

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
AT
BROWNSBARN, CITYWEST CAMPUS,
DUBLIN 24.**

**ON BEHALF OF:
EXETER IRELAND IV B LIMITED**

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ABSTRACT

This report has been prepared on behalf of Ireland IV B Limited, to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological and historical resource of the proposed warehouse facility at Brownsbarn (Figure 1, ITM 704492, 728220). The report was undertaken by Matt Brooks of IAC Archaeology.

The site is bounded to the south by the N7 Naas Road, to the north and west by the National Distribution Centre and to the east by Brownsbarn Drive and the Royal Garter Stables, a Protected Structure (RPS Ref. 261). There are no archaeological sites located within the development area or within 250m of the site. The nearest recorded monument consists of a ringfort (DU021-020), located c. 645m to the north.

Analysis of the aerial photographic record available for the area failed to identify any previously unknown archaeological features in the area but the coverage does show that the site has been subject to disturbance. This was confirmed during the field inspection.

Whilst it is clear that the proposed development area has been subject to development and disturbance during the modern period it is not clear how this disturbance may have affected the archaeological resource. There may be an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. This will be caused by ground disturbances associated with the proposed development.

It is recommended that all topsoil stripping associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation in-situ or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoHLGH.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The following report details an archaeological assessment undertaken in advance of a proposed warehouse facility at Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24 (Figure 1; ITM 704492, 728220). This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological and historical resource that may exist within the area. The assessment was undertaken by Matt Brooks of IAC Archaeology (IAC), on behalf of Exeter Ireland IV B Limited.

The archaeological assessment involved a detailed study of the archaeological and historical background of the proposed development site and the surrounding area. This included information from the Record of Monuments and Places of County Dublin, the topographical files within the National Museum and all available cartographic and documentary sources for the area. A field inspection has also been carried out with the aim to identify any previously unrecorded features of archaeological or historical interest.

1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

The proposed warehouse facility will comprise of the following (Figure 2).

- Construction of 2 warehouses with ancillary office and staff facilities and associated development, with a gross floor area including a warehouse area.
- Provision of a vehicular access/egress routes to the subject site via the existing roundabout and access road.
- Provision of an alteration to the existing access arrangements to the subject lands to facilitate safe traffic flow to/from the proposed facilities.
- Provision of a pedestrian access; 112 car parking spaces; bicycle parking; HGV Parking; HGV yards; level access goods doors; dock levellers; access gates; signage; hard and soft landscaping; lighting; boundary treatments; ESB substation; sprinkler tanks; pump houses.
- Provision of associated site development works above and below ground on lands bounded to the south by the N7 Naas Road, to the north and west by the National Distribution Centre and to the east by Brownsbarn Drive and the Royal Garter Stables.

2 METHODOLOGY

Research for this report was undertaken in two phases. The first phase comprised a paper survey of all available archaeological, historical and cartographic sources. The second phase involved a field inspection of the site.

2.1 PAPER SURVEY

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Dublin;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Dublin;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders List;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022;
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2020);

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

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

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

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

Preservation Orders List contains information on Preservation Orders and/or Temporary Preservation Orders, which have been assigned to a site or sites. Sites

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

The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland are the national archive of all known finds recorded by the National Museum. This archive relates primarily to artefacts but also includes references to monuments and unique records of previous excavations. The find spots of artefacts are important sources of information on the discovery of sites of archaeological significance.

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

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

Development Plans contain a catalogue of all the Protected Structures and archaeological sites within the county. The South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022 was consulted to obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

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

Excavations Bulletin is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2010 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files. This information is also available online (www.excavations.ie) from 1970–2020.

2.2 FIELD INSPECTION

Field inspection is necessary to determine the extent and nature of archaeological and historical remains, and can also lead to the identification of previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds through topographical observation and local information.

The archaeological field inspection entailed -

- Walking the proposed development and its immediate environs.
- Noting and recording the terrain type and land usage.
- Noting and recording the presence of features of archaeological or historical significance.
- Verifying the extent and condition of any recorded sites.
- Visually investigating any suspect landscape anomalies to determine the possibility of their being anthropogenic in origin.

3 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed development area is located within the townland of Brownsbarn, barony of Newcastle, and parish of Saggart, County Dublin. The site is bounded to the south by the N7 Naas Road, to the north and west by the National Distribution Centre and to the east by Brownsbarn Drive and the Royal Garter Stables (a Protected Structure (RPS Ref. 261)). There are no archaeological sites located within the development area or within 250m of the site. The closest site consists of a ringfort (DU021-020), located c. 645m to the north.

3.1.1 Prehistoric Period

Mesolithic Period (7000–4000 BC)

Although very recent discoveries may push back the date of human activity by a number of millennia (Dowd and Carden, 2016), the Mesolithic period is the earliest time for which there is clear evidence for prehistoric activity in Ireland. During this period people hunted, foraged and gathered food and appear to have had led a primarily, but not exclusively, mobile lifestyle. The presence of Mesolithic communities is most commonly evidenced by scatters of worked flint material, a by-product from the production of flint implements.

The current archaeological evidence suggests that the environs around Dublin were first inhabited towards the later part of this period. At this time people made crude flint tools known as Larnian (or Bann) Flakes. Small numbers of these flakes have been found along coastal areas of County Dublin such as Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey Island, and Loughlinstown and may indicate small-scale transient settlement along the riverbanks and seashores (Corlett, 1999). There are no known Mesolithic sites located within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area; however, an excavation c. 1km to the northwest recovered a flint scrapper that may date to this period (Licence 01E0210, Bennett 2001:454).

Neolithic Period (4000–2500 BC)

During the Neolithic period, communities generally became less mobile and their economy became based on the rearing of stock and cereal cultivation. The transition to the Neolithic was marked by major social change. Communities had expanded and moved further inland to more permanent settlements. This afforded the development of agriculture which demanded an altering of the physical landscape. Forests were rapidly cleared and field boundaries constructed. Pottery was also being produced, possibly for the first time.

While recent years have seen a large increase in the number of identified Neolithic settlement and habitation sites, the period is most commonly characterised by its impressive megalithic tombs. There are two megalithic passage tombs on Saggart Hill c. 5.1km to the southwest in Crockaunadreenagh and Slievethoul (DU024-005001/2).

A Neolithic polished stone axe was recovered c. 650m west-northwest of the development area during excavations associated with Mountpark Baldonnell Phase 1 logistics development (Licence 18E0223; McIlreavy 2019c).

Bronze Age (2500–800 BC)

The Bronze Age was marked by the widespread use of metal for the first time in Ireland. As with the transition from Mesolithic to Neolithic, the transition into the early Bronze Age was accompanied by changes in society. The construction of megalithic tombs went into decline and the burial of the individual became typical. Cremated or inhumed bodies were often placed in a cist, which is a stone-lined grave, usually built of slabs set upright to form a box-like construction and capped by a large slab or several smaller lintels (Buckley & Sweetman, 1991). Barrows and pit burials are also funerary monuments associated with this period. A cist (DU021-028) is recorded c. 3km southwest of the proposed development area within Greenogue, where ploughing exposed a cist-like structure.

Another site type thought to reveal a glimpse of domestic life at this time is the burnt mound and *fulacht fiadh*. A common site within the archaeological record, they are normally interpreted as temporary cooking sites but may have been used for other industrial or even recreational functions. They survive as low mounds of charcoal-enriched soil mixed with an abundance of heat-shattered stones. They are usually horseshoe shaped and located in low-lying areas near a water source and are often found in clusters. Even when levelled by an activity such as ploughing, they are identifiable as burnt spreads in the landscape (Brindley & Lanting, 1990). There are several burnt mounds and *fulacht fiadh* (DU021-098-102), located c. 940m to the west of the proposed development area. A further burnt mound feature was excavated as part of an Irish Water pipeline project c. 2.1km to the west of the proposed development area (Licence 18E0658).

Eight burnt mound sites were excavated within Brownsbarn as part of Phase 1 Warehouse development at Baldonnell, c. 600-700m to the west (Licences 18E0182–85, 18E0187, 18E0244 and 18E0247; Duffy and McIlreavy 2019).

Iron Age (800 BC–AD 500)

Until recently, the dearth of evidence representing the Irish Iron Age led to the it being among the most enigmatic and least understood period in Irish prehistory. However, large scale commercial excavations carried out over the past two decades have produced large quantities of new data relating to Iron Age settlement and industry across the country. This raw excavation data is still being analysed and a picture of life during the Iron Age is being assembled (Becker 2012, 1).

A ring-barrow (DU024-008) was excavated c. 3.8km to the south of the proposed development area in Lugg. This revealed a burial site overlying a habitation site. The cremated burials were accompanied by early Iron Age pottery (NMI E74:8-560).

3.1.2 Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

The early medieval period is depicted in the surviving sources as largely rural characterised by the basic territorial unit known as *túath*. Byrne (1973) estimates that there were probably at least 150 kings in Ireland at any given time during this period, each ruling over his own *túath*. One of the most common indicators of settlement during this period is the ringfort. Ringforts were often constructed to protect rural farmsteads and are usually defined as a broadly circular enclosure. One of the most recent studies of the ringfort (Stout, 1997) has suggested that there is a total of 47,000 potential ringforts or enclosure sites throughout Ireland. They are typically enclosed by an earthen bank and exterior ditch and range from 25m to 50m in diameter. Ringforts can be divided into three broad categories – univallate sites, with one bank or ditch; multivallate sites with as many as four levels of enclosing features and platform or raised ringforts, where the interior of the ringfort has been built up. These enclosed farmsteads were intimately connected to the division of land and the status of the occupant (Stout, 1997). One such site is located c. 645m to the north of the proposed development area (DU021-020).

An early medieval habitation site (DU021-023) was excavated c. 710m to the southeast in Brownsbarn. Works for the Cork – Dublin gas pipeline in 1981 discovered the remains of a possible settlement site, which contained charcoal enriched soil, animal bone, oxidised clay and a bone comb. The finds indicate that features may be part of a 9th or 10th century AD settlement site (Sleeman and Hurley 1987).

This period was also characterised by the introduction of Christianity to Ireland and the foundation of a large number of ecclesiastical sites throughout Ireland. These early churches tended to be constructed of wood or post-and-wattle. Between the late 8th and 10th centuries, mortared stone churches gradually replaced the earlier structures. Many of the sites, some of which were monastic foundations, were originally defined by an enclosing wall or bank. An early medieval ecclesiastical enclosure is recorded c. 1.5m to the southeast of the proposed development area (DU021-034001-9). The remains of this feature, which borders a graveyard, may be associated with the religious foundation established here by St Mosacra during the 7th century. This was known as *Teach Sacra* (House of Sacra) and for many years Saggart was known by the derivative of this 'Tassagard' or 'Tassagart'. As with many early medieval ecclesiastical enclosures, this example contains the remains of a medieval church (DU021-034002) and a number of other features.

3.1.3 Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

The settlement of Saggart itself is recorded as a deserted medieval settlement (DU021-034) c. 1.5km to the southwest of the proposed development. After the Anglo-Norman invasion, Saggart was retained as property of the Crown, becoming a royal manor. Nevertheless, it bordered the lands of the Gaelic Irish, and as such was exposed to regular attacks. In 1272, as a result of frequent incursions by Irish tribes, the King's sergeant Robert Owen recommended that lands at Saggart 'near the land of war' be exchanged for lands at Newcastle Lyons, 'near the land of peace' (southdublinhistory.ie). However, the Crown vigilantly guarded its property in Saggart, but in 1311 the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles invaded the area. Around 1323, the lands

around Saggart became the property of St Patrick's Cathedral and were assigned by the Dean and Chapter to the Economy fund. At the time, it seems that Saggart was enclosed by walls as reference is made to a gate in an old deed. The settlement was also administered by a portreeve, which was a position that was held in 1432 by Richard Aylmer.

In 1472 it is recorded that ditches were dug around Saggart to deter invasion from the native Irish clans. In 1494, further strengthening of Saggart's defences took place, with an order to the inhabitants of the Pale to build a 'double ditch of six feet high above ground' for their protection (southdublinhistory.ie). The threat of attack from the Irish of the Dublin and Wicklow mountains was constant throughout the following centuries. The resultant political conditions precipitated the construction of a large amount of tower houses and fortified buildings within the South Dublin and Rathdown area. There are two later medieval tower houses recorded within Saggart (DU021-034010/11), which are located c. 1.5km and c. 1.3km to the south respectively. The settlement was captured and burnt in 1580 by Fiach McHugh O' Byrne (SMR file).

3.1.4 Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1800)

Saggart was described as 'a village containing two castles in repair and the remains of another castle as well as some thatched houses and cabbins' in the mid-17th century (SMR file). During the second half of the 17th century the village was affected by the Cromwellian Restoration and Williamite land settlements. Prior to 1641, the confiscation was aimed primarily against the Gaelic Irish. After that date all Catholic proprietors, comprising mainly Irish and Old English, found their lands subject to forfeiture unless they could prove 'constant good affection' to the English parliament (Goff, 1987). The village of Saggart was burned a number of times during this turbulent period. In January 1642, the village was defended by 500 Irish soldiers to prevent further incident. Following their transfer to Drogheda the village burned again by Crown forces, under the command of Sir Thomas Armstrong (southdublinhistory.ie).

With the onset of the 18th century, the political climate settled and this saw a dramatic rise in the establishment of large residential houses around the country. This was largely due to the fact that after the turbulence of the preceding centuries, the success of the Protestant cause and effective removal of any political opposition, the country was at peace. The large country house was only a small part of the overall estate of a large landowner and provided a base to manage often large areas of land that could be dispersed nationally. During the latter part of the 18th century, the establishment of a parkland context (or demesnes) for large houses was the fashion. Although the creation of a parkland landscape involved working with nature, rather than against it, considerable construction effort went into their creation. Major topographical features like rivers and mountains were desirable features for inclusion into, and as a setting, for the large house and parkland.

Multiple demesne landscapes and large houses were established throughout County Dublin during this period, due to the proximity of the city. The closest and largest

demesne located within the area surrounding the proposed development is associated with Saggart House (NIAH Garden DU-50-O-041272) c. 1.1km to the south of the proposed development. Today the demesne contains a golf course. However, the main house and a number of outbuildings survive in good condition. The house is a protected structure (RPS 290) along with the outbuildings (RPS 292, 422). The demesne wall survives along much of the eastern boundary of the landscape and forms a boundary between the demesne and Garter Lane.

Browns Barn, located to the immediate southeast of the proposed development area, was recently the premises of the Brown's Barn Restaurant, and was originally stables for the Bianconi carriages (The Royal Garter Stables). Charles Bianconi was born in Italy in 1786. When he came to Ireland, he saw that a fast, cheap transport was needed. After the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte at the battle of Waterloo in June 1815 the demand for Irish horses for war purposes declined. In 1815, Bianconi bought some horses and coaches and twenty years later his 'bianconis' or 'bians' as they were known, travelled around the country. The Royal Garter Stables (Protected Structure: 261) was occupied in 1831 by the carriers Stuckly and Purcell. They had 31 acres of the land for grazing their horses. Other occupiers of the lands were Heffernan (31 acres), Peter O'Rourke (8 acres) and John Craven (1 acre) (southdublinlibraries.ie).

3.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2020) has revealed that no investigations have been carried out within the proposed development or its 250m study area. A number of investigations have taken place within the wider vicinity, which are summarised below.

Works for the Cork – Dublin gas pipeline in 1981 discovered what was initially considered to be the remains of a possible *fulacht fia*. On further examination it was determined as the remains of a possible settlement site. This was evident as a shallow fosse or drain and a sub-rectangular pit was present. The fill in the fosse contained charcoal enriched soil, animal bone and oxidised clay; and a bone comb was also recovered. The fill of the pit comprised a dark brown humus-enriched soil and animal bones. The finds indicate that the drain and pit may be part of a 9th or 10th century AD settlement site, located c. 710m to the southeast of the proposed development (DU021-023). It has not been possible to identify with certainty the precise location of this site and the current coordinates should only be considered as indicative (Sleeman and Hurley 1987).

3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Down Survey of the Barony of Newcastle, 1655 (Figure 3)

On this map, the proposed development is located to the northeast of the settlement of Saggart and to the east of Rathcoole, which contained two old castles, the ruins of a chapel, and many habitable houses and cabins. Saggart is recorded as having two castles in repair, one stump of a castle, and some thatch houses and cabins. The proposed development is situated within land that is described as 'good arable meadow and pastures'

John Rocque's Map of the City and County of Dublin, 1760 (Figure 4)

The proposed development area is depicted within an open field to the northeast of Rathcoole and northeast of Saggart. The Naas Road separates the settlements from the fields around the proposed development area. Saggart House is depicted to the southwest with the position of the Royal Garter Stables clearly marked.

John Taylor's Map of the Environs of Dublin 1816 (Figure 5)

On Taylor's map there is little change to the immediate environs of the proposed development, which lies between the Naas Road to the south and a road to the west that connects to Ballydaniel Commons to the north. The Royal Garter Stables is still clearly shown.

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

This map is the first to accurately depict the proposed development area. The map shows that the proposed development area is formed by one open field. The Naas Road is bound directly to the south while a stream runs along the western boundary. The Royal Garter Stables is clearly marked to the southeast of the site

Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, scale 1:2,500 (Figure 7)

By the time of this map there has been relatively little change within the proposed development area itself and its local environs. The site is still within one open field, which is likely to have been utilized for grazing by the Royal Garter Stables, which by this time has expanded in size.

3.4 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022 recognises the statutory protection afforded to all Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) sites under the National Monuments Legislation (1930–2014). The development plan lists a number of aims and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage (Appendix 1).

There are no archaeological sites within a 250m radius of the proposed development (Figure 1). The nearest recorded monument consists of a recorded ringfort, located c. 645m to the north (DU021-020).

3.5 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995–2013), Google Earth (2008–2020), and Bing Maps revealed that the proposed development area remains largely unchanged since 1995. No previously unrecorded sites of archaeological potential were noted within the coverage (Figure 8). Coverage from 2017 shows the western section of the site has been disturbed by possible drainage works. More recent coverage also shows that spoil heaps have been deposited in parts of the site.

3.6 TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES

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

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

No stray finds are recorded from within the proposed development area or its immediate environs.

3.7 FIELD INSPECTION

The field inspection sought to assess the site, its previous and current land use, the topography and any additional information relevant to the report. During the course of the field investigation the proposed development site and its surrounding environs were inspected (Figure 1).

The proposed development area is formed by a relatively level field of scrubby pasture, which is sub-rectangular in plan. Evidence of topsoil stripping at the centre of the site is present (Plate 1) and the southern section of the site is heavily overgrown (Plate 2). The central and northern parts of the site remain less overgrown, but evidence of disturbance and dumping of spoil was noted (Plates 3 and 4). The western boundary is very heavily overgrown and according to historic mapping contains a small stream. This was not accessible during the inspection. The northern boundary is also formed by a mature hedgerow, whilst the eastern and southern boundaries are all modern in nature.

No specific sites or areas of archaeological potential were noted during the course of the inspection.

4 CONCLUSIONS

This archaeological assessment was commissioned by Exeter Ireland IV B Limited to assess the potential for the survival of archaeological features preceding the development of a warehouse facility at Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24. The site is bounded to the south by the N7 Naas Road, to the north and west by the National Distribution Centre and to the east by Brownsbarn Drive and the Royal Garter Stables, a Protected Structure (RPS Ref. 261). There are no archaeological sites located within the development area or within 250m of the site. The nearest recorded monument consists of a ringfort (DU021-020) located c. 645m to the north.

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2020) has revealed that no investigations have been carried out within the proposed development area or its 250m study area. Analysis of cartographic sources has revealed that the proposed development area itself has remained relatively unchanged from the post-medieval to modern periods, comprising of one open field that may have been utilised for grazing by the Royal Garter Stables. Analysis of the aerial photographic record available for the area failed to identify any previously unknown archaeological features in the area. The coverage does show that the site has been subject to disturbance, with spoil dumped in the area and drainage works having being carried out.

A field inspection of the site has been carried out as part of this assessment. This confirmed that the site has been subject to ground disturbances and was also overgrown with scrub at the time of the inspection. A stream does run along the western end of the site within an overgrown field boundary, which does lend some archaeological potential to the site.

Given the results of the assessment the proposed development area is considered to possess a low-moderate archaeological potential.

5 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological resources potentially affected. Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; and burial of sites, limiting access for future archaeological investigation. Upstanding archaeology can be affected adversely by direct damage or destruction arising from development, from inadvertent damage arising from vibration, undermining etc. and also by indirect impacts to a building's visual setting, view or curtilage.

5.1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- Whilst it is clear that the proposed scheme footprint has been subject to development and disturbance during the modern period it is not clear how this disturbance may have affected the archaeological resource. There may be an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. This will be caused by ground disturbances associated with the proposed development.

5.2 MITIGATION

- It is recommended that all topsoil stripping associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation *in-situ* or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoHLGH.

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

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

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CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

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- Ordnance Survey Maps, 1837 and 1909

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

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

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

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

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

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

www.logainm.ie – Placenames Database of Ireland launched by Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaelige and the DoHLGH.

www.southdublinlibraries.ie – History of The Royal Garter Stables

www.southdublinhistory.ie – History of Saggart

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

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

OWNERSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS

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

REGISTER OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS

Section 5 of the 1987 Act requires the Minister to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded on the register is illegal without the permission of the Minister. Two months' notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. The register also includes sites under Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders. All registered monuments are included in the Record of Monuments and Places.

PRESERVATION ORDERS AND TEMPORARY PRESERVATION ORDERS

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

RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES

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

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

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

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

THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000

Under planning legislation, each local authority is obliged to draw up a Development Plan setting out their aims and policies with regard to the growth of the area over a five-year period. They cover a range of issues including archaeology and built

heritage, setting out their policies and objectives with regard to the protection and enhancement of both. These policies can vary from county to county. The Planning and Development Act 2000 recognises that proper planning and sustainable development includes the protection of the archaeological heritage. Conditions relating to archaeology may be attached to individual planning permissions.

South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2016 - 2022

It is the policy of the Council to manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the Archaeological Heritage of the County and avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.

HCL2 Objective 1:

To favour the preservation in-situ of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHGI (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

HCL2 Objective 2:

To ensure that development is designed to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features and objects.

HCL2 Objective 3:

To protect and enhance sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and ensure that development in the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Area of Archaeological Potential does not detract from the setting of the site, monument, feature or object and is sited and designed appropriately.

HCL2 Objective 4:

To protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites including associated features and any discovered battlefield sites of significant archaeological potential within the County.

HCL2 Objective 5:

To protect historical burial grounds within South Dublin County and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles.

APPENDIX 2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REMAINS

Impacts are defined as ‘the degree of change in an environment resulting from a development’ (Environmental Protection Agency 2017). They are described as profound, significant or slight impacts on archaeological remains. They may be negative, positive or neutral, direct, indirect or cumulative, temporary or permanent.

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

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

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

PREDICTED IMPACTS

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

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

APPENDIX 3 MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE REMAINS

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

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

DEFINITION OF MITIGATION STRATEGIES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

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

Archaeological Test Trenching can be defined as ‘a limited programme of intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate’ (CIFA 2020a).

Full Archaeological Excavation can be defined as ‘a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design’ (CIFA 2020b).

Archaeological Monitoring can be defined as ‘a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be

disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive (CIFA 2020c).

Underwater Archaeological Assessment consists of a programme of works carried out by a specialist underwater archaeologist, which can involve wade surveys, metal detection surveys and the excavation of test pits within the sea or riverbed. These assessments are able to access and assess the potential of an underwater environment to a much higher degree than terrestrial based assessments.



Legend
[Red outline] Site location

IAC Archaeology	Title: Site location	Scale: 1:6000	Drawn By: JA
	Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24	Date: 30/08/21	Checked By: MB
	Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited	Job No: 13852	Fig: 1 Rev: 0



Title: Extract from Down Survey of the Barony of Newcastle (c. 1855) showing the approximate location of the proposed development area

Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24

Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited

Scale: NTS

Date: 30/08/21

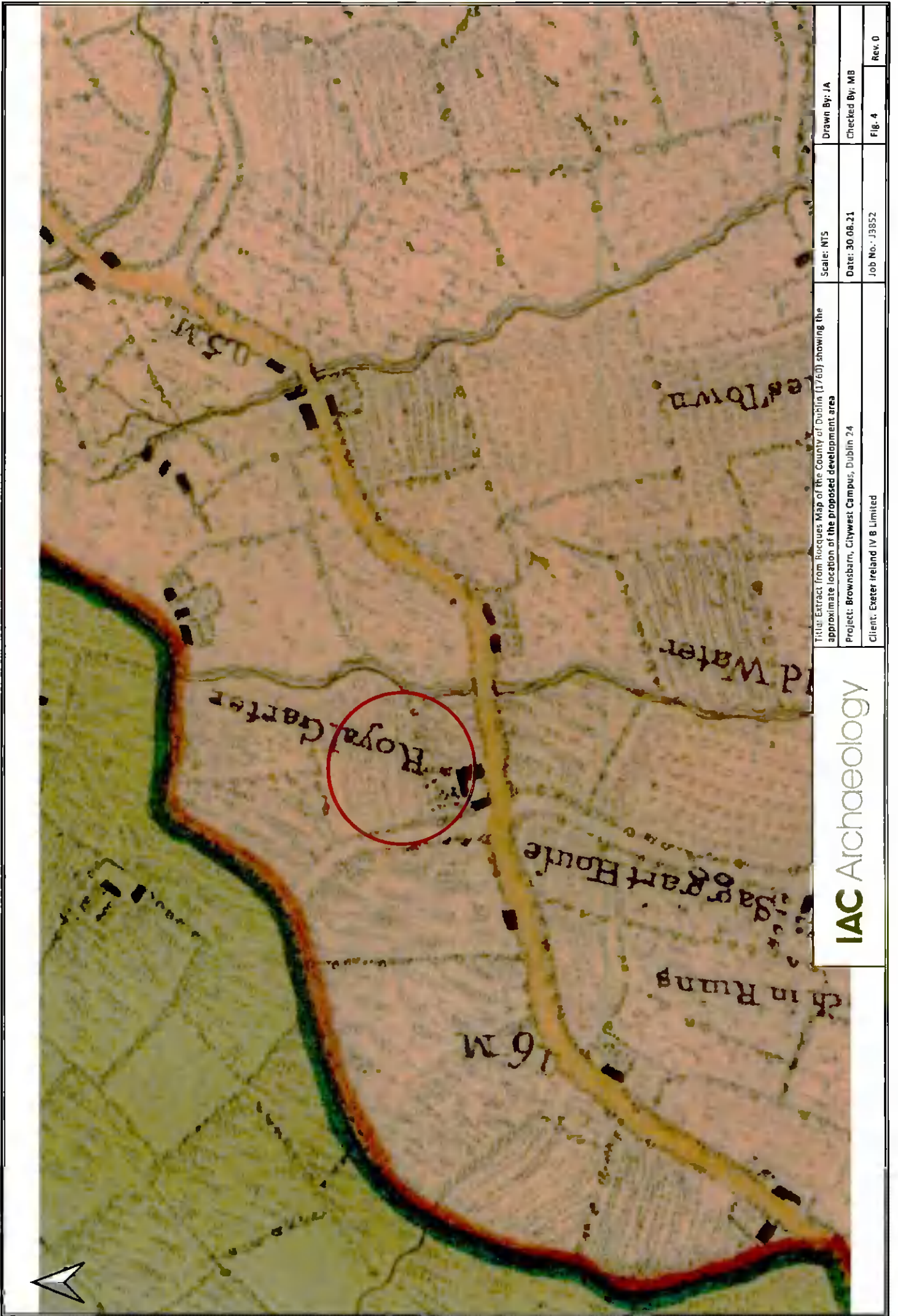
Job No: J3852

Drawn By: IA

Checked By: MB

Fig 3

Rev 0



Title: Extract from Rocques Map of the County of Dublin (1760) showing the approximate location of the proposed development area

Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24

Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited

Drawn By: JA

Scale: NTS

Date: 30.08.21

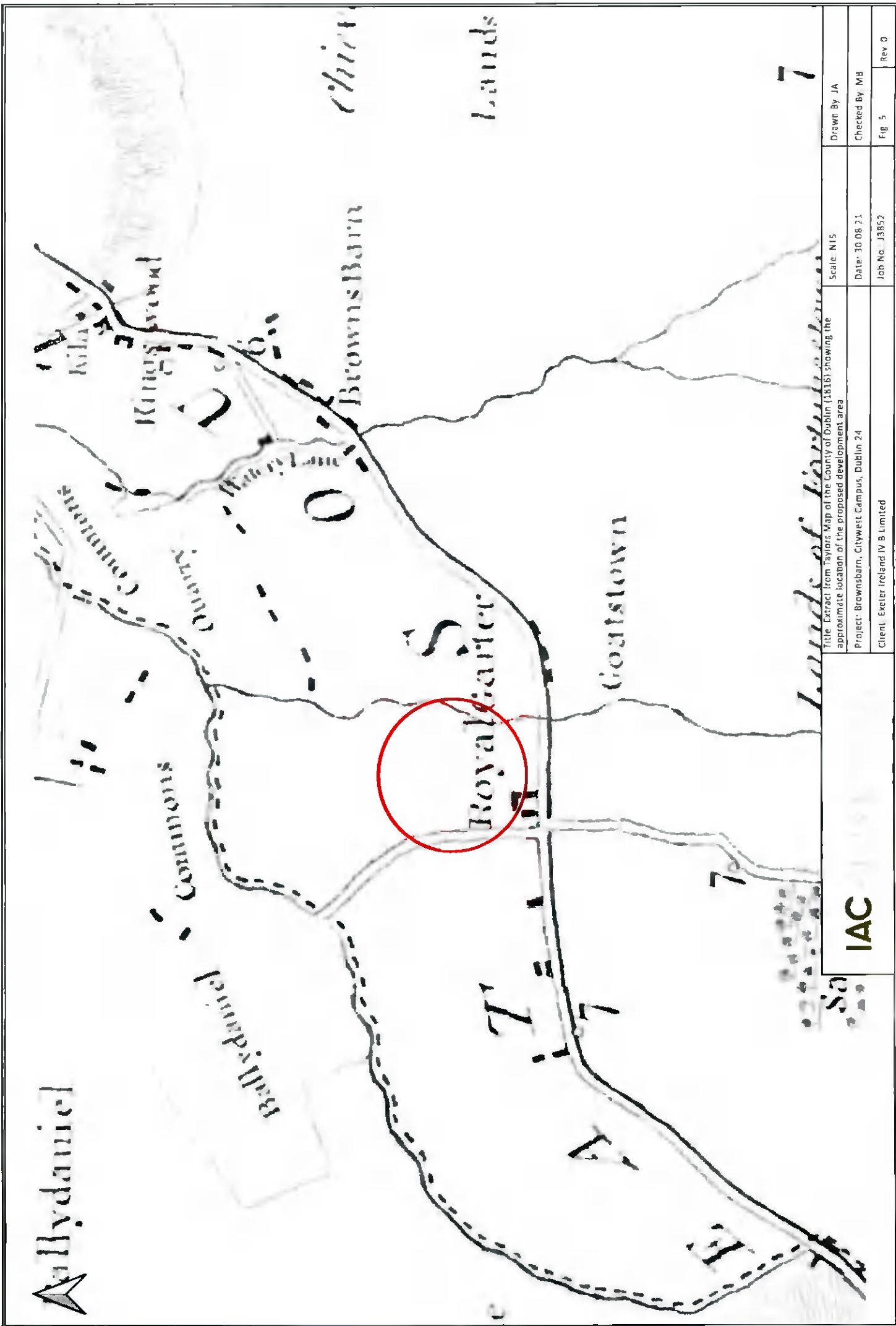
Checked By: MB

Job No.: J3852

Fig. 4

Rev. 0

IAC Archaeology



Title: Extract from Taylor's Map of the County of Dublin (1816) showing the approximate location of the proposed development area
 Project: Brownsbarr, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24
 Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited

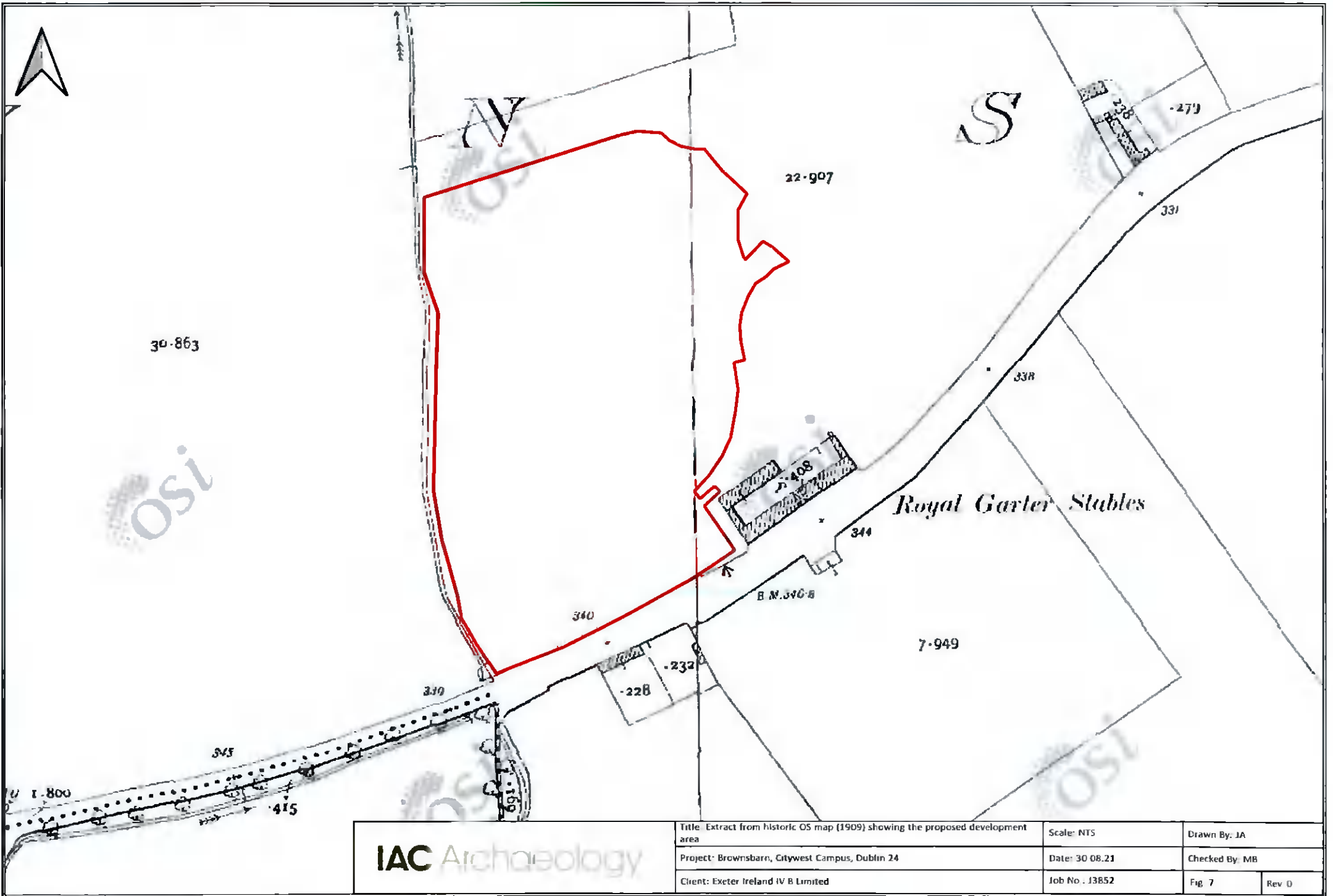
Scale: N15
 Date: 30 08 21
 Job No. J3852
 Drawn By: JA
 Checked By: MB
 Fig 5
 Rev 0

IAC



IAC Archaeology

Title: Extract from the first edition OS map (1837) showing the proposed development area	Scale: NTS	Drawn By: JA
Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24	Date: 30.08.21	Checked By: MB
Client: Lxeter Ireland IV B Limited	Job No: 13852	Fig 6 Rev 0



	Title: Extract from historic OS map (1909) showing the proposed development area		Scale: NTS	Drawn By: JA
	Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24		Date: 30.08.21	Checked By: MB
	Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited		Job No.: 13852	Fig 7



IAC Archaeology

Title: Extract from satellite imagery (Google Earth 2021) showing the proposed development area	Scale: 1:3000	Drawn By: JA
Project: Brownsbarn, Citywest Campus, Dublin 24	Date: 30.08.21	Checked By: MB
Client: Exeter Ireland IV B Limited	Job No: J3852	Fig. 8 Rev. 0



Plate 1 Proposed development area, facing west-southwest



Plate 2 Southern section of the site, facing south



Plate 3 Central section of the site, facing west

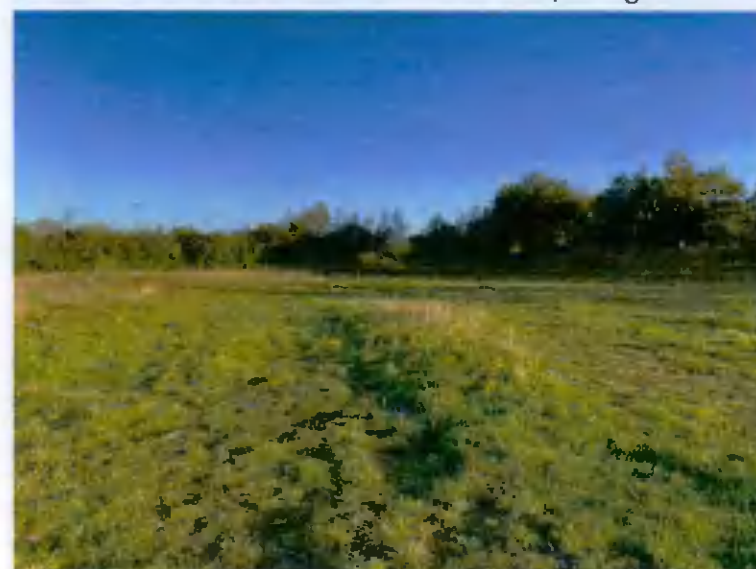


Plate 4 Northern section of the site, facing north

