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## **An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of a Proposed Development at Cappaghfinn, Cappagh Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.**

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<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1 INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Site location	5
1.2 Proposed development	5
1.3 Study area	5
2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY	7
2.1 Objectives	7
2.2 Desktop Study Methodology	7
2.3 Field Inspection Methodology	8
2.4 Geophysical Survey Methodology	8
2.5 Test Trenching Methodology	9
2.6 Methodology used for assessing baseline value of sites	9
2.7 Type of impacts	10
2.8 Methodology used for assessing magnitude of impacts	11
2.9 Methodology used for assessing significance level of impacts	12
2.10 Difficulties experienced during compilation of assessment	13
3 BASELINE/RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT	14
3.1 Designated archaeological sites	14
3.2 Designated architectural heritage sites	14
3.3 Areas of archaeological potential	15
3.4 Archaeological and historical context	16
3.5 Cartographic evidence	18
3.6 Recent excavations	18
4 IMPACT STATEMENT	19
4.1 Description of the site	19
4.2 Description of the proposed development	19
4.3 Impact assessment	20
5 MITIGATION STRATEGY	21
6 CONCLUSIONS	22
6.1 Summary of archaeological findings	22
6.2 Recommendations	22
6.3 Residual impacts	23
7 BIBLIOGRAPHY	24

## FIGURES

Figure 1	Proposed development site, Cappaghfinn, Finglas, Dublin 11: Site location
Figure 2	Cultural Heritage sites within 250m radius of proposed development site
Figure 3	RMP map with proposed development site
Figure 4	Extract from Down Survey map of Castleknock Parish
Figure 5	Extract from Rocque's map of county Dublin
Figure 6	First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site
Figure 7	Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site
Figure 8	LiDAR survey of proposed development site (TII, Creative Commons 4.0 International Licence)
Figure 9	Fluxgate Magnetometry survey results
Figure 10	Fluxgate Magnetometry survey Interpretation
Figure 11	Overall test trench layout
Figure 12	Test trenches overlaid onto results of geophysical survey
Figure 13	Proposed mitigation measures

## PLATES

Plate 1	View of ringfort CH001, looking northwest
Plate 2`	View of ringfort CH001, looking north

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Inventory of identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area
Appendix 2	Previous archaeological investigations
Appendix 3	Legislative and policy framework
Appendix 4	Terms and definitions used
Appendix 5	Results of Geophysical Survey
Appendix 6	Results of Test Trenching

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential, archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment of the proposed development site at Cappaghfinn, Cappagh Road, Finglas, Dublin 11, to identify the impact of the proposed development on this environment and to propose mitigation measures to reduce any impacts on said environment. This assessment has been informed by a geophysical survey carried out at the site in January 2019 and a programme of archaeological test trenching undertaken in March 2019.

These works were undertaken for Fingal County Council.

The proposed development design is not yet finalised it is expected to be a housing development with associated roads, services and amenity space.

The archaeological assessment of the proposed development site at Cappaghfinn, Cappagh Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 has identified five sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise two RMPs and three areas of archaeological potential (AAPs). One of the RMPs—ringfort (CH001)—and two AAPs are located within the proposed development site. The results indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential.

It is expected that most impacts would occur as a result of construction groundworks. In addition, the ringfort (CH001) is an upstanding site, so there is the potential for indirect or visual impact

The following mitigation measures are proposed:

1. A 20 m wide exclusion zone to be established from the known extent of the upstanding ringfort (CH001) within which no development works will take place. This exclusion zone should incorporate the archaeological features identified during the test trenching programme (CH003 and CH004).
2. This exclusion zone should be fenced off for the duration of all construction works and should not be used for temporary site accommodation (e.g. construction compound), site storage or the transit of construction vehicles during the construction phase.
3. Subject to agreement on design and methodology with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG), this area could then be incorporated into an amenity green space within the finished development. Any landscaping design would have to take account of the requirement for the preservation *in situ* of both upstanding and sub-surface remains and be sympathetic to the upstanding ringfort.
4. A management plan for the long-term maintenance and protection of the site should be prepared for approval by National Monuments Service (DoCHG). Development of this management plan may require additional archaeological studies such as the development of a digital terrain model for the site. This management plan should be drafted in advance of any construction works at the site so as to ensure that the management and coordination of the construction programme is consistent with the policies and procedures for the protection and management of the site.
5. All ground reduction across the remainder of the development site, including any enabling works in advance of construction should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.



6. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then Fingal County Council will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by Fingal County Council in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG).
7. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

**Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of Fingal County Council and the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.**

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This report details the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage issues that need to be addressed in respect of a proposed development at Cappaghfinn, Cappagh Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 (Figure 1). These works were undertaken for Fingal County Council.

This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the following legislative procedures which are further detailed in Appendix 3:

- National Monuments Acts 1930-2004
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999
- Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts 2000-2015

It has also been undertaken in accordance with the policies set out in Chapter 10 of the Fingal Development Plan 2017–2023.

### 1.1 Site location

The proposed development site is located in the townland of Cappoge, in the Parish of Castleknock, in Co. Dublin. The site is bounded to the south by Heathfield housing estate and to north by the M50. The nearest urban settlement is the town of Finglas, the centre of which is less than 2 km southwest of the proposed development site. The proposed development covers an area of 7.8 HA.

The topography of the area comprises relatively level scrub/heath lands sloping gently from west to east at 78-74 m OD. There is one RMP located within the proposed development area DU014-029.

### 1.2 Proposed development

The proposed development design is not yet finalised it is expected to be a housing development with associated roads, services and amenity space.

### 1.3 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.

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

Subject	Study area
National Monuments and Recorded archaeological monuments (RMPs)	Within 250 m of proposed development site
Protected Structures and/or their curtilage	Within approx. 250 m proposed development site
Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAS)	Within approx. 250 m proposed development site
Structures recorded in the NIAH	Within approx. 100 m of proposed development site

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Study area</b>
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 townlands encompassed by and adjacent to the proposed development site including Cappoge
Topographical files	Within the area incorporated by the proposed development

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 the likely significant impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and provide mitigation measures, in accordance with the policies of the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht (DoCHG) and Fingal County Council, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 and best practise 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 for the baseline assessment has been devised with reference to the following guidelines:

- 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'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological 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 County Development Plan 2017-2023
- Fingal Heritage Plan 2018 -2023
- National Museum of Ireland (NMI) Topographical Files
- Excavations Bulletin
- Aerial Photographs
- Cartographic Sources

## 2.3 *Field Inspection Methodology*

A field inspection of the proposed development site was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd in January 2019.

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 *Geophysical Survey Methodology*

### 2.4.1 *Legislative framework, statement of indemnity and guidelines*

Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd conducts geophysical surveys to the highest professional standards, as detailed in *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation, English Heritage Research and Professional Services Guideline No. 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* (English Heritage 2008) and *The Use of Geophysical Techniques in Archaeological Evaluations, Institute of Field Archaeologists Paper, No. 6 (IfA 2002)*. All data provided by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd, is treated in accordance with the guidelines laid out in *Geophysical Data in Archaeology: A Guide to Good Practice* (Schmidt 2001).

Geophysical surveys rely on observations about the physical properties of the archaeological remains they attempt to locate. Through experience, it becomes possible for geophysicists to identify features with reasonable accuracy by the physical traces these features leave. It must be noted however, that interpretation of geophysical anomalies is subjective and no hypotheses offered should be treated as fact, until tested and proved by intrusive investigation.

### 2.4.2 *Fluxgate Magnetometry Methodology*

A cart-mounted Bartington Grad 601-2 dual magnetic gradiometer (magnetometer) was used to conduct the magnetic gradiometer survey. The Bartington Grad 601-2 dual magnetic gradiometer is capable of surveying to an accuracy of 0.1nT. This unit comprises two horizontally aligned sensors 1m apart.

Mounting the instrument on a cart reduces the incidence of operator induced errors caused by excessive jostling of the instrument when walking over rough terrain, or by the operator having a 'beat' to their walk.

A Trimble R6 Differential Global Positioning System (dGPS), capable of Real Time Kinematic (RTK) navigation is fixed to one end of a cart and the magnetic gradiometer is connected to the other end at a fixed distance. This allows each data point to be collected with sub-cm accurate GPS coordinates, thus negating the need to set out a nominal grid prior to the survey. This increases the accuracy and efficiency of the survey. Both the GPS and magnetic gradiometer data is sent to an external mobile computer (Trimble Nomad) *via* a serial connection. The data is then downloaded from the unit on a daily basis, using a laptop PC and the data streams are subsequently combined.

This 'irregular xy' data is then exported from the data collection software and imported into the data processing software, where it is converted to 'regular xy' data at user defined sample intervals (in this case 1 m by 0.125 m). From there, it was processed as standard magnetometer data, such as that collected from a traditional pre-defined grid survey.

The data was collected at a resolution of 1m x 0.125m. This sample density is recommended for site evaluation (English Heritage 2008).

## 2.5 Test Trenching Methodology

Archaeological test trenching involved the mechanical excavation of 16 test trenches and eight test pits. Some deviation from the planned trench layout was required due to the presence of deep modern infill deposits in the western section of the site. 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 using the Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd standard method and was undertaken on pro forma record sheets. All contexts, fields and trenches have been given unique numbers. Photographic recording was in digital format

## 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
- Recorded Archaeological Monuments	Very High
- Protected Structures	

Subject	Baseline Value
- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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 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"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>
Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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 mitigate is likely to reduce the impact.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>



Impact magnitude	Criteria
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>
Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An impact on archaeological features or monument capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.</li> <li>- An impact on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measure merit but without noticeable consequences.</li> <li>- A beneficial or positive effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.</li> </ul>

Table 4 – Criteria used for rating magnitude of impacts

## 2.9 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 5.4 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
<b>Severe</b>	Very significant	Very significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
<b>Major</b>	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight
<b>Moderate</b>	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible
<b>Minor</b>	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible
<b>Negligible</b>	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Table 5 – Criteria for assessing significance level of impacts

### *2.10 Difficulties experienced during compilation of assessment*

No significant difficulties were encountered during the preparation of this impact assessment.

### **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 Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht 2 months before commencing that work.

There are two recorded archaeological monuments incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area): CH001 (DU014-029----) and CH002 (DU014-028--). One of these sites—a ringfort (CH001)—is located within the proposed development site.

##### *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 Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht where work is proposed to be carried out at or in relation to any National Monument.

There are no National Monuments incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

##### *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 Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 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 Heritage Plan 2018-2023 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 no Protected Structures incorporated in the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

### *3.2.2 Architectural Conservation Areas*

The Fingal Heritage Plan 2018-2023 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 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 Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht 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 Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

There are no structures listed in the NIAH within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

## **3.3 Areas of archaeological potential**

Analysis of historic mapping (see Section 3.5 below) does not reveal any previous structures on the proposed development site. No additional indication for possible archaeological or historical remains is evident from historic maps within the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

### *3.3.1 LiDAR Survey Data*

TII LiDAR survey data at 2 m resolution was examined for the proposed development site and its environs. The ringfort (CH001) is clearly visible as a relief feature. The western section of the site appears heavily disturbed. The eastern section, where the ringfort is located, shows potential low relief linear features, probably reflecting previous agricultural uses of the site. There are no indications of any low relief archaeological features within the proposed development site.

### *3.3.2 Results of geophysical survey*

A geophysical survey was carried out at the site on 29-30 January 2019 (Appendix 5). This survey was limited to the western half of the proposed development site and identified a number of anomalies that may indicate the presence of sub-surface archaeological features.

There was no indication of an enclosing feature surround the ringfort CH001, suggesting that it should be interpreted as a platform ringfort. However, a curvilinear anomaly to the west (H02) may have

indicated a conjoined enclosure or annexe, while a pair of linear anomalies to the north (H03–H05) may have indicated outer enclosing elements or a radial field system. A pair of L-shaped anomalies to the southeast of the ringfort (H06 and H07) could be part of a formal entrance avenue or part of a radial field system. A possible pit anomaly (H08) was located to the south east of the RMP site. To the south of the ringfort were two penannular anomalies (H09 and H10) that could be small enclosures, barrows or hut sites. Finally, to the SSE of the ringfort were a linear anomaly (H11) and pit-like anomaly (H12).

### 3.3.3 *Results of Archaeological Test Trenching*

A programme of archaeological test trenching was carried out at the site 19-22 March 2019 (Appendix 6). This investigation targeted the anomalies identified during the geophysical survey as well as generally assessing the archaeological potential of the site. Due to constraints on access it was not possible to excavate all the trenches originally planned. The proposed test trenches in the SW section of the proposed development site were investigated by the insertion of test pits rather than test trenches which confirmed that the entire area appears to be infilled to approximately 3.50 - 4 m in depth with modern topsoil and construction waste.

A total of four features were identified and investigated during the testing programme, three of these were archaeological features, all of which were located within 20 m of the out outer edge of the rampart of the ringfort (CH001). They may represent ancillary activity associated with the ringfort. A circular pit containing waste material and a second irregular feature—possibly a well/pond—were identified in Trench 15 and have been designated CH003. A shallow linear feature crossed Trench 16 on a north/south axis and further to the east in the same trench was a sub-circular pit containing heat-shattered stone; these have been designated CH004.

The presence of worked chert was noted within the topsoil and provides general evidence of archaeological activity in the immediate vicinity of the ringfort.

Only one of the archaeological features—well/pond in Trench 15—clearly corresponds to geophysical anomaly H08. With that exception, none of the other geophysical anomalies proved to have a clear archaeological origin, so it does not appear that they represent sub-surface archaeological features.

## 3.4 *Archaeological and historical context*

The site is located in the townland of Cappoge, parish of Castleknock, approximately 2 km northwest of Finglas.

### 3.4.1 *Prehistoric period (after McQuade 2010)*

There is evidence for settlement in northwest county Dublin from at least the Neolithic as evidenced by the habitation site (CH002) located within the study area to the west of the development site, where evidence for Neolithic settlement was uncovered (Gowen 1984).

This is the only prehistoric site within the study area but further afield there is evidence for settlement primarily from the Bronze age. A fulacht fiadh (RMP DU014:050) lies to the west of the site along Cappagh Road in the townland of Grange. There are also a number of burial or ritual sites such as Bronze Age barrow or burial mound (RMP DU014-077) near Finglas Bridge, as well as a possible ring-ditch (RMP DU014-026) and two mounds (RMP DU014-032 and DU014-033) at Dunsink and two possible burial mounds (RMP DU013-012 and DU013-014) in Corduff. Two of these sites—the possible ring-ditch (RMP DU014-026) and mound (RMP DU014-032)—were the subject of archaeological investigations in advance of construction of the M50 motorway but produced no archaeological

evidence (Keeley 1992a, b). The mound (RMP DU01-:033) was also the subject of an archaeological excavation. The remains of Bronze Age food vessel cist burials were recovered.

A number of stray finds are also recorded from the general area of Finglas, including at least three bronze axeheads (of Early to Middle Bronze Age date), two palstaves (Middle Bronze Age) and a spearhead (Late Bronze Age).

### 3.4.2 *Early medieval period*

While the over-kingdom of *Laigin* (Leinster) originally extended as far north as the Boyne, by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD its sphere of influence had been firmly pushed back to the river Liffey. Up until the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century AD north county Dublin formed part of the overkingdom of Brega which was controlled (albeit often only nominally) by the *Síl nÁeda Sláine* branch of the *Uí Neill*. North county Dublin was occupied by various branches of their subject peoples—*Ciannachta*, *Saitne*, *Gailenga* and *Uí Maicc Uais*. The area between the Broadmeadow and Tolka rivers is generally ascribed to the *Gailenga Becca*. The ecclesiastical site at Finglas (RMP DU014-066) is closely associated with them and is considered to have the primary or episcopal church within their *tuath* (Charles-Edwards 2000, 271). It was founded in 560 AD by St. Canice.

Though Finglas was probably the preeminent ecclesiastical site in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site it is likely that the church and graveyard (RMP DU014-031) at Abbotstown dates to this period also.

The most commonly found indicator of settlement during the early medieval period is the ringfort. These are enclosed farmsteads usually defined by one or more earthen ramparts (bank and ditch). In some instances the banks could be fully or partially faced with stone (to create a monumental façade) and typically they would have been surmounted by a palisade fence. Platform or 'raised' ringforts are a recognised sub-type and are either deliberate constructions (where a natural mound/hillock has been scarped to create a level platform or where material has been imported to raise the level) or the result of prolonged occupation (where the accumulated occupation deposits have resulted in a raised site level). The most recent assessment of the available scientific dating evidence (Kerr 2007, 86–100) suggests that while the primary occupation of most ringforts defined by earthen ramparts dates to the period 600–850AD, platform or raised ringfort sites show a later date range c. 750–950AD.

The ringfort within the development site (CH001) comprises a circular platform 1–1.8 m higher than the general site level, suggesting that it is an example of a platform or raised ringfort. In the absence of any direct archaeological investigations it is not possible to say whether the platform is a deliberate creation or reflects intensive occupation over a prolonged period. Test excavation has identified a small number of outlying features possibly related to it (CH003–CH004). However, these features do not suggest particularly intensive or prolonged occupation as they comprise a couple of small pits, a linear feature and a possible well/pond.

Significant political changes occurred in the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries AD with the establishment of the Norse kingdom of Dublin. Much of north county Dublin came within its extended sphere of influence, an area commonly referred to in contemporary sources as *Dyflinaskerri* or *Fine Gall* (from which modern Fingal derives). The most obvious evidence for Norse influence in the area are a series of a female Viking burial uncovered during archaeological investigations at Church Street, Finglas (Kavanagh 2004).

### 3.4.3 *Later medieval period (after Leigh & Myles 2006)*

The arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century brought about further changes. It is likely that the development site was located within land initially granted by Hugh de Lacey to Hugh Tyrell. By

the 13<sup>th</sup> century the lands of Cappoge appear to be in the possession of the Woodlock family, who are the most likely candidates to have constructed Cappogue Castle (RMP DU014-027). Cappogue Castle is generally considered to have been a tower house (Leigh & Myles 2006), which would date the structure no earlier than 1400. Historical accounts and cartographic sources suggest the presence of an extensive castle complex situated within a bawn with a gatehouse (Leigh & Myles 2006). However, no upstanding remains survive and extensive archaeological investigations at the site have not uncovered any subsurface evidence for the site (Leigh & Myles 2006).

The castle could potentially have replaced an earlier manor house. This would suggest that Cappoge was the centre of an Anglo-Norman manor or estate. However, it is worth noting that at least some of the lands of Cappoge are commonly listed within surviving accounts of the archiepiscopal manor of Finglas (e.g. McNeill 1950, 173). Though substantially later, Rocque's map of 1756 shows a cluster of buildings at the start of the access road to Cappoge Castle from what is now Cappagh Road as well as building immediately north of the junction. These clusters could reflect the vestiges of a manorial or estate village, if such had existed.

### **3.5 Cartographic evidence**

#### **3.5.1 Down Survey (1655-6)**

Cappoge townland is shown within the parish of Castleknock. It is listed as being held by Lord Fitzwilliam in the accompanying terrier. This is consistent with the records in the Civil Survey (Simmington 1945, 246).

#### **3.5.2 Rocque's Map of Dublin c.1760**

Cappagh Road is shown and the general location of the site is illustrated as agricultural fields. Cappoge Castle is shown to the west (on the south side of Cappagh Road) and there is a cluster of houses on the road at the junction for the castle access and to the north of that access.

#### **3.5.3 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch series (1837-42)**

The site is shown as a series of agricultural fields on the north site of Cappagh Road. The ringfort (CH001) is hatched and labelled 'fort'.

#### **3.5.4 Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910-11)**

There are no significant changes from the earlier 6-inch series map.

### **3.6 Recent excavations**

A total of 10 archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the general vicinity of the proposed development site (see Appendix 2).

## 4 IMPACT STATEMENT

### 4.1 Description of the site

The proposed development site is located in the townland of Cappoge, in the Parish of Castleknock, in Co. Dublin (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the south by Heathfield housing estate and to north by the M50. The nearest urban settlement is the town of Finglas, the centre of which is less than 2 km southwest of the proposed development site. The proposed development covers an area of 7.8 HA.

The topography of the area comprises relatively level scrub/heath lands sloping gently from west to east at 78-74 m OD.

#### 4.1.1 Past impacts on site

The western site is currently occupied by a halting site and there has been substantial dumping of infill material in sections of the western part of the site also.

#### 4.1.2 Summary of baseline environment

Site Type	Summary
- RMPs - National Monuments - Sites with Preservation Orders - Sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments	There are two recorded archaeological monuments incorporated by the study area. One of these is located within the proposed development site. There are no National Monuments or sites with Preservation Orders within the study area.
- Protected Structures	There are no Protected Structures incorporated in the study area.
- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	There are no Architectural Conservation Areas incorporated by the study area.
- Sites Listed in the NIAH	There are no structures listed in the NIAH within the study area.
- Unregistered Cultural Heritage Sites	There are no unregistered cultural heritage sites incorporated by the study area.
- Areas/features of archaeological potential	There are two specific areas of archaeological potential within the proposed development site, identified as a result of geophysical survey and archaeological test trenching. The development site as a whole is also regarded as an area of archaeological potential.

Table 9 – Summary of baseline environment

### 4.2 Description of the proposed development

A detailed development design has not yet been finalised, however, the general plan for the site is to develop a housing scheme with associated roads, services and amenity space.



### 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.

All impacts that occur during the construction phase are likely to be direct impacts as a result of sub-surface disturbance or construction works. In addition, CH001 (RMP DU014-029----) is an upstanding ringfort, so there is the potential for indirect or visual impact during the operation phase.

CH No.	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	Direct	Impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks	Major	Very High	Significant
	Indirect	Newly constructed buildings may impact on the setting and character	Moderate	Very High	Significant
003	Direct	Impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks	Major	High	Significant
004	Direct	Impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks	Major	Medium /High	Moderate
005	Direct	Impacts will occur as a result of construction groundworks	Major	Medium /High	Moderate

Table 6 – 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 residual impacts that will remain once these mitigation measures have been implemented are identified in Section 9 further on.

The following mitigation measures proposed are subject to approval by Fingal County Council, the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

The current policy of the Minister for Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht 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 proposed:

1. A 20 m wide exclusion zone to be established from the known extent of the upstanding ringfort (CH001) within which no development works will take place. This exclusion zone should incorporate the archaeological features identified during the test trenching programme (CH003 and CH004).
2. This exclusion zone should be fenced off for the duration of all construction works and should not be used for temporary site accommodation (e.g. construction compound), site storage or the transit of construction vehicles during the construction phase.
3. Subject to agreement on design and methodology with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG), this area could then be incorporated into an amenity green space within the finished development. Any landscaping design would have to take account of the requirement for the preservation *in situ* of both upstanding and sub-surface remains and be sympathetic to the upstanding ringfort.
4. A management plan for the long-term maintenance and protection of the site should be prepared for approval by National Monuments Service (DoCHG). Development of this management plan may require additional archaeological studies such as the development of a digital terrain model for the site. This management plan should be drafted in advance of any construction works at the site so as to ensure that the management and coordination of the construction programme is consistent with the policies and procedures for the protection and management of the site.
5. All ground reduction across the remainder of the development site, including any enabling works in advance of construction should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
6. If archaeological material is encountered then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then Fingal County Council will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by Fingal County Council in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG).
7. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

### 6.1 *Summary of archaeological findings*

The archaeological assessment of the proposed development site at Cappaghfinn, Cappagh Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 has identified five sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise two RMPs and five areas of archaeological potential (AAPs). One of the RMPs—ringfort (CH001)—is located within the proposed development site. The results of geophysical survey and archaeological test trenching have identified two specific AAPs within the development site (CH003 and CH004).

The results of this impact assessment indicate that the development site as a whole is an area of archaeological potential (CH005).

### 6.2 *Recommendations*

The proposed development design is not yet finalised, but it is expected that most impacts would occur as a result of construction groundworks. In addition, the ringfort (CH001) is an upstanding site, so there is the potential for indirect or visual impact

1. A 20 m wide exclusion zone to be established from the known extent of the upstanding ringfort (CH001) within which no development works will take place. This exclusion zone should incorporate the archaeological features identified during the test trenching programme (CH003 and CH004)
2. This exclusion zone should be fenced off for the duration of all construction works and should not be used for temporary site accommodation (e.g. construction compound), site storage or the transit of construction vehicles during the construction phase.
3. Subject to agreement on design and methodology with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG), this area could then be incorporated into an amenity green space within the finished development. Any landscaping design would have to take account of the requirement for the preservation *in situ* of both upstanding and sub-surface remains and be sympathetic to the upstanding ringfort.
4. A management plan for the long-term maintenance and protection of the site should be prepared for approval by National Monuments Service (DoCHG). Development of this management plan may require additional archaeological studies such as the development of a digital terrain model for the site. This management plan should be drafted in advance of any construction works at the site so as to ensure that the management and coordination of the construction programme is consistent with the policies and procedures for the protection and management of the site.
5. All ground reduction across the remainder of the development site, including any enabling works in advance of construction should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
6. If archaeological material is encountered then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then Fingal County Council will

be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by Fingal County Council in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG).

7. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

### 6.3 Residual impacts

CH No.	Baseline Value	Impact Type	Mitigation Measures	Magnitude of impact taking into account mitigation measures	Significance level of impact after implementation of mitigation measures
001	Very High	Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusion zone to facilitate preservation in situ</li> <li>• Management plan</li> </ul>	Minor	Moderate
		Indirect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusion zone to facilitate preservation in situ</li> <li>• Sympathetic landscaping and incorporation into amenity space</li> <li>• Management Plan</li> </ul>	Slight	Negligible
003	High	Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusion zone to facilitate preservation in situ</li> <li>• Management plan</li> </ul>	Minor	Slight
004	Medium /High	Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exclusion zone to facilitate preservation in situ</li> <li>• Management plan</li> </ul>	Minor	Slight
005	Medium /High	Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archaeological monitoring of groundworks</li> </ul>	Moderate	Slight

Table 6 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude after implementation of mitigation

**Please note all the recommendations in this report are subject to approval of Fingal County Council and the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.**

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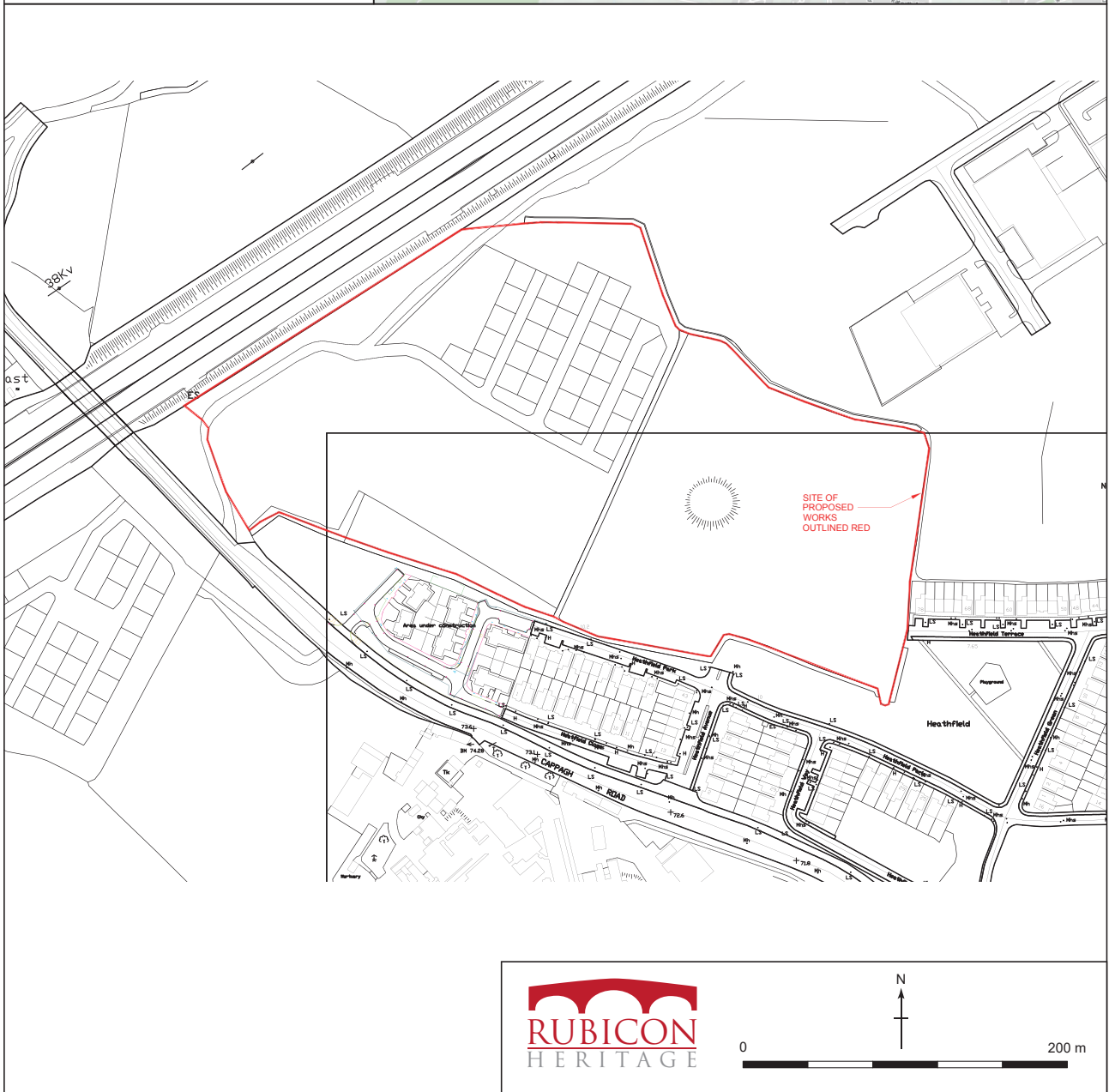
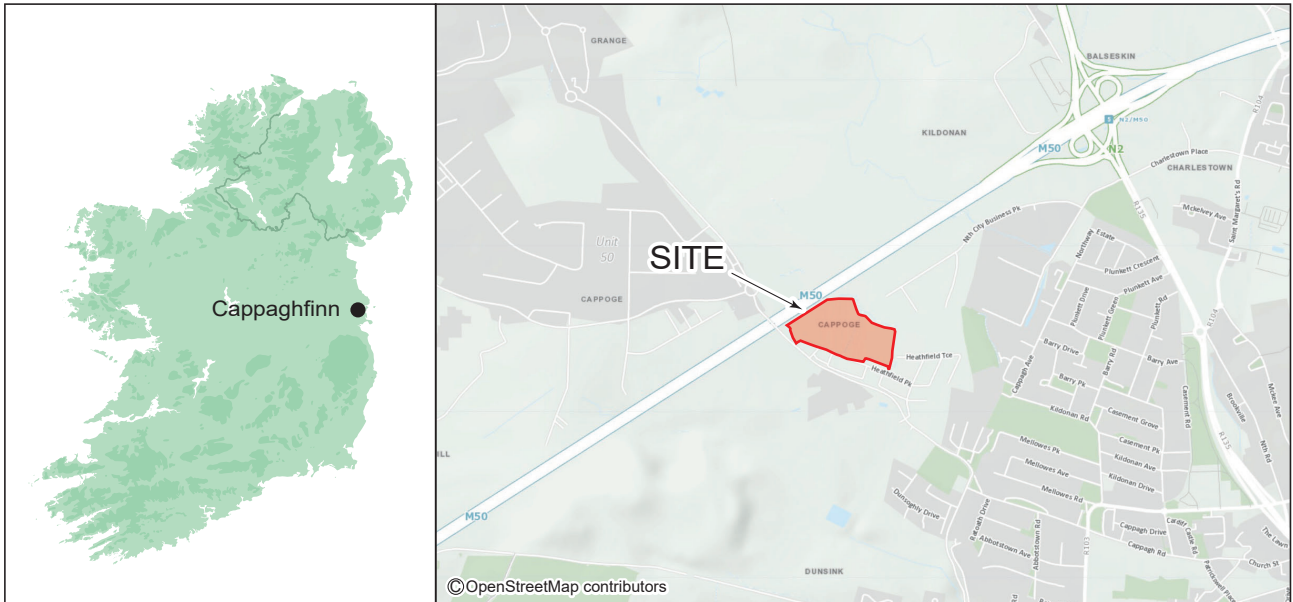


Figure 1 - Cappaghfinn, Finglas, Dublin 11: Site location and Survey extents.

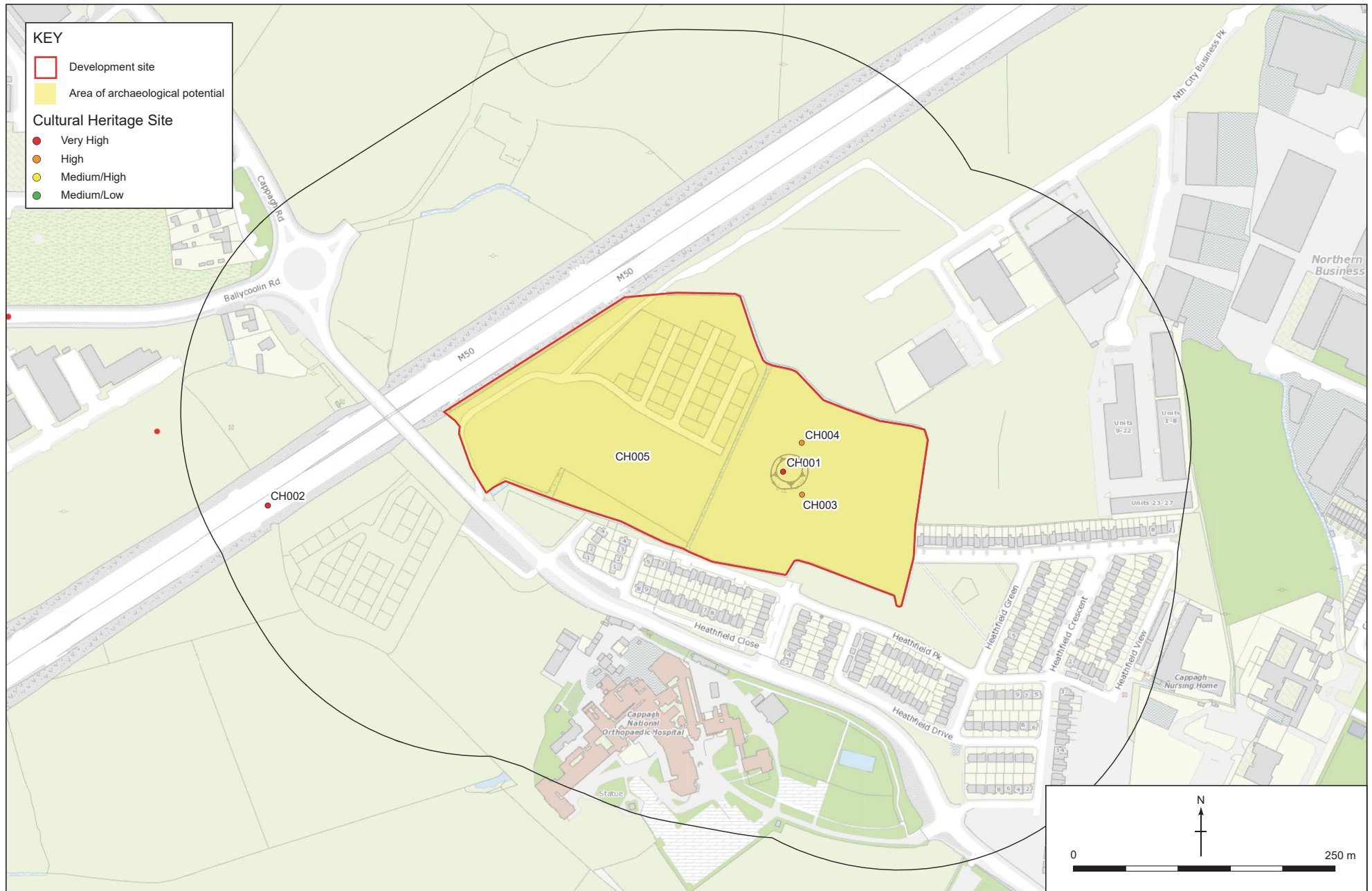


Figure 2 - Cultural Heritage sites within 250m radius of proposed development site.



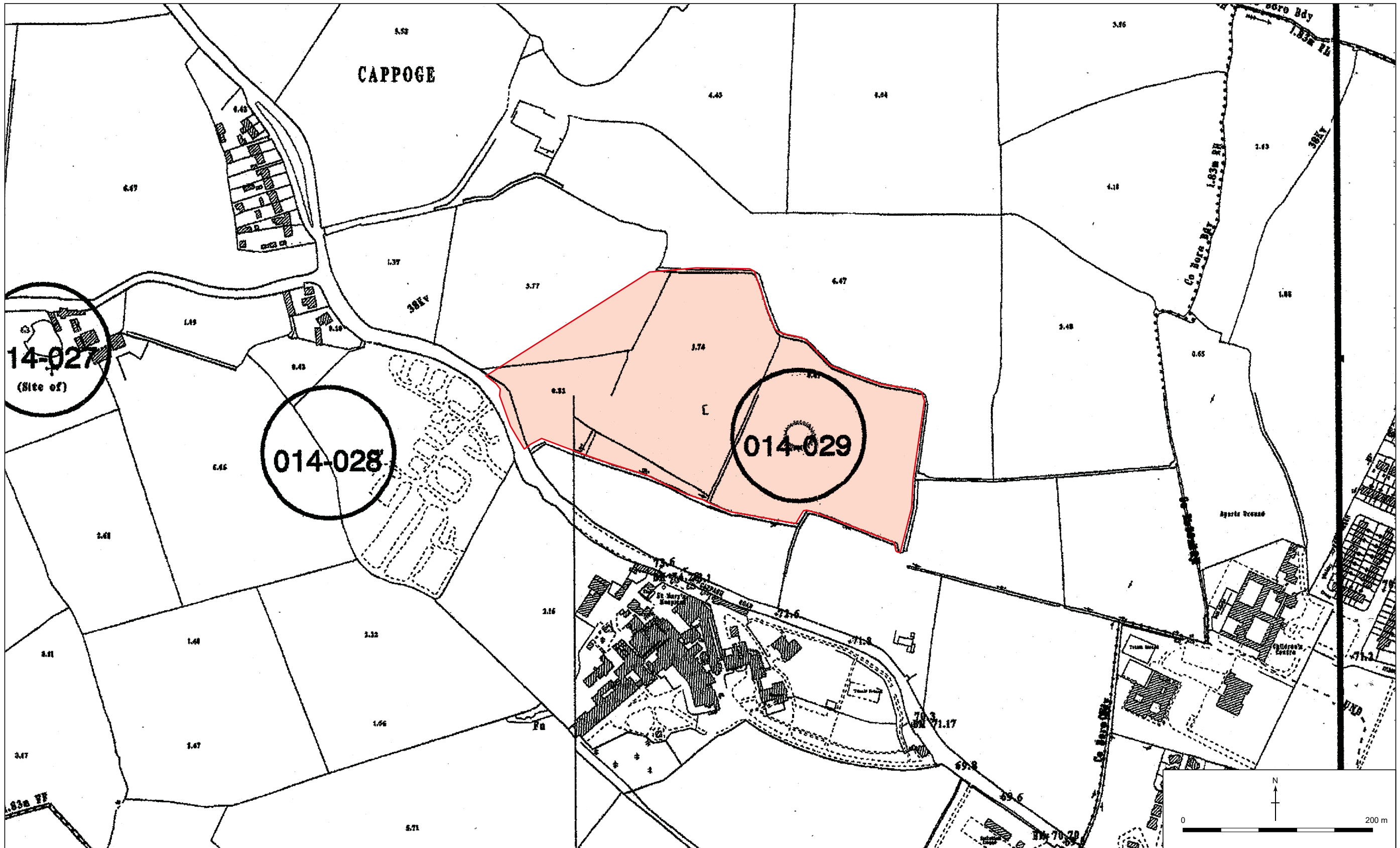


Figure 3 - RMP map with proposed development site.



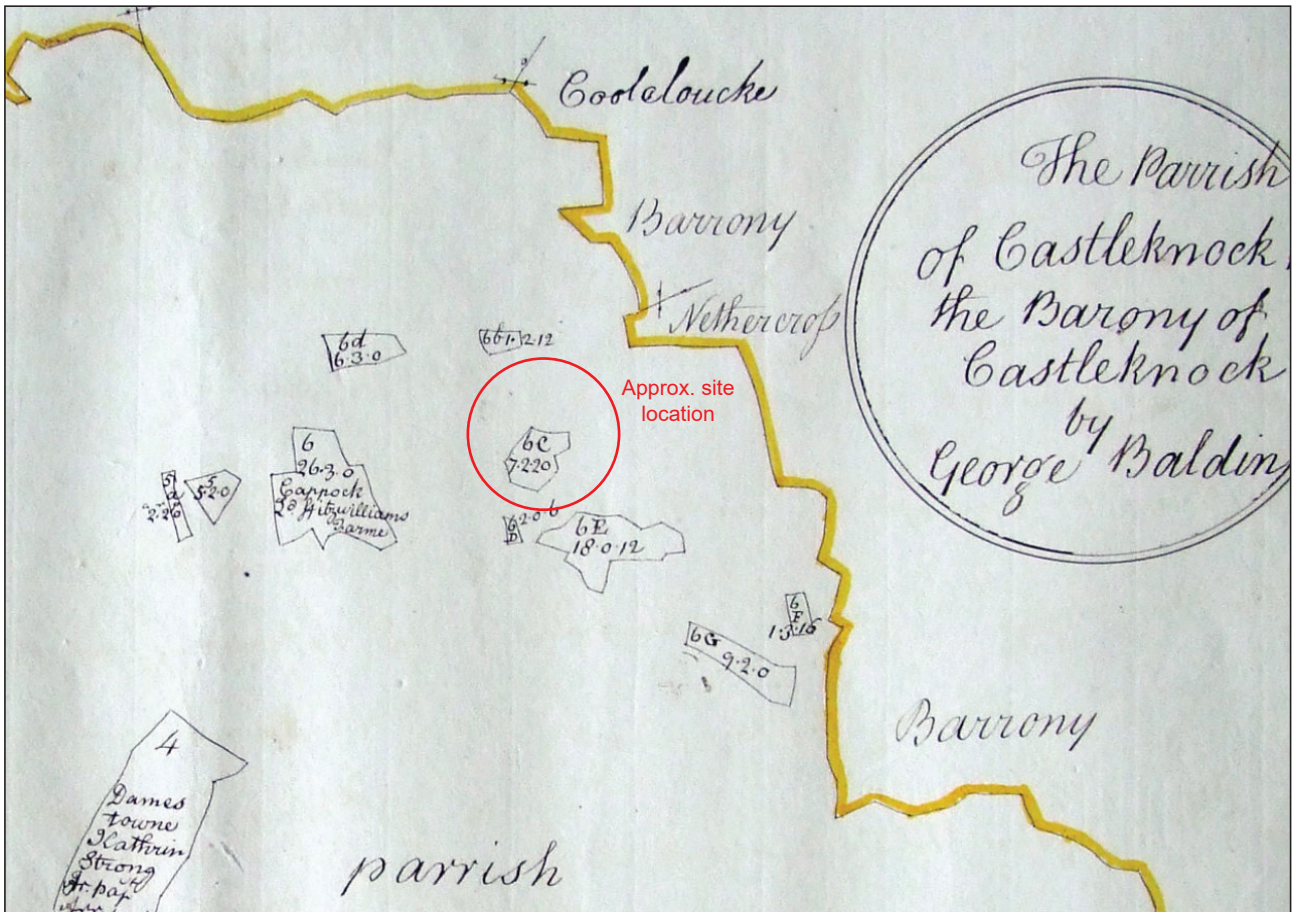


Figure 4 - Extract from Down Survey map of Castleknock Parish.



Figure 5 - Extract from Rocque's map of county Dublin.





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

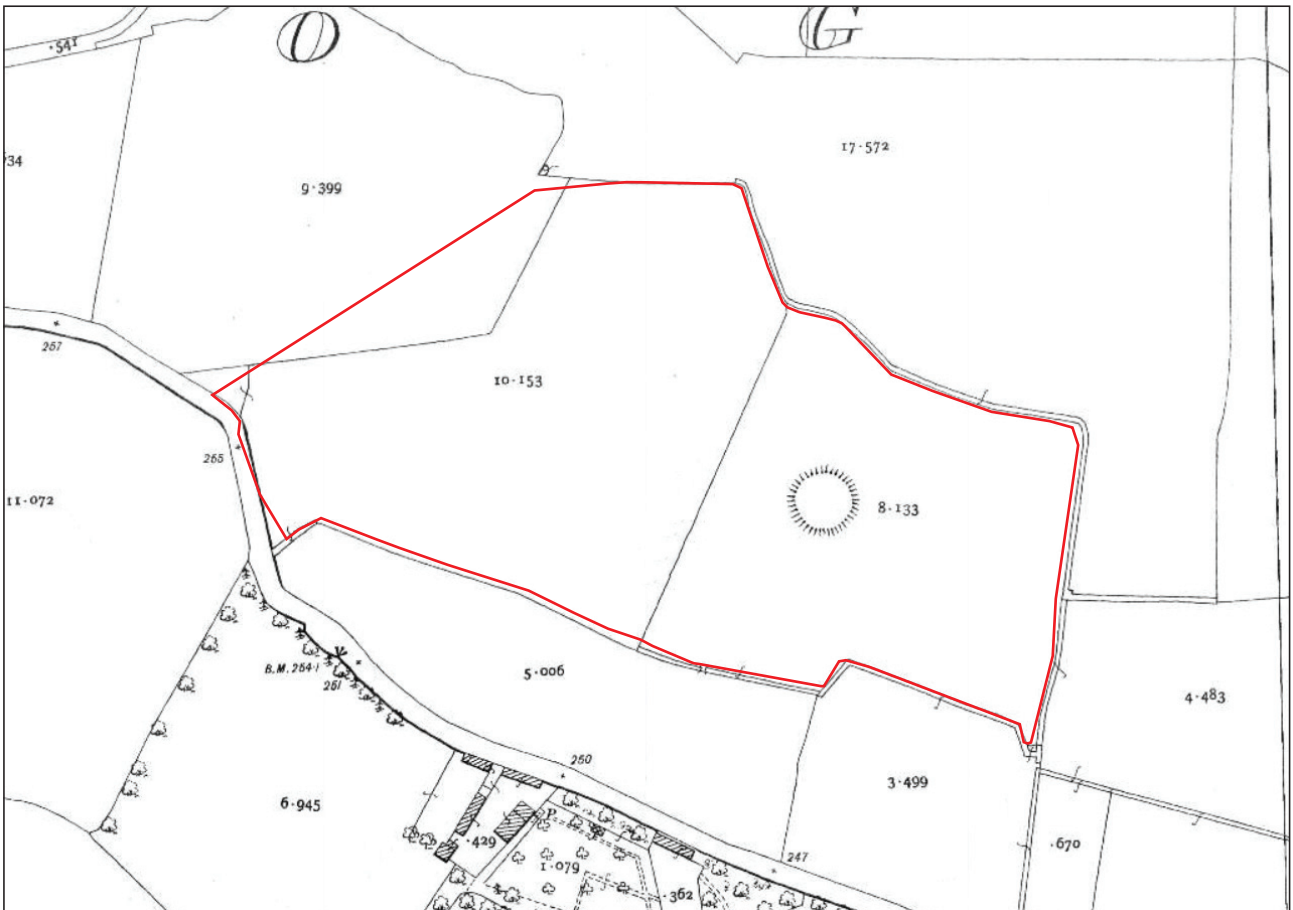


Figure 7 - Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.

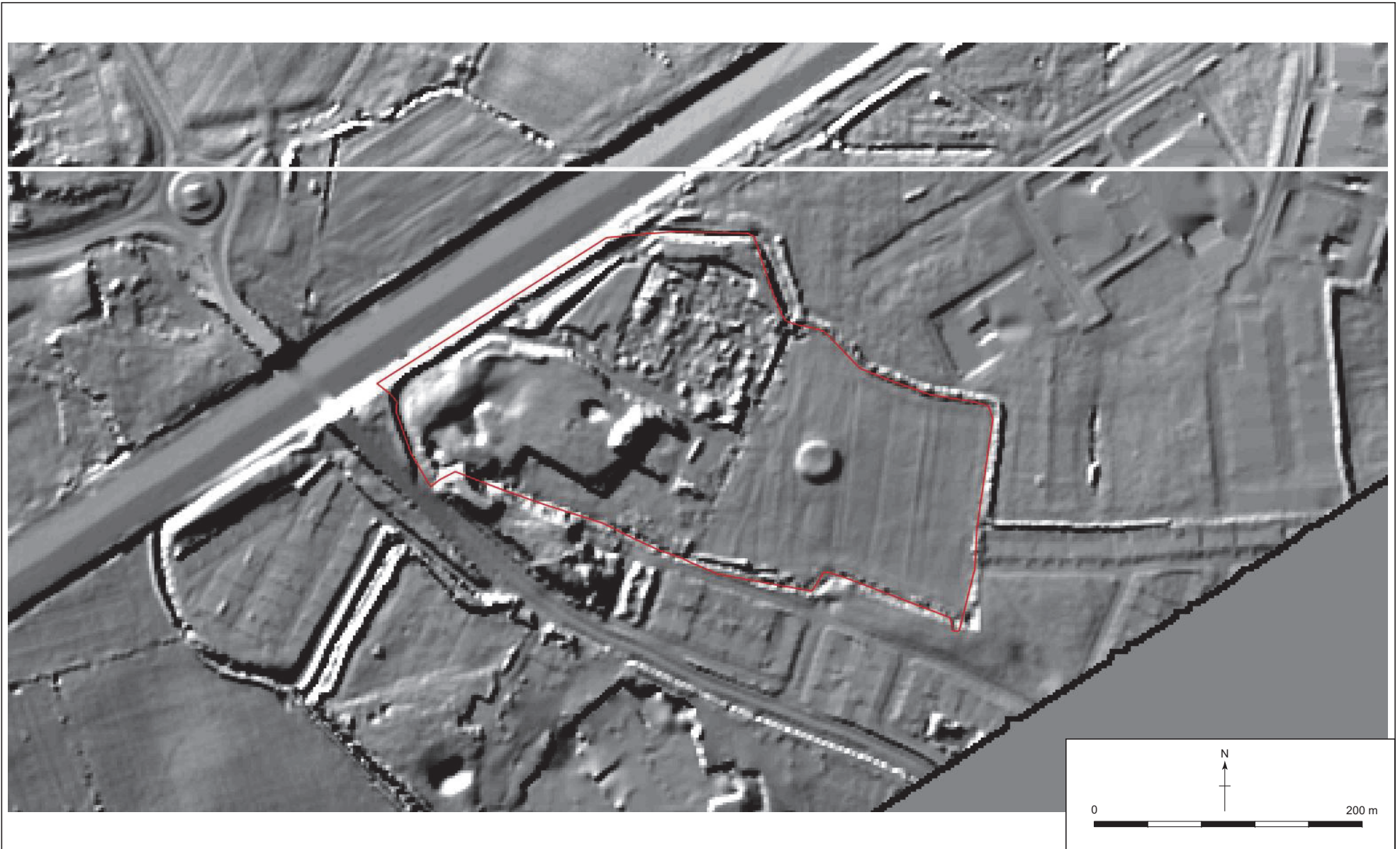
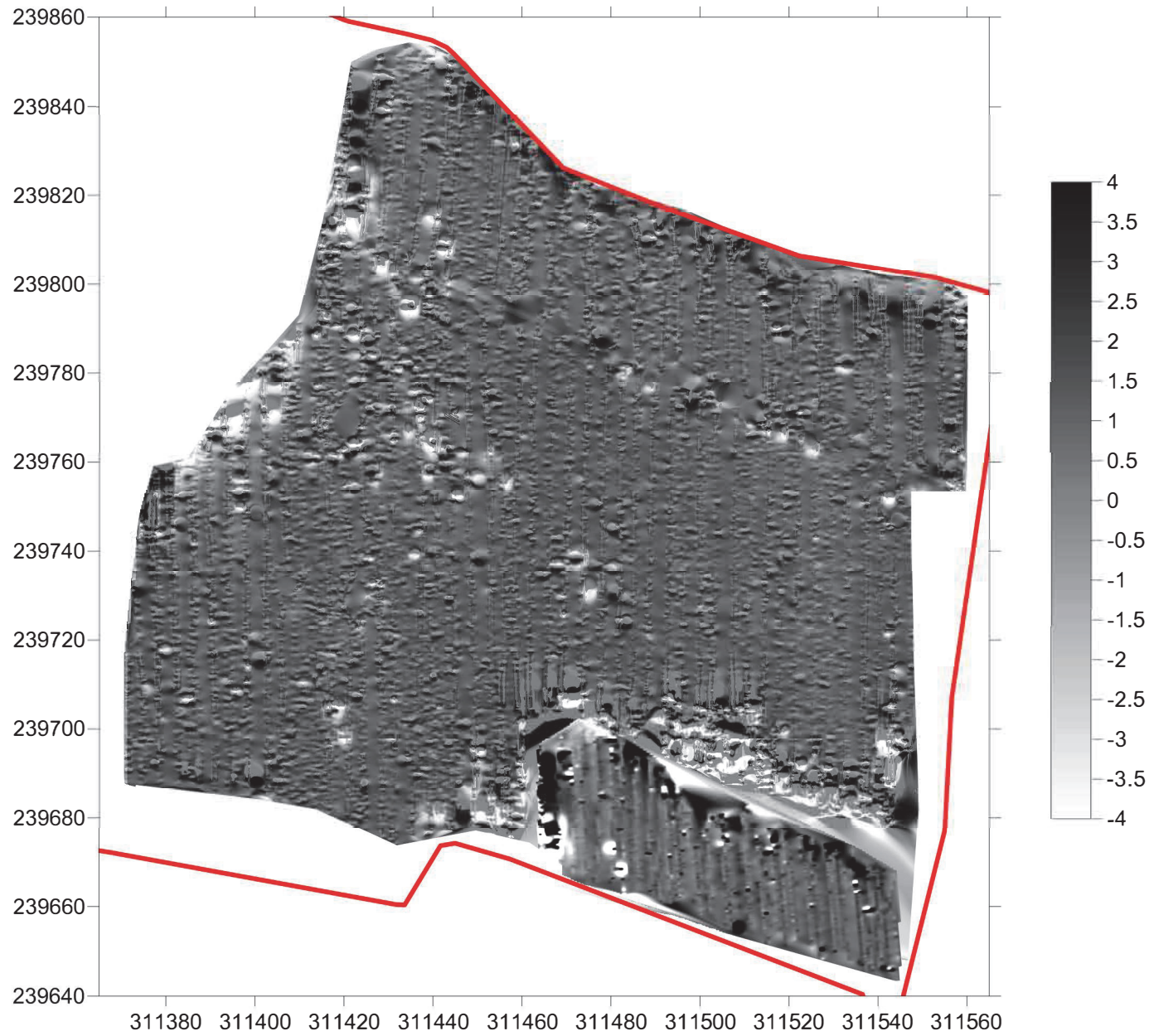






Figure 8 - LiDAR survey of proposed development site (TII, Creative Commons 4.0 International Licence).





**Key**

Previously Known Feature	
High Potential to represent archaeology	
Moderate Potential to represent archaeology	
Low Potential to represent archaeology	

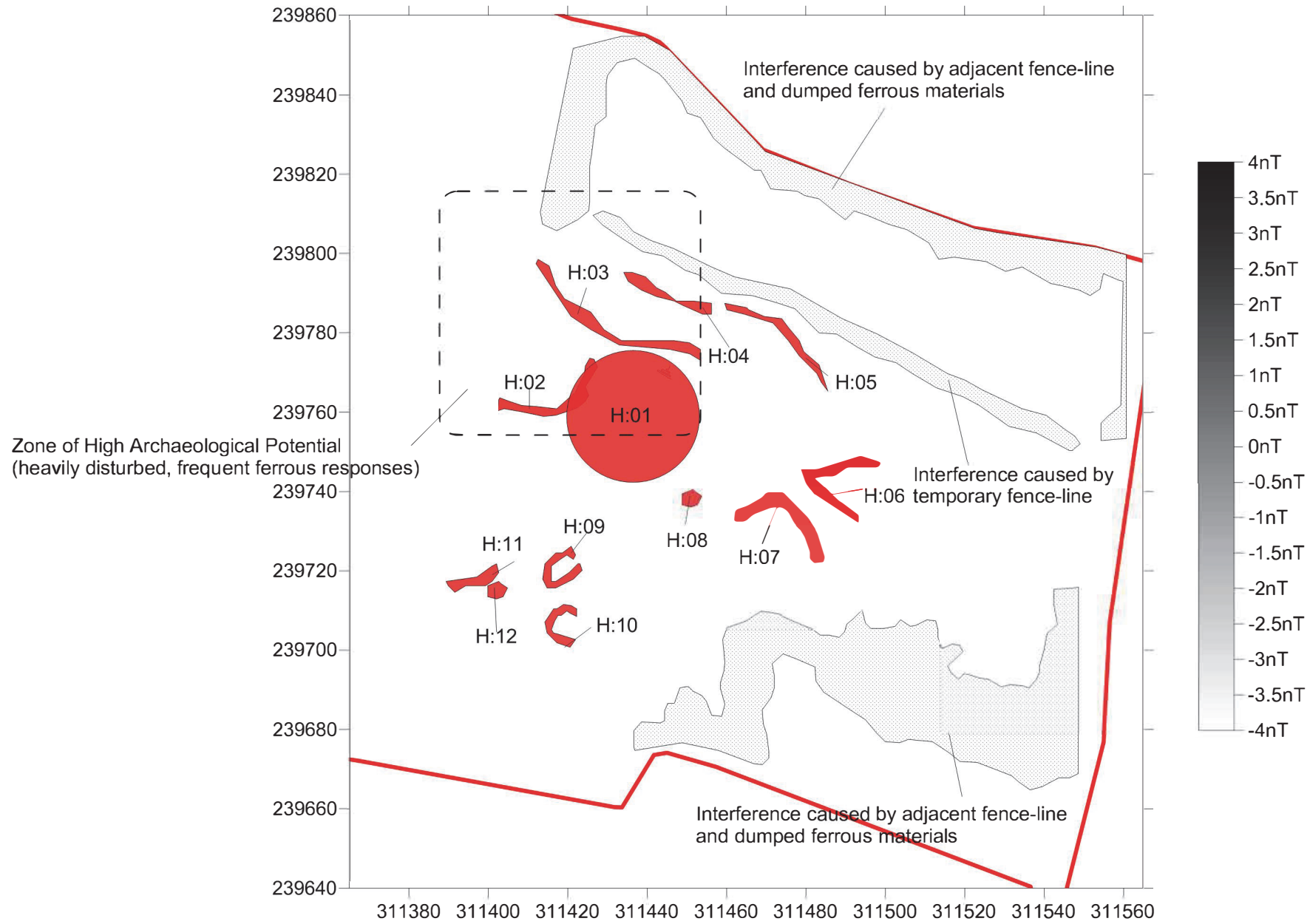


Project Name:  
 Cappoge, Fingal, Co. Dublin  
 Geophysical (Fluxgate Magnetometry)  
 Survey  
 Project Code: CAFD19



Figure 9 - Fluxgate Magnetometry survey results

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**Key**

Previously Known Feature	
High Potential to represent archaeology	
Moderate Potential to represent archaeology	
Low Potential to represent archaeology	



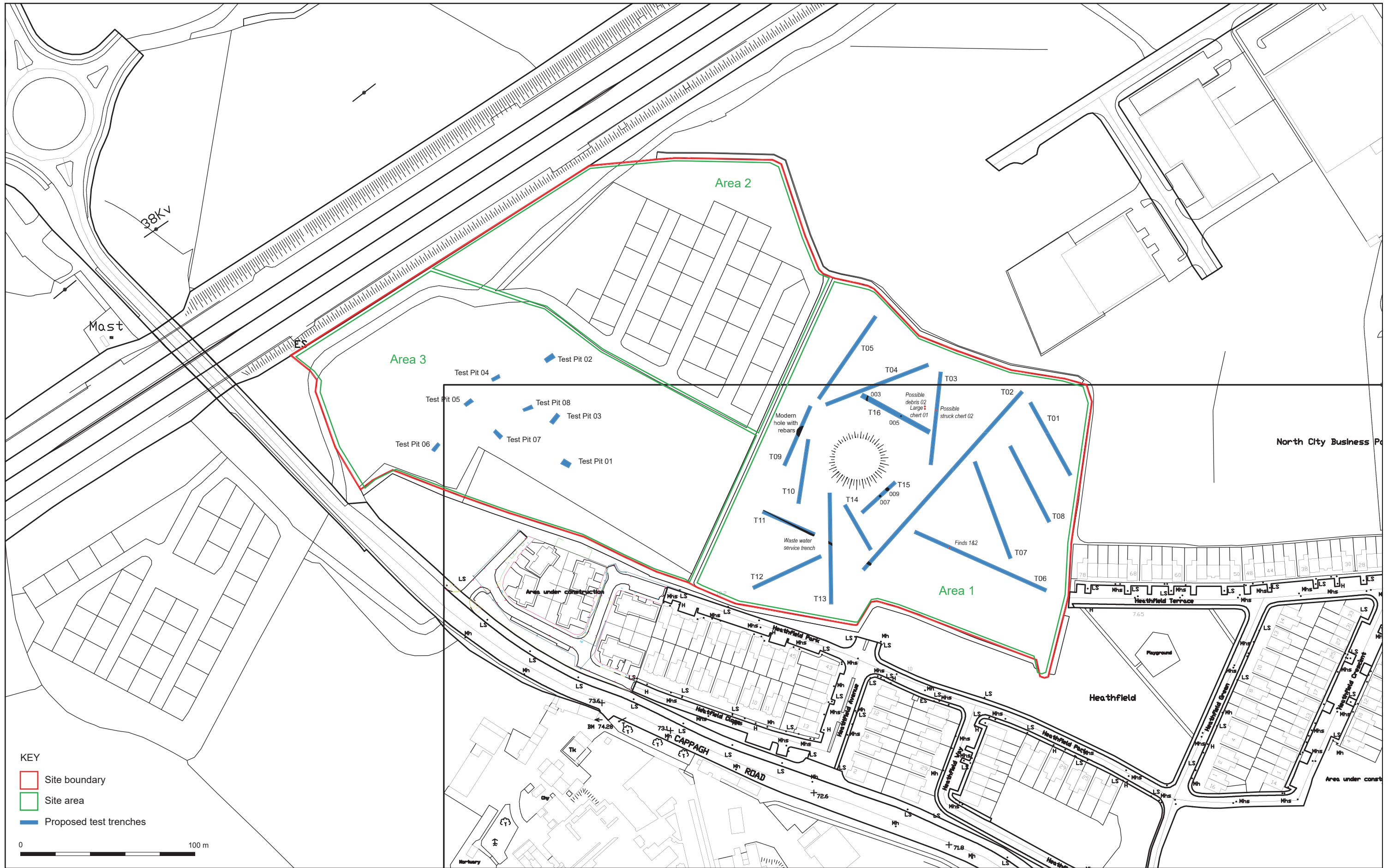
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Cappoge, Fingal, Co. Dublin  
Geophysical (Fluxgate Magnetometry)  
Survey  
Project Code: CAFD19



Figure 10 - Fluxgate Magnetometry survey Interpretation

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2nd edit by:	Signed off:





Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall  
Fingal County Council

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No.	DATE	REVISION

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DATE:-	22.11.2018
DRAWN:-	CB

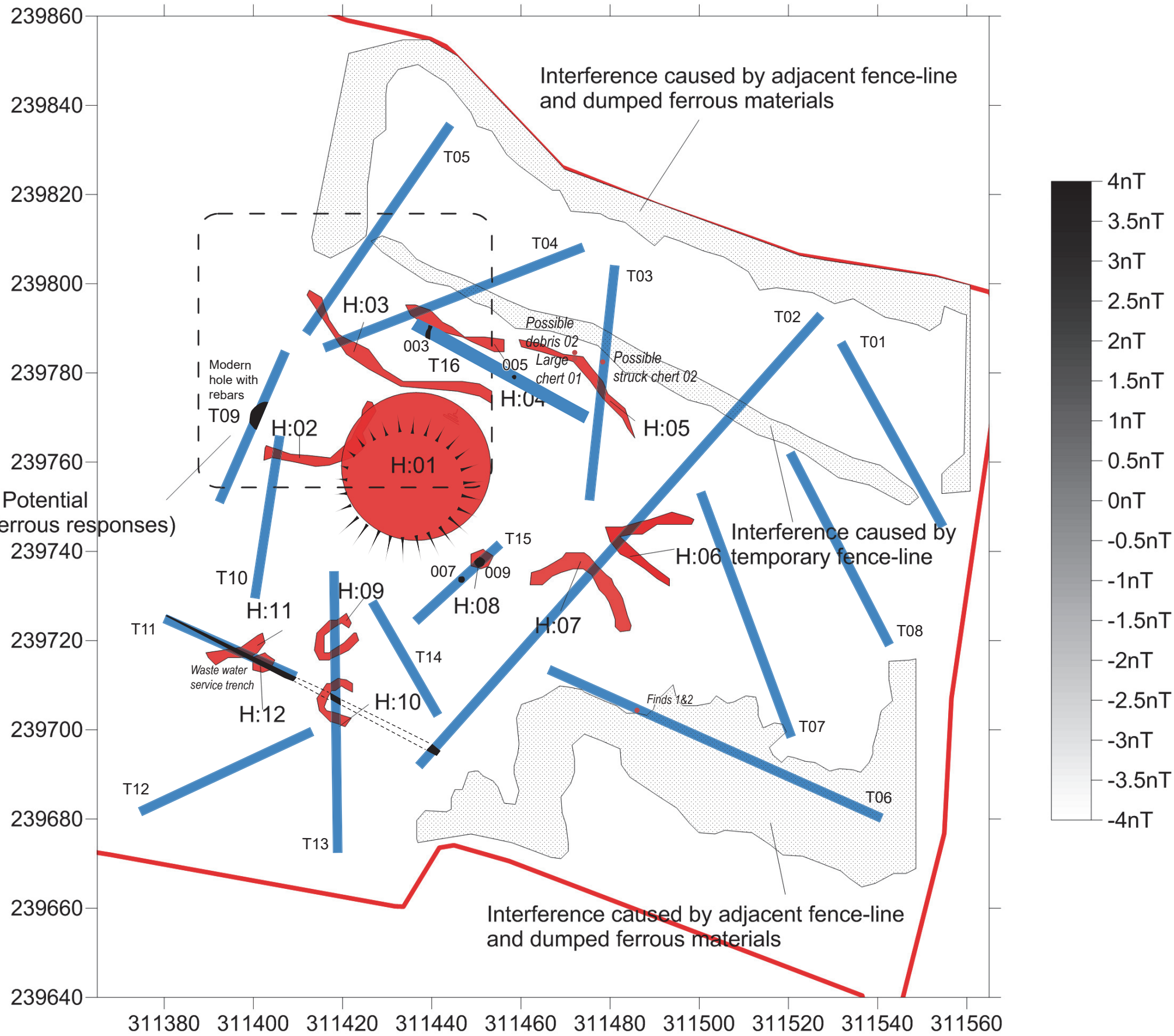
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DRAWING TITLE:	SITE LOCATION MAP
SENIOR ARCHITECT:	

PROJECT ARCHITECT:	Carmel Brennan
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DRAWING NO:	REV.
18-362-F-1000	

Figure 11 - Overall test trench layout.

Zone of High Archaeological Potential  
(heavily disturbed, frequent ferrous responses)



KEY  
 Site boundary  
 Proposed test trenches

**Key**

Previously Known Feature	<span style="background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>
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Moderate Potential to represent archaeology	<span style="background-color: #90ee90; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>
Low Potential to represent archaeology	<span style="background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 10px;"></span>



Project Name:  
 Cappoge, Fingal, Co. Dublin  
 Geophysical (Fluxgate Magnetometry) Survey  
 Project Code: CAFD19



Figure 12 - Test trenches overlaid onto results of geophysical survey.

Drawn by:	1st edit by:
2nd edit by:	Signed off:



KEY

- Development site
- Area of archaeological potential
- Minimum exclusion buffer
- Cultural Heritage Site
  - Very High
  - High
  - Medium/High
  - Medium/Low

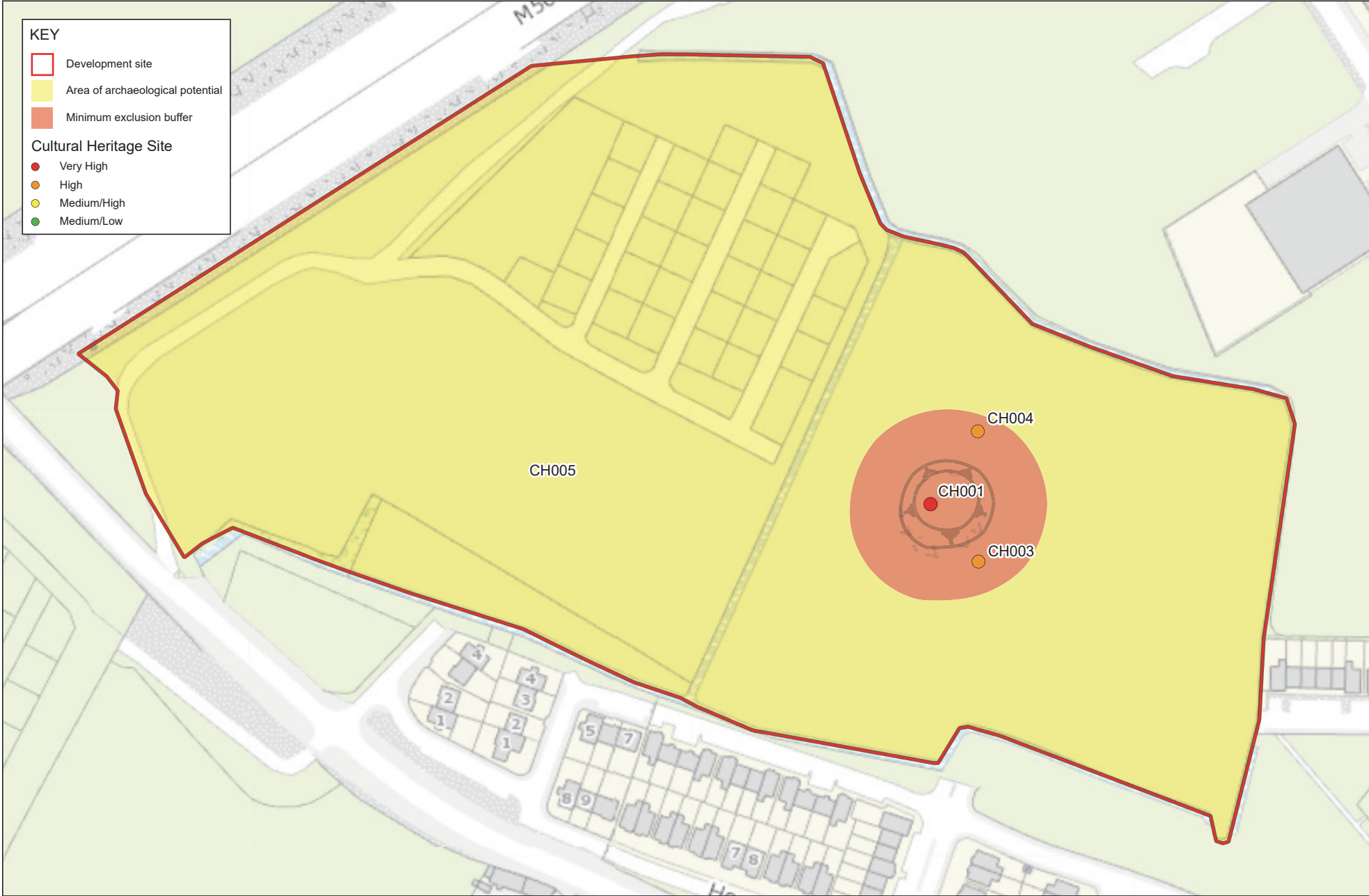






Plate 1 - View of ringfort CH001, looking northwest.





Plate 2 - View of ringfort CH001, looking north.

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

CH No.	Category	Legal status	Baseline Value	Description	Townland/ Street Address	Approx. distance to site (m)	ITM_N	ITM_E
CH001	RMP	DU014-029----	Very High	<p>Ringfort – unclassified</p> <p>Situated within rough grazing, on flat land which slopes away slightly to the south west, now bounded to south by Heathfield housing estate and to north by the M50. This site comprises a circular platform (diam. 34 m; H 1-1.8 m). The bank has not survived and there are no traces of an external fosse. The entrance may have been in the west where farm machinery has damaged the site.</p> <p>Geophysical survey did not indicate the presence of an enclosing ditch (suggesting that this is a platform ringfort). A number of outlying anomalies that might have represented ancillary associated features were subsequently disproved as archaeological features by the subsequent testing programme.</p>	Cappoge	0	711358	739781
CH002	RMP	DU014-028--	Very High	<p>Habitation site</p> <p>Investigations on the NE Gas Pipeline, Phase 1 Report identified remains of a habitation site of uncertain date (Gowen 1984, 67-8).</p>	Cappoge	500	710864	739752
CH003	AAP	N/A	High	<p>Test trenching identified a circular pit and a possible well/pond in Trench 15. The well/pond corresponds to geophysical anomaly H08.</p>	Cappoge	0	711378	739764
CH004	AAP	N/A	Medium /High	<p>Test trenching identified a shallow linear features and small pit containing heat-shattered stone in Trench 16. These features are in the proximity to the geophysical anomalies H04 and H05 though there is no exact correspondence</p>	Cappoge	0	711385	739805

CH No.	Category	Legal status	Baseline Value	Description	Townland/ Street Address	Approx. distance to site (m)	ITM_N	ITM_E
CH005	AAP	N/A	Medium /High	The site as a whole constitutes an area of archaeological potential. Worked chert was noted in the topsoil horizon during archaeological testing.	Cappoge	0	-	-

**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**

An examination of previous excavations carried out within and around the area proposed for development provides a useful framework for assessment of the study area in terms of its archaeological significance as well as its archaeological potential. The Archaeological Excavations Bulletin is an annual fieldwork gazetteer for Irish Archaeology; it was checked for a record of any licensed archaeological investigations carried out in the vicinity of the development area between 1970 and 2007.

### **1995:046**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Ballycoolen/Cappoge/Grange

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A

**Licence number:** 95E0253

**Author:** Deirdre Murphy, Archaeological Consultancy Services, Mespil House, Sussex Road, Dublin 4.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 709727m, N 740825m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.406142, -6.349739

Archaeological testing by trial-trenching was carried out on the site of a proposed rock extraction works at Ballycoolen, Dublin, in October 1995. The site is located in an area close to several archaeological sites identified in the SMR for County Dublin.

Four trenches were excavated in total in the vicinity of the area to be disturbed by the proposed extraction works. The area to the west of the site was not tested as the ground here was previously disturbed by quarrying and limestone rock was exposed. Boulder clay and natural rock were exposed in all of the four trenches and it lay quite close to the surface. There were no features uncovered in any of the trenches or finds of great antiquity.

### **2000:0214**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** BALLYCOOLIN ROAD, CAPPOGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** SMR 14:27

**Licence number:** 99E0724

**Author:** Franc Myles, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

**Site type:** Adjacent to castle

**ITM:** E 708800m, N 740783m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.405957, -6.363701

Four test-trenches were mechanically excavated in the field opposite the site of Cappoge Castle on the site of a proposed industrial/warehouse development. Field-walking, previously carried out for the purposes of an EIS, located considerable amounts of medieval pottery and oyster shell in the north-western portion of the site, furthest away from the castle site. Further quantities of oyster shell and sherds of post-medieval pottery were recorded closer to the castle, near a triangular hollow, which was filled with water.

Three of the test-trenches extended radially from that point of the site closest to the castle site for a distance of c. 200 m, and a further test-trench was excavated across the north-western portion of the site.

The results of the trenches excavated closest to the site of the castle did not indicate the presence of archaeological deposits. It is likely, therefore, that if associated structures or features existed to the west of the site they are located closer to the castle or underneath the road. Trench 4 did not locate archaeological activity to the north-west of the site. The ploughsoil, however, was rich in pottery, glass and clay pipe fragments. The pottery spanned all periods from the late medieval to the present and was evenly scattered throughout the field.

The evidence from the test-trenching would therefore suggest that the area of the proposed development had always been a greenfield site and that the surface finds were introduced with the topsoil at some period during the last twenty years.

**2004:0476**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** CAPPOGUE/KILDONAN/NORTH PARK/FINGLAS/MEAKSTOWN/POPPINTREE/BALLYMUN

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A

**Licence number:** 04E0384

**Author:** Declan Moore, Moore Archaeological & Environmental Services Ltd, Corporate House, Ballybrit Business Park, Ballybrit, Galway

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 714030m, N 740261m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.400165, -6.285258

Monitoring was carried out along the length of a water pipeline in north County Dublin (Dublin North Fringe Water Supply Scheme, Contract 3) in April 2004. Certain areas along the route had already been tested and have been graded as high, medium or low areas of archaeological potential. The majority of the pipeline route for Contract 3 had been graded as high potential, except for a length of pipeline on the Ballymun Road where it has been graded as medium potential.

The works entailed topsoil-stripping and subsequent investigation of possible archaeological features along the route, which runs from Cappogue to the north-east of Finglas, across the north of Dublin and south to Fairview to the east of the city. Contract 3 runs from Cappogue to the southern end of the Ballymun Road.

Monitoring began on 29 March 2004 and ceased on 20 April 2004. Several features of possible archaeological interest were investigated during the course of monitoring. All were of modern provenance. Nothing further of archaeological significance was noted during the duration of the works.

**2006:574**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Abbotstown Business Park, Cappogue

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU014-027

**Licence number:** 06E0228; 06R034

**Author:** Franc Myles, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Site of castle

**ITM:** E 715826m, N 734698m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.349805, -6.260310

This assessment had two components. A programme of geophysical prospecting by Joanna Leigh and Declan Enright was undertaken in early March 2006. The survey areas were set out using tapes and detailed survey blocks were tied in with a DGPS system to allow accurate relocation. This was followed by the mechanical excavation of five test-trenches across the site to 'address the archaeological potential of the entire development site and in particular test for the presence of any remains associated with the castle site'.

The development footprint encompasses the site of Cappogue Castle, which is indicated on the RMP map as being adjacent to a complex containing a small farmhouse and a number of outbuildings. This is also the site of a protected structure, No. 92 on the Fingal County Council Development Plan. In addition, the constraint circle for a recorded habitation site (DU014-028) encroached into the development footprint to the south-east. This Neolithic habitation site was excavated by Margaret Gowen in advance of the construction of a gas main. The four fields tested undulate slightly, with occasional bedrock outcrops evident towards the north.

The trenches were excavated through to natural subsoil and/or bedrock, which was located just underneath the surface in the area around the castle site. There was no evidence recovered for the castle or for any other features of archaeological significance. However, in the very north-western corner of the development site a small rectangular earthwork was recorded, the remains of a mud-walled cabin known as the 'Honeymoon House' and used until c. 40 years ago to accommodate farm labourers.

The principal focus of the assessment was to locate evidence for the castle and it would appear likely that this was located in an area east of a small pond, just to the north of the 'site of castle', which is now occupied by a complex of farm buildings and an extensive concrete farmyard. An examination of the standing structures within the farmyard did not reveal evidence for the castle or, for that matter, evidence for reused masonry in the fabric.

The construction works for the proposed business park involve the demolition of all standing structures, the levelling of the site and a certain amount of landscaping. The northern boundary of the site (which includes the farmhouse and some of the outbuildings) is within a 12 m corridor reserved for the proposed Metro to Dublin airport. The proposed development will involve the construction of three large co-joined double warehouses along the M50, and smaller warehouses and a landmark building along the Ballycoolin Road. The Ordnance Survey castle indicator is located under a proposed carpark between Blocks C and E, but the farmhouse structures are slightly to the east under Blocks E and G.

As evidence for the castle was not located across the RMP location, it would certainly be possible that the castle is located in the vicinity of the farmyard and it was recommended that further test-trenching be undertaken across the areas now covered with a concrete yard, after the standing structures had been demolished. Additionally, it was recommended that the area north of the pond along the land-take of the proposed Metro should be investigated, if the castle's remains are not located elsewhere.

The collapsed vernacular dwelling at the north-western corner of the site will be directly impacted upon by the provision of car parking spaces to the rear of the proposed Block B. The preservation of this earthwork was recommended as a reminder of the site's archaeological past (perhaps as part of the landscaping scheme).



The pond is undoubtedly the result of human intervention in the landscape, although its antiquity was not established archaeologically. In an area with evidence of prehistoric settlement, such as the adjacent Neolithic habitation site, its significance has not perhaps been adequately considered. Its preservation as part of the landscaping scheme would obviate the need for further archaeological investigation prior to its disappearance under the proposed Block E.

**2007:437**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Cappogue

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU014-027

**Licence number:** 06E0228

**Author:** Melanie McQuade, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Multi-period occupation on site of castle

**ITM:** E 710538m, N 740079m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.399272, -6.337816

Excavation uncovered evidence for three main periods of occupation on this site, but no remains of the castle itself were found. The earliest activity is thought to be prehistoric but precise dating awaits the results of radiocarbon analysis. This phase of activity is characterised by a series of eleven intercutting pits filled with burnt material. The pits were of varying size and were probably used for domestic purposes. A prehistoric date is indicated by a piece of struck flint recovered from one of the pits.

A heavily disturbed, and as yet undated, burial-ground occupied the south-eastern part of the site. Here the remains of at least sixteen individuals were interred. Most of the burials were extended inhumations aligned east–west. The burials were enclosed by a deep ditch and orientated in a north-east/south-west direction, but only a short section of this ditch survived. The upper part of this ditch may have been scarped away to the north-east to make way for modern farm outhouses. Another burial was considerably removed from the main burial-ground (75 m to the north-east) and that individual was facing southwards.

A large number of medieval features were uncovered during excavation. These have been dated by a preliminary analysis of the pottery finds to the late 12th–14th century. Of note was a large L-shaped ditch. This measured up to 3.9 m wide and ranged from 1.14 m to 1.74 m deep. The north–south arm of the ditch extended for 53.4 m and the eastern return extended for c. 20 m. The size of this ditch and its organic waterlogged fill indicates that it could represent the remains of a moat that may have delimited the earlier settlement on this site, prior to the construction of the recorded Cappogue Castle. A small curvilinear ditch was partially exposed to the north of this L-shaped ditch and may represent an outer enclosing element, although contemporaneity of the two ditches has not been proven.

In the area to the east of and external to the possible moat, several smaller linear ditches were uncovered. These were all aligned more or less north–south and were relatively shallow, narrow ditches. They could have marked the line of burgage plots or of cultivation ditches.

The final phase of activity on site was characterised by a series of post-medieval field boundaries and drainage ditches. The majority of drainage ditches were aligned east–west.

Finds from the site included a couple of worked flints, a fragmentary bone comb, leather shoe fragments, an arrowhead and a large assemblage of medieval pottery, most of which were locally produced wares.

A further phase of excavation on lands immediately to the north of this site is due to commence shortly.

**2008:376**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Cappogue

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU014-027

**Licence number:** 06E0228 ext.

**Author:** Melanie McQuade, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Medieval settlement

**ITM:** E 704824m, N 791002m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.857883, -6.406550

An area (150 m by 10–28 m) of medieval settlement around Cappogue Castle was uncovered during monitoring of topsoil-stripping along the route of the Ballycoolin Road realignment. This site lay to the immediate north and east of the recently developed Premier Business Park (Excavations 2007, No. 437, 06E0228 ext.). The site was subsequently excavated and evidence was uncovered for two phases of medieval followed by two phases of post-medieval activity.

Two enclosure ditches of medieval date were located on the western end of the excavation area. One of these was the northern continuation of the large, 3–3.6 m wide and 1.88 m deep, waterlogged ditch F25/F72 excavated on the site of Premier business park. A smaller (1.8 m wide and 1.36 m deep) curving ditch, F9, was located 2.8 m to the north-west of the larger ditch, F25/F72, where it curved around the western terminal of that ditch. Ditch F9 was 15.5 m long and a series of recuts had been made along its length, indicating that it was in use for a considerable period of time. Two shallow linear drainage ditches fed into the western end of the curvilinear ditch F9.

Medieval structural remains were suggested by a linear slot-trench on western end of the site, to the north of the curvilinear ditch F9. The slot-trench was orientated north-east/south-west and had been truncated to the north by a modern ditch. It was at least 4.7 m long, 0.5 m wide and 0.12 m deep with a V-shaped profile. Other medieval features included a series of smaller ditches on the western end of the site and a series of furrows and pits scattered across the site.

Two phases of post-medieval activity were represented by a cobbled area at the south-eastern end of the site and a series of ditch and pit features spread across the site. The cobbled area sealed a medieval pit and a shallow linear ditch. It measured 10.8 m by 3.2 m and extended beyond the area of excavation.

Post-excavation analysis is ongoing, but preliminary analysis indicates that the finds include medieval and post-medieval wares, fragments of medieval leather and a coin.

Further excavations on the northern side of the existing Ballycoolin Road were carried out under licence 08E0032 (see No. 377 below).

**2008:377**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Cappogue

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU014-027

**Licence number:** 08E0032

**Author:** Melanie McQuade, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Medieval settlement

**ITM:** E 710607m, N 739945m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.398055, -6.336822

Testing carried out by Johnny Ryan along the Ballycoolin Road realignment corridor uncovered four modern field drains and a quarry that was marked on the first- and second-edition OS maps. A section of the road realignment corridor on the northern side of the existing road and to the north and north-east of the recorded site of Cappogue Castle (DU014-028) was not accessible during the testing programme and was monitored by the writer under an extension to the testing licence. An area of archaeological significance (c. 140 m by 10 m) was identified here and excavations were carried out in advance of construction works. The excavations uncovered evidence for medieval and post-medieval settlement but much of the central area of the excavation site had been subject to previous ground disturbance during the insertion of a water mains and an associated manhole.

The remains of a circular ditched enclosure were uncovered on the western end of the site, to the east of which were two linear ditches, a series of pits, gullies and a stone-lined drain. Further evidence for settlement activity was uncovered c. 30 m to the east, where a series of intercutting linear ditches and stone-lined drains represent the northern extent of the site excavated on the southern side of Ballycoolin Road (see above No. 376, 06E0228 ext., and Excavations 2007, No. 437). Thus the remains of a large medieval settlement (c. 210 m by 120 m) have now been recorded on either side of Ballycoolin Road, around the site of the castle.

Only the western side of the circular enclosure survived but the remains indicated an original diameter of 14 m. The enclosure was defined by a ditch measuring 2.4 m wide and 0.42 m deep. A 2.5 m-wide band of metalling that ran along the external edge of the ditch may represent the remains of a walkway or a denuded bank. The remains of a north-south-orientated drainage ditch and a field boundary were located 5 m and 7 m to the east of the enclosure ditch respectively. These linear ditches and the enclosure ditch all extended beyond the northern extent of the excavation site and in the absence of a stratigraphic relationship between these features it is not clear whether they were in contemporary use. A series of pits, gullies and a curvilinear stone-lined drain were uncovered to the east of these ditches and their location indicates that all but one of these features (a subcircular pit) would have been external to the circular enclosure. These features include three oval pits (c. 1.5 m by 0.5 m) and three closely set linear gullies, two of which were perpendicular to each other. Structural remains are indicated by a shallow north-east/south-west orientated slot-trench (9 m long by 0.32 m wide) and a curvilinear stone-lined drain located a short distance to the east of these features.

An area of prolonged settlement activity on the eastern end of the site is represented by a series of intercutting ditches and gullies dating to the medieval period. A large (2 m wide) north-south-orientated boundary ditch was uncovered at the eastern edge of the excavation area. The main focus of activity lay 6 m to the west of this ditch, where the remains of a north-west/south-east wall were suggested by a single row of stones that ran along the southern end of the excavation area for c. 11 m. An east-west-orientated ditch lay to the north of the stone. The ditch was 12 m long and 0.3 m deep and there was evidence for several recuts along its length. A curvilinear stone-lined drain fed into the eastern end of this ditch and both features were truncated by post-medieval activity on this part of the site. To the north of the east-west ditch were a series of five linear ditches, a curvilinear ditch and two small stone-lined drains. The ditches were generally orientated north-south with one running east-west and the curvilinear ditch running north-east/south-west. They averaged 0.8 m wide and 0.12 m deep and had homogenous silty clay fills.

Post-medieval activity was concentrated on the eastern end of the site. Here a stone bank was constructed along the southern edge of the medieval wall foundation and extended for 13 m along the southern edge of excavation. It was orientated north-west/south-east and was a maximum of 1.5 m

wide and 0.5 m high. Two east–west-orientated post-medieval ditches were located to the north of the bank, where they cut through the medieval features on the south-eastern end of the site.

The archaeological features on this site continue into the greenfield area beyond the northern limit of excavation and a series of features uncovered outside the north-western edge of the road-take have been preserved in situ. These include a medieval stone-lined pit and an east–west-orientated ditch (2.2 m wide and 0.84 m deep) with waterlogged fills. The latter was sealed by a metalled surface of post-medieval date.

Preliminary analysis of the finds from this site indicates that they include locally manufactured and imported pottery of medieval and post-medieval date, a medieval wooden bowl, several metal items and fragments of slag.

**2008:453**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** North City Business Park, Finglas

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A

**Licence number:** 08E0140

**Author:** Franc Myles, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 711685m, N 739932m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.397715, -6.320625

This assessment was undertaken prior to the submission of a planning application for a development site in close proximity to a ringfort in Cappogue townland (DU014–029). The mechanical excavation of a single trench 120 m by 2 m was undertaken on the site on 12 May. The trench was opened on an approximate east–west alignment while a section cut through the northern side of the site at the edge of the ongoing development was also examined. A similar soil profile was recorded over the entire trench and section. A sequence of sod and topsoil sealed a ploughsoil containing occasional 19th- and early 20th-century pottery and glass sherds. This in turn sealed a stony boulder clay. Nothing of archaeological significance was recorded at either location.

**2010:235**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** Astagob (Castleknock By., Castleknock ED)/Cappagh/Cappoge/Clonburris Great/Coolmine (Castleknock By.)/Corduff (Castleknock By.)/Dardistown/Irishtown

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A

**Licence number:** 10E0410

**Author:** Jane Whitaker and Kara Ward, Archaeological Development Services Ltd, Unit 6, Channel Wharf, 21 Old Channel Road, Belfast, BT3 9DE.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 706763m, N 735822m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.361807, -6.395994

Monitoring of preliminary ground investigations was undertaken for the route of Metro West, a twin-track light rail system which will serve approximately a 25 km corridor from the junction of Belgard Road/Old Blessington Road in Tallaght to Dardistown.

Geotechnical investigations were required in order to provide factual data for use in the design and construction. It was proposed to undertake cable percussion and rotary cored boreholes, together with

trial-pits to determine the nature and thickness of the underlying soils, and also to ascertain the level and nature of the underlying rock as well as infiltration rates.

Monitoring of boreholes and trial-pits was carried out in those areas deemed to be within or adjacent to the zones of archaeological potential for a number of RMP sites including DU017–005 (ringfort – unclassified); DU014–027 (castle/tower-house); DU014–021 (field system, possible); DU013–019 (church and graveyard; national monument). In addition, a number of boreholes/trial-pits were within or adjacent to a number of areas of archaeological potential as identified by the Metro West environmental impact statement (EIS).

The locations of these works were geographically dispersed along the proposed route and within the townlands of Astagob (Castleknock By., Castleknock ED), Cappagh, Cappoge, Clonburriss Great, Coolmine (Castleknock By.), Corduff (Castleknock By.), Dardistown, Irishtown (Castleknock By.), Merryfalls, Ronanstown, Silloge, Snugborough (Castleknock By.).

The excavation of a total of twelve trial-pits and thirteen boreholes was subject to monitoring along the route. A further ten trial-pits, five boreholes and five infiltration test-pits were monitored at the location of the Metro North depot in Dardistown. Nothing of apparent archaeological significance was located in any of the pits or boreholes.

#### **2014:017**

**County:** Dublin

**Site name:** NIA Deanestown, Sheephill, Cappoge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A

**Licence number:** 14E0406

**Author:** Fintan Walsh and David McIlreavy

**Site type:** No archaeology found

**ITM:** E 709074m, N 739953m

**Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees):** 53.398440, -6.359860

Testing was carried out within the site of the proposed National Indoor Arena, developed as part of the National Sports Campus. The site was located at Deanestown, Sheephill and Cappoge, Co. Dublin. The testing was undertaken in response to planning conditions attached to the proposed development (Planning Ref.: FW09A/0061). Testing followed on from a geophysical survey undertaken in 2014 by J. M. Leigh Surveys (Licence 14R0077).

A total of 20 trenches were mechanically investigated across the proposed development area. These trenches were positioned to target the geophysical anomalies and to provide a general assessment of the overall development area.

The geophysical survey identified two areas of archaeological potential: a group of linear and curvilinear features (Area 1A) at the northern end of the site and a second linear and curvilinear feature (Area 1B) to the south of this. These features were tested and found to be of 19th-century date.

No archaeological features were identified during the programme of testing; however it is possible that ground disturbances associated with the proposed development will have an adverse impact on isolated archaeological remains that have the potential to survive outside of the footprint of the test trenches. It has therefore been recommended that all ground disturbances associated with the proposed development be monitored.

## **Appendix 3 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](http://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 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.