

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
FOR A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

AT

KNOCKLYON DUBLIN

ON BEHALF OF

PATHWAY HOMES



Fadó  
Archaeology

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>SCOPE OF WORKS.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Introduction .....	1
1.2	Proposed Development.....	1
1.3	Archaeological Assessment .....	2
1.4	Legal Background.....	2
1.5	Methodology .....	2
1.6	Desk Study .....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Description of the Site.....	5
2.2	Site Layout/Locational details .....	5
<b>3</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT .....</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	Solid Geology and Soil Type.....	6
3.2	Landscape .....	6
<b>4</b>	<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL &amp; HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1	Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age): .....	7
4.2	Neolithic (New Stone Age): .....	7
4.3	Bronze Age: .....	7
4.4	Iron Age: .....	7
4.5	Early Christian or Early Medieval: .....	8
4.6	Later Historic Period: .....	8
4.7	Development of Dublin City.....	9
4.7.1	<i>Viking Dublin</i> .....	9
4.7.2	<i>Anglo-Norman Dublin</i> .....	10
4.7.3	<i>Medieval Dublin</i> .....	10
<b>5</b>	<b>DESKTOP DATA.....</b>	<b>11</b>
5.1	National Monuments .....	11
5.2	Previous Archaeological Work.....	11
5.3	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage .....	13
5.4	County Development Plan.....	14
5.5	Record of Monuments and Places.....	14
5.6	The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files .....	17
5.7	Lewis Topographical Dictionary 1837.....	17
5.8	Aerial Photography.....	18
5.9	Cartographic Evidence .....	18

5.9.1	Ordnance Survey 1838 edition (6" map) .....	18
5.9.2	Ordnance Survey c. 1900 edition (25" map).....	19
<b>6</b>	<b>THE PROPOSED SITE .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>POTENTIAL EFFECTS.....</b>	<b>22</b>
7.1	Potential Direct Effects.....	22
7.2	Potential Direct Effects on Recorded Archaeological Monuments .....	22
7.2.1	Potential direct effects on unrecorded Archaeological Monuments.....	22
7.3	Potential Visual Effects on Setting.....	23
<b>8</b>	<b>CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF IMPACTS.....</b>	<b>25</b>

#### TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Plan of the Proposed Development at Knocklyon Road.....	1
Figure 3:	OSI Discovery Series Map – subject area indicated by the red arrow (Source: www.heritagemaps.ie). .....	6
Figure 4:	ASI Map of Knocklyon Dublin 16. Proposed Development Area is indicated in red (Source: www.archaeology.ie). .....	16
Figure 5:	Aerial photograph of the Proposed Development Area outlined in red (Source: www.archaeology.ie). .....	18
Figure 6:	Ordnance Survey Map c. 1838 of the Proposed Development Area (Source: archaeology.ie).....	19
Figure 7:	Ordnance Survey Map c.1900 of the Proposed Development Area (Source: archaeology.ie).....	20

#### TABLE OF PLATES

Plate 1:	North facing view of the Proposed Development Area.....	21
Plate 2:	West facing view of the Proposed Development Area.....	21

## ABBREVIATIONS

NMI	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND
NMS	NATIONAL MONUMENTS SERVICE
DHLGH	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HERITAGE
VIA	VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
AIA	ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
SMR	SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD
RMP	RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES
RPS	RECORD OF PROTECTED STRUCTURES
NIAH	NATIONAL INVENTORY OF ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE
PDA	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA
ZAN	ZONE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTIFICATION

## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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This report describes the results of a desktop archaeological impact assessment carried out by Fadó Archaeology at Knocklyon, Dublin 16 on behalf of Pathway Homes.

The proposed development site comprises a small greenfield site in a residential area on Knocklyon Road. The proposed development residential development consisting of 4 no. new build 2-storey 5-bedroom semi-detached houses on a site of 0.087 hectares in total size.

There are several recorded monuments are in the wider vicinity of the subject site, but none are within proximity to the site. No recorded archaeological monument will be impacted on either physically or visually by the proposed development at Knocklyon Road.

Due to the overall size (0.087 hectares) of the proposed development, the lack of recorded archaeological monuments within the vicinity of the subject site it is not recommended that the site be subject to further archaeological mitigation.

No further archaeological mitigation in the form of testing or monitoring is considered necessary for this proposed development.

**Please note that all recommendations in this report are subject to approval by the Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the National Museum of Ireland.**

# 1 SCOPE OF WORKS

## 1.1 Introduction

Fadó Archaeology were commissioned to carry out a desktop archaeological impact assessment for a proposed development at Knocklyon, Dublin 16 on behalf of Pathway Homes. The following assessment report documents the project, the existing environment at the subject area and assesses the potential impact that development may have on any above ground or subsurface archaeological remains.

## 1.2 Proposed Development

The development will consist of the following: Proposed residential development consisting of 4 no. new build 2-storey 5-bedroom semi-detached houses on a site of 0.087 ha at Knocklyon Road, Knocklyon, Dublin. A new water main connection to the public network which runs by the front of the site will provide a clear potable water supply. Foul water will be discharged to the foul network via a new foul connection from the dwellings, the exact details of which are set out in the engineer's report and associated drawings. Surface water will be discharged to the local gravity-fed surface water network having filtered through some onsite SuDS measures will be designed and constructed in line with SuDS best practices.



Figure 1: Plan of the Proposed Development at Knocklyon Road.

### 1.3 Archaeological Assessment

In the present context archaeological assessment means investigations aimed at any of the following: (i) gaining a better understanding of a known or suspected archaeological site or monument with particular reference to considering the implications of proposed development for such a site or monument, (ii) locating previously unidentified site or monuments (or possible ones) prior to the commencement of development works with particular reference to considering the implications of proposed development for such sites or monuments, (iii) considering the potential that proposed development works or longer term effects of a development may have on elements of the archaeological heritage not identified prior to the commencement of development works.

Archaeological assessment may, as appropriate, include documentary research, fieldwalking, examination of upstanding or visible features or structures, examination of existing or new aerial photographs or satellite or other remote sensing imagery, geophysical survey, topographical assessment, general consideration of the archaeological potential of the area or areas affected by a development based on their environmental characteristics, or archaeological testing. In all cases an archaeological assessment should consider both direct and indirect effects of proposed development. It is always essential that the report on archaeological assessment contain an archaeological impact statement describing the possible direct or indirect effects of the proposed development on elements of the archaeological heritage.

### 1.4 Legal Background

The National Monuments Acts 1930-2014, The Heritage Act 1995, The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act 1999 and the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000, are the main legal mechanisms by which the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage resource is protected today in Ireland.

### 1.5 Methodology

The assessment of the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage was based on a desktop study of published and unpublished documentary and cartographic sources, as well as a comprehensive site inspection of the proposed development area.

### 1.6 Desk Study

This desktop study comprised a paper study of all available archaeological, historical, and cartographic sources. These sources are described below:

### **National Monuments**

Under the National Monuments Acts (1930 to 2004) sites in *'The Ownership or Guardianship of The Minister Or A Local Authority Or National Monuments Which Are Subject To A Preservation Order'* are offered the highest level of protection. For any construction or excavation works to take place either on or in the vicinity of these sites' permission must first be obtained from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the form of a Ministerial Consent.

### **South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2022 – 2028**

South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2022– 2028 was consulted. It contained the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) for County Dublin.

### **Record of Monuments and Places**

The RMP of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, was established under the 1994 Amendment to the National Monuments Acts (1930-14). It is based on the pre-existing Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and information from completed county archaeological inventories. As such, it records known upstanding archaeological monuments, their original location (in cases of destroyed monuments) and the position of possible sites identified as cropmarks on vertical aerial photographs. The RMP information is compiled from the files of the Archaeological Survey, which combines cartographic sources, published and publicly available documentary sources, including periodicals, the records of the NMI, Geological Survey of Ireland 1:30,000 vertical aerial photographs and inspections of sites in the field. The information is read in conjunction with constraint maps, published at reduced six-inch scale, on which recorded sites are clearly marked. The RMP is constantly updated and is the first stage in the preparation of a national census of archaeological sites, with inventories also published at an interim stage. The RMP sheet relevant to the project is sheet 022 of the O.S six-inch series for Dublin (which is based on the OS revision of 1913-04).

### **Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland**

The discovery of artefacts can be an important indicator of past levels of activity in an area and therefore a useful guide to the archaeological potential of a site. The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) archive identify recorded stray finds that have been donated to the state in accordance with National Monuments legislation between 1928 and 1995. In the majority of cases, files include details on the location of and nature of the find, or where applicable, reports of excavations undertaken by NMI archaeologists in the early twentieth century.

### **Aerial Photographs**

Aerial photographs are an invaluable resource in archaeology for the recognition of new sites and contributing to the understanding of known sites. Features can be recognised from the air as earthworks in relief or as vegetation marks where a buried feature such as a wall or ditch affects the growth of the surrounding flora. The Geological Survey of Ireland Aerial Photograph Collection, based in Dublin, holds a comprehensive archive of high-level vertical photographs available for consultation by the public and researchers but may not be copied.

#### **Dublin County Library**

The Local Studies section of Dublin County Library is housed in Library Square, Tallaght, Dublin. A number of local histories and general historical/archaeological texts were consulted (see bibliography for details).

#### **Lewis Topographical Dictionary 1837**

Samuel Lewis first published his two volumes of The Topographical Dictionary of Ireland in 1837. His main aim, along with his previous topographical dictionaries and maps of the United Kingdom, was to give in 'a condensed form', a reliable and unbiased description of each place. Arranged alphabetically by place (village, parish, town, etc.), it provides a comprehensive description of all Irish localities as they existed at the time of publication. Lewis gives details about every parish, town, and village in Ireland, including numbers of inhabitants, the economy, history, topography, religion and parish structures, administration and courts, schools, and much more. He also gives the names of the principal inhabitants (generally landlords, merchants, and professionals). Lewis's dictionary is the first detailed study of its kind for Ireland, and since it was published just prior to the Irish Potato Famine (1845-49) it is a valuable resource used widely by historians and genealogists alike.

#### **Irish Excavations Database**

'Excavations' is an annual bulletin, now funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, which contains summary accounts of all excavations carried out in Ireland – North and South. The bulletins can now be accessed on the Internet at [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie). Compiled from the published excavation bulletins, the database contains summary accounts of all excavations carried out from 1970 to 2022. Both the bulletins and database were consulted to establish whether excavations have been previously carried out in the vicinity of the proposed development.

#### **The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage**

The NIAH is a section within the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The work of the NIAH involves identifying and recording the architectural heritage of Ireland, from 1700 to the present day, in a systematic and consistent manner.

#### **Cartographic Sources**

Cartographic sources consulted include; the first edition map of the Ordnance Survey (O.S) six-inch series published in 1838 and the twenty-five inch c. 1900 O.S map were also consulted. All maps were sourced online at [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).

## 2 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT

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### 2.1 Description of the Site

The proposed development area is in the townland of Knocklyon, in south County Dublin.

Knocklyon is in the Barony of *An Chrois Uachtarach*/Uppercross and the Civil Parish *Tamhlacht/Tallaght*. Knocklyon translates in Irish as *Cnoc Lín* (genitive: *Chnoc Lín*) possibly meaning 'Hill of Leinster'.

### 2.2 Site Layout/Locational details

The proposed development site at Knocklyon townland and along Knocklyon Road in Dublin 16. The site is bounded by residential areas on all sides, with Knocklyon Road to the west. The site is divided from the M50 to the west by Knocklyon playing fields.

Study area	OS Sheet number	ITM	Townland
Dublin 16	022	711635/727429	Knocklyon

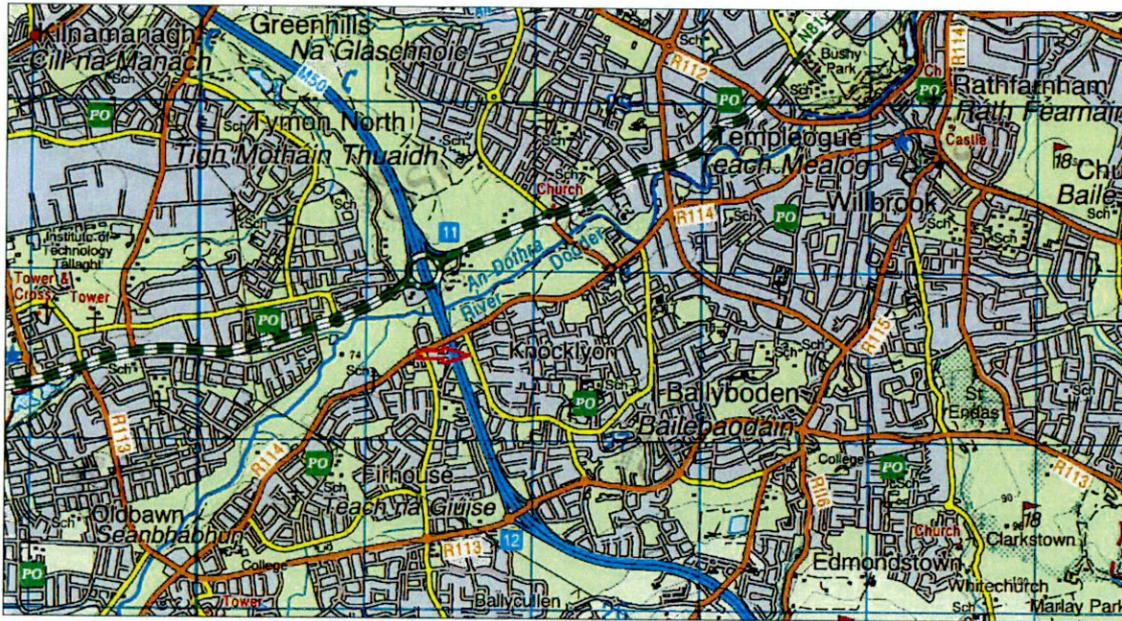


Figure 2: OSI Discovery Series Map – subject area indicated by the red arrow (Source: [www.heritagemaps.ie](http://www.heritagemaps.ie)).

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

#### 3.1 Solid Geology and Soil Type

The principal soil in the subject area is made up of Grey Brown Podzolics (75%), with associated soil consisting of Gleys (25%). The parent material in the vicinity of the subject site is predominantly till of Irish Sea origin with limestone and shale.

#### 3.2 Landscape

The landscape in this part of Dublin is characterised by flat to undulating lowlands. The development area is covered in low grass vegetation, is a flat greenfield site and is bounded by residential developments within a sub rectangular site. The site is in south county Dublin close to Tallaght and within the Knocklyon area. Access to the site is directly from Knocklyon Road.

### 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Research was undertaken in two phases. It comprised of a paper study of all available archaeological, historical, and cartographic sources and a site walkover. The following is based on a document search and paper study.

## 4.1 Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age):

The first people who came to Ireland – mainly to coastal areas as the interior was heavily forested – arrived during the Middle Stone Age, eleven thousand years ago. They were nomadic hunter gatherers. They made weapons and tools from stone such as flint or chert. Some artefacts are distinctive of this period, such as microliths from the early part of the Mesolithic to the larger Bann Flakes in the later Mesolithic. The Mesolithic ranged from c.7000-4000BC. Artefacts of hunter/gatherers are sometimes found in middens, rubbish pits around hearths where people would have rested and cooked over large open fires. Once cliffs erode, midden remains become exposed as blackened areas containing charred stones, bones, and shells. In many cases, the edges of coastal estuarine areas were the preferred location of Mesolithic settlement. Excavations carried out at Sutton in the 1940's and 1970's uncovered a shell midden, which had been formed when Howth was an Island. The excavations produced artefacts of flint, chert, and stone. Radiocarbon dates suggest a sixth millennium provenance with a later hearth in the midden being dated to 4340 – 3810 BC.

## 4.2 Neolithic (New Stone Age):

This period saw the first farming communities in Ireland. Weapons and tools were made from stone such as flint or chert. The Neolithic ranged from c.4000-2400BC. Lambay Island is an important site, with excavations indicating significant axe manufacturing capabilities as well as associated Neolithic activity.

## 4.3 Bronze Age:

The period when metal working was first introduced to Ireland. People began to use bronze to make weapons and tools. Gold working also appeared during this time, with objects such as gold torcs being produced. The Bronze Age ranged from c.2400-500BC. Megalithic tomb building continued into the Bronze Age when metal began to be worked for tools alongside the stone tools. The design of the tombs changed to more being of the wedge tomb type and cist burials. Archaeological remains from this period include stone alignments, stone circles and *fulachta fiadh* (early cooking sites).

## 4.4 Iron Age:

The Iron Age ranged in date from c.400BC-400AD. It is the period in which iron is first produced and used to make tools and weapons. This is thought to have coincided with the arrival of Celtic

speaking peoples and the introduction of the ancestor of Irish. Towards the end of this period, the Roman Empire was at its height in Britain, but it is not thought that the Roman Empire extended into Ireland to any large degree. Remains from this period, which lasted until the Early Christian period began about 325AD (with the arrival of St. Patrick into Ireland, as a slave) include crannógs (Lake dwellings), promontory forts, ringforts and souterrains of which there are numerous examples across the county. The Iron Age was a time of tribal warfare with kingships, each fighting neighbouring kings, vying for control of territories, and taking slaves. Territories were marked by tall stone markers, Ogham stones, using the first written down words using the Ogham alphabet. The Iron Age is the time in which the tales of the Ulster Cycle and sagas took place.

In the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age distinctive settlement sites known as Hillforts arose. These are large defensive enclosures situated on elevated or hilltop locations. Cashels and Rathes are a feature of the Early Historic or Early Christian period in Ireland. These are circular enclosures consisting usually of an earthen bank and ditch in the case of Rathes or stone walling in Cashels. There is a gap in the enclosure for access and egress and there is often a causeway to facilitate this. These sites are often associated with souterrains, stone lined underground passages which probably acted as storage areas and, when the need arose, places of refuge. There are enclosures in Raheny, Kilbarrack, Clontarf and Mainestown, indicating that there was settlement in this area at the time.

#### 4.5 Early Christian or Early Medieval:

Christianity came to Ireland around the start of the 5th century AD. It brought many changes including the introduction of writing and recording events. The tribal 'tuatha' and the new religious settlements existed side by side. Sometimes it suited the chieftains to become part of the early Churches, other times they remained as separate entities. From the middle of the 6th century hundreds of small monastic settlements were established around the county.

#### 4.6 Later Historic Period:

The Medieval period includes the arrival of the Anglo Normans in the 12th century. The Late Medieval Period may be seen as running up to the 17th century. From 1169 AD when one of the warring kings (Dermot MacMurrough) in the east of Ireland appealed to the King of England for help in his fight with a neighbouring king, the response of which was the arrival of the Anglo-Norman colonisation of Ireland. Norman control meant the eclipse of many Gaelic lords and chieftains. Following the collapse of the lordship in the 1330s, all these families became estranged from the Anglo-Irish administration based in Dublin and assimilated with the Gaelic-Irish, adopting

their language, religion, dress, laws, customs, and culture and marrying into Irish families. They "became more Irish than the Irish themselves".

The Anglo Normans encouraged and established many religious orders from continental Europe to settle in Ireland. Mendicant orders—Augustinians, Carmelites, Dominicans, and Franciscans began new settlements across Ireland and built large churches, many under the patronage of prominent Gaelic families. During the 15th and 16th centuries, despite regular conflicts between them as England chopped and changed between religious beliefs, the Irish usually regarded the King of England as their King. When Queen Elizabeth 1 came to the throne in the mid-16th century, the English people, as was customary at that time, followed the religious practices of the reigning Monarch and became Protestant. Many Irish people had close relationships with the English monarchy and the English kings and queens were welcome visitors to Irish shores. The Irish however, generally held onto their Catholic religious practices and beliefs. The early plantations of settlers in Ireland began during the reign of Queen Mary in the mid-16th century and continued throughout the long reign of Queen Elizabeth I until 1603.

## 4.7 Development of Dublin City

Dublin City is situated at the mouth of the River Liffey in the east of the county. The place name is derived from '*dubh linn*', meaning the 'black pool', believed to have been located closer to the mouth of the Liffey where Viking settlers first set up their 'long phort' or 'ship camp'. The ford over the Liffey accounts for Dublin's other name – *Ath Cliath*, meaning ford of the hurdles. The geographical setting of the town, as a harbour, crossing point, defensive site and gateway for inland navigation have been of tantamount importance to the development of the town through the ages.

### 4.7.1 Viking Dublin

Prior to the arrival of the Vikings there was possibly a monastic community in Dublin (believed to have been located just south of Dublin Castle); in the annals there is reference to the bishops and abbots of Dublin in the 7th and 8th centuries. It has also been suggested that there was a second smaller settlement nearby the ford across the Liffey, accounting for Dublin's second name '*Ath Cliath*', meaning the ford of the hurdles. Therefore, it can be said that there may have been an ecclesiastical and a secular settlement in Dublin before the Vikings came.

Dublin was the first settlement established by the Vikings in Ireland and was the basis for the establishment of further settlements in the southeast in Wexford and Waterford and in the southwest in Limerick. According to contemporary Irish annals they set up a 'longphort' or

shipcamp at 'Dubhlinn' in 841. The Viking camp here lasted only 61 years until 902, when they were expelled by the combined forces of the king of Leinster and the king of Brega. They returned again in 917 under Sitric to develop a raiding base but were driven out in 1170 by Strongbow and the invading Anglo-Normans.

The location of the first Viking base, the 'longphort', is uncertain. There are several possibilities posited for its location and the most likely is the site of Dublin Castle. The camp was probably enclosed by large earthen banks with direct access to the sea and their fleet, and it was presumably well defended. A certainty is that the camp was substantial in size as it was recorded in 849 that it could cope with the loss of 1000 fighting men and the arrival of a fleet of 140 warships.

The 10th century settlement was enclosed by a series of earthen banks sections of which have been exposed by excavations at Wood Quay and Ross Road, to the south of Christchurch Place. Within these banks was a thriving, bustling town, with a mixture of traders and merchants dealing both overseas and with the Irish outside Dublin. The town they lived in was laid out in an organised but cramped fashion, creating a streetscape that still exists in some parts of the city today: long, individual property boundaries fronting onto the public streets. Each plot contained the main family house, constructed of post and wattle walls with a thatch roof, as well as outhouses and workshops.

#### 4.7.2 Anglo-Norman Dublin

The Vikings continued to occupy Dublin until the late 12th century. According to *Giraldus Cambrensis*, a historian from that time, the Anglo-Normans made 'an enthusiastic assault on the walls, were immediately victorious and valiantly overran the city, with considerable slaughter of the inhabitants'. Those who were lucky to survive were expelled and forced to occupy an area on the northside of the Liffey, where Oxmanstown is located today.

The new rulers in Dublin quickly occupied and defended their new town, and from the late 12th century onwards there was a period of vast expansion in Dublin. By the middle of the 13th century, the town had been expanded northwards and a new city was built also acting as a quay wall. Within the walls the royal castle was built and developed, where it still stands today.

#### 4.7.3 Medieval Dublin

Medieval Dublin remained confined to the walled town save a 1312 extension north to the river. Within the walls, the principle buildings were the castle, Christchurch Cathedral and the Parish Churches of St. Audeon, St. Michael, St. Nicholas, St. Werburgh, St. John the Evangelist and St.

Mary Le Dam. By the beginning of the 17th century Dublin City had extended little beyond its medieval limits with the exception of a small extension north to the river.

At the close of the Cromwellian period the town wall, with its eight gates and nine towers was in poor repair; the cathedrals and parish churches were in ruins and the abbeys and friaries were gone. The population too had been reduced, with as little as 9000 people living in the city and environs at the time. By 1800, the population had climbed to close to 200,000 and the city had begun to impinge on the surrounding area and a gradual population increase occurred.

## 5 DESKTOP DATA

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### 5.1 National Monuments

There are no sites or monuments classified as a National Monument listed in state care or guardianship within the vicinity of the subject site.

### 5.2 Previous Archaeological Work

A search of the database [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) produced the following results within a 0.5km vicinity of the subject area:

**1999:255 - CASTLEFIELD AVENUE, KNOCKLYON, Dublin**

County: Dublin Site name: CASTLEFIELD AVENUE, KNOCKLYON

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A Licence number: 98E0586

Author: Thaddeus C. Breen, 13 Wainsfort Crescent, Dublin 6W.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 711542m, N 727180m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.283187, -6.327270

Work on the site of a small housing development in Knocklyon was monitored because it adjoined Knocklyon Castle, a late medieval structure restored in the early 19th century and still inhabited. Nothing was found except a layer of recent refuse overlying natural gravel. The area was the site of a hill, apparently that which gave Knocklyon its name, which was levelled in the late 18th or early 19th century to provide gravel for road building. Any earlier remains would have been destroyed at that time.

**2004:0656 - TALLAGHT ROAD, TALLAGHT, Dublin**

County: Dublin Site name: TALLAGHT ROAD, TALLAGHT

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A Licence number: 04E00569

Author: Stuart Halliday, Arch-Tech Ltd, 32 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

Site type: Linear features

ITM: E 711226m, N 727944m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.290120, -6.331730

Testing was carried out as part of planning conditions related to a potential residential development. Three trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Two possible features of archaeological significance were identified.

The first of these (002) was located 8m from the western end of the trench and comprised a 3m-wide linear feature aligned north-south across the trench. The feature was subject to partial investigation but could not be fully excavated due to the height of the water table. It was excavated to a depth of 0.15m. It was filled with dark-grey stony clay with occasional charcoal flecks and animal bone. No date could be ascertained for this feature and its function was not clear. The second feature was located 16m from the eastern edge of the trench and comprised an 8m-wide possible linear feature aligned north-south across the trench. It was filled with dark-grey/brown stony clay and was not investigated, as it lay under the level of the water table. As with feature 002, it was not possible to ascertain its function.

**2002:0639 - Ballycullen, Oldcourt, Dublin**

County: Dublin Site name: Ballycullen, Oldcourt

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A Licence number: 02E0190 ext.

Author: Ellinor Larsson, Arch-Tech Ltd, 32 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

Site type: Monitoring

ITM: E 711274m, N 726777m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 53.279624, -6.331425

Monitoring of topsoil-stripping was carried out in four phases at the site of a residential development in Ballycullen, Oldcourt, on the north-facing foothills of the Dublin Mountains. The

field had previously been used for pasture. The first phase of work, undertaken by Goorik Dehaene, consisted of the monitoring of engineering test-pits. The second phase, carried out from 27 to 31 May 2002, consisted of the monitoring of topsoil-stripping of a field in the north-east corner of the proposed development. No disturbance to the natural subsoil was noted, except for a few very shallow lines of modern plough furrows, visible mainly at the northern end of the field. Several sherds of pottery were recovered from the topsoil, most of which were modern, with the exception of one sherd of post-medieval pottery (lead-glazed earthenware).

The third phase of monitoring took place from 16 to 21 June 2002 in the field directly south of the previous phase of works, which slopes gently down to the north-west. The rectangular area measured 160m north-south by 220m. Plough furrows and field drains of relatively modern date confirmed the more recent agrarian use of the land, and a derelict field boundary, illustrated on the first-edition OS 6-inch map from 1843, was identified.

In Phase 3 two areas of archaeological features were unearthed. Site 1 was on the 100m contour and consisted of a C-shaped feature, identified as a broken, arc-shaped ditch/gully with fills containing charcoal and burnt and unburnt bone fragments. Post-holes and a possible hearth were identified in the centre of this arc, and a cobbled surface was found to the east of it. The site was subsequently excavated under licence 02E1373 (see No. 640 below) and has been preliminarily identified as a structure of early historic date.

Site 2, a fulacht fiadh, was subsequently excavated under licence 02E1374. It lay at 102–103m OD on gently sloping ground covering an area measuring c. 20m north-south by 20m. The site consisted of a large spread of heat-fractured sandstone with moderate inclusions of charcoal and dark brown/black, crumbly, loose soil. Two troughs, post-holes, pits and areas of burning were found in association with the spread. A small sherd of Late Neolithic or possible Beaker pottery was found in the western area of the site during cleaning.

Phase 4 of monitoring was carried out from 12 to 15 August 2002. Three derelict field boundaries were identified, all visible on the first-edition OS 6-inch map of 1843. Faint furrow marks and two drains were also identified. White-glazed crockery, black-glazed earthenware and two pieces of clay pipe were found in the topsoil. No finds, features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified during this phase of stripping.

### 5.3 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

A review of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage available at [www.buildingsofireland.ie](http://www.buildingsofireland.ie) produced the following results for the subject area:

Reg. No	Name	Townland
11215009	Knocklyon Cross	KNOCKLYON
11215010	Sally Park	TYMON SOUTH
11215012	Prospect House	KNOCKLYON
11215015	House	KNOCKLYON
11215016	House	KNOCKLYON
11215017	House	KNOCKLYON
11215018	Knocklyon Castle	KNOCKLYON

## 5.4 County Development Plan

South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2022– 2028 was consulted for the subject area. There following listings are in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) for the subject area:

RPS No. 283 2 Homeville, Knocklyon terrace of three cottages.

RPS No. 283 3 Homeville, Knocklyon terrace of three cottages.

RPS No. 283 13/14 Homeville Court, Knocklyon terrace of three cottages.

RPS No. 294 Idrone House, Idrone Avenue, Knocklyon two storey house.

RPS No. 295 Knocklyon Castle, Templeogue three storey castle with tower.

RPS No. 296 Grange Golf Club, Rathfarnham entrance pillars, & iron arch over with lettering

RPS No. 297 Knocklyon House, Knocklyon three storey house (containing colonnades)

## 5.5 Record of Monuments and Places

The following sites are listed on the Record of Monuments and Places in a 0.5km vicinity of the subject site.

SMR No.	Class	Townland	ITM Easting	ITM Northing
DU022-019--	Castle - tower house	KNOCKLYON	711406	727222
DU022-059--	Well	TEMPLEOGUE	711937	728193
DU022-103--	House - 18th/19th century	TYMON SOUTH	711181	727474
DU022-114--	Weir - regulating	TEMPLEOGUE	711301	727830

**DU022-019----**

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: KNOCKLYON

Description: Located at the foot of the Dublin Mountains off a by road that leads to Castlefield Manor housing estate. Knocklyon Castle was associated with Walter de Ridelesford in the medieval period. In the 16th century the castle was said to be ruinous but was, nevertheless, occupied in the 17th century by Piers Archbold, son of Richard Archbold of Kilmacud (Ball 1905, III, 29). It was subsequently converted into a dwelling house. The tower house rises to three storeys with a slated, hipped roof. The exterior has been pebble-dashed. It has a rectangular ground plan (int. dims. L 8.7m; Wth 5.6m) with angle towers in NE and SW angles that have plain slit opes. There is a spiral stairs in the SW tower. A fireplace has been inserted into the E wall at this level. Two-light windows have been inserted into the main floors. The towerhouse can also be entered through a modern opening in the SW tower. A cone-shaped roof has recently been added to the later (Handcock 1899, 95-6; Healy 1975, 1-19).

**DU022-059----**

Class: Well

Townland: TEMPLEOGUE

Description: Daly (1939, 22-24) describes a curative well known as 'Templeogue Spa'. This may be the site marked 'Spa Well', W of Spawell House on the OS 1837 ed. Today, this is an enclosed pool in the patio area beside the Karting Track at the Spawell leisure complex which occupies the site of Spawell House.

**DU022-103----**

Class: House - 18th/19th century

Townland: TYMON SOUTH

Description: Craig (1973, 12) mentions an 18th century house called Sally Park. This is a 4 bay, three storey building. It was the home of Handcock, the historian of Tallaght. It is thought to be pre-1740 in date (Pers comm Frank Myles 01 March 1999).

DU022-114----

Class: Weir - regulating

Townland: TEMPLEOGUE

Description: A stone built weir, built to resist floods was erected at the head of the watercourse at Balrothery near the gravel pits. The Dodder River was diverted at this stone weir and an artificial channel was constructed which carried the required water eastward to join the river Poddle. This was removed during road construction (Keeley unpub).

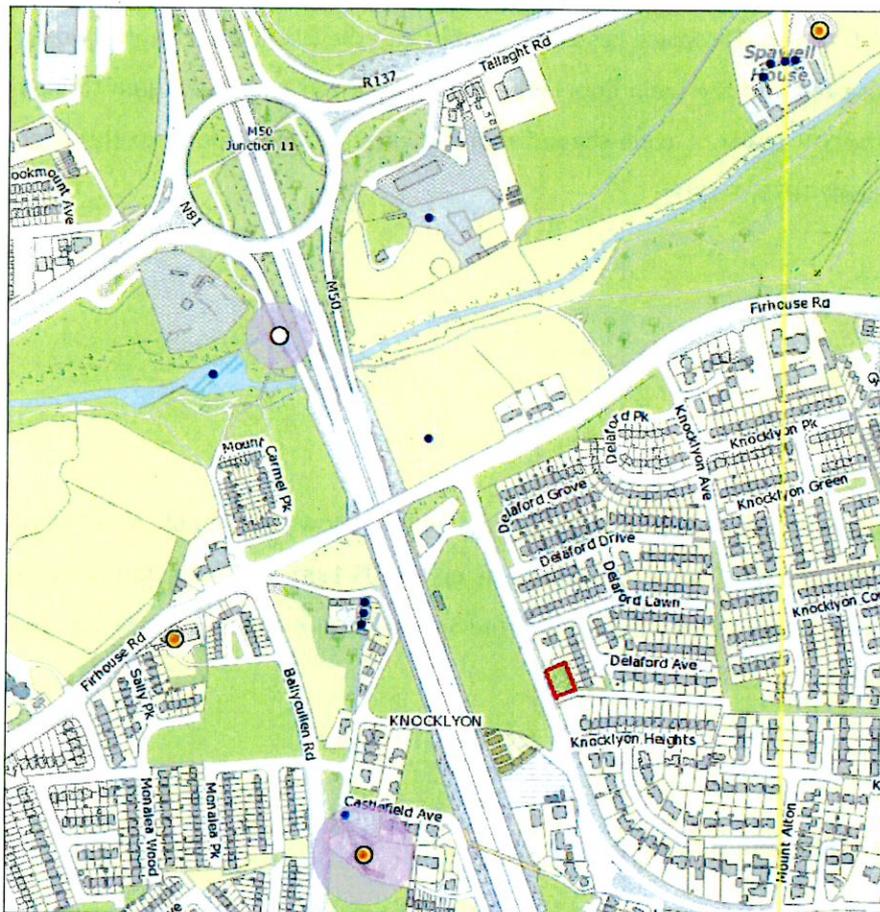


Figure 3: ASI Map of Knocklyon Dublin 16. Proposed Development Area is indicated in red (Source: [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)).

## 5.6 The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files

The topographical survey dated up to 2010 for the subject area was consulted on [www.heritagemaps.ie](http://www.heritagemaps.ie) and produced the following results within a 0.5km vicinity of the Proposed Development Area.

### **National Museum Point: Bowl of Clay Pipe**

Name 1976:611

Object Type Bowl of Clay Pipe

### **National Museum Point: Split Flint Pebble**

Name 1987:116

Object Type Split Flint Pebble

### **National Museum Point: Perforated Bone Disc; Perforated Shell Object**

Name 1977:2200

Object Type Perforated Bone Disc; Perforated Shell Object

### **National Museum Point: 4 Flat Copper Axeheads**

Name P1955:24-27

Object Type 4 Flat Copper Axeheads

## 5.7 Lewis Topographical Dictionary 1837

Tallaght, a post-town and a parish, in the barony of Uppercross, county of Dublin, and the province of Leinster, 5 ½ miles from Dublin, on the road to Blessington; containing 4646 inhabitants, of which number, 357 are in the towns. The name, which is also written Tavelagh, Taelagh, Tamlact and Taimlacht, signifies a "place of burial", from a large cemetery attached to the church (Source: <https://www.libraryireland.com/topog/T/Tallaght-Dublin.php>).

## 5.8 Aerial Photography

Aerial photography of the development area was consulted. The main source was the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (Historic Environment Viewer) which clearly showed an aerial view of the development site and the surrounding landscape. No unknown or previously unrecorded archaeological features were noted in the aerial photography.



Figure 4: Aerial photograph of the Proposed Development Area outlined in red (Source: [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)).

## 5.9 Cartographic Evidence

The following section considers major maps of County Dublin with particular reference to the townland of Churchtown Upper including the subject site.

### 5.9.1 Ordnance Survey 1838 edition (6" map)

The subject site at Churchtown Upper can be seen on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of County Dublin dated to the 1830's. The Proposed Development Area appears as an area of open land with dispersed trees, part of the lands associated with Delaford House. No previously unknown features of an archaeological nature are present in the subject site.

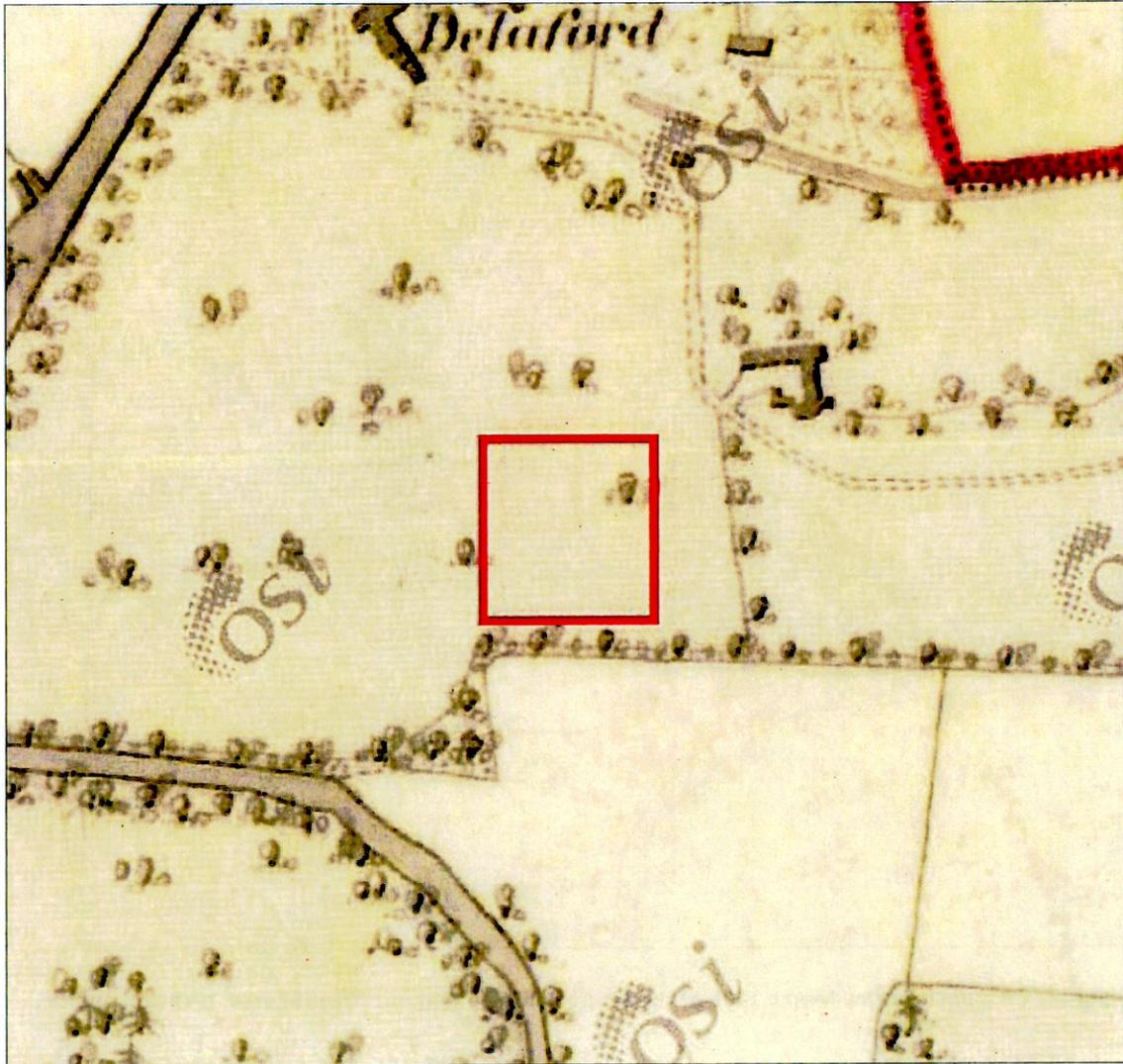


Figure 5: Ordnance Survey Map c. 1838 of the Proposed Development Area (Source: archaeology.ie).

### 5.9.2 Ordnance Survey c. 1900 edition (25" map)

The proposed development area can also be clearly seen on the second edition Ordnance Survey map dated to c. 1900. There is no detail available within this area, it has remained unchanged since the early map was completed. No previously unknown features of an archaeological nature are present in the subject site.

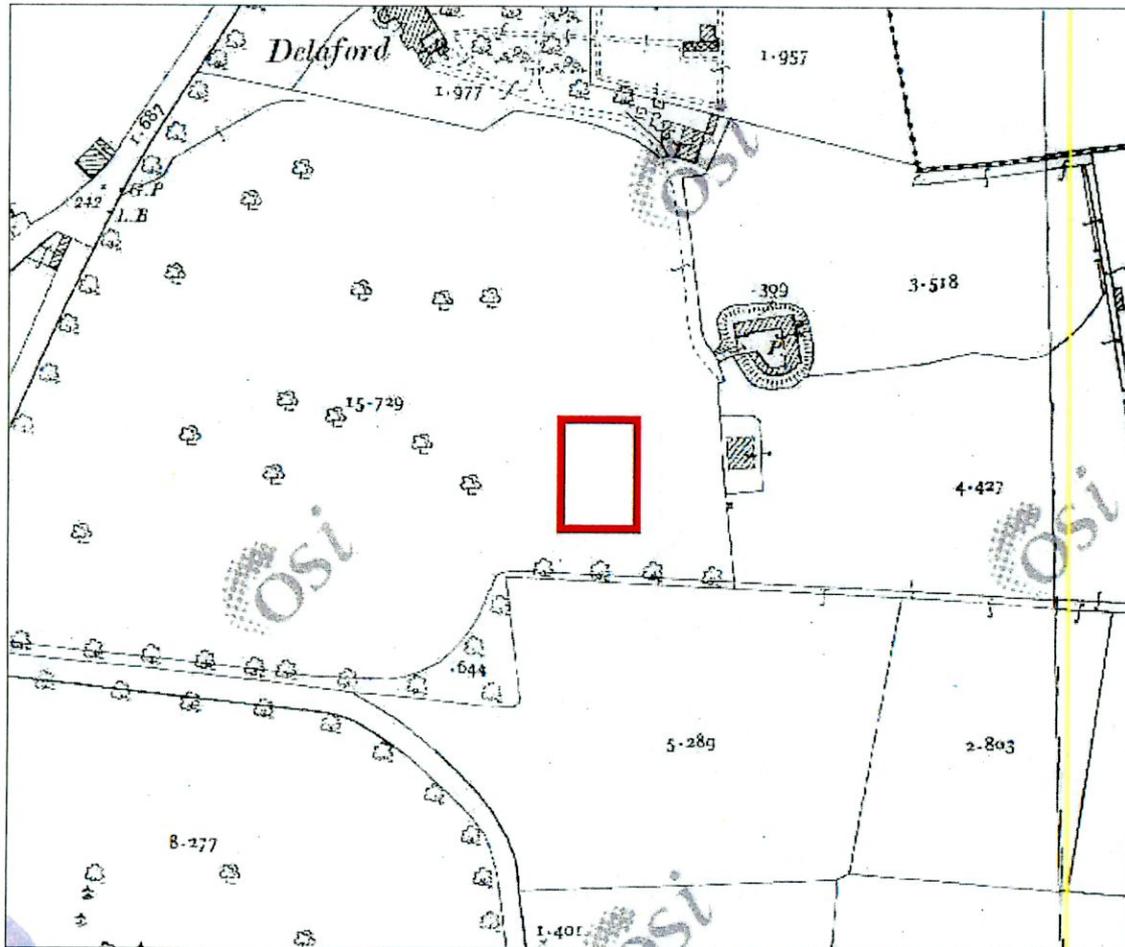


Figure 6: Ordnance Survey Map c.1900 of the Proposed Development Area (Source: archaeology.ie).

## 6 THE PROPOSED SITE

The terrain is easy to traverse, fully accessible and is covered in low moved grass with a pedestrian pavement to the west along Knocklyon Road and south of the green area which provides access to Delaford Avenue. There are no structures occupying the site. A small number of trees occupy the site along the western, whilst the north and south boundaries comprise hedging and the eastern boundary is a boundary wall for the neighbouring residential properties.

There was no evidence of any archaeological features or material remains within the confines of the proposed development site.



Plate 1: North facing view of the Proposed Development Area.



Plate 2: West facing view of the Proposed Development Area.

## 7 POTENTIAL EFFECTS

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The nature of the effects is assessed with reference to the Description of Effects (see Section 12 below) provided in the EPA Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Effect Assessment Reports published in May 2022, and the EPA Advice notes on current practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements, 2003.

### 7.1 Potential Direct Effects

Direct negative effects may occur where sites of archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage significance are located within the footprint of the proposed development, which would potentially be impacted upon by ground disturbances. In relation to the proposed development, direct, physical effects on the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage can manifest themselves in the following ways:

- Where an archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage site, structure, monument, or feature is located within an area where works takes place and the works either intentionally or unintentionally entail the alteration or removal of all or part of the site, structure, monument or feature a direct, physical effect will occur.
- Direct, physical effects can also occur in gaining access to the site. Where archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments, or features are intentionally or unintentionally removed or altered when transporting and/or facilitating access for machinery, equipment and/or materials to or from site a direct physical effect will occur; and
- There is the potential for direct, physical effects on previously unrecorded archaeological and architectural sites, structures, monuments, or features.

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

### 7.2 Potential Direct Effects on Recorded Archaeological Monuments

No previously unrecorded archaeological monuments were identified within the proposed development works area through a desktop review of available resources. There will be no direct negative effects on the known cultural heritage resource within the vicinity.

#### 7.2.1 Potential direct effects on unrecorded Archaeological Monuments

No features of archaeological potential were identified within the proposed works area. There is low potential for direct negative effects on previously unknown subsurface archaeological material which may survive below ground, and which would be vulnerable to damage because of the proposed development particularly any groundworks.

### 7.2.2 Potential direct effects Architectural Sites

No NIAH sites are within the proposed works area. No previously unrecorded vernacular features were identified during the site inspection. No architectural sites will be directly affected.

### 7.2.3 'Do Nothing scenario'

In this instance, there would be no possibility for discovery of potential unrecorded sub surface deposits.

### 7.2.4 'Worst Case' scenario'

In this case, the proposed works could potentially negatively affect previously unknown sites resulting in the loss or damage of archaeological artefacts and features.

## 7.3 Potential Visual Effects on Setting

Effects on setting are primarily visual and examine the effect of the proposed works upon the setting of a site within the wider landscape. Visual effects can be reduced with sensitive site development, adhering to recommended exclusion zones and screening. The effect of the development is usually proportional to the extent to which that development is visible to and from the extant recorded monuments and architectural features.

### 7.3.1 Archaeology Sites

There are several recorded archaeological sites/features listed in the Archaeological Survey of Ireland as being in and around the surrounding area. Several monuments are located in the wider vicinity of the proposed development area. Following a site inspection, as well as a review of online sources, there will likely be negligible visual effect on the setting of known recorded archaeological sites by the proposed development.

### 7.3.2 Architectural Sites

No architectural site will be directly visually affected by the proposed works.

## 8 CONCLUSION

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No previously unidentified finds or features of archaeological significance were noted during the desktop assessment of available sources of the proposed development site at Knocklyon, Knocklyon Road, Dublin 16. No previously unidentified finds or features of archaeological significance were noted in the desk top research of available sources. The proposed development will have no impact either physical or visual on the known archaeological record.

## 9 RECOMMENDATIONS

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Due to the small overall size (approximately 0.087 hectares) of the proposed development, the lack of recorded archaeological monuments within the vicinity of the subject site it is not recommended that the site be subject to further archaeological mitigation in the form of testing or monitoring.

**Please note that all recommendations in this report are subject to approval by the Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the National Museum of Ireland.**

## 10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 11 GLOSSARY OF IMPACTS

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Description of effects as per the guidelines issued in May 2022 by the EPA 'Environmental Effect Assessment Reports Guidelines' (Page 49-50).

### *Quality of Effects*

It is important to inform the non-specialist reader whether an effect is positive, negative or neutral.

### Positive Effects

A change which improves the quality of the environment (for example, by increasing species diversity, or improving the reproductive capacity of an ecosystem, or by removing nuisances or improving amenities).

#### Neutral Effects

No effects or effects that are imperceptible, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error.

#### Negative/Adverse Effects

A change which reduces the quality of the environment (for example, lessening species diversity or diminishing the reproductive capacity of an ecosystem, or damaging health or property or by causing nuisance).

#### *Describing the Significance of Effects*

'Significance' is a concept that can have different meanings for different topics – in the absence of specific definitions for different topics the following definitions may be useful (also see Determining Significance).

#### Imperceptible

An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences.

#### Not Significant

An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.

#### Slight Effects

An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.

#### Moderate Effects

An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends.

#### Significant Effects

An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity, alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.

#### Very Significant

An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity, significantly alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.

#### Profound Effects

An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics.

#### *Describing the Extent and Context of Effects*

Context can affect the perception of significance. It is important to establish if the effect is unique or, perhaps, commonly or increasingly experienced.

#### Extent

Describe the size of the area, the number of sites and the proportion of a population affected by an effect.

#### Context

Describe whether the extent, duration or frequency will conform or contrast with established (baseline) conditions (is it the biggest, longest effect ever?)

#### *Describing the Probability of Effects*

Descriptions of effects should establish how likely it is that the predicted effects will occur so that the CA can take a view of the balance of risk over advantage when making a decision.

#### Likely Effects

The effects that can reasonably be expected to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.

#### Unlikely Effects

The effects that can reasonably be expected not to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.

### *Describing the Duration and Frequency of Effects*

'Duration' is a concept that can have different meanings for different topics – in the absence of specific definitions for different topics the following definitions may be useful.

#### Momentary Effects

Effects lasting from seconds to minutes.

#### Brief Effects

Effects lasting less than a day.

#### Temporary Effects

Effects lasting less than a year.

#### Short-term Effects

Effects lasting one to seven years.

#### Medium-term Effects

Effects lasting seven to fifteen years.

#### Long-term Effects

Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years.

#### Permanent Effects

Effects lasting over sixty years.

#### Reversible Effects

Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration.

#### Frequency of Effects

Describe how often the effect will occur (once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly – or hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annually).

### *Describing the Types of Effects*

#### Indirect Effects (a.k.a. Secondary or Off-site Effects)

Effects on the environment, which are not a direct result of the project, often produced away from the project site or because of a complex pathway.

#### Cumulative Effects

The addition of many minor or insignificant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects.

#### 'Do-nothing Effects'

The environment as it would be in the future should the subject project not be carried out.

#### 'Worst-case' Effects

The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.

#### Indeterminable Effects

When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described.

#### Irreversible Effects

When the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.

#### Residual Effects

The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.

#### Synergistic Effects

Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents (e.g. combination of SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> to produce smog).

