

JOHN CRONIN & ASSOCIATES

ARCHAEOLOGY | CONSERVATION | HERITAGE | PLANNING

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Proposed Lidl store, Newcastle, County Dublin



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PROJECT DETAILS

Project type	Archaeological testing
Archaeologist	Martin McGonigle
Date of investigation	17/11/2022 - 18/11/2022
Excavation Licence	22E0840
Townland	Newcastle South
County	Dublin
ITM	699794/728657 ITM (approximate centre of the site)
Description of subject site	The proposed development site comprises a mixed greenfield/brownfield land parcel, the northern two thirds of which has evidence for previous ground reduction and the introduction of hard surfacing material. The southern third of the site consists of former grazing land.
Summary of findings	<p>A total of six test trenches were excavated across the site of a proposed retail store development site at Newcastle South, County Dublin on 17 and 18 November 2022. Nothing archaeological was identified in the northern two thirds of the site. A small number of linear features of potential archaeological consequence were identified at the northern end of the greenfield portion of the site. These features were cleaned back by the licensee and assistant archaeologist but were not excavated. A section was excavated through a modern cultivation furrow and an exploratory sondage was excavated into one other large possible drainage ditch, but no archaeological features or deposits were removed. A small number of sherds of possible late or post-medieval pottery, early modern pottery, clay pipe fragments, sherds of glass, burnt limestones, animal bone – some of with had butchery marks -, ferrous slag, modern metal items, and plastics were found in the topsoil excavated from the trenches.</p> <p>Further archaeological work will be required in the area containing the possible archaeological linear features at the northern end of the greenfield portion of the site.</p> <p>A full description of the six trenches is provided below and a photographic record of the excavation is presented in Appendix 1.</p>

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1. Introduction

John Cronin & Associates have been commissioned by **Lidl Ireland GmbH** to undertake archaeological testing on the site of a proposed new Lidl store at Newcastle South, County Dublin.

The archaeological testing was undertaken on the site by the licensee on 17 and 18 November 2022 with the assistance of a qualified and experienced archaeologist (Caroline McGrath). A total of six test trenches were excavated across the site, one in the disturbed northern portion of the site and five in the greenfield area. **Nothing archaeological was identified in northern portion of the site, however, a small number of linear features of potential archaeological significance were identified in the greenfield area.**

A full description of the test trenches is presented in **Section 3** below and an associated photographic record is presented in **Appendix 1**.

2. Context

Location

The subject site is located in the townland of Newcastle South, on the southern side of the main thoroughfare through the village of Newcastle, County Dublin (**Figure 1**).

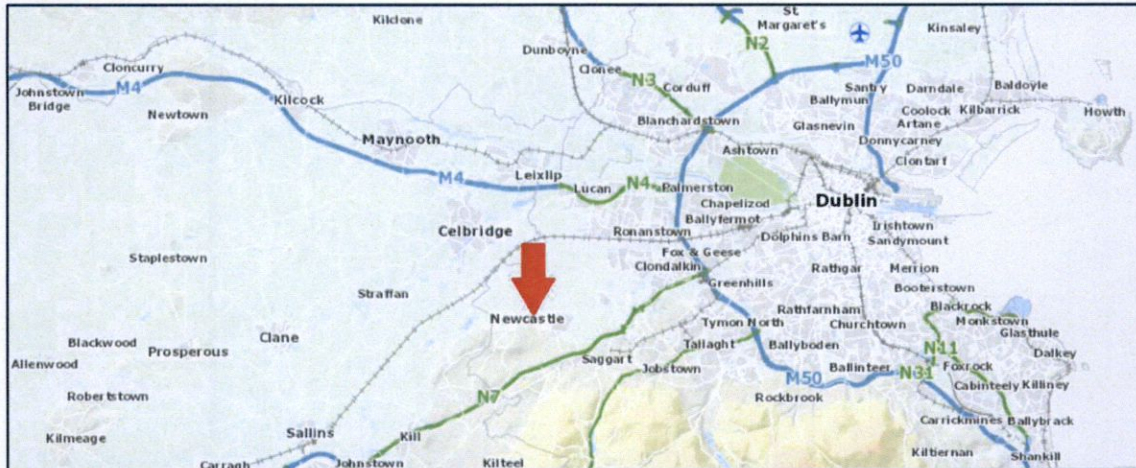


Figure 1: General location of subject site (Source: Government of Ireland, Historic Environment Viewer)

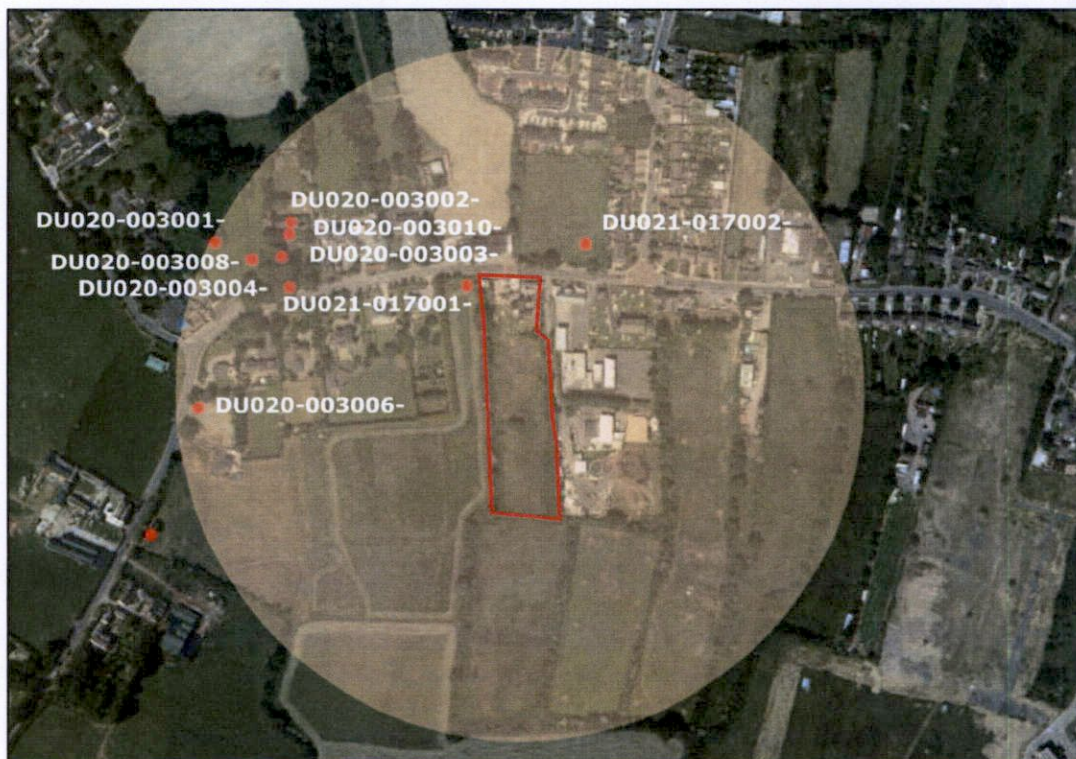
Historical and archaeological background

There are **no** recorded archaeological sites within the subject site. There are **nine** further archaeological sites recorded by the ASI within the 250m radius study area which surrounds the subject site (**Table 1** and **Figure 2**), and their published inventory descriptions are provided in **Appendix 1**.

Table 1: List of recorded archaeological sites within the 250m study area

SMR Number	Class	Townland	ITM (E, N)	Distance
DU020-003001-	Castle - motte	Newcastle North	699534, 728806	c. 229m NW
DU020-003002-	Church	Newcastle North	699602, 728824	c. 135m NW
DU020-003003-	Cross	Glebe (Newcastle By., Newcastle ED)	699591, 728797	c. 169m NW
DU020-003004-	Castle - tower house	Glebe (Newcastle by., Newcastle ed)	699599, 728770	c. 162m W
DU020-003006-	Castle - tower house	Newcastle South	699521, 728668	c. 246m W
DU020-003008-	Settlement deserted - medieval	Newcastle South, Cornerpark, Glebe (Newcastle By., Lucan Ed), Newcastle Demesne, Newcastle Farm	699566, 728792	c. 193m NW
DU020-003010-	Graveyard	Grange (Newcastle By.)	699597, 728812	c. 133m NW
DU021-017001-	Well	Newcastle South	699750, 728767	c. 11m W

SMR Number	Class	Townland	ITM (E, N)	Distance
DU021-017002-	Castle - tower house	Newcastle North	699853, 728806	c. 50m NE



*Figure 2: Recorded archaeological sites (as recorded by the ASI) within 250m of the subject site
(Source: Government of Ireland, Historic Environment Viewer)*

Archaeological excavations

The Excavation Database contains summary accounts of all licensed archaeological investigations carried out in Ireland (North and South) from the 1960s to present. The database gives access to over 27,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including year, county, site type, grid reference, license number, Sites and Monuments Record number and author.

There are **no** archaeological excavations recorded within the subject site. There are **five** archaeological projects which have taken place within the 250m radius study area which surrounds the subject site. These excavations uncovered a number of kilns and clamps – among other features -, which appear to indicate both medieval and possible prehistoric activity. The results of these excavations are provided in **Appendix 3** to this report.

Cartographic review

The detail on historic cartographic sources demonstrates the nature of past settlements and land use patterns in recent centuries and can also highlight the impacts of modern developments and agricultural practices. This information can aid in the identification of the location and extent of unrecorded or partially levelled features of archaeological or architectural heritage interest.

The cartographic sources examined for the study areas include the Down Survey maps (1654-6), Roque's Map of Dublin (1760) (**Figure 3**), Taylor's map of the environs of Dublin (1816) (**Figure 4**), the first edition of the 6-inch OS map (surveyed and published in the 1830s-40s) (**Figure 5**) and the 25-inch OS maps (surveyed and published 1887-1913) (**Figure 6**).

The Down Survey maps (1654-6) drawn by William Petty, though not depicting the medieval settlement in detail, shows Newcastle and '7 old castles', the church and its associated lands and the commons to the east of the settlement. Roque's Map of Dublin (1760) shows the settlement of Newcastle in a ribbon pattern along the curving road, which remains the main thoroughfare of the village. The main enclosure trend is a series of square and rectangular fields, apparently bounded by trees and hedges. There is some evidence for long, rectangular strips divided by mearings to the north and south of the road and these appear to have been formalised on later mapping. The hashed reverse s-shaped linear features depicted in the large diamond-shaped field to the east of subject site may reflect ridge and furrow cultivation, similar to that described in 1776 by Arthur Young at Luttrellstown to the north. Young notes that the main crops cultivated at Luttrellstown are wheat, oats and potato and describes the potato ridges as '7 feet broad (Hutton 1892, 22). Newcastle Commons are shown to the east of the village.



*Figure 3: Extract from Roque's 1760 map showing the subject site circled in red
(Source: South Dublin Historic Mapping)*

Taylor's map of the environs of Dublin (1816), though less detailed than Roque's map, shows few changes, including the labelling of a church to the north (St Finian's Church of Ireland) and a 'New Chapel' (St Finian's Roman Catholic church) to the east of the subject site. The Roman Catholic church, a pre-emancipation church built in 1813 dominates the junction with the R120 Lucan Road. The well labelled close to the subject site may be the same well recorded in the archaeological record (DU021-017001-).



Figure 4: Extract from Taylor's map of the environs of Dublin 1816 (Source: South Dublin Historic Mapping)

The 6-inch and 25-inch maps depict the subject site within a landscape of enclosed gardens which run from north to south. These narrow, elongated fields correspond with the shape of medieval burgage plots. Newcastle contains a deserted medieval settlement (DU020-003008) and was recorded as a royal manor from 1215 and had borough status by the late fifteenth century (Archaeological Survey of Ireland). Remnants of the three-field system, including the commons to the east are apparent on the 6-inch and 25-inch maps, though the narrow strips are not clearly shown on earlier maps. According to Aalen *et al* (2011, 205), this area was subject to a local Enclosure Act in 1818, although this may refer to the surrounding agricultural landscape rather than the elongated village plots. To the north of the site a number of houses are depicted along the main road.

No potential previously unrecorded archaeological features are depicted within the subject site on any of the historic cartographic sources reviewed.

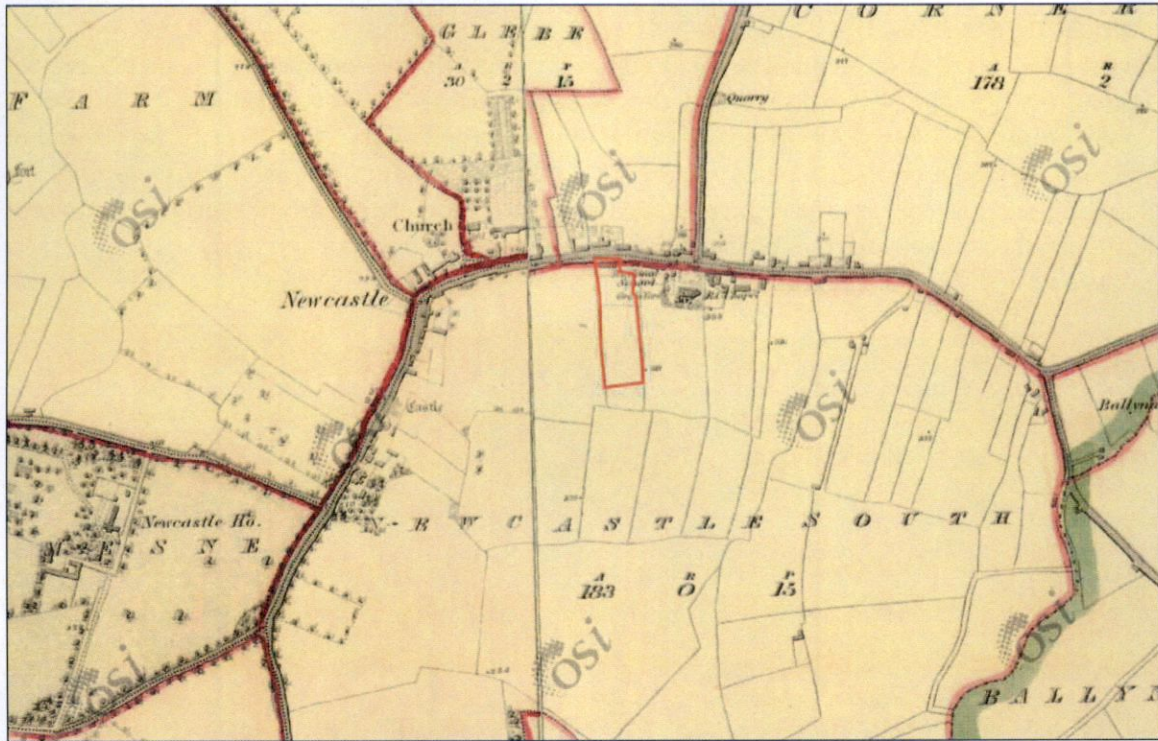


Figure 5: Extract from the first edition 6-inch OS map depicting the area surrounding the subject lands, approximate site boundary defined in red (Source: Government of Ireland, Historic Environment Viewer)

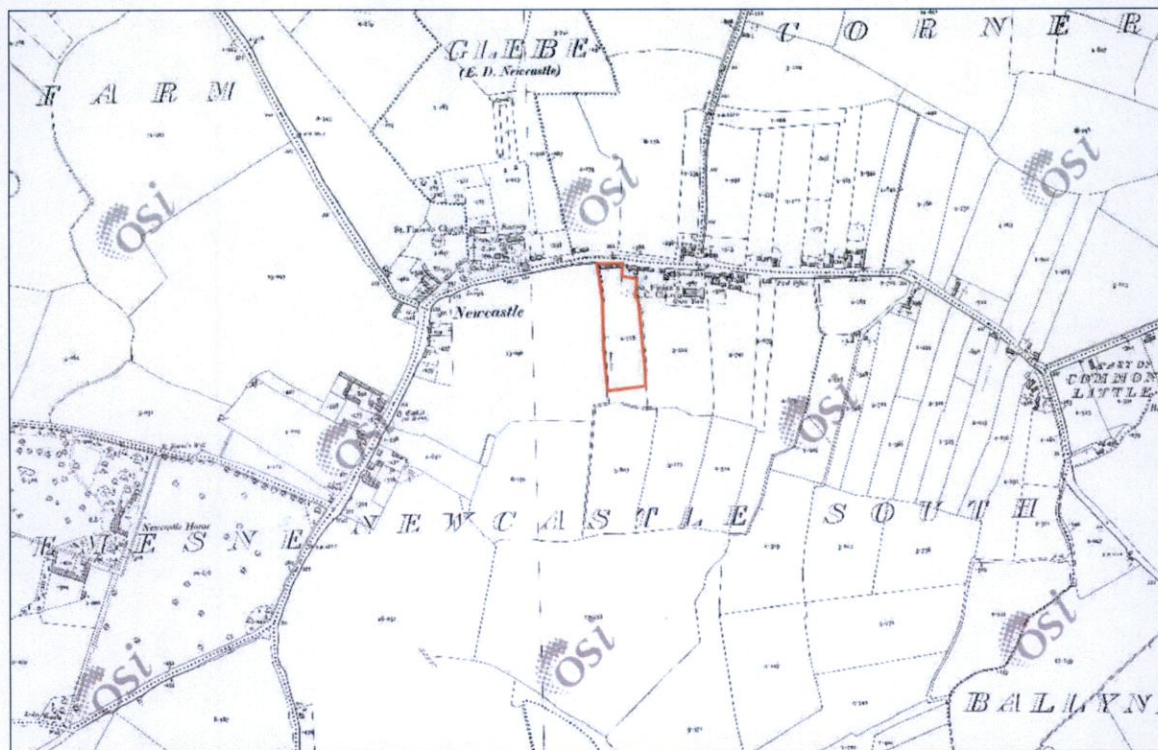


Figure 6: Extract from the 25-inch OS map depicting the area surrounding the subject lands, approximate site boundary defined in red (Source: Government of Ireland, Historic Environment Viewer)

Aerial photography

An examination of orthorectified aerial photography images provided by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland (OSI) from 1995 to 2018 and Google aerial image from 2022 (**Figures 7 - 8**) was undertaken. These images show no indication of unrecorded archaeological features. Several of the buildings seen on the OS maps are extant and appear derelict. The land has been used for dumping, and possible ground reduction and the introduction of a hard stand surface is apparent in the northern three quarters of the site. Only the southernmost portion of the site appears to retain an undeveloped greenfield appearance.



Figure 7: Segment of 1995 OS aerial survey of the subject site (Source: Ordnance Survey of Ireland)



Figure 8: Segment of 2000 OS aerial image of the subject site (Source: Ordnance Survey of Ireland)

Geophysical survey

A geophysical survey of a larger development that included the greenfield portion of the subject site was carried out by Target Archaeological Geophysics in 2018 under Detection License 18R0042. This survey for Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on behalf of Cairn Homes Plc. was carried out for an EIAR for a proposed housing development. The interpretative plan (see **Figure 9** below) depicts several areas of ferrous disturbance, and two linear trends but does not include any potential archaeological features within the subject site.



Figure 9: Extract from geophysical survey (Source: Target Archaeological Geophysics 2018), with the subject site outlined in red and Trenches 1-5 superimposed in blue

3. Results from archaeological testing

The archaeological testing was undertaken on the site by the licensee on 17 and 18 November 2022 with the assistance of a qualified and experienced archaeologist (Caroline McGrath). The weather conditions were dry but the bright, low winter sun made photography difficult. The topsoil was deep in the southern portion of the site and the water table was encountered in most of the trenches.

A total of six test trenches were excavated across the site of a proposed retail store development site at Newcastle South, County Dublin on 17 and 18 November 2022. Nothing archaeological was identified in the northern two thirds of the site. A small number of linear features of potential archaeological potential were identified at the northern end of the greenfield portion of the site. These features were cleaned back by the licensee and assistant archaeologist but were not excavated. A section was excavated through a modern cultivation furrow and an exploratory sondage was excavated into one other large possible drainage ditch, but no archaeological features or deposits were removed. A small number of sherds of possible late or post-medieval pottery, early modern pottery (including creamware, salt glaze ware, porcelain, etc), clay pipe fragments, sherds of glass, burnt limestones, animal bone – some of with had butchery marks -, ferrous slag and modern metal items and plastics were found in the topsoil excavated from the trenches. A full description of the test trenches is provided below in **Table 2**.



Figure 10: Aerial image showing the trenches and potential features

Table 2: Description of the test trenches

Trench	Length	Description
T1	35m	Trench 1 measured 35m in length (east – west) (Plates 1 – 2). The topsoil consisted of greyish brown friable sandy clay containing charcoal and a quantity of burnt limestone, iron slag, animal bone and post-medieval and early modern pottery (Plates 3, 4, 8). It measured between 0.6 and 0.8m in depth, being deeper near the eastern end of the trench. The natural subsoil consisted of yellow/orange and grey to mid brown silty clay containing a moderate amount of sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. A possible linear feature (F1) measuring approximately 1.7m in width containing abundant charcoal was identified near the western end of the trench. A 2m x 2m extension of the trench at its junction with Trench 2 showed that the feature extended in a northwest to southeast direction (Plate 9). This feature was not identified in Trench 5, indicating that it did not run that far to the south. No return of this feature was noted in Trench 3, suggesting that it did not turn eastward. A second possible linear feature (F2) was noted near the centre of the trench, orientated roughly north to south. This feature was irregular in plan, varying between approximately 2m and 1m in width (Plate 6). The fill (at surface level) contained, sub-angular stones, abundant charcoal and occasional animal bone, some of which had butchery marks. A small sherd of glazed earthenware, dating to the late medieval or early post-medieval period was found on the surface of this feature (Plate 7). A third feature (F3) was identified in the eastern half of the trench, apparently extending into the northern section of the trench. This irregular shaped feature measured approximately 0.6m in length north to south and 0.45m in width east to west. The fill contained charcoal and animal bone and teeth (Plate 5). The two possible linear features may be drainage ditches, but their date is unclear. The other feature may be a waste pit. It is unclear if any or all of these features are archaeological and further excavation will be necessary to elucidate this.
T2	45m	Trench 2 measured 45m in length (north – south). The topsoil consisted of greyish brown friable sandy clay containing charcoal, stones, some burnt limestone, post-medieval and early modern pottery and clay pipe fragments (Plate 12). It measured between 0.6 and 0.95m in depth. The natural subsoil consisted of yellow/orange and grey silty clay containing sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (Plates 10 – 11). Some evidence of patchy and ephemeral plough furrow scars, orientated in a general north-south direction, were noted near the centre of the trench. Apart from the linear identified in Trench 1 at the junction with Trench 2, nothing archaeological was identified in this trench.
T3	45m	Trench 3 measured 45m in length (north – south) (Plates 13 – 14). The topsoil consisted of greyish brown friable sandy clay containing charcoal, stones, some burnt limestone, post-medieval and early modern pottery and clay pipe fragments. Pieces of modern metal (possibly a child's swing set) was found in the topsoil at the southern end of the trench (Plate 18). The topsoil measured between 0.55 and 0.75m in depth. The natural subsoil consisted of yellow/orange and grey silty clay (sticky) containing sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. Some evidence of patchy and ephemeral plough furrow scars, orientated in a general north-south direction, were noted near the centre of the trench (Plates 15 – 17). A small section was excavated into one of the furrows, proving it to be shallow. A fragment of modern

Trench	Length	Description
		window glass was identified within the fill of the furrow. Nothing archaeological was identified in this trench.
T4	45m	Trench 4 measured 45m in length (north – south) (Plates 19 – 21). The topsoil consisted of greyish brown friable sandy clay containing charcoal, stones, occasional burnt limestone and early modern pottery. It measured between 0.6 and 0.85m in total depth and may have been made up of two layers, or at least it became slightly lighter in colour as it went down. Occasional bands of orange coloured burnt sediment was noted in places, particularly near to the northern end of the trench, possibly evidence of root burning (Plate 23). The natural subsoil consisted of yellow/orange and sticky grey silty clay (gravelly in places) containing sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. Two linear features of note, both orientated in a general east-west direction were uncovered in the northern half of the trench. These linear features may have been drains and probably relate to the linear trends identified in the geophysical survey results. The smaller linear (F5) measured approximately 1.1m in width and contained a fill of grey silty clay, containing occasional charcoal inclusions (Plate 24). The larger linear feature (F4) was identified close to the northern end of the trench. It measured approximately 3m in width and contained a fill of grey silty clay containing charcoal and occasional stones (Plates 22 - 23). A small sondage was excavated into the side of this feature to investigate whether it was a cut feature or not. The feature was not sectioned or bottomed and appears to be fairly substantial in size, however, no evidence of it was identified in adjacent Trench 3.
T5	35m	Trench 5 measured 35m in length (east –west). The topsoil consisted of greyish brown friable sandy clay containing stones, occasional modern cut wood, plastic and ferrous metal rubbish. It measured between 0.5 and 0.65m in total depth and the amount of modern refuse may suggest that it had been dug up or stripped and replaced in the recent past. The natural subsoil consisted of grey and light brown silty clay containing sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (Plates 25 – 26). Nothing archaeological was identified in this trench.
T6	50m	Trench 6 measured 50m in length (north – south). The overburden consisted of a thin layer of gravelly over a deposit of modern building rubble, containing redbrick (some perforated), concrete, plastic, wood, etc. up to 0.65m in depth (Plates 27, 30). This portion of the site has been a hardstand area for a number of years and has the appearance of having been reduced in ground level prior to infilling and levelling. The natural subsoil under the construction rubble consisted of yellow/orange and grey mottled clay and gravel (Plates 28 – 29). Nothing archaeological was identified in this trench.

4. Conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

The archaeological testing was undertaken on the site by the licensee on 17 and 18 November 2022 with the assistance of a qualified and experienced archaeologist (Caroline McGrath). A total of six test trenches were excavated across the site, one in the disturbed northern portion of the site and five in the greenfield area, which was included in a geophysical survey carried out for the adjacent housing development.

The northern two thirds of the overall development site has evidence for previous ground reduction and the introduction of hard surfacing material. Nothing archaeological was identified in that area during archaeological testing.

A small number of linear features of potential archaeological consequence were identified in the northern portion of the greenfield area of the development site. These features were identified in Trench 1 and in the northern portions of Trenches 2 and 4. The full extent of these features is not known but it was clear that they did not show up as returns in the other trenches, suggesting that they may be located within a limited area of the site. Some of the linear features appear to relate to the linear trends identified in the geophysical survey but their exact date and function is unknown. It is likely that these features, or at least some of them functioned as drainage features, given the issues with groundwater encountered during the testing programme. A sherd of glazed earthenware, potentially dating to the end of the late medieval or early post-medieval period was found on the surface of one of these features in Trench 1 along with butchered bone, which may suggest that this feature at least is of archaeological significance.

The ephemeral remains of closely spaced, parallel and relatively uniform north-south orientated cultivation furrows were identified in some of the trenches. These features are similar in orientation to the numerous other cultivation furrows identified nearby during the geophysical survey and are considered modern, with one containing a sherd of window glass within its fill.

Numerous burnt limestones were found in the topsoil, particularly in Trench 1. This may have been introduced to the site from elsewhere and the depth of the topsoil in this area may suggest that material was added to the site in the past. Alternatively, this may be the remains of nearby lime burning, a common practice, as lime was required for several uses in both towns and rural areas. Small pieces of ferrous slag and nails of unknown date, as well as modern metal rubbish identified in Trench 1 and modern metal refuse identified at the southern end of Trench 3 and in Trench 5, along with burnt sediments noted in the topsoil, particularly in Trench 4 may account for the ferrous anomalies identified in the geophysical survey.

In conclusion, the proposed development will not directly impact on any recorded archaeological monuments. The disturbed northern portion of the proposed development site is of low archaeological potential. A small number of potential archaeological features and artefacts were identified in the northern part of the greenfield area, particularly in Trenches 1, 2 and 4. The proposed development will have a direct impact on these features and therefore further mitigation will be necessary in this portion of the subject site.

Recommendations

No further archaeological works are recommended for the disturbed northern portion of the proposed development site. It is recommended however, that the greenfield portion of the site is fully stripped of topsoil under archaeological supervision and subject to a programme of full archaeological excavation and recording. This archaeological programme will be done under archaeological licence from the National Monuments Service. All archaeological features will be excavated and recorded to industry standard and best practice. Samples from archaeological deposits, any artefacts recovered and a full paper and digital archive from the excavation shall be retained for post-excavational analysis. A preliminary report detailing the results of the excavation and the proposed post-excavation works required to bring the report to final stage shall be issued to National Monuments Service within one month of completing the on-site phase of the work.

The post-excavation programme will be commensurate with the level and complexity of the archaeology identified on the site. This may include, digitising paper records, the production of interpretive images and plans, the processing and analysis of samples, radiocarbon dating, analysis of artefacts, etc. After the post-excavation programme has been completed, a final archaeological report shall be furnished to the National Monuments Service and the planning authority at the completion of this work.

5. References/sources

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- Database of Irish Archaeological Excavations. Available at: <http://www.excavations.ie/>. [Accessed 04/03/2022].
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Appendix 1: Photographic record



Plate 1: Trench 1 (T1) facing east



Plate 2: Trench 1 (T1) facing west



Plate 3: Selection of burnt limestone from topsoil in Trench 1



Plate 4: Iron nail and iron slag from topsoil in Trench 1



Plate 5: Small feature near the eastern end of Trench 1, containing charcoal, animal bone and teeth



Plate 6: Possible linear feature near the centre of Trench 1, with irregular edges, containing animal bone (some butchered), charcoal, flat stones and a sherd of glazed possible late medieval pottery



Plate 7: Sherd of glazed possible late medieval pottery from surface of feature in T1



Plate 8: Post-medieval and early modern pottery from topsoil in T1



Plate 9: Possible linear feature near west end of Trench 1, showing 2m x 2m extension at junction of Trench 1 and Trench 2, facing north



Plate 10: Trench 2 (T2) facing south



Plate 11: Trench 2 (T2) facing north



Plate 12: Sherds of glazed ceramics and fragment of clay pipe bowl from topsoil in T2



Plate 13: Trench 3 (T3) facing north



Plate 14: Trench 3 (T3) facing south



Plate 15: View of possible furrow in Trench 3 facing south, after cleaning



Plate 16: South facing section through possible furrow in T3



Plate 17: Glass and ceramic sherds from topsoil in T3 and window glass from furrow



Plate 18: One of the pieces of scrap metal (possible swing) in the topsoil at the southern end of Trench 3

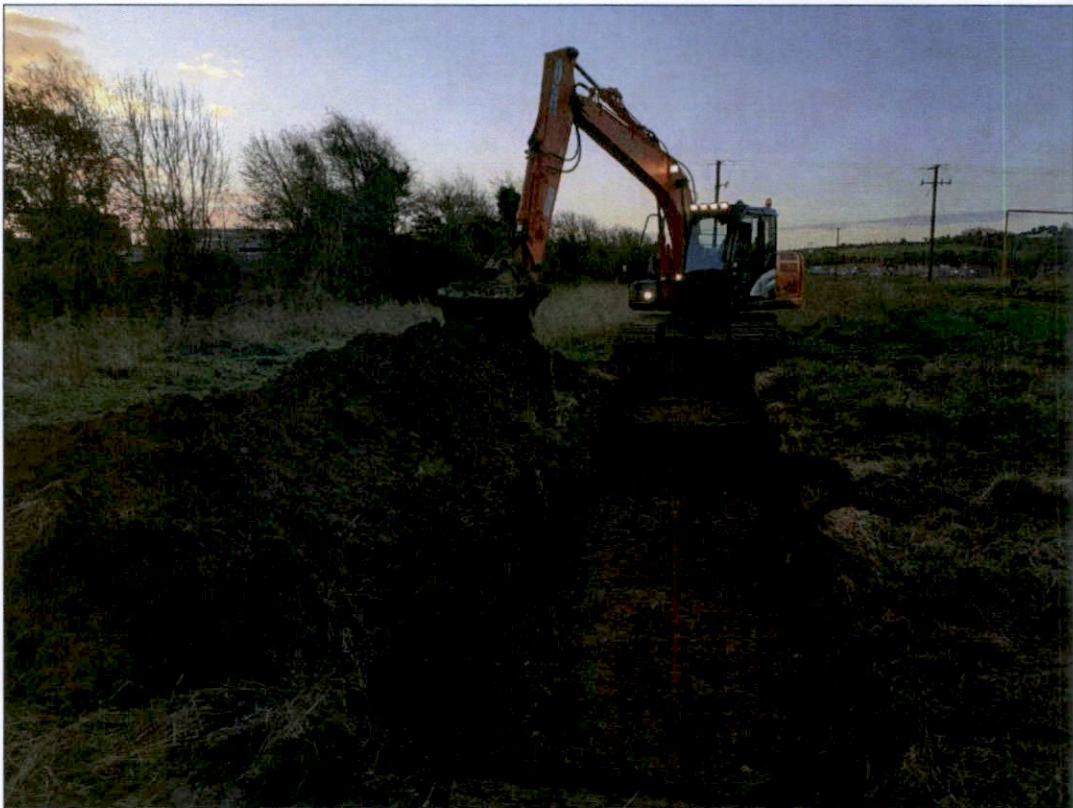


Plate 19: Working show showing topsoil removal for Trench 4, facing south with possible furrows visible



Plate 20: Trench 4 (T4), facing south



Plate 21: Trench 4 (T4), facing north



Plate 22: Possible ditch near north end of Trench 4, facing north



Plate 23: Sondage into possible ditch near north end of Trench 4, facing west. Note orange possible root burning through the topsoil in the section and slight change in colour



Plate 24: Possible linear feature near centre of Trench 4, facing west



Plate 25: Trench 5 (T5), facing west



Plate 26: Trench 5 (T5), facing east



Plate 27: Trench 6 (T6) showing make-up of overburden, facing north



Plate 28: Trench 6 (T6) facing south



Plate 29: Trench 6 (T6) north



Plate 30: Modern concrete and redbrick from overburden in Trench 6

Appendix 2: Relevant inventory entries

DU020-003001-

Class: Castle - motte

Townland: Newcastle North

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Located in a level field of pasture W of the medieval church in the village of Newcastle (DU020-003005-). This is a broad flat-topped mound (diam. of base 26m; diam. of top 14m; H 5m). There is no evidence for a bailey. It was constructed c. 1200 AD (O'Keefe 1986, 44-5). Austin Cooper writing in 1780 describes a very deep, wide fosse which is no longer apparent (Price (ed.) 1942, 27).

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout

DU020-003002-

Class: Church

Townland: Newcastle North

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description:

References:

1. Leask, H.G. 1960 (Reprint 1971, 1978 and 1985) Irish churches and monastic buildings, vol. III. Medieval gothic the last phases. Dundalk. Dundalgan Press.
2. O'Keefe, T. 1986 Medieval architecture and the village of Newcastle Lyons. In P. O'Sullivan (ed.), Newcastle Lyons: a parish of the Pale, 45-61. Dublin. Geography Publications.

DU020-003003-

Class: Cross

Townland: GLEBE (Newcastle By., Newcastle ED)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: S of the medieval church (DU020-003002-) is a Latin cross carved from granite and set into a granite base. It narrows from the base to the top. There is a Latin Cross in relief on it's S face and a worn cross-in-circle on N face (dims. H 1.64m, Wth 0.62m, T 0.18m-0.30m; see Swan 1986, 80).

Compiled by Geraldine Stout

DU020-003004-

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: GLEBE (Newcastle By., Newcastle ED)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated in level ground SE of church yard (DU020-003008-). It is a square tower, which rises to two storeys and is built of coursed limestone blocks with dressed quoins. Formerly entered from the S, now blocked, the present entrance is on E side. There is a vault over the ground floor (int. dims. L 4.7m; Wth 4.55m). The interior has been partitioned in more recent times. The stairwell in the SW corner is entered through a plain pointed doorway and is lit by slit opes. There is a stepped embrasure on the S side before entering the stairs which is an original feature. First floor is totally overgrown. There are remains of chamfered jambs on the E side of the entrance. This is probably the remains of the castle held by the Canons of St. Patrick's in 1547 (Ball 1905, III, 138). According to O'Meara (1903, 63) there is mention made of this castle in a list of ecclesiastical buildings presented to Henry VIII on the dis-establishment of the monasteries. A building attached to the N end of the tower house contains a limestone tablet on which is the inscription T. M. S. Anno 1727. According to Austin Cooper writing around 1780, this building served as a stable attached to the parsonage (Mc Dix 1898, 40, 85; Price 1942, 47).

DU020-003006-

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: Newcastle South

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: In level ground immediately E of bend in Athgoe Road between two other tower houses is the possible site of another marked in 1980s by the foundations of mortared walls (O'Keefe 1986, 55, Fig.4.1:3). Not visible at ground level.

Compiled by Geraldine Stout

DU020-003008-

Class: Settlement deserted - medieval

Townland: Newcastle South, Cornerpark, Glebe (Newcastle By., Lucan Ed), Newcastle Demesne, Newcastle Farm

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Newcastle was first mentioned as a royal manor in 1215 and had borough status by the late fifteenth century. The settlement was a linear one based on a single street, running east-west. The marketplace was located in the roughly sub-triangular space in front of the church.

Compiled by Geraldine Stout

DU020-003010-

Class: Graveyard

Townland: GRANGE (Newcastle By.)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated at the W end of Newcastle village. It encloses a medieval parish church (DU020-003002-). In the graveyard is a granite cross (DU020-003003-) and there are 18th and 19th century memorials in the graveyard.

Compiled by: Geraldine Stout

Date of upload: 24 November 2011

DU021-017001-

Class: Well

Townland: Newcastle South

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated in the NW corner of a long narrow holding opposite the medieval parish church at Newcastle Lyons. It is bounded on the E by a patch of spade cultivation. Traces of mortared wall protruding from beneath the sod were interpreted as a possible site of a tower house (O'Keefe 1986, 55, No. 5). Recent clearance has revealed that the mortared wall was actually a covering for a well.

Compiled by Geraldine Stout

DU021-017002-

Class: Castle - tower house

Townland: NEWCASTLE NORTH

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: The site is located in a level field of tillage W of the road that leads N to Lucan and opposite the present RC church. According to O'Keefe (1986, 55, No. 6) a tower house was indicated in manuscript form on an old copy of the Ordnance Survey 6 inch sheet of the area held by Mr Paddy Healy, Dublin. There are no visible remains at ground level.

Compiled by Geraldine Stout

Appendix 3: Relevant archaeological excavations

The following are extracts from the Database of Irish Excavation Reports (www.excavations.ie). The table contains details of archaeological investigations/excavations within one kilometre of the subject site.

Site name	Licence and author	Summary
Newcastle	05E0920 John Kavanagh	A test excavation was carried out during August 2005. The development site was located within the zone of archaeological potential of the historic village of Newcastle. Five trenches were excavated across the greenfield site. Nothing of any archaeological significance was found.
St. Finian's National School, Main Street, Newcastle, Co. Dublin	13E0348 Antoine Giacometti	<p>An archaeological excavation took place in advance of groundworks for a new school building in a field to the west of the existing school in 2014. This followed programmes of test-trenching (05E1376) and geophysical survey (03R003) that identified archaeological remains. The excavation identified a series of medieval burgage properties that would have fronted onto Newcastle Main Street. Three burgage plots were found, each measuring about 20m wide and 70m long. They appear to have been defined in and around the 13th century AD. Two of the plots contained medieval kilns that were located at the back of the properties, cut into the banks of the burgage plots. One of these was very well preserved and the archaeologists were able to identify a drying chamber and raking and firing surface, and to suggest that the kiln was used for drying grain.</p> <p>The animal bone assemblage from the site was analysed by Jonny Geber who noted that it 'represents domestic refuse comprising primarily of food and butchery waste. A high proportion of dog bones indicate specific depositions of either complete deceased dogs, or more likely partial skeletons/carcasses. Dogs were clearly kept on the site, as gnaw marks are observed on some of the cattle and pig remains. It is also evident that goose and fowl contributed to the diet, and that cats were present'.</p> <p>Archaeobotanical remains were analysed by Susan Lyons who noted that they 'reflect domestic and industrial waste, fuel resources and potentially building materials being used at the site'. Wheat, barley and oat grains were identified around one of the kilns. The presence of whole grains was considered unusual, as large-scale flour production is generally confined to mills, so this may suggest the drying of grain for animal fodder, which would fit with the identification of vetch and dock/sorrel seeds. Susan adds that 'none of the grains from Newcastle displayed evidence for sprouting, a feature that develops during the malting process.' 'The charcoal assemblage seems to represent a deliberate wood selection for kiln fuel and possible construction activities at the site', Susan noted, adding that the presence of cherry and pomaceous woods as well as</p>

Site name	Licence and author	Summary
		more typical ash, willow and hazel may suggest local orchards and gardens, which becomes more common in the later medieval period. The full report can be downloaded from www.archaeologyplan.com/projects .
Primrose Cottage, Main Street, Newcastle	15E0041 Martin E. Byrne	Monitoring of site preparation/trench excavation works associated with the construction of a single storey extension to the southern gable of a residence known as Primrose Cottage, Newcastle, Co. Dublin was undertaken in compliance with the Grant of Planning. The development plot is located within the Zone of Archaeological Potential established for Newcastle (DU020-003) and to the immediate north of a possible tower-house site (DU020-00306). No subsurface features or deposits of archaeological interest were uncovered, and no artefacts of archaeological interest were recovered during the course of the works. In addition, it was noted that the entire development area had been the subject of extensive ground disturbance/reduction works associated with the construction of the existing house.
Newcastle South, Newcastle	19E0116 David Bayley & Fergal Murtagh	Excavations at Newcastle South follow on from a programme of testing undertaken in February 2019 also under licence 19E0116 which followed on from geophysical survey carried out in 2018 (18R0042) by IAC Archaeology. Seven trenches were excavated across the site and identified one area of archaeological potential consisting of charcoal-rich pits and three linear features which were identified within Trenches 1 and 2 within three smaller sub-areas. Excavations consisted of three separate cuttings, designated Cuttings A-C. Cutting A contained evidence of probable industrial activity in the form of a kiln (C4) and a curvilinear slot trench (C6) towards the south of the cutting. The kiln was interpreted as having served as a cereal-drying kiln (Plate 1). The curvilinear slot trench was located immediately to the south of the kiln and probably formed a wind-break type structure that provided shelter for the kiln. A deposit/dump of charcoal-rich silty clay, most likely waste material from the kiln, was recorded in the northern part of the cutting. In Cutting B, a roughly north-south oriented linear gully (C14), possibly a drainage feature, and a roughly north-north-east/south-south-west oriented agricultural furrow (C24) were the only features identified. The gully was shown to be the stratigraphically earlier of the two features, as the furrow cut the gully at the point of intersection between the two. The furrow appeared to terminate just to the north of the intersection between the features. An isolated pit (C31) was identified at the northern end of Cutting C. Due to the nature of the fills, it was interpreted as a waste pit. At the southern end of the cutting, a linear ditch (C8), interpreted as a subdivision of a burgage plot, and six agricultural furrows (C10, C12, C16, C18, C20 & C22), were recorded. One of the furrows cut across the ditch and other furrows were also intercutting, indicating at least

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		<p>two phases of activity. Nothing was recovered during the excavation to indicate a date for the activity .</p> <p>The current interpretation of the phasing of the activity on site is based on stratigraphic relationships and typological similarities between features. It is hoped that post-excavation analysis will further inform the preliminary interpretation of the activity on site.</p>
Newcastle South, Newcastle	20E0024 David Bayley & Fergal Murtagh	<p>Archaeological excavations were undertaken in advance of a construction compound and haul road and followed on from testing carried out in January 2020 by David Bayley of IAC Archaeology, also under licence 20E0024, and following on from a series of previous investigations including geophysical survey, site testing and desktop study.</p> <p>The excavation works carried out were centred on two main areas of activity. The first of these was at the location of the proposed compound and car park for the construction works. The features here could be further sub-divided into four clusters, A-D.</p> <p>Cluster A was comprised of a curvilinear ditch and the various pits, stake-holes and spreads that were found in association with it. Three features to the south and west of the curvilinear ditch consisted of a pit with basal charcoal layers, a possible trough and a spread of materials from which some lithics were recovered (Plate 1). The remaining features in this cluster were located to the east of the curvilinear ditch and consisted of shallow pits and a stake-hole.</p> <p>Cluster B was located south of Cluster A. The main features in this group were two kilns. The first kiln was disturbed by modern agricultural activity, including a modern stone drain cutting through the middle of the kiln. There were at least two phases of use of this kiln as a recut was evident immediately to the south of the modern drain. The second kiln was located to the south-east and had a charcoal-rich basal fill. Two stake-holes in close proximity to the north-west of this feature were likely associated with the use of the kiln. The exact date and function of these kilns cannot be determined at this time and post-excavation analysis is ongoing.</p> <p>Cluster C consisted of a charcoal-production clamp and spread of material that were located at the eastern end of the site. Pit C34 has been interpreted as a charcoal-production clamp. These were a common feature throughout much of history and prehistory. The charcoal produced from these clamps could have had several uses but was most likely associated with metalworking activities. The spread of material comprised of fire-reddened clay. It was quite shallow and may represent the remains of a hearth that has been disturbed by modern agricultural activity such as ploughing. An east-west oriented linear ditch was also excavated in this area. Nothing to indicate a date was recovered from this ditch, but it has been interpreted as a land drainage feature.</p> <p>The fourth group of features, Cluster D, were located in the western part of the compound/car park area and comprised three pits. The</p>

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		<p>charcoal-rich nature of the fills of two of these features means they have been interpreted as being charcoal clamps, while the similarity of the fill of the third pit to material found in burnt mounds has led to it being interpreted as a small trough or "pot boiler"-type feature where small amounts of water could be heated quickly.</p> <p>The second area of archaeological features was located in the north-west of the site area, where the proposed haul road will exit the site. This area was in close proximity to tower-house DU020-003007. The features excavated in this area could be divided into two categories (medieval and post-medieval). The medieval features comprised a deep, circular pit that contained numerous sherds of medieval pottery in its fills, and the remains of two structures. One structure was sub-rectangular in plan with a cobbled surface on the interior that was sealed by an organic deposit. The second structure comprised the remains of a wall. It was not possible to determine if this wall had been part of a larger structure.</p> <p>The post-medieval features in this area appear to have functioned as land drains with one probable former field boundary. These features all produced post-medieval pottery or red brick.</p>