits) across the site (Bayley 2022).
- CH016—south side of Bridge Street. Investigations at a development site identified a probable former quarry infilled with deposits containing later medieval artefacts as well as post-medieval material. This most likely indicates later medieval activity in the immediate vicinity of this site.

3.4.2 Results of Archaeological Test Trenching

A programme of archaeological test trenching was carried out at the site from 15–19 February 2022 (Appendix 6; Bayley 2022). Test trenching has revealed localised features and deposits of medieval date across the site. (Figure 10).

- Garden soils, varying in depth between 0.15 m–0.40 m were identified beneath the road bedding in the northern and eastern area of the car park, in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7. Four sherds of medieval pottery were identified in the garden soil deposit in Trench 3 and a further sherd in Trench 4. It is possible that the garden soils found in the three trenches are contemporary and are indicative of a broadly homogenous deposit that could survive across the north and east of the site where there has not been modern disturbance. A metalled surface, with a limestone drainage gully, was also identified in Trench 3 and medieval pottery was recovered from both the metalled surface and silty clay overlying the drainage gully.
- In the north of Trench 3 an undated, east–west oriented mortared stone wall was identified; however it may relate to a medieval or post-medieval structure.
- Further medieval activity was recorded in the south of the site. Trench 7 contained a linear ditch, three small linear features and two pits, all of which were sealed by the garden soil deposit. The linear ditch may represent a field or property boundary that potentially continues into Trench 6 to the north. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the ditch fill. The smaller linear features may represent agricultural furrows. No function or date was evident from either of the pits, but they are most likely contemporary with the medieval activity.
- In addition to the linear boundary ditch, a second linear feature and a compact metalled surface were recorded in Trench 6. The second feature was partially sealed by a very compact metalled surface. Sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from all three features in Trench 6.
- Isolated medieval activity was evident in Trench 8 in the southwest of the site where a shallow linear feature, possibly a furrow, contained two sherds of possible medieval pottery. In the northeast of the site, in Trench 2, three undated linear furrows were sealed by a deposit of garden soil.
- Trenches 1, 5 and 9 contained nothing of archaeological significance.

It should be noted that testing of the car park area was restricted by an abundance of underground services and infrastructure – kerbing, trees, access areas etc.

3.4.3 Results of Built Heritage Survey

A Type B Architectural Survey of the single-storey structure located at the entrance to Swords Park carried out on 24 February 2022. The survey consisted of the compilation of a comprehensive written and illustrated record of the ruins of the nineteenth century building

The results of the architectural survey revealed that the structure most likely consists of an early nineteenth century building that has been altered and reconstructed in modern times. The building is in a ruinous condition supported internally by a single leaf of concrete blocks. Original masonry fabric, consisting of roughly dressed limestone, is present at the front and side (north) elevations. However,

the upper portion of the side (north) elevation and almost the entire rear elevation appears to have been reconstructed. The side (south) elevation is no longer extant having been replaced by a modern concrete block wall. The southwestern corner has also been replaced with modern concrete blocks. The incorporation of high-quality building materials (dressed limestone blocks and finely tooled limestone quoins) indicate that considerable effort and expense was put into the design and construction of the original structure. Attributing a purpose/ function to this building is somewhat problematic due to its unusual street façade, and simplistic layout. The absence for evidence of a door opening to the front façade, suggests the structure may have last served as an outbuilding (either as a store or to house animals). It may also have had an association with the two-storey building located to the south of the structure as depicted on historic photographs of Swords town (Appendix 7; Hanbidge and Lydon 2022).

3.5 Historical and Archaeological background

(after Bolger and Pawle 2021)

3.5.1 General Background

Swords village is located in north County Dublin within the administrative area of Fingal County Council. The Cultural Quarter site is located towards the north end of Main Street and lies within the Zone of Archaeological Potential for Swords (CH002). The settlement was initially established as an ecclesiastical foundation in the early medieval periods and became the centre of one of the main archiepiscopal manors of the archbishopric of Dublin in the later medieval period.

3.5.2 Prehistoric period

The evidence for prehistoric settlement within the town of Swords is limited, but it is present looking more widely across north county Dublin as a whole. Evidence for Mesolithic settlement is mainly confined to estuarine and coastal locations within the county—notably the Malahide estuary to the east of Swords (Stout and Stout 1992, 5–7). Evidence for Neolithic activity was found underlying and pre-dating the early medieval settlement at Feltrim Hill (Eogan and Hartnett 1964) to the southeast of Swords, while investigations in advance of the M1 motorway at Lissenhall Little to the north of Swords uncovered two possible structures, pits and a hearth associated with lithics and probable Neolithic pottery (Reilly n.d.). Neolithic to early Bronze Age lithics and evidence for flint-working were found during excavation of the early medieval cemetery at Mount Gamble in Swords (O'Donovan 2005). The NMI records note the discovery of a flint core from Drinan (NMI Ref. 1964:31), flint fragments from Swords Glebe (NMI Ref. 1978:11-12), a flint flake from Windmill Lands (NMI Ref: 2004:117) and a polished stone axe from Fosterstown North (MNI Ref. 1959:13).

By the Bronze Age, settlement evidence is much more extensive both across north county Dublin and within Swords and its immediate environs. Testing and geophysical survey have confirmed the presence of a ring-ditch at Windmill Lands (DU011-034019-) and also at Crowcastle (DU011-152----). Pre-development excavations identified a further example at Drinan (DU012-093----), while analysis of aerial photography indicates potential examples at Seatown East (DU012-098----) and Holybanks (DU011-080----). Geophysical survey and excavation have also confirmed the presence of a fulacht fiadh at Mooretown (DU011-148----). Excavations at Drinan uncovered a kiln associated with Late Bronze Age pottery (DU012-090----) and a cremation pit of similar date (DU012-089----). Advance investigation for the proposed Metro North identified a possible Bronze Age pit at Miltonfields (DU011-153----).

Clear evidence for Iron Age activity in the vicinity of Swords is limited, though it should be noted that in the absence of scientific dating for all of the potential Bronze Age sites in the area, some of these could date to this period or have activity continuing to this period. For example, a funerary monument uncovered during Phase 2 of the Oldtown excavations was used sometime during the Bronze Age or the Iron Age (17E0104). A series of grain-drying kilns were uncovered during the various phases of the Oldtown excavations; a kiln recovered in 2013 (13E0283) was dated to the early part of the Iron Age (c.

BC 402-207), while three kilns were recovered during Phase 5 (17E0446) and were dated from the Iron Age to the early medieval period. One of these Phase 5 kilns produced sherds of Beaker pottery, but these artefacts related to residual prehistoric activity in the area. An additional kiln was uncovered in 2016 (16E0342), from which emmer/spelt was radiocarbon dated to BC 149 – AD 118, placing its activity to the middle of the Iron Age (Baker 2018).

Certainly, key locations on the coast of north county Dublin—notably Drumanagh, Lambey Island and Howth—do indicate settlement and trading activity showing clear contact with the Roman world (Stout and Stout 1992, 11–12). Further excavations at Drumanagh in 2018-19, under the ‘Digging Drumanagh’ project, recovered human bone, which returned dates ranging from BC 170 – AD 118, as well as the presence of nearly 80 sherds of Roman pottery from the province of Baetica in Southern Spain and other Romano-British material from the 1st-3rd centuries AD. In the earlier medieval period this coastline is a key locus for trade and contact routes with Wales, Cumbria and southwest Scotland (on the island of Britain) as well as wider continental European trade. It is likely that some or all of these maritime links could have evolved from Iron Age trade and contact routes.

3.5.3 Early medieval period

During the early medieval period, north county Dublin formed part of the over-kingdom of Brega, which was controlled by the *Síl nÁeda Sláine* branch of the *Uí Néill*. North County Dublin, however, was occupied by their subject peoples the *Ciannachta*, the *Saitne*, the *Gailenga* and the *Uí Maicc Uais*. The *Ciannachta* controlled most of the coastline between the river Dee in County Louth and the river Tolka in county Dublin. This included the territory of the Gailenga Becca—between the Tolka and Broadmeadow rivers—within which Swords was situated (MacShamhráin 2016, 39).

The early history and foundation of the ecclesiastical site remain obscure. By the late 12th century AD there were two churches there dedicated to Colum Cille and Fínán Lobur respectively (MacNeill 1950, 33), but the site also had associations with St Brigit. One of the earliest surviving historical references to the site is ‘Cell Suid’ in the 9th century life of St Brigit (MacShamháin 2016, 54). The evidence for an association with Fínán Lobur is of similar antiquity—the late 8th century Martyrology of Tallaght notes a feast day for Fínán Lobur of Swords (MacShamhráin 2016, 56). So, while it is probable that there was a well-established ecclesiastical foundation by the 8th century AD, possibly dating back as early as the 6th century AD, it is unlikely that the site was a missionary period foundation.

The most significant political changes during this period occurred during the 10th and 11th centuries with the establishment of the Hiberno-Norse kingdom of Dublin. The Hiberno-Norse extended their sphere of influence over a significant portion of north county Dublin, which came to be called *Dyflinasskerri* or *Fine Gall* (modern Fingal). It is likely that the association between Swords and Colum Cille dates to this period as the cult of Columba was very strong within Hiberno-Norse Dublin and the site of Swords appears to be firmly within its sphere of influence albeit perhaps close to the border of such influence (MacShamhráin 2016, 50–1; 60). Links to or patronage by the Hiberno-Norse rulers of Dublin might also account for the church and lands ending up within the control of the archbishopric of Dublin by the late 12th century (see below). References to named clerics attached to Swords do not commence until the 10th and 11th centuries. These indicate both a continued presence of local (probably Gailenga Becca origin) dynasties and ecclesiastical families with associations to the wider network of Columban churches (MacShamhráin 2016, 60–1).

3.5.4 Later medieval period

While the arrival of the Anglo-Normans into Ireland at the end of 12th century brought significant political and social change, it is likely that the church and lands of Swords were already in the control of the archbishopric of Dublin prior to that date. Surviving documentation confirming the possessions

of the archbishopric includes 'Sordes [sic] with appurtenances within and without' (MacNeill 1950, 3). When John Comyn—the first Anglo-Norman archbishop—raised St Patrick's in Dublin to metropolitan status he endowed the new cathedral from the holdings of the archbishopric (MacNeill 1950, 18–20). Swords is one of the churches that he confers (MacNeill 1950, 20) to it.

Swords was one of seven manors held by the archbishopric of Dublin during the later medieval period (along with Finglas, St. Sepulchre's, Tallaght, Clondalkin, Rathcoole and Shankill). There was a weekly market on Mondays and the archbishopric also obtained the right to hold an annual fair—eight days duration—on the feast of St Colum Cille (MacNeill 1950, 23; 230). The date of initial construction of the castle is not exactly known but it is usually attributed to John Comyn c. 1200. The 1326 extent of the manor describes the main manorial buildings as follows:

'... there are a hall and a chamber of the archbishop annexed to it, of which the walls are stone and crenelated like a castle and roofed with shingles; and there are a kitchen there with a larder, whose walls are stone and roof of shingle, a chapel with stone walls and shingle roof; there was a chamber for friars with a cloister now thrown down; near the gate is a chamber for the constable and four chambers for knights and squires, roofed with shingles; under theses a stable and bakehouse; there was a house for *deieria* and *carpentria* now thrown down. In the haggard a grange of poles (*furcae*) thatched, a timber granary roofed with 'bords', a byre (*boueria*) for housing nags and kine;' (MacNeill 1950, 175)

The extent goes on to note that there were 44 cottages in the village and that the settlement had 122 burgages and '16 free cottages' (MacNeill 1950, 176–7). It is not clear if the 16 free cottages are part of or additional to the first mentioned 44. It is likely that Main Street (formerly known as High Street) was the main later medieval thoroughfare within the manorial village with the cottages and tenements referred to in the surviving historical documentation primarily fronting onto it. However, archaeological investigations to date in properties along Main Street have not substantiated this (see Appendix 2). Swords Castle was only intermittently occupied by the archbishops of Dublin and by the 16th century was in a ruinous condition (Baker 2016).

3.5.5 *Post-medieval to early modern periods*

In 1578 Elizabeth I reincorporated the settlement with a new grant of Borough status (Courtney and Goucher 2007). From the 16th century onwards the lands of Swords devolve into secular hands as can clearly be seen in the terrier for the Down Survey parochial map and also the Civil Survey records from the mid-17th century (Simington 1945). Rocque's Map of Dublin indicates development along the streets surrounding the castle by the mid-18th century. In the 1830s the castle was purchased by the Cobbe family of Newbridge House, who planted the lands as an orchard. Many of the prominent buildings of Swords town centre date from the mid to late 19th century.

3.6 *Cartographic Background*

3.6.1 *Down Survey Maps (1656)*

The approximate location of the proposed development site can be seen but details are limited. Swords Castle is illustrated on both the barony and parish maps (Figure 5).

3.6.2 *John Rocque's Map (1760)*

This map shows buildings fronting Main Street and North Street—including the street frontages at the perimeter of Swords Castle—however individual buildings within the proposed development site cannot clearly be identified. The castle itself is not distinguished on the map though the church and round tower to the southwest are as well as a chapel (Figure 6).

3.6.3 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch series (1838)

This map shows the castle and associated buildings occupying the proposed development site, with gardens or orchards immediately to the north bounded by a curtilage wall (CH001). The layout of the surrounding streets remains largely unchanged in the present day, with a series of buildings/ dwellings depicted along Main Street, North Street including (CH018–CH022) and Seatown Road. Gardens and parkland are shown surrounding Swords House (CH023) (the location of Fingal County Hall). The corn mill (CH009) and bridge (CH008) are depicted by the River Ward, at the eastern extent of the proposed development area (Figure 7).

3.6.4 Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910-11)

The castle is marked as being in ruins, with what appears to be walled orchards to the north. Wooded parkland surrounding Swords House can be seen fronting onto Main Street and Seatown Road opposite the castle. A pump (CH017) is depicted at the corner of North Street and Seatown Road (Figure 8).

3.6.5 Ordnance Survey Cassini 6-inch series

This shows the proposed development area largely unchanged from previous mapping (Figure 9).

3.7 Toponymy of townland/s

The Irish landscape is divided into approximately 60,000 townlands and the system of landholding is unique in Western Europe for its scale and antiquity. Many townlands predate the arrival of the Anglo Normans, and Irish historical documents consistently use townland names throughout the historic period to describe areas and locate events accurately in their geographical context. The townland names and boundaries were standardised in the nineteenth century when the Ordnance Survey began to produce large-scale maps of the country. The original Irish names were eventually anglicised to varying degrees, depending in part upon the linguistic skills of the surveyors and recorders. A study of the townland names can provide information on aspects of cultural heritage including descriptions of the use of the landscape by man and the potential presence of archaeological or cultural heritage sites or features.

There are three townlands bordering the proposed development site:

English Name	Irish Name	Placename Evidence
Townparks	Páirceanna an Bhaile	<i>Baile</i> – townland, town, homestead <i>Páirc</i> - field
Swords Demesne	Diméin Shoird	Diméin – demesne (i.e., manorial lands)
Swords Glebe	Gléib Shoird	<i>gléib</i> – glebe (i.e., church lands)

Table 7– Townland place name evidence (after Irish Placenames Committee 2013)

3.8 Previous Investigations

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the development site area or at adjacent sites (Figures 3. 1 and 3.2) (see Appendix 2).

Previous archaeological investigations at properties on Main Street and on the east side of North Street (Licence Nos 98E0443; 02E0382; 02E1179; 16E0605) have not indicated the presence of any material of archaeological significance. The exception to this is the findings from archaeological monitoring of geotechnical investigation at the Fingal Executive car park (Licence No 19E0192) which indicated that remains relating to post-medieval structures and occupation survive at the site as well as deposits producing later medieval ceramics. This could indicate that more substantive archaeological remains survive at this location.

Archaeological monitoring of public realm improvement works within along Main Street and Bridge Street in the late 1990s did not uncover any archaeological material (Licence No 98E0165). The report on the findings notes that there was extensive disturbance from modern services and that bedrock occurred shallowly. However, there were some limitations in the scope of the monitoring programme carried out so the results may not fully reflect the potential for the survival of archaeological material under the carriageway of Main Street and Bridge Street.

Archaeological investigations in advance of a development on the south side of Bridge Street (Licence No 99E0320) uncovered a scarped cut into bedrock infilled with soil deposits incorporating later medieval ceramics. Initially interpreted as a possible later medieval ditch associated with the castle, further investigation indicated that it was most likely the result of post-medieval quarrying activity. However, the presence of residual later medieval artefacts within the infill material does suggest later medieval activity occurring in the vicinity.

A series of archaeological investigations have been carried out around the exterior of the curtilage of Swords Castle from Bridge Street to North Street. Investigations at the Pound public house on the north side of Bridge Street uncovered a possible outer enclosing ditch (Swan 1992). Investigation after the demolition of Nos 4-8 North Street (Ministerial Consent C450; Excavation Reg E004676) uncovered features relating to the later medieval occupation and development of the castle complex. While it was clear that post-medieval occupation and construction activity along the North Street frontage had in all likelihood removed previous archaeological deposits, the testing programme suggested that there is still a potential for later medieval features and deposits to survive along this section of the castle perimeter.

Test trenching within Swords Park to the north of the castle curtilage (Licence No 94E0191) did not uncover any evidence of later medieval activity (only post-medieval features were positively identified). However, it was very limited in scope so the potential for significant archaeological features to be present in this general location was not eliminated. Investigations further north along the west side of North Street (Licence No 03E0751; 04E1248) did not uncover any indications of archaeological material.

Major investigations within Swords Castle have been undertaken following the publication of the *Swords Castle Conservation Plan* by the Fingal County Council 2014. The *Swords Castle: Digging History Project* (Licence number C450/E4619) took place over three seasons from 2015–2017 and was designed to address the research and knowledge gaps identified by the conservation plan, and to inform the urban identity of the developing Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan (2015). The investigations successfully established the presence of previously unknown structures and medieval activity within

the precinct of Swords Castle and confirmed the potential for surviving in situ archaeology as identified by a geophysical survey undertaken in by Target Surveys in 2011. A series of Trial pits (A–D) and test trenches (1–10) were excavated over Seasons 1 (2015), 2 (2016) and 3 (2017). Pits A–D established that the original medieval structure (now known as the Link Wall), was rebuilt in the later 19th century. Trench 3 exposed a variety of medieval artefacts, that indicated 12th–14th-century dates of activity. Trench 6, which was located a right-angle to the 2015's Trench 3, excavated beneath two medieval metal surfaces (F71, F82), identifying a series of medieval pits. A pit from the same stratigraphic layer in Trench 2 was radiocarbon dated to AD 937–1019 (UBA–32456 2 sigma). The second season of investigation recovered a total of 1259 artefacts, including pottery, tile, clay pipe, iron nails, copper alloy, and a bone comb. In 2017, the final season of *Digging History* focused on the internal layout of the eastern perimeter of the precinct. Trench 7 was situated towards the north-eastern corner of Swords Castle precinct, adjacent to the 19th-century breach in the curtain wall, to determine the effect of that breach. Excavation ceased at c. 1 m below present ground level at the level of a flagged floor which was overlain by a series of occupation layers. A silver groat (Elizabeth I sixpence) dating from 1569 was recovered from these layers which were then truncated by the construction and use of a kiln. The kiln had been cleaned out with a basal mortar surface and post-use backfill apparent. The later activity within this trench relates to the steps and a path leading to the doorway that had been inserted into the perimeter wall. Trench 9 uncovered the remains of a substantial east–west wall, which may be associated with the return wall of the 'Great Hall.' Trench 9 targeted the area immediately west of the East Tower to investigate the confluence of the 'missing' west wall of the East Tower and the limit of burials identified by Fanning (1975). Burials were uncovered less than 0.1 m below the current ground level. Fourteen burials extended as far as the newly uncovered west wall of the East Tower indicating that the wall was extant at the time. However almost 0.3 m lower than Sk.1–14, the skull of Sk.15 was found, the remainder of the burial apparently truncated by the insertion of the tower wall. The findings suggest that it is probable that there are two episodes of burial that pre- and post-date the use of occupation of the castle (Baker 2020b).

In addition to *Digging History*, Swords Castle has seen two phases of *Enabling Works* since 2016 (Licence number C450/4676) The project design was first developed in 2010 to address emergency works at the Gatehouse of Swords Castle (Consent C450) and was augmented by the findings of the 2011 *Swords Castle Conservation Plan*. In 2016, *Enabling Works* involved the consolidation and stabilisation of the east range of the castle and rebuilding of the gatehouse arch which had been identified in the *Swords Castle Conservation Plan* as necessary for the protection of the extant structural remains. The internal precinct of the castle was landscaped, including the insertion of new 'no dig' paths and lighting bollards. Although impact was minimised to 150–300 mm in depth, in the design, archaeological monitoring of all ground works was undertaken. Externally units 4–9 of North Street were subject to survey and demolition followed by test-excavation. A total of eight trenches were excavated, which provided information about the construction and phasing of the castle, that ultimately allowed for an informed methodology for underpinning and stabilisation of the extant structure (Baker 2016). Phase 2 of *Enabling Works* was undertaken between December 2018 and November 2019. The main body of work centred on the consolidation of extant structural elements, concentrating on the East Tower, including the replacement of the wooden wall walk with the additional provisions of access and lighting, as well as the opening of the external space at the junction of North Street and Main Street, though the demolition of Units 10–13 (Baker 2020a).

4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 Description of the site

The Swords Cultural Quarter site comprises:

- The road junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street,
- Fingal County Council Executive car park at the junction of North Street and Seatown Road.
- St. Michael’s House, Seatown Road
- Swords District Court House (a Protected Structure (RPS No.350).
- 4 no. terraced 2-storey commercial / /retail properties at No.20 North Street.
- Fingal County Hall external public space
- Vacant plots at No.’s 1-7,13,15, 17 and 17a North Street adjacent to Swords Castle.
- The existing side entrance area of Swords Park accessed from North Street, Swords.

4.1.1 Past impacts on site

SCC Building: the street frontages associated with the Fingal Executive car park site are shown on historic mapping as partially occupied by a successive series of buildings from the 1760s onwards until their levelling and conversion of the site to a car park in the 20th century. This would have had an impact on underlying archaeological material present on the site.

Public Realm Works A successive series of buildings are shown adjacent to Swords Castle on the northern extent of Main Street and western extent of North Street from the 1760s until their removal in recent years. These successive construction processes would have had an impact on underlying archaeological material present on the site.

The main roads within the Public Realm area— North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street—are all in existence by 1760. Maintenance and improvement of these routeways as well as the insertion of modern services and other public realm infrastructure would have already caused sub-surface disturbance to any underlying remains.

4.1.2 Summary of the receiving environment and the archaeological resource

Site Type	Summary
- RMPs - National Monuments - Sites with Preservation Orders - Sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments	There are three RMPs incorporated by the study area (CH001, CH002 and CH009). Only one of these—CH002 historic town of Swords—is located within the proposed development site. There is one National Monuments (CH001), which is not located within the proposed development site, but is immediately adjacent.
- Protected Structures	There are seven Protected Structures incorporated by the study area (CH001; CH003-CH008). Six of which are also listed on the NIAH.
- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	There is no Architectural Conservation Area incorporated by the study area.
- Sites Listed in the NIAH	There are seven sites listed in the NIAH (CH003-CH008; CH010) incorporated by the study area (a number of which are also listed as Protected Structures).
- Unregistered Cultural Heritage Sites	There are seven undesignated cultural heritage site identifiable on cartographic sources within the study area (CH017–CH023)

Site Type	Summary
	Two sites (CH020 and CH021) have extant upstanding remains.
- Areas/features of archaeological potential	There are four areas/features of archaeological potential incorporated by the study area (CH013–CH016). The development site as a whole is regarded as an area of archaeological potential.
- Townland boundaries	There are two townland boundaries within the development site (CH011–CH012). The townland boundaries will be unaffected by the proposed works.

Table 8 – Summary of baseline environment

4.2 Description and characteristics of the proposed development

The development consists of a Civic and Cultural Building, public realm works, demolition works, and all associated site works at a site located in the middle of Swords town centre, on the junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Main Street and Bridge Street adjacent to Swords Castle, and Fingal County Offices (Figure 1).

The proposed development will comprise of public realm upgrade works and the construction of the proposed Swords Cultural Centre (SCC), located on the existing Fingal County Council car park site at Seatown Road and St. Michaels House Centre, ranging in height from 2-4 storeys. The proposed Swords Civic and Cultural Building will include for: A 165-no. seated theatre with associated control/ sound rooms & light lobbies; Dressing rooms and rehearsal spaces; An art gallery; Café/theatre bar; Exhibition spaces; Workshop and study areas; Meeting rooms; Public library; Offices; Storage rooms, toilets and other ancillary uses. The proposed development will consist of minor external works to the southern entrance of the Swords District Court House (Protected Structure) (Figures 11–18).

4.3 Impact Assessment

This section assesses the likely significant impacts that the proposed development will have on the baseline/receiving environment, prior to the implementation of any mitigation measures. The methodology used in ascertaining the baseline value of sites, the type, magnitude and significance level of impacts is set out in Section 2 above.

Mitigation measures to ameliorate these impacts and the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on each site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential are provided in Sections 5 and 6 below.

4.3.1 Direct Impacts

It is expected that any impacts from development works are likely to be direct impacts as a result of:

- necessary demolition and ground reduction associated with the proposed foundation and drainage layouts associated with the SCC Building and
- demolition of a number of existing buildings, the reprofiling/ alteration of the streetscape and the landscaping proposals associated with the Public Realm Works.

4.3.1.1 *Swords Cultural Centre*

The construction of the new building will require the demolition of all existing structures on site (Units 1–4 at No. 20 North St and St Michaels House) (Figure 11). This work may uncover sub-surface foundations associated with earlier buildings (CH021) depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping.

It will also have a direct impact on (and require the partial removal of):

- CH015: An AAP consisting of localised groupings/ isolated pockets of sub-surface medieval and post medieval features confirmed by archaeological monitoring of GI works carried out in 2019 and archaeological test trenching undertaken in 2022.

The current ground levels at the proposed site fall from 15.700 m OD at the south to 14.700 m OD at the north. The localised pockets of surviving archaeology were identified at 400–650 mm below the existing ground level at the southern extent of the site and at 720–1100 mm beneath the existing ground level at the northern end of the site.

The proposed building will be constructed using conventional foundations (strip and pad) requiring ground reduction of between 1.20 – 2.40 m across the foundation layout to reach a suitable bearing stratum (Figure 14). This will require the removal of all archaeological features associated with the area of archaeological potential (CH015), consisting of the medieval remains identified by test trenching in February 2022, the post medieval remains (CH022) identified during archaeological monitoring of GI works in Jan 2019 and any above ground or sub-surface post-medieval structures relating to the buildings depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (CH021).

4.3.2 *Public Realm Works*

The Public Realm will require the demolition of a number of existing structures within the development area in addition to works associated with the alteration to the existing streetscape and the landscaping proposals to the east of Swords Castle, the entrance to Sword’s park and at County Hall as follows:

4.3.2.1 *Demolition*

- Demolition of the single storey offices (17 and 17A) facing North Street to the east of Swords Castle. This work may uncover sub-surface foundations associated with earlier buildings depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (CH019), in addition to the incorporation of fabric from buildings earlier associated with Swords Castle/ Dunnes Bakery (Figures 7–9 & 11).
- Demolition of the single storey structure (CH020) facing North Street within the curtilage of the community park (An early 19th century building altered and modified in recent times). This work may uncover sub-surface foundations associated with earlier buildings depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 7–9 & 11).

4.3.2.2 *Alteration of the existing streetscape*

Present ground levels across the existing streetscape varies from 15.700 m OD to 16.730 m OD. Although substantial ground reduction is not anticipated, the proposed paving works will require a reduction of c. 200 mm across this area. In addition, localised deeper excavation (up to 500 mm) will be required for the associated kerbing, lighting, drainage, utilities and signage across the existing streetscape. This could impact on previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features relating to the historic town of Swords (CH002), the area of archaeological potential at Bridge Street (CH016), the site of a post-medieval pump (CH017) and the structure (annotated as Smithy) depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (CH022) (Figure 18).

4.3.2.3 *Proposed landscaping at Swords Castle*

The soft landscaping proposals include a green space or managed lawn running in a wide arc around the Castle that slopes down to Main Street and North Street. The hard landscaping aspects (seating, pathways and drainage), in addition to the proposed tree planting will be restricted to area bordering the western edge of North Street and Main Street (Figures 15–18).

Note: A landscape and public realm proposal accompanies the Part VIII application (DFLA Ltd 2022).

The existing ground levels to the east of Swords Castle vary from 15.420 m OD to 17.210 m OD. The managed lawn will be created by importing 200 mm of topsoil and as such, it is expected that some level of ground reduction (a minimum of 200 mm), in the form of removing the existing modern materials (gravel/ stone) and the former concrete ground slab associated with the structures previously occupying Nos. 3–13 will be required in order to create a suitable base.

The proposed paving, pathways, drainage and seating will be restricted to the western edges of Main Street and North Street and require ground reduction in the region of c. 300 to 500 mm. The planting proposals consist of carefully selected semi-mature trees that will be contained within square pits measuring 1.20 m by 1.20 m by 0.90 m in depth. The planting locations have been designed to be flexible, to allow for adjustments along the proposed radial lines in response to archaeological and bedrock constraints.

These works could expose and impact negatively upon known and previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features relating to AAP CH013, an area of archaeological potential adjacent to Swords Castle. Previous archaeological test trenching in this area indicated that post-medieval occupation and construction activity along the North Street frontage had in all likelihood removed previous archaeological deposits, but that there is still a potential for later medieval features and deposits to survive along this section adjacent to the curtain walls (Baker 2016).

4.3.2.4 *County Hall.*

Present ground levels outside of County Hall vary from 16.500 m OD to 18.470 m OD. Substantial ground reduction is not anticipated in this area as the existing levels will be largely retained. The proposed works primarily consist of paving and soft landscaping works on Main Street and the area to the west of County Hall. The existing County Hall boundary wall on Main Street will be retained, with seating terraces built up in front of the wall to connect the two areas. Some localised deeper excavation (up to 500 mm) will be required for the associated kerbing, seating and walling foundations. This could impact on previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features relating to the historic town of Swords (CH002) and features associated with the site of Swords House (CH023) depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (Figures 15–18).

4.3.2.5 *Swords Park Entrance*

Present ground levels across the entrance to Sword's park fall from 17.000 m OD to 13.750 m OD. The proposed works consist of a fenced off managed lawn area with associated terraced seating, pathway network and planted areas that follow the existing contours of the area (sloping eastwards from the Swords Community Park in the west towards North Street). The proposed works will be primarily contained within the existing topsoil horizon estimated at between 300 and 500 mm in depth. However, some localised deeper ground reduction (500 mm to 1 m) associated with the foundation materials for the terraced seating, fencing and proposed pathways will be required. This could uncover previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features relating to the historic town of Swords (CH002) and the

area of archaeological potential to the north of Swords Castle (CH014). **Note:** The proposed fencing will not be directly attached to the historic fabric off Swords Castle (Figures 15–18).

4.3.3 *Indirect Impacts*

Indirect impacts arise where a proposed development affects the setting of an archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage feature or site. It is recognised that the proposed development will slightly alter the streetscape of this section of Swords and will have potential impacts to the setting, integrity and character of the following CH sites:

- CH001 – Swords Castle
- CH005 – Swords Court House

Note: An Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment (AHIA) undertaken by JCA Architects accompanies the Part VIII application. The AHIA provides further detail on the possible impacts of the proposed development on the historical architectural character and setting of Swords Castle & Swords Court House (McClatchie 2022).

SCC Building

The proposed SCC Building will impact on the setting of the National Monument of Swords Castle (CH001) located to the west of the development.

Swords Castle (CH001) is located at the northern end of the Main Street at the junction of North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035) forming the western boundary of the Swords Cultural Quarter. The Castle is a National Monument (No.340), a recorded monument (DU011-034001-) and protected structure (No.351) and is set on high ground to the east of the River Ward. The site contains a number of buildings commonly referred to as the Gatehouse, the Knights and Squires Chamber, the Chapel, the Archbishops Apartments and the Constable's (North) Tower, that are incorporated into the curtain walls that form an irregular polygon, enclosing over an acre of land that slopes down from east (18 m OD) to west (15 m OD).

Views towards the proposed SCC Building from within the National Monument are currently unobstructed, with just the corner of Fingal County Hall visible to the southeast (Plate 16). Upon completion, the upper stories of the SCC Building will be visible from within the internal space of the Castle (Figure 19). However, this impact is considered to be moderate, as the building has been carefully redesigned to lessen the visual impact by reducing the overall proposed height by approximately 1 m and incorporating a brise soleil feature across the exterior. This breaks up the hard façade of the building and reduces the overall visual impact from within the grounds of the Castle.

Views from the SCC development site (currently the Fingal Executive car park) towards the National Monument are partially obstructed by the last remaining structures on North Street, (Nos. 17 and 17A), although the Chapel, the Curtain Walls, the East Tower and the walls of the Great Hall still dominate (Plate 17). The removal of the remaining buildings will create a clear sightline towards the National Monument from the SCC building. This will allow Swords Castle to be fully appreciated and add an amenity value to Swords Town that is not currently present. In addition, further positive impacts will be created from the upper floors of SCC Building. Members of the public will be able to enjoy unobstructed views of the Castle from the second floor and the second-floor balcony. The balcony will also provide views of St Columba's Round Tower, RMP DU011-034005, views which are not currently available from any public buildings at the north-eastern extent of the town (Figures 20 and 21).

Public Realm Works

Currently, views towards the National Monument from publicly accessible areas of the Public Realm in an arc from north to east are obstructed by the extant housing on North Street (17 and 17A), which are an impediment to both the visual and physical link to the Castle (Plates 18 and 19). Less obstructed views are generally only available from the south at Main Street, southeast at Bridge Street and west at Seatown Road (Plates 20, 21 and 22).

The removal of a number of derelict buildings (Nos. 3–13) positioned to the east of the castle walls has had an immediate positive impact and re-established a real presence of the Castle within the Town. Demolishing the remaining structures on North St and exposing the full breadth of the Castle walls will create clear sightlines towards the Castle from within the public realm development, create a strong link with the proposed SCC building and add an amenity value that is not currently present.

In addition, the proposed works involve the implementation of a green area around the Castle, whereby the Castle will be located on an island of green space. The curvature of this green space will preserve the alignment of the current streetscape and return Swords Castle to its historic focal point at the top of Main Street.

CH No.	Summary	Impact Type	Description of Impact	Magnitude of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures
001	Swords Castle	Indirect	Construction of new buildings and public realm infrastructure will impact on the setting of this monument	Moderate (negative)	Very High	Moderate (Negative)
002	Historic town	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Very High	Significant (Negative)
005	Court house	Indirect	Construction of new buildings and public realm infrastructure will impact on the setting of this monument	Moderate (negative)	High	Moderate (Negative)
013	AAP	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	High	Significant (Negative)
014	AAP	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /High	Moderate (Negative)
015	AAP	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /High	Moderate (Negative)
016	AAP	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /High	Moderate (Negative)
017	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (Negative)
018	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (Negative)
019	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (Negative)
020	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /High	Significant (Negative)
021	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (Negative)
022	UCH	Direct	Demolition and construction groundworks could impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits	Major (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (Negative)
023	UCH	Indirect	Construction of public realm infrastructure may impact on sub-surface archaeological features and deposits associated with the grounds of Swords House	Negligible (negative)	Medium /Low	Negligible (Negative)

Table 9 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude prior to mitigation

5 MITIGATION STRATEGY

The mitigation strategies outlined in this section detail the techniques to be adopted in order to ameliorate the impacts that the proposed development may have on features of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage within the study area during both the construction and operational phases of the scheme.

The following mitigation measures proposed are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The current policy of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is that preservation *in situ* of archaeological material is the preferred option. Where this cannot be achieved then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of all affected archaeological material.

The following mitigation measures are recommended:

1. A programme of archaeological excavation shall be carried out at the site of the proposed SCC Building (CH015) in advance of/ conjunction with the construction groundworks programme, to fully investigate and record the medieval and post-medieval features impacted by the proposed works. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
2. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass the proposed Public Realm Works adjacent to Swords Castle (within AAPs CH013 and CH014), including enabling, demolition, conservation/ stabilisation works and the soft and hard landscaping proposals (green space, paths, seating and planting) extending around the castle perimeter. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under Ministerial Consent in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Should any sub-surface archaeological features be identified during this process, it is recommended that they are preserved *in situ* and protected from any intrusive groundworks.
 - b. Preservation *in situ* will comprise cleaning back and surveying the extent of the identified remains, followed by strategic environmental sampling, prior to applying a protective covering comprised of successive layers of terram/ other geotextile layer and sand.
 - c. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - d. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
3. A detailed architectural survey will be undertaken of Nos. 17 and 17A prior to demolition to fully record the wall fabric. The removal of renders or other works to determine the nature and composition of the wall fabric will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced contractor under the direction of a conservation architect and archaeologist.

4. A programme of conservation/ stabilisation works will be undertaken at the exposed section of the curtain wall of Swords Castle to the rear of Nos. 17 and 17A. The extent, form and detail of the required works will be designed and undertaken by a suitably qualified structural engineer. Any detailed proposals for such works will be agreed in advance with the Conservation and Heritage Officers within Fingal County Council and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
5. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass all remaining groundwork elements associated with the Public Realm Works along North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street, including (but not limited to) all enabling, and demolition works as well as construction groundworks and the landscaping proposals at County Hall. This should be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under license and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Where possible, every reasonable effort should be made to preserve *in situ* or reduce the impact on any identified archaeological material. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - b. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
6. Written reports shall be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken for submission to the National Monuments Service.

5.1 Residual Impacts

CH No.	Summary	Impact Type	Mitigation Measures	Magnitude of impact after implementation of mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact after implementation of mitigation measures
001	Swords Castle	Indirect	• Impact has been mitigated through design	Minor (positive)	Very High	Moderate (positive)
002	Historic town	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Very High	Moderate (negative)
005	Court house	Indirect	• Impact has been mitigated through design	Negligible (positive)	High	Slight (positive)
013	AAP	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	High	Moderate (negative)
014	AAP	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /High	Slight (negative)
015	AAP	Direct	• Archaeological Excavation	Moderate (negative)	Medium /High	Slight (negative)
016	AAP	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /High	Slight (negative)
017	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (negative)
018	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (negative)
019	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (negative)
020	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /High	Slight (negative)
021	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring, Survey and Excavation	Moderate (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (negative)
022	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Moderate (negative)	Medium /Low	Slight (negative)
023	UCH	Direct	• Archaeological Monitoring	Negligible (negative)	Medium /Low	Negligible (negative)

Table 10 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude after implementation of mitigation

Please note all the recommendations in this report are subject to approval of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 *Summary of archaeological findings*

The archaeological assessment of the proposed Swords Cultural Quarter development identified 23 sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise three sites listed on the Recorded of Monuments and Places (RMPs), one of which, Swords Castle, is also a Protected Structure and a National Monument, six protected structures (PS), which are also listed in the NIAH, one other structure listed in the NIAH, four areas of archaeological potential (AAP), two townland boundaries (TB) and seven unregistered cultural heritage sites (UCH). The results indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential. (Figure 2).

It is expected that most impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks associated with the development of the Swords Civic and Cultural Building and the re-profiling works associated with the installation of the Public Realm & Civic Space infrastructure.

At the site of the SCC Building likely significant impacts have been identified in relation to the historic town of Swords, which is an RMP (CH002), AAP (CH015) an area of medieval and post medieval activity and two UCH sites: the remnants of a 19th century dwelling (CH021) formerly fronting onto North Street and a former smithy (CH022).

The results of a programme of archaeological test trenching at the site of the SCC Building, AAP (CH015), revealed localised pockets of surviving archaeological remains across the site. Garden soils containing medieval pottery were identified in the east and northern half of the site, which sealed a series of medieval features consisting of a metalled surface, a limestone drain and an undated mortared stone wall. In the southern part of the site, a possible linear boundary ditch, a very compact mettled surface and a number of pits and furrows were identified, with many producing medieval pottery. A series of furrows were also evident in the north of the site, but no diagnostic material was recovered from these features. However, a similar furrow in the south of the site did produce a sherd of medieval pottery (Appendix 6; Bayley 2022). The proposed development groundworks (foundation and drainage) will impact on the sub-surface remains identified at this site.

Impacts will also occur during the groundworks phase associated with the development of the Public Realm Works. The likely significant impacts associated with the reprofiling of the existing streetscape relate to the historic town of Swords (CH002), an AAP at Bridge Street (CH016) and the site of a former water pump, UCH CH017, located at the junction of North Street and Seatown Road. Impacts may also occur during the soft and hard landscaping proposals adjacent to Swords Castle and at the entrance to Swords Park (associated with AAPs CH013 and CH014) and a number of 19th century UCH sites, consisting of the remnants of former early 19th century structures along North Street (CH018 and CH019). It should also be noted that the remaining extant structures to the east of Swords Castle (Nos. 17 and 17A) and the single-story structure within swords park (CH020) are scheduled for demolition.

The results of an architectural survey of the single-storey structure (CH020) located at the entrance to Swords Park, revealed that the structure most likely consists of an early nineteenth century building that has been altered and reconstructed in modern times. The building is in a ruinous condition supported internally by a single leaf of concrete blocks. Original masonry fabric, consisting of roughly dressed limestone, is present at the front and side (north) elevations. However, the upper portion of the side (north) elevation and almost the entire rear elevation appears to have been reconstructed. The side (south) elevation is no longer extant having been replaced by a modern concrete block wall. The southwestern corner has also been replaced with modern concrete blocks. The incorporation of high-quality building materials (dressed limestone blocks and finely tooled limestone quoins) indicate that

considerable effort and expense was put into the design and construction of the original structure. Attributing a purpose/ function to this building is somewhat problematic due to its unusual street façade, and simplistic layout. The absence for evidence of a door opening to the front façade, suggests the structure may have served as an outbuilding (either as a store or to house animals). It may also have had an association with the two-storey building located to the south of this structure as depicted on historic photographs of Swords town (Appendix 7; Hanbidge and Lydon 2022).

Although the proposed works will not impact upon the upstanding remains of Swords Castle (CH001), situated to the west of the development, the proposed SCC Building will impact on the setting of the National Monument. Views towards the proposed SCC Building from within the National Monument are currently unobstructed, with just the corner of Fingal County Hall visible to the southeast. Upon completion, the upper stories of the SCC Building will be visible from within the internal space of the Castle. However, this impact is considered to be moderate, as the building has been carefully redesigned to lessen the visual impact by reducing the overall height by approximately 2 m and incorporating a brise soleil feature across the exterior. This breaks up the hard façade of the building and reduces the overall visual impact from within the grounds of the Castle.

Views from the SCC development site (currently the Fingal Executive Car park) towards the National Monument are partially obstructed by the last remaining structures on North Street, (Nos. 17 and 17A), although the Chapel, the Curtain Walls, the East Tower and the walls of the Great Hall still dominate. The removal of the remaining buildings will create a clear sightline towards the National Monument from the SCC building. This will allow Swords Castle to be fully appreciated and add an amenity value to Swords Town that is not currently present. In addition, further positive impacts will be created from the upper floors of SCC Building. Members of the public will be able to enjoy unobstructed views of the Castle from the second floor and the second-floor balcony. The balcony will also provide views of St Columba's Round Tower, RMP DU011-034005, views which are not currently available from any public buildings at the north-eastern extent of the town.

Currently, views towards the National Monument from publicly accessible areas of the Public Realm, in an arc from north to east are obstructed by extant housing along North Street (17 and 17A). Less obstructed views are generally only available from the south and southeast. Demolishing the remaining structures on North Street and exposing the full breadth of the Castle walls will allow the monument to be more fully enjoyed and add to the amenity value established by the removal of the derelict properties at Nos. 3 to 13. In addition, the incorporation of the arching green space around the eastern perimeter of the Castle will help to retain the overall geometry of the existing streetscape and return Swords Castle to its historic focal point at the top of Main Street, whilst also drawing together the new elements of the Swords Cultural Quarter.

6.2 Recommendations

The following mitigation measures are recommended:

1. A programme of archaeological excavation shall be carried out at the site of the proposed SCC Building (CH015) in advance of/ conjunction with the construction groundworks programme, to fully investigate and record the medieval and post-medieval features impacted by the proposed works. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.

2. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass the proposed Public Realm Works adjacent to Swords Castle (within AAPs CH013 and CH014), including enabling, demolition, conservation/ stabilisation works and the soft and hard landscaping proposals (green space, paths, seating and planting) extending around the castle perimeter. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under Ministerial Consent in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Should any sub-surface archaeological features be identified during this process, it is recommended that they are preserved *in situ* and protected from any intrusive groundworks.
 - b. Preservation *in situ* will comprise cleaning back and surveying the extent of the identified remains, followed by strategic environmental sampling, prior to applying a protective covering comprised of successive layers of terram/ other geotextile layer and sand.
 - c. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - d. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
3. A detailed architectural survey will be undertaken of Nos. 17 and 17A prior to demolition to fully record the wall fabric. The removal of renders or other works to determine the nature and composition of the wall fabric will be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced contractor under the direction of a conservation architect and archaeologist.
4. A programme of conservation/ stabilisation works will be undertaken at the exposed section of the curtain wall of Swords Castle to the rear of Nos. 17 and 17A. The extent, form and detail of the required works will be designed and undertaken by a suitably qualified structural engineer. Any detailed proposals for such works will be agreed in advance with the Conservation and Heritage Officers within Fingal County Council and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
5. A comprehensive programme of archaeological monitoring shall be carried out to encompass all remaining groundwork elements associated with the Public Realm Works along North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street, including (but not limited to) all enabling, and demolition works as well as construction groundworks and the landscaping proposals at County Hall. This should be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under license and in accordance with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
 - a. Where possible, every reasonable effort should be made to preserve *in situ* or reduce the impact on any identified archaeological material. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of the portion of the site that will be directly impacted upon.
 - b. If significant archaeological material (human remains/ intact medieval structures) is encountered during the course of archaeological monitoring, then resolution of any such significant material will be determined in consultation with the Fingal County Heritage Officer and the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).

6. Written reports shall be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken for submission to the National Monuments Service.

Please note all the recommendations in this report are subject to approval of the National Monuments Service and the Local Planning Authority.

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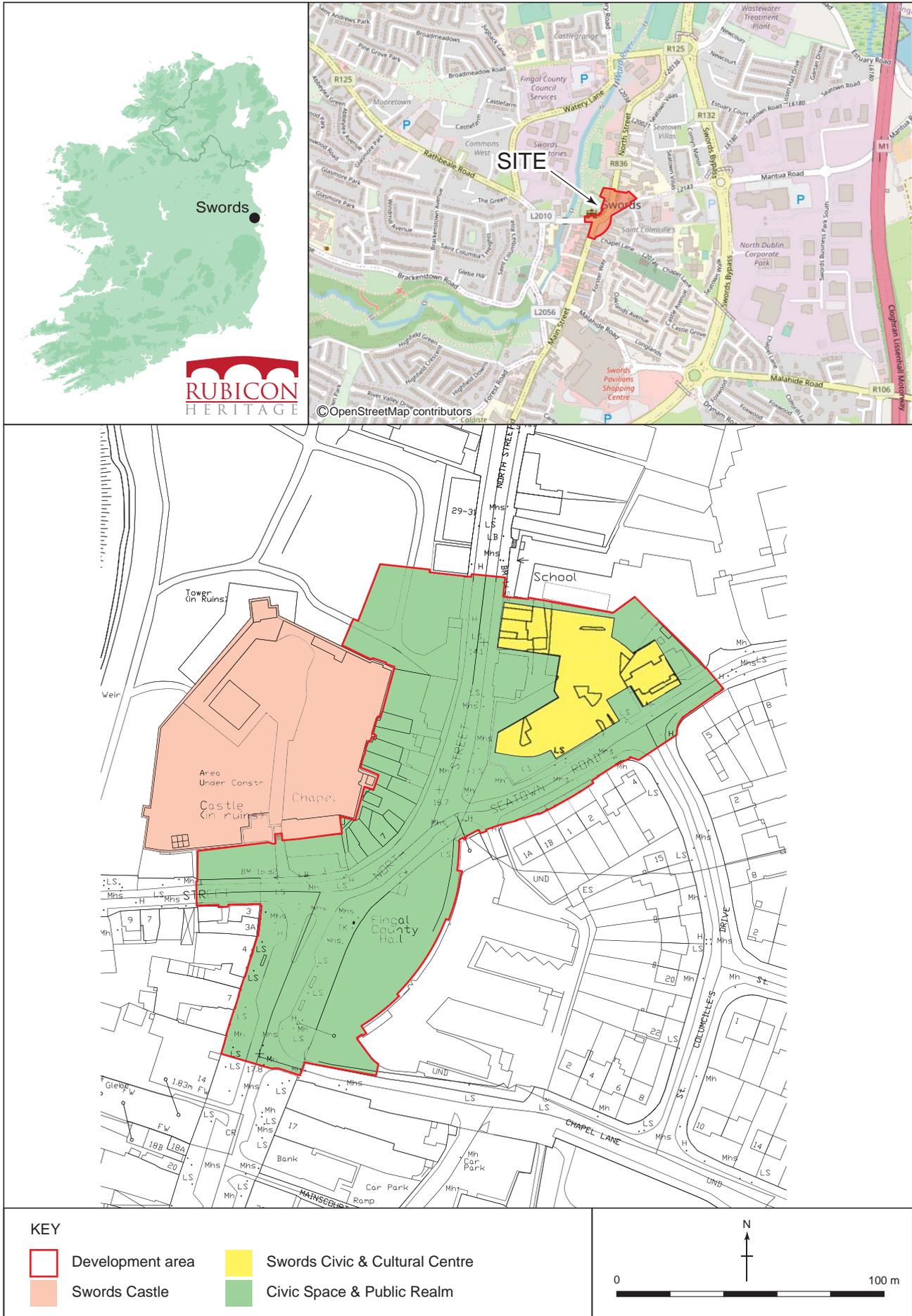


Figure 1 - Swords Cultural Quarter: Site location and proposed development.



Figure 2 - Cultural Heritage sites within 100m radius of proposed development site.



Figure 3.1 - Previous archaeological investigations within study area (excluding interior of Swords Castle curtilage).

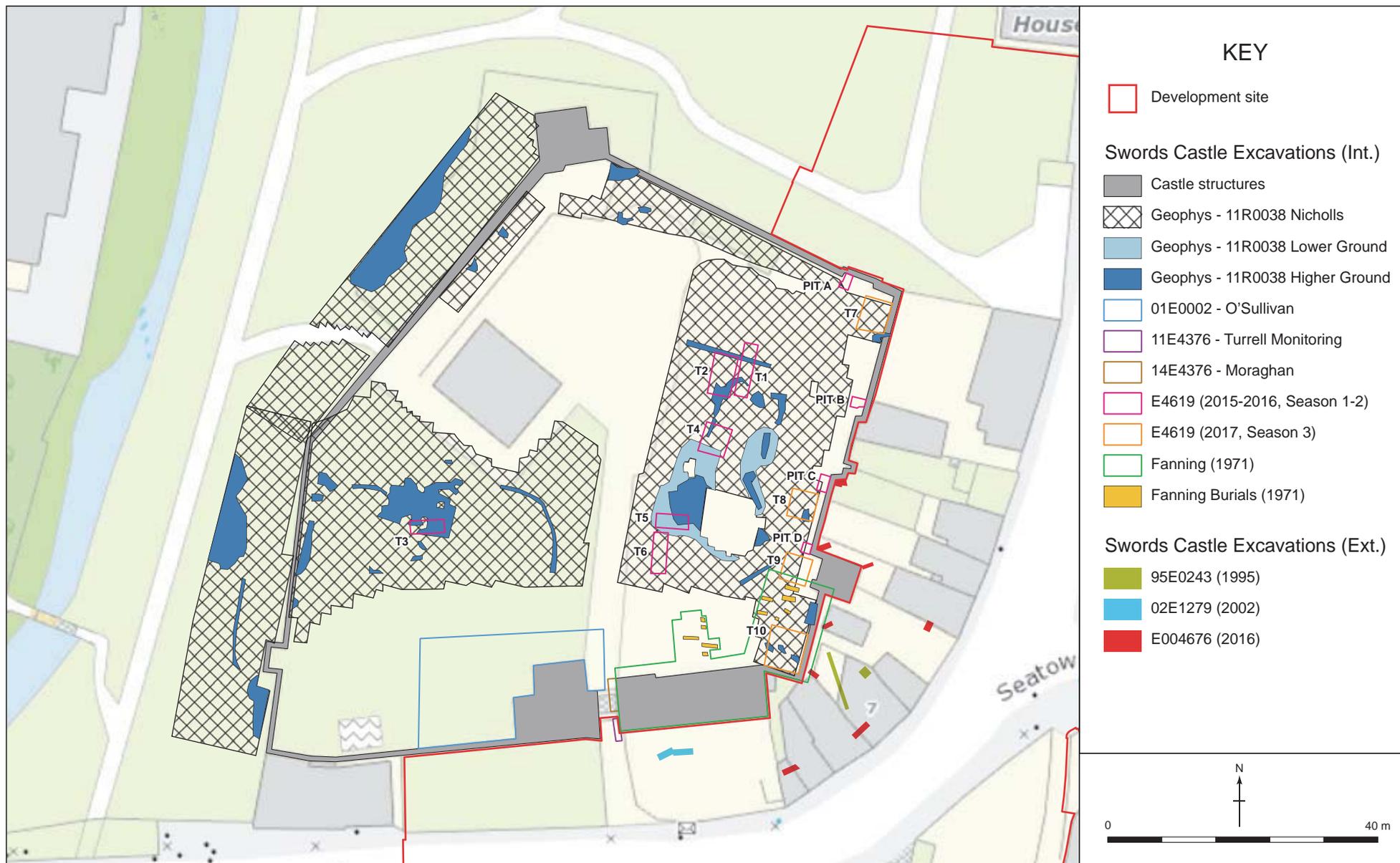


Figure 3.2 - Previous archaeological investigations within interior of Swords Castle curtilage.

Reproduced from Ordnance Survey of Ireland, Second Edition, Six Inch to One Mile map, Dublin Sheet 2925 & 2994
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Figure 4 - RMP map with proposed development site.

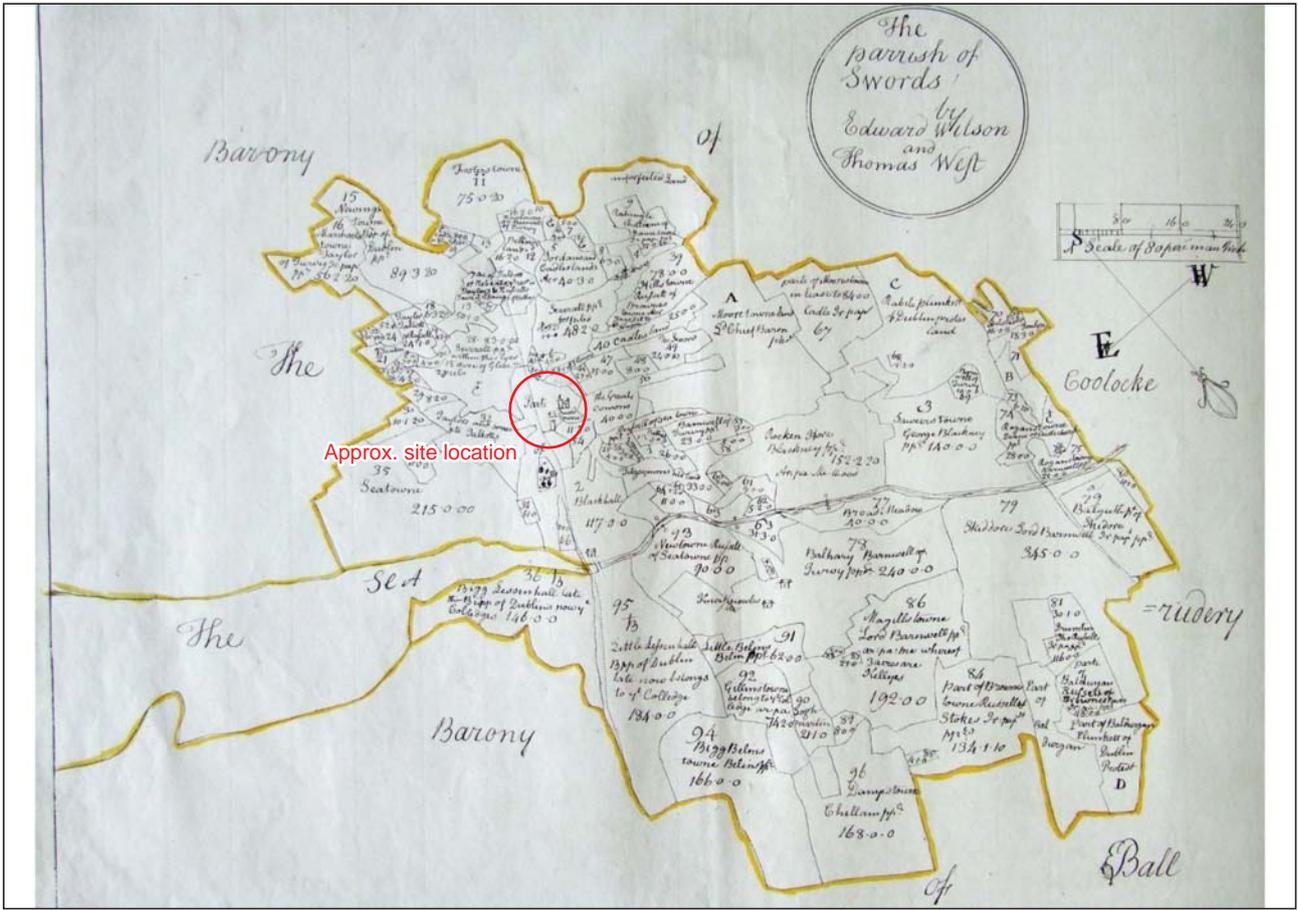


Figure 5 - Extract from Down Survey Map.

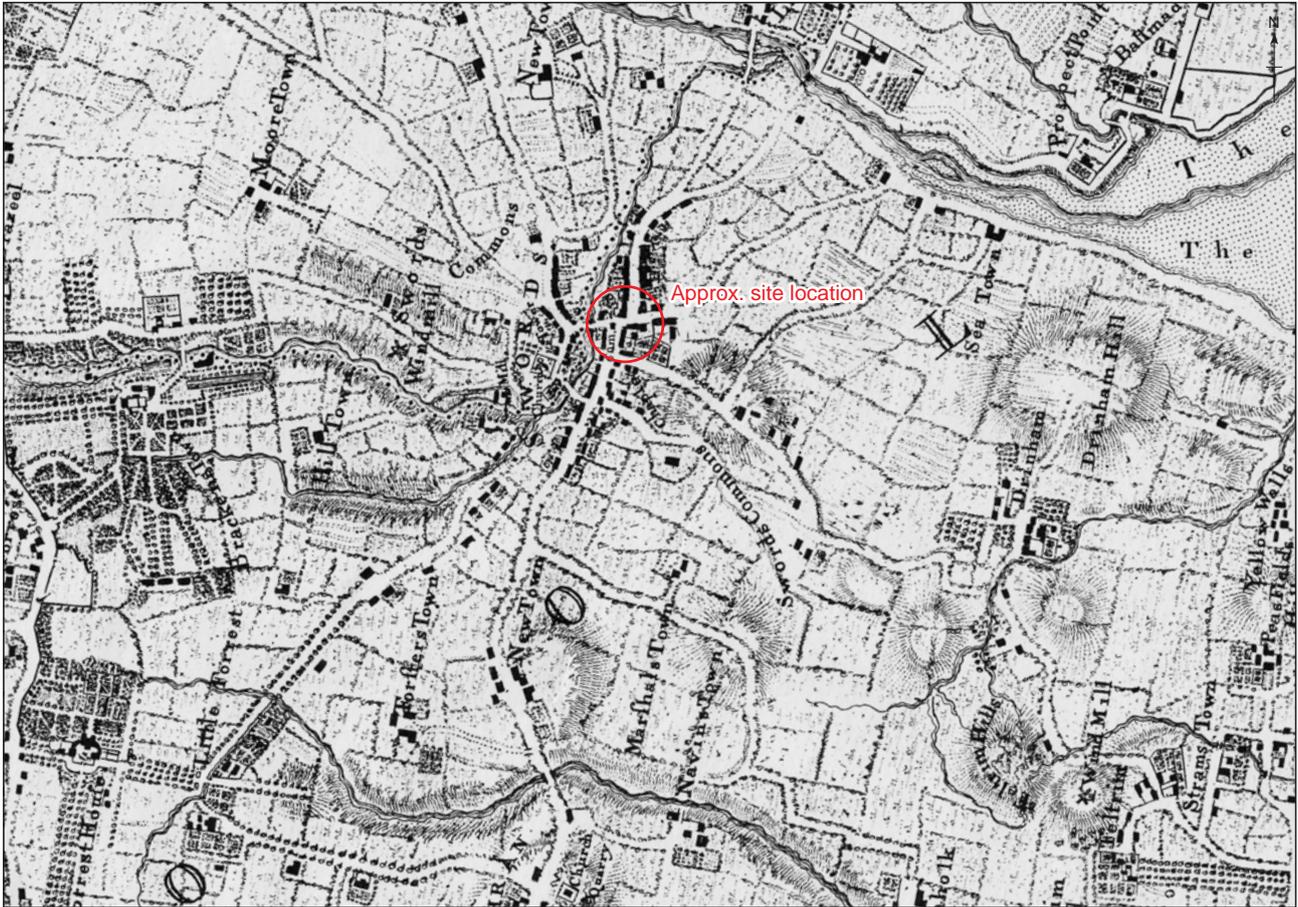


Figure 6 - Extract from Rocque's Map of County Dublin.

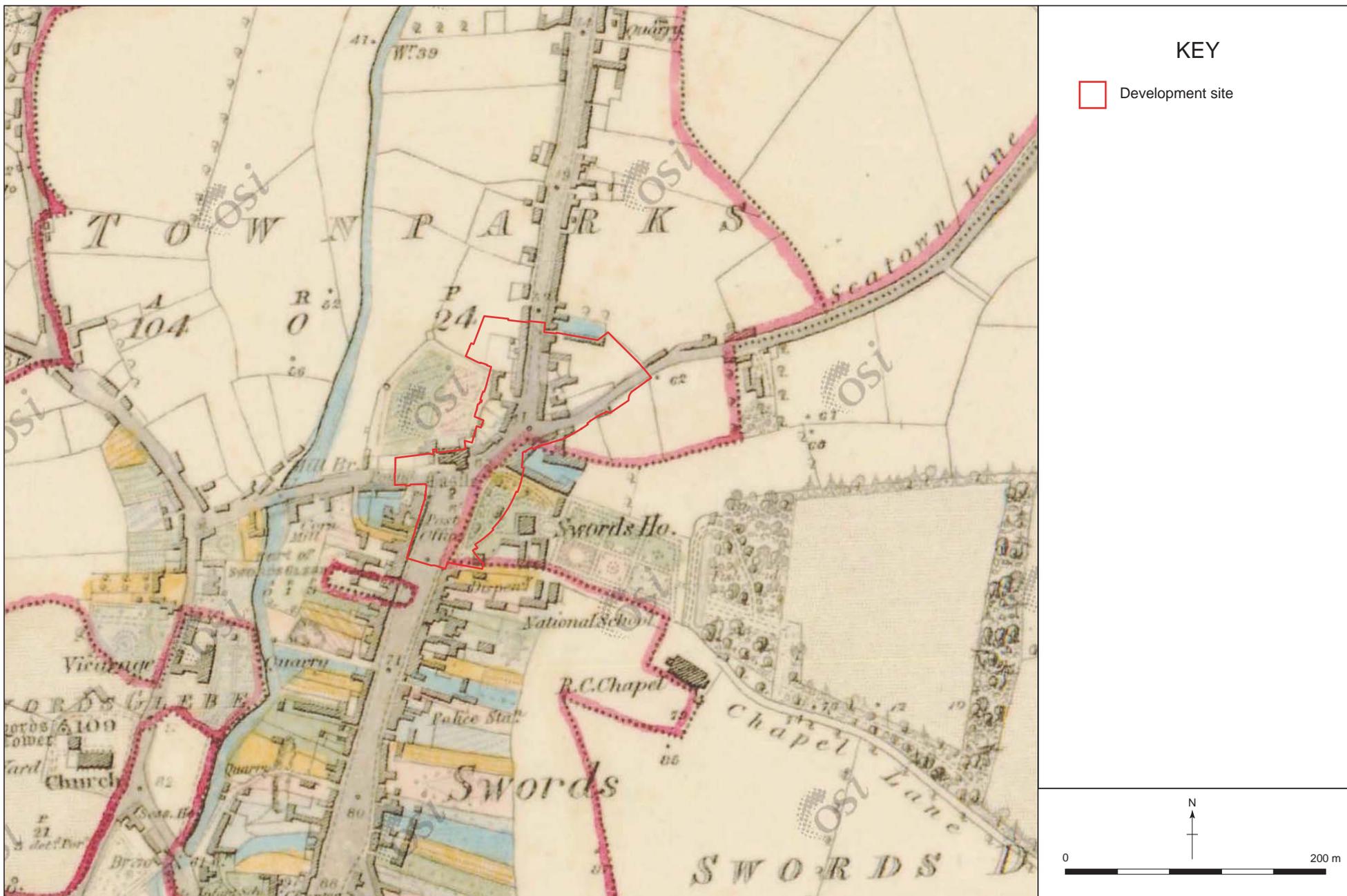


Figure 7 - First edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.

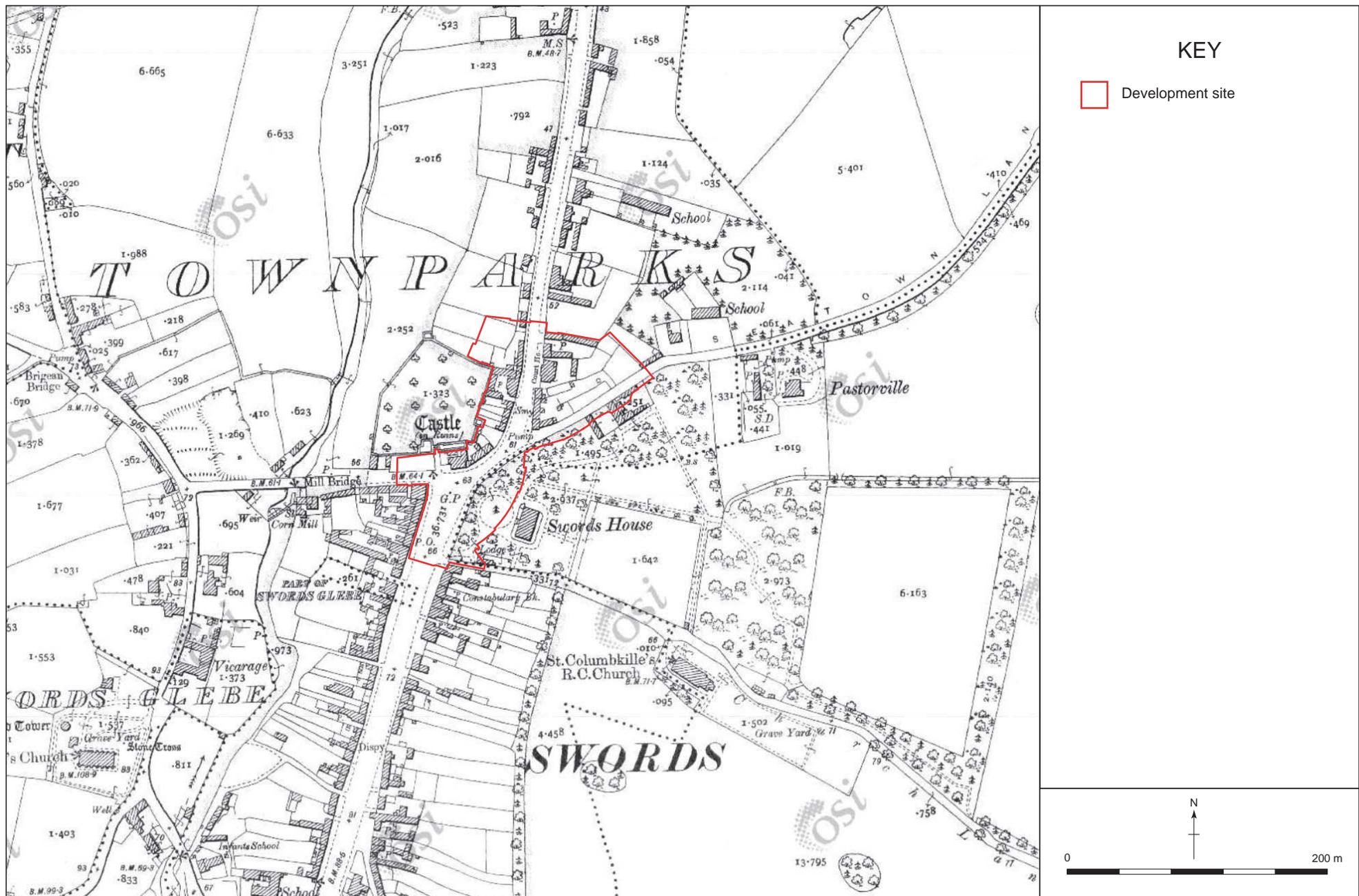


Figure 8 - Second edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.

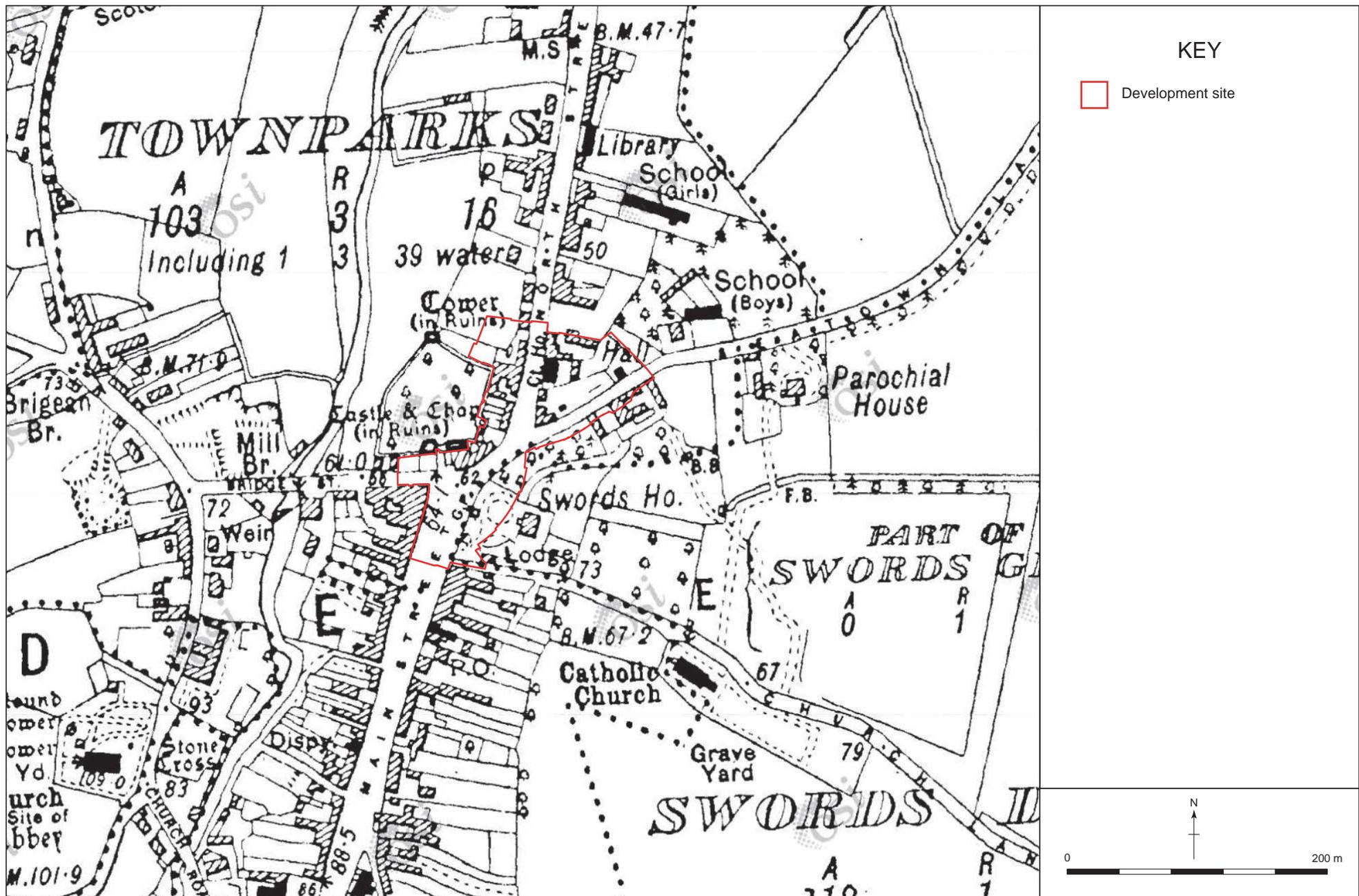
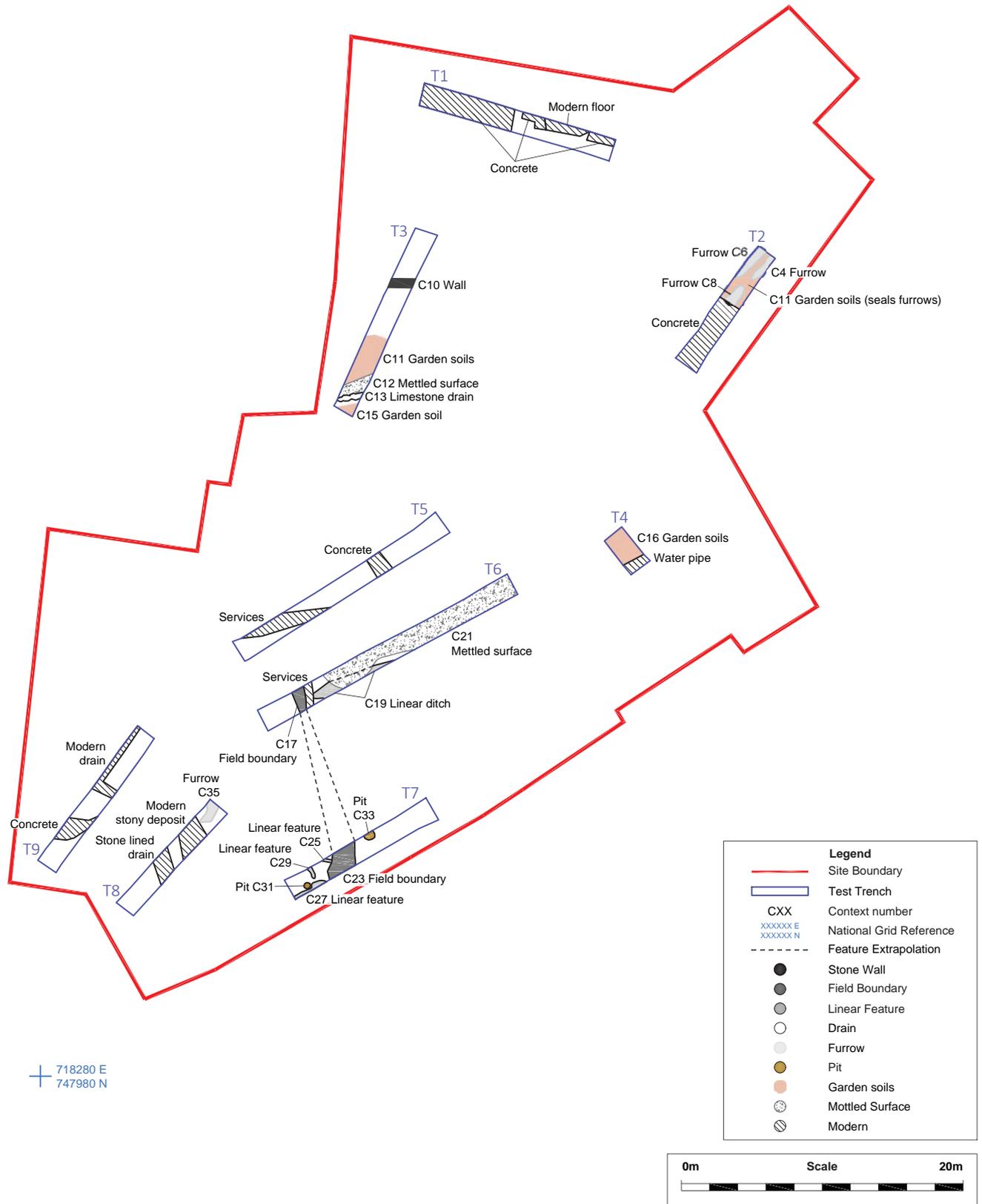


Figure 9 - 6-inch Cassini map with proposed development site.



+ 718280 E
747060 N

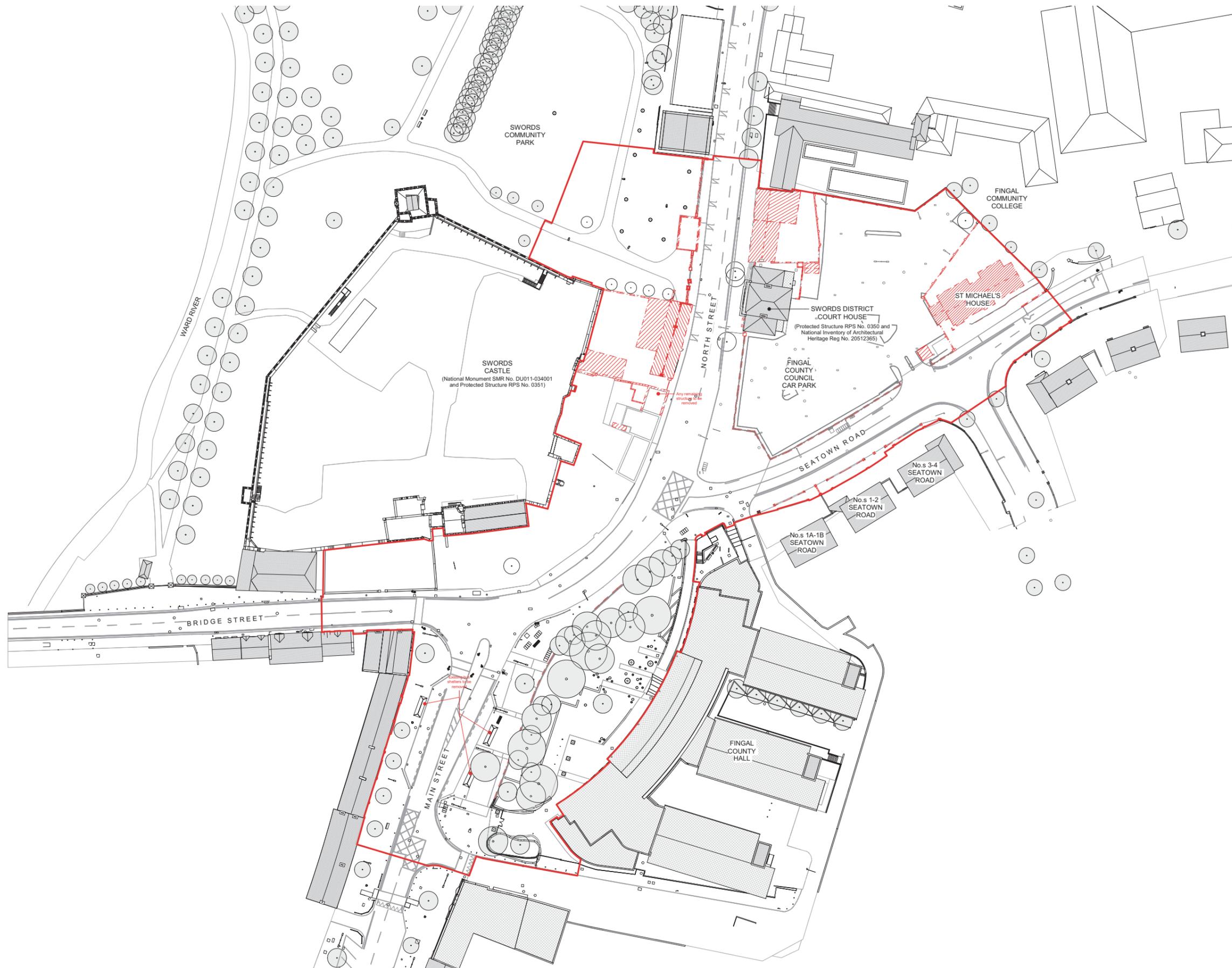
+ 718340 E
747060 N



+ 718280 E
747980 N

Title	Plan of excavated test trenches	Scale	1:400@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	08/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	5
				Rev.	-

Figure 10 - Overview of results from archaeological test trenching at Fingal Executive carpark (after IAC 2022).



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	CKD
P01	07.07.22	Issued for Planning	ODT

USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY
DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWINGS
CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE
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Survey information produced by Tr3D
Refer to Tree Removal Plan prepared by Charles
McCorkell Arboricultural Consultancy

NOTES:

Demolition Key
Site Area: 15,780m²
— Site Boundary
▨ Structures to be demolished

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PROJECT:
A176
Swords Cultural Quarter

PROJECT STATUS:
Planning

SCALE:
1 : 500 @A1

DRAWING TITLE:
Demolition Site Plan

DRAWING NO:
SCQ-ZZ-ZZZ-DR-ODT-AR-0006

PLANNING

ISSUE DATE:
07/07/22

DRAWN BY:
ODT

STATUS
S4

REVISION
P01

Figure 11 - Proposed demolition site plan (after ODT 2022).



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	CKD
P01	07.07.22	Issued for Planning	ODT

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- NOTES:**
- Key
 - Site Boundary Line
 - Building Overhang
 - Building Visitor Entrance
 - Proposed Street Lighting
 - Proposed External Seating
- Notes:**
- Refer to Landscape + Public Realm Report by Dermot Foley Landscape Architects for proposed landscape design
 - Refer to Landscape + Public Realm Report by Dermot Foley Landscape Architects, Ecological Survey Report by Ecos Environ and Energy & Sustainability Strategy Report by Max Fortham for further information regarding proposed external lighting
 - 108 total visitor cycle spaces - 90 visitor cycle spaces to be provided in public realm outside of SCC Building and 18 visitor cycle spaces to be provided along Main Street. 20 total staff cycle spaces

- Refer to Roads Layout Report by MHL for proposed road layout
- Refer to Engineering Report by Horgan Lynch Consulting Engineers for further information regarding site drainage

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PROJECT:
A176
Swords Cultural Quarter

PROJECT STATUS:
Planning

SCALE:
1 : 500 @A1

ISSUE DATE:
07/07/22

DRAWN BY:
ODT

DRAWING TITLE:
Proposed Site Layout Plan

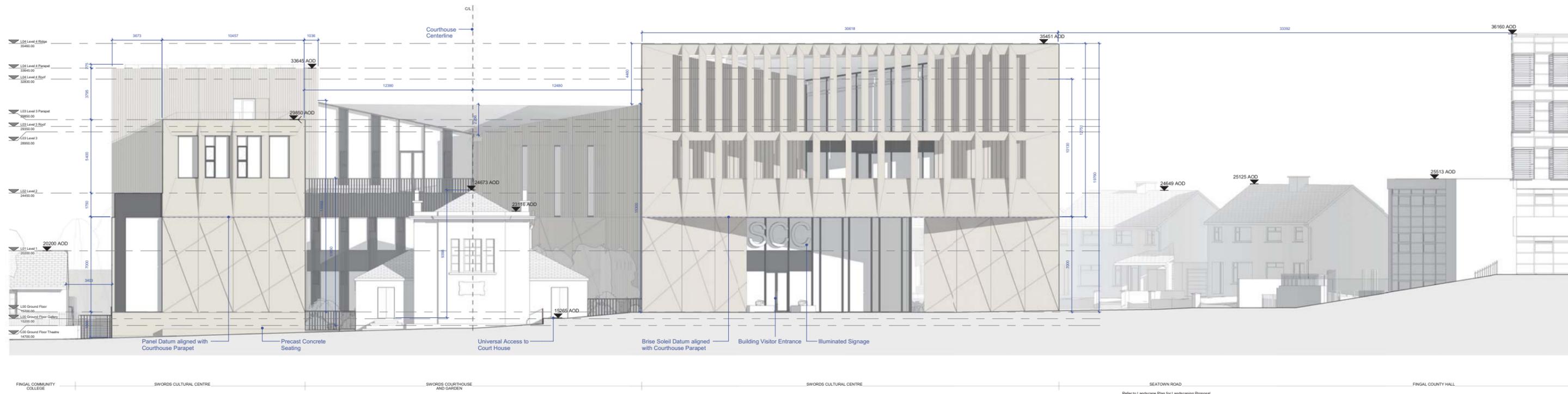
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PLANNING

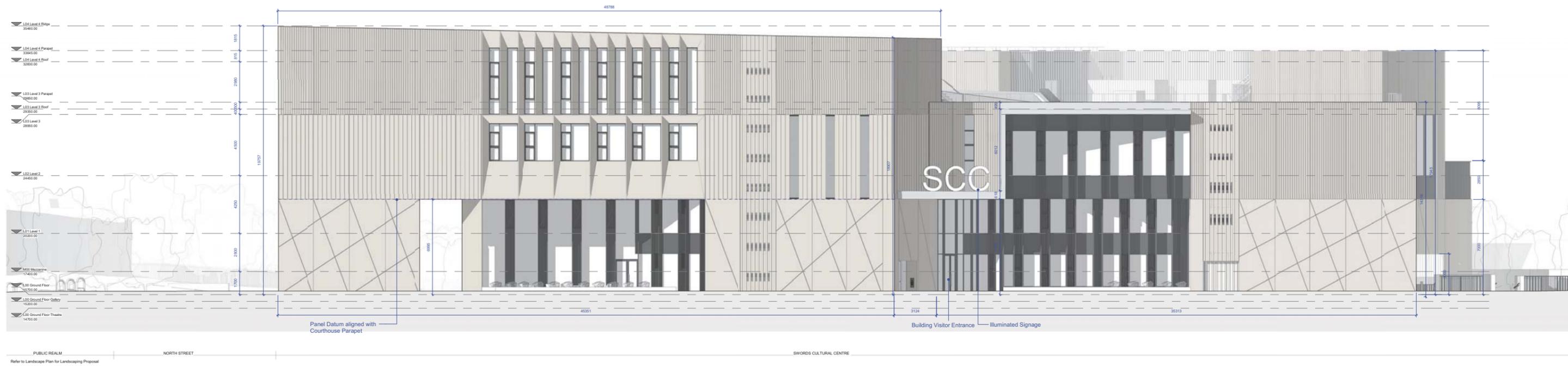
STATUS
S4

REVISION
P01

Figure 12 - Plan of proposed SCC Building (after ODT 2022).



1. Proposed West Elevation - North Street
1:100



2. Proposed South East Elevation - Seaton Road
1:100

	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>REV</th> <th>DATE</th> <th>DESCRIPTION</th> <th>BY</th> <th>CHECKED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>01</td> <td>07/07/22</td> <td>Issued for Planning</td> <td>ODT</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHECKED	01	07/07/22	Issued for Planning	ODT		<p>USE FINISHED DIMENSIONS ONLY DO NOT SCALE DIMENSIONS CHECK ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE COPYRIGHT © O'DONNELL+TUOMEY</p>	<p>NOTES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be read in conjunction with Plans + Sections - For Roof Access information - see Roof Plan 	<p>O'Donnell+Tuomey</p> <p>204 Camden Row, Dublin 6, Ireland Telephone: +353 1 475 2300 Email: info@odt.ie</p>	<p>PROJECT: A176 Swords Cultural Quarter</p> <p>PROJECT STATUS: Planning</p> <p>SCALE: 1:100 @A4</p>	<p>ISSUE DATE: 07/07/22</p> <p>DRAWN BY: ODT</p>	<p>DRAWING TITLE: GA Proposed West + South East Elevations</p> <p>DRAWING NO: SCQ-ZZ-ZZZ-DR-ODT-AR-0024</p> <p>PLANNING</p>	<p>STATUS S4</p> <p>REVISION P01</p>
	REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHECKED													
01	07/07/22	Issued for Planning	ODT															

Figure 13 - Proposed west and southwest elevations (after ODT 2022).

Structural Foundation Schedule	
Type Mark	Type
FT1	2000x450mm dp RC FOUNDATION
FT2	1200x450mm dp RC FOUNDATION
FT3	450mm DEEP RC FOUNDATION
FT4	900x300mm dp STRIP FOUNDATION
FT5	2500x250x600mm RC PAD
PT1	2750x2750x600mm RC PAD
PT2	3500x3500x700mm RC PAD

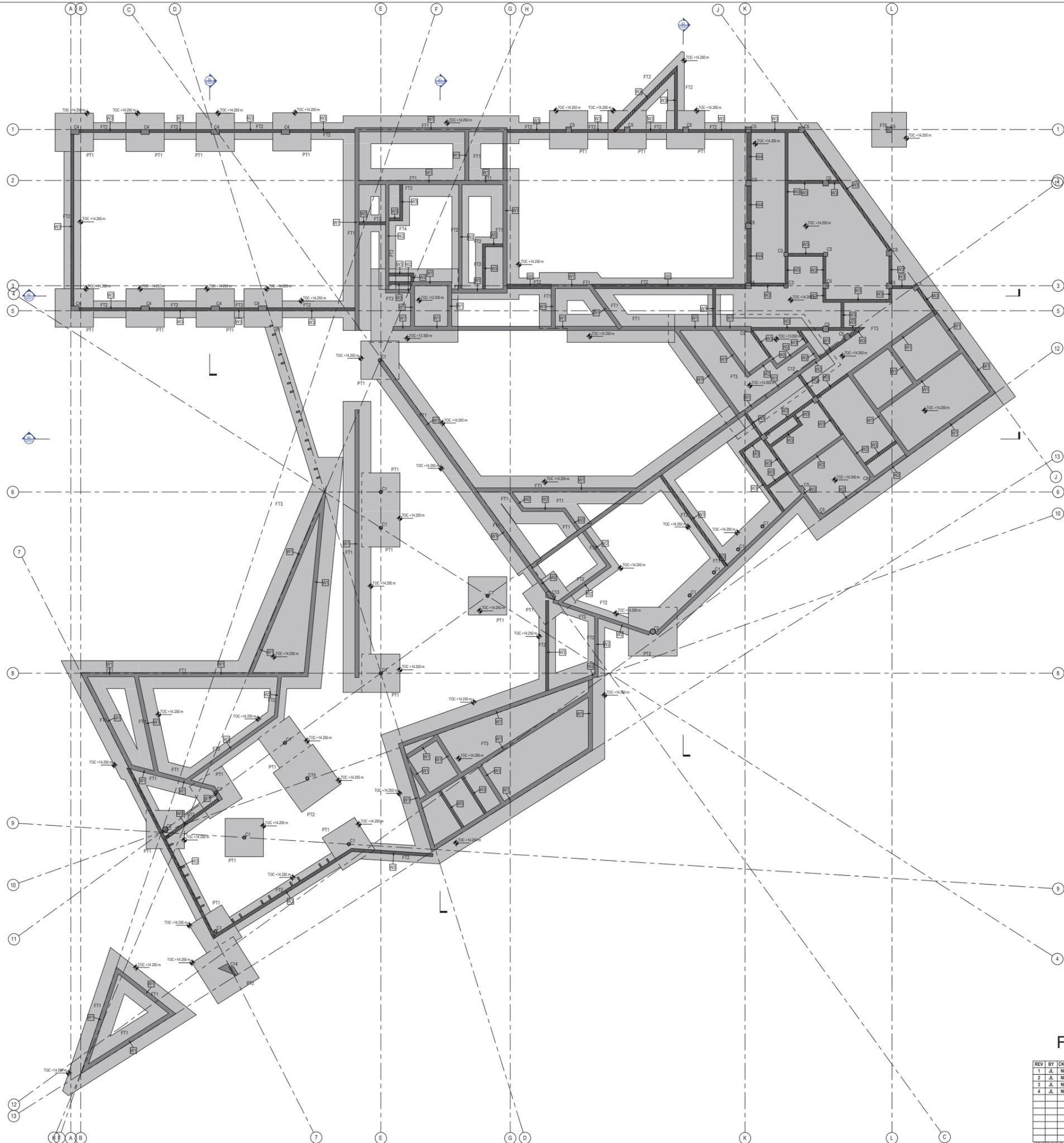


Figure 14 - Foundation detail at ground floor (after Horgan Lynch 2022).

REV	BY	CHKD	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	JL	NF	04.11.21	ISSUED FOR STAGE 2(A) REPORT
2	JL	NF	20.01.22	PROGRESS ISSUE
3	JL	NF	04.04.22	ISSUED FOR STAGE 2(A)(I)
4	JL	NF	12.04.22	RE-ISSUED FOR STAGE 2(A)(II)

PROJECT	FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL		
SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER			
DRG. TITLE	LEVEL B01 - OVERALL G.A.		
SCALE (@ A1)	1:100	DRAWN BY	JK
CHECKED BY	JK	APPROVED BY	WJ
HL PROJECT REF.	OY22	STATUS	S4
REVISION			4

PROJECT		FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL	
SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER			
DRG. TITLE		LEVEL B01 - OVERALL G.A.	
SCALE (@ A1)		1:100	DRAWN BY
CHECKED BY		JK	APPROVED BY
HL PROJECT REF.		OY22	STATUS
REVISION			4

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DRAWING: SCQ-CC-B02-DR-HLCE-SE-00500



LEGEND AND SCHEDULE OF MATERIALS

	SITE BOUNDARY		EXISTING LEVEL RETAINED
	PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY SURFACE TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL		PROPOSED LEVEL
	PROPOSED CYCLE TRACK TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL		PROPOSED CIRCULAR SEAT
	PROPOSED TABLE TOP WITH BUFF COLORED MACADAM TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL		PROPOSED SEATING
	PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL		PROPOSED BICYCLE STANDS
	PROPOSED BUS STOP TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL		PROPOSED BELISHA BEACON TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL
	PROPOSED KERB EDGE		PROPOSED TRAFFIC LIGHT TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL
	PROPOSED SMALL FORMAT GRANITE STONE PAVING		PROPOSED STREET LUMINAIRE TO ENGINEER'S DETAIL
	PROPOSED LARGE FORMAT GRANITE STONE PAVING		EXISTING SCULPTURES RETAINED
	PROPOSED CONCRETE PAVING WITH SELECTED FINISH TYPE 1 - EXPOSED AGGREGATE / GRINDED CONCRETE AS PER ENGINEER'S ADVISE		PROPOSED LAWN
	PROPOSED CONCRETE PAVING WITH SELECTED FINISH TYPE 2		PROPOSED PLANTED SWALE
	EXISTING PAVING RETAINED		PROPOSED GROUNDCOVER AND HERBACEOUS PLANTING
	PROPOSED CONCRETE TERRACES AND SEATING		PROPOSED HEDGE PLANTING
	PROPOSED CONCRETE STEPPED SEATING IN SOFTLANDSCAPE		EXISTING PLANTING RETAINED
	EXISTING RAILING RETAINED		PROPOSED TREES REFER TO PLANTING SCHEDULE
	PROPOSED RAILING		EXISTING TREE RETAINED
	PROPOSED GATE		EXISTING TREE REMOVED
	PROPOSED HANDRAIL		EXISTING TREE REPLANTED
	PROPOSED SCULPTURE LOCATION		

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED TREE PLANTING

TREE REF.	QUANTITY	SPECIES:
Po	05	<i>Platanus orientalis</i> 'Minaret' 5 x tr., w.b., 25-30cm g., 5-6m high., clear stem min. 2.5m
Pa	08	<i>Prunus avium</i> 'Plena' 5 x tr., w.b., 2m h., 16-18 cm g., clear stem min. 2m
Pp	11	<i>Prunus padus</i> 5 x tr., w.b., 2m h., 16-18 cm g., clear stem min. 2m
Fa	04	<i>Frangula alnus</i> 3 x tr., w.b., 3m h., multistem.
Ps	03	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> 3 x tr., w.b., 3m h., multistem
Cm	07	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> 3 x tr., w.b., 12-14cm g., 3m h., clear stem min. 1.8m
Mr	03	<i>Malus 'Rudolph'</i> 4 x tr., w.b., 2.5m h., 12-14 cm g.

Groundcover and herbaceous mix, typically:

Europaeus autonymus
Dryopteris affinis 2 ltr cg.
Convolvulus majalis 2 ltr cg.
Geranium spp. 2 ltr cg.
Helleborus foetidus 2 ltr cg.
Luzula sylvatica 2 ltr cg.
Echinacea purpurea 2 ltr cg.
Hyacinthoides spp. 2 ltr cg.
Narcissus spp. 2 ltr cg.
Armeria maritima 2 ltr cg.
Achillea millefolium 2 ltr cg.
Verbascum bomb. 'Gainsborough' 2 ltr cg.

Hedge planting, typically:

Carpinus betulus, 900-1200mm h.
Ilex aquifolium, 900-1200mm h.

Groundcover planting at swales, typically:

Luzula sylvatica 2 ltr cg.
Luzula nivea 2 ltr cg.
Iris pseudacorus 2 ltr cg.
Asiatic spp. 2 ltr cg.
Juncus effusus 2 ltr cg.
Molinia caerulea 2 ltr cg.

Abbreviations:

xtr. number of transplants in nursery
h. height
s. spread
w.b. wire root-balled
cm g. girth of tree in centimeters measured 1m above ground
2 ltr cg. plants supplied in 2 litre volume containers

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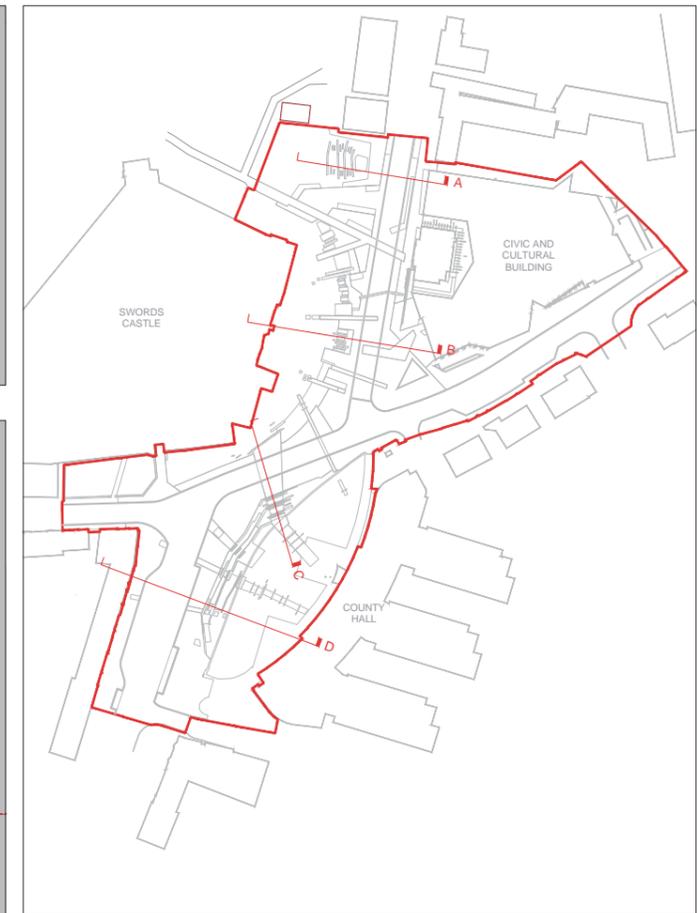
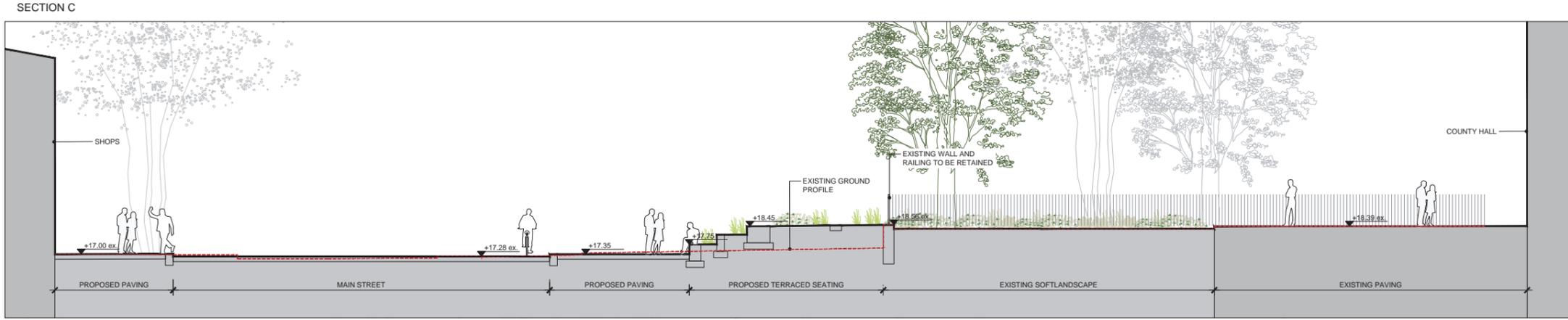
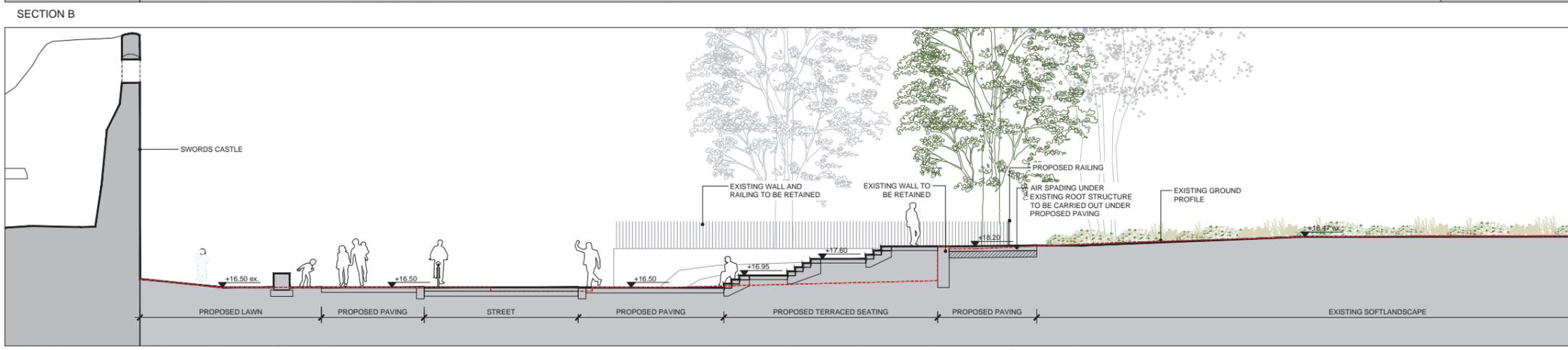
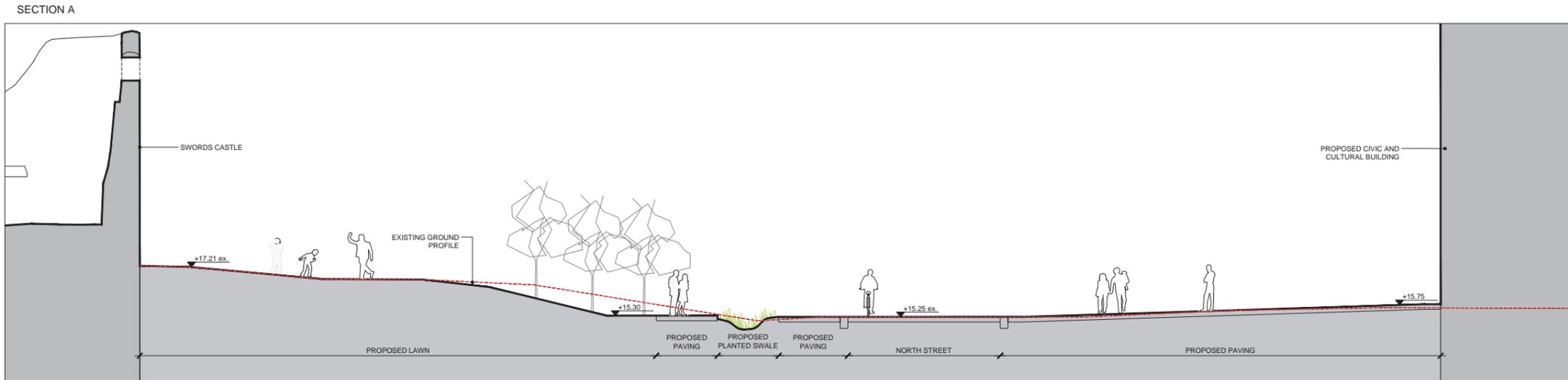
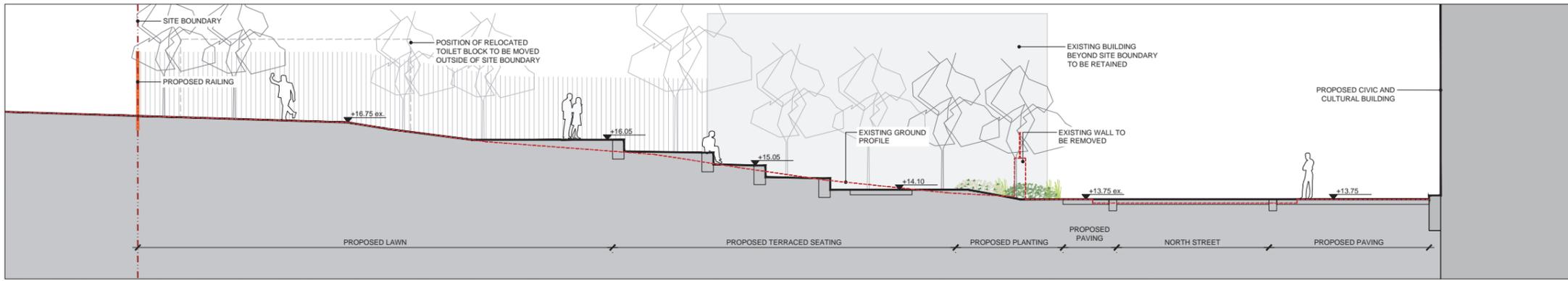
NOTES:

DATE	REV.	DESCRIPTION	DESIGNED BY	CHECKED BY
13.04.2022	P01	Bicycle stands and hand rail added.	af	js
07.07.2022	P02	Drawing generally revised.	js	sc

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CLIENT: FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL				ISSUE STATUS: PLANNING			
PROJECT: SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER				DRAWING NO. REVISION			
DRAWING: LANDSCAPE PLAN				SCQ-ZZ-LOO-DR-DFLA-LA-02001 P02			
PROJECT NO	SCALE	SHEET SIZE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	1st ISSUE		
FC02	1:500	A1	af	sc	12.04.2022		

PROJECT NO		SCALE	SHEET SIZE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	1st ISSUE		
FC02		1:500	A1	af	sc	12.04.2022		

Figure 15 - Plan of proposed public realm & civic space (after DFLA 2022).



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07.07.2022	P01	Drawing generally revised.	JF	SC

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PROJECT: SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER				DRAWING NO. SCQ-22-L00-DR-DFLA-LA-02400			
DRAWING: LANDSCAPE SECTIONS				REVISION: P01			
PROJECT NO	SCALE	SHEET SIZE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	1st ISSUE	NORTH	
Fc.02	1:100	A1	JF	SC	12.04.2022		

Figure 16 - Landscape sections associated with proposed public realm (after DFLA 2022).



LEGEND AND SCHEDULE OF BOUNDARIES:

- A. PROPOSED OPEN BOUNDARY; EXISTING ROADS AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
- B. PROPOSED 2.4M HIGH FENCE TO EXISTING PARKLAND
- C. PROPOSED BOUNDARY TO MATCH EXISTING
- D. EXISTING BOUNDARY RETAINED / REINSTATED
- E. BOUNDARY WITH EXISTING BUILDING FACADE RETAINED
- F. EXISTING PRIVATE PROPERTY BOUNDARY WALL DEMOLISHED AND NEW BOUNDARY WALL PROPOSED ALONG THE PLANNING SITE BOUNDARY AS PER ARCHITECT'S DETAIL
- G. EXISTING ENTRANCE
- H. PROPOSED ENTRANCE

BOUNDARY TYPE B
scale 1:50

BOUNDARY TYPE E
scale 1:50

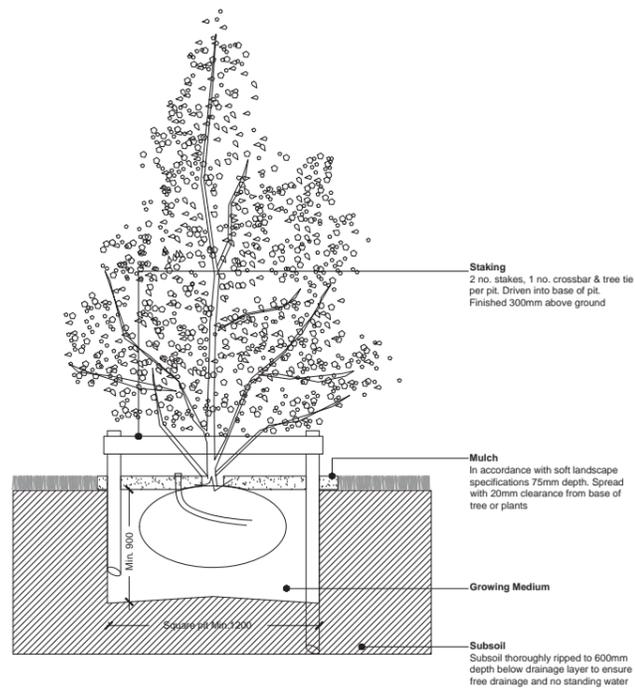
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NOTES:

DATE	REV	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY
07.07.2022	P01	Drawing generally revised.	js	sc

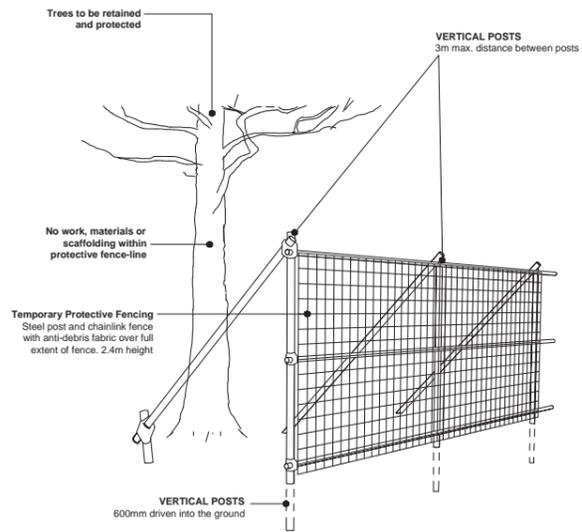
DERMOT FOLEY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS				T+353 1 4545148		WWW.DERMOTFOLEY.COM	
MALPAS STREET BLACKPITTS D08 D056 IRELAND							
CLIENT: FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL				ISSUE STATUS: PLANNING			
PROJECT: SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER				DRAWING NO. _____ REVISION _____			
DRAWING: BOUNDARY TREATMENT PLAN				SCO-ZZ-L00-DR-DFLA-LA-02002 P01			
PROJECT NO: FLO2	SCALE: 1:500	SHEET SIZE: A1	DRAWN BY: js	CHECKED BY: sc	1st ISSUE: 12.04.2022	NORTH	

Figure 17 - Boundary treatment plan of proposed public realm (after DFLA 2022).



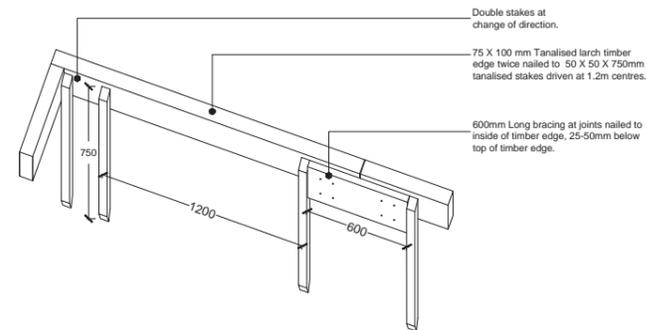
SMALL AND MULTISTEM TREE PLANTING IN SOFT LANDSCAPE

1
2500



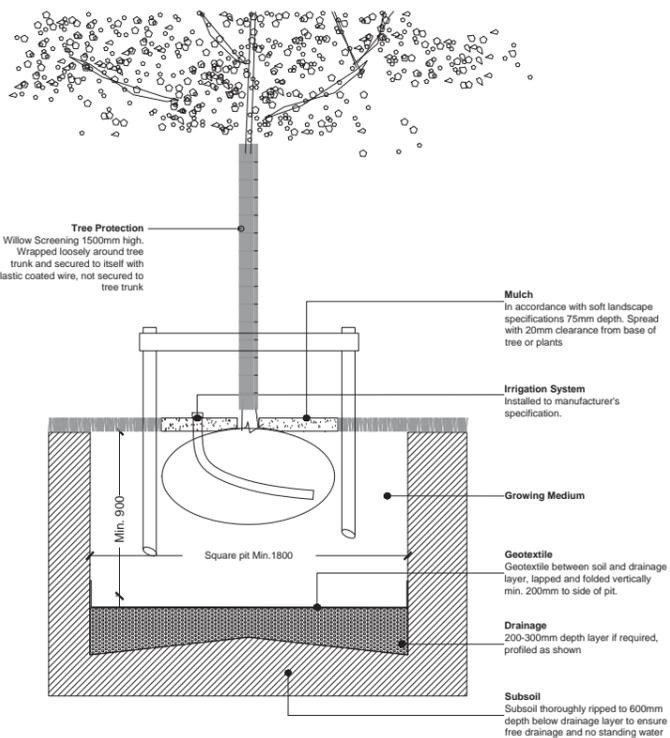
TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF EXISTING TREES TO BS 5837:2012 (NOT TO SCALE)

3
2500



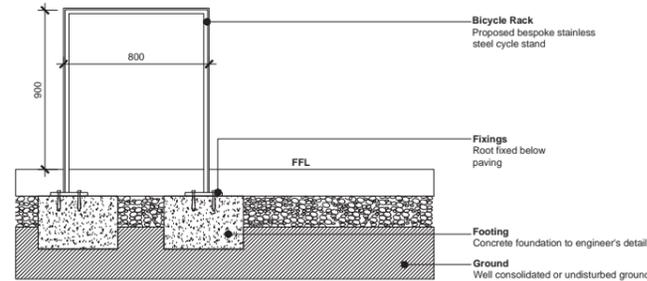
TIMBER EDGING TO LAWN/PLANTING

4
2500



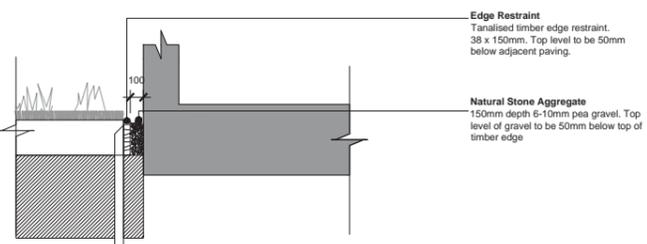
CLEAR STEM PLANTING IN SOFT LANDSCAPE

2
2500



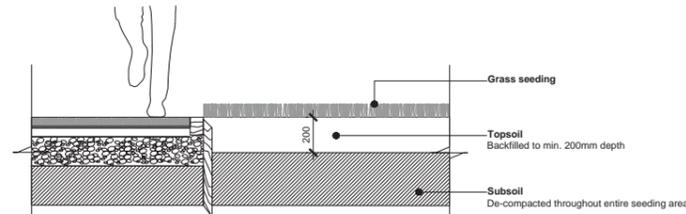
STAINLESS STEEL BICYCLE RACK

5
2500



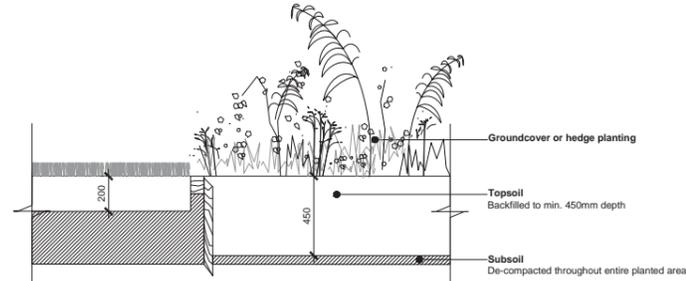
INTERFACE BETWEEN BUILDING AND SOFT LANDSCAPE AREAS

6
2500



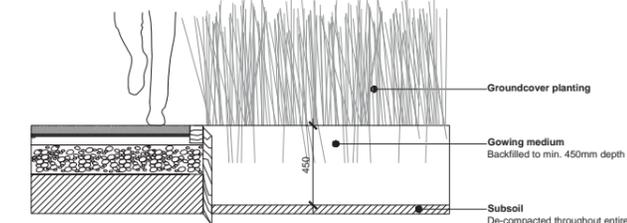
TYPICAL GRASS SEEDING AREA INTERFACE TO TIMBER EDGE

7
2500



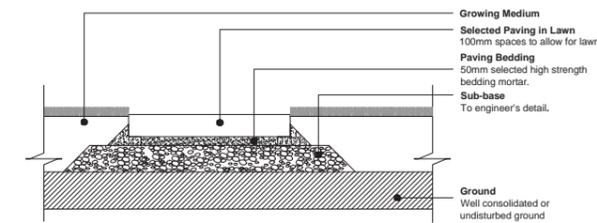
GRASS SEEDING AREA INTERFACE WITH PLANTING

8
2500



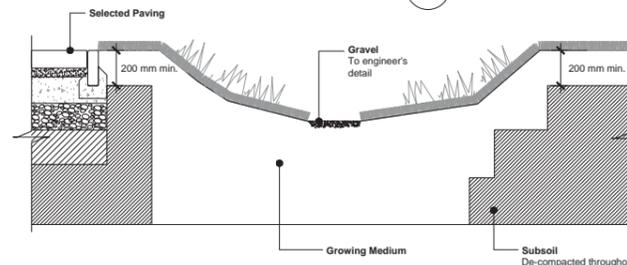
GROUNDCOVER/HEDGE PLANTING

9
2500



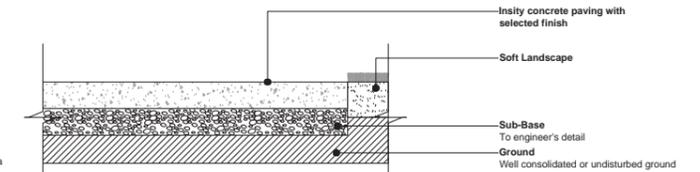
PAVING IN LAWN

10
2500



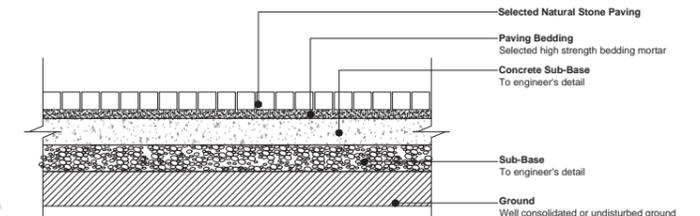
PLANTED SWALE

11
2500



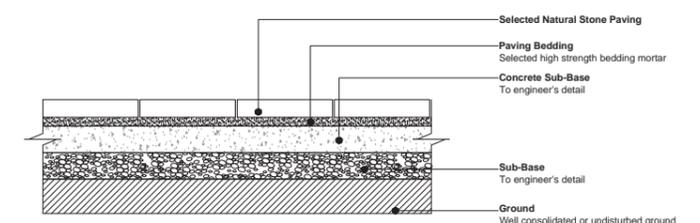
IN-SITU CONCRETE PAVING

12
2500



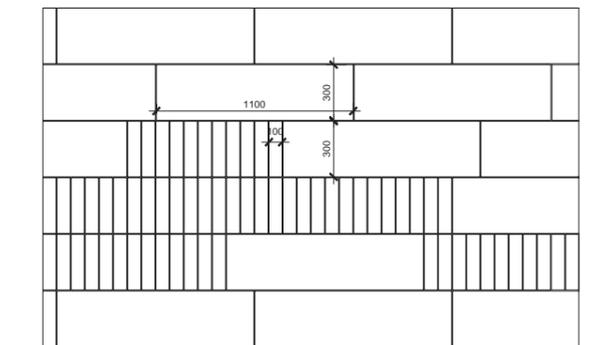
SMALL FORMAT GRANITE STONE PAVING

13
2500



LARGE FORMAT GRANITE STONE PAVING

14
2500



LARGE FORMAT GRANITE STONE PAVING

15
2500

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NOTES:

DATE	REV	DESCRIPTION	DESIGN BY	CHECKED BY
07.07.2022	P01	Drawing generally revised.	JB	SC

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MALPAS STREET BLACKPITTS DUBLIN 6 IRELAND				T: +353 1 4545148	
CLIENT: FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL			ISSUE STATUS: PLANNING		
PROJECT: SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER			DRAWING NO. SCQ-ZZ-LOO-DR-DFLA-LA-02500		
DRAWING: TYPICAL LANDSCAPE DETAILS			REVISION P01		
PROJECT NO: FCQ	SCALE: 1:20	SHEET SIZE: A1	DRAWN BY: JB	CHECKED BY: SC	1st ISSUE: 12.04.2022

Figure 18 - Typical landscape details of proposed public realm (after DFLA 2022).



< 24mm / 73.7° | < 35mm / 54.4° | < 50mm / 39.6° | Lens Information: Focal Length / Field of View | 50mm / 39.6° > | 35mm / 54.4° > | 24mm / 73.7° >

Location	Description	Photography Date	Field of view	35mm equivalent	Distance to site boundary	Camera model
View 14 Proposed	from grounds of Swords Castle looking East	25/02/22	73.7°	24mm	53m	Canon EOS 5DS



Figure 19 - View of SCC building from interior of Swords Castle (after ODT 2022).



Figure 20 - View of Swords Castle from upper floor of SCC building (after ODT 2022).



Swords Cultural Centre - Internal Views
Level 02 - Adult Fiction Area External Terrace looking towards Castle and Round Tower

Figure 21 - View of Swords Castle from balcony of upper floor of SCC building (after ODT 2022).



Plate 1 - CH001, facing north



Plate 2 - CH001, facing south



Plate 3 - CH005, facing east



Plate 4 - CH010, facing east



Plate 5 - CH008 and CH009, facing south



Plate 6 - CH003 and CH004, facing north



Plate 7 - CH006, facing east



Plate 8 - CH007, facing west



Plate 9 - Proposed development area facing south showing location of CH017

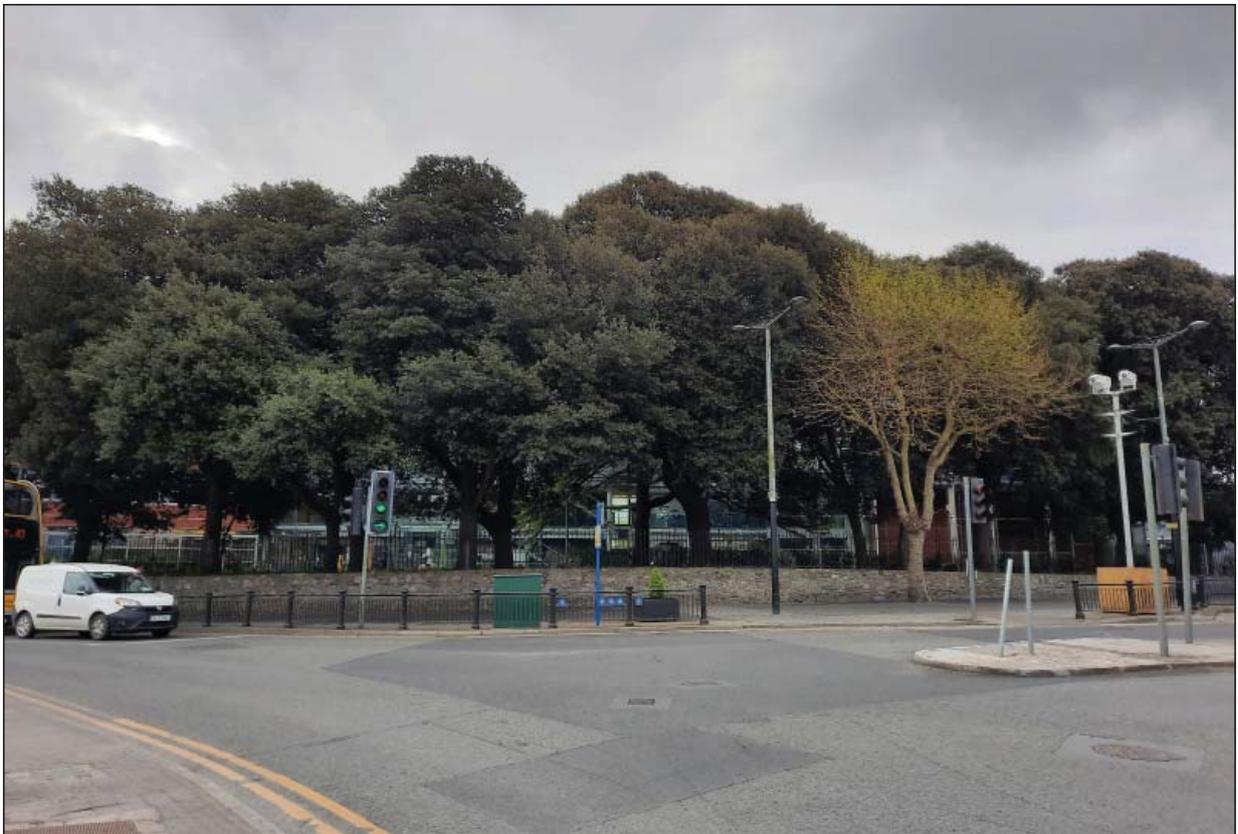


Plate 10 - Proposed development area, facing southeast, towards Fingal County Hall



Plate 11 - Proposed development site, facing north



Plate 12 - Proposed development site, facing towards North Street



Plate 13 - Proposed development site, facing west, from Bridge Street



Plate 14 - Proposed development area, facing northeast



Plate 15 - CH020. facing west



Plate 16 - View from Swords Castle towards proposed SCC Building



Plate 17 - View from proposed SCC Buildings towards Swords Castle



Plate 18 - View of Nos. 17 & 17A North Street, facing southwest



Plate 19 - View of Nos. 17 & 17A North Street, facing west



Plate 20 - View of Swords Castle from Main Street, facing north



Plate 21 - View of Swords Castle from Bridge Street, facing northeast



Plate 22 - View of Swords Castle from Seatown Road, facing west

Appendix 1 – Inventory of identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH001	RMP PS	DU011-034001-351	Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle	<p>Situated on rising ground at the NE end of Swords Village. Built c. 1200 as the manorial residence of the Archbishop of Dublin (Anon 1914, 260-261). The curtain wall forms an irregular polygon in plan enclosing an area of one and one third acres. The entrance is in the S through a barrel-vaulted archway, which provides access to a range of buildings in the E and W.</p> <p>To the E is the chapel with a residential tower that rises to three storeys with a vaulted ground floor. There is a double-light, trefoil-headed window with transom in the S wall of the 2nd floor of the tower. The chapel is entered from the E wall of the tower and through round-headed doorways in the N wall of the chapel. Fourteenth century tiles were found during excavations of the chapel in the 1970's (Fanning 1975, 47-82). In the</p>	TOWNPARKS (NS. BY.)	Very High	718195	747010

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>SE angle of the curtain wall are traces of a two-storey building with four plain windows and a fireplace in the E wall. This is thought to have been an oratory. A medieval tile pavement came to light in this building during excavations (Fanning 1975, 61ff). Along the E section of curtain wall is a three-storey tower immediately S of a building referred to as the 'Great hall' (Anon 1914, 260-261). It has a vaulted ground floor and a stairwell in the NE angle. The first floor is lit by a large window with red sandstone moulding and tracery. There is a domestic range W of the entrance to the castle. The curtain wall is battlemented with parapet walks defended by towers in the E, N and SW sections.</p> <p>The impressive N tower is three storeys high with a stairwell in the SW angle. Sandstone has been used in the windows. The SW tower projects beyond the line of the</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>curtain wall. At the SW angle is a turret on a stepped squinch arch and corbels. The buildings to the W of the entrance are made up of three compartments, all barrel-vaulted at ground floor level. The first floor of one of them carries over the gateway. This has a pointed arched window on the S side formed with Dundry stone and red sandstone.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring along the southern boundary of the castle in 1993 revealed a large rock cut ditch c. 2.2m out from the base of the wall. This is thought to be the line of the outer castle moat (Swan 1994, 33). Further test-excavation along the same boundary to the east revealed a minimum depth of 2 m of medieval deposits (Licence no. 02E1279). Internally the removal of overburden immediately north of the Knights and Squire's chamber (Licence no.01E002) and monitoring of service insertions (1996-97) in front of Constable's tower revealed</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>the presence of archaeological activity such as wall footings, surfaces and drains, which are preserved under geotextile. In 2009 monitoring (Consent E004376) of service insertions took place outside the gateway arch uncovering two parallel walls traversing the exterior of the castle. Excavations in 2014 within the gatehouse in advance of proposed stabilisation uncovered 17 burials that appear to predate the construction of the gatehouse. As part of the preparation of the Conservation Plan, geophysical survey (Licence no. 11R038) was undertaken within the castle walls identifying possible building foundations. Swords Castle has undergone a series of restoration initiatives based on designs by David Newman Johnson since the mid-1990s. The chapel has recently reopened. Swords castle Conservation Plan was published in 2014.</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>Between 2015-2017, the Heritage Council developed a community archaeology project: "Swords Castle: Digging History." Over the course of three seasons, a team of volunteers, headed by an experienced archaeological team, contributed to the research and knowledge gaps addressed by the 2014 Swords Castle Conservation Plan. Several phases of activity were recorded. Trench 3 (2015) contained a variety of medieval artefacts, which could be dated to the 12th-14th century; Trench 6 (2016) was cut at a right angle to Trench 3, and two pits that were found sealed beneath two medieval metalled surfaces were radiocarbon dated to AD937-1019. Trench 9 (2017) targeted the area immediately west of East Tower and sought to investigate the limit of the burials uncovered by Fanning (1975). 14 burials were uncovered less than 0.1m below the current ground level. However, a 15th burials was found almost 0.3m</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>below the others, which suggests a possibility that there are two episodes of burial that pre- and post-date the use of occupation of the castle.</p> <p>Two phases (2016 and 2018-19) of Enabling Works to have taken place as part of the Swords Cultural Quarter Plan, in order to turn Swords Castle into a useable space in the modern era.</p>				
CH002	RMP	DU011-035----	Historic town	<p>Archbishop Comyn established a borough in Swords in the late 12th century and confirmed the burgesses of Swords in their burgages with an established annual rent of 1s. per burgage (Mc Neill 1950, 32; Bradley and King, 1988, 306-310). An extent of the manor in 1326 noted that there were the 122 burgesses. The settlement was granted a new charter by Elizabeth 1 in 1578 which established it as a parliamentary borough, and this was confirmed in 1603 on the accession of James 1.</p>	MILTONSFIELDS, SWORDS DEMESNE, WINDMILL LANDS	Very High	718167	746786

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>According to D'Alton (1838, 141) the town was considered one of the walled towns of Dublin in 1578. The long linear boundary delimiting the properties on the E side of Main Street is an obvious line for these defences, but the S boundary is unclear. The stream would have provided a defence on the W and the parish church (DU011-034004-) may have been protected by remnants of its ecclesiastical enclosure (DU011-034002-).</p> <p>The medieval town was linear in form and was laid out along the present Main Street, which is called High Street in medieval documentation (Mc Neill 1950, 285), and focused onto the gates of the Archbishop's castle. There is a reference in a 14th century deed to a lane called Le Camerothe. It ran in an E-W direction and could possibly be the modern Well Road or Seatown Road. A weekly market</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>was confirmed to the archbishops in 1395 and this was located in Main street which expands noticeably towards its N end to accommodate it.</p> <p>There are many references to burgages and individual properties in Archbishop Alen's register, but none can be identified with present day properties (Mc Neill 1950, 284). The remains of a number of late medieval houses seems to have survived into the 19th century but none is in evidence now. D'Alton (1838, 136) states that the 'Anchor Inn' still attracts the eye of the traveller by its ancient aspect', and he adds that several houses exhibited the ancient escutcheons of inns, and he listed the Harp, the Anchor, the Black Bull, and the Royal Oak (D'Alton 1838, 137-8).</p>				
CH003	NIAH	11335005	School	Swords Youth and Resource Centre, Seatown Road	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	718406	747070

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
	PS	354		<p>Detached six-bay two-storey former school, c.1865, with recessed end bays. Two-bay single-storey wing to left, c.1890. Now in use as training centre and crèche. ROOF: Hipped slate roof; rendered chimney stacks; two-bay extension to left; with double pitched hipped roof; asbestos cement roof tiles. WALLS: Rendered plinth course; rendered & channelled walls to grounds floor; cill level lined & scored; nap render walls; side elevation of rubble coursed stone; modern fascia board extends across front elevation. OPENINGS: Square headed windows; plastered architraves; painted stone cills; contain uPVC casements except side elevation (right) has 6/2 pane timber sash window with convex sash horns. Door entrances are square headed with 'Swords Infant Boys' and 'Swords Boys School' indented in render above; plaque/fascia above this is a stepped rendered parapet; door is flanked by rendered Tuscan</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				pilasters; timber boarded doors with overlight above.				
CH004	NIAH PS	11335004 353	School master's house	<p>Accord, Seatown Road</p> <p>Detached three-bay two-storey roughly dressed rubble stone house, c.1890, with gable over central bay. Formerly residence of schoolteacher at Saint Colmcille's Male National School. ROOF: Double pitch roof; with gable fronted roof projecting from central bays and rear roof pitch; mono pitched roof to rear; asbestos cement tiles. WALLS: Rubble coursed stone, red brick quoining; rear wall rendered. OPENINGS: Square headed, red brick, quoined openings; granite cills; 2/2 pane timber sashes; original windows to front of house have ogee mouldings while reproduction windows have concave mouldings; original tongue & groove timber door with brass door furniture.</p>	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	720713	724405

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH005	NIAH PS	11335002 350	Court house	<p>Swords Courthouse, North Street</p> <p>Detached three-bay single-storey courthouse built 1843, with double-height central block and flanking single-storey recessed wings. Designed by Alexander Tate. ROOF: Hidden behind parapet wall, double pitched; hipped slate; terracotta roof ridge tiles; tall limestone stacks to right & left with three yellow clay pots with decorative cornices; cast-iron rainwater goods; hipped slate roofs to flanking wings. WALLS: Coursed limestone with limestone quoining. OPENINGS: square headed tripartite window with terracotta panel above with foliage moulding and limestone quoining; limestone lugged architrave & granite steps positioned in each side bay; double leaf timber doors.</p>	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	718285	747026

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH006	NIAH PS	11335015 347, 348	Teacher's house	<p>Saint Colmcille's Parish Office, 42 - 44 North Street</p> <p>Pair of semi-detached three-bay two-storey former school residences, c.1890, with gables over central bays, canopies over entrances, and retaining original fenestration. One now in use as parish office. ROOF: Double pitched slate roof with projecting eaves; timber barge boards; cast-iron rainwater goods; two red brick chimney stacks; terracotta ridge tiles; mono-pitched slate canopy roof; WALLS: Coursed limestone rubble walls; red brick chimney breast to gable wall. OPENINGS: Square headed quoined red brick openings; granite cills; original 2/2 timber sash windows with ogee sash horns; original tongue & groove timber door.</p>	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	718310	747164
CH007	NIAH PS	11335006 349	School	<p>FAS Training Centre</p> <p>Detached thirteen-bay single-storey former school, c.1890. Three-bay</p>	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	718363	747152

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				<p>gable-fronted extension to rear and five-bay single-storey rendered extension to right-hand side, built 1924. ROOF: Double pitched roof with over hanging timber eaves supported by timber brackets; double pitched roof to three bay return; with timber barge boards; slate; rendered chimney stacks with plain clay pots; PVC rainwater goods. WALLS: Rubble coursed walls with red brick dressed openings; five-bays to left are rendered to front & rear including return; quoining to sides. OPENINGS: Square headed windows; granite cills; red brick dressed openings; probably original timber casements windows; windows to extension are square headed with rendered reveals; painted granite cills and contain probably original 6/6 timber sashes with ogee sash horns; door to extension: square headed; rendered surround with rendered key stone; single granite step, 1990's timber</p>				

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				door; rendered fascia with 'Infants' indented into it; three others doors on front façade are square headed with brick quoining; granite door steps and have granite plaques above (see other) and 1990's timber tongue and groove doors.				
CH008	NIAH PS	11343002 352	Bridge	Single-arch rock faced limestone road bridge over river, c.1870, with ashlar limestone coping to parapet. Plaque inscribed 'Erected in the memory of Peter Wilson who gave his life for Irish freedom in the rising of Easter Week 1916, Ar dheis De go raibh an anam'.	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Very High	718091	746938
CH009	RMP	DU011-034012-	Mill - unclassified	The Down Survey (1655-6) map shows a mill at the north end of Swords village. The corn mill marked on the first edition OS 6-inch map probably occupies the site. A painting by George Holmes c.1790 illustrates a mill wheel to the south of the bridge which is marked on cartographic sources as the Mill bridge. There is a weir at this point in the river. Photographs of a mill wheel and weir from c.1900 are in	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Very High	718097	746922

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				the National Library collections. A millrace runs along the west side of Swords Castle.				
CH010	NIAH	11343017	Bank/ financial institution	End-of-terrace five-bay two-storey ashlar granite former bank, c.1910, with pilasters to ground floor and pair of single-bay single-storey bowed oriel windows. In use as public house. Decorative roof parapet to first floor. Renovated and extended to rear, c.1990. ROOF: Flat-roof behind cut-granite parapet. WALLS: Front elevation with pilasters; capitals; moulded cornice; string course and decorative parapet having pilasters and gabled centre piece and clock; nap rendered to return; painted. OPENINGS: Square-headed openings; granite sills to front elevation; replacement timber fixed-pane display windows; replacement glazed timber panelled doors; overlights; replacement timber casement bowed oriel windows with moulded cornices.	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	High	718206	746866

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
				INTERIOR: Extensively remodelled, c.1980.				
CH011	TB	-	Townland boundary	Townland boundary between Townparks and Swords Glebe	TOWNPARKS/ SWORDS GLEBE	Medium /Low	718076	746932
CH012	TB	-	Townland boundary	Townland boundary between Townparks and Swords Demesne	TOWNPARKS, SWORDS DEMESNE	Medium /Low	718244	746952
CH013	AAP	-	Archaeological excavation	A series of archaeological investigations around the south and southeast perimeter have identified the castle ditch and other features relating to the later medieval castle and manor.	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium /Low	718215	746969
CH014	AAP	-	Archaeological excavation	Archaeological test trenching to date has only identified post-medieval features/deposits but given proximity to castle curtilage potential for later medieval activity to be present remains.	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/ High	718250	747037
CH015	AAP	-	Archaeological excavation	Archaeological monitoring of geotechnical works indicated the presence of post-medieval features and soil deposits containing later medieval artefacts.	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/ High	718309	747022

CH No.	Category	ID	Summary	Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH016	AAP	-	Archaeological excavation	Archaeological excavation encountered medieval and post-medieval material	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/High	718163.3	746929.7
CH017	UCH (2)	-	Pump	Pump depicted on Ordnance Survey First Edition 25-inch mapping	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/Low	718267	746981
CH018	UCH (2)	-	Dwellings	A series of dwellings depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/Low	718248	746990
CH019	UCH (2)	-	Dwellings	A series of dwellings depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping (Dunnes house and Bakery)	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/Low	718247	747019
CH020	UCH (1)	-	Dwellings	A series of dwellings (within Swords Park) depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/High	718262	747043
CH021	UCH (2)	-	Dwellings	A series of dwellings depicted to the north of Courthouse on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/Low	718293	747047
CH022	UCH (2)	-	Dwellings	A series of dwellings (annotated as smithy) depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping	TOWNPARKS (BY.)	Medium/Low	718273	746999
CH023	UCH (2)	-	House	Swords House depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey Mapping	SWORDS DEMENSE	Medium/Low	718267	746910

Note: The abbreviations that have been used for the 'Category' section are as follows:

RMP:	Recorded archaeological monument
PS:	Protected Structure
NIAH:	Site recorded in NIAH
ACA:	Architectural Conservation Area
UBH:	Unregistered built heritage site
UCH (1):	Unregistered cultural heritage site that comprises extant remains
UCH (2):	Unregistered cultural heritage site that does not comprise extant remains
TB:	Townland boundary
AAP:	Area/feature of archaeological potential

APPENDIX 2—PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Excavations Bulletin is an annual account of all excavations carried out under license. The database is available online at www.excavations.ie and includes excavations from 1985 to present. This database was consulted as part of the desktop research for this report to establish if any archaeological investigations had been carried out within the study area. The database produced one result for archaeological excavations undertaken within the study area.

1993:101

County: Dublin **Site name:** The Pound Licensed Premises, Bridge St., Swords

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

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

Site type: Adjacent to castle

ITM: E 718100m, N 746941m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459270, -6.221596

In accordance with an order made by An Bord Pleanála, the developer of the above premises was required to facilitate the relevant authorities in the monitoring of foundation trenching and the laying of utility services.

On the 17th of July, 1992, work commenced with the removal of a store along the southern boundary of the site beneath the outer face of the castle wall and with the opening of a trench (Trench A) along the northern boundary.

Trench A:

This trench was mechanically cleared to an average width of 0.9m, and to a depth of approximately 0.8m. The fill was very disturbed to a depth over 0.7m, at which level both brick fragments and some crock-ware were recovered. Towards the centre of the trench, the undisturbed natural appeared, directly underlying the disturbed fill.

No archaeological features were identified in this trench.

Trench B:

Was cut from the outer face of the east wall of the premises, parallel to Trench A.

At an average depth of 0.55m to 0.6m, the machine cut into what appeared to be natural gravel deposits, quite sterile and in a matrix of dark, heavy clay rather than sand. At 2.25m from the west end of the trench, and at a depth of 0.65m, a fragment of green-glazed medieval pottery was recovered.

Trench C:

Trench C extends for the full length of the eastern boundary of the proposed structure at right angles to the castle wall. At the southern end of this cutting, the much-degraded upper surface of the limestone bedrock appears at a depth of approximately 0.75m, with evidence of modern disturbance at every level. At a distance of 3.7m from the southern end of the cutting, the natural limestone beds sloped away markedly, revealing what was to prove to be the cut of a large ditch. The line of the fill of this feature was clearly apparent. The inner edge of the ditch was located at a point 2.2m from the northern end of the cutting, allowing a total width of the feature of about 4.5m. It was set at a distance of about 2.2m from base of the outer face of the castle wall and appears to have been cut steeply into the solid rock. A number of sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from the fill. There can be little doubt that

this represents the moat ditch, which had previously been located outside the face of the west wall by resistivity survey.

Thus, it is likely, that at some period in the past, the outer face of the castle wall was encircled by a substantial moat ditch, which still survives today, and which, if archaeologically cleared, must shed a great deal of light on the early and subsequent development of the castle itself.

1994:099

County: Dublin **Site name:** 60-68 Main St., Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 94E0088

Author: Neil O'Flanagan, Enterprise Centre, Pearse St., Dublin 2.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718126m, N 747024m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.460010, -6.221173

A large site stretching from Main St., Swords, to the banks of the Ward river was assessed on March 9, 1994. It included the infill of a large gravel quarry in the western half. All traces of archaeological remains, if any existed, would have been removed by the quarry in that portion. There were no archaeological deposits recovered in the eastern half, adjacent to Main St.

1994:100

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 11:35 **Licence number:** 94E0191

Author: John Channing, 17 Rowan House, Sussex Rd., Dublin 4.

Site type: Area outside castle

ITM: E 718192m, N 746968m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459495, -6.220188

The site was tested as part of an overall project led by Ms V.J. Keeley. Testing took place just north of the castle. There was no evidence of a moat close to the north wall of the castle, nor was evidence of medieval activity picked up.

1995:109

County: Dublin **Site name:** Bridge St., Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 11:35 **Licence number:** 95E0244

Author: Margaret Gowen, Rath House, Ferndale Rd, Rathmichael, Co. Dublin.

Site type: Medieval urban

ITM: E 718925m, N 747024m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459830, -6.209135

The site was tested as part of an overall project led by Ms V.J. Keeley. Testing took place just north of the castle. There was no evidence of a moat close to the north wall of the castle, nor was evidence of medieval activity picked up.

An archaeological assessment was carried out on a proposed development site at Bridge St., Swords, which lies within the northern edge of the zone of archaeological potential identified by the OPW Urban Archaeological Survey. Six test- trenches were opened on the site which indicated that the central portion of the site was covered by reinforced concrete slabs resting on a bed of granite hardcore 0.4m

thick. It formed the floor of an industrial buildings, since demolished. No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were encountered on the site and no remnants of mill buildings or channels were discovered near the river. The entrance area, near Bridge St., had a relatively recent fill up to 2.2m deep, but no evidence for early buildings or deposits.

1995:110

County: Dublin **Site name:** New Rd., Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 95E0280

Author: Rónán Swan, 746 Howth Rd, Raheny, Dublin 5.

Site type: Adjacent to well

ITM: E 717726m, N 745724m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.448424, -6.227679

Archaeological testing took place in Swords over a period of four days commencing on 4 December 1995. The testing was undertaken in accordance with the planning regulations for a residential/commercial development. The reason for the testing was that this property was adjacent to St Columba's Well. This well is one of the few surviving features of medieval Swords and none of the proposed development is to be located within 5m of it. In agreement with the Office of Public Works, a trenching programme was agreed upon which would fully test this site. The site itself was divided into three distinct areas, but a common stratigraphy was reflected in all trenches cut.

The results of the testing demonstrated that activity on the site has consisted of repeated dumping of infill to level the site and also of indiscriminate dumping of material by local traders.

No archaeological material was recovered in any of the trenches cut, but a series of springs were identified in the course of excavation which may have accounted for the area being unsuitable for previous occupation.

1995:110

County: Dublin **Site name:** New Rd., Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 95E0280

Author: Rónán Swan, 746 Howth Rd, Raheny, Dublin 5.

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The results of the testing demonstrated that activity on the site has consisted of repeated dumping of infill to level the site and also of indiscriminate dumping of material by local traders.

No archaeological material was recovered in any of the trenches cut, but a series of springs were identified in the course of excavation which may have accounted for the area being unsuitable for previous occupation.

1996:139**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Bridge Street, Swords**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 95E244 ext.**Author:** Margaret Gowen, Rath House, Ferndale Rd. Rathmichael, Co. Dublin.**Site type:** Medieval urban**ITM:** E 718925m, N 747024m**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.459830, -6.209135

Additional archaeological test-trenching was carried out on this site in an area to be crossed by the insertion of services on the access road/street frontage area of the proposed Health Centre development at Swords, Dublin. Three test-trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator on 15 March 1996.

One 5m-long trench was opened north/south along the riverfront wall, the second was opened as close to the street front as possible along the western boundary, and the third was opened further north. The difference in level between the Health Centre site and the adjacent, higher and sloping site measures between 0.2m at the street front and 1.2m towards the present gateway into the site.

The profiles revealed in the three trenches suggested that no structural remains of a house depicted in Brewer's Beauties of Ireland (close to the bridge across the Ward River) were present. However, an examination of the boundary between the access area and the site itself revealed the foundations of a recently demolished cottage, which may represent the remains of a house depicted in Grose's Antiquities. These remains consisted of the partly demolished southern gable wall with a fireplace and a very low stump of the west wall of a structure 12.5m long and 5m wide. The clay and mortared stone walls were just 500mm thick. The fireplace survived as two projecting piers, 0.5m by 0.5m, with the fireplace 1.2m wide between them. No other internal features or partitions were evident,

The trenching indicated that the insertion of the proposed new services in the area would not reach the old ground level on the east but would cut through very disturbed fill on a truncated old ground level on the west. There were evident archaeological implications for these additional aspects of the proposed scheme. The presence of a thick concrete slab across the central portion of the site on which a number of (occupied) caravans were parked precluded archaeological test-trenching in this area. The site was inspected during the insertion of foundations and an old ground level was revealed in the central area. This consisted of a dark brown garden soil which was up to 1m thick and contained sherds of medieval pottery and a fragment of a glazed floor tile.

1996:140**County:** Dublin **Site name:** 7 North Street, Swords**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 95E0243**Author:** Margaret Gowen, Rath House, Ferndale Rd. Rathmichael, Co. Dublin.**Site type:** Medieval urban**ITM:** E 718126m, N 746024m**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.451029, -6.221549

An archaeological assessment was carried out on a site at 7 North Street, Swords, on 25 January 1996 to fulfil a condition of the planning approval for the scheme. The site is located to the south-east of the medieval castle of Swords, with the curtain-wall of the castle forming the western boundary. It lies to the rear of a renovated building, now a shop.

The site measured 5.5m north—south and 7.7m east—west and was covered by a concrete slab 0.3m deep. The assessment was based on the excavation of two trenches opened by 'mini'-excavator; one was opened across the site and the other was located in the eastern corner.

The archaeological assessment revealed no evidence for any fosse or moat surrounding the castle on this side (Rocque's map of 1760 indicates the presence of street-front properties in this location). The

old ground level did not survive and appeared to have been significantly reduced at some date. The concrete slab sat directly on undisturbed clay, with no evidence for any accumulation of archaeologically enriched soils.

The castle wall was protected by the concrete boundary wall of the property. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the assessment and there were no archaeological implications for the development of this site.

1996:141

County: Dublin **Site name:** Old Vicarage, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 95E0035

Author: Helen Kehoe for Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd. Rath House, Ferndale Rd. Rathmichael, Co. Dublin.

Site type: Medieval urban

ITM: E 715626m, N 745224m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.444399, -6.259454

An archaeological assessment was carried out on a site at the rear of the Old Vicarage, Swords, to fulfil a condition of the planning permission for the scheme. The site lies close to a group of ecclesiastical buildings to the north-west of the present Church of Ireland church, which was built in 1818 on the site of an earlier foundation.

Four test-trenches and two test-pits were opened on 8 and 16 February 1995 on a north-east/south-west axis across the site. The stratigraphy observed during excavation of the trenches suggests a consistent soil profile throughout the site. There were no indications of archaeological features or soils and there were no archaeological inclusions in any of the trenches opened.

The site lies at a distance from the ecclesiastical remains and therefore outside the line of any enclosure that may have surrounded them. There were no further archaeological reasons to impede development on the site.

Editor's note: Although excavated in 1995, this report did not arrive on time for inclusion in the bulletin of that year.

2002:0684

County: Dublin **Site name:** 3 Main Street North, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 02E1279

Author: Claire Walsh, 27 Coulson Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6.

Site type: Medieval

ITM: E 718188m, N 746938m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459226, -6.220273

Limited testing was undertaken in an open yard to the rear of the premises adjoining the curtain wall of Swords Castle. It is proposed to demolish much of the existing structure, rebuild it and create an external walkway outside the curtain wall. The testing uncovered deposits up to 1m deep that are medieval in date and are overlain by foundations of much later buildings. More work on this site will take place in 2003.

2002:0685

County: Dublin **Site name:** 20 Main Street, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 11:34 **Licence number:** 02E0382

Author: Teresa Bolger, c/o Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718157m, N 746843m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.458377, -6.220775

Monitoring of the excavation of foundations for an extension to the rear of 20 Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, was carried out in March–April 2002.

Before the development the site comprised a small two-storey house with a single-storey extension and a small outbuilding in a concrete yard. The two-storey building was to be retained. The original extension (4m by 2m) and outbuilding (3.5m by 1.5m) were demolished to make way for a new rear extension (10m by 2.5m). The foundation trench for this extension ran along the northern, western and southern edges of the site.

The southern section of the trench ran along the line of a post-medieval mortared stone wall, which had formed the plot boundary before its demolition. This trench was characterised by a compact, grey/yellow, sandy clay layer with frequent stones, similar to the lower layer noted in the other sections. The remains of the foundation of a short section of mortared stone wall were noted in the western section of the foundation trench. This appeared to be the remains of the rear wall of the original plot, corresponding to the wall demolished along the southern boundary.

No archaeological material was noted in any part of the foundation trench.

2002:0687

County: Dublin **Site name:** Seatown Villas, off North Street, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 02E0898

Author: Rosanne Meenan, Roestown, Drumree, Co. Meath.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718320m, N 747336m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.462777, -6.218121

Planning permission was granted to construct a two-storey commercial office building on this site. An assessment was required as the development is within the northern limit of the zone of archaeological potential of Swords. Two trenches tested the footprint of the development. A concrete-lined ash-pit was exposed 3m south of the northern boundary wall. Garden soil was up to 0.85m deep, yielding 19th- and 20th-century pottery. The underlying natural comprised gritty gravel over most of the site; a fine, light brown/orange clay was exposed at the northernmost end of Trench 1. Nothing of archaeological significance was observed in the two trenches, and no finds were recovered.

2005:536

County: Dublin **Site name:** Motorama, North Street, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 05E0525

Author: Ellen O'Carroll, The Archaeology Company, 17 Castle Street, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 718325m, N 747523m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.464455, -6.217976

An assessment, including testing, was carried out at D.B. Motorama, North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, in July and August 2005. The proposed development includes the demolition of the existing office, car repair sheds and boundary walls on the site, the construction of on-street car parking spaces and the construction of a part three- and part four-storey development with ground-floor car parking, first-

floor retail accommodation and second- and third-floor apartments. The site is located outside the zone of archaeological potential for Swords. Five trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed development. The construction and demolition of 19th-century cottages on the site have disturbed any possible archaeology and nothing of archaeological interest was noted.

2015:144

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001- **Licence number:** C450/E4619

Author: Christine Baker

Site type: Anglo-Norman episcopal residence

ITM: E 718195m, N 747010m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459565, -6.220171

Swords Castle, which is a National Monument (No. 340), a recorded monument (DU011-034001-) and protected structure (No. 351), is located at the northern end of the Main street at its junction of North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035--).

The Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015/16 was designed to address the research and knowledge gaps identified in the Swords Castle Conservation Plan (2014) <http://www.fingal.ie/planning-and-buildings/architectural-conservation/conservationplansandreports/> and to inform the urban identity of the developing Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan (2015). It aimed to assess the veracity of geophysical survey results undertaken by Target Surveys in 2011; enable a conservation and stabilization programme by informing the structural engineering works and engage the community with the castle through archaeological excavation and a series of related events. Excavation of Trenches (1-3) and Pits (A-D) took place over a four-week period from 17 August-11 September 2015.

Trench 1 (8m x 2m north-south) was excavated to natural subsoil, a maximum depth of 1.17m. Geophysical survey had indicated the presence of structural remains and the excavation confirmed this to be the case. There was at least two phases of wall-building. The earliest survived as the base of an east-west medieval wall (F14) which had a defining function. To the north was a metallised surface (F45) with very thin layers of fishbone-rich deposits alternating with relatively sterile layers. South of the wall there were several phases of medieval activity and the remnants of a later-medieval north-south wall (F9). Post-medieval disturbance resulted in wall collapse and formation of a consolidation layer (F3) which was truncated by a large modern pit.

Trench 2 (5m x 2m east-west) was excavated to natural subsoil, a maximum depth of 0.88m. Geophysical survey had identified an amorphous anomaly close to an extant orchard. The location of this trench was relatively close to where in situ burials had been identified by Fanning in 1971 and Moraghan in 2014, and it was a question as to whether burial had extended this far north. Only fragments of disarticulated human remains were recovered and in similar quantities to elsewhere within the site, doubtless the result of later disturbance of burials by cultivation. The archaeological layers within Trench 2 followed the sloping topography in this area. A single medieval pit (F19) was cut into subsoil, through an artefact-rich layer which was sealed by a rough metallised surface (F5), from which medieval pottery was retrieved. A post-medieval consolidation layer similar to that in Trench 1 was overlain by topsoil.

Trench 3 (5m x 2m east-west) was located on low ground to the west of the precinct and natural subsoil was identified at a depth of 1.1m. An amorphous anomaly identified in this area by geophysical survey was confirmed as a series of intercutting medieval pits associated with a metallised surface (F50) and a

hearth (F27). A variety of medieval artefacts were recovered from these pits indicating 12th-14th-century date for this activity. A later medieval metal surface (F20) sealed the pit activity with a high proportion of iron nails of different types recovered.

Pit A

Excavation took place under the arch spring of the remnants of a vault within the northern mural tower. The base of the arch was established, from which a recessed wall extended southwards. Within the building there was a clay floor upon which were two decorated floor tiles. Burnt stone associated with a thick layer of heat-affected soil indicates an event, either demolition or accidental, that possibly resulted in roof collapse. In the post-medieval or modern period mortar was dumped into the internal corner of this building.

Pit B

Excavation at the junction of the towering east gable and the curtain wall established that a wall extended westwards from the gable. A small north-south wall at foundation level of the eastern gable appears to have been used as a retaining wall while construction of the curtain wall was undertaken. Later interference was apparent, internal to the curtain wall and eastern gable, resulting in truncation of the structural remains.

Pits C and D

These pits were located at the junctions of each end of what is a bowing and uneven section of the eastern curtain wall. It was established in both pits that this section of wall is of 19th-century construction, its base being ascertained at 0.4m below present ground level in Pit C and 0.2m in Pit D. The 2015 season of excavation has established the presence of previously unknown structures and medieval activity within the precinct of Swords Castle and confirmed the potential for surviving in situ archaeology as identified on the geophysical survey. The test-pits A-D have contributed to our knowledge of the phasing of the buildings and the curtain wall. It has also established that a portion of the extant wall was rebuilt in the second half of the 19th century. Further post-excavation analysis will allow for the development of a definitive chronology for the activity uncovered. The results of the first environmental analysis of material from Swords Castle will be particularly interesting, contributing to our knowledge of the landscape of the site and the specific function of some of the features within it. Early indications are of large quantities of agricultural produce, including charred grains of wheat, oat and barley, and legume seeds (McClatchie pers. comm.)

A particular aim of Swords Castle: Digging History was to engage the wider public with the national monument in their midst. The participation of 103 volunteers in the excavation, countless visitors to the site and the ongoing participation in events such as After the Dig-behind the scenes at the National Museum, at the Collections Resource Centre, and enthusiasm for future events, indicates that this has been successfully achieved.

2016:170

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001- **Licence number:** C450/E4619

Author: Christine Baker

Site type: Anglo-Norman episcopal residence

ITM: E 718195m, N 747010m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459565, -6.220171

As part of the Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015/16, Season 2 took place over fifteen days between 19 August and 4 September 2016. The focus of the 2016 season

was on verifying the nature of the anomalies on the geophysical survey, building on the information attained during Season 1 and engaging the community in archaeology.

Three trenches (T4-T6) were excavated. Trench 4 (6m north-south x 3.5m), located 0.5m west of Trench 1, Season 1 was excavated to natural subsoil and bedrock, a maximum depth of 1m. Structural elements were identified within Trench 4. Large post-holes within a foundation trench (F101) were cut into natural subsoil, indicative of the presence of a timber building at an early stage in the site history. The post-holes were sealed by a metallised surface (F86) over which was a bone-rich layer possibly indicating food preparation or an area of small-scale butchery. Geophysical survey had suggested the presence of a square area of possible structural remains within Trench 4, but excavation established that this anomaly represented a significant layer of stone tumble. The recovery of wall plaster and architectural fragments including a roll-and-fillet window moulding in the vicinity may represent the levelling of a structure.

Trench 5 (4m x 4m) was excavated to natural subsoil, a maximum depth of 0.8m. Trench 5 was located in an area that had not produced significant geophysical results. The archaeological layers within Trench 5 sloped down from east to west and from north to south. They were characterised by their extreme compaction, and high level of stone inclusions. Strategic sondages identified a large rock-cut ditch (F85) which was not reflected in the geophysical survey, doubtless obscured by the thick stone-rich deposits that overlie it. The northern edge of the presumed ditch was identified, and it has a projected maximum width of 4m and is c.1.2m in depth. Samples taken from the lower layers will hopefully yield material for dating which will indicate if it could be an enclosure ditch associated with the 11th-century activity on site or perhaps a later boundary definition of the medieval manor.

Trench 6 (6m north-south x 2m) was located at a right-angle to the previous season's Trench 3 and was excavated to natural subsoil, a maximum depth of 1.1m. Two intercutting pits (F95, F92) were cut into natural. These pits had been sealed beneath two medieval metallised surfaces (F72, F82). A radiocarbon date from a pit (F19) in the same stratigraphic position (i.e., cut into natural and sealed by a medieval surface) in Trench 2, Season 1, returned a date range of AD 937-1019 (UBA-32456 2 sigma) so it is likely that the pits are the result of associated activity.

The environmental sampling strategy was overseen by Dr Meriel McClatchie who undertook a training day on site. Soil samples were retrieved from possible flooring layers, pits, features, ditch and post-hole fills and stratigraphically early layers. Wet sieving took place on site. Animal bone and shell were retrieved from all features and layers. All layers and features of all trenches and a significant proportion of topsoil were dry-sieved.

A total of 1259 artefacts were registered including pottery, tile, clay pipe, iron nails, copper alloy and a bone comb.

A particular aim of the Swords Castle: Digging History project is to engage the wider public with the national monument in their midst. A total of 105 volunteers, participated in the excavation, finds washing, and registering of artefacts during Season 2. Dr Steve Mandal undertook a Geology Day on site and local artist, Andrew Carson, was commissioned to interview the participants, currently available for viewing on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1id9diAgPIM>

The 2016 season of excavation continued to establish the presence of previously unknown structures and medieval activity within the precinct of Swords Castle and confirmed the potential for surviving in situ archaeology. Further post-excavation analysis will allow for the development of a definitive chronology for the activity uncovered.

2016:291

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001- **Licence number:** C450/E4676

Author: Christine Baker

Site type: Anglo-Norman episcopal residence

ITM: E 718195m, N 747010m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459565, -6.220171

Phase 1 of Enabling Works were undertaken at Swords Castle between May and November 2016. Swords Castle which is a National Monument (No.340), a recorded monument (DU011-034001-) and protected structure (No.351), is located at the northern end of the Main Street (ITM 718195/ 747010) at its junction of North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035--). Enabling works involved the consolidation and stabilisation of the east range of the castle and rebuilding of the gatehouse arch which had been identified in the Swords Castle Conservation Plan (2014) as necessary for the protection of the extant structural remains. The internal precinct of the castle was landscaped, including the insertion of new 'no dig' paths and lighting bollards. Although impact was minimised to 150-300mm in depth, in the design, archaeological monitoring of all ground works was undertaken.

Due to previous use much of the area had been disturbed. Material recovered included plastic, 19th/20th-century pottery and modern glass. Monitoring of a service trench did identify a rough cobbled surface over an area of 3.6m x0.4m in width, which was consistent in location and form with the medieval yard surface uncovered during the Swords Castle: Digging History community excavations.

Externally units 4-9 of North Street were subject to survey and demolition followed by test-excavation. A total of eight trenches were excavated. Trenches 1-5 were positioned adjacent to Swords Castle walls in order to determine the nature of the walls and inform the ongoing stabilisation programme. An additional three trenches (Trenches 6-8) were undertaken across the foundations of the recently demolished North Street buildings to determine the ground level in this area.

Trenches 1 -3 established the footings of the structures – average 0.3m below the current ground surface – and the nature of the relatively modern material banked against the walls. Within Trench 4, the line of a ditch was traced to a newly identified arch in the base of the East Tower. Trench 4 was dug to 1m below the footing of the Archbishop's Apartments and 0.75m below the foundation level of the buttress. A sherd of Saintonge ware was recovered from 0.22m directly below the wall of Archbishop's Apartments. The material underlying the wall appeared to be two successive fills of a gently sloping ditch or pit that predates the construction of the Archbishop's Apartments.

The remaining test trenches under the recently demolished North Street established scarped ground levels to accommodate building at street level. Subsequently trenches were hand dug along the external walls of the east range to accommodate mortar and stone replacement at the base of the walls. These trenches averaged 0.3m in width and contained relatively modern material.

The identification of pre-structural remains in the testing programme has added another layer to the phasing of Swords Castle.

Reference: Fingal County Council 2014, Swords Castle Conservation Plan
<http://www.fingal.ie/planning-and-buildings/architectural-conservation/conservationplansandreports/>

2017:091

County: Dublin **Site name:** 30-32 North Street, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 16E0605

Author: Red Tobin (on behalf of Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy)

Site type: Urban - no archaeology found

ITM: E 718307m, N 747103m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.460683, -6.218412

Three trenches were excavated. Trench 1 was sited 4.5m south of the northern boundary of the site and parallel to it. Trench 2 originated from the eastern terminus of Trench 1 and ran parallel to the eastern boundary of the site at a distance of 3.5m. Trench 3 also commenced from Trench 1 at a point 7.3m from the western terminus. All trenches were reduced to natural, being a stiff boulder clay with stone inclusions. The development lies on the outer edge of the Zone of Archaeological Potential of Swords (DU011-034) and there are no archaeological monuments within the proposed development area or in its environs upon which this development would have an adverse impact. No features of an archaeological potential were identified through the cartographic and documentary research for the site. Based on the results of previous archaeological testing and monitoring carried out in the immediate vicinity the archaeological potential of the proposed development site is deemed to be low.

This programme of testing confirms the findings of the desk study. The test trenches show that activity on this site commenced with the occupation of North Street during the 18th century. Ceramic types recovered would confirm this hypothesis. The test excavation revealed nothing that would suggest any earlier occupation of the site.

2017:223

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001- **Licence number:** C450/E4619

Author: Christine Baker

Site type: Anglo-Norman episcopal residence

ITM: E 718195m, N 747010m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459565, -6.220171

As part of the Swords Castle: Digging History-Fingal Community Excavation Project 2015-17, Season 3 took place over seventeen days between 18 August and 6 September 2017. The focus of the 2017 season was on answering research questions relating to the internal layout of the eastern perimeter of the precinct, while engaging the community in archaeology.

Four trenches (T7-T10) were excavated. Trench 7 (5m north-south x 4m) was situated towards the north-eastern corner of Swords Castle precinct adjacent to the 19th-century breach in the curtain wall. It was located to determine the effect of that breach. Excavation ceased at c. 1m below present ground level at the level of a flagged floor which was overlain by a series of occupation layers. A silver groat dating from 1569 was recovered from these layers which were then truncated by the construction and use of a kiln. The kiln had been cleaned out with a basal mortar surface and post-use backfill apparent. The later activity within this trench relates to the steps and a path leading to the doorway that had been inserted into the perimeter wall.

Trench 8 measured 4m x 4m and natural subsoil was identified at a maximum depth of 1.42m. Geophysical survey had identified an amorphous anomaly west of the 'Link wall' a 19th-century infill along the line of the eastern curtain wall between the extant Double Gable and the East Tower. The trench was sited to investigate this and to locate the return wall of the 'Great Hall'. The remains of a substantial east-west wall were uncovered towards the south of Trench 8. Internal to this the subsoil appeared to slope down and was overlain by a series of burnt layers and heat-affected soil.

Trench 9 targeted the area immediately west of the East Tower in order to investigate the confluence of the 'missing' west wall of the East Tower and the limit of burials identified by Fanning (1975). Burials were uncovered less than 0.1m below the current ground level. Aligned east-west, these burials were in poor condition, many exhibiting evidence of having been crushed. There had been significant disturbance in and around the burials with pits having been dug through them and tree roots from the later orchard planting having become intertwined with the skeletal remains. Fourteen burials extended as far as the newly uncovered west wall of the East Tower indicating that the wall was extant at the time. However almost 0.3m lower than Sk.1-14, the skull of Sk.15 was found, the remainder of the burial apparently truncated by the insertion of the tower wall. It is probable that there are two episodes of burial that pre- and post-date the use of occupation of the castle.

Trench 10 measured 6m north-south x 5.5m and was located over the remains of the medieval tile pavement identified by Fanning in 1971. The overburden was removed onto the plastic that had been put there to cover the remains in 1971. The mortar beds for the tiles were identified.

An important aim of the Swords Castle: Digging History is to engage the wider public with the national monument in their midst. This year saw the participation of almost 100 volunteers including many who have taken part in previous seasons. A post-medieval pottery workshop with Rosanne Meenan added to the training of those on-site while collaboration with artists Fiona Hallinan and Sabina McMahon and Dr Meriel McClatchie resulted in an interpretation of the environmental evidence uncovered on site in the form of food prepared for the volunteers. An over-arching final report encompassing specialist contributions and an analysis of the excavation results in conjunction with the historical and architectural evidence will be produced in due course.

Reference: Fanning, T. 1975, An Irish Medieval Tile Pavement: Recent Excavations at Swords Castle, County Dublin. In *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, Vol. 105 (47-82).

2019:688

County: Dublin **Site name:** Seatown Road, Townparks, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001 **Licence number:** 19E0192

Author: Aisling Collins

Site type: Post-medieval

ITM: E 718291m, N 747007m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459824, -6.218689

The monitoring programme identified a primary level of garden soil located across the site. It was located at between 0.7m to 1m below present ground level with a depth of at least 0.35m (Trench 6 – northeast corner of the site). Finds from it included one small sherd of medieval pottery, animal bone, shell and one fragment of red brick.

The only post-medieval feature identified was part of a cobble surface in Trench 1. Presumably, this was part of a floor or yard level associated the smithy/forge building indicated on the late 1897-13 Ordnance Survey map

Dumps of stone and concrete rubble were also identified in the trenches at the eastern and western areas of the site. These rubble deposits presumably relate to site clearance and building demolition with the rubble spread across the area (and garden soils) raising up the ground level.

Excavation of the site will likely reveal the foundations/floor levels of the buildings indicated on the 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps. Cobble/paved yard areas and garden plot boundaries may also survive in the areas to the rear of these buildings.

Medieval/post-medieval garden soil deposits survive in places (above subsoil) with tentative evidence for the presence of cut features such as pits, gullies and possibly plough or cultivation furrows. There was no evidence of any medieval structures, boundary walls or burials.

The stratigraphy of the boreholes was consistent with the trial holes. From the existing car park ground level to depths of approximately 1-1.2m, the ground was made up of modern stone infill deposits. Garden soil and natural clays were located at c. 1.2m to 1.8m with natural gravels and limestone bedrock present at c. 2-2.8m below present ground level.

It should be noted that the trial trenches, while informative, were small and concentrated around the site's perimeter. Also, while the boreholes confirmed the site's general stratigraphy, they were messy and difficult to access archaeologically. Therefore, further archaeological test trenches should be carried out prior to construction to fully assess the archaeological nature of the site.

2020:?

County: Dublin **Site name:** Swords Castle, Swords

Sites and Monuments Record No.: DU011-034001- **Licence number:** C450/E4676

Author: Christine Baker

Site type: Anglo-Norman episcopal residence

ITM: E 718195m, N 747010m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.459565, -6.220171

Swords Castle is a National Monument (No.340), a Recorded Monument (DU011-034001-) and a Protected Structure (No.351) and is located at the northern end of the Main street (ITM 718195/ 747010) at its junction with North Street and Bridge Street within the historic town of Swords (DU011-035----). Phase 2 of the Enabling Works Project undertaken between December 2018 and November 2019. With a project design first developed in 2010 to address emergency works at the Gatehouse of Swords Castle (Consent C450), the project was augmented by the findings of the 2011 Swords Castle Conservation Plan which identified the need for consolidation works (Consent C450-Variation No.1). The project (Phase 1) was then developed to encompass practical elements identified in the Swords Cultural Quarter Plan in order to turn Swords Castle into a useable space in the modern era (Consent C450-Variation No.2). Phase 2 works were an extension of elements identified for consolidation and development during Phase 1. The project was multi-faceted, the main body of work centred on the consolidation of extant structural elements, concentrating on the East Tower; the replacement of the wooden wall walk; provision of access and lighting of the wall walk and the opening of the external space along at the junction of North Street and Main Street, through the demolition of Units 10-13.

APPENDIX 3 – NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND (NMI) TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES

The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) contain a record of stray artefacts found in Ireland. Each artefact has an individual file where it gives locational information, description of the artefact and relevant references.

Ref No	Description	Townland	ITM_E	ITM_N
NMI1916:39; 41-2	Bronze palstave, socketed axehead, flanged axehead	Swords	-	-
NMI1939:16-17	Flat bronze axehead and palstave	Swords	-	-
E92:335	Flat bronze axehead	Swords	-	-
NMI R81; W57	Bronze Ewer	Swords	-	-
NMI Wk 78-83; 117-8, 120	Floor tiles from archiepiscopal palace	Swords	-	-
NMI Wk 77; R1245	Floor tiles from archiepiscopal palace	Swords	-	-
NMI1969:40-57	Two bronze pins, bronze finger ring, brass mount, two coins of Charles I and Henry IV, decorated bone fragment and bone pin, two iron knives, brass knuckle and other metal fragments, three blue-glass beads, melted green enamel and a glass bead	Swords Glebe	717983	746720
NMI1945:18	Sheela-na-gig	Swords Glebe	718010	746659
NMI1973:59-88	Whetstone, seven green-glazed sherds, 17 Misc Abraded Sherds, pottery leg, large base sherd	Swords Glebe	717997	746698
NMI1974:10a-j	Two flint chops and 50 medieval potsherds	Swords Glebe	718065	746768
NMI1978:11-12	Two flint fragments	Swords Glebe	717977	746708
NMI1978:7-10	Medieval rim sherd and three medieval potsherds	Townparks (Swords)	-	-
NMI1978:58-59	Medieval rimshert and sherd of E-ware	Townparks (Swords)	-	-

APPENDIX 4—LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

EIA Legislation

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/31/EC requires that certain developments be assessed for likely environmental effects before planning permission can be granted. This original directive and its amendments were consolidated informally in EIA Directive 2011/92/EU and further amended 2014/52/EU.

Directive 2014/52/EU that among other factors, information is to be provided on:

‘cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects’ (Annex IV, Section 3)

Each of these assets is addressed within this assessment report.

Cultural Heritage Legislation

Archaeological Monuments/Sites

Archaeological heritage is protected primarily under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004. Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act defines the word ‘monument’ as including:

‘any artificial or partly artificial building, structure, or erection whether above or below the surface of the ground and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground and any cave, stone, or other natural product whether forming part of or attached to or not attached to the ground which has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the ground) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position and any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, but does not include any building which is for the time being habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes’

Under the 1994 Act, provision was made for a Record of Monuments & Places (RMP). The RMP is a revised set of SMR (Sites and Monuments Record) maps, on which newly-discovered sites have been added and locations which proved not to be of antiquity have been de-listed by the National Monuments Service.

In effect, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide a statutory basis for:

- Protection of sites and monuments (RMPs)
- Sites with Preservation Orders
- Ownership and Guardianship of National Monuments
- Register of Historic Monuments (pre-dating 1700AD)
- Licensing of archaeological excavations
- Licensing of Detection Devices
- Protection of archaeological objects
- Protection of wrecks and underwater heritage (more than 100 years old)

In relation to proposed works at or in the vicinity of a recorded archaeological monument, Section 12 (3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states:

‘When the owner or occupier (not being the Commissioners) of a monument or place which has been recorded [in the Record of Monuments and Places] 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 Commissioners and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Commissioners, commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice.’

Archaeological artefacts

Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act (amended) defines an archaeological object as (in summary) any chattel in a manufactured or partly manufactured state or an unmanufactured state but with an archaeological or historical association. This includes ancient human, animal or plant remains.

Section 9 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states that any such artefact recovered during archaeological investigations should be taken into possession by the licensed archaeological director and held on behalf of the state until such a time as they are deposited accordingly subsequent to consultation with the National Museum of Ireland.

Architectural Sites

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999 and Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage. The former Act has helped to provide for a forum for the strengthening of architectural heritage protection as it called for the creation of a National Inventory of Architectural Heritage which is used by local authorities for compiling the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) is set out in each respective county’s Development Plan and provides statutory protection for these monuments.

Section 1 (1) of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999 states:

‘architectural heritage means all—

- (a) structures and buildings together with their settings and attendant grounds, fixtures and fittings,
- (b) groups of such structures and buildings, and
- (c) sites, which are of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest”

The 1999 Act was replaced by the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 where the conditions relating to the protection of architectural heritage are set out in Part IV of the Act. Section 57 (1) of the 2000 Act states that:

‘...the carrying out of works to a protected structure, or a proposed protected structure, shall be exempted development only if those works would not materially affect the character of –

- (a) the structure, or
- (b) any element of the structure which contributes to its special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest’

Policy Framework

Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023

10.2 Archaeological Heritage

Protection of the Archaeological Resource

The National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide for the protection of archaeological sites, monuments, artefacts and shipwrecks that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). Although the archaeological resource is finite (refer Appendix 3), sites continue to be discovered. Where new development is being considered, it is therefore advisable to check the National Monuments Service's Archaeological Survey Database on www.archaeology.ie in order to assess the archaeological potential of a site.

Objective CH02

Favour the preservation in situ or at a minimum preservation by record, of archaeological sites, monuments, features or objects in their settings. In securing such preservation the Council will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of the Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Objective CH03

Protect all archaeological sites and monuments, underwater archaeology, and archaeological objects, which are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and all sites and features of archaeological and historic interest discovered subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places, and to seek their preservation in situ (or at a minimum, preservation by record) through the planning process.

Objective CH04

Encourage and promote the appropriate management and maintenance of the County's archaeological heritage, including historical burial grounds, in accordance with conservation principles and best practice guidelines.

Development and the Archaeological Resource

Archaeology is a non-renewable resource in that once an archaeological feature or site is excavated or removed it is gone forever from the landscape. Therefore, any proposed development should consider the potential impact on archaeology in the very earliest stages and seek to avoid affecting archaeological features or sites and their setting. This includes development along or in Fingal's rivers, coastline and tidal estuaries. Currently 40% of the recorded archaeological sites within Fingal are sub-surface. Therefore, any development has the potential to uncover previously unknown archaeological sites.

Objective CH05

Ensure archaeological remains are identified and fully considered at the very earliest stages of the development process, that schemes are designed to avoid impacting on the archaeological heritage.

Objective CH06

Require that proposals for linear development over one kilometre in length; proposals for development involving ground clearance of more than half a hectare; or developments in proximity to areas with a density of known archaeological monuments and history of discovery; to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment and refer such applications to the relevant Prescribed Bodies.

Objective CH07

Ensure that development within the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Zone of Archaeological Notification does not seriously detract from the setting of the feature and is sited and designed appropriately.

Objective CH08

Develop a policy in relation to the treatment of archaeological monuments within open space of developments. A different designation from that of open space will be applied where sub-surface archaeological remains are incorporated to differentiate the area.

Objective CH09

Recognise the importance of archaeology or historic landscapes and the connectivity between sites, where it exists, in order to safeguard them from developments that would unduly sever or disrupt the relationship and/or inter-visibility between sites.

Objective CH10

Co-operate with other agencies in the assessment of the potential for climate change to impact on coastal, riverine, inter-tidal and sub-tidal sites and their environments including shipwreck sites.

Objective CH11

Encourage reference to or incorporation of significant archaeological finds into development schemes, where appropriate and sensitively designed, through layout, displays, signage, plaques, information panels and by using historic place names and the Irish language where appropriate.

Awareness and the Archaeological Resource

There are currently 1015 known archaeological sites and monuments in Fingal. These vary from the familiar-churches, graveyards, castles, windmills and holy wells to sites that survive only beneath the surface-settlements, burials, ditches and pits. All of these sites contain unique information about our past and the people who lived in Fingal before us. They also form a resource for education, for communities and for tourism. The Council owns or is responsible for almost 20% of all the archaeological sites within Fingal.

Objective CH12

Promote best practice for archaeological excavation by ensuring that they are undertaken according to best practice as outlined by the National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, The National Museum and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland.

Objective CH13

Actively support the dissemination of the findings of archaeological investigations and excavations through the publication of excavation reports thereby promoting public awareness and appreciation of the value of archaeological resources.

Objective CH14

Identify Zones of Archaeological Notification that contain clusters of Recorded Monuments or have a significant history of the discovery of archaeological sites, features and objects in order to allow for their designation, protection of their setting and environs.

Objective CH15

Raise public awareness of the cultural heritage and improve legibility by providing appropriate signage or interpretation in areas, sites, villages, and buildings of archaeological and historic significance.

Objective CH16

Develop and implement the findings of the Community Archaeology Strategy for Fingal.

Objective CH17

Support the growth of cultural tourism in the County, including the potential for niche heritage-based tourism products by facilitating the development of heritage events, infrastructure such as heritage trails, walkways and cycleways etc. and activities such as community excavation.

Objective CH18

Manage the archaeological sites and monuments that Fingal County Council owns or is responsible for according to best practice and according to Conservation Plans where they exist.

APPENDIX 5 – TERMS AND DEFINITIONS USED

The following sets out the definitions of the terms which are used throughout the report:

- (i) The phrase ‘cultural heritage’ is a generic term used in reference to a multitude of cultural, archaeological and architectural sites and monuments. The term ‘cultural heritage’, in 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 be of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest.

For the purpose of this assessment, each identified cultural heritage site is assigned a unique cultural heritage number with the prefix ‘CH’.

- (ii) 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. When reference is made to the distance between an RMP and the proposed development site (see below), this relates to the minimal distance separating the site from the known edge of the RMP. Where the edge of the RMP is not precisely known, the distance relates to that which separates the site from the boundary of the RMP zone of archaeological potential as represented on the respective RMP map; where this is applied, it is stated accordingly.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) The term ‘proposed development site’ refers to the defined area of land within which the proposed development, including access tracks etc, may be constructed.
- (v) In relation to the term ‘study area’ please see Section 1.3 above.
- (vi) The term ‘receiving environment’ refers to the broader landscape within which the study area is situated. Examination of the site’s receiving environment allows the study area to be analysed in its wider cultural context.
- (vii) The terms ‘baseline environment’ and ‘cultural heritage resource’ refer to the existing, identifiable environment against which potential impacts of the proposed scheme may be measured.

APPENDIX 6 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST TRENCHING

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
AT
SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER,
COUNTY DUBLIN**

LICENCE: 22E0038

ON BEHALF OF: FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

I.T.M.: 718304, 747016

**LICENCEE: DAVID BAYLEY
AUTHOR: DAVID BAYLEY**

**REPORT STATUS: DRAFT
MARCH 2022**

IAC PROJECT REF.: J3896

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

DATE	DOCUMENT TITLE	REV.	PREPARED BY	REVIEWED BY	APPROVED BY
09.03.22	Archaeological Assessment at Swords Cultural Quarter, County Dublin	0	F. Murtagh & D. Bayley	T. Coughlan	T. Coughlan
15.03.22	Archaeological Assessment at Swords Cultural Quarter, County Dublin	1	D. Bayley	T. Coughlan	T. Coughlan

ABSTRACT

IAC Archaeology has prepared this report on behalf of Fingal County Council, to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological and historical resource of a proposed development at Swords Civic & Cultural Centre, a component of the Swords Cultural Quarter project, located in Swords, North County Dublin (ITM 718304, 747016; OS Sheet 11). The proposed development site is currently the Executive car park of Fingal County Council. The assessment was undertaken by David Bayley of IAC Archaeology under licence 22E0038. It follows from an Archaeological Strategy report compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd. (Bolger & Pawle 2021)

Archaeological fieldwork was carried out over the course of four days from 15 February 2022 using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flat grading bucket. The trenches were within the zone of notification for recorded monument DU011-035 (Historic town), and were placed to avoid known underground services and to fully investigate the archaeological potential of the site.

Testing revealed archaeological remains across the site. Garden soils, up to 0.40m deep were identified in four trenches in the east and northern half of the site. Medieval pottery was recovered from the garden soil in the east and northwest of the test area. It is likely that these garden soils are all contemporary and may represent a homogenous layer that has been heavily disturbed. The garden soils in general sealed the other identified medieval features.

Other medieval activity consisted of a metalled surface with a limestone drain all yielded sherds of medieval pottery in the northwest of the site. An undated mortared stone wall was found in the same trench. In the centre-east area of the site, a possible linear boundary ditch, a very compact metalled surface, pits and furrows were identified with many producing medieval pottery. A series of furrows were evident in the north of the site but produced no diagnostic material, while a similar furrow in the south of the site did produce a medieval pottery sherd.

Testing also revealed areas of modern disturbance across the site, and it is clear from a GPR survey for services carried out before the archaeological works that the site has been heavily truncated by modern services.

The proposed development will have a negative impact on the archaeological remains identified. As preservation *in situ* will most likely not be possible, it is recommended that these remains be preserved by record through archaeological excavation.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The following report details the results of a programme of archaeological testing undertaken at Swords, North County Dublin, prior to proposed development at Swords Civic & Cultural Centre, a component of the Swords Cultural Quarter project. This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource that may exist within the proposed development area. The assessment was undertaken by David Bayley of IAC Archaeology (IAC), on behalf of Fingal County Council and under licence 22E0038, as issued by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

Fieldwork commenced at the site on 15th February and continued for four days. This was carried out using an 8 tonne 360 degree tracked excavator, with a flat, toothless bucket, under strict archaeological supervision. A total of 9 trenches, measuring 114 linear metres in total, were mechanically investigated across the test area. This report follows on from an Archaeological Strategy report compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd. (Bolger & Pawle 2021).

1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

In 2015, Fingal County Council commissioned the creation of a Masterplan for the Swords Civic & Cultural Quarter. The plan sought to:

‘...draw out the potential of the existing town centre focusing on the castle environs as a new cultural hub- an area which can instil and foster a sense of place and civic pride and also act as a counterpoint to the shopping and business areas of the town.’

The proposed project plans to develop a major Civic and Public space, introducing a Civic & Cultural Centre near the present Fingal County Council Offices in the heart of Swords town. The Swords Cultural Quarter has an overall site area of 15,751m² and comprises (Bolger & Pawle 2021):

- The road junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street,
- Fingal County Council Executive car park (site area; 2,400m²) at the junction of North Street and Seatown Road;
- St. Michael’s House, Seatown Road (site area: 542m²);
- Swords District Court House (a Protected Structure, RPS No. 350);
- 4no. terraced 2-storey commercial/retail properties at No. 20 North Street;
- Fingal County Hall external public space (site area: 1,881m²);
- Vacant plots at No.’s 1-7,13,15,17 and 17a North Street adjacent to Swords Castle;
- The existing side entrance area of Swords Park Accessed from North Street, Swords.

While the project scheme is still being finalised, the key components include:

- Civic Space & Public Realm- this will incorporate the vacant plots No.'s 3-13 North Street adjacent to Swords Castle, No. 17 North Street and Chamber House 17a North Street, Swords as well as the existing carriageway and pavements of North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street within the development site. It will involve the installation of new paving, street lighting, street furniture and artwork. In addition to construction groundworks to install the new public realm features and furnishings, demolition of buildings on the western frontage of North Street will be required.
- Swords Civic & Cultural Centre- this will be situated on the current Fingal Executive car park site. It will be a four storey building and will wrap around the Swords District Court House. The Civic and Cultural Centre will include a library space, performance venue and arts venue, café/bar, as well as a number of facilities to be used by artistic, cultural and community needs.
 - It will require the demolition of existing buildings on the east frontage of North Street (immediately north of the Swords District Courthouse), the bulk excavation of the footprint, as well as landscaping, public realm works and ancillary works. External works include a new road entrance from Seatown Road to accommodate the provision of service bays for deliveries at ground floor level.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF DESKTOP ASSESSMENT (FAIRHEAD 2021)

A report detailing the architectural and cultural heritage constraints identified within the surrounding area of Swords town (including the current proposed project area) was carried out by Sam Fairhead of IAC archaeology in June 2021, on behalf of Fingal County Council and the Sustainable Swords Project. The constraints area of this report encompasses all or parts of 17 townlands, all located within the civil parish of Swords, in the barony of Nethercross. The results of this report's historic background investigation are summarised below, and provide a broader historic and archaeological context to the areas surrounding the current proposed development site.

Prehistoric Period (6000-800 BC)

There are no known sites dating to the Mesolithic or Neolithic Period within the constraints area or its immediate environs. However, the topographic location and proximity to a water source may have made the area attractive for activity during the prehistoric period.

There are no known Bronze Age sites or monuments within the constraints area or its immediate vicinity; however, there are recorded ring-ditches (DU011-034019 & DU012-093 being two) and evidence of Bronze age activity within the surrounding townlands, suggesting prehistoric activity in the wider landscape of Swords (Giacometti, 2005).

Iron Age (800 BC–AD 500)

Large defensive structures and earthworks were characteristic of the period, including coastal promontory forts. A promontory fort is a defensive structure located above a steep cliff, often only connected to the mainland by a small neck of land, thus utilizing the topography to reduce the ramparts needed. Although their dating is problematic, most seem to date to the Iron Age (Raftery, 1994).

The headland of Drumanagh, c. 12km northeast of the constraints area, is the location of the remains of one of the largest promontory forts in Ireland (consisting of c. 16ha). The neck of the headland is defended by a straight series of earthworks (L. 350m). They comprise three parallel banks with contiguous fosses, except at the north end where the defences are reduced to a single bank with an external fosse. The upper portion of the inner bank is stone capped. It has long been suspected that the site may have some connection to Roman Britain. Because of this potential, the Discovery Programme commenced a programme of archaeological research in Fingal in autumn 2011. This research focused on the late Iron Age period and any interaction between Roman populations from England and Europe. Geophysical survey carried out within the promontory fort and in surrounding townlands has identified numerous features of archaeological interest, which will form the focus for future study (Dowling, 2015).

Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

Swords was an important centre of the ancient Gaelic kingdom of Brega, which, from the late Iron Age to the Norman intervention of 1169, covered approximately the same area of modern Fingal, bounded by the River Tolka to the south and the River Delvin to the north. During this period Brega was ruled by the Ui Chernaig branch of the dynasty known as Sil nAedo Slaine, a southern branch of the Ui Neill who gained control of the territory in the early 8th century (Bradley, 1998). Ailbhe MacShamráin has published an extensive study of the political and ecclesiastical history of Swords during this period (2016). MacShamráin concludes that Swords formed part of the sub-kingdom of Gailenga Becca until the expansion of the Hiberno-Norse kingdom of Dublin in the late 9th and 10th centuries.

A large cemetery was excavated under licence 02E0608 (Bennett 2002:0686) on Malahide Road within the constraints area. There were 287 individuals represented in the burial ground with adults comprising the majority of these. Evidence suggests the cemetery was not defined by an enclosure and no evidence of a stone or timber church was identified (O'Donovan, 2016). The burials were subsequently dated to the early medieval period (specifically, 550 to 1150AD). Artefacts associated with the burials included aiglets or lace chapes, used to protect the end of lace cords to tie a shirt or vest. A single female inhumation had a ring on her finger. The cemetery is thought to represent the burial place of a small local population, with the overwhelming burial rite at the cemetery being in the Christian tradition of extended supine inhumation (ibid. 34-35). Some of the remains showed evidence for violent weapon trauma, suggesting that a warrior elite existed as an element in the population (ibid. 6).

A monastery, dedicated to St Colmcille, was founded on high ground to the west of the River Ward (DU011-034002), in the central portion of the constraints area, adjacent to the western boundary. It includes a church (DU011-034004), a round tower (DU011-034005), a graveyard (DU011-034003) and associated features (DU011-034010, 011, 007, 009, 006). The name 'Swords' derives from the Irish Sord Colmcille or St. Colmcille's Well. The Irish word sord means 'pure' and can also be applied to a spring or well (Joyce, 1995, 566). The well site (DU011-034013), located c. 140m south-southeast of the monastery near the junction of Church Road and Well Road, was an important local water source in the town, the water was believed to cure sore eyes. A souterrain (sub-terranean tunnel/chamber, usually stone-built), DU011-034022, recorded c. 100m northeast of the round tower, may also be associated with the monastery.

The association of the early foundation of Swords with St. Colmcille, who appointed St. Fínán Lobhar (the Leper) as abbot, could suggest a 6th century date for the foundation of the site (Gwynn and Hadcock, 1988, O'Donovan, 2016). Bradley states that the monastic foundation of Swords was first mentioned in the annals in AD 965 when the death of Ailill Mac Maenach, Bishop of Swords and Lusk, was recorded (Bradley, 1998, 44). MacShamráin (2016) has recently identified a reference to Fínán of Swords in the Martyrology of Tallaght dating to the late 8th century.

The monastic site was burned in AD 994 by Maelseachlainn of Meath. This attack was part of a wider move against the Sitric Mac Amlaoimh, illustrating the extent to which Swords fell within the scope of the Hiberno-Norse kings of Dublin at this time. The conflict extended into the 11th century resulting in the burning of Swords by the Vikings of Dublin in 1012 and 1016 as recorded by the Annals of the Four Masters. These attacks clearly show that Swords fell outside of the control of Dublin for several years during the early 11th century. The area held prominence as one of the resting places of Brian Boru's funeral procession following the Battle of Clontarf in 1014.

This pattern of attack and counter-attack continued in the decades that followed as Swords again found itself on the border of warring kingdoms. The Dublin Vikings under Sitric recaptured and held Swords in the 11th century. Conor O' Melaghlin burned Swords in retaliation for Sitric's raids into Meath in 1035. The value of Swords to the Hiberno-Norse of Dublin made it a prime target for the O'Melaghlin Kings of Meath, with attacks being recorded for the years 1069, 1130, 1135, 1138, 1150, and 1166. In 1135, The Annals of the Four Masters record that Swords was wasted by O'Melaghlin who was eventually killed by the Vikings of Dublin and Donal MacGiollaCholmóg at Lusk (Reeners 2014, 24).

The round tower (DU011-034005) is the only upstanding element of the original monastic establishment, the medieval church tower belongs to a structure which was erected in the later Middle Ages (DU011-034004). Three churches have been recorded at Swords, dedicated to Saints Fintan, Brigid and Catherine and it is believed that all three were located within the present St. Columbas Church of Ireland site (NIAH 11343007) (D'Alton, 1838, 264). St. Columbas Church itself, the medieval church tower and the round tower are all Protected Structures, RPS 360a, 360b and 360c respectively.

A reference to 'sixteen foreign burgess' in the extent of the manor in 1326, (burgagii forinseci) has been interpreted by Bradley (1998) as a term used to describe Ostmen/Viking Settlements. He suggests that there may have been a Hiberno-Norse settlement in the vicinity of the monastery in the period prior to the arrival of the Anglo-Normans. Further evidence for such a settlement may be inferred from the results of archaeological excavations at the site of Swords Castle gatehouse in 2014, which uncovered burials and structures beneath the castle found to date to the 11th century (Moraghan, Licence Ref.: C450/E4376).

Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

In the mid-12th century, the monastic site at Swords and its possessions were transferred to the Archbishop of Dublin. Swords subsequently became one of the principal archiepiscopal manors of Dublin. Following the Anglo-Norman invasion of 1169, the property of the monastery of Swords formed part of the lands of the See of Dublin, confirmed to Archbishop Laurence O'Toole in 1179 (McNeill, 1950). In 1197, King Richard granted a charter to Swords, by which each burgess was to pay 12 pence annually for his burgage. In a later charter, he confirmed the burgesses of Swords in their burgages and gave them the liberties and free customs of Dublin and established an annual rent of one shilling per burgage (Bradley, 1998; Ball, 1906).

Swords Castle (DU011-034001, National Monument No. 340) is located in the northern half of the constraints area, c. 240m northeast of the monastery. During the 13th century, the archbishops of Dublin occasionally resided at Swords. Expenditure on the upkeep of the castle was recorded and in the 1270s, a sum of £100 was accounted for the 'repairs of houses, mills, and other expenses in the manor of Swords' implying that mills along the River Ward were in existence at least as early as the late 13th century (Stalley, 2006).

Archbishop Alexander De Bicknor, whose episcopacy lasted from 1317 to 1349, was accused of misappropriating church monies and as a result an inquisition was held into the matter. Magnificent detail, not only of the arrangement of Swords Castle but of the elements within a 14th century manorial centre, are contained within the inquisition record which describe the castle as follows:

'there are a hall; a chamber for the archbishop annexed to it, of which the walls are of stone and crenellated like a castle, roofed with shingles — there are a kitchen there with a larder, whose walls are of stone and roof of shingle, a chapel with stone walls and a shingle roof; there was a chamber for the friars with a cloister now thrown down; near the gate is a chamber for the constable and four chambers for knights and squires, roofed with shingles: under these a stable and bakehouse; there was a house for a derreria [dairy] and a carpentria [workshop], now thrown down. In the haggard a grange constructed of poles and covered with thatch, a timber granary roofed with wooden boards; a byre for housing nags and kine; these easements they extend at no value, for nothing is to be got from them either by letting or otherwise, since they need great repair, as they are badly roofed.' (McNeill 1950, 175)

Such an extensive agricultural and industrial centre within the walls of the castle gives an indication of the level of activity that may have been carried out in the adjacent lands. Swords castle fell into ruins in the 16th century, although it is unclear when exactly the castle ceased to be owned by the Archbishops of Dublin. In 1583 Lord Deputy of Ireland placed protestant families fleeing from persecution in the 'low counties' into Swords Castle (Reeners 2014, 29).

Many details of the castle have been discovered from excavations within the castle, initially by Tom Fanning (1975) and more recently by Mark Moraghan for IAC Archaeology (2014) and Christine Baker's community archaeology project (Bennett 2015:144; Licence Ref.: C450/E4619).

Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1800)

Swords was granted a charter and borough status during the reign of Elizabeth I and it appears that the castle was retained by the archbishop well into the 17th century, if not beyond. Samuel Lewis (1837) notes that:

'James I, in 1603, granted to the archbishop of Dublin a confirmation of the privileges of the town, together with a weekly market on Monday; in this document the place is

called the archbishop's manor of Swords. A grant of two additional fairs was made to it in 1699.'

During the Wars of the Catholic Confederation in 1641 Swords Castle was used as a rendezvous for Confederate forces and attacked and routed by the forces led by Sir Charles Coote. Following the execution of Charles I, the aristocracy of Fingal remained loyal to the Royalist cause. A rebel force was defeated by Charles Coote at Swords in 1642.

Swords during the 18th century was a market and post-town and in 1837, Lewis describes the population as comprising '3722 inhabitants, of which number, 2537 are in the town'. He further describes the town as occupying a 'pleasing situation on the steep banks of a small but rapid stream, which discharges itself northwards into the inner extremity of the creek or pill of Malahide [...] It consists chiefly of one wide street, a mile in length, formed of houses which, with but few exceptions, are of mean appearance. Fairs are held on March 17th and May 9th for cattle and pedlery; petty sessions on Wednesdays; and it is a constabulary police station. [...] The soil is good, and the system of agriculture rapidly improving: there are several extensive corn-mills within the parish, and it is embellished with numerous seats and villas.'

One of the mills that utilised the River Ward (DU011-034012) was located within the constraints area, c. 40m west of the castle on the eastern bank of the river adjacent to Mill Bridge (RPS 352, NIAH 1134016/02).

2.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2021) and the available excavation reports (online at www.excavations.ie) has revealed that one previous archaeological investigation (19E0192) has been recorded within the proposed development areas. Additionally, a large number of previous archaeological investigations have taken place within the vicinity (250m radius) of the proposed development area, these are summarised below (Figure 4):

Archaeological monitoring was carried out within the executive carpark of Fingal County Council (Area 1) in January 2020 by Aisling Collins Archaeological Services (Collins 2020, Licence Ref.: 19E0192). Ground breaking activities consisted on the boring of seven trial trenches and 14 bore holes in the parking lot, in order to inform future works for the Swords Cultural Quarter project. Monitoring resulted in the identification of garden soil deposits and the remains of a cobbled surface located in a trial trench in the southwest corner of the site along the North Street frontage. In the 1837 Ordnance survey map, one of the buildings along the North Street shows an abbreviation of 'Smy', likely indicating the location of a smithy or forge. The presence of such a building was confirmed by the trial trench along the North Street frontage, which contained cobbles stained with iron and frequent mixed types of slag that most likely formed part of a floor or yard area for the Smithy/forge building (Collins 2020, Licence Ref.: 19E0192).

A series of test trenching was carried out in Swords Park just north of Swords Castle and c. 40m west of Area 2 (Bennett 1994:100, Licence Ref.: 94E0191). While no evidence of a moat laying close to the north wall of the castle or any evidence of medieval activity was uncovered, post-medieval structures were identified. Archaeological monitoring (Licence Refs.:03E0751 & 04E1248) within the two structures immediately to the north of Area 2, of the current project development (c. 7m & 20m north, respectively), produced no evidence of archaeological materials.

Assessment works carried out at Bridge Street in 1999 (c.185m southwest from Area 2, c.200m southwest from Area 1), revealed what was initially thought to be a ditch feature associated with the Swords Castle defences; however, it wound up to be a product of mid-19th century stone quarrying, with displaced late-medieval artefacts evident within the ditch infill (Bennett 1999:274; Licence Ref.: 99E0320).

A series of archaeological investigations took place along the exterior of Swords Castle from Bridge Street to North Street. On the north side of Bridge Street, at the Pound public house (c. 190m southwest of Area 2, c. 180m southwest of Area 1), a possible outer enclosure ditch was discovered, suggesting that at one point the castle was encircled by a substantial moat-ditch (Swan 1993:101). Furthermore, at 4-8 North Street evidence of later medieval occupation and development of the castle complex was uncovered (Ministerial Consent C450; Excavation Reg E004676)

Test excavations took place in the yard of Ryan's Public House in 2002, c. 130m south from Area 1, and c. 100m southwest from Area 2. These excavations revealed a probable 19th century wall, overlaying a soil deposit (0.7m deep) which included medieval animal bone, shell, and ceramic inclusions. Below this layer lay a possible demolition/construction layer, filled with loose lime mortar and rubble, under which a drop in the ground level to the east was noted. It was suspected that this may relate to the castle entrance, suggesting that there may have been a shallow ditch or local quarry pit on the exterior of the castle. (Bennett 2002:0684, Licence Ref.:02E1279).

Further testing was undertaken at the intersection of Church Road and Bridge Street in 2016 (c. 270m southwest of Area 2 and Area 1). 17 trenches were opened, revealing archaeological deposits dating from the 12th-14th century in the central and southern areas of the site; this included a ditch used as a kitchen midden. Additionally, 18-19th century deposits including cobbled surfaces, two robbed out walls, and a packed stone yard surface, were found along the eastern and western edges of the site, and a stone-built basement in the southern part (Duffy & Bailey 2016:138, Licence 16E0115).

There have been five archaeological investigations in the surrounding area that have produced no finds of archaeological significance. They are listed in Table 3.

Table 1: Archaeological Investigation with no archaeological finds or features of significance

LICENCE NO.	REFERENCE	DISTANCE FROM DEVELOPMENT
98E0443	Bennett 1998:220	c. 200m south
02E0382	Bennett 2002:0685	c. 200m south

LICENCE NO.	REFERENCE	DISTANCE FROM DEVELOPMENT
O2E1179	Bennett 2004:0649	c. 100m south
16E0605	Bennett 2017:091	c. 75m north
C358	Bennett 2009: 363	c. 100m south

Swords Castle

A significant number of excavations have taken place within the grounds of Swords Castle (DU011-034001) c.25m south of Area 2, and c. 65m west of Area 1 (Figure 4).

Full excavation in the Chamber Block and adjoining Chapel east of the Gatehouse was carried out in 1971 by Thomas Fanning (Bennett 1971:15, Licence E101). Findings included a post-19th century cobbled floor and 500 fragments of disturbed medieval floor tiles, which were found in the east end of the Chapel, and which Fanning interprets as being the remains of the original floor. Cuttings were also inserted on the exterior of the chapel, which revealed a group of extended burials, one of which consisted of a small cist. An additional group of burials was identified in the south-eastern angle of the castle bawn. Decorated medieval tiles were found in the wall foundations at the angle of the south and east walls of the castle. The patterns of the tile were similar to those found in the chapel and resemble those found from Mellifont Abbey and Christ Church.

Removal of overburden and excavation in the area to the west of the Knights and Squire chamber was carried out in 2001 (Bennett 2001:474, Licence 01E0002). The excavations revealed drains, a cobbled pathway, a spread of iron slag, fragments of medieval floor tiles, and a disturbed stone surface with an architectural fragment of a medieval window; which suggest that this surface post-dates the original usage of the castle. Furthermore, the curtain wall was exposed within the excavated cutting, revealing a possible doorway that was demolished and replaced with a widow in later construction. Other finds include a wall perpendicular to the curtain wall, mortared surfaces, a stone footing, and sherds of medieval and post-medieval ceramics.

Archaeological monitoring took place beneath the gateway arch in 2011, when a trench was dug for the laying of cable. This revealed a wall (0.8m wide), suggestive of medieval date, with a further two, narrower walls, parallel to the larger wall, close to the entrance of the street (Reeners 2014, 75).

A significant discovery was made during a 2014 excavation at the gatehouse of the castle, which involved the excavation of a cutting measuring 4.2m by 2m and up to 1.4m in depth below Present Ground Level. The excavations revealed numerous phases of activity dating from the 11th/12th century to the post-medieval period. The first layer of activity consisted of two intercutting ditch features, which were then covered by the earliest phase of burial activity. Atop this, a sunken structure was constructed, and then a second phase of burial activity occurred, thought to be contemporary with the sunken structure. The structure was then abandoned and in-filled and four more phases of burial activity were inserted. After the final phase of burial activity, the area was covered and levelled prior to the construction of the primary castle gatehouse structure, which forms a part of the present western

gatehouse. A number of post-medieval layers were also recorded. In total, 17 burials were revealed within the gatehouse, with 11 being fully excavated in order to facilitate the conservation works. It is believed that the additional 16 burials excavated by Fanning (1971:15, Licence E101), likely form a continuance of the burial area recorded under the gatehouse (Moraghan et al 2021; Licence C450/E4376).

An additional number of archaeological investigations have taken place since 2014; the results of which are summarised below (Bolger & Pawle 2021, 22-23):

Major investigations within Swords Castle have been undertaken following the publication of the Swords Castle Conservation Plan by the Fingal County Council 2014. The Swords Castle: Digging History Project (Licence number C450/E4619) took place over three seasons from 2015–2017 and was designed to address the research and knowledge gaps identified by the conservation plan, and to inform the urban identity of the developing Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan (2015). The investigations successfully established the presence of previously unknown structures and medieval activity within the precinct of Swords Castle and confirmed the potential for surviving in situ archaeology as identified by a geophysical survey undertaken in by Target Surveys in 2011. A series of Trial pits (A–D) and test trenches (1–10) were excavated over Seasons 1 (2015), 2 (2016) and 3 (2017). Pits A–D established that the original medieval structure (now known as the Link Wall), was rebuilt in the later 19th century. Trench 3 exposed a variety of medieval artefacts, that indicated 12th–14th-century dates of activity. Trench 6, which was located a right-angle to the 2015’s Trench 3, excavated beneath two medieval metallised surfaces (F71, F82), identifying a series of medieval pits. A pit from the same stratigraphic layer in Trench 2 was radiocarbon dated to AD 937–1019 (UBA–32456 2 sigma). The second season of investigation recovered a total of 1259 artefacts, including pottery, tile, clay pipe, iron nails, copper alloy, and a bone comb. In 2017, the final season of Digging History focused on the internal layout of the eastern perimeter of the precinct. Trench 7 was situated towards the north-eastern corner of Swords Castle precinct, adjacent to the 19th-century breach in the curtain wall, to determine the effect of that breach. Excavation ceased at c. 1 m below present ground level at the level of a flagged floor which was overlain by a series of occupation layers. A silver groat (Elizabeth I sixpence) dating from 1569 was recovered from these layers which were then truncated by the construction and use of a kiln. The kiln had been cleaned out with a basal mortar surface and post-use backfill apparent. The later activity within this trench relates to the steps and a path leading to the doorway that had been inserted into the perimeter wall. Trench 9 uncovered the remains of a substantial east–west wall, which may be associated with the return wall of the ‘Great Hall.’ Trench 9 targeted the area immediately west of the East Tower to investigate the confluence of the ‘missing’ west wall of the East Tower and the limit of burials identified by Fanning (1975). Burials were uncovered less than 0.1 m below the current ground level. Fourteen burials extended as far as the newly uncovered west wall of the East Tower indicating that the wall was extant at the time. However almost 0.3 m lower than Sk.1–14, the skull of Sk.15 was found, the remainder of the burial apparently truncated by the insertion of the tower wall. The findings suggest that it is probable that there are two episodes of burial that pre- and post-date the use of occupation of the castle (Baker 2020b).

In addition to Digging History, Swords Castle has seen two phases of Enabling Works since 2016 (Licence number C450/4676). The project design was first developed in 2010 to address emergency works at the Gatehouse of Swords Castle (Consent C450) and was augmented by the findings of the 2011 Swords Castle Conservation Plan. In 2016, Enabling Works involved the consolidation and stabilisation of the east range of the castle and rebuilding of the gatehouse arch which had been identified in the Swords Castle Conservation Plan as necessary for the protection of the extant structural remains. The internal precinct of the castle was landscaped, including the insertion of new ‘no dig’ paths and lighting bollards. Although impact was minimised to 150–300 mm in depth, in the design, archaeological monitoring of all ground works was undertaken. Externally units 4–9 of North Street were subject to survey and demolition followed by test-excavation. A total of eight trenches were excavated, which provided information about the construction and phasing of the castle, that ultimately allowed for an informed methodology for underpinning and stabilisation of the extant structure (Baker 2016). Phase 2 of Enabling Works was undertaken between December 2018 and November 2019. The main body of work centred on the consolidation of extant structural elements, concentrating on the East Tower, including the replacement of the wooden wall with the additional provisions of access and lighting, as well as the opening of the external space at the junction of North Street and Main Street, though the demolition of Units 10–13 (Baker 2020a).

2.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

William Petty’s Down Survey map of the Barony of Nethercross, 1656

In this map Swords castle is depicted as a simple tower, with a parish church located to the northwest of the castle, depicted on the Parish Map of Swords (drawn by Wilson & Weft 1656). The structures are indicated as lying on fortified lands that formed ‘Parte of Blackhall’ (Reeners 2014, 35). The location of the proposed project development isn’t depicted in any detail on this map. With the green-field site, Area 2, likely lying directly above the depicted castle, and the current parking lot, Area 1, potentially lying in the adjoining land plot marked ‘The Greate Commons’.

Rocque’s Map of Dublin, 1760 (Figure 6)

This map depicts the development of street layouts within Swords town, with Bridge Street, North Street, Seatown Road, and Main Street all depicted. The castle is indicated on this map as an almost cruciform shape. With structures having been built along either side of what today is North Street (Reeners 2014, 35). Area 2 of the proposed development project appears to be cultivated land, possibly a garden for the castle grounds, with a line of structures lining the western side of North Street. The site of the current car-park, Area 1, shows indication of buildings lining the east side of North Street and the corner of North Street and Seatown Road, with what appear to be gardens attached to the structures and then open agricultural fields behind.

6-inch Ordnance Survey Map, 1843 (Figure 6)

The first edition Ordnance Survey Map (OS) depicts the project area in the townland of Townsparks. The Area 2 field of the project area is depicted north of the cultivated

gardens of Swords castle, which are clearly depicted as a walled garden with indication of cultivation and subdivision of plots (Reeners 2014, 36). Area 2 is occupied on its eastern side (bordering North Street) by structures lining the road, as depicted in Rocque's (1760) map. The Area 1 car park also shows approximately seven structures along its northern, western and southwestern extents (where the lot meets North Street on its west, and the corner of North Street and Seatown Road on its southwest). With the eastern portion of the lot remaining as open fields. One of the buildings along the North Street shows an abbreviation of *Smy* likely indicating the location of a smithy or forge. The presence of such a building were confirmed during monitoring efforts near this spot (Collins 2020, Licence Ref.: 19E0192).

25-inch Ordinance Survey Map, 1906 (Figure 7)

This map shows the project much unchanged since the first edition OS map. Swords Castle, however, is now depicted as being 'in Ruins' with the interior of the castle grounds having been converted into an orchard with established trees depicted. The greenfield (Area 2) north of the castle, is still depicted with structures along its eastern edge, lining North Street. The current car-park location, Area 1, of the project development continues to show portions/rear extensions of buildings which face North Street protruding west into the current car-park location. The Court House building is now labelled, situated on the western periphery of the site. There is one complete structure (oriented north-south) situated behind, east of the court house, that would now lie beneath the car-park surface. Additionally, another building on the northern extent of the car park (oriented east-west) would also largely be covered by the current project outline. Additionally, this map depicts a few garden plot subdivisions and sheds within the development area, east of the established buildings.

Ordnance Survey 6" Map, 1937 (Figure 7)

The proposed project area remains generally unchanged in this map. Area 2 remains an open field with terraced houses lining the eastern edge along North Street. Area 1 car park still contains buildings along its western edge on North Street. With the eastern extent of site primarily occupied by gardens attached to the structures on North Street.

2.4 SUMMARY OF GEOPHYSICAL RESULTS

No geophysical survey was conducted prior to test trenching.

2.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995-2013), Google Earth (2001-2020) and Bing Maps failed to identify any previously unrecorded sites of archaeological potential within the study area. With much of the project areas showing no significant change since 1995.

2.6 TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES

Information on artefact finds from the study area in County Dublin has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information

relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic activity in the study area.

There were no archaeological finds specifically recorded within the area (c.250m) surrounding the project areas. There were two finds located within the Townparks townland (within which the project area is located), and six in an unspecified townland (labelled Swords); none of these have exact locations. The closest finds with specific recorded locations, were a cluster of five, recorded within and around the ecclesiastical enclosure (DU011-034002), now the site of St. Columbas Church (c. 400m southwest of the current project area). See Table 2 below.

Table 2: Stray Finds within the Surrounding Area

NMI No.	Object(s)	Townland.	Location	ITM
1978:7-10	Medieval rim sherd and three medieval potsherds	Townparks (Swords)	-	-
1978:58-59	Medieval rim sherd and sherd of E-Ware	Townparks (Swords)	-	-
1916:39, 41-2	Bronze palstave, socketed axehead, flanged axehead	Swords	-	-
1939:16-17	Flat bronze axehead and palstave	Swords	-	-
E92:335	Flat bronze axehead	Swords	-	-
R81: W57	Bronze Ewer	Swords	-	-
WK 78-83, 117-8, 120	Floor tiles from archiepiscopal palace	Swords	-	-
Wk 77; R1245	Floor tiles from archiepiscopal palace	Swords	-	-
1945:18	Sheela-na-gig	Swords Glebe	No. 4 Brackenstown Road	718010/746659
1969:40-57	2 Bronze Pins; Bronze/Brass Finger Ring and Mount; 2 Coins; Decorated Bone Frag; Bone Pin; 2 Tanged Iron Knives; 2 Lead Frags; Metal Object; Brass Buckle; 4 Glass Beads; Frag of Green Enamel	Swords Glebe	C. 10m NW of St Columbas Church	717983/746720
1973:59-88	Portion of Whetstone; 7 Green-glazed Potsherds; Large Base-wall Sherd; 3 Brown Glazed Potsherds; Frag of Pottery Leg; 17 Misc Abraded Sherds	Swords Glebe	C. 10m S of St Columbas Church	717997/746708
1974:10a-j	2 Flint Chips; 50 Medieval Potsherds	Swords Glebe	The Old Vicarage, c. 75m NE of St Columbas Church	718065/746768
1978:11-12	2 Flint Frags	Swords Glebe	C. 15m W of St Columbas Church	717977/746708

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING

3.1 GENERAL

Test trenching took place from 15th-17th February 2022, using an 8 tonne 360 degree tracked excavator equipped with a flat, toothless bucket under strict archaeological supervision. Any investigated deposits were preserved by record. This was by means of written, drawn and photographic records.

A total of 9 trenches were excavated across the site measuring 114 linear metres (Figure 5, Plates 1-10, Appendix 1). The trenches were laid out in the space available to avoid any known underground and overhead services, and the trench layout was informed by a GPR survey of services across the site. The site was located in Fingal County Council's Executive Car Park, and as such comprised a tarmacadam surface with kerbing and other associated infrastructure.

The test trenches were excavated to determine, as far as reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development. Test trenching was also carried out to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and to assess the degree of archaeological survival in order to formulate further mitigation strategies. These are designed to reduce or offset the impact of the proposed development scheme.

3.2 TESTING RESULTS

As outlined the site is currently used as a car park and the tarmacadam surface was generally between 0.10m and 0.12m thick. This sealed layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding, which varied in depth across the site. Larger stones/rubble deposits were noted in small areas across the site.

Full descriptions of all contexts are included in Appendix 1.

TRENCH 1 (Plate 1)

LENGTH	15m
DEPTH	0.68m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	West-northwest-east-southeast
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.12m	Tarmacadam
0.12–0.68m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding over modern concrete slab/floor
At 0.68m	Upper surface of concrete slabs
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
Natural subsoil was not reached in this trench. A concrete slab surface was encountered at the west-northwest end of the trench at a depth of 0.68m below present ground level (PGL). This extended 7m into the trench. After a gap of 0.63m, a concrete floor surface was noted along the northern side of the trench. It extended a maximum of 0.68m into the trench and continued to the east-southeast of the trench. Part of this floor surface was covered with linoleum. No archaeology found.	

TRENCH 2 (Plate 2)

LENGTH	10m
DEPTH	0.15m – 1.10m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	Northeast-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.60m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding
0.60–0.90m	Large stone/rubble deposit
0.90-1.10m	Brownish grey plastic silty clay (C3). Possibly a medieval garden soil deposit
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised orange clayish sand with frequent root inclusions
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
In the southwest of the trench a large concrete slab was identified directly beneath the tarmacadam.	
In the northeast half of the trench a possible medieval garden soil layer (0.20m deep) consisting of grey silty clay (C3) was identified at a depth of 0.90m. This deposit sealed the linear features described below. No diagnostic material was recovered from this deposit within the trench however it may contain medieval artefacts/animal bone beyond the trench limits.	
Three northeast-southwest oriented linear features, (C4 , C6 and C8), probably furrows, were identified in the northeast end of the trench. They were sealed by the garden soil deposit (C3). Furrow C4 extended from the northeast end of the trench for an exposed length of 1.75m and was 0.50m wide x 0.06m deep and was heavily disturbed by root activity. It was filled by mid-brown plastic silty clay with occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions (C5). Furrow (C6) ran roughly parallel to C4 and had an exposed length of 2.35m, an exposed width of 0.48m and was 0.40m deep. It was filled by pale brownish grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of animal bone, snail shell and charcoal (C7). Nothing dateable was recovered from either of these features. The full extent of the third furrow (C8), was not determined due to the concrete at the southwest end of the trench. The furrow measured 1.36m in exposed length x 0.60m wide x 0.07m deep. It was filled by mid-brown plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal and marine shell (C9).	

TRENCH 3 (Plates 3 and 4)

LENGTH	14m
DEPTH	0.40m – 1.40m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	North-northeast-south-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.78m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding
0.78–1.30m @ north end of trench	Rubble layer comprising stones, concrete blocks, red brick and plastic.
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised yellowish brown sandy clay.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
An east-west oriented, lime mortar bonded stone wall (C10) was recorded at a depth of 0.72m below PGL. It was 0.65m wide and both north and south sides of the wall were faced. The wall had a mixed stone/rubble core. At the eastern edge of the test trench the wall appeared to be faced, possibly indicating the location of an opening/doorway that had subsequently blocked or filled, but given the constraints surrounding extending the test trench this was not fully confirmed.	

Immediately south of the wall, a 2.50m wide, modern trench/disturbance was identified. It was excavated to a depth of 1.40m during testing, but the base was not encountered. It was filled with Clause 804 grade stone. This modern trench/disturbance truncated a deposit of garden soil (C11), which comprised layers of mixed clays 0.38m deep. Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this deposit and animal bone was noted. It extended for 4.25m within the trench, where it abutted a mettalled surface (C12). This surface was 1.45m wide and consisted of two compacted layers of stones that were set within a mottled orangey-brown silty clay containing occasional marine shell. Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from within the mettalled surface.

A limestone drainage gully (C13) was set into the cobbled surface near the southern limit of C12. It comprised two flagstones, both 0.80m long x 0.35m wide, with small stones plugging any space between the flagstones. A fall of 0.10m from east to west was noted on the drainage gully. A layer of brownish grey silt (C14) overlay the gully and one sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this deposit. Garden soils (C15) similar in composition to C11 were noted to the south of mettled surface and gully. One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the garden soils C15.

TRENCH 4 (Plate 5)

LENGTH	3.20m
DEPTH	0.80m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	Northwest-southeast
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.40m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding.
0.40–0.80m	Homogeneous garden soil layer, comprising pale to mid-greyish brown plastic silty clay (C16).
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised pale brown stony, sandy clay.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
A layer of probable garden soil was identified within this short trench, although it was disturbed at the southeast end by a modern water pipe. The deposit has concentrations of animal bone, occasional stones and charcoal inclusions. One sherd of possible medieval pottery was recovered from localised test section in the garden soil layer. It may contain further animal bone and artefacts, such as pottery, from the medieval period.	

TRENCH 5

LENGTH	17m
DEPTH	0.35m (southwest end) – 0.80m (northeast end)
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	Northeast-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.12m	Tarmacadam
0.12–Base	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding.
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised pale brown stony, sandy clay.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
A water pipe was identified extending for 6.5m east-west from the southwest end of the trench. A layer of concrete, 0.80m wide, was noted 12m from the southwest end of the trench, possibly sealing a service pipe/duct. No archaeology found.	

TRENCH 6 (Plate 6)

LENGTH	21m
DEPTH	0.50m – 0.65m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	Northeast-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.65m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised orangey brown silty clay
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
<p>A linear ditch (C17), possibly a former field/property boundary, was recorded towards the southwest end of the trench. It was oriented roughly northwest-southeast and measured 0.90m wide and 0.15m deep, but was truncated on its eastern side by a modern service trench. It was filled by greenish grey plastic sandy clay (C18). One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the fill. A possible continuation of the ditch was identified in Trench 7 (C23) to the south.</p> <p>A northeast-southwest oriented linear ditch (C19) extended along the southeast edge of the test trench. It was truncated at its southwest end by the modern service trench and varied in width from 0.50-0.82m and was 0.25m deep. It was filled by compact greyish brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions and occasional animal bone and charcoal (C20). One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this fill.</p> <p>Ditch C19 was partially overlain by a compacted metallated surface (C21). This surface was comprised of heavily compacted stony gravel containing occasional marine shell inclusions. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this surface.</p>	

TRENCH 7 (Plates 7 and 8)

LENGTH	12m
DEPTH	0.80m – 0.90m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	Northeast-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.65m	Layers of 804 grade road bedding
0.65m–Base	Garden soil layer, comprising mid-grey silty clay with occasional shell inclusions (C22)
Base	Natural subsoil comprised orangey brown stony, sandy clay with bands of grey mottling.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
<p>A possible medieval garden soil layer (0.20m deep) consisting of grey silty clay (C3) was identified at a depth of 0.65m. This deposit sealed the features described below. No diagnostic material was recovered from this deposit within the trench however it may contain medieval artefacts/animal bone beyond the trench limits.</p> <p>A ditch, two pits and three linear features (possibly furrows) were identified towards the southwest end of the trench.</p> <p>The main feature was a north-south oriented linear ditch (C23) that measured 1.90m in exposed length x 1.70m wide and was 0.30m deep. It was filled by mid-greenish grey silty clay with mussel and oyster shell inclusions throughout (C24). Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the fill. Evidence of a fire within the ditch was indicated by scorched natural subsoil on the base and sides of</p>	

the cut. This ditch is possibly the same boundary ditch as ditch (C17) in trench 6.

A circular pit (C31), 0.47m in diameter x 0.10m deep, was adjacent to linear feature C27. It was filled with mottled greyish brown sandy/gritty clay with occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions (C32). A second shallow pit (C33) was at the northeast end of the cluster of features. It extended beyond the northern limit of the trench but had exposed dimensions of 0.80m x 0.35m x 0.04m deep. It was filled by a mid-grey plastic silty clay with green mottling and occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions (C34). Nothing diagnostic was recovered from either pit.

A small linear feature (C25) extended west from linear ditch C23. It measured 0.75m in exposed length x 0.25m wide x 0.18m deep and was filled by mottled grey silty clay with rare inclusions of charcoal and shell (C26). A second small linear feature (C27), oriented northeast-southwest, extended beyond the south-eastern side of the test trench. Its exposed dimensions were 2.30m in length x 0.40m(max) in width x 0.12m deep. It was filled with firm pale grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal and rare shell inclusions (C28). A third linear feature (C29), possibly an agricultural furrow, was northwest-southeast oriented and extended from the north-western side of the trench. It measured 0.90m in exposed length x 0.25-0.40m wide x 0.08m deep. It was filled by firm pale grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal and rare shell inclusions (C30). Nothing diagnostic was recovered from any of the linear features

TRENCH 8 (Plate 9)

LENGTH	10m
DEPTH	0.45m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	North-northeast-south-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.10m	Tarmacadam
0.10–0.40m	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding
Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised orangey brown stony, sandy clay
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
A shallow, roughly north-south oriented, linear feature (C35), possibly an agricultural furrow, extended from the northern end of the trench. It measured 1.70m in exposed length x 0.50m x 0.05m deep. It was filled with pale grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal (C36). Two small sherds of pottery of possible medieval date were recovered from this fill.	
A northwest-southeast oriented stone lined drain was also recorded in this trench. It measured 1.80m in exposed length x 1m wide x 0.40m deep and contained two fills. The upper fill comprised greenish grey silty clay, while the lower fill comprised pale grey silt with no diagnostic material.	
A compact, deposit of stony clay with red brick inclusions was identified in this trench. A grey wavin services pipe was within this material. It was roughly northwest-southeast oriented and measured 1m wide.	

TRENCH 9 (Plate 10)

LENGTH	12m
DEPTH	0.45m – 0.60m
WIDTH	1.80m
ORIENTATION	North-northeast-south-southwest
STRATIGRAPHY FROM PRESENT GROUND LEVEL	
0.0–0.12m	Tarmacadam
0.12–Base	Layers of Clause 804 grade road bedding

Base of trench	Natural subsoil comprised orangey brown stony, sandy clay
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES	
<p>A concrete plinth, 0.75m wide x 1.90m was noted at the south-southwest end of the trench. A concrete-encased drainage culvert extended along the northwestern edge of the trench for 5m. This prevented northern end of the trench being excavated to natural subsoil.</p> <p>No archaeology found.</p>	

Summary of Archaeological Features

Test trenching has revealed localised features and deposits of medieval date across the site. Garden soils, varying in depth between 0.15m-0.40m were identified beneath the road bedding in the northern and eastern area of the car park, in trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7. Four sherds of medieval pottery were identified in the garden soil deposit in trench 3 and a further sherd in trench 4. It is possible that the garden soils found in the three trenches are contemporary and are indicative of a broadly homogenous deposit that could survive across the north and east of the site where there has not been modern disturbance. A metalled surface, with a limestone drainage gully, was also identified in Trench 3 and medieval pottery was recovered from both the metalled surface and silty clay overlying the drainage gully.

In the north of trench 3 an undated, east-west oriented mortared stone wall was identified, however it may relate to a medieval or post-medieval structure.

Further medieval activity was recorded in the east of the site. Trench 7 contained a linear ditch, three small linear features and two pits, all of which were sealed by the garden soil deposit. The linear ditch may represent a field or property boundary that potentially continues into trench 6 to the north. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the ditch fill. The smaller linear features may represent agricultural furrows. No function or date was evident from either of the pits, but they are most likely contemporary with the medieval activity.

In addition to the linear boundary ditch, a second linear feature and a compact metalled surface were recorded in Trench 6. The second feature was partially sealed by a very compact metalled surface. Sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from all three features in trench 6.

Isolated medieval activity was evident in trench 8 in the southwest of the site where a shallow linear feature, possibly a furrow, contained two sherds of possible medieval pottery. In the northeast of the site, in trench 2, three undated linear furrows were sealed by a deposit of garden soil.

Trenches 1, 5 and 9 contained nothing of archaeological significance. Testing of the car park area was restricted by an abundance of underground services and infrastructure – kerbing, trees, access areas etc.

3.4 CONCLUSIONS

The site is located towards the north-eastern boundary of the zone of notification for the Historic Town of Swords RMP DU011-35 and c. 40 m west of the medieval Swords Castle. Swords Castle is a National Monument (No.340), a Recorded Monument (DU011-034001-) and a Protected Structure (No.351). Analysis of the historic mapping indicates the remnants of structures, particularly along North Street from at least the 18th century (Figures 6 and 7), with an intensification of land use in the 19th century. The site was levelled to facilitate use as a carpark in the 1990s.

Testing of the site was limited by numerous underground services, with the test trenches placed in areas identified by GPR survey as being potentially undisturbed by these services.

Testing revealed archaeological remains across the site. Garden soils, up to 0.40m deep were identified in four trenches in the east and northern half of the site. Medieval pottery was recovered from the garden soil in the east and northwest of the test area. It is likely that these garden soils are all contemporary and may represent a homogenous layer that has been heavily disturbed. The garden soils in general sealed the other identified medieval features.

Other medieval activity consisted of a metalled surface with a limestone drain all yielded sherds of medieval pottery in the northwest of the site. An undated mortared stone wall was found in the same trench. In the centre-east area of the site, a possible linear boundary ditch, a very compact metalled surface, pits and furrows were identified with many producing medieval pottery. A series of furrows were evident in the north of the site but produced no diagnostic material, while a similar furrow in the south of the site did produce a medieval pottery sherd.

Testing also revealed areas of modern disturbance across the site, and it is clear from a GPR survey for services carried out before the archaeological works that the site has been heavily truncated by modern services.

The extent of survival of archaeology is difficult to quantify given the extensive modern disturbance of the site and it is likely that it is confined to localised pockets. However, there may be areas with better survival such as the eastern and northern areas of the site where evidence of a medieval garden soil was confirmed. The garden soil deposit sealed medieval features in the form of pits, ditches, metalled surfaces and linear furrows.

Testing also confirmed further modern disturbance (than previously identified by the GPR survey) in a number of trenches, most notably in the north and west of the site. It is also noted that monitoring of ground investigation trial holes identified a post-medieval cobbled surface, possibly associated with a forge (Collins, 2020) in the western area of the site, along the North Street frontage.

4 SIGNIFICANCE OF FINDINGS

The following significance criteria have been taken from Appendix 2 of the Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Impacts of National Road Schemes (2006). They are not presented in any ranking order and can be used to evaluate the significance of an archaeological site, monument or complex. They should not, however, be regarded as definitive, rather an indicator which contributes to a wider judgment based on the individual circumstances of each feature.

Existing Status

The level of protection associated with a monument or complex is an important consideration.

Condition/Preservation

The survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is an important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features. Well-preserved sites should be highlighted, this assessment can only be based on a field inspection.

Documentation/Historical Significance

The significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigations or contemporary documentation supported by written evidence or historic maps. Sites with a definite historical association or an example of a notable event or person should be highlighted.

Group Value

The value of a single monument may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments or with monuments from different periods indicating an extended time presence in any specific area. In some cases it may be preferable to protect the complete group, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within that group.

Rarity

The rarity of some monument types can be a central factor affecting response strategies for development, whatever the condition of the individual feature.

Visibility in the Landscape

It is important to recognise sites that have a limited distribution. Monuments that are highly visible in the landscape have a heightened physical presence. The inter-visibility between monuments may also be explored in this category.

Fragility/Vulnerability

It is important to assess the level of threat to archaeological monuments from erosion, natural degradation, agricultural activity, land clearance, neglect, careless treatment or development.

Amenity Value

The nature of the archaeological evidence cannot always be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons to justify the significance of the feature. This category relates to the probability of monuments producing material of archaeological significance as a result of future investigative work. Regard should be taken of the existing and potential amenity value of a monument.

4.4.1 SCQ – Executive Car Park Site

Existing Status

This site has no statutory protection.

Condition/Preservation

The site has no upstanding remains. The features that do survive on site represent the remains of a medieval ditch, pit and furrow features cut into natural subsoil. Some associated metalled surfaces were also evident and a mortared stone wall of unknown date. Deposits of medieval garden soil are evident, particularly in the east and northern half of the site. The features are heavily truncated by modern services and disturbance.

Documentation/Historical Significance

The development site is within the historic town of Swords and proximate to the medieval Swords Castle. The medieval date for the identified features would be linked to these larger monuments for which there is well document historical significance.

Group Value

The site is within the historic town of Swords and proximate to the medieval Swords Castle.

Rarity

Subject to the level of modern disturbance medieval garden soils and localised pits and ditches would be expected and relatively common in the vicinity of historic towns.

Visibility in the Landscape

This site currently has no surface expression and was not visible in the current landscape.

Fragility/Vulnerability

The site is significantly vulnerable as it will be removed as part of the Swords Cultural Quarter development.

Amenity Value

Excavation and post-excavation analysis of the site may contribute new information on the function and date of the ditch and pit features and the previous use of the site but will not offer any amenity value.

Conclusion

Based on the above criteria the archaeological features within the SCQ – Executive Car Park Site could be considered to be of local significance only.

5 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological resources potentially affected. Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; and burial of sites, limiting access for future archaeological investigation.

5.1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- While finalised construction designs are not available the proposed development consists of a three storey building that will wrap around the Swords District Court House. The development ground works and associated foundation and services excavations will have a negative impact on all sub-surface archaeological remains identified during testing and across the remaining part of the site.
- There may be an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. This will be caused by ground disturbances associated with the proposed development.

5.2 MITIGATION

We recommend the following actions in mitigation of the impacts above.

- Given the extent of the proposed development, it is anticipated that preservation *in situ* will not be feasible. It is recommended that all archaeological features within the construction footprint should be preserved by record through archaeological excavation. This should be carried out under licence to the DoHLGH.
- It is recommended that all further ground disturbances associated with the proposed development within the car park footprint be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation *in-situ* or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoHLGH.

It is the developer's responsibility to ensure full provision is made available for the resolution of any archaeological remains, both on site and during the post excavation process, should that be deemed the appropriate manner in which to proceed.

Please note that all recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service of the Heritage and Planning Division, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

6 REFERENCES

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www.heritagemaps.ie – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural and natural heritage.

www.googleearth.com – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.

www.bingmaps.com – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 CATALOGUE OF PRIMARY DATA

Appendix 1.1 Context Register

CONTEXT NO.	TRENCH NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	All	Tarmacadam and modern bedding material
2		Natural subsoil. Varied across site but generally consisted of orangey brown sandy clay.
3	2	Possible medieval garden soil deposit. Comprised brownish grey plastic silty clay. No datable material recovered.
4	2	NE/SW oriented linear furrow, measuring 1.75m exposed length x 0.50m wide x 0.06m deep.
5	2	Fill of C4. Comprised mid-brown plastic silty clay with occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions.
6	2	NE/SW oriented linear furrow to northwest of C4. Measured 2.35m in exposed length x 0.48m exposed width x 0.40m deep.
7	2	Fill of C6. Comprised pale brownish grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of animal bone, snail shell and charcoal.
8	2	NE/SW oriented linear furrow, partially covered by modern concrete. Measured 1.36m in exposed length x 0.60m wide x 0.07m deep.
9	2	Fill of C8. Comprised mid-brown plastic silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal and marine shell.
10	3	East-west oriented stone wall, 0.72m below present ground level (PGL). It was 0.65m wide x 1.85m exposed length x 0.20m deep, with 2 courses visible. The north and south sides of the wall were faced, with mixed stone infill in the middle of the wall. Near the eastern end of the trench, the east facing part of the wall appeared to have been faced, as though a doorway or opening was originally here. This opening appeared to have been blocked/infilled subsequently. The wall was bonded with pale brown sandy lime mortar.
11	3	Deposit of garden soil, 0.38m deep x 4.25m in length. Comprised layers of mixed clays including natural subsoil-like material. Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this deposit. Truncated on northside by modern pit and abutted on south side by mettled surface.
12	3	Mettled surface. E/W oriented with a total width of 1.45m x 0.18m deep. Stone sizes vary from 0.32m x 0.12m x 0.06m to 0.05m diameter. Possibly two layers of stones with the larger stones forming the upper layer. Set into a mottled orangey brown silty clay containing occasional marine shell. Medieval pottery was recovered from within the stones.
13	3	Limestone drain set into mettled surface C12. Constructed from flagstones, both of which were 0.80m long x 0.35m wide. Small stones were plugging any spaces between the flagstones. A fall of 0.10m from east to west was noted.

14	3	Brownish grey silt overlying drain C13. One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this layer
15	3	Garden soil layer at southwestern end of trench. Similar in composition to C11.
16	4	Garden soil layer. Comprised pale to mid-greyish brown plastic silty clay with concentrations of animal bone, occasional stones and charcoal inclusions. While no dating material was recovered, it is possible that it was cultivated in the medieval period and may contain further bone and artefacts, such as pottery, from that period.
17	6	NW/SE oriented linear ditch, measuring 0.90m wide, but was truncated on its eastern side by a modern services trench. It was 0.15m deep. Steep sides, flat base.
18	6	Fill of C17. Comprised greenish grey plastic sandy clay. One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the fill
19	6	NE/SW oriented linear ditch. It extended along the southeastern edge of the test trench. It was truncated at its southwest end by the modern services trench. It varied in width from 0.50-0.82m and was 0.25m deep. Sides were steep and broke sharply into a flat base.
20	6	Fill of C19. Comprised compact greyish brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions and occasional animal bone and charcoal. One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this fill.
21	6	Mottled surface comprised of heavily compacted stony gravel containing occasional marine shell inclusions. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this surface.
22	7	Garden soil layer, comprising mid-grey silty clay with occasional shell inclusions
23	7	N/S oriented linear ditch. May be same as C17. Measured 1.90m in exposed length x 1.70m wide and was 0.30m deep. Evidence of a fire within the ditch was indicated by scorched natural subsoil on the base and sides of the cut.
24	7	Fill of C23. Comprised mid-greenish grey silty clay with mussel and oyster shell inclusions throughout. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.
25	7	E/W oriented linear feature with steep sides and flat base. May be cut by C23.
26	7	Fill of C25. Comprised mottled grey silty clay with rare inclusions of charcoal and shell.
27	7	NE/SW oriented linear feature that extended beyond the southeastern and southwestern sides of the test trench. Its exposed dimensions were 2.30m in length x 0.20m-0.40m in width x 0.12m deep.
28	7	Fill of C27. Comprised firm pale grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal and rare shell inclusions.
29	7	NW/SE oriented linear feature. It measured 0.90m in exposed length x 0.25-0.40m wide x 0.08m deep.
30	7	Fill of C29. Comprised firm pale grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal and rare shell inclusions.
31	7	Circular pit, 0.47m in diameter x 0.10m deep. Concave sides and base.

32	7	Fill of C31. Mottled greyish brown sandy/gritty clay with occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions.
33	7	Shallow pit that extended beyond northern limits of test trench. Exposed dimensions of 0.80m x 0.35m x 0.04m deep.
34	7	Fill of C33. Mid-grey plastic silty clay with green mottling and occasional charcoal and marine shell inclusions.
35	8	N/S oriented linear feature that extended from the northern end of the test trench. It measured 1.70m in exposed length x 0.50m x 0.05m deep.
36	8	Fill of C35. Comprised pale grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal. One sherd of pottery, possibly medieval was recovered from this fill.

Appendix 1.2 Catalogue of Artefacts

TRENCH NO.	CONTEXT	MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION
3	C11	Ceramic	4 x sherds of medieval pottery
3	C12	Ceramic	4 x sherds of medieval pottery
3	C14	Ceramic	1 x sherd of medieval pottery
3	C15	Ceramic	1 x sherd of medieval pottery
4	C16	Ceramic	1 x sherd of medieval pottery
6	C18	Ceramic	1 x sherd of medieval pottery
6	C20	Ceramic	1 x sherd of medieval pottery
6	C21	Ceramic	2 x sherds of medieval pottery
7	C24	Ceramic	2 x sherds of medieval pottery
8	C36	Ceramic	2 x sherds of possible medieval pottery

APPENDIX 2 RMP SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

SMR NO.	DU011-035
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Miltonsfields, Swords Demsne, Windmill Lands
I.T.M.	718167/746785
CLASSIFICATION	Historic Town
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 200m west
DESCRIPTION	<p>Archbishop Comyn established a borough in Swords in the late 12th century and confirmed the burgesses of Swords in their burgages with an established annual rent of 1s. per burgage (Mc Neill 1950, 32; Bradley and King, 1988, 306-310). An extent of the manor in 1326 noted that there were the 122 burgesses. The settlement was granted a new charter by Elizabeth 1 in 1578 which established it as a parliamentary borough and this was confirmed in 1603 on the accession of James 1.</p> <p>According to D'Alton (1838, 141) the town was considered one of the walled towns of Dublin in 1578. The long linear boundary delimiting the properties on the E side of Main Street is an obvious line for these defences but the S boundary is unclear. The stream would have provided a defence on the W and the parish church (DU011-034004-) may have been protected by remnants of its ecclesiastical enclosure (DU011-034002-).</p> <p>The medieval town was linear in form and was laid out along the present Main Street, which is called High Street in medieval documentation (Mc Neill 1950, 285) focused onto the gates of the Archbishop's castle. There is a reference in a 14th century deed to a lane called Le Camerothe. It ran in an E-W direction and could possibly be the modern Well Road or Seatown Road. A weekly market was confirmed to the archbishops in 1395 and this was located in Main street which expands noticeably towards its N end to accommodate it.</p> <p>There are many references to burgages and individual properties in Archbishop Alen's register but none can be identified with present day properties (Mc Neill 1950, 284). The remains of a number of late medieval houses seems to have survived into the 19th century but none is in evidence now. D'Alton (1838, 136) states that the 'Anchor Inn' still attracts the eye of the traveller by its ancient aspect' and he adds that several houses exhibited the ancient escutcheons of inns, and he listed the Harp, the Anchor, the Black Bull, and the Royal Oak (D'Alton 1838, 137-8).</p>
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

SMR NO.	DU011-036
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Seatown West
I.T.M.	718723/747320
CLASSIFICATION	Earthwork
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 200 north-northeast

DESCRIPTION	Shown on Duncan's map 1821 as an earthwork entitled 'moat'. Currently shown as under a housing estate. Not visible at ground level.
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

SMR NO.	DU011-070
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Swords Demesne
I.T.M.	718383/746805
CLASSIFICATION	Font (present location)
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 300m southwest
DESCRIPTION	Located in porch at north doorway of RC church. This is a round bowl-shaped font decorated with a vine leaf ornamentation. It rests on top of a later pedestal (diam.0.44m, D 0.34m). It has a flat-bottomed interior. Thought to have come from Killossery. Now planted with flowers.
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

SMR NO.	DU011-034001
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Townparks (Nethercross By.)
I.T.M.	718191/747011
CLASSIFICATION	Castle; Anglo-Norman masonry castle
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 400m west
DESCRIPTION	<p>Situated on rising ground at the NE end of Swords Village. Built c. 1200 as the manorial residence of the Archbishop of Dublin (Anon 1914, 260-261). The curtain wall forms an irregular polygon in plan enclosing an area of one and one third acres. The entrance is in the S through a barrel-vaulted archway, which provides access to a range of buildings in the E and W.</p> <p>To the E is the chapel with a residential tower that rises to three storeys with a vaulted ground floor. There is a double-light, trefoil-headed window with transom in the S wall of the 2nd floor of the tower. The chapel is entered from the E wall of the tower and through round-headed doorways in the N wall of the chapel. Fourteenth century tiles were found during excavations of the chapel in the 1970's (Fanning 1975, 47-82). In the SE angle of the curtain wall are traces of a two-storey building with four plain windows and a fireplace in the E wall. This is thought to have been an oratory. A medieval tile pavement came to light in this building during excavations (Fanning 1975, 61ff). Along the E section of curtain wall is a three storey tower immediately S of a building referred to as the 'Great hall' (Anon 1914, 260-261). It has a vaulted ground floor and a stairwell in the NE angle. The first floor is lit by a large window with red sandstone moulding and tracery. There is a domestic range W of the entrance to the castle. The curtain wall is battlemented with parapet walks defended by towers in the E, N and SW sections.</p>

	<p>The impressive N tower is three storeys high with a stairwell in the SW angle. Sandstone has been used in the windows. The SW tower projects beyond the line of the curtain wall. At the SW angle is a turret on a stepped squinch arch and corbels. The buildings to the W of the entrance are made up of three compartments, all barrel-vaulted at ground floor level. The first floor of one of them carries over the gateway. This has a pointed arched window on the S side formed with Dundry stone and red sandstone.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring along the southern boundary of the castle in 1993 revealed a large rock cut ditch c. 2.2m out from the base of the wall. This is thought to be the line of the outer castle moat (Swan 1994, 33). Further test-excavation along the same boundary to the east revealed a minimum depth of 2m of medieval deposits (Licence no. 02E1279). Internally the removal of overburden immediately north of the Knights and Squire's chamber (Licence no.01E002) and monitoring of service insertions (1996-97) in front of Constable's tower revealed the presence of archaeological activity such as wall footings, surfaces and drains, which are preserved under geotextile. In 2009 monitoring (Consent E004376) of service insertions took place outside the gateway arch uncovering two parallel walls traversing the exterior of the castle. Excavations in 2014 within the gatehouse in advance of proposed stabilisation uncovered burials that appear to predate the construction of the gatehouse. As part of the preparation of the Conservation Plan, geophysical survey (Licence no. 11R038) was undertaken within the castle walls identifying possible building foundations. Swords Castle has undergone a series of restoration initiatives based on designs by David Newman Johnson since the mid-1990s. The chapel has recently reopened. Swords castle Conservation Plan was published in 2014.</p>
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

SMR NO.	DU011-034012
RMP STATUS	No
TOWNLAND	Townparks (Nethercross By.)
I.T.M.	718101/746926
CLASSIFICATION	Mill-unclassified
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 500m west
DESCRIPTION	The Down Survey (1655-6) map shows a mill at the north end of Swords village. The corn mill marked on the first edition OS 6-inch map probably occupies the site. A painting by George Holmes c.1790 illustrates a mill wheel to the south of the bridge which is marked on cartographic sources as the Mill bridge. There is a weir at this point in the river. Photographs of a mill wheel and weir from c.1900 are in the National Library collections. A millrace runs along the west side of Swords Castle.
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

APPENDIX 3 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The cultural heritage in Ireland is safeguarded through national and international policy designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource to the fullest possible extent (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands 1999, 35). This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Valletta Convention), ratified by Ireland in 1997.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The *National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014* and relevant provisions of the *National Cultural Institutions Act 1997* are the primary means of ensuring the satisfactory protection of archaeological remains, which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date except buildings habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes. A National Monument is described as ‘a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto’ (National Monuments Act 1930 Section 2). A number of mechanisms under the National Monuments Act are applied to secure the protection of archaeological monuments. These include the Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places, and the placing of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders on endangered sites.

OWNERSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS

The Minister may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

REGISTER OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS

Section 5 of the 1987 Act requires the Minister 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 on the register is illegal without the permission of the Minister. Two months notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. The register also includes sites under Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders. All registered monuments are included in the Record of Monuments and Places.

PRESERVATION ORDERS AND TEMPORARY PRESERVATION ORDERS

Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site

illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES

Section 12(1) of the 1994 Act requires the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (now the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage) to establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes that such monuments exist. The record comprises a list of monuments and relevant places and a map/s showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. All sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1994. All recorded monuments on the proposed development site are represented on the accompanying maps.

Section 12(3) of the 1994 Act provides that 'where the owner or occupier (other than the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage) of a monument or place included in the Record, or any other person, proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such a monument or place, he or she shall give notice in writing to the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to carry out work and shall not, except in case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the work until two months after giving of notice'.

Under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004, anyone who demolishes or in any way interferes with a recorded site is liable to a fine not exceeding €3,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months. On summary conviction and on conviction of indictment, a fine not exceeding €10,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years is the penalty. In addition they are liable for costs for the repair of the damage caused.

In addition to this, under the *European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989*, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are required for various classes and sizes of development project to assess the impact the proposed development will have on the existing environment, which includes the cultural, archaeological and built heritage resources. These document's recommendations are typically incorporated into the conditions under which the proposed development must proceed, and thus offer an additional layer of protection for monuments which have not been listed on the RMP.

THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000

Under planning legislation, each local authority is obliged to draw up a Development Plan setting out their aims and policies with regard to the growth of the area over a five-year period. They cover a range of issues including archaeology and built heritage, setting out their policies and objectives with regard to the protection and enhancement of both. These policies can vary from county to county. The Planning

and Development Act 2000 recognises that proper planning and sustainable development includes the protection of the archaeological heritage. Conditions relating to archaeology may be attached to individual planning permissions.

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2023

10.2 Archaeological Heritage

Protection of the Archaeological Resource

The National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide for the protection of archaeological sites, monuments, artefacts and shipwrecks that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). Although the archaeological resource is finite (refer Appendix 3), sites continue to be discovered. Where new development is being considered, it is therefore advisable to check the National Monuments Service's Archaeological Survey Database on www.archaeology.ie in order to assess the archaeological potential of a site.

Objective CH02

Favour the preservation in situ or at a minimum preservation by record, of archaeological sites, monuments, features or objects in their settings. In securing such preservation the Council will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of the Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Objective CH03

Protect all archaeological sites and monuments, underwater archaeology, and archaeological objects, which are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and all sites and features of archaeological and historic interest discovered subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places, and to seek their preservation in situ (or at a minimum, preservation by record) through the planning process.

Objective CH04

Encourage and promote the appropriate management and maintenance of the County's archaeological heritage, including historical burial grounds, in accordance with conservation principles and best practice guidelines.

Development and the Archaeological Resource

Archaeology is a non-renewable resource in that once an archaeological feature or site is excavated or removed it is gone forever from the landscape. Therefore, any proposed development should consider the potential impact on archaeology in the very earliest stages and seek to avoid affecting archaeological features or sites and their setting. This includes development along or in Fingal's rivers, coastline and tidal estuaries. Currently 40% of the recorded archaeological sites within Fingal are sub-surface. Therefore, any development has the potential to uncover previously unknown archaeological sites.

Objective CH05

Ensure archaeological remains are identified and fully considered at the very earliest stages of the development process, that schemes are designed to avoid impacting on the archaeological heritage.

Objective CH06

Require that proposals for linear development over one kilometre in length; proposals for development involving ground clearance of more than half a hectare; or developments in proximity to areas with a density of known archaeological monuments and history of discovery; to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment and refer such applications to the relevant Prescribed Bodies.

Objective CH07

Ensure that development within the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Zone of Archaeological Notification does not seriously detract from the setting of the feature, and is sited and designed appropriately.

Objective CH08

Develop a policy in relation to the treatment of archaeological monuments within open space of developments. A different designation from that of open space will be applied where sub-surface archaeological remains are incorporated to differentiate the area.

Objective CH09

Recognise the importance of archaeology or historic landscapes and the connectivity between sites, where it exists, in order to safeguard them from developments that would unduly sever or disrupt the relationship and/or inter-visibility between sites.

Objective CH10

Co-operate with other agencies in the assessment of the potential for climate change to impact on coastal, riverine, inter-tidal and sub-tidal sites and their environments including shipwreck sites.

Objective CH11

Encourage reference to or incorporation of significant archaeological finds into development schemes, where appropriate and sensitively designed, through layout, displays, signage, plaques, information panels and by using historic place names and the Irish language where appropriate.

Awareness and the Archaeological Resource

There are currently 1015 known archaeological sites and monuments in Fingal. These vary from the familiar-churches, graveyards, castles, windmills and holy wells to sites that survive only beneath the surface-settlements, burials, ditches and pits. All of these sites contain unique information about our past and the people who lived in

Fingal before us. They also form a resource for education, for communities and for tourism. The Council owns or is responsible for almost 20% of all the archaeological sites within Fingal.

Objective CH12

Promote best practice for archaeological excavation by ensuring that they are undertaken according to best practice as outlined by the National Monuments Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, The National Museum and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland.

Objective CH13

Actively support the dissemination of the findings of archaeological investigations and excavations through the publication of excavation reports thereby promoting public awareness and appreciation of the value of archaeological resources.

Objective CH14

Identify Zones of Archaeological Notification that contain clusters of Recorded Monuments or have a significant history of the discovery of archaeological sites, features and objects in order to allow for their designation, protection of their setting and environs.

Objective CH15

Raise public awareness of the cultural heritage and improve legibility by providing appropriate signage or interpretation in areas, sites, villages, and buildings of archaeological and historic significance

Objective CH16

Develop and implement the findings of the Community Archaeology Strategy for Fingal.

Objective CH17

Support the growth of cultural tourism in the County, including the potential for niche heritage-based tourism products by facilitating the development of heritage events, infrastructure such as heritage trails, walkways and cycleways etc. and activities such as community excavation.

Objective CH18

Manage the archaeological sites and monuments that Fingal County Council owns or is responsible for according to best practice and according to Conservation Plans where they exist.

APPENDIX 4 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REMAINS

Impacts are defined as ‘the degree of change in an environment resulting from a development’ (Environmental Protection Agency 2003: 31). They are described as profound, significant or slight impacts on archaeological remains. They may be negative, positive or neutral, direct, indirect or cumulative, temporary or permanent.

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological and historical resources potentially affected. Development can affect the archaeological and historical resource of a given landscape in a number of ways.

- Permanent and temporary land-take, associated structures, landscape mounding, and their construction may result in damage to or loss of archaeological remains and deposits, or physical loss to the setting of historic monuments and to the physical coherence of the landscape.
- Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping and the passage of heavy machinery; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; or burial of sites, limiting accessibility for future archaeological investigation.
- Hydrological changes in groundwater or surface water levels can result from construction activities such as de-watering and spoil disposal, or longer-term changes in drainage patterns. These may desiccate archaeological remains and associated deposits.
- Visual impacts on the historic landscape sometimes arise from construction traffic and facilities, built earthworks and structures, landscape mounding and planting, noise, fences and associated works. These features can impinge directly on historic monuments and historic landscape elements as well as their visual amenity value.
- Landscape measures such as tree planting can damage sub-surface archaeological features, due to topsoil stripping and through the root action of trees and shrubs as they grow.
- Ground consolidation by construction activities or the weight of permanent embankments can cause damage to buried archaeological remains, especially in colluviums or peat deposits.
- Disruption due to construction also offers in general the potential for adversely affecting archaeological remains. This can include machinery, site offices, and service trenches.

Although not widely appreciated, positive impacts can accrue from developments. These can include positive resource management policies, improved maintenance and access to archaeological monuments, and the increased level of knowledge of a site or historic landscape as a result of archaeological assessment and fieldwork.

PREDICTED IMPACTS

The severity of a given level of land-take or visual intrusion varies with the type of monument, site or landscape features and its existing environment. Severity of impact can be judged taking the following into account:

- The proportion of the feature affected and how far physical characteristics fundamental to the understanding of the feature would be lost;
- Consideration of the type, date, survival/condition, fragility/vulnerability, rarity, potential and amenity value of the feature affected;
- Assessment of the levels of noise, visual and hydrological impacts, either in general or site specific terms, as may be provided by other specialists.

APPENDIX 5 MITIGATION MEASURES & THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE REMAINS

Mitigation is defined as features of the design or other measures of the proposed development that can be adopted to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset negative effects.

The best opportunities for avoiding damage to archaeological remains or intrusion on their setting and amenity arise when the site options for the development are being considered. Damage to the archaeological resource immediately adjacent to developments may be prevented by the selection of appropriate construction methods. Reducing adverse effects can be achieved by good design, for example by screening historic buildings or upstanding archaeological monuments or by burying archaeological sites undisturbed rather than destroying them. Offsetting adverse effects is probably best illustrated by the full investigation and recording of archaeological sites that cannot be preserved *in situ*.

DEFINITION OF MITIGATION STRATEGIES

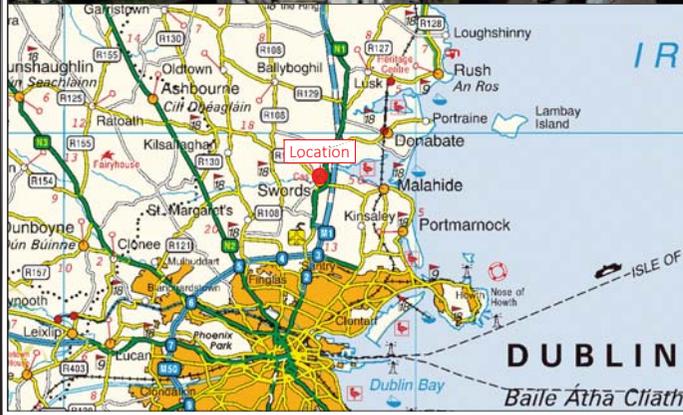
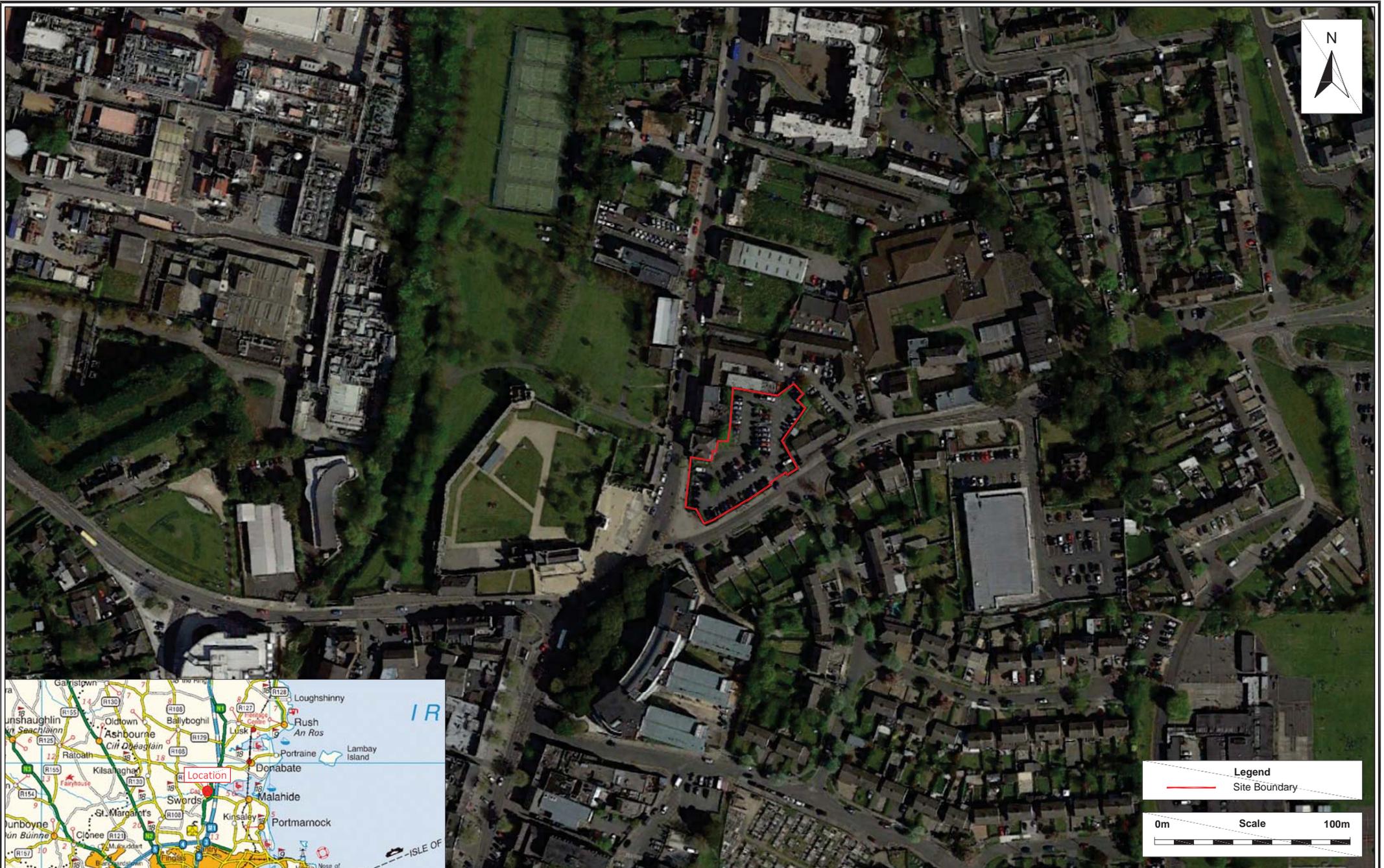
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The ideal mitigation for all archaeological sites is preservation *in situ*. This is not always a practical solution, however. Therefore a series of recommendations are offered to provide ameliorative measures where avoidance and preservation *in situ* are not possible.

Full Archaeological Excavation involves the scientific removal and recording of all archaeological features, deposits and objects to the level of geological strata or the base level of any given development. Full archaeological excavation is recommended where initial investigation has uncovered evidence of archaeologically significant material or structures and where avoidance of the site is not possible. (CifA 2014b)

Archaeological Test Trenching can be defined as ‘a limited programme... of intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present test trenching defines their character and extent and relative quality.’ (CifA 2014a)

Archaeological Monitoring can be defined as a ‘formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area or site on land or underwater, where there is possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.’ (CifA 2014c)



Legend
 — Site Boundary

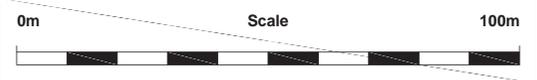
Scale
 0m ————— 100m

Title	Site location	Scale	1:2500@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	08/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	1
				Rev.	-

DUBLIN IAC Archaeology
 Baile Átha Cliath

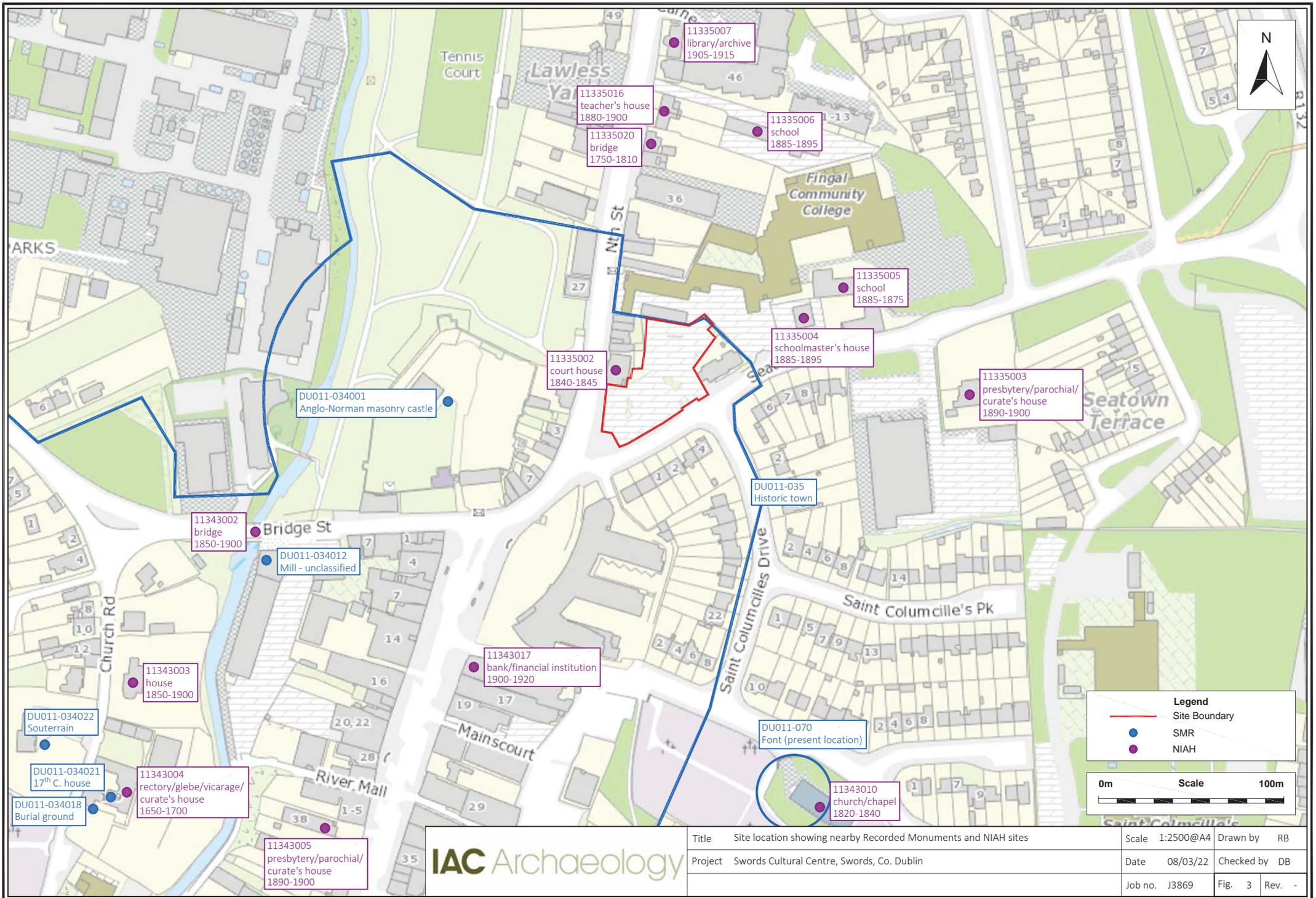


Legend	
—	Testing Site Boundary
—	Development Boundary
■	County Offices
■	Cultural Centre
■	Public Area



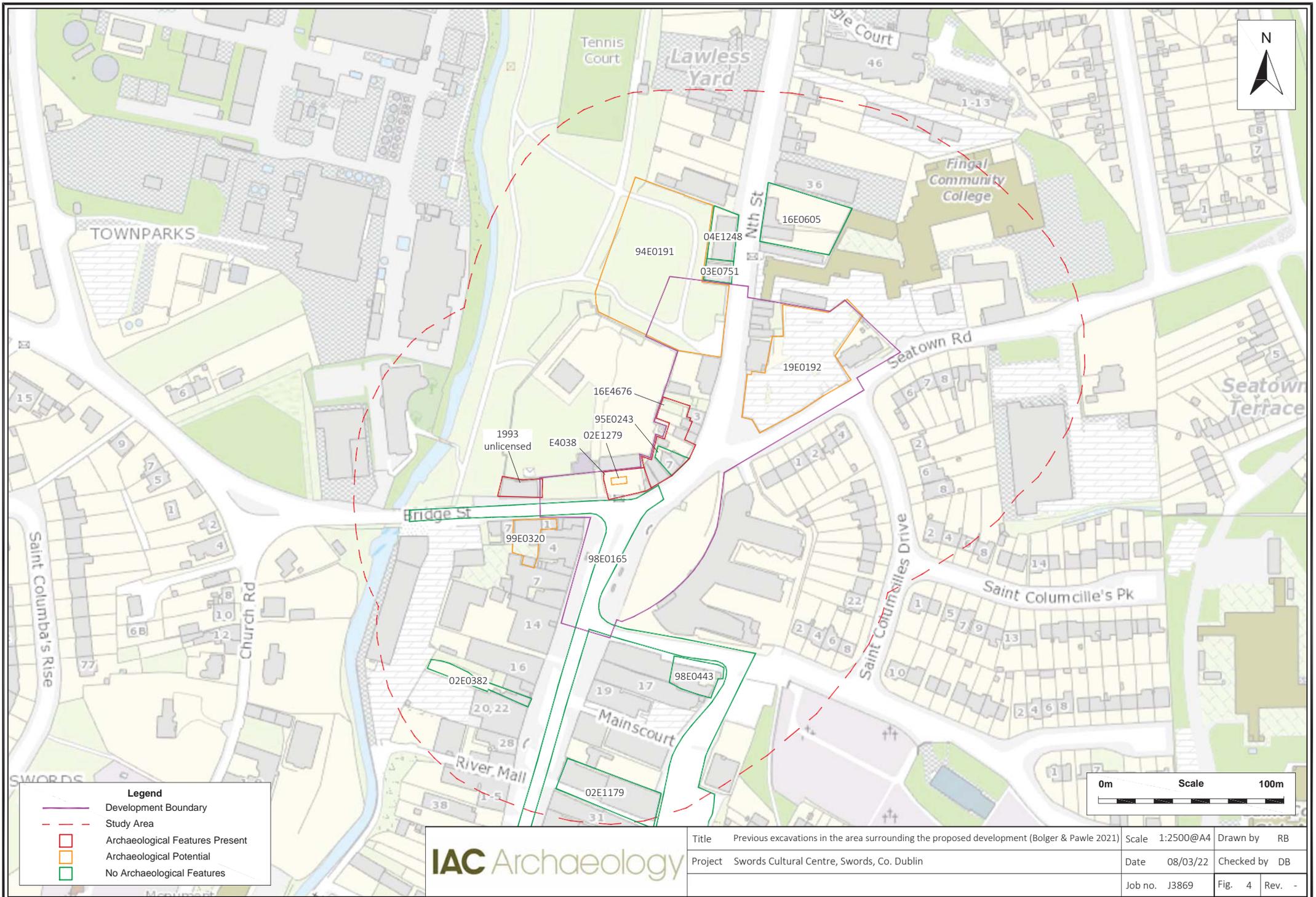
IAC Archaeology

Title	Plan of proposed overall Cultural Quarter development showing site location	Scale	1:1500@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	14/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	2
				Rev.	1



IAC Archaeology

Title	Site location showing nearby Recorded Monuments and NIAH sites	Scale	1:2500@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	08/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	3
				Rev.	-



Legend

- Development Boundary
- Study Area
- Archaeological Features Present
- Archaeological Potential
- No Archaeological Features

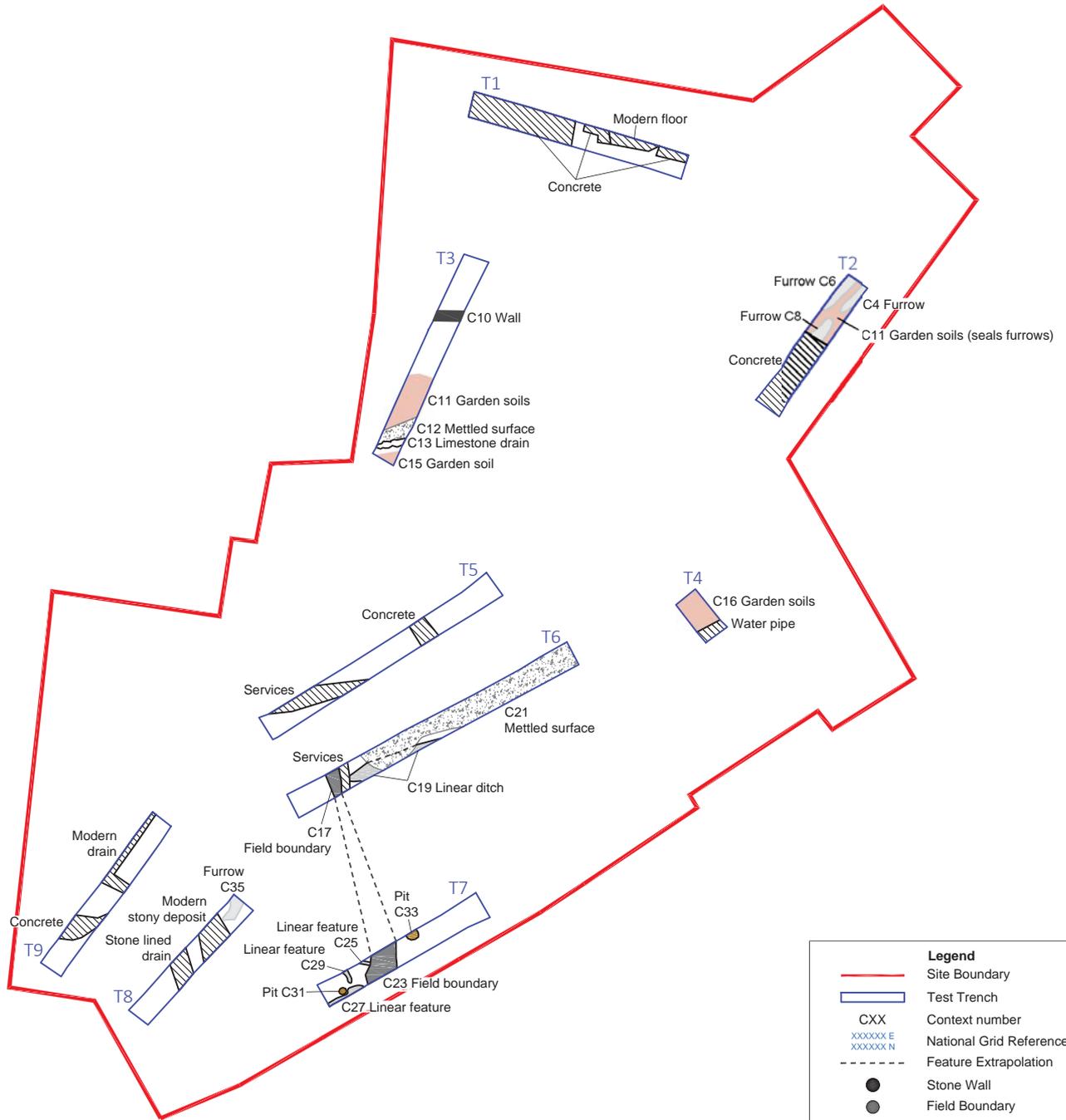
IAC Archaeology

Title	Previous excavations in the area surrounding the proposed development (Bolger & Pawle 2021)	Scale	1:2500@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	08/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	4
				Rev.	-



+ 718280 E
747060 N

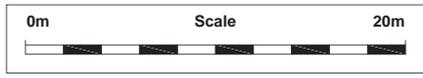
+ 718340 E
747060 N



+ 718280 E
747980 N

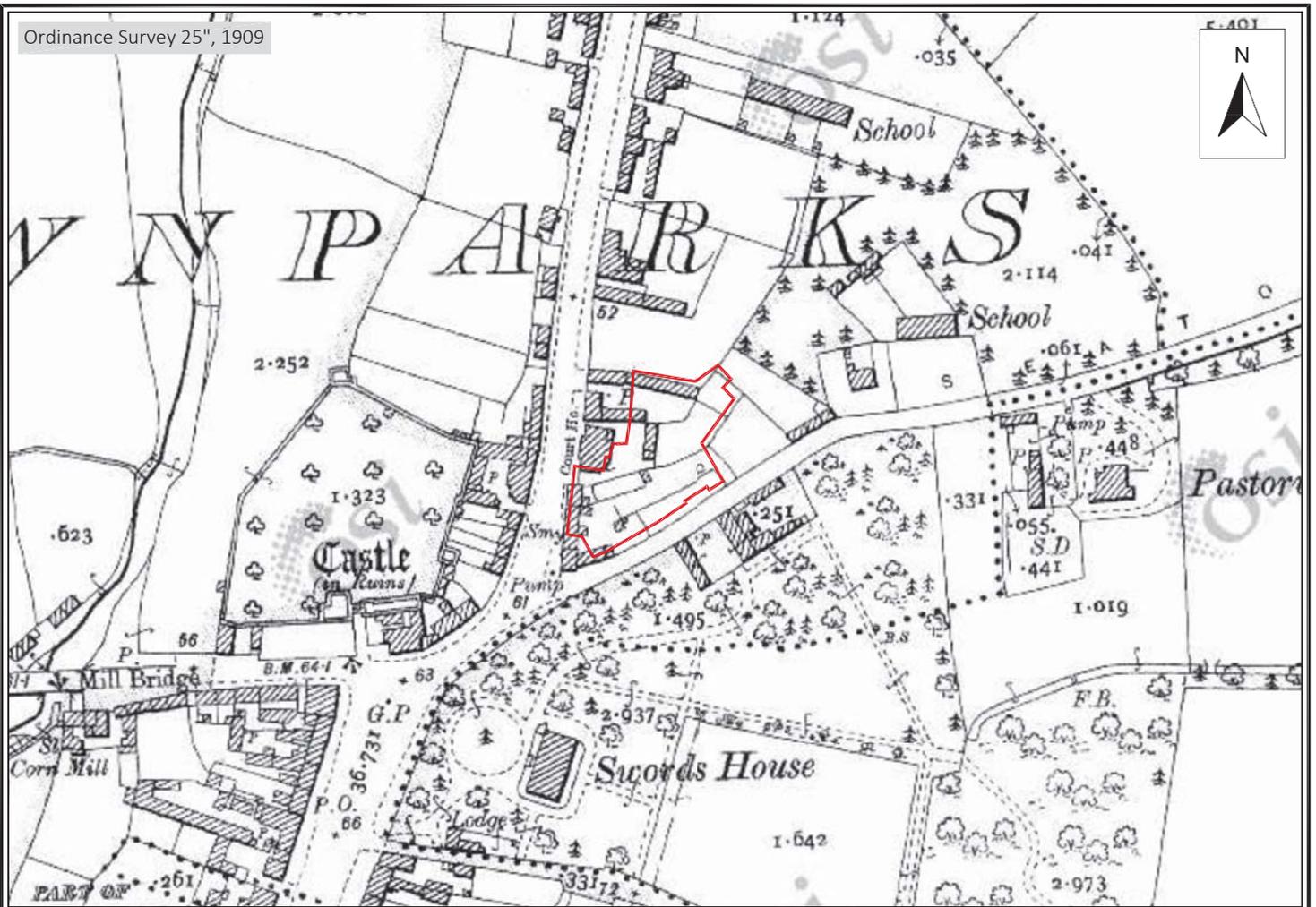
Legend

- Site Boundary
- Test Trench
- CXX Context number
- XXXXXX E
XXXXXX N National Grid Reference
- - - - - Feature Extrapolation
- Stone Wall
- Field Boundary
- Linear Feature
- Drain
- Furrow
- Pit
- Garden soils
- Mottled Surface
- Modern



Title	Plan of excavated test trenches	Scale	1:400@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	08/03/22	Checked by	DB
		Job no.	J3869	Fig.	5
				Rev.	-

Ordinance Survey 25", 1909



Ordinance Survey Cassini, 1937

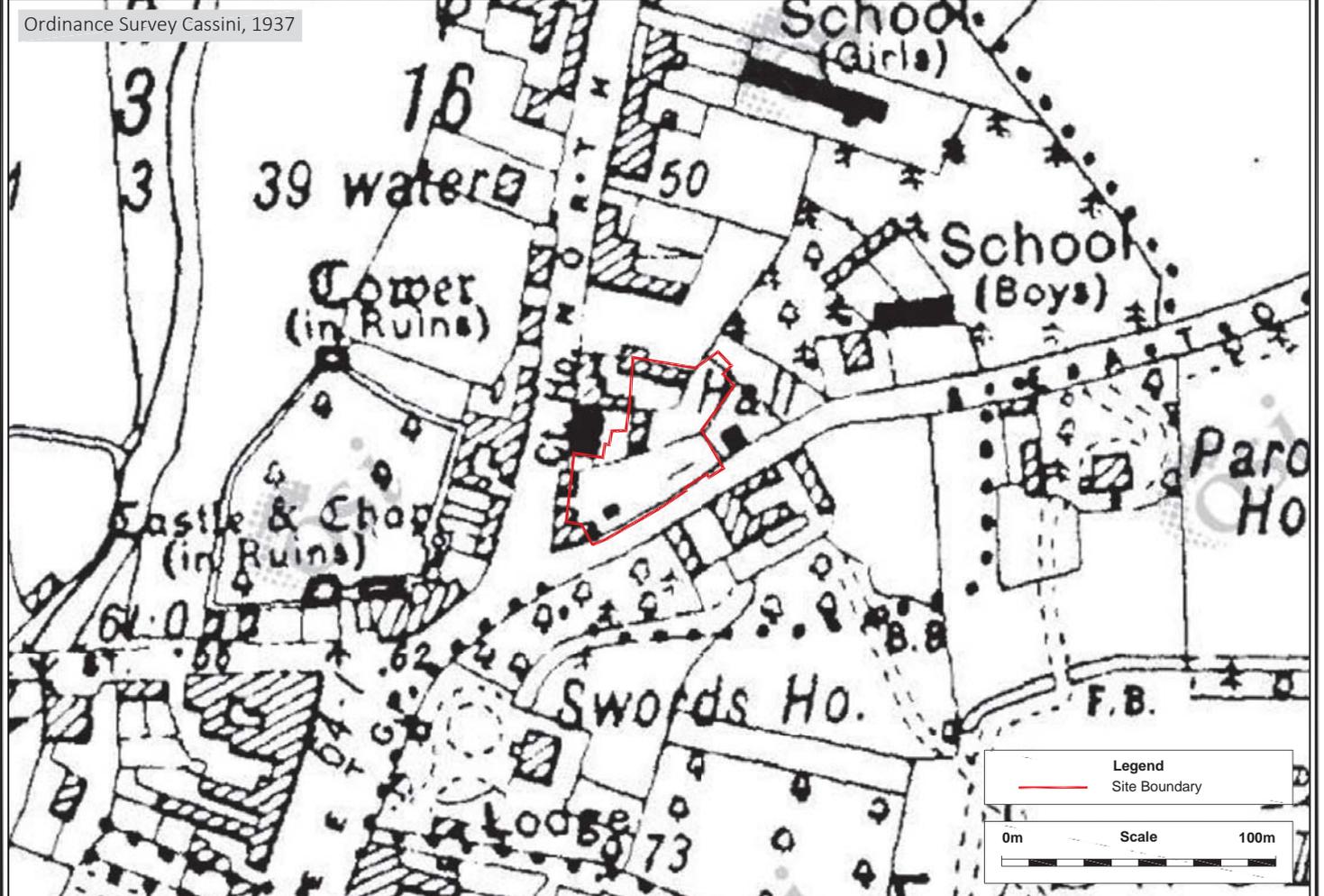




Plate 1 Trench 1, facing east-southeast, showing concrete slab



Plate 2 Trench 2, facing southwest, showing linear features C4, C6 and C8



Plate 3 Trench 3, facing west showing wall C10



Plate 4 Trench 3, facing northeast, showing mottled surface C12, limestone drain C13 and garden soils C11 and C15



Plate 5 Trench 4, garden soils C16 in section, facing northeast



Plate 6 Trench 6, ditch C17, facing northeast



Plate 7 Trench 7, ditch C23 and linear feature C25, facing south



Plate 8 Trench 7, pit C31 and linear features C27 and C29 facing northeast



Plate 9 Trench 8, facing southwest



Plate 10 Trench 9, facing northeast

APPENDIX 7 RESULTS OF BUILT HERITAGE SURVEY

**ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY
AT
SWORDS CULTURAL QUARTER,
SWORDS,
CO. DUBLIN**

ON BEHALF OF: FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

AUTHORS: ROBERT HANBIDGE AND ENDA LYDON

DATE: MARCH 2022

IAC PROJECT REF.: J3896

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

DATE	DOCUMENT TITLE	REV.	PREPARED BY	REVIEWED BY	APPROVED BY
16.03.22	Architectural Survey at Swords Cultural Quarter, Co. Dublin	0	Robert Hanbidge		

ABSTRACT

This report has been prepared on behalf of Fingal County Council, to present the findings of a Type B Architectural Survey of a ruined structure in advance of a proposed landscape development, a component of the Swords Cultural Quarter project, located in Swords, North County Dublin (Figure 1, ITM 718265, 747045). The report was undertaken by Robert Hanbidge of IAC Archaeology and the site was surveyed by Enda Lydon. It follows from an Archaeological Strategy Report compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd. (Bolger & Pawle 2021).

In 2015, Fingal County Council commissioned an Architectural Masterplan for Swords Civic & Cultural Quarter. The Masterplan sought to ‘draw out the potential of the existing town centre focusing on the castle environs as a new cultural hub an area which can instil and foster a sense of place and civic pride and also act as a counterpoint to the shopping and business areas of the town.’ The key initiative identified was the development of a major civic space and public space, a new Civic & Cultural Centre to sit alongside the Fingal County Council Offices at the civic heart of the town. The area to the west of North Street where this structure is located, will be a landscaped area which is currently under design. It is intended that the landscaping will be tailored to the suit the existing topography.

The subject of this architectural survey is a freestanding single-storey former building that is currently in a ruinous condition. It is positioned along the eastern boundary of Swords Park which fronts directly onto North Street. The interior space of this ruinous structure was not accessible at the time of this survey and is currently full of overgrowth and shrubbery. This building was previously identified as structure of Cultural Heritage significance (designated No. CH20) in an Archaeological Strategy Report which was compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd (Bolger & Pawle 2021). The structure incorporates elements of an earlier probable nineteenth century building and has undergone later adaptations. It is likely to have last served as an outhouse either, possibly as a store or as an animal house. Much of the structure especially to the rear elevation has been completely reconstructed in recent years which utilised the available historic masonry including the reusing of historic bricks to provide detailing around the window and door openings. The building will be directly and negatively impacted upon by the proposed development. This report serves to mitigate the potential negative impact of this proposed development through “Preservation by Record”.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The following report describes the results of a Type B Architectural Survey which has been carried out in advance of the proposed landscape development, a component of the Swords Cultural Quarter project, located in Swords, North County Dublin (Figure 1, ITM 718265, 747045). This survey has been carried out to compile a comprehensive written and illustrated record of the ruins of a nineteenth century building which is located within the eastern area of Swords Park which will be directly impacted upon. This ruined building fronts directly onto North Street. This report was undertaken by Robert Hanbidge of IAC Archaeology (IAC) and the site was surveyed by Enda Lydon. This building was previously identified as structure of Cultural Heritage significance (designated No. CH20) in an Archaeological Strategy Report which was compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd. (Bolger & Pawle 2021).

The architectural survey consisted of creating a detailed architectural description of the upstanding remains and the formation of a measured photogrammetric survey. Control points were established via a RTK enabled GPS unit. From the photogrammetry survey, scaled elevational and plan drawings of the structure were produced. This report also examined the contextual setting of this structure within the surrounding streetscape and environs. This included information from the Record of Protected Structures from Fingal County and structures surveyed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH).

The interior of this ruinous structure was not accessible at the time of this survey and is currently full of overgrowth and shrubbery. As a result, no detailed inspection could be completed on the interior layout.

1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

In 2015, Fingal County Council commissioned the creation of a Masterplan for the Swords Civic & Cultural Quarter. The plan sought to:

'...draw out the potential of the existing town centre focusing on the castle environs as a new cultural hub- an area which can instil and foster a sense of place and civic pride and also act as a counterpoint to the shopping and business areas of the town.'

The proposed project plans to develop a major Civic and Public space, introducing a Civic & Cultural Centre near the present Fingal County Council Offices in the heart of Swords town. The Swords Cultural Quarter has an overall site area of 15,751m² and comprises:

- The road junction of North Street, Seatown Road, Bridge Street and Main Street,
- Fingal County Council Executive car park (site area; 2,400m²) at the junction of North Street and Seatown Road;
- St. Michael's House, Seatown Road (site area: 542m²);

- Swords District Court House (a Protected Structure, RPS No. 350);
- 4no. terraced 2-storey commercial/retail properties at No. 20 North Street;
- Fingal County Hall external public space (site area: 1,881m²);
- Vacant plots at No.'s 1-7,13,15,17 and 17a North Street adjacent to Swords Castle;
- The existing side entrance area of Swords Park Accessed from North Street, Swords.

While the project scheme is still being finalised, the key components to this area include:

- The area to the west of North Street will be a landscaped area which is currently under design. It is intended that the landscaping will be tailored to suit the existing topography.
 - The Archaeological Strategy Report (Bolger and Pawle 2021) identified that any construction groundworks within this proposed landscaped area could uncover previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features relating to the historic town of Swords (CH002), the area of archaeological potential at the east and north of Swords Castle curtilage (CH014) including the post-medieval structures depicted on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping (CH020).

2 METHODOLOGY

Research for this report was undertaken in two phases. The first phase involved a paper survey of all available historical and cartographic sources and the establishment of the required survey specification. The second phase comprised of measured survey of the upstanding remains to acquire data to complete a photogrammetry survey. The survey data which was obtained in the field was processed and a 3-D photogrammetry survey with scaled elevational and plan drawings were produced.

2.1 PAPER SURVEY

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Dublin;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Dublin;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders List;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- Fingal County Development Plan 2017–2023;
- Aerial photographs;
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.
- Specification: Type B Architectural Survey

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a list of archaeological sites known to the National Monuments Section, which are afforded legal protection under Section 12 of the 1994 National Monuments Act and are published as a record.

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds documentary evidence and field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g., only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Section as ‘un-located sites’ and cannot be afforded legal protection due to lack of locational information. As a result, these are omitted from the Record of Monuments and Places. SMR sites are also listed on a website maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) – www.archaeology.ie.

National Monuments in State Care Database is a list of all the National Monuments in State guardianship or ownership. Each is assigned a National Monument number whether in guardianship or ownership and has a brief description of the remains of each Monument.

The Minister for the DoHLGH may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or

guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

Preservation Orders List contains information on Preservation Orders and/or Temporary Preservation Orders, which have been assigned to a site or sites. Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

Cartographic sources are important in tracing land use development within the development area as well as providing important topographical information on areas of archaeological potential and the development of buildings. Cartographic analysis of all relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies or structures that no longer remain within the landscape.

- William Petty's Down Survey map of the Barony of Nethercross, 1656
- John Rocque's Map of Dublin, 1760
- Ordnance Survey maps of County Dublin, 1836, 1906, 1937

Documentary sources were consulted to gain background information on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage landscape of the proposed development area.

Development Plans contain a catalogue of all the Protected Structures and archaeological sites within the county. The Fingal County Development Plan (2017–2023) was consulted to obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

Aerial photographic coverage is an important source of information regarding the precise location of sites and their extent. It also provides initial information on the terrain and its likely potential for archaeology. A number of sources were consulted including aerial photographs held by the Ordnance Survey and Google Earth.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage is a state initiative established under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999 tasked with making a nationwide record of significant local, regional, national and international structures, which in turn provides county councils with a guide as to what structures to list within the Record of Protected Structures. The NIAH have also carried out a nationwide desk-based survey of historic gardens, including demesnes that surround large houses.

Specification (Type B Survey) A general description of the structure making reference to its location and setting, condition, fabric, dimensions, and any visible

evidence for its use or probable history. In addition to any general description of the structure, customised building recording sheets should be used to record the fabric, dimensions, location, features and significant relations of each and every elevation. For complex, multi-period buildings, it may be appropriate to assign numbered recording sheets to all individual features (e.g., blocking in a window or a row of corbels). Terminology should follow a standard architectural dictionary.

Photographs should record, at a minimum, the setting of the structure (including any related features), the main elevation and any other elevation showing features of special interest as well as detailed photographs of these features.

Measured drawings and plans must include the following:

- A topographic site plan showing the relevant structure and any nearby structures - the site area must be recorded, at a minimum as an annotated or contoured site plan showing boundaries and representative ground profiles. Control points for all aspects of the survey should be established from the outset within a single three-dimensional survey grid referenced to Ordnance Datum and the National Grid
- Detailed annotated ground plan of the structure and representative profiles - this must provide an accurate, detailed record of the ground plan and internal layout of the structure and representative sectional profiles. Where more than one floor is present within the structure a plan of each floor level should be recorded.
- Detailed, annotated elevation drawings of main external elevation and key internal elevation and any significant features.

Survey data shall be digitally recorded, and drawings generated in CAD compatible formats. Survey drawings shall be produced at a scale appropriate to the size and complexity of the features being recorded, interpretatively annotated, located in the National Grid and fit for publication.

2.2 SITE SURVEY

To determine the extent and nature of upstanding architectural and historical remains, and can also lead to the identification of previously unrecorded architectural details through topographical observation. In addition, by carrying out a measured survey along with obtaining a photographic record and completing a detailed description noting and recording the condition, fabric and dimensions of the structure and any details within it, the feature may be preserved by record.

The Site Survey comprised of measured survey of the upstanding remains. Control points were established using a RTK enabled GPS. Data was acquired for the photogrammetry survey using a DSLR camera to capture multiple high-resolution photographs of the upstanding remains from various angles and heights. An extending monopod with an adjustable camera mount was used to assist in acquiring

elevated photographs of the structure. The survey data which was obtained in the field was processed using Agisoft, a photo-grammetric software solution for automatic generation of dense point clouds, textured polygonal models, georeferenced true orthomosaics. From the processed 3-D photogrammetry model, scaled elevational and plan drawings could be extracted.

* The interior of this ruinous structure was not accessible at the time of this survey and is currently full of overgrowth and shrubbery. As a result, no detailed survey could be obtained on the exact nature of the interior layout.

3 RESULTS OF ARCHITECTURAL AND PHOTOGRAMMETRY SURVEY

3.1 BACKGROUND

This structure is located along the eastern edge of Swords Park and fronts directly onto North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin. It is positioned within the townland of Townparks which is in the parish of Swords in the Barony of Nethercross. The site was first identified in an Archaeological Strategy Report which was compiled by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd as a site of Cultural Heritage and was assigned the designated number: CH020 (Bolger & Pawle 2021). This Archaeological Strategy Report notes that this ruined building was one of seven identifiable cultural heritage sites that were illustrated on cartographic sources within the study area (100m of the proposed development) (*ibid*). The surrounding sites of cultural heritage that were also identified in this report consist of:

- A series of dwellings that are depicted on both sides of North Street (CH018–CH022) on the 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey mapping,
- The site of a pump (CH017) which was depicted at the corner of North Street and Seatown Road on the Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910/11)
- Swords House (CH023).

This structure is also located c. 24m to the northeast of the walls of Swords Castle (DU011-034001). Swords Castle is National Monument (No. 340) and is also listed as a Protected Structure (RPS No.:350). The site is also within the zone of notification for the Historic Town of Swords (DU011-035).

3.2 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

William Petty's Down Survey map of the Barony of Nethercross, 1656

In this map Swords castle is depicted as a simple tower, with a parish church located to the northwest of the castle, depicted on the Parish Map of Swords (drawn by Wilson & Weft 1656). The structures are indicated as lying on fortified lands that formed 'Parte of Blackhall' (Reeners 2014, 35). The location of the proposed project development and the position of this ruined building, is not depicted in any great detail on this map. This building would have occupied an area lying directly above the depicted castle.

John Rocque's Map of Dublin, 1760

This map depicts the development of street layouts within Swords town, with Bridge Street, North Street, Seatown Road, and Main Street all depicted. The castle is indicated on this map as an almost cruciform shape. With structures having been built along either side of what today is North Street. The structures to the western side of North Street (identical to the east side) where this ruined building currently stands, are all depicted as forming a continuous terrace with the rear (western) areas the location of enclosed gardens.

First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" Map, 1837, scale 1:10,560 (Figure 2)

This is the first accurate historic mapping coverage of the area containing the proposed scheme. Similar to John Rocque's map (1760), this map depicts the western side of North Street as a continuous terrace of buildings. The location of this ruined building is shown as forming the northern part of a possible pair of buildings which are linked to the rear by a shared projecting end-bay (or an attached outbuilding). Both structures are linked by an identical sized enclosing wall. A small outbuilding is located to the northwest corner of the plot that is portably associated with this site. A larger enclosed square area is present to the rear which links into the enclosing walls of Swords Castle to the southwest. The ruined building is also located opposite a corner-sited building to the eastern side of North Street which, overlooks a gap or a break in the streetscape to the south.

Ordnance Survey 25" Map, 1907, scale 1:2,500 (Figure 2)

This map depicts notable changes in the streetscape where this ruined building is located. The building to the north of this structure has been removed and is depicted as an open area. The rear shared projecting end-bay or attached outbuilding is also no longer standing as is the small outbuilding to the northwest. The immediate enclosing plot or garden walls are also no longer present by the time that this map was surveyed. Immediately opposite on the eastern side of North Street, the corner-sited building is still present and the former gap or break in the streetscape is now occupied by the courthouse.

Ordnance Survey Cassini 1937, scale 1:10,560 (Figure 3)

This map shows a relatively similar representation as the Ordnance Survey 25" Map (1907) with the only exception of a possible (freestanding) outbuilding located to the west. This map does illustrate that to southern side of this building, the terrace was still complete heading into the mid-twentieth century. There is no evidence of any attached building or intersecting walls to the southern elevation today.

3.3 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

3.4.1 Record of Protected Structures

The Fingal Development Plan (2017-2023) recognises the value of the built heritage to the city and is committed to the protection and enhancement of this heritage by providing measures for the protection of architectural heritage. These include the establishment of a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) and the designation of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) which are detailed in Appendix 2.

There are two structures included on the RPS within a 100m radius of the proposed development, all situated within the townland of Townparks (Table 1; Figure 2; Appendix 2). The nearest of these is the court house (RPS350) which is located c. 15m to the east-southeast

Of these two protected structures, Swords Castle (located c. 24m to the southwest) is listed on both the RMP (DU011-034001) and is a National Monument (No.: 340). This

site is also located within the Zone of Notification for the Historic Town of Swords DU011-035 (Appendix 3). The remaining structure, the courthouse is also listed on the NIAH Survey.

TABLE 1: Protected Structures

RPS NO.	NAME	DISTANCE FROM DEVELOPMENT	DESIGNATION
350	Courthouse	c. 15m to the east-southeast	RPS, NIAH
351	Swords Castle	c. 24m to the southwest	RPS, RMP, National Monument

3.4 NATIONAL INVENTORY OF ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

3.4.1 Building Survey

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage survey of Dublin records a number of structures within the Fingal area. A review of the architectural survey was undertaken as part of this assessment and included buildings within 100m of the study area. There is one structure listed on the NIAH building survey, (Table 2, Appendix 2).

TABLE 2: NIAH Structures

NIAH NO.	CLASSIFICATION	DISTANCE FROM DEVELOPMENT	DESIGNATION
11335002	Courthouse	c. 15m to the east-southeast	RPS, NIAH

3.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995–2018), Google Earth (2008–2021), and Bing Maps revealed that the building may have existed as a ruin since at least 1995. Although the 1995 imagery does not provide great detail or clarity of what was present at this site, it does look like the structure was roofless and overgrown.

3.6 BUILDING SURVEY

The building consists of a rectangular single-storey structure which fronts directly onto North Street (Figures 5 - 7, Plates 1 - 4). It measures 9.24m long (north/south) by 5.57m wide (east/west) to the south, and 5.55m wide to north. It survives to a height of 3.16m. A width to the wall at the side (south) elevation measured 0.23m thick. The eaves level is at 3.10m high to the front (east) elevation. An inner leaf of concrete blocks appears to extend fully around the interior of the external walls acting as a support to the external masonry leaf (which are relatively thin). This supporting concrete blockwork partial extends above the eaves level to all elevations.

The building is in a ruinous state with no roof with just the external walls surviving to the front (east), rear (west), side (north) elevations and partially to the side (south) elevation. There is no indication of the original form of the roof either, although some historic masonry does extend above the eaves to the side (south) (above the modern pier to the enclosing walls of Swords Park).

The original sections of the walls which are present to the front and part of the side (north) elevations, consist of roughly dressed rubblestone (limestone) with tooled limestone quoins throughout with exception to southwestern corner. The upper portion of the side (north) elevation and almost the whole of the rear elevation appear to be fully reconstructed elevations, with possibly the northwestern corner which displays these quoins, the only remaining original section. All of the side (south) elevation (that is located to the interior of the boundary walls of Swords Park) is no longer extant and has been replaced by a modern concrete block wall. The southwestern corner has also been replaced and there are no quoins present. Lime mortar forms the original bonding and varies slightly between a light grey and a cream-grey colour. The majority of the original masonry lack pointing. Modern concrete-based mortar forms the bonding to the reconstructed sections.

The front elevation displays a tripartite arrangement of slightly recessed masonry panels. This arrangement appears to be a later adaptation and consists of red and orange-brick block-and-start surrounds, mullions, sill and lintel courses all of which have chamfered reveals. The three interior masonry panels (which measure 2.32m wide) are all constructed using roughly dressed limestone blocks but display two different bonding techniques; the lower half follows a rubblestone bond up to the sill level of the slit apertures (0.6m up from the top of the sill course). The upper portion above this sill level is constructed using bond more similar to a sneaked bond technique, indicating reconstruction of earlier masonry. Slit apertures comprising of red and orange-brick block-and-start surrounds, sills and voussoirs with chamfered reveals centrally placed to each recessed panel to the front elevation. A chambered red and orange-brick string course is present to the front elevation.

Reconstructed square-headed slit apertures form the openings to the side (north) and rear elevations. To the rear elevation, these apertures comprise of yellow and red-brick block-and-start surrounds, a roughly dressed rubblestone forms the lintel to the southernmost aperture. Rubblestone is also used to form a sill. The slit aperture to the side (north) elevation positioned at a height of 2.13m and is identical in form to the slit apertures which are present to the front elevation.

A reconstructed square-headed former entrance is centrally located to the rear elevation and comprises of yellow and red-brick block-and-start surrounds. Rubbed bricks form the voussoirs to this opening and feature a modern insert of red-bricks to the keystone position. This former entrance is now blocked by painted concrete blocks.

Modern (post 1970) boundary walls belonging to Swords Park adjoin this structure to the north and south (Plates 1 and 5). Both sections of these wall are set back 1m from the front of this structure. Both modern parkland boundaries comprise of roughly dressed limestone block parapet walls (average 0.5m thick) with flagstone coping which is surmounted by decorative cast-iron railing. This boundary wall directly abuts the eastern end of the side (north) elevation. While to the side (south) elevation, a limestone block pier to this boundary wall abuts this structure. Short bowed sections of this decorative cast-iron railing are located at the footpath level where the boundary walls abut this structure. A corresponding section of a curved kerb (comprising of modern stone cobbles) is present to the footpath level to the side (south) elevation beneath this bowed railing, together both these enclose a planted tree. Directly to the south of this structure is the main eastern entrance to Swords Park which, comprises of a pair of ornate stone piers that support a pair of decorative double-leaf cast-iron gates. Modern brick is used to form the footpaths around this entrance while the majority of the footpath along the western side of North Street comprises of poured *in-situ* concrete. A modern galvanised lamp-post is present within the footpath to North Street near the southeastern corner.

4 CONCLUSIONS

Attributing a purpose and a date range for this structure has proved problematic. This is due to the structure having an unusual street façade and a very simplistic layout. Unfortunately, much of this structure has been altered and reconstructed in modern times. No access to the interior was possible at the time of this survey as the only entrance is currently blocked and all the walls extend to full height. The interior of this building is also completely overgrown by vegetation

Desk-based analysis of cartographic sources has indicated that the western side of North Street has been the location of terraced buildings since at least the mid-late eighteenth century as illustrated on John Rocque's Map of Dublin (1760). The later 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps of the confirm the continued presence of terraced buildings at this location. None of these cartographic sources can confirm whether this structure was originally a house or served another purpose such as an outbuilding. The simplistic layout with slit apertures suggests that its latter use served as an outbuilding, possibly either as a store or as animal housing. It is very likely that the current structure does incorporate elements of an earlier building which may date from the first half of the nineteenth century. Roughly dressed limestone blocks form the main element of its masonry fabric and indicate that considerable effort and expense was put into the design of this structure and that it required obtaining a high-quality building material for its construction. The use of finely tooled limestone blocks to the quoins also attesters to this. The absence of evidence of a door opening to the front façade supports the assumption that it served as an outbuilding. Historical photographs of the Streetscape indicate the presence of a four-to-five bay two-storey house was attached to the side (south) elevation (Plate 6). Other later aerial images from 1970 still show this two-storey building was still extent at this time (Plate 7). There is no trace of any intersecting walls to the side (south) elevation of this structure that might have linked into this large two-storey former house. It is possible that the reason behind the void to the southern elevation which required the construction of a concrete block wall, was partially due to the removal of this large two-storey former house. These photographs also demonstrate that the boundary walls of Swords Park date to sometime after 1970.

Later alterations and adaptations are clearly visible. The use of machine manufactured red and orange-brick detailing of the tripartite panelling to the façade demonstrates that it is a later adaptation. The use of machine moulded brick with a tripartite arrangement is a detail which developed around the Late Victorian Period towards the turn of the twentieth century. The tripartite design is also frequently seen used in Arts and Crafts Architecture which tend to display windows (and other architectural details) in groups of three or four, also corresponds with the turn of the twentieth century.

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William Petty's Down Survey map of the Barony of Nethercross, 1656

John Rocque's *Map of Dublin, 1760*

Ordnance Survey maps of County Dublin, 1836, 1906, 1937

ELECTRONIC SOURCES*

www.excavations.ie – Summary of archaeological excavation from 1970–2020.

www.archaeology.ie – DoHLGH website listing all SMR sites.

www.heritagemaps.ie – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural and natural heritage.

www.googleearth.com – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.

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*all websites accessed 16 March 2022

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 REGISTER OF SURVEY RECORDS

Project Name: Swords Cultural Quarter Architectural Survey
Proposed Landscape Development
Date: March 2022

FIELD RECORDS	ITEMS (QUANTITY)	COMMENTS
Site drawings (plans and elevations)	Digital	
Photogrammetric Survey	Digital	
Security copy of archive	IAC Ltd	Digital archive

APPENDIX 2 ARCHITECTURAL SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

RPS NO.	350
NIAH NO.	11335002
TOWNLAND	Townparks
PARISH	Swords
BARONY	Nethercross
I.T.M.	718287, 747026
CLASSIFICATION	Courthouse
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 14m east-southeast
DESCRIPTION	<p>Mid-19th century stone courthouse building</p> <p>NIAH: Detached three-bay single-storey courthouse built 1843, with double-height central block and flanking single-storey recessed wings. Designed by Alexander Tate. ROOF: Hidden behind parapet wall, double pitched; hipped slate; terracotta roof ridge tiles; tall limestone stacks to right & left with three yellow clay pots with decorative cornices; cast-iron rainwater goods; hipped slate roofs to flanking wings. WALLS: Coursed limestone with limestone quoining. OPENINGS: square headed tri-partite window with terracotta panel above with foliage moulding and limestone quoining; limestone lugged architrave & granite steps positioned in each side bay; double leaf timber doors.</p>
REFERENCE	Fingal County Development Plan (2017-2023)/ NIAH Survey

RPS NO.	351
NIAH NO.	N/a
TOWNLAND	Townparks
PARISH	Swords
BARONY	Nethercross
I.T.M.	718202, 747009
CLASSIFICATION	Castle
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	0.24m to the southwest
DESCRIPTION	Medieval Episcopal Manor of Archbishop of Dublin
REFERENCE	Fingal County Development Plan (2017-2023)

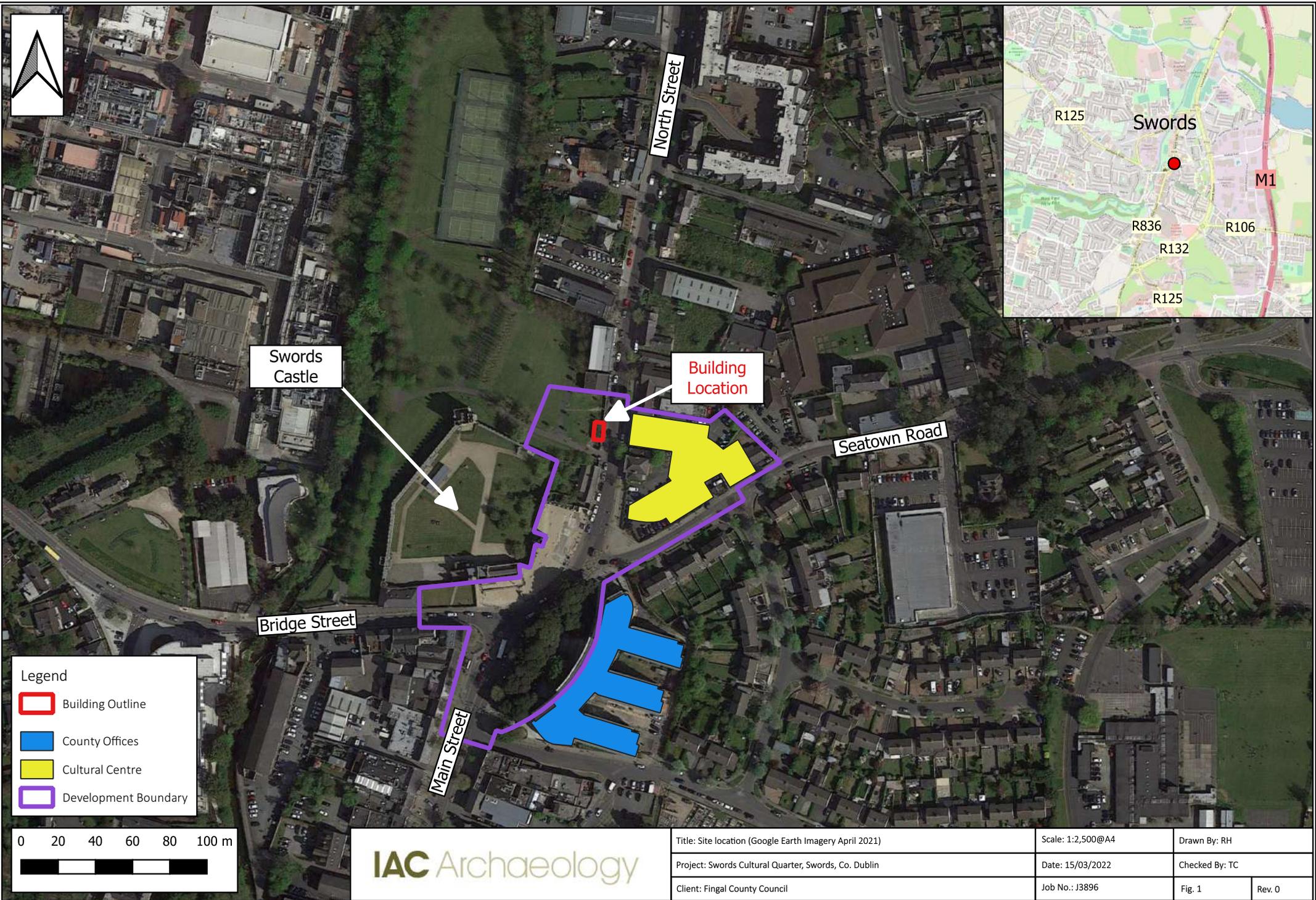
APPENDIX 3 RMP SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

SMR NO.	DU011-035
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Miltonsfields, Swords Demsne, Windmill Lands
I.T.M.	718167/746785
CLASSIFICATION	Historic Town
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	0m Within Zone of Notification
DESCRIPTION	<p>Archbishop Comyn established a borough in Swords in the late 12th century and confirmed the burgesses of Swords in their burgages with an established annual rent of 1s. per burgage (Mc Neill 1950, 32; Bradley and King, 1988, 306-310). An extent of the manor in 1326 noted that there were the 122 burgesses. The settlement was granted a new charter by Elizabeth 1 In 1578 which established it as a parliamentary borough and this was confirmed in 1603 on the accession of James 1.</p> <p>According to D'Alton (1838, 141) the town was considered one of the walled towns of Dublin in 1578. The long linear boundary delimiting the properties on the E side of Main Street is an obvious line for these defences but the S boundary is unclear. The stream would have provided a defence on the W and the parish church (DU011-034004-) may have been protected by remnants of its ecclesiastical enclosure (DU011-034002-).</p> <p>The medieval town was linear in form and was laid out along the present Main Street, which is called High Street in in medieval documentation (Mc Neill 1950, 285) focused onto the gates of the Archbishop's castle. There is a reference in a 14th century deed to a lane called Le Camerothe. It ran in an E-W direction and could possibly be the modern Well Road or Seatown Road. A weekly market was confirmed to the archbishops in 1395 and this was located in Main street which expands noticeably towards its N end to accommodate it.</p> <p>There are many references to burgages and individual properties in Archbishop Alen's register but none can be identified with present day properties (Mc Neill 1950, 284). The remains of a number of late medieval houses seems to have survived into the 19th century but none is in evidence now. D'Alton (1838, 136) states that the 'Anchor Inn' still attracts the eye of the traveller by its ancient aspect' and he adds that several houses exhibited the ancient escutcheons of inns, and he listed the Harp, the Anchor, the Black Bull, and the Royal Oak (D'Alton 1838, 137-8).</p>
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file

SMR NO.	DU011-034001
RMP STATUS	Yes
TOWNLAND	Townparks (Nethercross By.)
I.T.M.	718191/747011
CLASSIFICATION	Castle; Anglo-Norman masonry castle
DIST. FROM DEVELOPMENT	c. 24m southwest

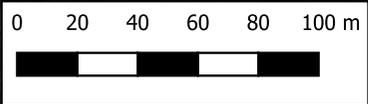
DESCRIPTION	<p>Situated on rising ground at the NE end of Swords Village. Built c. 1200 as the manorial residence of the Archbishop of Dublin (Anon 1914, 260-261). The curtain wall forms an irregular polygon in plan enclosing an area of one and one third acres. The entrance is in the S through a barrel-vaulted archway, which provides access to a range of buildings in the E and W.</p> <p>To the E is the chapel with a residential tower that rises to three storeys with a vaulted ground floor. There is a double-light, trefoil-headed window with transom in the S wall of the 2nd floor of the tower. The chapel is entered from the E wall of the tower and through round-headed doorways in the N wall of the chapel. Fourteenth century tiles were found during excavations of the chapel in the 1970's (Fanning 1975, 47-82). In the SE angle of the curtain wall are traces of a two-storey building with four plain windows and a fireplace in the E wall. This is thought to have been an oratory. A medieval tile pavement came to light in this building during excavations (Fanning 1975, 61ff). Along the E section of curtain wall is a three-storey tower immediately S of a building referred to as the 'Great hall' (Anon 1914, 260-261). It has a vaulted ground floor and a stairwell in the NE angle. The first floor is lit by a large window with red sandstone moulding and tracery. There is a domestic range W of the entrance to the castle. The curtain wall is battlemented with parapet walks defended by towers in the E, N and SW sections.</p> <p>The impressive N tower is three storeys high with a stairwell in the SW angle. Sandstone has been used in the windows. The SW tower projects beyond the line of the curtain wall. At the SW angle is a turret on a stepped squinch arch and corbels. The buildings to the W of the entrance are made up of three compartments, all barrel-vaulted at ground floor level. The first floor of one of them carries over the gateway. This has a pointed arched window on the S side formed with Dundry stone and red sandstone.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring along the southern boundary of the castle in 1993 revealed a large rock cut ditch c. 2.2m out from the base of the wall. This is thought to be the line of the outer castle moat (Swan 1994, 33). Further test-excavation along the same boundary to the east revealed a minimum depth of 2m of medieval deposits (Licence no. 02E1279). Internally the removal of overburden immediately north of the Knights and Squire's chamber (Licence no.01E002) and monitoring of service insertions (1996-97) in front of Constable's tower revealed the presence of archaeological activity such as wall footings, surfaces and drains, which are preserved under geotextile. In 2009 monitoring (Consent E004376) of service insertions took place outside the gateway arch uncovering two parallel walls traversing the exterior of the castle. Excavations in 2014 within the gatehouse in advance of proposed stabilisation uncovered burials that appear to predate the construction of the gatehouse. As part of the preparation of the Conservation Plan, geophysical survey (Licence no. 11R038) was undertaken within the castle walls identifying possible building foundations. Swords Castle has undergone a series of restoration initiatives based on designs by David Newman Johnson since the mid-1990s. The chapel has recently reopened. Swords castle Conservation Plan</p>
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	was published in 2014.
REFERENCE	www.archaeology.ie/ SMR file



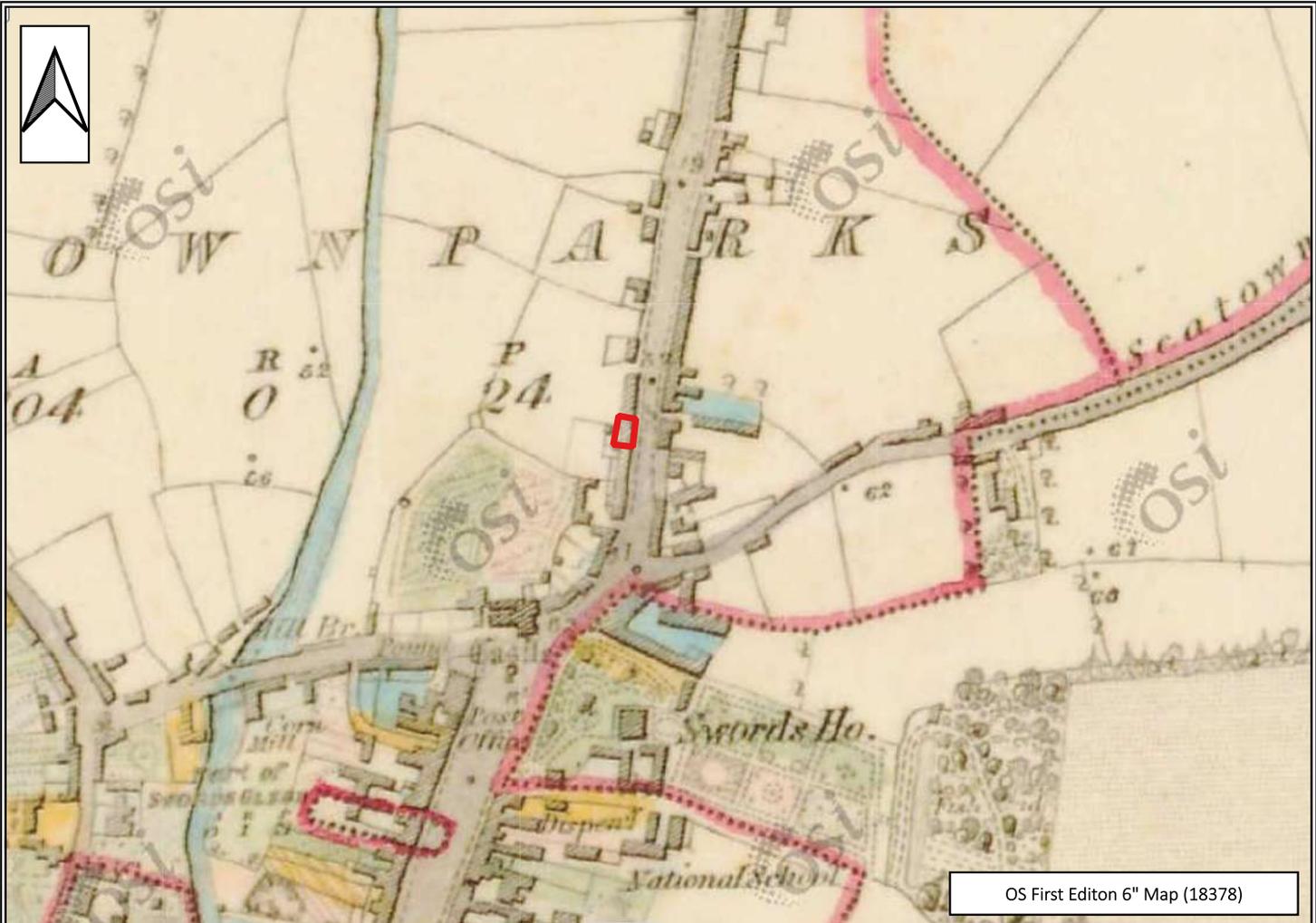
Legend

- Building Outline
- County Offices
- Cultural Centre
- Development Boundary

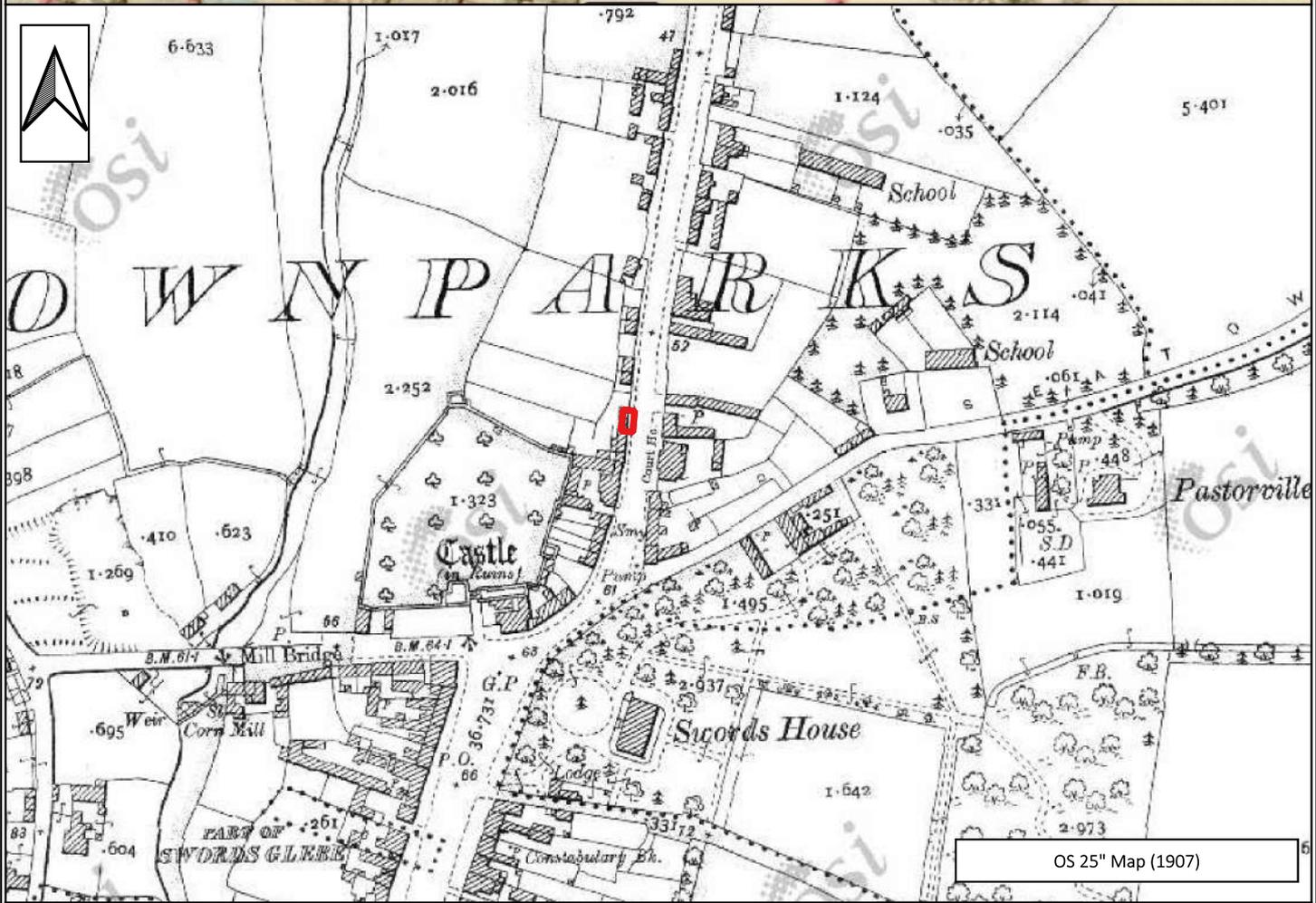


IAC Archaeology

Title: Site location (Google Earth Imagery April 2021)		Scale: 1:2,500@A4		Drawn By: RH	
Project: Swords Cultural Quarter, Swords, Co. Dublin		Date: 15/03/2022		Checked By: TC	
Client: Fingal County Council		Job No.: J3896		Fig. 1	Rev. 0

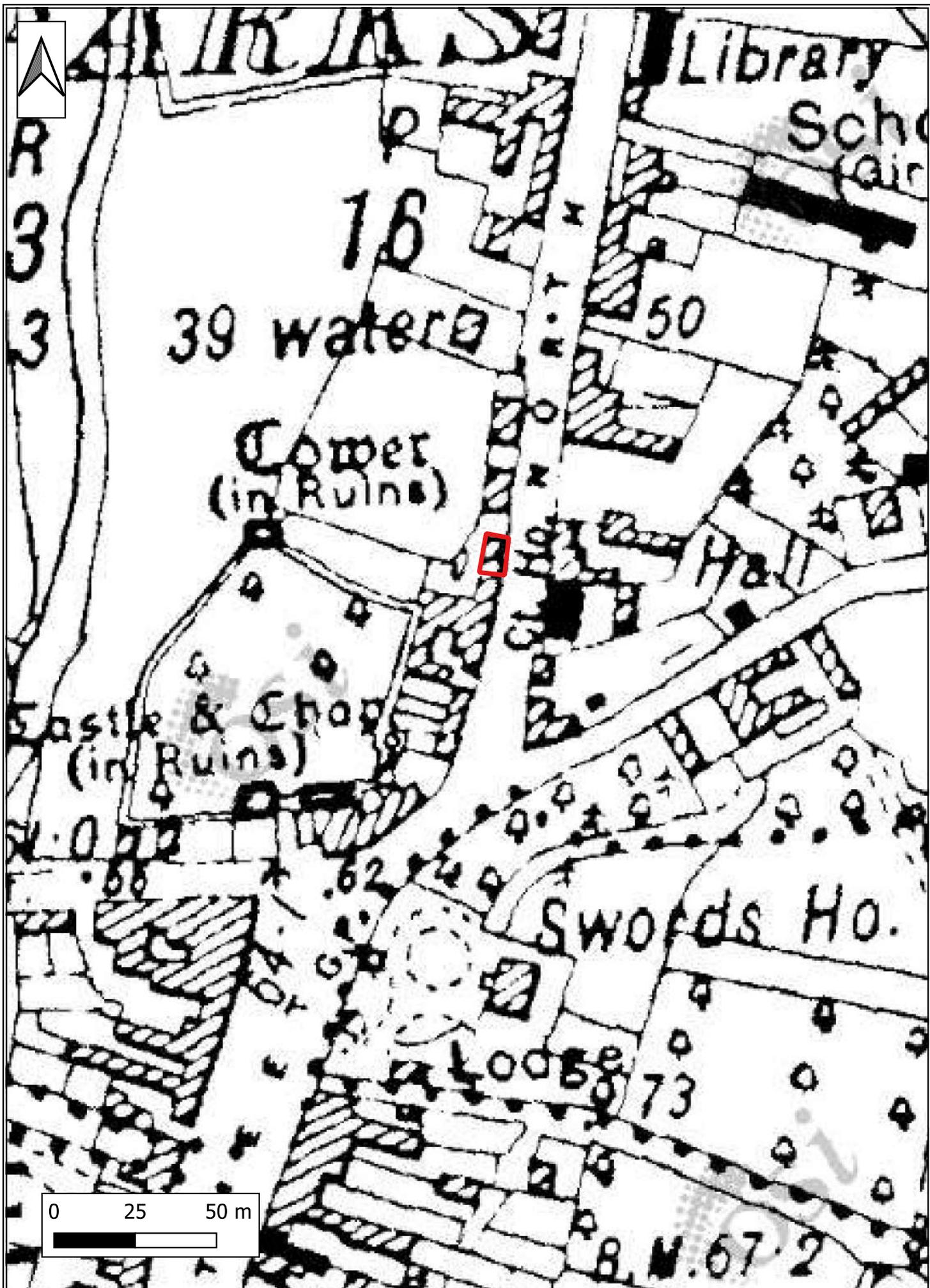


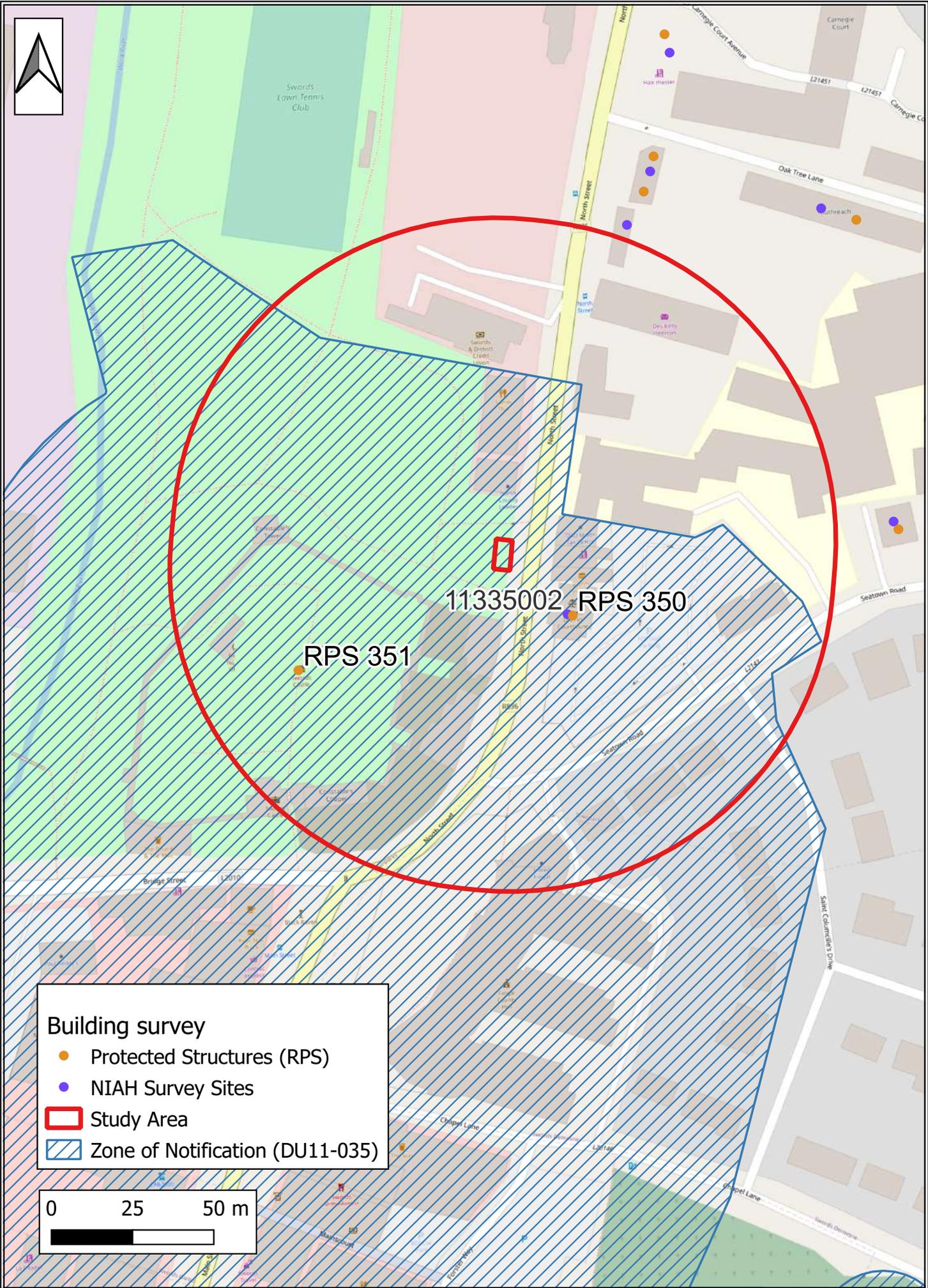
OS First Edition 6" Map (18378)



OS 25" Map (1907)

Title: Extracts from historical OS Maps showing location of building	Scale: NTS @A4	Drawn By: RH
Project: Swords Cultural Quarter, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date: 15/03/2022	Checked By: TC
Client: Fingal County Council	Job No.: J3896	Fig. 2
		Rev. 0





11335002 RPS 350

RPS 351

Building survey

- Protected Structures (RPS)
- NIAH Survey Sites

▭ Study Area

▨ Zone of Notification (DU11-035)

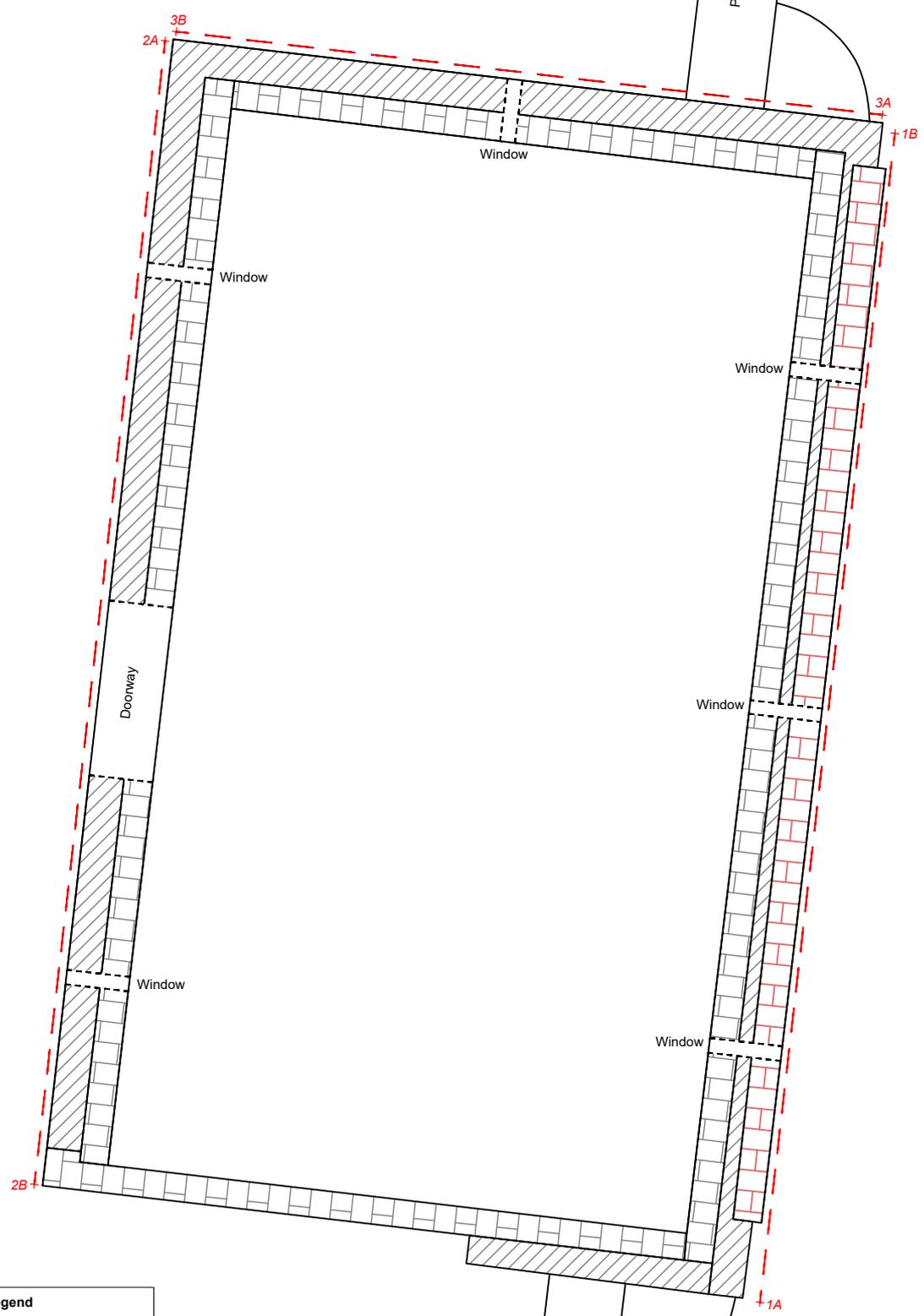


Title: Site location showing recorded sites	Scale: 1500@A4	Drawn By: RH
Project: Swords Cultural Quarter, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date: 15/03/2022	Checked By: TC
Client: Fingal County Council	Job No.: J3896	Fig. 3
		Rev. 0



+ 718262 E
747050 N

+ 718262 E
747050 N



Legend

- Wall
- Red-brick Overhang
- Cinder Blocks
- Elevation
- Irish Transverse Mercator

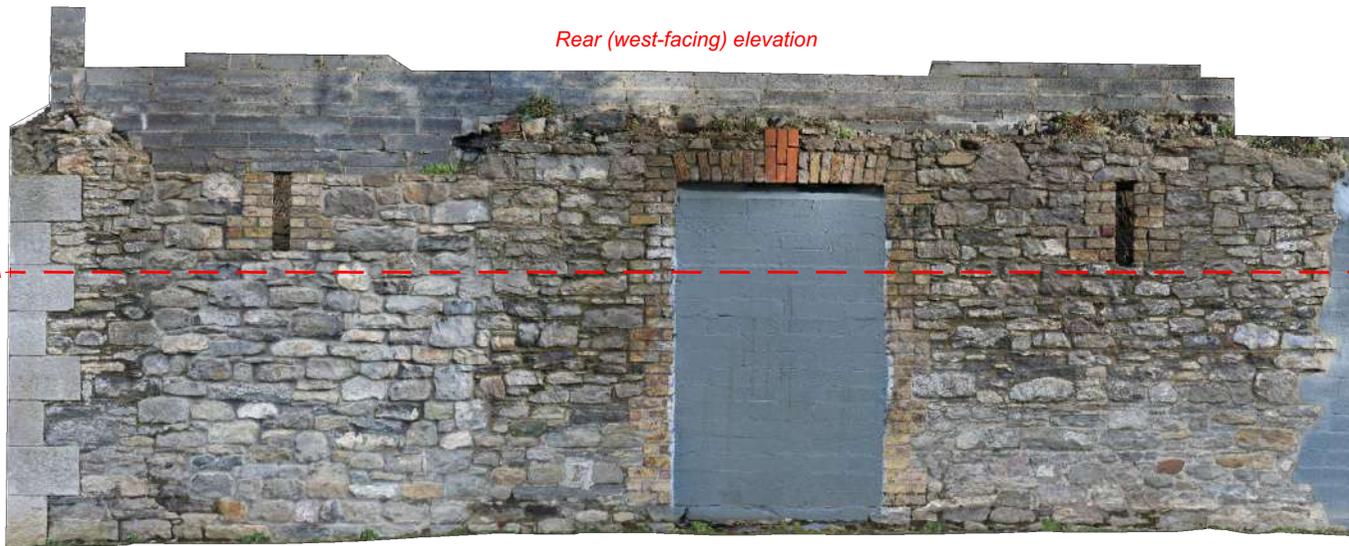
0m Scale 2m

Front (east-facing) elevation



1A +-----+ 1B 13.94

Rear (west-facing) elevation



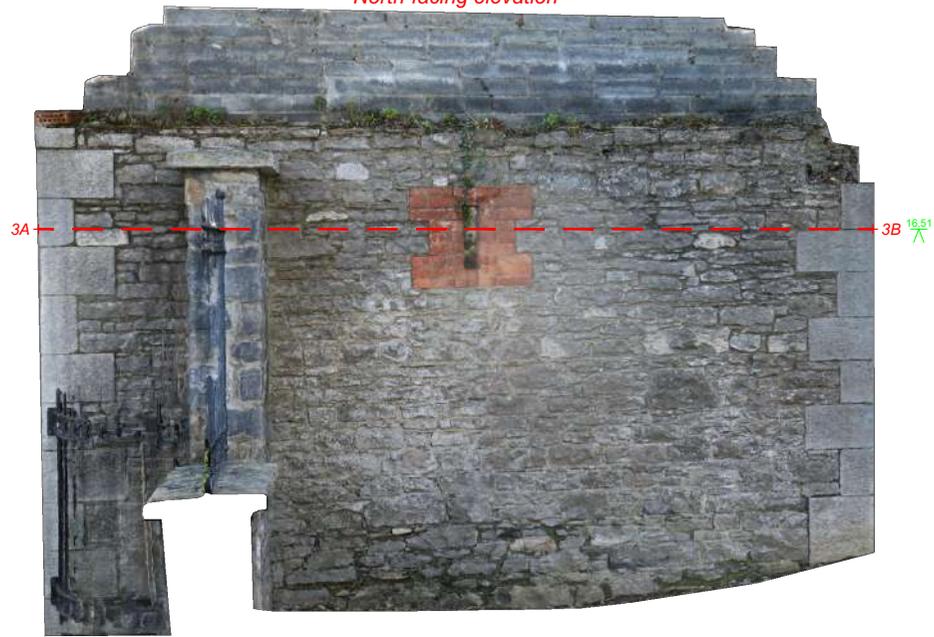
2A +-----+ 2B 16.33

Legend	
+ - - - +	Elevation
xxxx ^	Level - meters OD

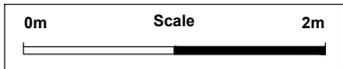


	Title	Front (east) elevation and rear (west) elevation	Scale	1:50@A4	Drawn by	RB	
	Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	16/03/22	Checked by	RH	
			Job no.	J3896	Fig.	6	Rev.

North-facing elevation



Legend	
+ - - +	Elevation
xxx ^	Level - meters OD



IAC Archaeology

Title	North elevation	Scale	1:50@A4	Drawn by	RB
Project	Swords Cultural Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date	16/03/22	Checked by	RH
		Job no.	J3896	Fig.	7
				Rev.	-



Plate 1 Front (east) elevation



Plate 2 Side (north) elevation



Plate 3 Rear (west) elevation



Plate 4 Side (south) and rear (west) elevations

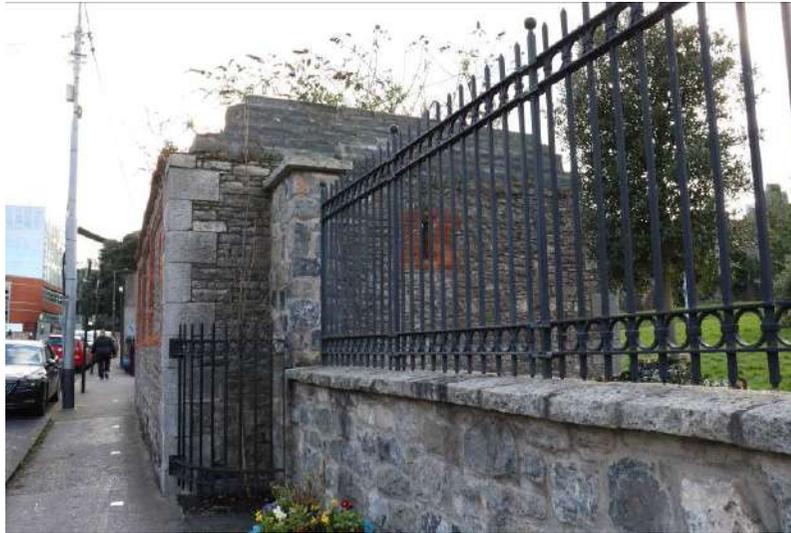


Plate 5 Swords Park boundary wall, facing southwest



Plate 6 North Street Swords c. 1900, facing north (Swords History: www.gaelart.net)



Plate 7 Aerial Photograph of Swords, facing west and showing location of site (Swords History: www.gaelart.net)