

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
AT
WHITESTOWN WAY,
TALLAGHT, DUBLIN 24**

**ON BEHALF OF: ARP 4.2 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
(IRELAND) FUND**

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ABSTRACT

This report has been prepared on behalf of ARP 4.2 Sustainable Communities (Ireland) Fund to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological and historical resource of the proposed residential-led mixed-use development at Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (Figure 1; ITM 708307, 726979). The report was undertaken by Johnnie Gallacher of IAC Archaeology.

The L-shaped site is occupied by a single grassed field situated in a built-up area characterised by commercial, industrial and medium-rise residential development, bordered by key Dublin driving routes. There are no recorded monuments within the 250m study area; the nearest is c. 850m away. No previous archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the study area, although investigations in the wider vicinity have indicated medieval activity. Prehistoric artefacts have also been recorded in the Tallaght area. A review of the aerial photographic coverage failed to identify any previously unrecorded sites of archaeological potential within the proposed development area.

A review of the historic mapping coverage revealed that there is however one constraint of potential antiquarian value within the proposed development area. This is a c. 70m long stretch of the Whitestown-Tallaght townland boundary.

A field inspection has been carried out as part of this assessment. No previously unrecorded sites or areas of archaeological potential were noted. No upstanding remains relating to the townland boundary were found to be present. It is considered likely that some ground disturbance has occurred within the proposed development area associated with adjacent development and underground services.

While no features of archaeological potential were identified within the proposed development area by this assessment, it is possible that archaeological deposits may be present, which possess no surface expression. Ground disturbances associated with the proposed development have the potential to impact on any such remains that may survive beneath the current ground level.

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

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The following report details an archaeological assessment undertaken in advance of a proposed residential-led mixed-use development at Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (Figure 1; ITM 708307, 726979). This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological and historical resource that may exist within the area. The assessment was undertaken by Johnnie Gallacher of IAC Archaeology (IAC), on behalf of ARP 4.2 Sustainable Communities (Ireland) Fund.

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

1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

ARP 4.2 Sustainable Communities (Ireland) Fund intends to apply for permission for the development of a 'Large-Scale Residential Development' (LRD) at a site of approximately 1.32 Ha principally located at Whitestown Way, Dublin 24. The site is generally bound: to the east by Whitestown Way; to the south by Riverside Business Park; to the west by Whitestown Road / Whitestown Industrial Estate, undeveloped lands and the Vita Actives premises; and to the north by, the Vita Actives premises and The Arena mixed-used development. It also extends to include part of Whitestown Way for junction, road infrastructure and landscape works.

The proposed development principally comprises the construction of a mixed-use development in 2 No. blocks (Block A to the east and Block B to the west) with a gross floor area of 14,976.5 sq m (excluding undercroft car parking area of 1,975.8 sq m) and ranging in height from 1 No. storey to 6 No. storeys. The blocks are connected via a single-storey undercroft/podium level. The development includes: 169 No. residential units (80 No. 1-bed, 85 No. 2-bed and 4 No. 3-bed); 2 No. class 1 / class 2 commercial units (totalling 356.5 sq m); and a crèche (162.8 sq m) with external play area.

The development also comprises: new street and turning head at the site's southern side and junction with Whitestown Way to the east; 77 No. car parking spaces, with 66 No. within the undercroft car parking area and 11 No. on-street; 2 No. set-down bays; cycle parking; hard and soft landscaping, including public open space, communal amenity space and incidental spaces; private amenity spaces (as balconies and terraces facing all directions); boundary treatments; sub-station; plant/operational rooms; bin stores; public lighting; green roofs; rooftop plant, PV arrays, lift overruns,

telecommunications infrastructure and automatic opening vents; and all associated works above and below ground.

2 METHODOLOGY

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

2.1 PAPER SURVEY

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Dublin;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Dublin;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders List;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- South Dublin County Development Plan (2022–2028);
- Tallaght Town Local Area Plan 2020 (as extended);
- Aerial photographs; and
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2026).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Development Plans contain a catalogue of all the Protected Structures and archaeological sites within the county. The South Dublin County Development Plan (2022–2028) and Tallaght Local Area Plan (2020) were consulted to obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

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

Excavations Bulletin is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2026 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files. This information is also available online (www.excavations.ie) from 1970–2026.

2.2 FIELD INSPECTION

Field inspection is necessary to determine the extent and nature of archaeological and historical remains, and can also lead to the identification of previously

unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds through topographical observation and local information.

The archaeological field inspection entailed -

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

3 RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed development area is located on Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (Figure 1). The site is split between the townlands of Whitestown and Tallaght, in the parish of Tallaght and the barony of Uppercross.

The L-shaped site is occupied by a single overgrown greenfield situated in a built-up area. The ground is likely disturbed from adjacent developments. The site is generally bound: to the east by Whitestown Way; to the south by Riverside Business Park; to the west by Whitestown Road / Whitestown Industrial Estate, undeveloped lands and the Vita Actives premises; and to the north by, the Vita Actives premises and The Arena mixed-used development. It also extends to include part of Whitestown Way for junction, road infrastructure and landscape works. It is across the road from Tallaght Stadium (home to Shamrock Rovers FC) and it is c. 60m north of Whitestown Stream. The surrounding area is characterised by commercial and industrial development, as well as by key Dublin driving routes and some blocks of apartments and other housing.

There are no recorded monuments within the 250m study area; the nearest comprises mill DU021-037007, which is c. 850m to the northeast of the proposed development. There is however one archaeological constraint within the proposed development area, which is a c. 70m stretch of the Whitestown-Tallaght townland boundary (Figures 1, 5 & 6).

3.1.1 Prehistoric Period

Mesolithic Period (6000–4000 BC)

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

The current archaeological evidence suggests that the environs around Dublin were first inhabited towards the later part of this period. At this time people made crude flint tools known as Larnian (or Bann) Flakes. Small numbers of these flakes have been found along coastal areas of County Dublin such as Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey Island, and Loughlinstown and may indicate small-scale transient settlement along the riverbanks and seashores (Corlett, 1999). There are no known Mesolithic sites located within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

Neolithic Period (4000–2500 BC)

During the Neolithic period, communities generally became less mobile and their economy became based on the rearing of stock and cereal cultivation. The transition to the Neolithic was marked by major social change. Communities had expanded and moved further inland to more permanent settlements. This afforded the development of agriculture which demanded an altering of the physical landscape. Forests were rapidly cleared and field boundaries constructed. Pottery was also being produced, possibly for the first time. There are no known Neolithic sites located within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

Bronze Age (2500–800 BC)

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

As during the Neolithic period, the high ground of the Dublin Mountains to the south of Tallaght may have been perceived as being sacred and a large number of burial monuments dating to this period are recorded within this landscape. There are no known Bronze Age sites located within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

Iron Age (800 BC–AD 500)

Until recently, the dearth of evidence representing the Irish Iron Age led to it being the most enigmatic and least understood period in Irish prehistory. However, large scale commercial excavations carried out over the past two decades have produced large quantities of new data relating to Iron Age settlement and industry across the country. This raw excavation data is still being analysed and a picture of life during the Iron Age is being assembled (Becker 2012, 1). There is no firmly dated evidence for Iron Age activity within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development.

3.1.2 Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

This period was characterised by the introduction of Christianity to Ireland. The new religion was a catalyst for many changes, one of the most important being literacy. Irish was written down for the first time using the ogham script. The ogham alphabet is thought to be based on the Latin alphabet of the later Roman Empire and today the majority of the inscriptions that survive are located on pillar stones or boulders. As well as this form of the written word, the church created impressive tomes in their official language, Latin. Examples of these include the Book of Kells and the Book of Durrow as well as other mundane works such as the Annals, which were an account of the history of the church. Monasticism was known in St. Patrick's time (mid-5th century) but it was not until the 6th and 7th centuries that the famous monastic

houses such as Glendalough, Bangor, Clonfert, Clonard, Clonmacnoise and Durrow were founded.

St Maelruan's ecclesiastical enclosure is recorded c. 920m to the northeast of the proposed development area (DU021-037002). The church (DU021-037003) was built on the original location of a monastery established in 769 AD. The inner and outer enclosure ditches of the monastery have been identified during several archaeological investigations in the area. Ireland's first martyrology book, *The Martyrology of Tallaght*, was produced there.

Also known as *Máel-Ruain*, *Maol Ruain* and *Mollroone*, this saint was one of Ireland's Christian leaders in his era (Ó Riain 2011, 445-6; Duffy 2005, 308-9). The monastery became known, along with the monastery at Finglas, as one of the 'two eyes of Ireland', possibly on account of the many external influences that reached Ireland through them. Maelruan was a leading figure within the *Céili Dé* movement (translation: clients of God). Although mainly associated with Tallaght, the Culdees (to give the movement's standard Anglicisation) formed many new churches throughout Ireland and Britain (Duffy 2005, 70-1). While asceticism was already present in Irish Christianity, the Culdees intensified this tradition. Vikings attacked the monastery in AD 811 but the institution quickly recovered (askaboutireland.ie; southdublinhistory.ie).

St Maelruan's holy tree (DU021-037012) is situated c. 1.2km northeast of the development area, on the grounds of the 19th-century Dominican Priory. This mature walnut tree is clearly not ancient, as this species of tree was only introduced to Ireland in 1760, but it may have replaced a much earlier tree (South Dublin Libraries Local Studies 2012). The sacred status of the tree represents a continuity of worship from pre-Christian times (Duffy 2005, 389, 455).

3.1.3 Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

The piecemeal conquest of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans, which commenced in 1169, had a fundamental impact on the Irish landscape. A large portion of the province of Leinster came under Strongbow's control after the conquest. During this time the well-established centre of Kildare town was attractive to Strongbow and in 1170 it became his base (Orpen 1892). By the end of the 12th century Norman settlement was effective over the whole county, as marked by the beginning of the rule of the Fitzgerald family as Earls of Kildare. The political structure of the Anglo-Normans centred on the establishment of shires, manors, castles, villages, and churches. During this period, the Anglo-Normans built castles of stone construction or large flat-topped mounds or mottes with timber structures atop (Harbison 1997, 62) in order to defend their recently acquired lands.

After the Anglo-Norman invasion Tallaght was confirmed to the See of Dublin in 1179. During the 13th century the O'Byrnes, O'Tooles and many of the Archbishop's tenants took offensive action and as such many agricultural duties were not carried out. A royal grant to enclose the town was issued to the bailiffs of the town in 1310, although no evidence for the presence of walls has been found. Between 1324 and

1349 Tallaght Castle was constructed although it was reportedly in need of repair a century later. The castle was raided by the O'Toole's in 1331/2 and devastated by the family in 1540 (askaboutireland.ie; southdublinhistory.ie). A gatehouse (DU021-037010) and square tower (DU021-037020), c. 1.1km to the northeast of the proposed development, are all that survives of the castle and these have been incorporated into an active Dominican Priory nearby.

3.1.4 Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1800)

The 18th century witnessed a more pacified Ireland and during this time industry was developed in the landscape. In the area of Tallaght, the water power of the River Dodder was utilised and fed numerous millraces to operate a multitude of mills. The first edition OS map of 1843 shows several of the mills found to the south of Tallaght town during this time. One of the largest, the Haerlem mill complex (DU021-057001), c. 875m to the southeast, consisted of a flour and woollen cloth mill. The Dublin to Blessington Steam Tramway opened in 1888 and passed through the town providing further economic stimulus (askaboutireland.ie, southdublinhistory.ie). An unclassified mill (DU021-037007) is recorded c. 850m northeast of the proposed development, although it is believed to be early medieval in date.

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

Multiple demesne landscapes and large houses were established throughout County Dublin during this period, due to the proximity of the city. These include the estates associated with Glebe House, c. 670m north; Killinarden House, c. 1.1km southwest; and Jobstown House, c. 980m west.

3.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2026) has revealed that no previous archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the proposed development area or within 250m of the site. The nearest investigation took place c. 570m to the northeast. This involved the excavation of a section of the enclosure ditch of St Maelruan's Monastery (Bennett 1997:187; Licence No. 96E0188). Medieval features and later burials in the northern part of the site were excavated.

3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

William Petty's Down Survey Map, Barony of Newcastle, 1655-8

The Down Survey maps were compiled at a scale of 40 perches to one inch (the modern equivalent of 1:50,000) and represent the first systematic mapping of a large area on such a scale attempted anywhere. On Petty's map, the proposed development is an undeveloped tract of land to the southwest of the town of Tallaght. 'Whittstonne caftle' is depicted within the townland of Whitestown, where the proposed development lies. It bears no surface remains today and its location is not known.

John Rocque's An Actual Survey of the County of Dublin, 1760 (Figure 3)

The proposed development site is located within open fields to the southwest of 'Tallow' town and to the south of a NE-SW aligned road

John Taylor's Map of the Environs of Dublin 1816 (Figure 4)

The proposed development site is located within a somewhat sloped area annotated 'Commons', meaning that it was available for all common people to use for grazing livestock, collecting wood and cutting turf. Paper mills are now annotated to the southeast.

William Duncan's Map of the County of Dublin, 1821

There are no other significant changes in this map to the proposed development area and its wider landscape.

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1843, scale 1:10,560 (Figure 5)

This is the first accurate historic mapping coverage of the area containing the proposed development. The site is located within two open fields situated immediately north of a watercourse. Weirs are annotated on this watercourse, c. 180m east and c. 150m southwest. The Whitestown-Tallaght townland boundary traverses the proposed development area. Scattered houses, farmsteads and demesnes dot the surrounding landscape. The nearest farmstead is c. 90m south. The demesnes include the estates associated with Glebe House, c. 670m north; Killinarden House, c. 1.1km southwest; and Jobstown House, c. 980m west.

Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, scale 1:2,500 (Figure 6)

The site remains within two open fields and there are no significant changes to note. Three field boundaries which were previously adjacent to the proposed development area have now been removed. The farmstead to the south has expanded from two to five buildings.

3.4 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The South Dublin County Development Plan (2022–2028) and Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan (2020) recognise the statutory protection afforded to all RMP sites under the National Monuments Legislation (1930–2014). The development plan lists a number of aims and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage (Appendix 2).

There are no recorded archaeological sites within the proposed development area or within the wider 250m study area.

3.5 TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES

Information on artefact finds from the study area in County Dublin has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic activity in the study area.

The townlands within 250m of the proposed development comprise Tallaght, Whitestown and Oldbawn. A search of files for these townlands yielded a total of 50 stray finds (49, 1 and 0 respectively). These topographical file listings are presented in Appendix 1. They largely reflect post-medieval and medieval ceramic remains, although at least two prehistoric stone artefacts were also recorded.

3.6 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995–2013), Google Earth (2008–2026) and Bing Maps was conducted. This showed that the site has remained in its current form – as a single grass field in a built up, urban and industrial area – since at least 1996. No previously unrecorded sites or areas of archaeological potential were noted.

3.7 FIELD INSPECTION

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

The L-shaped site is surrounded by palisaded fencing, with access through a gate in the north (Plates 1-2). It is bound by existing development on all sides. Inside of the fencing, the ground is roughly flat and level. The site mostly comprises rough grass pasture and it can be characterised as a greenfield site. The southeast of the site is particularly overgrown, with numerous trees and bushes present there (Plates 3-4). The southwestern area is the tidiest area in the site (Plate 5). The northern area, near the site entrance, has the most obvious signs of previous ground disturbances. These include machine trampling (Plate 6) and mounds of earth (Plate 1). A man-hole cover in the north of the site indicates the presence of underground utility infrastructure (Plate 3).

No upstanding remains of the townland boundary which traverses the site or of any previously unidentified archaeological features were noted during this inspection.

4 CONCLUSIONS

This report has been prepared on behalf of ARP 4.2 Sustainable Communities (Ireland) Fund to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological and historical resource of the proposed residential-led mixed-use development at Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (Figure 1; ITM 708307, 726979). The report was undertaken by Johnnie Gallacher of IAC Archaeology.

The L-shaped site is occupied by a single grassed field situated in a built-up area characterised by commercial, industrial and medium-rise residential development, bordered by key Dublin driving routes.

There are no recorded monuments within the 250m study area; the nearest is c. 850m away. No previous archaeological fieldwork has been undertaken within the study area; the nearest investigation took place c. 570m away. This recorded medieval remains associated with St Maelruan's Monastery (Bennett 1997:187; Licence No. 96E0188). Stray finds recorded in Tallaght townland reflect medieval and post-medieval ceramic remains, although prehistoric Bronze and stone axes have also been recorded indicative of activity in the wider area. A review of the aerial photographic coverage failed to identify any previously unrecorded sites of archaeological potential within the development area.

A review of the historic mapping coverage revealed that there is however one constraint of potential antiquarian value within the proposed development area. This is a c. 70m long stretch of the Whitestown-Tallaght townland boundary (Figures 1, 5 & 6).

A field inspection has been carried out as part of this assessment. No previously unrecorded sites or areas of archaeological potential were noted. No upstanding remains relating to the townland boundary were found to be present. It is considered likely that some ground disturbance has occurred within the proposed development area associated with adjacent development and underground services.

The site possesses low to moderate archaeological potential based on the results of this assessment.

5 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

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

5.1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

While no features of archaeological potential were identified within the proposed development area, it is possible that archaeological deposits may be present, which possess no surface expression. Ground disturbances associated with the proposed development have the potential to impact on any such remains that may survive beneath the current ground level.

5.2 MITIGATION

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

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

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

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ELECTRONIC SOURCES

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

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

www.askaboutireland.ie – The History of Tallaght.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 STRAY FINDS FROM WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
Tallaght	1976:100	Glazed red earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	There are traces of glaze on both faces. The interior is covered with a yellow slip. The fabric is hard, fine and brick-red in colour. Post 16th century in date.
Tallaght	1976:101	Red earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in colour with small brown grit inclusions.
Tallaght	1976:102	Ceramic tile fragment	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is brick-orange in colour with brown grit inclusions.
Tallaght	1976:103	Ceramic tile fragment	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is brick-orange in colour with brown grit inclusions.
Tallaght	1976:104	Glazed red earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions and lenses of yellow clays are evident. The sherd has a glossy black glaze on both faces. This appears to be a sherd of what was formerly referred to as 'Buckley Ware'.
Tallaght	1976:105	Glazed red earthenware body sherd.	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions and lenses of yellow clays are clearly evident. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on the internal face.
Tallaght	1976:94	North Devon gravel-tempered ware	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is coarse, orange-red on the outside with a grey

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
		body sherd			core. There are mica and quartz inclusions. On the internal face there is a mottled yellow-green glaze and there are splashed of a pale yellow glaze on the external face.
Tallaght	1976:95	Glazed earthenware rim sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	On old label: 'clear glazed posset pot rimsherd'. The sherd is thin-walled. The fabric is fine, buff coloured with small brown (iron-rich) flecks/inclusions. The glaze is pale yellow and is on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:96	Manganese mottled body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	Thin-walled. The fabric is fine and buff in colour with tiny dark inclusions. It is glazed on both faces with a brown-amber coloured glaze.
Tallaght	1976:97	Manganese mottled body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	Thin-walled. The fabric is fine and buff in colour with tiny dark inclusions. It is glazed on both faces with a brown-amber coloured glaze.
Tallaght	1976:98	Tin-glazed earthenware sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	More commonly referred to as 'Delf ware'. It could be a rim or neck sherd. There is decoration and glaze on both faces. Cobalt blue and light blue floral motifs are painted on the surfaces. The fabric is white in colour and hard. There is a clear lead-tin glaze to creating a white colour glaze. It is on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:99	Glazed red earthenware	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS	There is burnt/vitrified

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
		base sherd		Sheet No. 21	material adhered to it. The sherd is dirty. The fabric is brick orange in colour with orange-brown coloured glaze.
Tallaght	1976:107	Glazed red earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric hard, brick-red in color with small brown grit and quartz inclusions and lenses of yellow clays are clearly evident. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on the internal face. This appears to be a sherd of what was formerly referred to as 'Buckley Ware'.
Tallaght	1976:108	Glazed red earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on the internal face. There are deep ridges on the external face, and shallower ridges on the internal face. In section the fabric undulates.
Tallaght	1976:109	Glazed red earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in color with small brown grit and quartz inclusions. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on the internal face.
Tallaght	1976:110	Glazed red earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, purple-red in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions and lenses of yellow clays are evident. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on both faces. It is possibly a sherd of Red Border Ware.

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
					Very like 1976:106.
Tallaght	1976:111	Glazed red earthenware rim sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-red in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions and lenses of yellow clays are evident. This sherd has a glossy black glaze on both faces. This appears to be a sherd of what was formerly referred to as 'Buckely Ware'.
Tallaght	1976:112	Glazed red earthenware rim sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is hard, brick-orange in colour with small brown grit and quartz inclusions. There is a mottled brown glaze applied to the rim and the internal face.
Tallaght	1976:113	Glazed red earthenware body sherd.	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	Thin-walled. The fabric is hard, fine brick-orange in colour with small brown grit inclusions. There is a mottled brown glaze applied to the internal face.
Tallaght	1976:114	Stoneware base and body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is buff-coloured and hard and grainy with tiny brown inclusions. The glaze is an orange-brown in colour. Internal face is rilled. Possibly a fragment from a jar.
Tallaght	1976:115	Stoneware base and body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is buff-coloured and hard and grainy with tiny brown inclusions. The glaze is cream in colour.
Tallaght	1976:116	Stoneware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is buff in colour and hard and grainy with tiny

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
					brown inclusions. There is a playe-yellow glaze on the exterior face and a white glaze on the interior face.
Tallaght	1976:117	Stoneware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	The fabric is purple-grey in colour. There is a glossy black glaze on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:118	Stoneware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	This is a small sherd. The fabric is purple-grey in colour with tiny white speckles. There is an almost metallis brown glaze on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:119	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is opague/white and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:120	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is opague/white and on both faces. There are patches on the surface of both faces where it has flaked off
Tallaght	1976:121	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague and on both faces. The outer face is painted with a thick line, tan in colour and an embossed(?) dark brown geometric pattern.
Tallaght	1976:122	Glazed refined earthenware rim sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard. The glaze is white/opague on

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
					the internal face. The outer face is painted(?) flowing designs and around the edge a band of green glaze covering a series of decorative (two) grooves and (two) ridges.
Tallaght	1976:123	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague with a bluish tinge and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:124	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:125	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:126	Glazed refined earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. Probably a sherd from a plate or flat ware. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:127	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled and the sherd curves/concaves. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opague and on both faces. The

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
					outer face is decorated with pale blue leafy patterns/possibly part of a scene.
Tallaght	1976:128	Pottery sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled and curves/concave. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opaque and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:129	Glazed refined earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled. Probably a sherd from a plate or flat ware. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. It is glazed in both faces.
Tallaght	1976:130	Glazed refined earthenware body sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled and curves/concave. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opaque and on both faces.
Tallaght	1976:131	Glazed refined earthenware base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled and curves/concave. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opaque and on both faces. Sherd 1976:132 and 131 possibly part of same plate.
Tallaght	1976:132	Glazed refined earthen base sherd	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	White ware. Thin-walled and curves/concave. The fabric is white in colour and hard with brown/ochre flecks. The glaze is white/opaque and on both faces. Sherd 1976:132 and 131 possibly part of

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
					same plate.
Tallaght	1976:133	Ceramic anthropomorphic object fragment	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	It is a moulded human head. There is a painted tan-coloured band around the hair-line and the eyes are quite crudely painted in the same colour.
Tallaght	1976:134-138	Clay pipe stem fragments	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	
Tallaght	1976:139	Ceramic tile fragment	Ceramic	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	
Tallaght	1976:140	Perforated roof slate fragment	Stone	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	
Tallaght	1976:141	Iron nail	iron	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	flat-headed nail
Tallaght	1976:142-146	Black glass bottle body sherd	glass	Old watercourse in garden. OS Sheet No. 21	
Tallaght	1973:213	Bronze palstave	bronze	Bancroft Estate, Tallaght	
Tallaght	1973:214	Copper alloy object	copper alloy	Bancroft estate extension, Tallaght	Resembles a small-straight-sided vessel with a central perforation at the base. The latter is damaged. The perforation is decorated with two concentric circles, one raised and one in relief.
Tallaght	1957:341	pewter chalice fragment	pewter	Tallaght churchyard	
Tallaght	P1955:24-27	4 Flat copper axehead	bronze	sandpit	Harbison type Lough Ravel. Part of a hoard (P1955:24-27)
Tallaght	1934:466	Polished stone axehead	stone		polished stone axehead. Black. Trapezoidal in section, with sloped sides and flat faces. Blade slightly convex, almost straight.

Townland	NMI Reg No.	Object Name	Material	Find Place	Description
Whitestown	2019:93	Silver penny	silver	Found during metal detection in a public park ITM 708397,726972	Silver penny of Charles I, slightly bent on one side at the 'Carolus' inscription. XII. Mint mark Triangle in a Circle 1641-43. Tower mint.

APPENDIX 2 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

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

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

The National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014 and relevant provisions of the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997 are the primary means of ensuring the satisfactory protection of archaeological remains, which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date except buildings habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes. A National Monument is described as '*a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto*' (National Monuments Act 1930 Section 2).

A number of mechanisms under the National Monuments Act are applied to secure the protection of archaeological monuments. These include the Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places, and the placing of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders on endangered sites.

The National Monuments Act 1930, as amended by various acts including but not limited to, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004 (together the National Monuments Acts) make provision for the protection and preservation of national monuments, archaeological monuments and archaeological objects in Ireland. The description of the existing environment in this chapter takes account of those statutory designations and the chapter takes account of the legislative monitoring and licencing requirements as mitigation.

The Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 (the 2023 Act) was enacted by the Oireachtas in late 2023 and aims to address a range of structural issues, simplify terminology, as well as provide a single accessible piece of legislation. At the date of writing many sections of the 2023 Act have yet to commence. It is not anticipated that this will result in statutory protection being extended to any potential receptors apart from those already considered in the Cultural Heritage chapter and the chapter already identifies as mitigation the various archaeological investigations and licencing requirements that will come into force when the 2023 Act is commenced. Accordingly, the EIAR conclusions are likely to be

unchanged should the 2023 Act commence fully while the application is moving through the planning process.

OWNERSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS

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

REGISTER OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS

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

PRESERVATION ORDERS AND TEMPORARY PRESERVATION ORDERS

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

RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES

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

Section 12(3) of the 1994 Act provides that *'where the owner or occupier (other than the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands) of a monument or place included in the Record, or any other person, proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such a monument or place, he or she shall give notice in writing to the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the*

Islands to carry out work and shall not, except in case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the work until two months after giving of notice’.

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

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

THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2024

Under planning legislation, each local authority is obliged to draw up a Development Plan setting out their aims and policies with regard to the growth of the area over a five-year period. They cover a range of issues including archaeology and built heritage, setting out their policies and objectives with regard to the protection and enhancement of both. These policies can vary from county to county. The Planning and Development Act 2024 recognises that proper planning and sustainable development includes the protection of the archaeological heritage. Conditions relating to archaeology may be attached to individual planning permissions.

South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028

It is the Policy of South Dublin County Council:

Policy NCBH1: Overarching Protect, conserve and enhance the County’s natural, cultural and built heritage, supporting its sensitive integration into the development of the County for the benefit of present and future generations.

NCBH1 Objective 1: To protect, conserve and enhance natural, cultural and built heritage features, seeking opportunities to identify, retain, protect, and incorporate heritage assets into plans and development.

NCBH1 Objective 2: To support the objectives and actions of the County Heritage Plan and the County Biodiversity Action Plan in the promotion and protection of natural, built and cultural heritage, and to take full cognisance of the County’s Landscape Character Assessment and the County Geological Audit in the sustainable management of development.

NCBH1 Objective 3: Natural, Cultural and Built Heritage (NCBH) To pilot an assessment of the County’s natural and built heritage assets including Council owned protected structures and archaeological features; to identify and safeguard these

assets from the potential impacts of climate change; and to explore possible uses as part of climate change mitigation.

Policy NCBH13: Archaeological Heritage Manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the Archaeological Heritage of the County and avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.

NCBH13 Objective 1: To favour the preservation in-situ of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHGI (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

NCB13 Objective 2: To ensure that development is designed to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage including previously unknown sites, features and objects.

NCBH13 Objective 3: To protect and enhance sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and ensure that development in the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Area of Archaeological Potential does not detract from the setting of the site, monument, feature or object and is sited and designed appropriately.

Tallaght Local Area Plan 2020 (as extended)

As outlined in the South Dublin County Development Plan 2016–2022, archaeological heritage, whether known, newly discovered, or yet to be discovered, is protected by the National Monuments Acts 1930–2004. The Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (DAHGI, 1999) sets out national policy on the protection of archaeological heritage. The National Monument Services are the government department with responsibility for the protection of Recorded Monuments.

The Council is committed to ensuring that the rich Archaeological Heritage of Tallaght is protected in accordance with national policy. An Archaeological Assessment Report shall be submitted with planning applications within the zone of archaeological potential and the village centre in particular. All such reports shall fully assess the archaeological implications of the proposed development. Where archaeological features are discovered, it shall be demonstrated how the design and layout of the development protects, incorporate and enhances these features.

Within the zone of archaeological potential, all developments shall be subject to archaeological monitoring for potential subsurface archaeological features. Where significant archaeological features/deposits are discovered during archaeological investigations, it shall be a priority to allow for preservation in-situ, especially features/ deposits discovered during construction or investigation on lands to be occupied by planned open space(s). Features/deposits preserved in-situ should be accompanied by appropriate and sensitive explanatory signage. Where it is demonstrated that it is not possible to preserve features/deposits in-situ, full excavation and recording shall be required.

Development within the vicinity of an upstanding monument(s) shall enhance the setting of the feature(s) and shall be sited and designed appropriately. In order to protect potential archaeological remains, basement developments, including basement parking will generally be avoided within the village and its environs, especially within the zone of archaeological potential.

APPENDIX 3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REMAINS

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

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

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

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

PREDICTED IMPACTS

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

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

APPENDIX 4 MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE

POTENTIAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE REMAINS

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

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

DEFINITION OF MITIGATION STRATEGIES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

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

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

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

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

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

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



Jobstown

N81

Tallaght

Tallaght Stadium

Whitestown Road

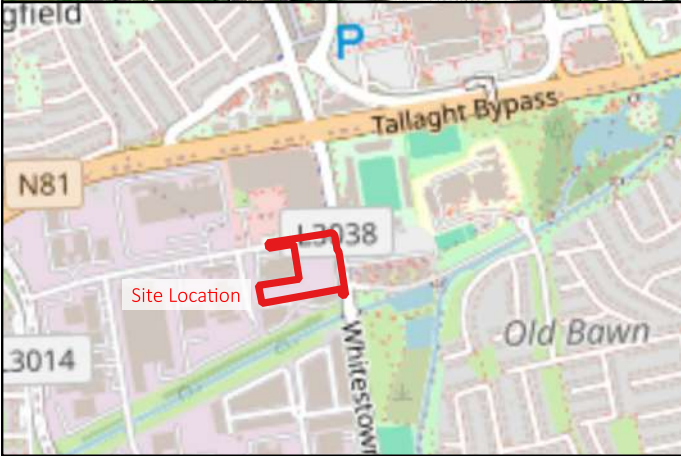
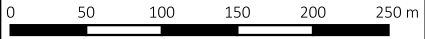
Whitestown Way

Whitestown

Oldbawn

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Townland boundaries
- Recorded Monuments

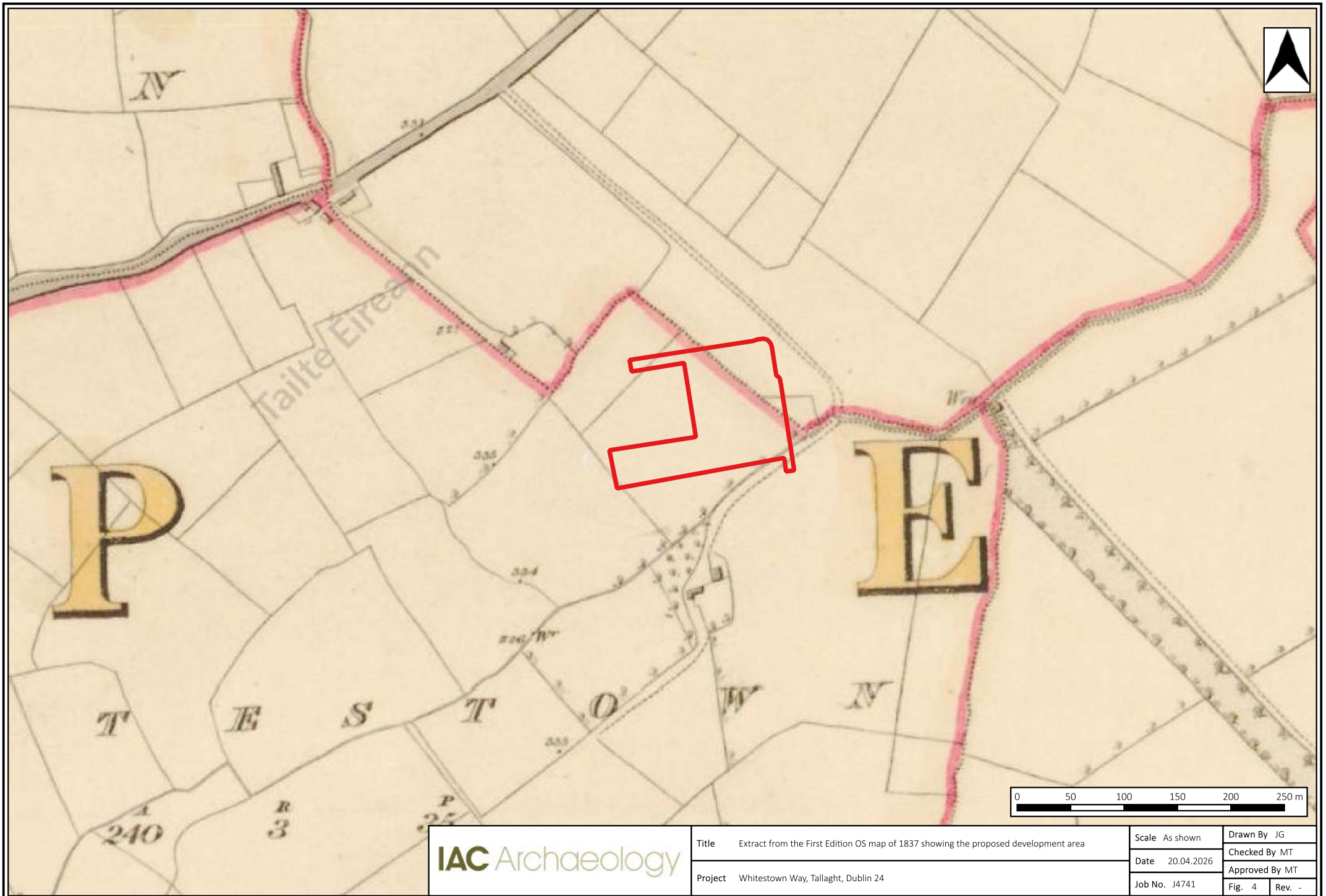


IAC Archaeology

Title	Google Earth (May 2025) imagery showing proposed development area		Scale	As shown	Drawn By	JG
	Project	Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24		Date	20.04.2026	
Job No.				J4741		
Approved By				MT		
			Fig.	1	Rev.	-



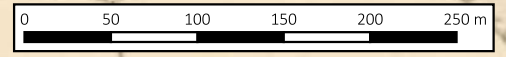
Title	Extract from Rocque's map of 1760 showing the approximate location of the proposed development area	Scale	NTS	Drawn By	JG
	Project	Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Date	20.04.2026	Checked By
Job No.			J4741	Approved By	MT
Fig.			3	Rev.	-

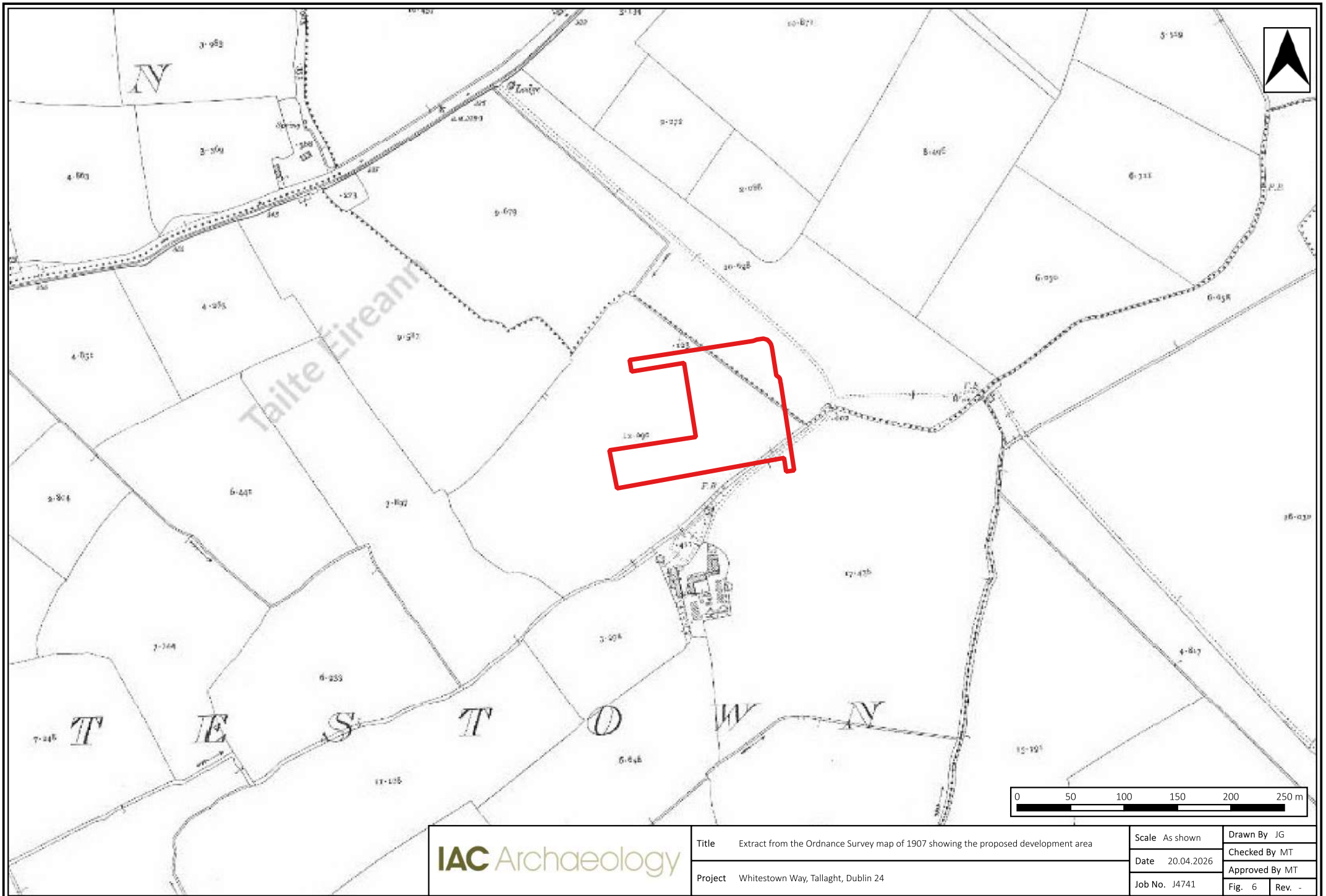


IAC Archaeology

Title Extract from the First Edition OS map of 1837 showing the proposed development area
 Project Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24

Scale	As shown	Drawn By	JG
Date	20.04.2026	Checked By	MT
Job No.	J4741	Approved By	MT
Fig.	4	Rev.	-





IAC Archaeology

Title	Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 showing the proposed development area	Scale	As shown	Drawn By	JG
	Project	Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Date	20.04.2026	Checked By
Job No.			J4741	Approved By	MT
Fig.			6	Rev.	-



Plate 1: View of the site entrance, facing south



Plate 2: Northern part of site, facing north towards the site entrance



Plate 3: Eastern part of site, including the overgrown southeast, facing south



Plate 4: Overgrown southeastern part of site, facing east



Plate 5: Southwestern part of site, facing west



Plate 6: Example of tracked machine ground disturbance in the northern part of site, facing west