

**An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural
Heritage Impact Assessment Report
for a Proposed Housing Development in
Raheen, Athenry, Co. Galway**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential, archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment and the impact upon it of the proposed housing development at Raheens, Athenry, Co. Galway.

The Proposed Development comprises of a proposed housing development south-west of Athenry, Co. Galway. This study was undertaken for Paul Keogh Architects by Rubicon Archaeology Limited.

This assessment has identified 164 sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the defined study areas (see Section 1.2). These sites include 16 RMPs, 62 SMRs, three National Monuments, one registered Historic Monument, two unregistered cultural heritage receptor (CH120, CH163), one townland boundary (CH164), 41 previous archaeological excavations, 33 NIAH sites, which seven are also Protected Structures, and an Architectural Conservation Area.

As currently laid out, the proposed housing development will have a potential direct impact on two CH sites (CH120, CH163), and an indirect impact on two CH sites (CH025, CH162).

The following mitigation measures are recommended:

1. As part of an advance works programme prior to construction, a combination of advance geophysical survey and advance archaeological test trenching will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence, of the areas where sub-surface excavation works are required.
2. In addition, a suitably qualified archaeological consultant under license to the National Monuments Service Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, will monitor any sub-surface groundworks undertaken during construction.
3. Should any archaeological material be encountered during testing or monitoring, works will cease, and the County Archaeologist and National Monuments Service shall be notified. A strategy will be proposed to the County Archaeologist and National Monuments Service to suitably record any archaeological material identified, and preserve any archaeological material *in situ*, where possible. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of archaeological excavation will be proposed, to ensure the preservation by record of the area of the development that will be directly impacted upon. Further work will then only be carried out following consultations with the County Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service.
4. The resulting archaeological report will be submitted to the County Archaeologist and to the National Monuments Service Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service and the local planning authority archaeologist.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential, archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment and the impact upon it of a proposed housing development at Raheens, Athenry, Co. Galway. The Proposed Development comprises 28 houses on a greenfield site south-west of the existing Gort Mhaoilir housing estate. The proposed homes comprise 18 three-bedroom dwellings and 10 two-bedroom dwellings. The proposed development will also consist of public landscaping including new roadways, paths, public lighting, resident and visitor parking, and a public open space. This study was undertaken for Paul Keogh Architects by Rubicon Archaeology Limited.

1.1 Site Description and Location

The Proposed Development is situated south-west of the town of Athenry, in the townland of Raheen. The nearest urban settlement is the town of Athenry the centre of which is 0.7 km north-east of the proposed housing development.

The proposed development comprises 28 houses on a greenfield site southwest of the existing Gort Mhaoilir housing estate. The proposed homes comprise of 18 three-bedroom dwellings and 10 two-bedroom dwellings. The proposed development will also consist of public landscaping including new roadways, paths, public lighting, resident and visitor parking, and a public open space.

The housing layout will consist of three clusters of two-storey detached houses to the front of the site and a linear layout of two-storey detached and semi-detached houses to the north and west edges of the site.

1.2 Study Area

The study area for this assessment has been defined in respect of two factors:

- the ability of sites/information sources to provide information pertaining to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, and
- the potential physical effects, as well as effects on setting, that the proposed works may have on sites of cultural heritage significance.

Taking these factors into account the study area has been defined as follows (See Figure 2):

Subject	Study Area
National Monuments and Recorded Archaeological Monuments (SMRs/RMPs)	Within 1 km of the proposed housing development
Protected Structures and/or their curtilage	Within 1 km of the proposed housing development
Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAS)	Within 1 km of the proposed housing development
Structures recorded in the NIAH	Within 1 km of the proposed housing development
Zones of Archaeological Potential	Within the Proposed Development footprint



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Subject	Study Area
Unregistered features of cultural heritage	Within the Proposed Development footprint
Areas of Archaeological Potential; Unregistered Cultural Heritage Receptors (UCH)	Within the Proposed Development footprint
Previous Excavations and National Museum Topographical Files	Within 1 km of the proposed housing development

Table 1 – Dimensions of the study area

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2. OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Objectives

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment, evaluate potential effects that the proposed works will have on this environment, and provide mitigation measures in accordance with the policies of the National Monuments Service, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) and Galway County Council, the *National Monuments Act 1930–2014*, as amended, and best practice guidelines, to avoid, reduce or offset these effects.

Cultural heritage (CH) includes artefacts, monuments, groups of buildings, sites, and museums that have a diversity of values including symbolic, historic, artistic, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological, scientific and social significance. It includes tangible heritage (movable, immobile and underwater), intangible cultural heritage (ICH) embedded into cultural, and natural heritage artefacts, sites or monuments. The definition excludes ICH related to other cultural domains such as festivals, celebration etc. It includes industrial heritage and cave paintings (UNESCO 2009).

In order to provide a comprehensive assessment, an extensive desktop study in addition to a field inspection of the proposed development area was undertaken.

The scope and methodology for the baseline assessment have been devised with reference to the following guidelines:

- Environmental Protection Agency 2022 *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements*
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) 2024 *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects*
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DoAHGI) 1999 *Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*
- Environmental Protection Agency 2003; Draft 2015 *Advice Notes on Current Practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)*
- Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage 2018 *Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on Carrying Out Environmental Impact Assessment*
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2011) *Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities*
- EirGrid (2015) *Cultural Heritage Guidelines for Electricity Transmission Projects. A Stand Approach to Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of High Voltage Transmission Projects.*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2020 *Standard and Guidance for Commissioning Work or Providing Consultancy Advice on Archaeology and the Historic Environment*
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 2022 *Heritage Ireland 2030: A Framework for Heritage*
- 2008 National Policy on Town Defences. *Environmental, Heritage and Local Government Ireland*

2.2 Desktop Study Methodology

The present assessment of the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage of the proposed development area is based on a desktop study of a number of documentary and cartographic sources.

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The desktop study was further augmented by an examination of aerial photography as well as a field survey. The main sources consulted in completing the desktop study are listed here:

- List of National Monuments in State Care: Ownership and Guardianship
- List of Preservation Orders and the Register of Historic Monuments
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- Files of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- Updated SMR available at www.archaeology.ie
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) Building Survey
- County and Town Development Plans
- Irish Antiquities Division, National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files
- Urban Archaeological Surveys
- Ordnance Survey first and subsequent editions, www.osi.ie
- Ordnance Survey Name books/Letters/Memoirs
- National Folklore Collection
- Early maps and estate maps
- Aerial photographs
- Excavations Bulletin (www.excavations.ie)
- www.loganim.ie (for townland names)

2.3 Methodology Used for Assessing Baseline Value of Sites

In order to categorise the baseline environment in a systemised manner, ‘baseline values’ have been assigned to each identified site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within the study area (see Section 1.2). The baseline value of a site is determined with reference to the ‘importance’ and ‘sensitivity’ of the site.

The importance of a site is determined based on the following criteria: legal status, condition, historical associations, amenity value, ritual value, specimen value, group value and rarity.

The sensitivity of a site is determined based on the presence of extant remains and/or the potential for associated sub-surface remains of the feature to be present *in situ*.

It should be noted that the *National Monuments Act 1930–2014*, as amended does not differentiate between recorded archaeological sites on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity. In addition, the *Planning and Development Act 2000 (as Amended)* does not differentiate between Protected Structures or Areas of Architectural Conservation on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity either. Consequently, professional judgement has been exercised to rate these features based on their perceived importance and sensitivity in relation to physical effects and effects on setting.

Taking the above factors into consideration, the criteria that have been defined are provided in Table 2 below.

Subject	Baseline Value
- Recorded Archaeological Monuments	Very High
- Protected Structures	
- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	
- Sites listed in the NIAH that are not Protected Structures	High



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Subject	Baseline Value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in good condition and/or which are regarded as constituting significant cultural heritage features - Unrecorded Features of Archaeological Potential 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in poor condition - Unregistered cultural heritage sites (not including built heritage sites) that comprise extant remains - Townland boundaries that comprise extant remains - Marshy/wetland areas 	Medium/High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains but where there is potential for associated subsurface evidence - Townland boundaries for which there are no extant remains 	Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains and where there is little or no potential for associated subsurface evidence 	Low

Table 2 – Baseline values of sites

Caution should be exercised when assessing the perceived significance of an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site as such categorisation is open to subjectivity. In addition, the perceived levels of importance as identified in this report are liable to future revision in the instance where new information, through the undertaking of further archaeological investigations, is provided.

2.4 Type of Effects

The following table lists the type of effects that a Proposed Development may have on the cultural heritage resource (after Environmental Protection Agency 2022):

Type of Effects	Definition
Direct	Direct effects arise where an archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage feature or site is physically located within the footprint of the Proposed Development, or its associated physical effect zone, whereby the removal of part, or all of the feature or site is thus required.
Indirect	Indirect effects arise when an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage feature is not located within the footprint of the Proposed Development, or its associated physical effect zone, and thus is not affected directly. Such an effect could include effect on setting or effect on the Zone of Archaeological Potential of site whereby the actual site itself is not physically affected.
Do-nothing effects	The environment as it would be in the future should the subject project not be carried out.
Worst-case Effects	The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.
Cumulative	The addition of many minor or insignificant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects



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Type of Effects	Definition
Indeterminable	Whereby the full consequence that the Proposed Development may have on the cultural heritage resource is not known
Irreversible Effects	When the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.
Residual	The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.
Synergistic Effects	Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents

Table 3 – Type of effects

2.5 Methodology Used for Assessing Magnitude of Effects

The methodology used to assess the magnitude of potential pre-mitigation effects, as well as residual effects, of the proposed development on the baseline environment is presented in Table 4 below.

Effect Magnitude	Criteria
Profound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics Applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects. Reserved for adverse effects only. These effects arise where an archaeology site is completely and irreversibly destroyed. An effect that obliterates the architectural heritage of a structure or feature of national or international importance. These effects arise where an architectural structure or feature is completely and irreversibly destroyed by the proposed development. Mitigation is unlikely to remove adverse effects.
Very Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity, significantly alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment.
Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effect which, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the environment. An effect like this would be where part of a site would be permanently affected, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological feature/site. An effect that by its magnitude, duration or intensity alters the character and/or the setting of the architectural heritage. These effects arise where an aspect or aspects of the architectural heritage is/are permanently affected leading to a loss of character and integrity in the architectural structure or feature. Appropriate mitigate is likely to reduce the effect. A beneficial or positive effect that permanently enhances or restores the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends. A medium effect arises where a change to a site/monument is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the archaeological integrity of the site is compromised, and which is reversible. This arises where an archaeological feature can be



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Effect Magnitude	Criteria
	<p>incorporated into a modern-day development without damage and that all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A medium effect to a site/monument may also arise when a site is fully or partly excavated under license and all recovered data is preserved by record. • An effect that results in a change to the architectural heritage which, although noticeable is not such that alters the integrity of the heritage. The change is likely to be consistent with existing and emerging trends. Effects are probably reversible and may be of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation is very likely to reduce the effect. • A beneficial or positive effect that results in partial or temporary enhancement of the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.
Slight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities • An effect which causes changes in the character of the environment, such as visual effect, which are not high or very high and do not directly affect or affect an archaeological feature or monument. • An effect that causes some minor change in the character of architectural heritage of local or regional importance without affecting its integrity or sensitivities. Although noticeable, the effects do not directly affect the architectural structure or feature. Effects are reversible and of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation will reduce the effect. • A beneficial or positive effect that causes some minor or temporary enhancement of the character of an architectural heritage significance which, although positive, is unlikely to be readily noticeable.
Not-significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences.
Imperceptible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An effect on archaeological features or monument capable of measurement but without significant consequences. • An effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measure merit but without noticeable consequences. • A beneficial or positive effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

Table 4 – Criteria used for rating magnitude of effects

Positive significance level of a construction or operation effect on a feature may also be expressed.

- **Significant positive:** a beneficial effect that permanently enhances or restores the character and/ or setting of the architectural heritage in a clearly noticeable manner



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- **Moderate positive:** a beneficial effect that results in partial or temporary enhancement of the character and/ or setting of the architectural heritage and which is noticeable and consistent with existing and emerging trends
- **Slight positive:** a beneficial effect that causes some minor or temporary enhancement of the character of architectural heritage or local or regional importance which, although positive, is unlikely to be readily noticeable; and
- **Imperceptible positive:** a beneficial effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

2.6 Assessing the Duration and Frequency of Effect

‘Duration’ is a concept that can have different meanings for different topics. The EPA (2022) has issued the below guideline definitions when discussing duration in the context of environmental impact assessment.

Term	Criteria
Momentary Effects	Effects lasting from seconds to minutes
Brief Effects	Effects lasting less than a day
Temporary Effects	Effects lasting less than a year
Short-term Effects	Effects lasting 1–7 years
Medium-term Effects	Effects lasting 7–15 years.
Long-term Effects	Effects lasting 15–60 years.
Permanent Effects	Effects lasting over 60 years.
Reversible Effects	Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or
Frequency of Effects	Describe how often the effect will occur (once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly – or hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, annually).

Table 5 – Duration and frequency of effect

2.7 Methodology Used for Assessing Significance Level of Effects

The significance level of a construction or operation effect on a feature is assessed by combining the magnitude of the effect and baseline value of the feature. The matrix in Table 6 provides a guide to decision-making but is not a substitute for professional judgement and interpretation, particularly where the baseline value or effect magnitude levels are not clear or are borderline between categories. The permanence of the effects is also taken into account, with irreversible effects being more significant while temporary or reversible changes are likely to be less significant.

Magnitude of Effect	Baseline Value				
	Very High	High	Medium/High	Medium/Low	Low
Profound	Very significant	Very significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
Very Significant	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight
Significant	Significant	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Slight
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible
Slight	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible



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Magnitude of Effect	Baseline Value				
	Very High	High	Medium/High	Medium/Low	Low
Not Significant	Slight	Slight	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible
Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible

Table 6 – Criteria for assessing significance level of effects

2.8 Assessing Effects on Setting

The definition of setting follows the guidance set by Historic England as they have developed a range of comprehensive guidance on this subject specific to heritage assets (Historic England; 2008; 2017). Hence setting is not simply the visual envelope of the asset in question. Rather, it is those parts of the asset’s surroundings that are relevant to the significance of the asset and the appreciation thereof, and in which a heritage asset is experienced.

In most instances setting will relate to the historical value of the asset, where an appreciable relationship between the asset and an element of its surroundings helps the visitor understand and appreciate the asset. This may be in terms of a physical relationship, such as between a castle and the natural rise that it occupies, or a more distant visual relationship, such as a designed vista or the view from, for example, one ringfort to another. The former is referred to as immediate setting and the latter as landscape setting. Many assets will only have an immediate setting. Some assets will have aesthetic value that relates to the surrounding landscape, such as in the case of a designed view incorporating a distant hill, or that relates to the contribution the asset makes to the local landscape, for example a church spire providing a focal point in a view down a valley.

Historic England has provided a list of factors to be considered when assessing effects upon setting. These are broad factors and have been taken into consideration when assessing magnitude of effect and sensitivity. They are summarised in Table 7.

Factor	Discussion
Visual dominance	Where an historic feature (such as a hilltop monument or fortification, a church spire, or a plantation belonging to a designed landscape) is the most visually dominant feature in the surrounding landscape, adjacent construction of the proposed development may be inappropriate.
Scale	The extent of a proposed development and the number, density and disposition of its associated elements will also contribute to its visual effect.
Intervisibility	Certain archaeological or historic landscape features were intended to be seen from other historic sites. Construction of a proposed development should respect this intervisibility.
Vistas and sightlines	Designed landscapes invariably involve key vistas, prospects, panoramas and sightlines, or the use of topography to add drama. Location of a proposed development within key views, which may often extend beyond any designated area, should be avoided.
Movement, sound or light effects	The movement associated with a proposed development may be a significant issue in certain historic settings. Adequate distance should always be provided between important historic sites and proposed developments to avoid the site being overshadowed or affected by noise.



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Factor	Discussion
Unaltered settings	The setting of some historic sites may be little changed from the period when the site was first constructed, used or abandoned. Largely unaltered settings for certain types of sites, particularly more ancient sites, may be rare survivals and especially vulnerable to modern intrusions such as wind turbines. This may be a particular issue in certain upland areas.

Table 7 – Factors to be considered when assessing effects upon setting (after Historic England 2017)

The following are guides to the assessment of magnitude of effect on setting:

- Obstruction of or distraction from key views. Some assets have been sited or designed with specific views in mind, such as the view from a country house with designed vistas. The obstruction or cluttering of such views would reduce the extent to which the asset could be understood and appreciated by the visitor. Developments outside key views may distract from them and make them difficult to appreciate on account of their prominence and movement. In such instances the magnitude is likely to be greatest where views have a particular focus or a strong aesthetic character. Sympathetic development may improve key views by removing features that obstruct or distract from key views and hence preserve or enhance the importance of the asset.
- Changes in prominence. Some assets are deliberately placed in prominent locations in order to be prominent in the surrounding landscape, for example prehistoric cairns are often placed to be silhouetted against the sky and churches in some areas are deliberately placed on ridges in order to be highly visible. Developments can reduce such prominence and therefore reduce the extent to which such sites can be appreciated or the contribution that they make to the local landscape. Similarly, sympathetic development can enhance the setting of such sites by, for example, removing modern forestry that would otherwise compromise the setting of a cairn that had been placed on a skyline.
- Changes in landscape character. A particular land use regime may be essential to the appreciation of an asset's function, for instance the fields surrounding an Improvement period farmstead are inextricably linked to its appreciation. Changes in land use can leave the asset isolated and reduce its value. In some instances, assets will have aesthetic value or a sense of place that is tied to the surrounding landscape character. Conversely, sympathetic development may restore or preserve the relevant land use and hence preserve or enhance the relevant value of the asset.
- Duration of effect. Effects that are long term or permanent are generally of greater magnitude than those that are short term.

Readily reversible effects are generally of lesser magnitude than those that cannot be reversed. Effects upon the defined setting will be of greater magnitude than those that affect unrelated elements of the asset's surroundings or incidental views to or from an asset that are unrelated to the appreciation of its value. The magnitude of effects can be rated from Negligible to Major using a similar scale to that for physical effects.

2.9 Legislation, Planning Policy and Guidance

A review of the applicable legislation, as well as national, strategic and local planning policies and guidance was undertaken as part of this study. The relevant sections addressing archaeological,

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architectural and cultural heritage in the *Galway County Development Plan (2022–2028)* are included in Appendix 5. Any mitigation measures proposed in Section 5 take account of the current legislation, policies and guidelines so as to avoid, reduce or offset effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment, in line with the aforementioned legislation, local planning policies and guidance.

2.10 Limitations of this Assessment

There were no difficulties or limitations encountered during the compilation of this report.



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3 BASELINE/RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Designated Archaeological Sites

3.1.1 Known or Suspected Archaeological Monuments (The SMR and RMP)

A Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) was issued for all counties in the State between 1984 and 1992 and is continually updated and supplemented as additional monuments are discovered. The SMR is an inventory containing a numbered list of known or suspected monuments accompanied by 6-inch Ordnance Survey maps (at a reduced scale). The SMR formed the basis for issuing the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) - the statutory list of recorded monuments established under Section 12 of the *National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994*. Under this Act, each site recorded in the RMP is granted statutory protection. When the owner or occupier of a property, or any other person, proposes to carry out, or to cause, or to permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to a recorded archaeological monument, they are required to give notice in writing to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage two months before commencing that work.

There are 16 RMP sites and 100 SMR sites within the study area of the proposed housing development, seven of which are redundant records (Section 1.2; Table 8). Of these, 38 of SMR sites are stone fragments which have been removed from numerous locations to their present location in the Office of Public Depot in Athenry. For ease, the 38 fragments have been combined under a single CH Number, CH005, meaning 78 cultural heritage sites are listed in Table 8.

Three of the archaeological monuments are also National Monuments, which are all located in Athenry town. The first is Athenry Town Defences (CH025), which is located c.400 m east. The town defences are also listed on the Register of Historic Monuments. The other two National Monuments are Athenry Abbey (CH063) and Athenry Castle (CH028) situated c. 860 m east of the proposed development site. Finally, one of the SMR sites, CH026, is also listed on the NIAH register.

None of the monuments are within the proposed development nor does the proposed development cross the Zone of Notification of any monument. The closest site is CH001, which is a road located c. 24 m north-west of the proposed development site.

CH ID	RMP	ID Code	Short Description	Townland
CH001	Yes	GA084-118----	Road - road/trackway	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH002	Yes	GA084-120----	Enclosure - large enclosure	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH003	Yes	GA084-119----	Designed landscape feature	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH004	Yes	GA084-133----	Redundant record	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH005	No	Various Monument Nos	Architectural fragments, cross, cross slabs, graveslabs, inscribed stone, sundial	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH006	No	GA084-155----	Excavation - report final	Ballygarraun South



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CH007	Yes	GA084-014----	Enclosure	Ballygarraun South
CH008	Yes	GA084-013----	Redundant record	Ballygarraun South
CH009	Yes	GA084-008----	Ringfort - rath	Ballygarraun North
CH010	No	GA084-109001-	Redundant record	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH011	No	GA084-109002-	Redundant record	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH012	No	GA084-070----	Redundant record	Cullairbaun
CH013	Yes	GA084-110----	Redundant record	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH014	Yes	GA084-111----	Cross	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH015	Yes	GA084-101----	Cist	Newford
CH016	Yes	GA084-102----	Quarry	Newford
CH017	Yes	GA084-080----	Bridge	Gortnahown
CH018	Yes	GA084-024----	Bridge	Baunmore
CH019	Yes	GA084-112----	Quarry	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH020	Yes	GA084-113----	Road - road/trackway	Prospect (Athenry By.)
CH021	No	GA084-001017-	Well	Athenry
CH022	No	GA084-001021-	Dovecote	Athenry
CH023	No	GA084-001018-	Redundant record	Athenry
CH024	No	GA084-001016-	Well	Athenry
CH025	Yes	GA084-001001-	Town defences	Athenry
CH026	No	GA084-001020-	Cross - Market cross	Athenry
CH027	No	GA084-001019-	Mill - corn	Athenry
CH028	No	GA084-001006-	Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle	Athenry
CH029	No	GA084-001030-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH030	No	GA084-001031-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH031	No	GA084-001015-	Church	Athenry
CH032	No	GA084-001029-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH033	No	GA084-001024-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH034	No	GA084-001023-	Church	Athenry
CH035	No	GA084-001055-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH036	No	GA084-001038-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH037	No	GA084-001037-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH038	No	GA084-001064-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH039	No	GA084-001060-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH040	No	GA084-001082-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH041	No	GA084-001072-	Wall monument	Athenry



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CH042	No	GA084-001071-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH043	No	GA084-001070-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH044	No	GA084-001075-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH045	No	GA084-001074-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH046	No	GA084-001066-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH047	No	GA084-001079-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH048	No	GA084-001035-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH049	No	GA084-001077-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH050	No	GA084-001063-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH051	No	GA084-001062-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH052	No	GA084-001057-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH053	No	GA084-001084-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH054	No	GA084-001083-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH055	No	GA084-001076-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH056	No	GA084-001058-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH057	No	GA084-001073-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH058	No	GA084-001034-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH059	No	GA084-001061-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH060	No	GA084-001054-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH061	No	GA084-001051-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH062	No	GA084-001043-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH063	No	GA084-001014-	Religious house - Dominican Friars	Athenry
CH064	No	GA084-001042-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH065	No	GA084-001041-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH066	No	GA084-001032-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH067	No	GA084-001050-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH068	No	GA084-001078-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH069	No	GA084-001046-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH070	No	GA084-001056-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH071	No	GA084-001080-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH072	No	GA084-001081-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH073	No	GA084-001067-	Cross	Athenry
CH074	No	GA084-001053-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH075	No	GA084-001049-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH076	No	GA084-001052-	Wall monument	Athenry
CH077	No	GA084-001033-	Graveslab	Athenry
CH078	No	GA084-001044-	Wall monument	Athenry

Table 8 – Known or suspected monuments within the study area

3.1.2 National Monuments

National Monuments are broken into two categories: National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the state and National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of a local authority. Section 8 of the *National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954* provides for the publication of a



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list of monuments, the preservation, of which, are considered to be of national importance. Two months' notice must be given to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage where work is proposed to be carried out at or in relation to any National Monument.

There are three National Monuments within the study area (Section 1.2; Table 9). The first is Athenry Town Defences (CH025), which is located c.400 m east. The town defences are also a RMP site and is listed on the Register of Historic Monuments. The other two National Monuments are Athenry Abbey (CH063) and Athenry Castle (CH028), which are also SMR sites. They are situated c. 860 m east of the proposed development site.

CH ID	Type	ID Code	Short Description	Townland
CH025	NM	NM#-n/a	Town defences	Athenry
CH028	NM	NM#-406	Castle – Anglo-Norman Masonry Castle	Athenry
CH063	NM	NM#-164	Religious House – Dominican Friars	Athenry

Table 9 – National Monuments within the study area

3.1.3 Sites with Preservation Orders

The *National Monuments Act 1930–2014* as amended provide for the making of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders in respect of National Monuments. Under Section 8 of the *National Monument Act 1930 (as Amended)*, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, can place a Preservation Order on a monument if, in the Ministers' opinion, it is a National Monument in danger of being or is actually being destroyed, injured or removed or is falling into decay through neglect. The Preservation Order ensures that the monument shall be safeguarded from destruction, alteration, injury, or removal, by any person or persons without the written consent of the Minister.

There are no sites with Preservation Orders incorporated by the study area (Section 1.2).

3.1.4 Register of Historic Monuments

The Register of Historic Monuments (RHM) is a list of registered historic monuments maintained by the National Monuments Service. All monuments listed in the RHM are protected under the National Monuments Acts, and any activities that could damage a monument are regulated using Section 12 Notification. Under this, any person proposing to carry out work at or in relation to a Recorded Monument is required to give notice in writing to the Minister two months before commencing that work. This Section 12 Notification allows the National Monuments Service time to consider the proposed work and how best to protect of the monument.

There is one site listed on the Register of Historic Monuments within the study area (Section 1.2; Table 10). (CH025). This is Athenry Town Defences (CH025), which is located c.400 m east. The town defences are also a National Monument and an SMR site.

CH ID	Type	RHM No;	Short Description	Townland
CH025	RHM	RHM-GA-54	Athenry town defences	ATHENRY

Table 10 – Site listed in Register of Historic Monuments within the study area

3.1.5 National Museum of Ireland Topographical Finds

The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Finds database was consulted to see if there was a record of an archaeological object within the study area. The database is a representation of the



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distribution of archaeological objects at a local and national level, based on the Irish Antiquities Division's Collections Database. Section 2 of the *1930 National Monuments Act (Amended)* defines an archaeological object as (in summary) any chattel in a manufactured or partly manufactured state or an unmanufactured state but with an archaeological or historical association. This includes ancient human, animal or plant remains.

The database produced no results within the study area (Section 1.2).

3.2 Designated Architectural Heritage Sites

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The *Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000*, and the *Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999*, made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage.

3.2.1 Record of Protected Structures

The *Galway County Development Plan (2022–2028)* was consulted for schedules of Protected Structures. These are buildings that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, and/or technical point of view. Protected Structures receive statutory protection from injury or demolition under Section 57 (1) of the *Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000*. Protected structure status does not exclude development or alteration but requires the developer to consult with the relevant planning authority to ensure that elements which make the structure significant are not lost during development.

If a structure is included in the RPS, the protection extends to:

- The interior of the structure
- The land in its curtilage. Curtilage means the land and outbuildings immediately surrounding a structure which is (or was) used for the purposes of the structure.
- Any other structures on that land and their interiors.
- All fixtures and features forming part of the interior and exterior of the protected structure or any structure on the grounds attached to it.

Inclusion of these structures in the RPS means that their importance is recognised, they are legally protected from harm and all future changes to the structure are controlled and managed through the development control process (for example, planning permission) or by issuing a declaration under Section 57 of the *Planning and Development Act 2000*.

There are seven Protected Structures within the study area (Section 1.2; Table 11); these are all also NIAH sites. None of the Protected Structures are located within the Proposed Development site. The closest Protected Structure is CH149, located 383 m south-east.

CH ID	Type	RPS no.	Short Description	Townland
CH126	RPS	RPS-GA-137	Building Misc	Cullairbaun
CH130	RPS	RPS-GA-135	House	Cullairbaun
CH132	RPS	RPS-GA-134	Worker's House	Cullairbaun
CH133	RPS	RPS-GA-136	Station Master's House	Cullairbaun
CH134	RPS	RPS-GA-140	Heritage Centre/Interpretative Centre	Athenry



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CH149	RPS	RPS-GA-144	House	Athenry
CH161	RPS	RPS-GA-131	Country House	Athenry

Table 11 - Protected Structures within the study area

3.2.2 Architectural Conservation Areas

The *Galway County Development Plan (2022–2028)* was consulted for records relating to Architectural Conservation Areas (hereinafter 'ACAs'). The stated objective of ACAs is to conserve and enhance the special character of the area, including traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscapes, landscape and setting.

There is one ACA (CH162) within the study area (see Section 1.2; Table 12). This is Athenry ACA, which is located 239 m east of the proposed development site.

CH ID	Type	ACA No;	Short Description	Townland
CH162	ACA	GA-014	Athenry Architectural Conservation Area	ATHENRY

Table 12 – Areas of Architectural Conservation located within the study area

3.2.3 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (hereinafter the 'NIAH') is a state initiative under the administration of the DoHLGH and was established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the *Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999*. Its purpose is to identify, record and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently, as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

There are 33 NIAH registrations within the study area (see Section 1.2). One of which is an SMR (CH026) and seven are Protected Structures (CH126, CH130, CH132–CH134, CH149, CH161). None of the NIAH registrations are located within the Proposed Development site. The closest site is CH149, located 383 m south-east.

CH ID	Type	ID Code	Short Description	Townland
CH026	NIAH	30332020	Cross - Market Cross	Athenry
CH121	NIAH	30332001	House	Cuillaribaun
CH122	NIAH	30332002	House	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH123	NIAH	30332003	House	Cullairbaun
CH124	NIAH	30332004	House	Athenry
CH125	NIAH	30332008	Office	Cullairbaun
CH126	NIAH	30332009	Building Misc	Cullairbaun
CH127	NIAH	30332010	Foot Bridge	Cullairbaun
CH128	NIAH	30332011	Bridge	Cullairbaun
CH129	NIAH	30332012	Building Misc	Cullairbaun
CH130	NIAH	30332013	House	Cullairbaun



CH131	NIAH	30332014	Signal Box	Cullairbaun
CH132	NIAH	30332015	Worker's House	Cullairbaun
CH133	NIAH	30332016	Station Master's House	Cullairbaun
CH134	NIAH	30332017	Heritage Centre/Interpretative Centre	Athenry
CH135	NIAH	30332018	House	Athenry
CH136	NIAH	30332019	House	Athenry
CH137	NIAH	30332021	Bank/Financial Institution	Athenry
CH138	NIAH	30332022	Office	Athenry
CH139	NIAH	30332024	Public House	Athenry
CH140	NIAH	30332025	House	Athenry
CH141	NIAH	30332026	House	Athenry
CH142	NIAH	30332027	House	Athenry
CH143	NIAH	30332028	House	Athenry
CH144	NIAH	30332029	House	Athenry
CH145	NIAH	30332031	House	Athenry
CH146	NIAH	30332032	House	Athenry
CH147	NIAH	30332033	House	Athenry
CH148	NIAH	30332034	Bridge	Athenry
CH149	NIAH	30332035	House	Athenry
CH150	NIAH	30332036	House	Athenry
CH160	NIAH	30332037	House	Athenry
CH161	NIAH	30332038	Country House	Athenry

Table 13 – NIAH registrations within the study area

3.3 Undesignated Cultural Heritage Sites within the Proposed Development Site

This section deals with sites that are considered to be of cultural heritage value, but which do not fall within the above categories as they are not registered. Such sites may include lime-kilns, dwellings/outhouses, trackways or townland boundaries etc. identifiable on the First Edition 6/25-inch OS maps and/or noted during the field visit.

3.3.1 Sites identifiable on cartographic sources

The First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey Sheet (1840), First Edition 25-inch Survey (1902) and Cassini 6-inc Ordnance Survey Sheet (1933) were consulted to identify undesignated cultural heritage sites that may be impacted on by the proposed development (Figures 3–5).

The 6-inch OS map shows that the proposed development site is part of enclosed rectangular field, which forms part of the surrounding field system. By the time of the 25-inch OS map, the field system had been removed to create the demesne landscape associated with Raheen Park (CH122). The 25-inch OS map shows a lodge (CH120) which is associated with the house. It also shows an unfenced trackway (CH163) to the east of the lodge, which curves around to the north-west to Raheen Park.

There are two UCH sites within the proposed development footprint (see Section 1.2; Table 14)



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CH ID	UCH No.	Short Description	Townland
CH120	UCH01	Lodge	Raheen (Athenry By)
CH163	UCH	Trackway	Raheen (Athenry By)

Table 14 – Undesignated Cultural Heritage sites within the study area

3.3.2 Townland boundaries

A townland is the smallest official land unit in the country. Ireland is made up of approximately 60,000 townlands. As a result, townland boundaries are ubiquitous in the Irish countryside and have been incorporated into the modern agricultural landscape. Many townlands predate the arrival of the Anglo-Normans, and Irish historical documents consistently use townland names throughout the historic period to describe areas and locate events accurately in their geographical context. This suggests that many the boundaries of many of these territorial units preserve landscape divisions from the medieval period and perhaps earlier. The townland names and boundaries were standardised in the 19th century when the Ordnance Survey began to produce large-scale maps of the country. Research into the name of these land units frequently provides information relating to its archaeology, history, folklore, ownership, topography or land use.

Both the First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey and the 25-Inch Ordnance were consulted in order to identify the location of townland boundaries that may be impacted on by the proposed development. There is a single townland boundary crossed by the Proposed Development, which is formed by the existing L3103.

CH ID	TB No.	Short Description	Townland
CH164	TB01	Townland Boundary	Raheen/Ballygarraun South

Table 15 – Townland Boundaries within the study area

3.3.3 Sites identifiable on aerial photography and satellite imagery

Ortho-rectified aerial photography available from the Ordnance Survey of Ireland was inspected in order to identify possible features of cultural and heritage significance. Aerial photography from the 1995, 2000, and 2005 fly-overs was inspected, as well as the latest Tailte Éireann images, LiDAR imagery (where available), Google Earth and Bing Maps satellite imagery.

No additional undesignated cultural heritage sites were identified on other aerial photography and satellite imagery within the Proposed Development site.

3.3.4 Areas of Archaeological Potential

Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAPs) are additional areas or locations whose landscape characteristics suggest a higher potential for unknown archaeological features to be present e.g. riverine, estuarine or peatland environments.

There are no areas of archaeological potential within the study area (see Section 1.2).

3.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

The following section will describe and outline the archaeological and historical background of the preliminary study area of the proposed development at Raheen, Athenry, Co. Galway.

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3.4.1 Prehistoric period (4000 BC–AD 400)

Mesolithic

There are no Mesolithic sites within the study area, nor in close proximity to the study area.

Neolithic

There are no Neolithic sites within the study area, nor in close proximity to the study area.

Bronze Age

There are no sites within the study area that date concretely to the Bronze Age. However, there is one example that could be of this period. There is a cist site (CH015) c. 0.75 km from the proposed development area. Cists are rectangular or polygonal structures constructed of stone slabs for burials and date from the Bronze and Iron Age (2400 BC–AD 400). There have been bronze artefacts found within the area including swords and shields, as well as scabbard, palstave axe head, and a halberd suggesting a Bronze Age presence in the area (Thompson 2008).

Iron Age

There is a lack of archaeological evidence of human activity in the Iron Age compared to the Bronze Age, medieval, and post-medieval in the study region, which is common throughout Ireland. There is one example of a ringfort (CH009) within the study area, which are commonly known as early medieval monuments, however, there are few examples of some with Iron Age dates. Cist (CH015) could also be from the Iron Age.

3.4.2 Medieval Period (AD 400–1540)

Early medieval period

Ringforts are the predominant settlement feature seen in early medieval Ireland (AD 400–1169), with over 45,000 examples known (Stout 1997), they are quite commonly found throughout the landscape. There are many variations of this site type, usually univallate enclosures (single enclosure), however, there are examples of up to four enclosures, and usually measuring between 25 to 50 m across. They are earthen banked enclosures with ditches usually accompanying the banks (O’Sullivan *et al.* 2013). There is one ringfort (CH009) within the study area and is classified as a rath. Rathes are defined as circular or oval surrounded by an earthen bank with an external fosse. They are usually univallate (one) set of bank of fosse, however, there are examples that are bivallate (two) and trivallate (three) (Stout 1997). There is a large enclosure c. 21 km from the proposed development which is referred to as ‘*the Cashel of Raheen*’, which has been suggested as being a ringfort (Knox 1918), however, Cody (1989) doubts its age and suggests it’s a more modern feature.

The townland of Athenry has been suggested as a significant place in the early medieval period, with the ford being a dividing border between three major Irish Kingdroms; Aidhne, Hy-Many, and Moyseola (Thompson 2008; Collins 2025).

Later medieval period

The late medieval period (AD 1169–1550) in Ireland is generally considered to begin with the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in AD 1169. Due to the historic town of Athenry, there is wealth of later medieval and post-medieval sites within the study area. The National Monument, Athenry Castle (CH028) was built by Meiler de Bermingham between 1235 and 1240 after the De Bermingham family was granted the land after helping King Henry III of England conquer Connaught (Mohr 2015). Meiler also founded



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the priory, Athenry Abbey (CH063), another National Monument. The Abbey was a significant place for patronage from Gaelic and Anglo-Norman lords with over 30 friars being present in 1445. The town developed more in the 14th century onwards with the creation of the town defences, which are also a national monument (CH025). The town walls enclosed an area up to 28 hectares and has been suggested to be for created as a show of wealth by de Bermingham instead of for defensive purposes (Thomas 1992). The town was later retaken from the Anglo-Normans in 1574 leaving the castle in ruins for a long period of time after. There are 33 graveslabs recorded within Athenry with some of them dating to the later medieval period. One example is (CH055) which dates to the 13th-14th century AD.

3.4.3 Post-medieval (AD 1540–1700)

The historic medieval and post-medieval town of Athenry is found within the study area, c. 330 m southeast of the proposed development. As mentioned above, there are 33 graveslabs recorded in Athenry with most dating to the post-medieval period, however there are a few examples from the later medieval period. There are 13 examples of wall monuments within the study area, which are memorials for the dead usually inserted into the wall of the church with inscriptions and coat of arms. They date from the 13th century onwards. A market cross (CH026) is still in its present location with the town from around 1629.

3.4.4 Early modern period (AD 1700–1850)

Within the study area there are a few examples of sites from the early modern period. One of the key sites is Raheen Park (CH122), which is a house, built around 1880 (NBHS 2025). This house had formerly a large demesne, which the proposed development falls within. The 25-inch OS map shows a lodge (CH120) within the development site, which is associated with the Raheen Park. It also shows an unfenced trackway leading from the lodge to the house.

Other examples of early modern activity include two quarry sites (CH016, CH019). Both examples are post-1700 and could be from any time before 1932. There are also two road/trackways (CH001, CH020) leading into Athenry and could be as early as the 18th century.

3.5 Toponymy of townland/s

The Irish landscape is divided into approximately 60,000 townlands and the system of landholding is unique in Western Europe for its scale and antiquity. Many townlands predate the arrival of the Anglo-Normans, and Irish historical documents consistently use townland names throughout the historic period to describe areas and locate events accurately in their geographical context. The townland names and boundaries were standardised in the 19th century when the Ordnance Survey began to produce large-scale maps of the country. The original Irish names were eventually anglicised to varying degrees, depending in part upon the linguistic skills of the surveyors and recorders. A study of the townland names can provide information on aspects of cultural heritage including descriptions of the use of the landscape by man and the potential presence of archaeological or cultural heritage sites or features.

There are ten townlands within the study area.

English Name	Irish Name	Glossary
Athenry	<i>Baile Átha an Rí</i>	Townland
Ballydavid South	<i>Baile Dháibhí Theas</i>	Townland
Ballygarraun North	<i>Baile an Gharráin Thuaidh</i>	Grove/townland



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English Name	Irish Name	Glossary
Ballygarraun South	<i>Baile an Gharráin Theas</i>	Grove/townland
Baunmore	<i>An Bán Mór</i>	Big/white
Cullairbaun	<i>An Coiléar Bán</i>	White/grassy
Gortnahown	<i>Gort na hAbhann</i>	River field
Newford	<i>An tÁth Nua</i>	New ford
Prospect (Athenry By.)	<i>Geata an Láithrigh</i>	n/a
Raheen (Athenry By)	<i>An Ráithín</i>	Small ringfort

Table 16 – List of townlands within the study area

3.6 Intangible Heritage/Irish Folklore Commission

Cultural Heritage is a broad term that includes Archaeological Heritage, Built Heritage, Portable Heritage, and other resources inherited from the past by contemporary society. It consists of the tangible and intangible traces of the interactions between people and places, people and nature and people and objects through time (Transport Infrastructure Ireland 2025, 8). In Ireland, work was done by the Irish Folklore Commission, and its successors, to collect and preserve Irish folklore. The Schools' Collection, for example, are a compilation of folklore and local traditions collected by pupils of 5,000 primary schools. The children collected this material from family members and neighbours (Dúchas 2025).

There are no intangible heritage or folklore stories recorded as associated within the study area.

3.7 Recent Excavations

The Excavations Bulletin is an annual account of all excavations carried out under license. The database is available online at www.excavations.ie and includes excavations from 1970 onwards. This database was consulted as part of the desktop research for this report to establish if any archaeological investigations had been carried out within the study area (see Section 1.2, Appendix 6).

There have been 41 excavations within the study area, the majority of which have taken place within the town of Athenry. Conservation work in 2013–14 was undertaken to conserve Loro Gate, one of the four medieval town gates which was uncovered during monitoring in 2007. There have been five separate excavations regarding the medieval town defences (CH088, CH089, CH108, CH107 and CH110). Excavation within the new parish centre (CH106) in Athenry, which is located on the existing Roman Catholic Church and the medieval town and moat, uncovered 13 burials that were associated with the 19th century church which once occupied the area. A partially collapsed burial chamber with three bodies was also uncovered alongside sherds of 13th century pottery.

3.8 Topography and Soils

According to the Teagasc Soil Information System (<http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/index.php>), the main soil association is Faoldroim, a fine loamy drift with limestones. The underlying geology is Burren Formation, a pale grey clean skeletal limestone.



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4. IMPACT STATEMENT

4.1 Development Description

The proposed housing development is within the townland of Raheen, Athenry, in Co. Galway. The development consists of 28 houses within an area of approximately 1.08 ha. The proposed homes comprise 18 three-bedroom dwellings and 10 two-bedroom dwellings. The Proposed Development will also consist of public landscaping including new roadways, paths, public lighting, resident and visitor parking, and a public open space.

4.2 Baseline Environment Summary

This archaeological assessment has identified 164 sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the defined study areas (see Section 1.2; Table 17).

Site Type	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- RMPs- SMRs- National Monuments- Sites with Preservation Orders- Sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments	There are 16 RMPs and 62 SMRs (CH001–CH078) located within the study area. Two of the SMRs (CH028, CH063) and one of the RMPs (CH025) are also National Monuments. The first is Athenry Town Defences (CH025), which is also listed on the Register of Historic Monuments. The other two National Monuments are Athenry Abbey (CH063) and Athenry Castle (CH028). None are located within the footprint of the proposed housing development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Protected Structures	There are seven Protected Structures located within the study area, all of which are also NIAH registrations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	There are no ACAs incorporated by the study area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sites Listed in the NIAH	There are 33 NIAH registrations within the study area, one of which is an SMR and seven of which are also Protected Structures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Unregistered Cultural Heritage Sites	There are two additional UCH sites (CH120, CH163) and a single townland boundary (CH164) within the proposed development footprint.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Areas/Features of Archaeological Potential	There are no areas of Archaeological Potential within the proposed housing development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Previous archaeological excavation	There are 41 previous excavations within the study area

Table 17 — Summary of baseline environment

4.3 Impact Assessment



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This section assesses the likely significant impacts that the Proposed Development will have on the baseline/receiving environment, prior to the implementation of any mitigation measures. The methodology used in ascertaining the baseline value of sites, the type, magnitude and significance level of impacts is set out in Section 2 above.

Mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset these impacts and the residual impact that the project will have on each site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential are provided in Section 5 below.

4.3.1 Direct impacts

There are two UCH sites within the proposed development footprint; these are a lodge (CH120) and an unfenced trackway (CH163). These sites were identified from the cartographic record and have no upstanding remains. The proposed housing development will have a permanent direct effect on the potential subsurface remains of CH120 and CH163.

4.3.2 Indirect impacts

There will be a predicted indirect impact on the setting of the Athenry town defences (CH025) and Athenry Architectural Conservation Area (CH162). The proposed development will likely have very little impact on the setting of the Athenry town defences due to modern buildings and treelines obscuring visibility from the area. The proposed development will likely have a slight impact on the setting of the Architectural Conservation Area, however large portions of the protected area are obscured from the proposed development area due to modern buildings and treelines.

4.3.3 Cumulative impacts

Cumulative effect is defined as: ‘The addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant, impact’ (Environmental Protection Agency 2017). Cumulative impacts encompass the combined effects of multiple developments or activities on a range of receptors. In this case the receptors are the archaeological monuments and architectural/cultural heritage sites in the immediate vicinity of the proposed scheme. Cumulative impacts at the construction and operational stages are considered.

The proposed housing development site is currently a greenfield on the western outskirts of Athenry town. This area is currently development as a suburban extension of Athenry. There are a number of other housing estates and single houses within the immediate vicinity of the proposed housing development. To the immediate north is the Gort Mhaoilir development, which is a housing estate of 50 Social and Affordable Housing (J.J. Rhatigan Building Contractors 2025).

The proposed housing development will combine with other existing housing developments to have a cumulative effect on known and unknown, subsurface archaeology. It will also have a combined cumulative effect on the architectural/cultural heritage sites.

However, the implementation of mitigation measures for the proposed development will ensure that the cumulative effect is neutral and not significant.

Ref. Number	Distance from Subject Site	Status	Description	Townland
2461618	Adjacent	Granted (conditional)	Revisions and alterations to elevations and floor plans, reduction of gross floor area,	Raheen



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Ref. Number	Distance from Subject Site	Status	Description	Townland
			retention of garage as constructed and revisions to the site layout as previously approved under planning application reference number 97/2454. Gross floor space of work to be retained: 259.00 sqm (house), 57.70 sqm (garage)	
24348	80 m	Granted (conditional)	To construct 3 No. dwelling houses including all associated works and services. The proposed works includes the removal of an existing wastewater treatment system and percolation which was approved under PI Ref no. 07/2841. Gross floor space of proposed works: 560 sqm	Ballygarraun South
2460627	57.5 m	Granted (Conditional)	Permission to construct a dwelling house with all associated services. Gross floor space of proposed works: 123.30 sqm	Ballygarraun South
2360049	67 m	Refused	For a change of house and garage design to that previously granted under PI Ref. no. 21/924. Gross floor area: 250m ² (house) + 237m ² (garage)	Raheen
22141	c.59 m	Granted (conditional)	Permission for the construction of a 128 unit residential development consisting of a) 4 no. 3 storey blocks containing 8 no. 2 bed houses, 16 no. 3 bed duplex units, 8 no. 2 bed duplex units, 16 no. 2 bed apartments, 8 no. 1 bed apartments b) 3 no. 2 1/2 storey blocks containing 6 no. 2 bed apartments, 6 no. 2 bed duplex units, c) 27 no. 3 bed 2 storey terraced houses d) 16 no. 3 bed semi detached 2 storey houses e) 12 no. 3 bed semi detached 2 1/2 storey houses f) 4 no. 4 bed detached 2 storey houses, g)	Ballygarraun South



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Ref. Number	Distance from Subject Site	Status	Description	Townland
22368	c. 105 m	Granted (Conditional)	for the installation of an LPG safety installation in a caged enclosure 1.8m x 1.2m x 1.2 (LxWxH) servicing the existing LPG storage installation with all ancillary services and associated site works. Gross floor space of proposed works: 2.16 sqm	Raheen

Table 18 – Previous applications within the study area

Subject to the implementation of the appropriate archaeological mitigation measures during the construction phase of the development, no residual cumulative effects on archaeological cultural heritage are predicted.

4.4 Visual Amenity

There is a large enclosure (CH002) c. 0.21 km outside of the proposed housing development. The development may have a visual impact on this monument; however, the effects would be slight. The monument is encircled by modern buildings already that obscure visibility to the proposed development.



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CH No.	Category	Summary	Baseline Value	Impact Type	Description of Impact	Impact Magnitude	Significance of Impact
CH025	RMP/NM/RHM	Athenry town defences	Very High	Indirect Impact	Long term, irreversible indirect effect on the setting of the town defences	Not Significant	Slight
CH120	UCH	Lodge	Medium/Low	Direct Impact	Potential permanent direct impact to any unknown subsurface remains of the lodge.	Significant	Slight
CH162	ACA	Athenry Architectural Conservation Area	Very High	Indirect Impact	Long term, irreversible indirect effect on the setting of the Athenry Architectural Conservation Area	Not Significant	Slight
CH163	UCH	Unfenced trackway	Medium/Low	Direct Impact	Potential permanent direct impact to any unknown subsurface remains of the unfenced trackway.	Significant	Slight

Table 19 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude prior to mitigation



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5. MITIGATION STRATEGY

The following mitigation measures proposed are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service and the local planning authority.

The current state policy is that preservation *in situ* of archaeological material is the preferred option. Where this cannot be achieved then appropriate measures need to be adopted to ameliorate the impacts that the Proposed Development may have on features of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage within the study area (see Section 1.2) during both the construction and operational phases of the works.

The below recommendations have been compiled with reference to the *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1999)* as well as the following:

- Environmental Protection Agency 2003 *Advice notes on Current Practice (in the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)*
- Environmental Protection Agency 2022 *Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)*
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DoAHGI) 1999 *Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 2011 *Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities*

No mitigation measures are recommended for the indirect effects on the settings of the Athenry town defences (CH025) and the Athenry Architectural Conservation Area (CH162). The proposed development is in keeping with previous residential development in the immediate area, and the proposed development site is obscured from both cultural heritage assets by modern buildings and treelines.

The following mitigation measures are recommended for the direct effects:

1. As part of an advance works programme prior to construction, a combination of advance geophysical survey and advance archaeological test trenching will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence, of the areas where sub-surface excavation works are required.
2. In addition, a suitably qualified archaeological consultant under license to the National Monuments Service Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, will monitor any sub-surface groundworks undertaken during construction.
3. Should any archaeological material be encountered during testing or monitoring, works will cease, and the County Archaeologist and National Monuments Service shall be notified. A strategy will be proposed to the County Archaeologist and National Monuments Service to suitably record any archaeological material identified, and preserve any archaeological material *in situ*, where possible. Where preservation *in situ* cannot be achieved, either in whole or in part, then a programme of archaeological excavation will be proposed, to ensure the preservation by record of the area of the development that will be directly impacted upon. Further work will then only be carried out following consultations with the County Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service.
4. The resulting archaeological report will be submitted to the County Archaeologist and to the National Monuments Service Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.



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Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service and the local Planning Authority Archaeologist.

CH. No	Phase	Effect Type	Mitigation Measures	Magnitude of Effect After Implementation of Mitigation Measures	Significance of Effect After Implementation of Mitigation Measures
CH120	Construction	Direct	Mitigations 1-4	Moderate	Negligible
CH163	Construction	Direct	Mitigations 1-4	Moderate	Negligible

Table 20 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude after mitigation

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6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Archaeological Findings Summary

This assessment has identified 164 sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the defined study areas (see Section 1.2). These sites include 16 RMPs, 62 SMRs, three National Monuments, one registered Historic Monument, two unregistered cultural heritage receptor (CH120, CH163), one townland boundary (CH164), 41 previous archaeological excavations, 33 NIAH sites, which seven are also Protected Structures, and an Architectural Conservation Area.

As currently laid out, the proposed housing development will have a potential direct impact on two CH site (CH120, CH163), and an indirect impact on two CH sites (CH025, CH162).

6.2 Recommendations

It is recommended that the mitigation strategy outlined in Section 5 above be adopted. If the design of the proposed development is altered this assessment will need to be updated accordingly.

Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service and the local planning authority archaeologist.



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APPENDIX 1 INVENTORY OF IDENTIFIED SITES OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE AND/OR POTENTIAL WITHIN STUDY AREA

CH ID	Type	ID CODE	Long Description/Details	Short Description	Townland	Baseline Value	ITM E	ITM N
CH001	RMP	GA084-118----	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research purposes please make an appointment in advance with the Archive Unit (open Fridays 10.00 am – 5.00 pm), Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, The Custom House, Dublin 1 D01W6XO or email nmarchive@chg.gov.ie.	Road road/trackway	Raheen (Athenry By)	Very High	549332	727978
CH002	RMP	GA084-120----	In gently rolling pastureland. Referred to by Knox (1918, 104, no. 19) as 'the Cashel of Raheen'; traces of its 'stout curved ramparts' survived at N but it was to 'a great extent a reconstruction'. It consists of a roughly triangular area defined from NW to NNE by an arc of substantial but collapsed drystone walls. Its other sides are straight and are defined respectively by a roadway and a natural scarp. Cody (1989, 300-2, no. 124) noted that the interior was marshy and doubted its antiquity, suggesting that it may have been a landscape feature at the entrance to the avenue leading to Raheen House (pers. comm. 1987). Compiled by: Galway Archaeological Survey, UCG Date of upload: 28 August 2019	Enclosure - large enclosure	Raheen (Athenry By)	Very High	549140	728130



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CH003	RMP	GA084-119----	Described by Knox (1917-18, 119, no. 20) as 'a small rath, much altered for ornamental purposes, 48ft. by 36ft.' On inspection it proved to be a circular grove of trees on a rise c. 1m above the surrounding land. Within the grove there was a circular pathway delimited by a wall and at its centre a seating area. It is a landscape feature of 19th/20th-century date. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 24 April 2015	Designed landscape feature	Raheen (Athenry By)	Very High	549289	728266
CH004	RMP	GA084-133----	Knox (1917-18, 119, no. 20) recorded a 'rectangular earthwork' here. However, he was unsure of its antiquity as he noted that 'it was one of the many features of this locality which can neither be passed over in silence nor be dealt with satisfactorily. No visible surface trace of it survives (pers. comm. E. Cody 29 May 1985). This is now a tennis court and part of the garden of Raheen House. The evidence is not sufficient to warrant accepting it as the remains of an archaeological monument. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 April 2015	Redundant record	Raheen (Athenry By)	Low	549247	728304
CH005	SMR	None	This receptor comprises 38 stone fragments, each with their SMR entry, which have been removed from numerous locations to their present location of the Office of Public Works depot in Athenry. It includes two architectural fragments (GA084-151010-; GA084-151039-); one Tau Cross (GA084-151005-); one cross (GA084-151027-); 29 cross slabs (GA084-151001-; GA084-151002-; GA084-151003-; GA084-151004-; GA084-151006-; GA084-151011-; GA084-151012-; GA084-151013-;	Inscribed Stone	Raheen (Athenry By)	Very High	549111	728234



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			GA084-151014-; GA084-151015-; GA084-151016-; GA084-151017-; GA084-151018-; GA084-151019-; GA084-151020-; GA084-151021-; GA084-151022-; GA084-151023-; GA084-151024-; GA084-151026-; GA084-151028-; GA084-151030-; GA084-151031-; GA084-151032-; GA084-151033-; GA084-151034-); three graveslabs (GA084-151007-; GA084-151009-; GA084-151029-); one inscribed slab (GA084-151038-); Sundial (GA084-151008-).					
CH006	SMR	GA084-155----	The final archaeological monitoring report on the Athenry Strategic Site Infrastructure Works, Athenry, County Galway, on behalf of Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers for IDA Ireland, under excavation licence number 18E0003. A small charcoal spread (Wth .65m) was identified (ITM 549338 727469) and half-sectioned but not sampled. There were no archaeological artefacts identified within. The line of GA084-118 road - road trackway has largely been covered over by a modern tarmacadam roadway. Below the tarmacadam surface was a 600-700mm thick, modern road base of cobbled sized aggregate and gravel. On the north side of the lane was a water duct laid down in the 1980's, along the southern edge was the remains of a wall foundation (L 10m approx.). The foundation was a double skinned foundation, one course deep and made of dry stone random rubble with packing stones. It was best preserved at its centre and petered out at either terminal. A trowel back of the immediate area exposed	Excavation report final	- BALLYGARRAU N SOUTH	Very High	549219	727638



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			19th and early 20th century white table ware, shards of brown glass, fragments of red and yellow brick and metal debris. The wall was preserved in situ. GA084-155----_01 Charcoal spread GA084-155----_02 Plan of wall foundation Compiled by: Margaret Keane Updated on: 29 March 2021					
CH007	RMP	GA084-014----	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Enclosure	BALLYGARRAU N SOUTH	Very High	548962	727609
CH008	RMP	GA084-013----	On a ridge in pastureland. Knox (1917-18, 104, 114-5, no. 13F) refers to a 'ruined cashel' here but on inspection in 1992 nothing of archaeological significance was found. Two parallel banks were noted in a tree copse; it is unclear whether they relate to what Knox described. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 24 April 2015	Redundant record	BALLYGARRAU N SOUTH	Low	548609	727817
CH009	RMP	GA084-008----	At the S end of a NE-SW running esker ridge in gently undulating pastureland. Marked on the 1838 edition of the OS 6-inch map as an embanked enclosure (diam. c. 40m). A plan published by Knox (1918b, 113, no. 12) indicates a large enclosure (diam. c. 70m) defined by a bank from WSW through N to ENE. The central area of the interior was naturally raised. However, Cody (1989, 269-70, no. 92) classifies the monument as a ringfort. No visible surface trace survives. Compiled by: Galway Archaeological Survey, UCG Date of upload: 26 August 2019	Ringfort - rath	BALLYGARRAU N NORTH	Very High	548422	728338



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CH010	SMR	GA084-109001-	This is a railway embankment. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 April 2015	Redundant record	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Low	549649	727630
CH011	SMR	GA084-109002-	This is a railway embankment. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 April 2015	Redundant record	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Low	549687	727629
CH012	SMR	GA084-070----	Marked on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map as a small circular mound (diam. c. 15m) and regarded by Knox (1917-18, 104, 119, no. 21) as an antiquity. However, on inspection it proved to be a natural feature: one end of a gravel ridge (Rynne 1983). Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 23 April 2015	Redundant record	CULLAIRBAUN	Low	549689	728571
CH013	RMP	GA084-110----	This record relates to a fair green. It is not an archaeological monument. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 April 2015	Redundant record	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Low	549580	727502
CH014	RMP	GA084-111----	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Cross	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Very High	549583	727430
CH015	RMP	GA084-101----	In low-lying reclaimed pastureland. In the summer of 1828 a local farmer pointed out 'an old Cist' to one of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland surveyors in the area. He had come across it 35 years previously. The cist was overground rather than underground and when opened it contained a crouched burial and an earthenware vase (Anon. 1928, 79). No visible surface trace survives. (de Valera and Ó Nualláin 1972, 28) Compiled by: Galway Archaeological Survey, UCG Date of upload: 14 November 2019	Cist	NEWFORD	Very High	549757	727101



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CH016	RMP	GA084-102----	In arable land. Only a flattened area overgrown with thistles survived of a hachured feature marked on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map on inspection in 1983. Cartographic evidence suggests that it was a quarry pit. As it is of post-AD 1700 date it does not come within the remit of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 July 2014	Quarry	NEWFORD	Very High	549582	727032
CH017	RMP	GA084-080----	This single-arched bridge (L 3.9m; Wth 2.47m; H 1.55m) straddles a small E-W flowing stream and it appears to have been built on the line of an old roadway leading into Athenry town (GA084-001----) to the N. It is of modern construction. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 4 April 2017	Bridge	GORTNAHOWN	Very High	550127	727135
CH018	RMP	GA084-024----	This four-arch bridge, constructed of mortared stone, straddles the Graigueabbey River. It is c. 130m to the S of the site of the 'Spittle Gate', the S gateway to the medieval town of Athenry (GA084-001----). When initially visited in 1984 it was described as being in good condition: each arch was c. 2.3m wide at the base and two piers or breakwaters were visible on the upstream side. Wickerwork centring, indicating that the bridge has a medieval core, was noted in three of the arches, while the mortar bed in the fourth was in a very poor condition. The river just flowed through the latter most north-westerly arch. The bridge has been widened in more recent times, but was originally 3.25m wide. Since then the river has been widened and it now flows through the two most north-	Bridge	BAUNMORE	Very High	550149	727279



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			westerly arches; the other two arches are partially blocked. The uppermost part of a third pier or breakwater has been exposed by the removal of weeds and scrub around the base of the bridge (information from J. O'Sullivan 2009). Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 6 April 2017					
CH019	RMP	GA084-112----	On top of a hillock in pastureland. A hachured feature marked on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map proved on inspection in 1983 to be a disused gravel pit. As it is of post-AD 1700 date it does not come within the remit of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 22 July 2014	Quarry	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Very High	549785	727337
CH020	RMP	GA084-113----	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Road road/trackway	PROSPECT (Athenry By.)	Very High	549732	727499
CH021	SMR	GA084-001017-	In flat pastureland c. 40m to the E of the Clarin River and within the medieval walled town of Athenry (GA084-001----). Named 'Moor Well' on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map, this roughly subcircular well (0.77m N-S; 0.72m E-W; D 0.7m) is defined by a drystone wall (Wth 0.5m), three to four courses high. A small gap at W access it. On inspection the well was dry. A spa well (GA084-001016-) lies c. 168m to the NNE. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 13 November 2019	Well	ATHENRY	Very High	550322	727526



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CH022	SMR	GA084-001021-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Dovecote	ATHENRY	Very High	550146	727620
CH023	SMR	GA084-001018-	This record relates to placename evidence and not an archaeological monument. An area within Athenry town (GA084-001----) is named 'Leper Compound (Disused)' on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map. Bradley and Dunne (1990, 41) note that this is most likely a mistake as the normal practice in Anglo-Norman towns was to position such hospitals some distance outside the town walls so as to try and contain the disease. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 8 October 2015	Redundant record	ATHENRY	Low	550115	727664
CH024	SMR	GA084-001016-	In flat pastureland c. 60m to the E of the Clarin River and within the medieval walled town of Athenry (GA084-001----). Named 'Spa Well (Chalybeate)' on the 1933 edition of the OS 6-inch map, this well is known locally as the 'Pan Well' because its base consists of a subcircular stone basin (0.53m N-S; 0.51 E-W; D 0.13). It is enclosed by a circular drystone wall (diam. 0.68m H 0.4m), one to three courses high, and the outlet is to the SW. Another well (GA084-001017-) lies c. 168m to the SSW. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 13 November 2019	Well	ATHENRY	Very High	550370	727690
CH025	RMP/NM/RHM	GA084-001001-/NM/RMH ID-54	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment	Town defences	ATHENRY	Very High	550182	727739



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			Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research					
CH026	SMR/NI AH	GA084-001020- /30332020	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Cross - Market cross	ATHENRY	Very High	550250	727909
CH027	SMR	GA084-001019-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Mill - corn	ATHENRY	Very High	550410	727940
CH028	SMR/NM	GA084-001006- /NM-406	This castle, a conserved National Monument, is situated in the NE end of the Anglo-Norman town of Athenry (GA084-001----). It was built by Meiler de Bermingham between 1235 and 1240 and it occupies a slight rise that controlled a ford over the River Clareen (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 22-3). Rectangular in plan (int. dims. 13.1m NE-SW; 7.25m NW-SE; wall T c. 1.7m) and of random-rubble construction with dressed quoin stones, it is three storeys high with a gabled attic; it has a pronounced base-batter (H 2.1m; base Wth 1.2m). It occupies the W half of the surrounding D-shaped bawn (GA084-001085-), some of the walls of which act as part of the town defences (GA084-001001-). The late Professor Rynne suggested a three-phase construction sequence (Papazian 1991, 2). The original castle was two storeys high and	Castle - Anglo- Norman masonry castle	ATHENRY	Very High	550384	728021



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			<p>consisted of the ground floor and a first-floor hall. It was accessed by a decorated pointed arch doorway (Wth 1.3m; H 2.6m) at 1st-floor level. The doorway was reached by a flight of external steps/stairs or a forebuilding as indicated by the two beam slots in the external wall-face to its left and the projecting slabs above it. The hall was lit by four tall windows, each centrally located in a deeply splayed embrasure, one in each wall. Decorated capitals on top of the columns of the doorway and the embrasures in the SE and SW walls indicate that this chamber was intended to be displayed to the public (Sweetman 1999, 70).The original floor was wooden. A garderobe chamber in the N corner, which projects from the external wall-face, is lit by two narrow slit windows. Its external cesspit was excavated in 1989 (Papazian 1991, 6-7). Access to the ground floor was gained from this level by means of an internal wooden stairs or a ladder in the W corner. The lower floor was lit by four small windows, again each one set in a centrally located deeply splayed embrasure in each wall; the one in the SW wall is now blocked off. Originally this floor was probably used for storage. Drainage holes visible in the gable walls at 1st-floor level indicate the level of the original roof. The walls and roof were subsequently raised c. 1250. During this phase a gallery was added to the SW end of the building. Clear evidence for this includes the remains of a masonry arch in the SW wall</p>					
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			<p>near the doorway and three beam holes opposite it in the NW wall (Sweetman <i>ibid.</i>). The raised walls are windowless apart from a slit window in the SE wall that lit the gallery. An intramural stairway to its E leads to the wall-walk. The merlons of the crenellated parapet are pierced with long cruciform arrow loops and beam holes visible below it indicate that the castle was further defended by a hoard. Further alterations occurred in the 15th century when the high gable ends were added, the ground floor was vaulted and the ground-floor doorway was inserted. During this period the parapets were incorporated into the gable walls. The vault inserted into the ground floor was supported on the NW and SE side-walls, and three pillars along the centre of the floor. Traces of the wickerwork-centring are still visible on its underside. Following restoration works carried out by the Office of Public Works in the 1990s, wooden floors were added to the second floor, which is now an audio-visual theatre, and the attic. A wooden stairway which accessed the 1st-floor doorway was replaced by a steel one in 2018. (Leask 1941, 36-9; Bradley and Dunne 1992, 23-4)Compiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 8 April 2019The monument was taken into Ownership under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 - National Monument 406. The following images have been appended:GA084-001006-_01.jpgGA084-001006-_02.jpgGA084-001006-_03.jpgGA084-001006-</p>				
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			_04_SE_wall_from_SE.jpgGA084-001006- _05_Left_carved_capital_of_1st- floor_doorway.jpgGA084-001006- _09_Right_carved_capital_of_SW_window_1 st_floor.jpgGA084-001006- _22_Batter_detail_of_wall_make_up.jpgGA0 84-001006- _23_Garderobe_1st_floor.jpgGA084-001006- _26_NE_gable_from_NE.jpg					
CH029	SMR	GA084-001030-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550273	727945
CH030	SMR	GA084-001031-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550264	727952
CH031	SMR	GA084-001015-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Church	ATHENRY	Very High	550264	727961
CH032	SMR	GA084-001029-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550266	727961



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CH033	SMR	GA084-001024-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550272	727962
CH034	SMR	GA084-001023-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Church	ATHENRY	Very High	550278	727963
CH035	SMR	GA084-001055-	This rectangular graveslab (L 1.56m; Wth at top 0.74m; Wth at base 0.69m; T 0.11m) is at the W end of the aisle of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-) and is the third slab in a row of four – moving north-south from the N wall. The bottom left side is broken. An inscription running around its edges was transcribed by Macalister (1913, 215, XV, Fig. 8 No. 15) as: '(PRAY F) OR THE SOVLES OF HVGH HIGENN AND NOVLE CONENN HIS WIFE AND HIS SON THO(M) AS HIGENN AND DONELL HIGENN AND THIRE POSTERTY 1684'. Within the frame provided by the inscription, the occupational symbols of a ploughman, a plough sock and coulter, are visible. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 38-9)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001055-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550350	727814
CH036	SMR	GA084-001038-	This fragmentary tapering graveslab is the first of four in a line, running from N to S, at the W end of the aisle of the Dominican	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550350	727814



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			church (GA084-001014-). The slab is broken in two pieces and the ends of each portion are damaged. The upper portion (L 0.53m; Wth at top 0.55m; base Wth 0.65m; T 0.11m) bears a floriated cross head in relief and the lower portion (L 0.79m; Wth at top 0.57m; base Wth 0.46m; T 0.09m) bears the stem of the cross with traces of fleur de lys ornament at its base. Both pieces are bevelled. The decoration on the upper portion and the way it is tapering suggest that it has been set upside down. Another floriated graveslab (GA084-001037-) lies to its S. See also GA084-001034- to GA084-001036-. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 34)The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001038-_01.jpgGA084-001038-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 9 November 2018					
CH037	SMR	GA084-001037-	This tapering graveslab (L 1.37m; Wth across top 0.52m; base Wth 0.3m; T 0.12m) is the second in a group of four, moving from N to S, at the W end of the aisle. A broken example (GA084-001038-) lies to its N. The slab is decorated with a floriated cross and bears no inscription. Other similar graveslabs (See GA084-001034- to GA094-001037-) in the church are dated to the 13th/14th century (McKeon 2009 50, Fig. 19: Slab I). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 34) The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001037-_01.jpgGA084-001037-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 9 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550350	727814
CH038	SMR	GA084-001064-	This obliquely shouldered graveslab (L 1.52m; Wth across the top 0.75m; Wth across	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550351	727807



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			base 0.62m; T 0.1m) is to the W of the blocked doorway in the S wall of the nave of the church (GA084-001014-). Described by Macalister (1913, 217, XXIII, Pl. VIII, No. 9) as a 'recumbent slab with a plain cross on a calvary'. There is a plough sock on the sinister side of the stem of the cross and a coulter on its dexter side. There is no inscription. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 40-41)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001064-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH039	SMR	GA084-001060-	This rectangular graveslab (L 1.85m; Wth 0.61m; T 0.11m) is the second slab to the N of the blocked doorway at the W end of the S wall of the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). It is broken in two pieces. It bears an incised Latin cross with expanded wedge-shaped terminals at the head and arms the stem ends on a calvary of three steps. An inscription above the cross reads: PRAY FOR THE SO/ VLE OF ROGER GR/ ANY AND HIS/ WIFE KATHERIN/ HIGIN AND THE/ IRE POSTERITY/ 1688 (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 40). The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001060-_01.jpgGA084-001060-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550351	727806
CH040	SMR	GA084-001082-	This tapering bevelled graveslab is in the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), to the N of the wall monument (GA084-001070-). The slab is incomplete – the head and base are missing. Both of the surviving fragments (upper fragment: L	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550357	727806



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			0.59m; Wth across top 0.51m; base Wth 0.42m; lower fragment L 0.32m; Wth 0.32m; T 0.15m) are decorated with the raised stem of a cross and both have a raised border similar to another graveslab (see GA084-001034-) of 13th/14th-century date. The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001082-_01.jpgGA084-001082-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 13 November 2018					
CH041	SMR	GA084-001072-	This wall monument (Wth 2m; H c. 1.9m; D 0.6m) is the easternmost example of three tomb niches (see also GA084-001070- and GA084-001071-) that are visible in the S wall of the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). A double piscina is visible to its E. Apart from moulded column stones and a decorated terminal stone all the stonework has been removed. When Macalister (1913 208-9) visited the site only the western jamb and the spring of the arch above it were visible as it was concealed by masonry and a modern altar tomb; the latter has also been removed. The three niches display elements of Romanesque and Transitional architecture, including foliage, nail-head, chevron and cable designs, which suggest that they date to the initial construction phase of the church c. 1241 (McKeon 2009, 38). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 32)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001072-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550357	727806



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CH042	SMR	GA084-001071-	<p>This wall monument (Wth 2.41m; D 0.53m) is the middle example of three tomb niches (see also GA084-001070- and GA084-001072-) that are visible in the S wall of the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). The lower part was composed of three trefoil-headed arches that were probably supported on columns similar to those visible in the example to its S. The three moulded quatrefoil openings inserted in the wall above it encroach on the fourth of the series of lancet windows that light the nave. The mouldings on the sedilia in the N wall of the chancel are so similar in style to it that it lead Macalister (1913, 209) to believe that the latter was another tomb niche but unlike tomb niches the sedilia does not extend to the ground level but sits 0.5m above it (McKeon 2009, 33). The three niches display elements of Romanesque and Transitional architecture, including foliage, nail-head, chevron and cable designs, which suggest that they date to the initial construction phase of the church c. 1241 (ibid., 38). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 32)The following image was uploaded: GA084-001071-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018</p>	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550357	727806
CH043	SMR	GA084-001070-	<p>This wall monument is a tomb niche (Wth 3.12m; H 2.66m; D 0.53m) and is the westernmost example of three (see also GA084-001071- and GA084-001072-) that are visible in the S wall of the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). Described by Macalister (1913, 208) as ‘a</p>	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550357	727806



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			handsome structure of three three-centred moulded arches, supported on slender columns'. The three niches display elements of Romanesque and Transitional architecture, including foliage, nail-head, chevron and cable designs, which suggest that they date to the initial construction phase of the church c. 1241 (McKeon 2009, 38). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 38)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001070-01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH044	SMR	GA084-001075-	This is one of two identical tomb niches (see also GA084-001074-) in the N wall of the aisle that date to the 15th century. Unfortunately most of the dressed stones are missing in this example (Wth 2.08m; H 2.22m; D 0.38m). The intact example to its E indicates that it consisted of 'two low ogee arches, underneath equilateral arches; the openings are richly moulded and cusped' (Macalister 1913, 209). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 33)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001075-01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550356	727815
CH045	SMR	GA084-001074-	This is one of two identical tomb niches (see also GA084-001075-) in the N wall of the aisle that date to the 15th century. This example (Wth 2.04m; H 2.18m; D 0.38m), at the E end of the wall, remains intact. It consists of 'two low ogee arches, underneath equilateral arches; the openings are richly moulded and cusped' (Macalister 1913, 209, Fig. 6). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 33) The following image has	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550356	727815



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			been uploaded: GA084-001074- _01.jpg Complied by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH046	SMR	GA084-001066-	When recorded by Macalister (1913, Pl. I) this graveslab was the third of four lying inside the doorway of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). It has since been moved and is now lying in the E end of the aisle, in front of the wall monument (GA084-001074-). The slab (L c. 1.87m; base Wth 0.69m; Wth across top 0.32m; T 0.16m) is broken in two pieces. Described by Macalister (ibid., 212, VI, Pl. VIII, No. 7) a coffin-shaped shouldered slab bearing an anvil in relief and an incised hammer. No inscription is evident. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 41)The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001066- _01.jpgGA084-001066- _02.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550361	727814
CH047	SMR	GA084-001079-	This broken graveslab (surviving L 1.09m; max. Wth 0.56m) is located in the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001) close to the easternmost pier of the aisle arcade. Both ends and the top right side are broken. The slab is bevelled and traces of a raised cross are visible. An illustration by McKeon (2009, 50, Fig. 16: Slab F) indicates that the left terminal ended in a fleur-de-lis motif and a central roundel was also decorated with a cross. The stem extending below the roundel bears a bulbous protrusion and tendrils. The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001079- _01.jpgGA084-	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550362	727813



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			001079-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 13 November 2018					
CH048	SMR	GA084-001035-	This tapering graveslab (L 1.89m; Wth across top 0.63m; Wth across bottom 0.37m; T 0.11m) is broken in two pieces. When recorded by Macalister (1913, 212, XI, Pl. VII, No. 3) it was complete and he described it as a 'coffin-shaped slab, with a floriated cross'. There was no inscription on it. He suggested a date of c. 1680 but McKeon (2009, 50, Fig. 18: Slab H, 51) believes it is earlier and dates to the 13th or 14th century. It is lying at the E end of the aisle – just to the N of the arcade. This slab is similar to another in the NE corner of the transept (see GA084-001038-). See also GA084-001034- and GA084-001036- to GA084-001038-. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 34; McKeon 2009, 51, Fig. 18: Slab H)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001035-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 9 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550363	727815
CH049	SMR	GA084-001077-	In the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), to the N of the middle wall monument (GA084-001071-). Described by Macalister (1913, 217, XXII) as a graveslab (L 1.93m; Wth across top 0.59m; Wth across base 0.52m; T 0.1m) inscribed with the following: 'Pray for the soul of William Burke and his wife Anne alias Ward and their Posterity' and dated to c. 1700. The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001077-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 13 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550361	727810



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CH050	SMR	GA084-001063-	This tapering graveslab (L 1.54m; Wth at top 0.54m; base Wth 0.38m; T 0.12m) is broken in two pieces and a chunk of the bottom part of the lower piece is missing. When described by Macalister (1913, 217, XXI, Pl. VIII, No. 6) it was complete but much worn. It was decorated with an incised plough sock and coulter and an inscription on the sinister side read: DANIEL NOLAN 1700 (ibid.), the latter is now illegible. This slab is to the N of the second wall monument (GA084-001071-) in the S wall of the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 40-41)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001063-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550360	727811
CH051	SMR	GA084-001062-	In the nave of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), this graveslab (L 1.9m; Wth across the top 0.8m; Wth 0.77 across base; T 0.12m) is the 2nd slab to the N of the wall monument (GA084-001071-). The bottom-right corner is broken off. Traces of an incised ringed cross, with 'arms ending in rude flouriations' (Macalister 1913, 212, V, Pl. VII No. 1)', are visible as well as a coulter on the sinister side and plough sock on the dexter side. There is no inscription. Macalister (ibid.) suggested a date of c. 1650. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 40-41)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001062-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550360	727811
CH052	SMR	GA084-001057-	This tapering graveslab (L 1.74m; Wth at top 0.6m; Wth at base 0.29m; T 0.12m), is in the	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550360	727811



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			nave of the church (GA084-001014-), opposite the console on the S side, and was described by Macalister (1913, 215, XVII, Pl. VIII, No. 10) as a 'slab with floriated cross much defaced, with the lower end broken away.' He transcribed an inscription, in three lines, on the sinister side, as 'FOR THE VSE OF OWEN CRAW(ley) AND CATHERIN MONAGHAN AND (their) POSTERITY 1686'. A plough sock and coulter are visible on the dexter side. It is most likely that this slab dates to the 13th/14th century and was reused in the 17th-century when the inscription and occupational symbols were added. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 39; Mckeon 2009, 51; Fig. 21: Slab K)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001057-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH053	SMR	GA084-001084-	This fragment of a graveslab (H 1.13m; Wth across top 0.78m; base Wth 0.82m; T 0.15m) is pinned against the W wall of the lateral aisle off the transept of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), just to the N of the window. The face bears the stem of an incised cross on a calvary of three steps. Occupational symbols for a ploughman are visible on either side of the cross, a coulter on left side and a plough sock on the right side. The sides of the slab are chamfered and traces of an indecipherable inscription are evident on both edges of it. A number of similar slabs in the church have been dated to the 17th century – see GA084-001055- and GA084-	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550367	727819



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			001062- to GA084-001064-. Another 17th-century slab (GA084-001047-) is pinned to the wall to the S of the window. The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001084-01.jpg Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 13 November 2018					
CH054	SMR	GA084-001083-	This fragment of a possible wall monument is now lying on the ground immediately to the N of the doorway that accessed the transept of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). When Macalister (1913, 220) visited the site it was lying loose at the E end of the chancel. He believed it was part of a debased altar tomb dating to the late 17th century. It is decorated with floral devices sunk in square panels and it also depicts the E and W windows of the church. Regarding the depiction of the E window, Crawford (1920, 66-7) pointed out that while the carving has four mullions the actual window only had three. He also noted that it was unusual to see the representation of windows used for decoration. The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001083-02.jpg Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 13 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550367	727819
CH055	SMR	GA084-001076-	This tapering graveslab is at the base of the W end of the repositioned wall monument (GA084-001073-) in the transept of the Dominican church (GA094-001014-). Two of the arcade pillars are resting on it. The slab (L 1.8m; Wth at top 0.46m; base Wth 0.26m) is broken in two pieces and its outer edge, head and base are also damaged. It is decorated with an incised cross. Four circles make up	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550366	727821



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			<p>the cross-head and fleur de lis terminals extend off it on each side and at the top. A long stem extending to the base ends in another broken fleur de lis terminal. It most likely dates to the late 13th/early 14th century (McKeon 2009, 46, 50, Fig. 15: Slab E).The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001076-_01.jpg - graveslab at base of wall monument (GA084-001073-)GA084-001076-_02.jpg - detail of cross headGA084-001076-_03.jpg - detail of stem of crossGA084-001076-_04.jpg - detail of broken fleur de lis terminal at baseCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018</p>					
CH056	SMR	GA084-001058-	<p>This rectangular wall plaque (Wth 1.07m; H 1.4m) is set into the N window in the transept. It bears a shield with an inscription on each side and below it. It was transcribed by Macalister (1913, 215, XVIII) as: 'PRAY FOR THE SOVLE OF Pt OLIVE R. BRO WNE ESQR OF CVL ARAN AND IVLIAN LYN CH HIS WIFE WHO EREC TED THIS MONUMENT FOR THEM AND THEIR POSTE RITY ANO DNI 18686'. The shield bears an eagle with two heads for Browne and a chevron between three trefoils for Lynch (ibid.) (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 39)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001058-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018</p>	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550369	727822
CH057	SMR	GA084-001073-	<p>This composite wall monument (Wth c. 7m; H 1.68-1.72m) spans the entire width of the N wall of the transept of the Dominican church</p>	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550371	727821



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			<p>(GA084-001014-). It appears to have been moved from its original location and reconstructed here. Its W end overlies a 13th/14th-century graveslab (GA084-001076-) and the NE wall of the transept has been obliquely cut away to accommodate its E end. Macalister (1913, 209) believed this was a series of three tombs: the W and central ones had three arches and the E one had two. The first two tombs were separated by a narrow pier while a wide pier separated these from the E tomb. Macalister's (ibid., Pl. 1 and X b) ground plan and photograph reflect this layout. His photograph indicates that almost all of the arch stones and one pillar of W tomb had been removed. These have since been reinstated and a third arch has been inserted between the middle and E tomb. The tombs may have been originally located in the nave or chancel of the church (Mckeon 2009, 46). Another wall monument (GA084-001058---) has been inserted above the central tomb. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 33)The following images have been uploaded: GA084-001073-_01.jpg - overall view of wall monumentGA084-001073-_05.jpg - graveslab (GA084-001076-) at base of W end of wall monumentCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018</p>					
CH058	SMR	GA084-001034-	<p>In the NE corner of the transept of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), to the S of the wall monument (GA084-001073-). This broken tapering graveslab (L 1.46m; Wth across the top 0.51m; Wth across broken end</p>	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550373	727820



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			0.36m; T 0.08m) is described by Macalister (1913, 212, X; Pl. VII, No. 5) as a slab with a floriated cross inside a raised border which ends in spirals in each corner. Macalister (ibid.) noted that this type of slab was common in the church but that this example was slightly more ornate than the others. He suggested a date of c. 1680 but McKeon (2009, 50, Fig. 20: Slab J, 51) believes it is earlier and dates to the 13th or 14th century. See also GA084-001035- to GA084-001038-). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 34; McKeon 51, Fig. 18: Slab H)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001034-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 9 November 2018					
CH059	SMR	GA084-001061-	This rectangular graveslab (L 1.59m; Wth 0.62m; T 0.16m) is the northernmost example in a row of three on the N side of the site of the tower. Its lower end (L 0.6) is chamfered on each side. It bears an inscription commemorating two couples and reads 'PRAY FOR THE SOVLE (of) WILLIAM BOYNE AND HIS WIFE: IOCNESE [sic] BODAN AND SARA MORAN: AND HIS CHIDREN, 1697. IHS MARIA'. A complete plough is carved beneath the inscription and then the name 'IAMES ROVAN' (Macalister (1913, 217, XX, Fig. 8, No. 16). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 40)The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001061-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550369	727810
CH060	SMR	GA084-001054-	This graveslab was decorated with a plough-sock and coulter and bore the following	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550370	727809



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			marginal inscription: PRAY FOR THE SOVLES OF HUGH/ THOMAS/ DERMAD AND EDMVND FYNNE AND/ THIR POSTERITIE 1684 (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 38). Not located. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH061	SMR	GA084-001051-	Under the crossing tower of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), close to its SW pier. This broken rectangular graveslab (surviving L 1.39m; Wth 0.89m; T 0.12m) bears 'a cross pattée, with long stem, and a number of smith's tools' (Macalister 1913, 214, XIII, 219, Pl. IX, No. 13). Two bellows are visible on the dexter side, and on the sinister side there is an augur, pincers, anvil, horseshoe, and a hook-shaped object'. It is dated 1682 and an inscription at the top of the slab and sinister edge reads: 'FOR THE VSE OF THOMAS TANIAN AND HIS (POSTERITY)' (ibid.). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 37)The following images have been uploaded: GA084-001051-_01.jpgGA084-001051-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550369	727807
CH062	SMR	GA084-001043-	According to Bradley and Dunne (1992, 34), there were two decorated fragments of the panel of a late-15th/early-16th-century tomb in the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). One bore an ecclesiastic, the other an angel. A third fragment, representing St Dominic, was stolen from the church and is missing. These fragments were not located on inspection in October 2018. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 9 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550371	727808



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CH063	SMR/NM	GA084-001014- /NM-164	<p>This Dominican priory, dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, is located on the E bank of the Clarin River, in the NE of quarter of the medieval town of Athenry (GA084-014----). It is c. 190m to the S of the medieval castle (GA084-001006-) and c. 160m to the SE of the parish church (GA084-001005-). It occupies the SW end of an associated graveyard (GA084-001025-). The priory was founded in 1241 by Meiler de Birmingham and received significant patronage from local Anglo-Norman and Gaelic lords. The survival of a manuscript known as the 'Register of the Dominican Order of Athenry', which is now housed in the British Museum but was published by Coleman (1912, 201-21), has made it possible to identify various patrons and to help trace its structural development. The church became a celebrated burial place for its founder and his descendants, as well as several bishops of Clonfert and Kilmacduagh. Thirty friars are recorded as being here in 1445. The priory was granted to the Earl of Clanricard in 1568 by Elizabeth 1 and subsequently to the town of Athenry in 1574. During the latter year both it and the town were sacked by Clanricarde's sons. In 1595 friars reoccupied the buildings but the town and priory suffered severely in the wars at the end of that century (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 221-2). In the 18th century it was gutted to provide materials for the military barracks that that formerly stood to its south (www.monastic.ie last accessed 22 October</p>	Religious house - Dominican friars	ATHENRY	Very High	550373	727809
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			<p>2018). The barracks has since been demolished and a terrace of houses now occupies this area. The very well-preserved church is the only surviving feature of the priory; no visible surface traces of the domestic buildings or cloister survive. The church consists of the nave and chancel (int. L 45.45m; Wth 7.6m), the northern aisle and transept, and the sacristy on the south side. The site of the crossing tower between the nave and chancel is marked by the two southern piers of the arches that would have supported it. All the walls survive to their original height. The first detailed study of the church was carried out by Macalister (1913, 197-222) who suggested that there were three main building phases. The nave and chancel (int. L 45.45m; int. Wth 7.6m) were built during the initial phase of construction that started in 1241. The northern aisle and transept were added c. 1324, when reconstruction work at that time included 'enlarging the choir twenty feet' by knocking the original east gable and extending the north and south walls of the chancel eastwards (ibid., 201, Fig. 1). The tower was subsequently added c. 1425. Later writers including Leask (1960, 126-8) and Conlan (2002, 218-19) agreed with this phasing. A more recent survey by McKeon (2009, 24-56) argues that the aisle and transept may have been added during the late 13th or early 14th century. McKeon further suggests that the chancel was never extended to the east but</p>					
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			<p>that the choir was enlarged by moving the rood screen further to the W. During this phase the W gable was rebuilt. When the tower was added in the last major building phase in the 15th century, a number of windows were replaced, some doorways were blocked and the aisle arcade was reduced. No visible trace of the original W doorway that would have accessed the church survives. Both it and half of the later 14th-century four-light tracery window above it were blocked up and plastered over in the 19th century when the external gable wall was incorporated into a handball alley. The six pointed lancet windows and three wall monuments (GA084-001070-, GA084-001071- and GA084-001072-) in the S wall of the nave date to the mid-13th century and are original features. The most easterly lancet was truncated and partially blocked when the tower was built. The double piscina between the most easterly wall monument (GA084-001073-) and the tower suggests that there was formerly an altar in this area and that it was also removed when the tower was built (McKeon 2009, 39). Two blocked doorways in the S wall of the nave, one towards its W end the other in recess between the piers of the tower, would have formerly accessed the W range and cloister of the priory. The other features in the nave are later in date and include a 16th-century round-headed statue niche above a moulded and decorated consul (Bradley and Dunne 1990, 32) and a 17th-</p>					
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			<p>century half-hexagonal protruding feature or viewing loft. The seven lancets in the north wall of the chancel are identical to those in the nave. The westernmost example was blocked up when the transept was added. The triple-arched cusped sedilia (Wth 2.4m) is an original feature and its similar design to the wall monument (GA084-001071-) in the S wall of the nave suggested to Macalister (1913, 209) that it was another tomb niche but unlike the tomb niches its base does not extend to ground level but sits 0.5m above it (McKeon 2009, 31-3). The central columns that supported the arches and most of the moulded stones of the arches themselves have been removed. The remains of a carved head visible on the terminal of the arch hood on the W side suggest it might be that of a bishop (ibid.). Three steps subdivide the chancel, marking off the choir from the area where the high altar stood under the four-light switchline tracery east window. This window, which was inserted in the 15th or 16th century, replaced an earlier larger five-light example. The outline and fragments of the tracery of the latter window, which indicate a 13th or 14th-century date, are visible in the gable wall. At the top of the gable the lower portion of a single-light window is visible. Twin-light trefoil-headed windows at the east end of the N and S walls lit the altar area. A 15th-century canopied altar tomb (GA084-001044-) is visible in the north wall. A pointed doorway in the south</p>					
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			<p>wall of the choir accessed the sacristy. The latter room is lit by a triple-light ogee-headed window with a hood-moulding in the E wall. Numerous architectural fragments are now kept in it. The northern aisle was separated from the nave by an arcade of five arches, three of which survive. The original arches and those of the lateral aisle off the transept were taller and rested on circular columns. They were subsequently partially blocked up and during this phase of construction the columns were encased in the later fabric. A blocked-up pointed arch doorway is visible at the W end of the N wall of the aisle. A two-light tracery window is visible in the W wall and two similar windows survive in the north wall. Two further wall monuments (GA084-001074- and GA084-001075-) are located between the latter windows. The tracery in the eastern example is indicative of a 15th century date. Most of the tracery in the western example is gone but the surviving sections indicate it was identical to the eastern one. The main feature of the north transept is the large reconstructed four-light tracery window in the N wall. Below it a composite wall monument (GA084-00173-) spans the entire width of the wall. Macalister (1913, 203) believed this was not an architectural ornament but rather three separate 'sepulchral monuments'. The fact that the W end of it overlies a graveslab (GA084-00176-), and the E wall of the transept was reconfigured to accommodate its E end,</p>					
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			suggest that it was formerly located elsewhere in the nave or chancel. Two twin-light switchline tracery windows are visible in the E wall; the northern one is a modern replacement (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 33). A sketch by Bigari (Grose 1791) indicates that the blocked doorway visible below this window was open in the late 18th century. The doorway to the lateral aisle on the W side of the transept is composed of two orders and is pointed. This doorway is now the only means of accessing the church since the original west doorway was blocked up. This aisle is lit by a twin-light cusped window in the W wall. The arcade on the E side that separates it from the transept would					
CH064	SMR	GA084-001042-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550387	727829
CH065	SMR	GA084-001041-	The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded. To access available information for research	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550387	727829
CH066	SMR	GA084-001032-	This tombstone is centrally placed in the W half of the chancel of the church of the Dominican priory (GA084-001014-), to the E of the massive late 18th-century tomb of Lady Matilda Birmingham. It was uncovered during cleaning operations in the 1970s and is	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550378	727807



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			<p>believed to have marked the grave of Meiler de Bermingham, 2nd Baron and founder of Athenry town (GA084-001----). Meiler's castle (GA084-001006-) is situated c. 190m to the N and as part of his development plan of the new town he introduced the Dominicans in 1241. He died near Cashel in 1252 but his body was brought back to Athenry to be buried close to the high altar (Rynne 1987-8, 116). The slab (L 2.08m; Wth at W end 0.52m; Wth at E end 0.29m) is trapezoidal in plan and tapers in height from its western (H 0.34m) to eastern (0.22m) end. It is broken almost mid-way across its length. The gable-like ends incline slightly towards the flat ridged top and each bears a plain Latin cross in high relief. The stone is undecorated; the irregular crack-like grooves appear to be due to natural weathering (ibid). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 33-4; McKeon 51, Pl. 30)The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001032-_01.jpgGA084-001032-_02.jpgGA084-001032_03.jpgGA084-001032-_04.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 9 November 2018</p>					
CH067	SMR	GA084-001050-	<p>This rectangular graveslab (L 1.22m; Wth 0.62m; T 0.1m) is in the chancel of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-), close to the S end of the W side of Lady Matilda Bermingham's late 18th-century tomb. When recorded by Macalister (1913, Pl. 1) it was located on the S side of the tomb, close to its W end. An inscription, which is in relief and with many of the letters ligatured, reads:</p>	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550380	727807



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			'HERE: LYES : BRIDGED AND : MARY : BERMING HAM: DAVGHTERS : TO EDWARD : LORD : BARON OF ATHENRY: AND THE : LADY : MARY : BVKE HIS : WIFE. THEY : DYED IN : THEIR : INFANCY : IN 1676 : AND : 1677' (ibid., 212, IX). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 36-7)The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001050-_01.jpgGA084-001050-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH068	SMR	GA084-001078-	This rectangular bevelled graveslab (surviving L 1.08m; Wth 0.49m; T 0.1m) is located in the chancel of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-) close to the NW corner of the late 18th-century tomb of Lady Matilda de Bermingham. It is broken in two pieces and the base of it is missing. Traces of an incised Latin cross are evident: on the westerly portion the head and arms of the cross end in stylized fleur-de-lis ornament and on the easterly portion the stem of the cross is visible (McKeon 2009, 50, Fig. 14: Slab D).The following images have been uploaded:GA084-001079-_01.jpgGA084-001079-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 13 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550381	727809
CH069	SMR	GA084-001046-	This graveslab is in the chancel of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-) and is 0.83m to the S of the N wall and 0.87m N of Lady Matilda de Bermingham's tomb. It has been moved since recorded by Macalister (1913, Pl. I). The rectangular slab (L 1.82m; Wth across the top 0.87m; Wth across base	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550382	727809



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			0.8m; T 0.21m), with a small shouldered projection (Wth 0.48m; H 0.15m) at the top, tapers gently towards its base. The sides are bevelled. The surface is elaborately decorated and Macalister (ibid., 210, II, Pl. IX, No. 12) described it as 'a floriated cross-head, with a plain stem, ending below in a handsome interlacing pattern.' The cross is flanked with the initials IHS and a lozenge-shaped ornament on the dexter side and by three animals and a peculiar ornament of curves enclosing the figure eight on the sinister side. The projection bears an inscription that reads: 'ION BVRKE 1627' and round the margin is the legend: 'THIS IS THE TOMB OF ION BVRKE AND OF HIS ANCESTORS AND KATHREN BVRKE HIS WIFE OF 12 OF 10BER 1627' (ibid.). (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 35) The following images have been uploaded: GA084-001046-01.jpgGA084-001046-02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH070	SMR	GA084-001056-	Described by Macalister (1913, 215, XVI), who dated it to 1686, as 'a fragment lying on the step of the sanctuary, with the following letters in raised capitals: 'IHS PRAY FOR THE SOVLE OF FLOR ENCE HEYNE WHOE DEYED THE 24 OF MAR CH 86 THIS M ...ITRE'. It could not be located on inspection in October 2018. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 39) Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550384	727807
CH071	SMR	GA084-001080-	This graveslab is now stored in the SE corner of the sacristy of the Dominican church	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550386	727800



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			(GA084-001014-). The slab is broken at both ends but the surviving tapering fragment (H 0.6m; Wth across the top 0.49m; base Wth 0.46m; T 0.09m) is incised with the shaft of a cross . The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001080-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 13 November 2018					
CH072	SMR	GA084-001081-	This fragment of a possible wall monument is now stored in the NE corner of the sacristy of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). It is roughly shaped (max. Wth 0.3m; H 0.23m) and the flat face is inscribed in false relief with the following incomplete inscription: AS EREC 1690 FI KILL KELL – the slab is lying in front of the shaft of a memorial cross (GA084-001067-).The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001081-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 13 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550386	727800
CH073	SMR	GA084-001067-	This fragment of the shaft of a memorial cross is now stored in the NE corner of the sacristy of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). The piece (H 0.54m; Wth 0.25m; T 0.18m) is rectangular in shape and tapers slightly towards the base. A shallow socket (L 0.07m; Wth 0.01m; D 0.09) visible on its head indicates that another piece was attached. All four corners are rounded and each side has a raised panel, three are plain and one is inscribed with the IHS monogram and the following inscription in relief: IHS M THIS CROSS WAS M ADE BY JAMES BACC AGH COIL - the top line is incomplete due	Cross	ATHENRY	Very High	550386	727800



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			to damage. The word baccagh means lame and Crawford (1920, 66-7) suggested that it was included in the name as a mark of identity. A fragment of a wall plaque (GA084-001081-) is lying in front of it. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 41)The following images have been uploaded: GA084-001067-_01.jpgGA084-001067-_02.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload					
CH074	SMR	GA084-001053-	This wall plaque (Wth 0.85m; H 0.99m), in the S wall of the chancel, bears a shield and the following inscription transcribed by Macalister (1913, 215, XIV) as:'HEER LYES THE BODY OF SIR IOHN BVRKE OF DERRIMAGH LAGNIE KNIT DECEASED IN THE YEEARE OF HIS AGE 1666 THIS TOMB WAS ERECTED FOR HIM AND HIS POSTERITIE BY HIS WIDOW THE LADY MARY BVRKE NOW BARRONESS OF ATHENRY IN 1683'. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 38) The following image has been uploaded: GA084-001053-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550390	727804
CH075	SMR	GA084-001049-	This graveslab was one of two (see also GA084-001033-) recorded by Macalister (1913, 212, VIII) under the sedilia. It bore the following inscription: 'PRAY FOR THE SOVLES OF (THE) VERY REVEREND FATHERS DOCTOR THOMAS BVKE [sic] AND FA. IOHN BVRKE WHO CAUSED THIS STONE TO BE MADE FOR THEMSELVES AND THE FAMILIES OF MACWALTER 1676'. Not located on	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550385	727808



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			inspection in October 2018. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 36) Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH076	SMR	GA084-001052-	When recorded by Macalister (1913, 220-21), this wall plaque was centrally located within the sedilia in the N wall of the chancel of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). It has since been moved and is now on the wall to the W of the sedilia. The slab (Wth 0.83m; H 1m; T 0.06n) is rectangular in shape and is fractured at the bottom left corner. It bears an inscription in English, French and Latin as well as a shield depicting a lion rampant and a Latin cross, an esquire's helmet and mantling and a right hand bearing a sword. According to Macalister (ibid.), the inscription defies direct translation due to the fact the writer did not have sufficient knowledge of French or Latin. His attempt at it reads: 'The mistcall sense of the armes [are] in this verse Pour honneur de conquestant, Et un illustre marque de glor, Il voieut q[u]e le lion rempennt, Porta le pris de leur victoire. Here is the antient sepulchre of the sept of Walls of Droghy, late demolished by Cromellians, and now reedified by Walter Wall fich Peeter (i.e. mhic Peadair, son of Peter) of the said sept, for his oune and posterities use; Ano Domni 1682. Insignia hujus family[a]e Crux et Leo: et notat H --- sus n[o?] bilis antiquum retniet (sir) gens Vallia stema (sic) nam leo magnanimam cu---'. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 37-8) The following image has been uploaded: GA084-	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550385	727810



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			001052-_01.jpgCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 12 November 2018					
CH077	SMR	GA084-001033-	Recorded by Macalister (1913, 212, III, Pl. IX, No. 14) who suggested a date c. 1630 and described it as a 'handsome floriated cross, with a lozenge-shaped body and long stem: the base is concealed by the sedilia, under which the stone runs. There is no inscription.' This slab could not be located on inspection in October 2018. Compiled by: Olive Alcock Date of upload: 9 November 2018	Graveslab	ATHENRY	Very High	550386	727810
CH078	SMR	GA084-001044-	This wall monument consists of a canopied altar tomb (With 2.44m) that is located on the N side of the choir of the Dominican church (GA084-001014-). The front of the altar was divided into five panels capped by ogee-headed arches. The richly moulded soaring arch above this was formerly filled with tracery but only the springing stones now survive. It was framed by pinnacles; that on the E side is missing. Also on the E side the figure of the Virgin and Child with two dolphins above is carved in low relief on a jambstone. The 'curious group of scratches' recorded by Macalister (1913, 209-10, Fig. 7) on another jambstone were not visible. McKeon (2009, 31) suggests a 15th or 16th-century date on the basis of the fabric and dressing. (Bradley and Dunne 1992, 34-5)The following images have been uploaded: GA084-001044-_02.jpg Detail of Virgin and ChildGA084-001044-_03.jpg Overall view of wall monumentCompiled by: Olive AlcockDate of upload: 9 November 2018	Wall monument	ATHENRY	Very High	550388	727810



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CH079	Excavation	13 E0030	Testing was carried out on the site of the proposed new Presentation College at Ballygarraun South, Athenry from 30 January to 2 February 2013. The site comprises of two large fields divided by a Teagasc farm road which extends north-east/south-west across the site. The farm road follows the route of an old field boundary, which was identified by Knox (1917) as an ancient road/trackway (GA084-118) but is unsubstantiated as an archaeological monument. Testing and monitoring along a section of the 'ancient roadway' located north-east of the development site suggests the route follows the line of a former gravel ridge. Testing was preceded by a geophysical survey (McCarthy, 2013) which revealed a series of linear anomalies indicative of cultivation or drainage features in the southern field and a single linear anomaly (L 55m) in the northern field. The linear anomaly in the northern field occurs just north of the Teagasc farm road and it was suggested that it may represent the remains of a field boundary, drainage feature or trackway.	no archaeology found	BALLYGARRAUN SOUTH	Medium/Low	549177	727848
CH080	Excavation	11 E207	Following the submission of a report in 2011 on two phases of pre-development testing at Raheen townland, Athenry, Co. Galway (Excavations 2011, No. 276), to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, a recommendation that a further trial trench be excavated was made. The location of this trial trench was specified at	no archaeology found	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	549142	728118



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			the south-western side of the site, adjacent to the current entrance gate.					
CH081	Excavation	98 E0117	This project involved the monitoring of ground disturbance associated with the development of a dwelling-house at Raheen, Athenry, Co. Galway. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in the course of monitoring.	no archaeology found	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	548993	728283
CH082	Excavation	12 E41	Test excavations were carried on a green field site at Raheen and Moanbaun 3km north of Athenry in mitigation of the proposed Northern Ring Road. The work was commissioned by Galway County Council and took place in March 2012. A centreline trench (L 500m) and forty-four offsets (L 15m) were excavated by machine. The centreline trench ran through a former townland boundary wall and this was cleaned and recorded. The wall was a substantial double dry stone wall measuring 1.2m high by 0.95m thick. It was constructed of limestone boulders with smaller cobbles and broken stones used in the infill. The wall appears rebuilt and is more substantial than the neighbouring field boundaries. It is not ancient and there was evidence of an earlier hedgerow. Nothing of archaeological significance was discovered during testing with no features and only occasional modern finds retrieved from the topsoil.	no archaeology found	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	548939	728584
CH083	Excavation	10 E0182	Test excavations were carried out between 24 and 28 May 2010 in mitigation of the Athenry northern ring road. Eighty-two test-trenches were machine-excavated and one test-pit was	no archaeology found	CUILLARIBAUN	Medium/Low	549202	728775



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			hand-excavated. The existing site layout consisted of three fields under grass with stone wall boundaries. The trenches took the form of centre lines with regular offsets designed to test the potential archaeological impact of the road. No archaeological features or finds were found during test excavations and remarkably few modern finds were retrieved from the topsoil. A small number of linear features presented in the east of the site; some were bands of sand and some were modern cultivation furrows. The few finds that were recovered came from the east of the site which bore more evidence of anthropogenic activity. The area at the eastern end of Field 2 seemed to have been quarried in the past and subsequently levelled out. Substantial deposits of sand and gravel remained in this area. The area around a gate in the eastern end of the site yielded most finds, none of which were archaeological.					
CH084	Excavation	C360, E4040	Monitoring and excavation was carried out in advance of conservation works at Loro Gate, Athenry, Co. Galway between October 2013 and April 2014. The remains of Loro Gate, one of four gates in the medieval town walls, was initially uncovered during monitoring of road works in August 2007. The site lay idle until 2013 when Galway County Council in association with RPS designed a new roundabout to accommodate the preservation in situ and display of the medieval gate. Howley Hayes Architects were retained to plan and design for the conservation and	Historic Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549852	727555



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			display of the Loro Gate and Dominic Delany & Associates were appointed archaeological consultants to the project. Following consultations with all stakeholders a programme of archaeological works was agreed and the required ministerial consent obtained. The works included excavation of the pipe trench extending through the core of the medieval wall, removal of the old cast iron pipe, excavations around the perimeter of the wall to expose buried stonework and prepare the ground for the installation of an effective gravel bed to improve drainage. It was further agreed that all groundworks associated with the development would be monitored.					
CH085	Excavation	00 E0364	The proposed development is located in the town of Athenry, adjacent to the town wall. An assessment of the proposed development, undertaken in March 2000, identified a number of possible archaeological features in the area that would be directly affected by the development. These consisted of Feature A, a north-west/south-east-running bank; Feature B, a D-shaped enclosure; and Feature C, a ditch running north-south.	Enclosure - large enclosure	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549761	727728
CH086	Excavation	n/a	A small mound, about 7.5m N-S by 6.5m E-W and 1.3m in maximum height, sited on the highest part of the esker ridge running E-W directly N of Athenry was threatened by gravel quarrying. Excavation revealed that the mound consisted basically of a cairn-like core covered with earth and stones and contained within a low, rough kerb forming	Mound	BALLYDAVID SOUTH	Medium/Low	550261	728528



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			three sides of a square, open on the NE side. The earthen covering contained many broken animal bones and some oyster-shells (settlement debris?), and in it and in the cairn-like core many iron fragments (including block-headed nails), some sheet-bronze fragments and some glass fragments were found. A very small bronze (?)shoe buckle with an iron tongue was found on the old ground level under the edge of the core. In the stone core itself portion of a dot-and-circle decorated bone plaque (part of a single edged comb?) was recovered. A late medieval date at present seems most likely for this enigmatic structure.					
CH087	Excavation	11 E0210	Monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of a proposed medical centre was undertaken at Raheen, Athenry, between 11 and 21 October 2011.	no archaeology found	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	549681	728142
CH088	Excavation	E3995; C309	Limited excavation of areas around the base of the South East Tower, part of the Athenry medieval town defences, was undertaken at the request of Galway County Council. The excavation entailed three cuttings around the base of the tower (Cuttings 1–3). Excavation was limited to the overburden and sod layer down to undisturbed archaeological levels. The aim of the excavation was to recover stone that might have collapsed from the tower and town wall and to allow a stable ground level for scaffolding, which was to be erected to allow conservation works to commence on the tower itself.	Town defences	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490



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CH089	Excavation	CO00156, E2467	<p>Monitoring of broadband installation was undertaken over a period of three months from August 2006. The work involved the excavation of a trench 0.55–0.6m wide and 0.8m deep to facilitate the installation of broadband cables in the area of Athenry town. The trenches were excavated in the vicinity of the town wall, the Dominican abbey and the sites of the medieval gates of Swan/Loro Gate, Nicholas Gate, Brittin Gate and North Gate. Excavations through Old Church Street, McDonald’s Lane, Cross Street, Davis Street, Bridge Street and North Gate Street were also undertaken. Traces of 19th-century culverts were uncovered on North Gate Street and Cross Street. Manual excavations in the area of the town gates and walls revealed traces of the town wall 0.3m below the roadway in the vicinity of Loro Gate/Prospect. The wall was constructed of uncut limestone with traces of mortar throughout. The feature survived for two courses in height and measured 2.6m in width. No evidence for a moat was uncovered. The wall was covered over with a protective membrane and the broadband cables laid over the wall. Excavations throughout the remainder of the town revealed no features of archaeological significance. The stratigraphy indicated that the areas had previously been disturbed, with pipes, cables and services encountered throughout.</p>	Watercourse and Town defences	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
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CH090	Excavation	06 E0370	Testing took place in May 2006 on the lands of the Teagasc research farm, Athenry, on behalf of the Industrial Development Authority. Four known sites were located on the lands of the farm. Two of these, GA084-015 and GA084-016, were recorded as levelled subrectangular enclosures. A geophysical survey of the lands in advance of testing did not reveal any features that would suggest the presence of an enclosure. Subsequent testing of the sites by Colm Moriarity (see No. 747, Excavations 2006, 06E0107) did not find anything of archaeological significance.	Excavation - miscellaneous	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH091	Excavation	05 E1247	Pre-development testing was carried out at the request of Galway County Council on the site of a proposed new carpark on the Galway Road in Athenry between 17 and 25 November 2005. The proposed development site is a greenfield area located in the southwest part of the zone of archaeological potential established around the historic town of Athenry. The lands were formerly used as agricultural showgrounds and more recently as a football training field. The 1931 OS map names a 'Leper Compound (disused)' in the general vicinity of the development site.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH092	Excavation	01 E0462	Test excavations on the site of a reservoir in a field of pasture and outcropping rock close to the remains of a tower-house uncovered a thin layer of topsoil directly on top of the underlying limestone bedrock. Nothing of archaeological value was found.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490



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CH093	Excavation	01 E0461	Monitoring of the construction of a temporary access road in Ballydavid townland from the hilltop reservoir to the adjacent road showed that a thin covering of topsoil lay directly on the bedrock. No features of archaeological interest were uncovered.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH094	Excavation	01 E0460	Monitoring of previously opened slit-trenches and replacement of water pipes within the town revealed no area that had not been previously disturbed by earlier roadwork or pipe-laying schemes.	Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH095	Excavation	01 E0380	Monitoring of pipe-trenching between Carnmore and Ballydavid reservoirs and Athenry revealed no areas or items of archaeological interest.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH096	Excavation	01 E0027	A rescue excavation was carried out between 17 and 19 January 2001, following unapproved excavations adjacent to St Mary's Church and graveyard, Athenry, Co. Galway, in response to recommendations made by Dúchas. The excavation was required because of the proximity of the site to the medieval church and graveyard and its location within the medieval town of Athenry.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH097	Excavation	99 E0034	As this development lay in the zone of archaeological potential, pre-development testing in the form of trial-trenches was recommended. The mechanical excavation of six trenches revealed no evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance. The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1m. In the northern end of	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490



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			the site the stratigraphy consisted of a layer of orange boulder clay, 2m deep, overlying a grey, sandy gravel layer. In the southern end the garden soil was found to overlie the grey, sandy gravel layer. The layers present consisted of made-up ground or natural.					
CH098	Excavation	98 E0599	This work was undertaken on 15 December 1998. The proposed development involves the construction of a number of commercial and residential blocks, with carparking facilities. The proposed site, currently being used as a carpark, lies within the medieval town of Athenry, to the west of North Gate Street opposite St Mary's Collegiate church, and is bordered on its north and north-west by the medieval town wall. The North Tower, in ruins, stands in the north-west corner of the site. Testing involved the mechanical excavation of three trenches.	Excavation - miscellaneous	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH099	Excavation	98 E0432	Test-excavation was undertaken in advance of planning, from 28 September to 8 October 1998. The site lies immediately south of the modern town and comprises c. 8.5 acres of unenclosed pastureland. The ruins of the imposing early 19th-century Athenry House and its associated coach-house and outbuildings lie towards the north-west end of the site. The site is within the bounds of the Anglo-Norman town, which was founded by Meiler de Bermingham in around 1235. A 75m stretch of the medieval town wall forms the south boundary of the site, and the site of the Spittle Gate, a postern into the medieval town, lies in the southern corner of the site. It	Excavation - miscellaneous	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490



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			has been suggested that the gate probably gets its name from a hospital that must have stood in this area, away from the inhabited part of the town. There is no evidence to suggest that this part of the town was settled in the medieval period.					
CH100	Excavation	97 E0180	Archaeological pre-development testing was carried out in advance of a proposed housing scheme in Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. Four test-trenches were excavated.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	549998	728490
CH101	Excavation	02 E1573	Pre-development testing took place before the construction of two dwelling-houses and associated services at Abbeyrow, Athenry, on a site occupied by a 19th-century national school. Monitoring of the demolition of the school building revealed no features of archaeological significance. Five trenches were mechanically excavated. The stratigraphy consisted of demolition rubble overlying a natural gravel layer that extended for a depth of 0.8–1m, suggesting that the schoolhouse had been built directly on a natural gravel deposit. No artefacts or features of archaeological significance were encountered.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550346	727778
CH102	Excavation	96 E0226	This narrow, elongated site within the city of Galway, excavated between January and April 1997, yielded evidence for domestic floors comprising a series of redeposited boulder clays associated exclusively with Saintonge ware. These clays contrasted sharply with a series of contemporaneous heavy dark silty clays forming the bulk of the deposits in the backyard. The two sets of	Excavation - miscellaneous	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	530006	725600



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			deposits were demarcated by a modern limestone wall which cut into the clays and rested upon bedrock. It would appear, therefore, that the modern wall cut into the trench of a previous structure and obliterated whatever remains existed of an earlier medieval structure. In any case, the redeposited boulder clays yielded hearths, postholes, ash and charcoal lenses. The silty clays outside yielded contemporaneous pottery and numerous fragments of butchered animal bone. There was considerable disturbance in the upper deposits, accounting, no doubt, for the almost complete absence of post-medieval clays. A limited extent of dry walling was recovered in the extreme south-west corner, however, and this may have post-medieval origins.					
CH103	Excavation	E0 0426	Monitoring and excavation were carried out from September 2011 to January 2012 in Athenry, Co. Galway. The archaeological works were carried out on behalf of Coffey's Construction Ltd, in advance of laying ungraded water pipes and ESB ducts. The works are an extension of the Tuam Water Supply Scheme to Athenry. Pre-development excavation was undertaken along North Gate Street, Burke's Lane, Market Square, Cross Street, Bridge Street and Abbey Row.	Historic Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550182	727739
CH104	Excavation	C604	Conservation works on the medieval parish church of St Mary's in Athenry were monitored between December 2014 and March 2015. The works were concentrated on the nave and north transept of the medieval	Church	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550263	727961



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			church, parts of which were in urgent need of stabilisation and consolidation.					
CH105	Excavation	C000808; E004855	Monitoring of groundworks associated with the installation of a new external stairs was carried out under Ministerial Consent at Athenry Castle, a National Monument. Three trenches were manually excavated to the east of the castle, with two of the trenches facilitating the erection of the new stairs and the third trench accommodating access to the stairs. Excavation in all trenches achieved a depth of 0.3m and a highly mixed topsoil only was revealed. No features of archaeological significance were discovered.	Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550383	728020
CH106	Excavation	E0 04395	Monitoring and excavation at the site of a new parish centre were undertaken over a period of eight weeks from 15 September 2011. The site is located on the grounds of the existing Roman Catholic Church (built in 1968) and adjacent to the site of the medieval town wall and moat (GA084-100). In the course of monitoring, some thirteen burials, associated with the 19th-century church that once occupied the site, were recorded and excavated. In addition, a partially collapsed vaulted burial chamber, containing at least three bodies, was uncovered. This chamber was built on the site of a limekiln, a portion of which survived to the south. It was possible to preserve the burial chamber in situ. Elsewhere on site, numerous large pits were uncovered and appear to have functioned as extraction pits associated with the construction of the 19th- and 20th-century	Graveyard	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550071	727783



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			churches at the site. The pits were excavated to extract sand and backfilled with loose stone and rubble. Throughout the site a number of medieval pits were also uncovered, two of which produced fragments of 13th-century pottery and attest to medieval activity immediately outside the town walls.					
CH107	Excavation	06 E0177 ext.	Plans for a parish centre in the vicinity of the medieval town defences have been ongoing for a number of years. Testing was initially undertaken in 2006 when a small area was tested revealing a number of pit features (Excavations 2006, No. 742, 06E0177). In 2009 three trenches were excavated in the area of a proposed centre (Excavations 2009, No. 382, 06E0177 ext.). The testing uncovered the remains of six human burials and the moat of the town defences. Following submission of the archaeological report and correspondence from the National Monuments Division, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government it was decided to move the proposed development further away from the town defences. Plans for a new development were provisionally drawn up and this report deals with the testing associated with these plans. All of this work was undertaken in advance of a planning submission.	Town defences	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550071	727783
CH108	Excavation	06 E0177 ext.	The proposed development concerns the construction of a parish centre adjacent to the existing Catholic church in Athenry, Co. Galway. The site of the original town wall and moat was thought to survive to the immediate south-east of the development. Following	Town defences and burial	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550071	727783



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			consultation with the National Monuments Division, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, it was decided to test the area in advance of submitting a planning application. Testing was undertaken over a period of three days in September 2009. In the course of testing three trenches were excavated through the site of the proposed development. The trenches were excavated through an existing carpark and adjacent green space using a mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket.					
CH109	Excavation	07 E0482	A proposed commercial development at Church Street, Athenry, required pre-development testing as a condition of planning permission. The development site is within the medieval town of Athenry and involved the demolition of an existing structure and construction of a new building. A single trench was excavated as part of the testing. The stratigraphy consisted of fill overlying bedrock, with 20th-century bottle and ceramic fragments recovered from the mixed fill. The recording of bedrock level at such a height within the town is interesting, as previous archaeological work in the vicinity did not reveal such a level.	Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550071	727783
CH110	Excavation	06 E0177	Following consultation with National Monuments, it was recommended that testing should be undertaken in the area of a proposed pastoral centre south of the existing Roman Catholic church at Church Street Athenry. The proposed development would be located in the vicinity of the medieval town	Town defences	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550071	727783



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			wall. Two trenches were excavated in the area of the development. The testing revealed archaeological features in the form of small pits at a depth of 0.9m. It was recommended that archaeological excavations be undertaken if the development was to proceed at this site.					
CH111	Excavation	E2900; C182	A programme of pre-development test-pitting was carried out on a proposed development site at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway, on 10 and 11 April 2007. Nineteen test-pits, each measuring c. 2m ² , were plotted on a 40m grid system and excavated using a tracked excavator fitted with a wide grading bucket. A total of fifteen features were uncovered. These comprised eight linear cuts, two subcircular features, three fire spots, a cobbled surface and a wall footing. The testing confirmed the findings of previous and more extensive programmes of testing at the site. There is much evidence of previous ground disturbance across the site, with a considerable depth of overburden present in some parts of the site and frequent cuts into the underlying subsoil. Much of the ground disturbance is considered to be associated with the development of Athenry House, but the site is known to retain considerable archaeological potential.	Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780
CH112	Excavation	06 E0021	Two phases of pre-development testing were carried out on a proposed mixed-use development site at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway, in January and November 2006. The site is located in the heart of the medieval	Town	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780



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			town and consisted of an open courtyard area surrounded by dilapidated galvanised sheds with lofts above, and a dwelling house with a long garden plot to the rear.					
CH113	Excavation	02 E1758	Pre-development testing was undertaken at Cross Street, Athenry, which is within the medieval walls of the town. Two trenches were mechanically excavated, both oriented east-west, 13.5m long and 1m wide. Trench A was excavated to a depth of 0.8-0.9m, and Trench B to a maximum depth of 1m. The removal of the demolition debris revealed a stony rubble layer in both trenches. Occasional fragments of red brick and pottery were recovered from this layer, all of which were of late 20th-century date. Underlying this was a dark brown, silty clay layer with an average depth of 0.3m. There was no evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780
CH114	Excavation	01 E0096	The development was situated on Cross Street, Athenry, and concerned the renovation of and an extension to a public house. The location of the development in a zone of archaeological potential necessitated pre-development testing. Three trenches were mechanically excavated. The stratigraphy revealed did not indicate any evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance. The layers present were comprised of a concrete surface and gravel layer, a stony rubble layer, a blackish brown silty layer and the natural bedrock. Finds included occasional modern	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780



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			glass, red brick and fragments of 20th-century pottery. The proposed extension on the site will involve the removal of soil for a depth of 0.45–0.5m. This work would not appear to affect any archaeological layers.					
CH115	Excavation	99 E0070	The proposed development concerned the erection of two stores and the extension to the rear of the present building. The development is within the zone of archaeological potential of Athenry, and therefore pre-development testing was required.	Excavation - miscellaneous	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780
CH116	Excavation	98 E0553	Pre-development testing in the form of trial trenches took place to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological features or deposits at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway. Three trenches were mechanically excavated, with nothing of archaeological significance uncovered.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550203	727780
CH117	Excavation	01 E0847	Pre-development testing was undertaken in compliance with a condition of planning permission. It was concerned with the demolition of an extension to the rear of a dwelling-house and the construction of a single-storey extension to the rear of same.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550303	727808
CH118	Excavation	97 E0150	Archaeological test excavation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development at Barrack Lane, Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. The site, measuring approximately 35m ² , is situated at the east end of Barrack Lane and lies directly across the road from the ruins of the medieval Dominican friary. Though an Anglo-Norman foundation, the friary owed much to native	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550303	727808



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			Irish patronage, with the O'Connors, O'Heynes and O'Kellys all contributing to its early development. The monastery was extensively damaged by fire in 1423, necessitating large-scale rebuilding. In 1574 it was dissolved and granted to the town, and in 1627 the friary was granted to Galway merchants, who allowed the friars to return and restored all the buildings. The Cromwellians expelled the friars in 1652 and the friary was a ruin by the end of the century. The conventual buildings were demolished about 1750 to make way for a military barracks.					
CH119	Excavation	97 E0150	Archaeological test excavation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development at Barrack Lane, Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. The site, measuring approximately 35m ² , is situated at the east end of Barrack Lane and lies directly across the road from the ruins of the medieval Dominican friary. Though an Anglo-Norman foundation, the friary owed much to native Irish patronage, with the O'Connors, O'Heynes and O'Kellys all contributing to its early development. The monastery was extensively damaged by fire in 1423, necessitating large-scale rebuilding. In 1574 it was dissolved and granted to the town, and in 1627 the friary was granted to Galway merchants, who allowed the friars to return and restored all the buildings. The Cromwellians expelled the friars in 1652 and the friary was a ruin by the end of the century.	no archaeology found	ATHENRY	Medium/Low	550303	727808



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			The conventual buildings were demolished about 1750 to make way for a military barracks.					
CH120	UCH	UCH01	Lodge seen on 25-inch OS map and the Cassini 6-inch OS Map. It comprises a rectangular structure, with a smaller builder adjoining to the north-west. It is associated with Raheen House (Reg No. 30332002) to the north.	Lodge	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	549471	727824
CH121	NIAH	30332001	Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1920, having gable-fronted projecting bay to front elevation having two-storey box-bay to its front, flat-roofed entrance porch, box-bay window to west elevation, single-bay two-storey block with flat roof to rear elevation, and recent single- and two-storey extensions to rear elevation. Pitched slate roofs having decorative terracotta ridge crestings with finials, rendered chimneystacks, and cast-iron rainwater goods. Roughcast rendered walls having smooth rendered plinth. Square-headed window openings having painted stone sills with replacement uPVC windows. Square-headed door opening to east side of porch having replacement uPVC door.	House	CUILLARIBAUN	High	549597	728518
CH122	NIAH	30332002	Detached five-bay two-storey U-plan house, built c.1880, having asymmetrical front (south) elevation having full-height projecting end bays, that to west fronted by canted bay with windows and projection to east having canted plan. Flat-roofed entrance porch to corner between west projection and façade proper. Three-bay return elevation to east and two-bay to west. Two-storey single-	house	RAHEEN (ATHENRY BY)	High	549335	728296



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			<p>bay extension with pitched slate roof to rear elevation of west return. Hipped slate roofs having slate ridge tiles, rendered chimneystacks with painted pots, and moulded render cornice to porch and to ground floor of canted bay. Painted lined-and-ruled rendered walls with cut limestone plinth, and having recessed panel details to ground floor canted-bay window and porch. Square-headed window openings having cut limestone sills. Two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows to east elevation and first floor of west elevation, replacement uPVC windows to front elevation and other openings to west elevation, and replacement timber windows to rear elevation. Square-headed door opening to porch with replacement timber double-leaf door and overlight. Six-bay single-storey coursed limestone and red brick outbuilding to north elevation of west wing, having pitched slate roof. Cast-iron gates supported by square-profile ashlar piers. Lawns to front. Rubble boundary walls with stile.</p>					
CH123	NIAH	30332003	<p>Detached three-bay two-storey former rectory, built c.1880, facing south-east and having canted projecting bay to end of façade, projecting shallow porch to middle bay, and four-bay south-west elevation with canted bay window to front end. Flat-roofed addition to re-entrant corner of rear. Now in use as private house. Hipped tiled roof with cast-iron rainwater goods and red brick chimneystacks, two being centrally located to</p>	house	CULLAIRBAUN	High	549783	728382



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			<p>front block. Hipped tiled roof to canted bay window and flat balustraded roof to canted bay, latter having brick cornice. Coursed rubble limestone walls with cut-stone quoins plinth, canted bay and bay window having red brick walls. Square-headed window openings with red brick surrounds, one-over-one pane timber sliding sash windows and limestone sills. Porch has decorative cast-iron balcony, timber panelled door with glazed sidelights and overlights and square-headed one-over-one pane timber sliding sash window to south-west side of porch, and with limestone step to front. Yard to rear of house bounded by coursed rubble limestone walls and having square-headed pedestrian entrance, and vehicular gateway comprising dressed limestone piers with caps and double-leaf timber gate. Nine-bay single-storey outbuilding to north-west side of yard having two three-bay parts to north-east end. Pitched slate roof, red brick chimneystack, red brick walls, square-headed windows and doorways with fixed timber windows, limestone sills and timber battened doors, and segmental carriage arch with double-leaf timber battened door. Gateway to road comprises coursed rock-faced limestone piers with caps and ball finials supporting double-leaf wrought-iron gate and flanked by low similar walls with vertical coping stones and terminated by low piers with caps and ball finials.</p>					
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CH124	NIAH	30332004	Detached three-bay two-storey L-plan house, built c.1880, having gable-fronted projecting bay to west end of front elevation with canted-bay windows, and gabled entrance porch. Pitched slate roof with smooth rendered chimneystacks, cast-iron rainwater goods, and rendered crenellations to canted bay. Painted lined-and-ruled rendered walls having continuous sill course to first floor. Segmental-headed window openings to first floor, square-headed openings to ground floor, with one-over-one pane timber sliding sash windows. Square-headed timber panelled door. Wrought-iron gates and rendered piers to front boundary set into rubble limestone walls.	house	ATHENRY	High	550102	728337
CH125	NIAH	30332008	Detached two-storey limestone former railway hotel, built c.1870, having half-basement to east, side, elevation. Now in use as offices. Four-bay front, south, elevation has projecting gable-fronted west bay with open-bed pediment and timber lean-to verandah with elliptical arcading. Five-bay east elevation has slightly advanced gable-fronted end bays with open-bed pediments. Three-bay west elevation, and recent two-storey extension recessed to rear. Pitched slate roof with ashlar chimneystacks, cast-iron rainwater goods, decorative paired stone brackets to eaves course, and block modillions to gables. Chased snecked limestone walls with chamfered quoins, string course between basement and ground floor in east elevation. Lean-to sprocketed	office	CULLAIRBAUN	High	550093	728251



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			slate roof to verandah, eaves supported by decorative paired timber brackets atop square-profile chamfered posts having carved brackets and cut limestone plinths, and having moulded limestone steps, and flagstones. Pseudo-four-centred window openings having raised carved and tooled limestone surrounds with dropped keystones, and stone sills, some of latter having brackets, and with timber sliding sash windows, tripartite to ground floor of gable-fronted bays with one-over-one pane windows and elevation, and two-over-two pane elsewhere. Pseudo-four-centred doorways to end bays of front elevation proper, having half-glazed double-leaf timber panelled doors. Flight of limestone steps to front of site. Double-leaf wrought-iron pedestrian gate flanked by snecked limestone piers, snecked limestone plinth walls with tooled limestone coping, having wrought-iron railings to boundary.					
CH126	NIAH/R PS	30332009/RPS- GA-137	Detached seven-bay single-storey former railway station, built 1851, having two-bay side elevations. Entrance façade has flat-roofed blank end bays, and second bay from each end is slightly advanced and pedimented. Platform elevation has recessed middle bays with colonnaded canopy to front, flanked by projecting pedimented gabled-fronted bays and in turn by flat-roofed end bays. Now in use as computer training centre. Pitched slate roof with rendered chimneystacks having bracketed cornices,	building misc	CULLAIRBAUN	Very High	550100	728198



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			cast-iron rainwater goods, cut limestone coping stones to gables and pediments with modillions. Some terracotta to pediment to front elevation. Yellow brick walls having tooled limestone quoins and plinth to five middle bays. Square-headed window openings to platform elevation with replacement timber windows and one six-over-six pane timber sliding sash window. Segmental-headed openings to front elevation with raised cut limestone arches and keystones, and replacement timber windows. Round-headed door opening to front elevation having cut limestone surround and replacement timber door. Square-headed door openings to platform elevation having decorative limestone surrounds and glazed timber panelled double-leaf door. Canopy to platform elevation supported by ornamental cast-iron brackets and cast-iron columns.					
CH127	NIAH	30332010	Freestanding single-span cast-iron foot bridge over railway track, erected 1851, with staircases to west elevation. Depressed-arch span supported on round-plan cast-iron columns, four to each platform, with fluted and banded bases and decorative capitals. Latticed parapets to walking surface and staircases, base of latter terminated by decorative fluted and banded cast-iron colonettes.	foot bridge	CULLAIRBAUN	High	550122	728205
CH128	NIAH	30332011	Single-arch limestone railway bridge, built 1851, carrying road over Galway-Dublin railway line. Rock-faced rusticated walls and	bridge	CULLAIRBAUN	High	550157	728238



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			piers, voussoirs and string course, with buttresses flanking elliptical arch, latter having ashlar soffit. Cut-stone string courses and copings to parapet walls.					
CH129	NIAH	30332012	Detached eight-bay single-storey waiting room, built 1851, with full-width canopy to platform (north) elevation, supported on cast-iron columns. Shallow pitched roof, covering not visible, supported by decorative cast-iron brackets supported cast-iron roof beams, and having carved timber bargeboards. Red brick walls with blind red brick window recesses having moulded brick surrounds. Segmental-headed openings with half-glazed timber panelled doors, and replacement timber window. Timber newspaper kiosk to one bay, erected c.1920.	building misc	CULLAIRBAUN	High	550103	728178
CH130	NIAH/RPS	30332013/RPS-GA-135	Detached ten-bay single-storey goods shed, c.1850, with three-bay end elevations. Now derelict and roofless. Coursed rubble limestone walls having tooled capping to long sides. Segmental-headed window openings to long sides having tooled limestone surrounds and sills, and metal multi-paned windows. Round carriage arch entrances to gable ends having tooled stone surrounds, one having metal door. Square-headed door openings to east gable, having metal doors. Remains of windows to middle of gable ends at loft level.		CULLAIRBAUN	Very High	Very High	728092
CH131	NIAH	30332014	Detached two-storey signal box, built c.1900, having three-bay long and single-bay short sides. Hipped slate roof with terracotta ridge tiles, rendered chimneystack, and cast-iron rainwater goods. Squared coursed limestone block walls to ground floor with smooth render and glazed timber sides to first floor. Square-headed window openings to ground	signal box	CULLAIRBAUN	High	549989	728070



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			floor of north elevation having stone sills and timber nine-pane fixed windows. Square-headed replacement timber windows to first floor of trackside and end elevations. Square-headed timber battened door to ground floor of west gable.					
CH132	NIAH/RPS	30332015/RPS-GA-134	Detached single-storey cruciform-plan railway crossing keeper's house, built 1851, having canted-bay to rear and canted-bays to front re-entrant corners, that to south having entrance. Hipped slate roof with clay ridge tiles, and having snecked limestone cruciform-plan chimneystack to centre of roof with terracotta pots, cut limestone eaves course, and cast-iron rainwater goods with some decorative detailing. Snecked limestone walls set on tooled limestone plinth. Round-headed window openings, paired to end elevations and having raised tooled limestone surrounds with knees, keystones, imposts, sills with brackets, and replacement timber windows. Round-headed door opening with raised decorative tooled limestone surround with scroll keystone, knees and timber battened door. Round-headed window openings to other canted walls having similarly detailed surrounds and replacement timber windows. House has later signal cabin abutting rear wall.	worker's house	CULLAIRBAUN	Very High	549994	728066
CH133	NIAH/RPS	30332016/RPS-GA-136	Detached three-bay two-storey L-plan station master's house, built 1851, having projecting gabled bay to front (north) elevation, flat-roofed entrance porch to re-entrant corner, and single-storey extension to west elevation.	station master's house	CULLAIRBAUN	Very High	550067	728120



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			Pitched slate roofs with clay ridge tiles, red brick chimneystacks and cast-iron rainwater goods. Concrete parapet to porch. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls. Square-headed window openings having red brick block-and-start surrounds with replacement timber windows, and stone sills. Similarly detailed door opening with glazed timber panelled door and oversight.					
CH134	NIAH/RPS	30332017/RPS-GA-140	Freestanding limestone former Church of Ireland Church, dated 1828, with three-bay nave elevation, gabled apse flanked by gabled chapels to east end, three-stage square-plan tower to west end with shallow gabled projections to north, south and west sides, with roofless remains of thirteenth-century church projecting from same sides. Now in use as heritage centre. Pitched slate roofs with slate ridge tiles and stone copings, and cast-iron rainwater goods. Octagonal-plan cut-stone chimneystack over nave east gable. Crenellations to top stage and octagonal spire to tower. Snecked walls having tooled quoins and string courses. Pilasters to corners of top stage of tower. Lancet window openings to nave, double-light to middle bay of side walls and triple-light to east gable, having chamfered surrounds, hood-mouldings with carved stops and replacement timber windows. Pointed windows to chapels with chamfered surrounds and with moulded string course below and parallel to gable copings. Double lancet windows to top stage of tower, with chamfered surrounds, hood-	heritage centre/interpretative centre	ATHENRY	Very High	550279	727963



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			mouldings and timber louvers. Pointed arch door opening to tower having tooled surround with timber panelled double-leaf door and stone threshold. Interior of church redesigned in 1999 to incorporate Heritage Centre. Marble memorial plaques located inside front entrance. Medieval ruins comprising rubble limestone walls with pointed-arch window openings having hood-mouldings and Y-tracery with triangular and diamond lights. Remnants of segmental-headed window opening to chancel north gable, segmental-arch door opening to south side of nave with tooled surround. Church set within graveyard north of Market Square and enclosed by rubble boundary walls.					
CH135	NIAH	30332018	Terraced two-bay two-storey house, built c.1890. Pitched slate roof with cement rendered chimneystack, slate ridge tiles and cast-iron rainwater goods. Decorative red brick corbelling to red brick and cut limestone eaves course. Snecked limestone walls with tooled limestone quoins, red brick relieving arch above ground floor window. Square-headed window openings with block-and-start red brick surrounds, replacement timber door with overlight, and replacement uPVC windows with stone sills.	house	ATHENRY	High	550223	727918
CH136	NIAH	30332019	Corner-sited terraced two-storey house, built c.1890, having three-bay elevations to two streets, and having renewed shopfront to south elevation. Hipped slate roof with cement rendered chimneystacks, slate ridge tiles and cast-iron rainwater goods.	house	ATHENRY	High	550228	727911



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			Decorative red brick corbelling below eaves. Sneaked limestone walls with tooled limestone quoins. Square-headed window openings with block-and-start red brick surrounds, stone sills and replacement uPVC windows. Square-headed door opening to east elevation with similar detailing and replacement timber door. Square-headed door opening to south elevation with tooled limestone lintel and block-and-start jambs and replacement timber door. Three segmental red brick relieving arches above recent timber shopfront.					
CH137	NIAH	30332021	End-of-terrace two-storey bank, built c.1870, having three-bay front elevation and multiple-bay side (south) elevation. Hipped slate roof with ridge tiles, rendered chimneystacks and overhanging eaves course with paired brackets. Granite ashlar walls to ground floor, roughcast rendered walls to first floor and rear bays of side elevation, with granite quoins, latter channelled and rusticated to ground floor. Replacement uPVC fasciaboards, and carved limestone cornice. Square-headed window openings, some paired and one tripled, having chamfered granite block-and-start surrounds to first floor, stone transoms and mullions to ground floor, with replacement uPVC windows throughout. Square-headed door opening to front elevation having ashlar surround and replacement timber door with overlight. Cut and carved granite piers with plinths flanking pedestrian entrance, and	bank/financial institution	ATHENRY	High	550264	727906



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			cast-iron railings on tooled cut-stone plinth to front boundary.					
CH138	NIAH	30332022	Terraced two-storey house, built c.1850, having two-bay first and three-bay ground floor, latter with shopfront. Now in use as solicitor's office. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles and rendered chimneystack. Smooth painted rendered walls to ground floor and painted lined-and-ruled render and vermiculated render quoins to first floor. Square-headed window openings to first floor having painted stone sills and moulder render surrounds and one-over-one pane timber sliding sash windows with ogee horns. Shopfront comprising vertically divided fixed timber display windows with cast-iron sill-guards, and recent square-headed timber door, whole flanked by fluted render pilasters with plinths and supporting entablature with fascia, moulded cornice and fluted consoles.	office	ATHENRY	High	550198	727886
CH139	NIAH	30332024	Corner-sited three-bay two-storey house, built c.1860, having single-storey extension to rear. Now in use as public house. Pitched slate roof with slate ridge tiles, rendered chimneystacks and cut limestone eaves course with moulded red brick corbels. Rooflight to rear slope. Lean-to slate roof to extension. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls to first floor with tooled squared quoins, moulded red brick string course, stone and brick façade only occupying half of gable. Snecked squared rubble to ground floor, with cement or stone scroll brackets to former shopfronts. Lined-and-ruled	public house	ATHENRY	High	550220	727834



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			rendered walls to remainder of gable, smooth rendered walls to rear elevation. Camber-arch window openings to first floor, some with cut-stone sills and having chamfered red brick block-and-start surrounds with replacement timber windows. Replacement uPVC windows to rear. Square-headed door opening to front elevation having red brick block-and-start surround and timber battened vertically divided door with limestone threshold.					
CH140	NIAH	30332025	Detached two-bay two-storey house, built c.1915, having gabled bays to front, west, elevation and to slightly advanced south elevation. Pitched slate roof with slate ridge tiles, rendered chimneystacks, cast-iron rainwater goods and carved timber bargeboards. Smooth rendered walls having raised render quoins and plinth. Square-headed window openings having decorative block-and-start render surrounds and stone sills with replacement uPVC windows. Square-headed door opening having decorative render doorcase comprising pilasters with raised detailing, moulded bases and decorative consoles supporting moulded cornice, and having recessed replacement timber door. Wrought-iron pedestrian gate flanked by cut-stone piers and approached by dressed limestone steps with rendered parapet walls. Rendered boundary plinth wall with decorative cast-metal railings.	house	ATHENRY	High	550339	727821
CH141	NIAH	30332026	End-of-terrace two-bay two-storey house, dated 1902, part of composition that includes	house	ATHENRY	High	550190	727782



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			five other buildings. Hipped slate roof with cement rendered chimneystack, clay ridge tiles and cast-iron rainwater goods. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls with cut-stone quoins, rusticated plinth and cut-stone eaves course. Square-headed window openings with stone sills, lintels and block-and-start jambs having two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows with ogee horns. Square-headed door opening with cut-stone lintel and block-and-start jambs, having timber panelled door with overlight. House fronts directly onto McDonald's Lane.					
CH142	NIAH	30332027	Corner sited-end-of-terrace two-storey house, dated 1902, having chamfered corner, single-bay to first floor of front and two-bay ground floor to front elevation. Formerly blank façade to side elevation, having recent window to ground floor. Hipped slate roof with red brick chimneystack, clay ridge tiles, cast-iron rainwater goods and cut limestone eaves course. Curvilinear parapet to corner having moulded cornice and terracotta ball finial, with carved stone plaque beneath bearing raised lettering 'A.D. 1902'. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls having cut-stone quoins and rusticated plinth. Square-headed openings with cut-stone sills, lintels and block-and-start jambs, replacement uPVC windows with tooled stone sills, and replacement uPVC door with overlight. House fronts onto Cross Street and McDonald's Lane.	house	ATHENRY	High	550195	727779



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CH143	NIAH	30332028	Terraced two-bay two-storey house, built 1902. Pitched slate roof with cement rendered chimneystack, clay ridge tiles and cast-iron rainwater goods and cut limestone eaves course. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls and rusticated plinth. Square-headed openings with cut-stone sills, lintels and block-and-start jambs, replacement uPVC windows having stone sills, and replacement uPVC door. House fronts directly onto Cross Street.	house	ATHENRY	High	550193	727773
CH144	NIAH	30332029	Terraced two-bay two-storey house, built 1902. Pitched slate roof with cement rendered chimneystack, clay ridge tiles and cast-iron rainwater goods and cut limestone eaves course. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls and rusticated plinth. Square-headed openings with cut-stone sills, lintels and block-and-start jambs, replacement uPVC windows having stone sills, and replacement timber door. House fronting directly onto Cross Street.	house	ATHENRY	High	550191	727769
CH145	NIAH	30332031	Terraced two-bay two-storey house, built 1902. Pitched slate roof with cement rendered chimneystack, clay ridge tiles, cast-iron rainwater goods and cut limestone eaves course. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls and rusticated plinth. Square-headed openings with cut-stone sills, lintels and block-and-start jambs, replacement uPVC windows with stone sills, and replacement uPVC door. House fronts directly onto Cross Street.	house	ATHENRY	High	550189	727763



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CH146	NIAH	30332032	End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, built 1902. Pitched slate roof with cement rendered chimneystacks, clay ridge tiles, cast-iron rainwater goods and cut limestone eaves course. Rock-faced snecked limestone walls with tooled quoins and rusticated plinth. Square-headed openings with cut-stone lintels and block-and-start jambs, and replacement uPVC windows with stone sills, and having replacement timber panelled door with overlight. House fronts onto Cross Street.	house	ATHENRY	High	550187	727756
CH147	NIAH	30332033	Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1930, having flat-roofed canted-bay windows to end bays of front (south) elevation, and recent two-storey extension to rear. Hipped reslated roof with cement rendered chimneystacks and slate ridge tiles. Moulded render cornices to bay windows. Lined-and-ruled rendered walls to ground floor and roughcast render to first floor, and with raised smooth render quoins, moulded string course, and plinth. Segmental-headed window openings having moulded render surrounds and stone sills to front elevation, square-headed window openings to other elevations, all with one-over-one pane timber sliding sash windows. Camber-arch door opening with decorative render surround comprising fluted pilasters with plinths and capitals and supporting elliptical open-bed pediment, with replacement timber door having stained-glass overlights and sidelights. Stone steps to entrance having	house	ATHENRY	High	549916	727641



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			wrought-iron railings. Wrought-iron pedestrian gate with rendered piers to rendered boundary wall.					
CH148	NIAH	30332034	Humpback single-arch rusticated limestone railway bridge, built 1868, carrying road over Ennis to Athenry railway line. Round arch with rock-faced voussoirs, walls, piers and coping to parapet walls and to flanking buttresses in both elevations. Ashlar soffit.	bridge	ATHENRY	High	549649	727603
CH149	NIAH/RPS	30332035/RPS-GA-144	Detached five-bay two-storey house, built c.1800, with full-height canted central entrance bay to front. Rear has lower two-storey return of c.1850, and recent single-storey extension. Pitched slate roof with slate ridge tiles, rendered chimneystacks with terracotta pots, and with hipped slate roof to entrance bay. Chimneystack to south-east gable projects. Roughcast rendered walls throughout. Square-headed window openings having one-over-one pane timber sliding sash windows and stone sills. Round-headed door opening having carved limestone surround with triple keystone, timber panelled door and cobweb fanlight. House set within its own grounds. Partly rendered rubble stone boundary wall.	house	ATHENRY	Very High	549795	727592
CH150	NIAH	30332036	Detached three-bay two-storey L-plan house, built c.1930, having projecting gable-fronted east end bay, and with canted-bay windows to end bays, lean-to garage to east elevation, and single-bay single-storey extension to rear. Hipped slate roof with red brick chimneystacks and clay ridge tiles, and render eaves course. Smooth rendered walls	house	ATHENRY	High	549780	727541



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			to ground floor with smooth rendered plinth, and pebbledashed to first floor having smooth rendered quoins and decorative panel, lugs, and floating cornice to gable-front. Moulded render string course between floors and doubling as sill course to first floor. Segmental-headed window openings, paired and with moulded render surrounds to first floor end bays, with render sills to ground floor, and replacement uPVC windows throughout. Segmental-headed door opening with moulded render surround and half-glazed timber panelled door with overlight recessed in lobby. Square-headed window openings to rear having concrete sills. Square-profile red brick piers to roughcast rendered front boundary wall with render capitals and plinths, set in roughcast rendered walls, flanked by second pair of piers.					
CH160	NIAH	30332037	Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1930, with projecting gable-fronted east end bay and having canted bay windows to end bays, garage to east elevation, and recent conservatory extension to rear. Hipped slate roof with red brick chimneystacks and clay ridge tiles, and render eaves course. Smooth rendered walls with smooth rendered plinth to ground floor, and pebbledashed to first floor with smooth rendered quoins, decorative panel, lugs, and floating cornice to gable-front. Moulded render string course between floors and doubling as sill course to first floor windows. Segmental-headed window openings, paired and with moulded	house	ATHENRY	High	549794	727532



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			render surrounds to first floor, all having replacement uPVC windows. Segmental-headed opening with moulded render surround, and having recessed replacement uPVC door, with glazed timber panelled inner door. Square-headed window openings to rear having concrete sills. Decorative wrought-iron gates to front boundary flanked by square-profile red brick piers with render capitals and plinths, set into roughcast rendered walls, in turn flanked by second pair of piers.					
CH161	NIAH/RPS	30332038/RPS-GA-131	Detached five-bay two-storey country house, built c.1780, facing east and having shallow pedimented breakfront, and flanked by slightly recessed and slightly lower single-bay two-storey wings of c.1820. Rear elevation has three bays to main block, and projecting pedimented middle bay. Pitched slate roof with rendered end chimneystacks, and limestone eaves course and pediment with roundel. Hipped slate roofs to wings. Rendered walls. Square-headed windows, currently boarded up but one tripartite timber sliding sash window visible, with limestone sills. Round-headed window to first floor of rear pedimented bay, and fenestration to wings is irregular. Round-headed doorway with block-and-start surround and triple keystone, and flanked by sidelights, openings currently boarded up. Single-storey outbuilding to west having pitched roof lacking covering, rubble limestone walls and	country house	ATHENRY	Very High	550164	727559



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			square-headed door and window openings and one elliptical carriage arch.					
CH162	ACA		Athenry Architectural Conservation Area	ACA	ATHENRY	Very High	550075	727677
CH163	UCH	UCH02	Unfenced trackway depicted on the 25-inch OS map and the Cassini 6-inch OS map. Both maps show it to the east of the lodge, and curving north-west to Raheen Park.	Trackway	Raheen (Athenry By)	Medium/Low	549496	727850
CH164	Townland Boundary	TB01	Townland boundary between Raheen and Ballygarraun South depicted as centre of road on the 6-inch and 25-inch OS map	Raheen/Ballygarraun South	Raheen/Ballygarraun South	Medium/High	549412	727869

Note: The abbreviations that have been used for the 'Category' section are as follows:

- RMP: Recorded archaeological monument
- NIAH: National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
- PS: Protected Structure
- TB: Townland Boundary

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APPENDIX 2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

EIA Legislation

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC requires that certain developments be assessed for likely environmental effects before planning permission can be granted. The EIA Amendment Regulations, SI 93 OF 1999 specifies in Section 2(b) of the Second Schedule, *'Information to be contained in an Environmental Impact Statement'*, that among other factors, information is to be provided on:

'Material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, and the cultural heritage'

Each of these assets is addressed within this assessment report.

Cultural Heritage Legislation

Archaeological Monuments/Sites

Archaeological heritage is protected primarily under the edited. Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act defines the word 'monument' as including:

'any artificial or partly artificial building, structure, or erection whether above or below the surface of the ground and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground and any cave, stone, or other natural product whether forming part of or attached to or not attached to the ground which has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the ground) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position and any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, but does not include any building which is for the time being habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes'.

Under the 1994 Act, provision was made for a Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). The RMP is a revised set of SMR (Sites and Monuments Record) maps, on which newly-discovered sites have been added and locations which proved not to be of antiquity have been de-listed by the National Monuments Service.

In effect, the National Monuments Act 1930–2014, as amended provide a statutory basis for:

- Protection of sites and monuments (RMPs)
- Sites with Preservation Orders
- Ownership and Guardianship of National Monuments
- Register of Historic Monuments (pre-dating AD 1700)
- Licensing of archaeological excavations
- Licensing of Detection Devices
- Protection of archaeological objects
- Protection of wrecks and underwater heritage (more than 100 years old)

In relation to proposed works at or in the vicinity of a recorded archaeological monument, Section 12 (3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states:

'When the owner or occupier (not being the Commissioners) of a monument or place which has been recorded [in the Record of Monuments and Places] or any person proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to such monument or place, he shall give notice in writing of his proposal to carry

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out the work to the Commissioners and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Commissioners, commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice.'

Archaeological artefacts

Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act (amended) defines an archaeological object as (in summary) any chattel in a manufactured or partly manufactured state or an unmanufactured state but with an archaeological or historical association. This includes ancient human, animal or plant remains.

Section 9 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 states that any such artefact recovered during archaeological investigations should be taken into possession by the licensed archaeological director and held on behalf of the state until such a time as they are deposited accordingly subsequent to consultation with the National Museum of Ireland.

Architectural Sites

In 1997 Ireland ratified the Granada Convention on architectural heritage. This provided the basis for a national commitment to the protection of the architectural heritage throughout the country. The Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999 and Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 made the legislative changes necessary to provide for a strengthening of the protection of architectural heritage. The former Act has helped to provide for a forum for the strengthening of architectural heritage protection as it called for the creation of a National Inventory of Architectural Heritage which is used by local authorities for compiling the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) is set out in each respective county's Development Plan and provides statutory protection for these monuments.

Section 1 (1) of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999 states:

'architectural heritage means all—

- (a) structures and buildings together with their settings and attendant grounds, fixtures and fittings,*
- (b) groups of such structures and buildings, and*
- (c) sites, which are of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest''*

The 1999 Act was replaced by the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000 where the conditions relating to the protection of architectural heritage are set out in Part IV of the Act. Section 57 (1) of the 2000 Act states that:

'...the carrying out of works to a protected structure, or a proposed protected structure, shall be exempted development only if those works would not materially affect the character of—

- (a) the structure, or*
- (b) any element of the structure which contributes to its special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest'*

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APPENDIX 3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS USED

The following sets out the definitions of the terms which are used throughout the report:

- (i) The phrase ‘cultural heritage’ is a generic term used in reference to a multitude of cultural, archaeological and architectural sites and monuments. The term ‘cultural heritage’, in compliance with Section 2(1) of the Heritage Act (1995), is used throughout this report in relation to archaeological objects, features, monuments and landscapes as well as all structures and buildings which are considered to be of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest.
- (ii) For the purpose of this assessment, each identified cultural heritage site is assigned a unique cultural heritage number with the prefix ‘CH’.
- (iii) A feature recorded in the ‘Record of Monuments and Places’ (RMP) refers to a recorded archaeological site that is granted statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1930–2014, as amended. When reference is made to the distance between an RMP and the proposed development site (see below), this relates to the minimal distance separating the site from the known edge of the RMP. Where the edge of the RMP is not precisely known, the distance relates to that which separates the site from the boundary of the RMP zone of archaeological potential as represented on the respective RMP map; where this is applied, it is stated accordingly.
- (iv) An ‘area of archaeological potential’ refers to an area of ground that is deemed to constitute one where archaeological sites, features or objects may be present in consequence of location, association with identified/recorded archaeological sites and/or identifiable characteristics.
- (v) The term ‘proposed development site’ refers to the defined area of land within which the proposed development, including access tracks etc, may be constructed.
- (vi) In relation to the term ‘study area’ please see Section 1.3 above.
- (vii) The term ‘receiving environment’ refers to the broader landscape within which the study area is situated. Examination of the site’s receiving environment allows the study area to be analysed in its wider cultural context.
- (viii) The terms ‘baseline environment’ and ‘cultural heritage resource’ refer to the existing, identifiable environment against which potential effects of the proposed scheme may be measured.

Note: Information regarding archaeological site types and periods is provided in a glossary in Appendix 4.

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APPENDIX 4 GLOSSARY AND DEFINITION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS

Bridge: A structure of wood, stone, iron, brick or concrete, etc., built to span a river or ravine in order to facilitate the crossing of pedestrians or vehicles. These date from the medieval period (5th–12th centuries AD) onwards.

Burial ground: An area of ground, set apart for the burial of the dead, not associated with a church. These date from the medieval period (5th–16th centuries AD) onwards. See also: Children's burial ground and Graveyard.

Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle: A masonry castle constructed in Ireland by the Anglo-Normans between the late 12th and the early 14th century AD.

Church: A building used for public Christian worship. These can be of any date from *c.* AD 500 onwards.

Cist: A rectangular or polygonal structure used for burial purposes, constructed from stone slabs set on edge and covered by one or more horizontal slabs or capstones. Cists may be built on the surface or sunk into the ground or set within a cemetery cairn or cemetery mound. They date to the Bronze/Iron Ages (*c.* 2400 BC–AD 400).

Cross: A free-standing structure, in the form of a cross (+), symbolising the structure on which Jesus Christ was crucified. See also: High cross, Market cross, Tau cross. These can be of any date from *c.* 400 AD onwards.

Cross - Market cross: A cross found in a marketplace. These date from the medieval period (5th–16th centuries AD) up to the 19th century.

Designed landscape feature: A man-made feature that is laid out to produce the effect of natural scenery, or other features, usually within demesnes and associated with a country house. These date from the 17th to the 19th century AD. See also: Designed landscape - ornamental lake, Designed landscape - tree-ring, Designed landscape - folly, Designed landscape - belvedere, Designed landscape - teahouse and Designed landscape - summer house.

Dovecote: A circular or square house where doves/pigeons were kept. They have internal niches for roosting and breeding, a door at ground level for human access and an opening in the roof or gable for pigeon access. They date from the medieval period (5th–16th centuries AD) and continued in use until *c.* 1900.

Enclosure: An area defined by an enclosing element (e.g. bank, wall, fosse, scarp), or indicated as such cartographically, and occurring in a variety of shapes and sizes, possessing no diagnostic features which would allow classification within another monument category. These may date to any period from prehistory onwards.

Enclosure - large enclosure: An enclosed area over 70 m in diameter defined by an earthen bank or stone wall, sometimes with an external fosse. They display no preferred siting criteria, and those on hilltops can be classified as hilltop enclosures. They can date to any period from prehistory to the late

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medieval period (i.e. 4000 BC–AD 1700). For other large enclosures see also: Hillfort, Hilltop enclosure, Causewayed enclosure, Ceremonial enclosure, and Embanked enclosure.

Excavation - report final: A report outlining the final results of a licensed excavation complete with specialist reports.

Graveslab: A stone designed to be recumbent and marking a grave, AD 1200–1700 in date.

Graveyard: The burial area around a church. These date from the medieval period (5th–16th centuries) onwards

Historic town: A settlement of pre-AD 1700 date that occupied a central position in the communications network, functioned as a market centre and had an organised layout of streets with a significant density of houses and associated land plots. In addition, examples of one of the following monument classes should be present: town defences; castle/tower house; house (which functioned as a manor house); parish church/cathedral; religious house(s); administrative institution (e.g. town hall, market house); judicial institution (e.g. courthouse, prison); monuments indicating specialised technological production (e.g. mill, kiln, tannery, ironworking site); bridge; hospital; school; quays. Where only documentary evidence survives to suggest a town was present then the term 'Historic town possible' applies.

Inscribed stone: A stone from an isolated context which has been inscribed with symbols and/or letters and/or date. If the stone bears a coat of arms use Armorial plaque, if the stone is carved with an inscription, personal initials or other letters commemorating a person or event use Memorial stone. These may date from the later medieval period (12th–16th centuries AD) onwards.

Mill – corn: A mill, including where present the millrace and millpond, for grinding corn. These date from the 18th to the 20th century AD. In this database only mills which are post-1700 AD in date are classified by function.

Quarry: A place where stone, sand, gravel or clay was extracted.

Redundant record: Records classed as 'Redundant record' are those that fulfil one or more of the following criteria: (1) a record identifying a location where, according to documentary sources (e.g., published reference, cartographic sources) or personal communication, a monument might have existed, but which, on inspection, was found not to be an archaeological monument (e.g. a natural feature); (2) a record classified using a term which is now obsolete (e.g. ecclesiastical remains); (3) a record created in error, a duplicate record or one which has no supporting evidence recorded on file or in the database; (4) an archaeological object (i.e. an artefact), e.g. a quern-stone; (5) a record entered as a 'Shipwreck'. Shipwrecks are recorded in a separate database.

Religious house - Dominican Friars: A religious house as listed in A. Gwynn and R.N. Hadcock in 'Medieval Religious Houses Ireland' (1970) (Reprinted 1988). Irish Academic Press, Dublin. These date to the later medieval period (12th–16th centuries AD)

Ringfort – rath: A roughly circular or oval area surrounded by an earthen bank with an external fosse. Some examples have two (bivallate) or three (trivallate) banks and fosses, but these are less common

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and have been equated with higher status sites belonging to upper grades of society. They functioned as residences and/or farmsteads and broadly date from AD 500 to 1000.

Road - road/trackway: A way, or section thereof, which has been deliberately constructed between places. These may be of any date from prehistory onwards.

Town defences: Defensive fortifications such as ramparts, ditches and stone walls, built to defend a historic town of pre-1700 AD date.

Wall monument: A memorial for the dead found in a church context. These range from elaborate architectural monuments with canopied niches or classical detailing to simple tablets inserted into, hanging from or standing against a wall, which bear an inscription and/or a coat of arms commemorating a person or persons. They date from the 13th century AD onwards. For wall monuments that include an effigy see: Wall monument – effigial.

Well: A constructed feature either consolidating of the edges of a natural spring with stones or the excavation of a vertical bore-hole to reach ground-water at depth, the sides being consolidated with stones or other material. A spring well can have a canopy and steps leading to the water, but a bore-hole can have a mechanical means of raising and lowering buckets.

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APPENDIX 5 COUNTY GALWAY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2022–2028)

12.5 Architectural Heritage Context

AH 1 *Architectural Heritage*

Ensure the protection of the architectural heritage of County Galway, which is a unique and special resource, having regard to the policy guidance contained in the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2011 (and any updated/superseding document).

AH 2 *Protected Structures (Refer to Appendix 6)*

(a) Ensure the protection and sympathetic enhancement of structures including their curtilage and attendant grounds included and proposed for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest, together with the integrity of their character and setting.

(b) Review the Record of Protected Structures in order to provide a comprehensive schedule for the protection of structures of special importance in the County during the lifetime of the plan.

(c) Ensure that development proposals are appropriate in terms of architectural treatment, character, scale and form to the existing protected structure and not detrimental to the special character and integrity of the protected structure and its setting.

(d) Ensure high-quality architectural design of all new developments relating to or which may impact on structures (and their settings) included in the Record of Protected Structures.

(e) Promote and ensure best conservation practice through the use of specialist conservation professionals and craft persons.

(f) Prohibit development proposals, either in whole or in part, for the demolition of protected structures, save in exceptional circumstances.

AH 3 *Protection of Structure on the NIAH*

Give regard to and consideration of all structures which are included in the NIAH for County Galway, which are not currently included in the Record of Protected Structures, in development management functions.

AH 4 *Architectural Conservation Areas (Refer to Appendix 7)*

Protect, conserve and enhance the special character of the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA) included in this plan through the appropriate management and control of the design, location and layout of new development, modifications, alterations or extensions to existing structures, surviving historic plots and street patterns and/or modifications to the character or setting of the Architectural Conservation Area. Works within the ACA shall ensure the conservation of traditional features and building elements that contribute to the character of the area. The special character of an area includes its traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscape, shop fronts, landscape and setting. New proposals shall have appropriate regard to scale, plot, form, mass, design, materials, colours and function.

This will be achieved by:



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- (a) Protecting all buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes and all features which contribute to the special character of the ACA from demolition and non-sympathetic alterations.
- (b) Promote appropriate and sensitive reuse and rehabilitation of buildings and sites within the ACA.
- (c) Ensure new development within or adjacent to an ACA respects the established character of the area and contributes positively in terms of design, scale, setting and material finishes to the ACA.
- (d) Promote high-quality architectural design within ACAs.
- (e) Seek the repair and reuse of traditional shopfronts and where appropriate, encourage new shopfronts of a high-quality architectural design.
- (f) Ensure that all new signage, lighting, advertising and utilities to buildings within ACA are designed, constructed, and located in such a manner that they do not detract from the character of the ACA.
- (g) Protect and enhance the quality of open spaces within ACAs and ensure the protection and where necessary reuse of street furniture and use of appropriate materials during the course of public infrastructure schemes within ACAs.
- (h) Prohibit development proposals, either in whole or in part for the demolition of a structure within an Architectural Conservation Area that contributes to the special character of the area.
- (i) Protect structures in ACAs from non-sympathetic alterations and encourage appropriate in-fill developments.
- (j) Works materially affecting the character of a protected structure or the exterior of a building/structure within an ACA will require planning permission:
- (k) Any works carried out to a protected structure or the exterior of a building/structure within an ACA shall be in accordance with best conservation practice and use sustainable and appropriate materials.
- (l) Ensure that any development, modifications, alterations, or extensions materially affecting the character of a protected structure, or a structure adjoining a protected structure, or a structure within or adjacent to an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA), is sited and designed appropriately and is not detrimental to the character or setting of the protected structure or of the ACA.

AH 5 ***Maintenance and Re-use of existing Building Stock***

Promote the maintenance and appropriate re-use of the existing stock of buildings with architectural merit as a more sustainable option to their demolition and redevelopment.

AH 6 ***Vernacular Architecture***

Recognise the importance of the contribution of vernacular architecture to the character of a place and ensure the protection, retention and appropriate revitalisation and reuse of the vernacular-built heritage including structures that contribute to landscape and townscape character and resist the demolition of these structures.

AH 7 ***Local Place Names***

Protect local place names as an important part of the cultural heritage and unique character of an area. Support the use of appropriate names for new developments that reflect the character and heritage of the area and that contribute to the local distinctiveness of a place.

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AH 8 *Energy Efficiency and Traditionally Built Structures*

Ensure that measures to upgrade the energy efficiency of protected structures and traditionally built historic structures are sensitive to traditional construction methods, employ best practice and use appropriate materials and methods that will not have a detrimental impact on the material, functioning or character of the building.

AH 9 *Local Landscape and Place Assessment*

To support proposals from local communities including Tidy Town Committees, Chambers of Commerce and residents' groups in analysing the character of their place and promoting its regeneration for their own use and enjoyment and that of visitors to the area.

AH 10 *Designed Landscapes*

Protect the surviving historic designed landscapes in the County and promote the conservation of their essential character, both built and natural. Consider protection of the designed landscape by inclusion in an Architectural Conservation Area.

Development proposals in designed landscape shall be accompanied by an appraisal of the contributing elements and an impact assessment.

AH 11 *Custodianship*

Promote an inter-disciplinary approach demonstrating best practice with regard to the custodianship of protected structures, recorded monuments and elements of built heritage.

AH 12 *Placemaking for Towns and villages*

Promote the value of placemaking in cooperation with communities in their towns, villages and local areas.

AH 13 *Traditional Building Skills*

Support and promote traditional building skills, training and awareness of the use of appropriate materials and skills within the Local Authority, community groups, owners and occupiers of traditionally built structures.

AH 14 *Design and Landscaping in New Buildings*

Encourage new buildings that foster an innovative approach to design and acknowledges the diversity of suitable design solutions in appropriate locations while promoting the added economic, amenity and environmental value of good design.

12.6 Archaeological Heritage

ARC 1 *Legislative Context*

Support and promote the preservation, conservation and appropriate management and enhancement of the County's archaeological sites and monuments, together with the settings of these monuments, having regard to the legislative, statutory and policy provisions relevant to the conservation of the archaeological heritage.

ARC 2 *Archaeological Sites*

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Seek to encourage and promote awareness of and access to archaeological heritage of the County for all, through the provision of information to landowners and the community generally, in co-operation with statutory and other partners.

ARC 3 *Archaeological Landscapes*

To facilitate where possible the identification of important archaeological landscapes in the County.

ARC 4 *Protection of Archaeological Sites*

Protect archaeological sites and monuments their settings and visual amenity and archaeological objects and underwater archaeological sites that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, in the ownership/guardianship of the State, or that are subject of Preservation Orders or have been registered in the Register of Historic Monuments, or that are newly discovered and seek to protect important archaeological landscapes.

ARC 5 *Development Management*

All planning applications for new development, redevelopment, any ground works, refurbishment, and restoration, etc. within areas of archaeological potential or within close proximity to Recorded Monuments or within the historic towns of County Galway will take account of the archaeological heritage of the area and the need for archaeological mitigation.

ARC 6 *Burial Grounds*

Protect the burial grounds, identified in the Record of Monuments and Places, in co-operation with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Encourage the local community to manage burial grounds in accordance with best conservation and heritage principles.

ARC 7 *Battlefield Sites*

Protect the Battle of Aughrim site and other battlefield sites and their settings.

ARC 8 *Underwater Archaeological Sites*

To protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites and associated features. In assessing proposals for development, the Council will take account of the potential underwater archaeology of rivers, lakes, intertidal and sub-tidal locations.

ARC 9 *Recorded Monuments*

Ensure that any development in the immediate vicinity of a Recorded Monument is sensitively designed and sited and does not detract from the monument or its visual amenity.

ARC 10 *Zones of Archaeological Potential*

To protect the Zones of Archaeological Potential located within both urban and rural areas and around archaeological monuments generally as identified in the Record of Monuments and Places. Any development within the ZAPs will need to take cognisance of the potential for subsurface archaeology and if archaeology is demonstrated to be present appropriate mitigation (such as preservation *in situ*/buffer zones) will be required.

ARC 11 *Industrial and Post Medieval Archaeology*

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Protect and preserve the archaeological value of industrial and post medieval archaeology such as mills, limekilns, bridges, piers, harbours, penal chapels and dwellings. Proposals for refurbishment, works to or redevelopment/conversion of these sites should be subject to careful assessment.

ARC 12 *Archaeology and Infrastructure Schemes*

Have regard to archaeological concerns when considering proposed service schemes (including electricity, sewerage, telecommunications, water supply) and proposed roadwork's (both realignments and new roads) located in close proximity to Recorded Monuments and Places and their known archaeological monuments.

12.7 Cultural Heritage

CUH 1 *Cultural heritage*

Protect and promote the cultural heritage assets and the intangible cultural heritage assets of County Galway as important social and economic assets.

CUH 2 *Special Places of Historic Interest*

To protect and promote where possible special places of historical interest.

CUH 3 *Placenames/Naming of New Developments*

Promote and preserve local place names, local heritage and the Irish language by ensuring the use of local place names or geographical or cultural names which reflect the history and landscape of their settings in the naming of new residential and other developments. All names will be in the Irish language only. The naming and numbering schemes including associated signage must be submitted to the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of a new development.

CUH 4 *The Gaeltacht and Linguistic Heritage*

(a) To protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht and to promote Irish as a community language. To promote and facilitate the sustainable development of An Ghaeltacht and Island communities in County Galway.

(b) To support organisations involved in the continued promotion and preservation of the Irish language and culture. To work in a positive and encouraging way to create and maintain a bilingual environment in the County, and to ensure the availability of opportunities for the use of spoken and written Irish.

CUH 5 *Library and Archives*

(a) To facilitate the development and implementation of Galway Library Development Programme 2016-2021 or subsequent programme and support the development and promotion of the library network in the county.

(b) Galway County Council shall support the provision of a purpose-built repository, meeting international archival standards, to house, and ensure the preservation, of this important heritage resource.

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APPENDIX 6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

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

Site name: Ballygarraun South

Sites and Monuments Record No.: None

Licence number: 13E0030

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549177 m, N 727848 m

Testing was carried out on the site of the proposed new Presentation College at Ballygarraun South, Athenry from 30 January to 2 February 2013. The site comprises of two large fields divided by a Teagasc farm road which extends north-east/south-west across the site. The farm road follows the route of an old field boundary, which was identified by Knox (1917) as an ancient road/trackway (GA084-118) but is unsubstantiated as an archaeological monument. Testing and monitoring along a section of the 'ancient roadway' located north-east of the development site suggests the route follows the line of a former gravel ridge. Testing was preceded by a geophysical survey (McCarthy, 2013) which revealed a series of linear anomalies indicative of cultivation or drainage features in the southern field and a single linear anomaly (L. 55 m) in the northern field. The linear anomaly in the northern field occurs just north of the Teagasc farm road and it was suggested that it may represent the remains of a field boundary, drainage feature or trackway.

Twenty-seven trenches were opened in a centre-line and offset array, designed to test the entire development footprint and the anomalies identified by geophysics. Several of the anomalies were found to correspond to agricultural linear features: stone-filled drains and silted up furrows. A large ridge running east-west across the south of the site was revealed to be a natural gravel ridge. A wide ditch-like feature in the north-west corner of the southern field corresponded with a geophysical anomaly but contained only topsoil and boulders. No archaeological material was found.

Site name: Raheen

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-120

Licence number: 11E207

Author: Anne Carey

Site type: No archaeology found

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Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549142 m, N 728118 m

Following the submission of a report in 2011 on two phases of pre-development testing at Raheen townland, Athenry, Co. Galway (*Excavations 2011*, No. 276), to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, a recommendation that a further trial trench be excavated was made. The location of this trial trench was specified at the south-western side of the site, adjacent to the current entrance gate.

The site at Raheen townland was classified as a cashel (Knox, H.T. 'Ballygurraun and Raheen group of works' *JGAHS* Vol. 10, Pt. 3 (1917–18), p. 104) or a hilltop enclosure (Archaeological Survey of Ireland files). It comprised a low bank of stone, extant only from south-west to north, located close to the site of a proposed single dwelling. The location of the most recently excavated trench was chosen to investigate the south-western limit of the stone spread. In this area it was thought to form two concentric banks, with a corresponding ditch between (Archaeological Survey of Ireland files) but a later survey by Martin Fitzpatrick, Archaeologist, shows the extent of the co-existence between both areas to be minimal.

The results of the excavation of a single trial trench at the south-western limit of the site shows natural deposits, comprising a small linear ridge, orientated north-east–south-west, running parallel with a shallow stone spread for a short distance. The area between the two features presents as a slight depression that excavation has shown to be due to the natural falling away of bedrock in this area. There were no features or finds of archaeological interest discovered in the course of the excavation of the trial trench. This section of the site appears to be of natural origin.

Site name: Raheen

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 98E0117

Author: Martin Fitzpatrick, Archaeological Consultancy

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 548993 m, N 728283 m

This project involved the monitoring of ground disturbance associated with the development of a dwelling-house at Raheen, Athenry, Co. Galway. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in the course of monitoring.

Site name: Raheen and Moanbaun

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 12E41

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

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Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 548939 m, N 728584 m

Test excavations were carried on a green field site at Raheen and Moanbaun 3 km north of Athenry in mitigation of the proposed Northern Ring Road. The work was commissioned by Galway County Council and took place in March 2012. A centreline trench (L. 500 m) and 44 offsets (L. 15 m) were excavated by machine. The centreline trench ran through a former townland boundary wall, and this was cleaned and recorded. The wall was a substantial double dry stone wall measuring 1.2 m high by 0.95 m thick. It was constructed of limestone boulders with smaller cobbles and broken stones used in the infill. The wall appears rebuilt and is more substantial than the neighbouring field boundaries. It is not ancient and there was evidence of an earlier hedgerow. Nothing of archaeological significance was discovered during testing with no features and only occasional modern finds retrieved from the topsoil.

Site name: Cuillaribaun and Parke

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 10E0182

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549202 m, N 728775 m

Test excavations were carried out between 24 and 28 May 2010 in mitigation of the Athenry northern ring road. Eighty-two test-trenches were machine-excavated, and one test-pit was hand-excavated. The existing site layout consisted of three fields under grass with stone wall boundaries. The trenches took the form of centre lines with regular offsets designed to test the potential archaeological impact of the road. No archaeological features or finds were found during test excavations and remarkably few modern finds were retrieved from the topsoil. A small number of linear features presented in the east of the site; some were bands of sand, and some were modern cultivation furrows. The few finds that were recovered came from the east of the site which bore more evidence of anthropogenic activity. The area at the eastern end of Field 2 seemed to have been quarried in the past and subsequently levelled out. Substantial deposits of sand and gravel remained in this area. The area around a gate in the eastern end of the site yielded most finds, none of which were archaeological.

Site name: Athenry: Loro Gate

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: C360, E4040

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Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: Historic town

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 549852 m, N 72755 5m

Monitoring and excavation were carried out in advance of conservation works at Loro Gate, Athenry, Co. Galway between October 2013 and April 2014. The remains of Loro Gate, one of four gates in the medieval town walls, was initially uncovered during monitoring of road works in August 2007. The site lay idle until 2013 when Galway County Council in association with RPS designed a new roundabout to accommodate the preservation *in situ* and display of the medieval gate. Howley Hayes Architects were retained to plan and design for the conservation and display of the Loro Gate and Dominic Delany & Associates were appointed archaeological consultants to the project. Following consultations with all stakeholders a programme of archaeological works was agreed and the required ministerial consent obtained. The works included excavation of the pipe trench extending through the core of the medieval wall, removal of the old cast iron pipe, excavations around the perimeter of the wall to expose buried stonework and prepare the ground for the installation of an effective gravel bed to improve drainage. It was further agreed that all groundworks associated with the development would be monitored.

Excavations were carried out from 10–21 October 2013. Intermittent monitoring and excavation took place throughout January and February 2014. The excavated remains comprise the south-east wall of the medieval Loro Gate. The wall is 5.4 m long, has a maximum height of 0.7 m and is 2.1 m thick. It is a two-phase structure; a 0.6 m wide buttress having been built up against the outer face of the original 1.5 m thick wall. The structure is built on a boulder fill which forms a foundation platform within the moat of the medieval town defences. The wall abuts a substantial revetting wall (the town wall) on the inner edge of the moat. This indicates that the Loro Gate post-dates the original town defences as defined here by the moat and town wall. At some point, probably at an early period in the development of the town defences, it was decided to construct a new gate, or refortify an existing entrance, at this location. The 1.5m thick wall suggests the new building was a substantial structure such as a gatehouse or gatebuilding. The evidence of buttressing indicates that the structure underwent repair or was enlarged sometime during its period of usage.

Finds from the excavation were disappointing in that no artefacts other than a couple of pieces of badly-corroded iron were recovered from the excavated deposits. The moderate quantities of animal bone and oyster shell recovered from deposits outside the Loro Gate wall are probably the result of dumping in the medieval moat.

Site name: Raheen, Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 00E0364

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Enclosure - large enclosure

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400-AD 1600)

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ITM: E 549761 m, N 727728 m

The proposed development is located in the town of Athenry, adjacent to the town wall. An assessment of the proposed development, undertaken in March 2000, identified a number of possible archaeological features in the area that would be directly affected by the development. These consisted of Feature A, a north-west–south-east running bank; Feature B, a D-shaped enclosure; and Feature C, a ditch running north–south.

Excavation of Feature A revealed a bank, with a ditch on either side, which appeared to have been levelled in antiquity. One fragment of Saintonge pottery was found in the trench, indicating a medieval date for this feature. It is likely that this feature was a field boundary. The furrows revealed in the course of the trial-trenching run in the same direction as the bank.

Two trenches excavated in the area of the D-shaped enclosure revealed a much-denuded bank, again indicating that the site had been levelled in antiquity. No features or deposits were found within the interior. Finds included fragments of medieval pottery, animal bone and one fragment of Saintogne pottery, indicating a medieval date.

Feature C in the west of the area of the proposed development consisted of a ditch, which appeared to have been filled with stone. Finds from this layer consisted primarily of iron fragments and iron nails.

Test excavations in the centre of the area revealed three small deposits with charcoal. However, they formed no cut, and no finds were found associated with them. They may represent archaeological activity in the central area.

The pre-development testing in the area of the proposed development revealed a certain amount of activity dating to the medieval period.

Site name: Ballydavid South

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: —

Author: Etienne Rynne, Department of Archaeology, University College Galway

Site type: Mound

Period/Dating: Late Medieval (AD 1100–1599)

ITM: E 550261 m, N 728528 m

A small mound, about 7.5 m N–S by 6.5 m E–W and 1.3 m in maximum height, sited on the highest part of the esker ridge running E–W directly N of Athenry was threatened by gravel quarrying. Excavation revealed that the mound consisted basically of a cairn-like core covered with earth and stones and contained within a low, rough kerb forming three sides of a square, open on the NE side. The earthen covering contained many broken animal bones and some oyster-shells (settlement debris?), and in it and in the cairn-like core many iron fragments (including block-headed nails), some sheet-bronze fragments and some glass fragments were found. A very small bronze (?)shoe buckle with an iron tongue was found on the old ground level under the edge of the core. In the stone core itself portion of a dot-and-circle decorated bone plaque (part of a single edged comb?) was recovered. A late medieval date at present seems most likely for this enigmatic structure.

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Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: E3995; C309

Author: David J. O'Connor, CRDS Ltd.

Site type: Town defences

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400-1600)

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Limited excavation of areas around the base of the South-East Tower, part of the Athenry medieval town defences, was undertaken at the request of Galway County Council. The excavation entailed three cuttings around the base of the tower (Cuttings 1-3). Excavation was limited to the overburden and sod layer down to undisturbed archaeological levels. The aim of the excavation was to recover stone that might have collapsed from the tower and town wall and to allow a stable ground level for scaffolding, which was to be erected to allow conservation works to commence on the tower itself.

Cutting 1 was situated to the south-east of the tower, outside the town walls. It measured 7.8 m by 5 m by 4.25 m and revealed that a significant deposit of modern rubbish, probably dating from the 1990s, had been dumped at the base of the tower, and large stones, probably brought in from elsewhere, were used to cover this waste material. Underneath the sod a number of gravel and sandy layers were uncovered, which were not excavated. These layers possibly represent the build-up of waterborne materials in the area where there was a moat. Cartographic evidence shows the moat flooded up to at least the mid-19th century.

Cutting 2 was situated inside the town wall, at the base of the tower. The cutting measured 4.7 m by 4.18 m and revealed a demolition layer under the sod. This layer was excavated down to a second demolition layer, which was left *in situ*. The layer appears to date to the 19th century and is highly enriched with mortar fragments and small to medium stones. It is believed that deliberate robbing of cut stones took place, with the stones being cleaned of mortar on-site. An earlier demolition layer was not excavated and remains *in situ*.

Cutting 3 was situated to the north of the tower, outside the town wall. The cutting measured 1.53 m by 1.13 m. As with Cutting 1, modern dumped material was sitting directly on the sod layer. Underneath, similar gravel layers were uncovered, which were left *in situ*.

Metal detection of all spoil was undertaken throughout the excavation.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: CO00156, E2467

Author: Martin Fitzpatrick, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Watercourse and Town defences

Period/Dating: Multi-period

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ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Monitoring of broadband installation was undertaken over a period of three months from August 2006. The work involved the excavation of a trench 0.55–0.6 m wide and 0.8 m deep to facilitate the installation of broadband cables in the area of Athenry town. The trenches were excavated in the vicinity of the town wall, the Dominican Abbey and the sites of the medieval gates of Swan/Loro Gate, Nicholas Gate, Brittin Gate and North Gate. Excavations through Old Church Street, McDonald’s Lane, Cross Street, Davis Street, Bridge Street and North Gate Street were also undertaken. Traces of 19th-century culverts were uncovered on North Gate Street and Cross Street. Manual excavations in the area of the town gates and walls revealed traces of the town wall 0.3 m below the roadway in the vicinity of Loro Gate/Prospect. The wall was constructed of uncut limestone with traces of mortar throughout. The feature survived for two courses in height and measured 2.6 m in width. No evidence for a moat was uncovered. The wall was covered over with a protective membrane and the broadband cables laid over the wall. Excavations throughout the remainder of the town revealed no features of archaeological significance. The stratigraphy indicated that the areas had previously been disturbed, with pipes, cables and services encountered throughout.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084–014 and GA084–101

Licence number: 06E0370

Author: Eoin Sullivan, for Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27, Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Testing took place in May 2006 on the lands of the Teagasc research farm, Athenry, on behalf of the Industrial Development Authority. Four known sites were located on the lands of the farm. Two of these, GA084–015 and GA084–016, were recorded as levelled subrectangular enclosures. A geophysical survey of the lands in advance of testing did not reveal any features that would suggest the presence of an enclosure. Subsequent testing of the sites by Colm Moriarity (see No. 747, *Excavations 2006*, 06E0107) did not find anything of archaeological significance.

The two remaining known sites were recorded as the site of a short cist in Newford (GA084–101) and an unclassified earthwork in Ballygarraun South (GA084–014), known locally as ‘Mount Shaw’. According to the National Museum of Ireland, the cist burials were found by workmen whilst digging a sand pit at the summit of a low hill in 1913. One cist contained a food vessel and skeletal remains; a perforated boar’s tusk likely to be a grave good was also found in one of the graves. A geophysical survey was undertaken in advance of the test excavation around these sites, which revealed one anomaly in the vicinity of the site of the cist. No features of archaeological significance were identified in the geophysical survey around the circumference of the earthwork.

The land in the vicinity of the site of the cist was mechanically tested, as was the land around the circumference of the earthwork. The earthwork was assessed on the basis of four hand-excavated trenches. The land in the vicinity of the site of the cist was assessed on the basis of three long test-



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trenches with several test-trenches offset at right angles. A total of nineteen test-trenches were excavated. The test-trenches revealed ten features of archaeological significance. Three of these features were shallow pits, none of which contained artefacts. The seven remaining features were regular/irregular-shaped spreads of clay, one of which produced five pieces of chert and a possible piece of burnt bone. The geophysical anomaly was not of any archaeological significance. The majority of the archaeological features were located on the gently sloping portion of the field, to the north-west of the RMP site.

Five test-trenches were mechanically excavated around the circumference of the earthwork. No features of archaeological significance were encountered during the excavation of the test-trenches. A low rectangular-shaped stone structure is located on the northern summit of the earthwork. Four test-trenches were excavated on the summit of the mound. Two test-trenches, perpendicular to each other, were excavated across the stone structure. The third test-trench was located to the west of the stone structure and the fourth was located on the gently sloping southern side of the mound. The test-trenches within the stone structure revealed a small area of collapse on both the northern and southern sides of the northern wall of the structure. A circular setting of stones probably represents the remains of a gate-like feature to restrict access to the structure. The trench contained a shallow cover of topsoil, which produced an earthen bottle plug and several pieces of animal bone. The topsoil deepened dramatically at the southern side of the stone wall. At the southern end of the trench the topsoil overlay a yellow silty clay. The perpendicular trench produced a sherd of medieval pottery as well as animal vertebrae, ribs and a shoulder. There was no evidence for a cut associated with the animal burial. The trench at the southern side of the mound consisted of a shallow cover of topsoil overlying mound material. The trench produced a small copper mount.

The test-trenching revealed several archaeological features in the vicinity of the site of the cist and the presence of archaeological material on the earthwork.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: 05E1247

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Pre-development testing was carried out at the request of Galway County Council on the site of a proposed new carpark on the Galway Road in Athenry between 17 and 25 November 2005. The proposed development site is a greenfield area located in the south-west part of the zone of archaeological potential established around the historic town of Athenry. The lands were formerly used as agricultural showgrounds and more recently as a football training field. The 1931 OS map names a 'Leper Compound (disused)' in the general vicinity of the development site.

Testing was confined to the proposed service runs, as it is proposed to raise most of the development site, thereby achieving preservation *in situ* of whatever archaeological remains may occur beneath the

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existing surface. Ten test-pits measuring 1.5 m² were manually excavated along the lines of the proposed service runs. The excavation revealed modern disturbance across the entire site area. This disturbance is probably a result of groundworks carried out when the site was converted for use as a training pitch. It was revealed that the site originally sloped away from the road to the south-east. This was evident from the fact that the original ground was truncated in the north-west part of the site, while the ground levels were built up in the south-east. The pits excavated in the north-west part of the site were shallow, averaging just 0.25 m in depth, and there was clear evidence that the ground had been truncated during previous works at the site. However, the pits excavated in the south-east part of the site presented a completely different picture, with up to 1 m of fill overlying the original topsoil. A substantial number of artefacts were recovered from the topsoil and redeposited material in the excavated pits. Most of the finds were modern, but seven post-medieval and five late medieval pottery sherds were included in the assemblage. No archaeological features or deposits were uncovered during testing.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0462

Author: Markus Casey, for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Test excavations on the site of a reservoir in a field of pasture and outcropping rock close to the remains of a tower-house uncovered a thin layer of topsoil directly on top of the underlying limestone bedrock. Nothing of archaeological value was found.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0461

Author: Markus Casey, for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Monitoring of the construction of a temporary access road in Ballydavid townland from the hilltop reservoir to the adjacent road showed that a thin covering of topsoil lay directly on the bedrock. No features of archaeological interest were uncovered.

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Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0460

Author: Markus Casey, for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Site type: Town

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750–2000)

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Monitoring of previously opened slit-trenches and replacement of water pipes within the town revealed no area that had not been previously disturbed by earlier roadwork or pipe-laying schemes.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0380

Author: Markus Casey, for Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Monitoring of pipe-trenching between Carnmore and Ballydavid reservoirs and Athenry revealed no areas or items of archaeological interest.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: RMP 84:1

Licence number: 01E0027

Author: Richard Crumlish, Archaeological Services Unit Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

A rescue excavation was carried out between 17 and 19 January 2001, following unapproved excavations adjacent to St Mary's Church and graveyard, Athenry, Co. Galway, in response to recommendations made by Dúchas. The excavation was required because of the proximity of the site to the medieval church and graveyard and its location within the medieval town of Athenry.

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The site consisted of a small plot/garden, enclosed by high, mortared rubble walls, to the north-east of St Mary's Church and graveyard, the graveyard being located across the south-west boundary wall of the site.

Three trenches were cleaned off across the excavated area to ascertain what, if any, archaeological material had been removed. The trenches were 10.5–19 m long and 1 m wide. Two sondages were excavated in the unexcavated part of the site. They measured 1m by 1m by 0.76–0.9 m deep.

The stratigraphy in the trenches consisted of a dark brown/black friable silt loam (garden soil) above orange/brown sandy clay loam and grey loamy sand (natural subsoils). The stratigraphy in the sondages consisted of dark brown friable silt loam (garden soil) and a layer of pebbles (remains of a path) on the surface, above grey friable loamy sand (natural subsoil) and modern rubble. A possible cut was located below the dark brown friable silt loam in one of the sondages. The limits of the sondage were too restrictive to positively identify it as a cut/pit or as a natural slope/feature.

Modern artefacts were recovered from the excavation which pointed to the site's use as a garden in relatively modern times.

Site name: Athenry: Chapel Lane

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 99E0034

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

As this development lay in the zone of archaeological potential, pre-development testing in the form of trial-trenches was recommended. The mechanical excavation of six trenches revealed no evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance. The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1m. In the northern end of the site the stratigraphy consisted of a layer of orange boulder clay, 2 m deep, overlying a grey, sandy gravel layer. In the southern end the garden soil was found to overlie the grey, sandy gravel layer. The layers present consisted of made-up ground or natural.

Site name: Athenry: D.H. Burkes, Northgate Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 84:1

Licence number: 98E0599

Author: Billy Quinn, for Archaeological Services Unit Ltd.

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Undetermined

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

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This work was undertaken on 15 December 1998. The proposed development involves the construction of a number of commercial and residential blocks, with carparking facilities. The proposed site, currently being used as a carpark, lies within the medieval town of Athenry, to the west of North Gate Street opposite St Mary's Collegiate church, and is bordered on its north and north-west by the medieval town wall. The North Tower, in ruins, stands in the north-west corner of the site. Testing involved the mechanical excavation of three trenches.

Trench 1, 30 m x 1 m and 0.7 m deep, was orientated west-north-west/east-south-east and was positioned to run through the centre of the site. In general, hard-core lay above the grey, sandy subsoil. At 3m from the eastern limit of the trench a dark brown, compact, silty material with frequent small stones was found. It contained fragments of red brick and glass sherds and lay above the subsoil.

Trench 2, 10 m x 1 m, had a similar stratigraphy to Trench 1.

Trench 3, 30 m x 1 m, contained the brown, compact layer seen in Trench 1, as well as, in the west of the trench, a friable, orange/brown clay layer, 4.5 m long and 0.8 m deep. It overlay natural.

Judging from the extant medieval features it is possible that the present ground surface has been considerably reduced in recent years. It appears on the evidence of the test-trenches that the proposed development poses no threat to the immediate archaeological environment.

Site name: Athenry House, Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 94:1

Licence number: 98E0432

Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Late Medieval (AD 1100–1599)

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Test-excavation was undertaken in advance of planning, from 28 September to 8 October 1998. The site lies immediately south of the modern town and comprises *c.* 8.5 acres of unenclosed pastureland. The ruins of the imposing early 19th-century Athenry House and its associated coach-house and outbuildings lie towards the north-west end of the site. The site is within the bounds of the Anglo-Norman town, which was founded by Meiler de Bermingham in around 1235. A 75 m stretch of the medieval town wall forms the south boundary of the site, and the site of the Spittle Gate, a postern into the medieval town, lies in the southern corner of the site. It has been suggested that the gate probably gets its name from a hospital that must have stood in this area, away from the inhabited part of the town. There is no evidence to suggest that this part of the town was settled in the medieval period.

Ten test-trenches were excavated at locations corresponding to the footprint of the proposed development. The trenches were 1m wide and varied from 40 m to 100 m long. The main features of archaeological significance were linear cuts in Trenches 1 and 3 and a curvilinear cut in Trench 3. The linear cuts appear to be associated and probably form part of a continuous feature. This feature is orientated north-east–south-west and averages 0.75 m wide. The upper fill consists of a grey, silty clay containing pebbles, cobbles, boulders and flecks of charcoal. In Trench 1 this deposit overlies an organic,

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mid-brown, silty clay with inclusions of cobbles, oyster shell, animal and bird bone, flecks of charcoal, burnt wood fragments and occasional boulders. A similar deposit of dark brown/black, organic material was encountered nearby and appears to be associated with the linear cut. This deposit yielded a fine rim/spout sherd of Saintonge pottery, suggesting a medieval date for this feature.

The curvilinear cut in Trench 3 is 0.9 m wide, and the upper fill comprises a dark grey, sandy clay with frequent inclusions of pebbles, cobbles, shell, bone and flecks of charcoal. No finds were recovered from the fill, but it appears to represent a feature of archaeological interest, possibly an enclosure ditch. In addition to these features several areas of archaeological potential were identified during testing, and some of the trenches yielded unstratified sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery wares.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 84:1

Licence number: 97E0180

Author: Gerry Walsh

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 549998 m, N 728490 m

Archaeological pre-development testing was carried out in advance of a proposed housing scheme in Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. Four test-trenches were excavated.

No archaeological features or finds were recovered from any of the trenches.

Site name: Abbeyrow, Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 84:1

Licence number: 02E1573

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550346 m, N 727778 m

Pre-development testing took place before the construction of two dwelling-houses and associated services at Abbeyrow, Athenry, on a site occupied by a 19th-century national school. Monitoring of the demolition of the school building revealed no features of archaeological significance. Five trenches were mechanically excavated. The stratigraphy consisted of demolition rubble overlying a natural gravel layer that extended for a depth of 0.8–1 m, suggesting that the schoolhouse had been built directly on a natural gravel deposit. No artefacts or features of archaeological significance were encountered.

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Site name: Galway: 3 Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 96E0226

Author: Neil O'Flanagan

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Undetermined

ITM: E 530006 m, N 725600 m

This narrow, elongated site within the city of Galway, excavated between January and April 1997, yielded evidence for domestic floors comprising a series of redeposited boulder clays associated exclusively with Saintonge ware. These clays contrasted sharply with a series of contemporaneous heavy dark silty clays forming the bulk of the deposits in the backyard. The two sets of deposits were demarcated by a modern limestone wall which cut into the clays and rested upon bedrock. It would appear, therefore, that the modern wall cut into the trench of a previous structure and obliterated whatever remains existed of an earlier medieval structure. In any case, the redeposited boulder clays yielded hearths, postholes, ash and charcoal lenses. The silty clays outside yielded contemporaneous pottery and numerous fragments of butchered animal bone. There was considerable disturbance in the upper deposits, accounting, no doubt, for the almost complete absence of post-medieval clays. A limited extent of dry walling was recovered in the extreme south-west corner, however, and this may have post-medieval origins.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: E004226

Author: Finn Delaney, Eachtra Archaeological Projects—Galway

Site type: Historic town

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 550182 m, N 727739 m

Monitoring and excavation were carried out from September 2011 to January 2012 in Athenry, Co. Galway. The archaeological works were carried out on behalf of Coffey's Construction Ltd, in advance of laying ungraded water pipes and ESB ducts. The works are an extension of the Tuam Water Supply Scheme to Athenry. Pre-development excavation was undertaken along North Gate Street, Burke's Lane, Market Square, Cross Street, Bridge Street and Abbey Row.

The excavations revealed archaeological activity in three areas, namely Cross Street, Bridge Street and Abbey Row. The activity in Cross Street was uncovered towards the northern end of the trench and was in the form of two or three large pits. In Bridge Street a pit containing pottery provisionally dated to the late medieval period and evidence for iron-working was uncovered. A probable building of more recent date with an associated yard was also uncovered. On Abbey Row a deposit possibly dating from the late medieval period was uncovered. A platform, probably for access to the Clarin River, was

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constructed between the western end of the Dominican Abbey and the river. Evidence for iron-working was also uncovered.

Site name: Athenry: St Mary's Church

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: C604

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: Church

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400–1600)

ITM: E 550263 m, N 727961 m

Conservation works on the medieval parish church of St Mary's in Athenry were monitored between December 2014 and March 2015. The works were concentrated on the nave and north transept of the medieval church, parts of which were in urgent need of stabilisation and consolidation.

St Mary's Church was established as the parish church of Athenry shortly after the foundation of the town in 1235 and was made collegiate by Donatus, Archbishop of Tuam (1450–1485). The church was burnt in the revolt of the Earl of Clanricard's sons in 1574 and was never fully rebuilt. The Church of Ireland building, presently in use as a Heritage Centre, was built by the Board of First Fruits in 1828. It occupies the site of the chancel of the medieval church.

Monitoring of conservation works yielded evidence of several phases of construction and rebuild at the site. The late medieval church was cruciform in plan with a nave, chancel, north and south transepts, and probably a crossing tower. Substantial remains of the nave and transepts survive but the site of the chancel and crossing tower is occupied by the 19th-century Church of Ireland building. The original church was probably built in the mid-thirteenth century and most likely consisted of an aisled nave and chancel. The building was extensively renovated in the later medieval period as the nave was reconfigured, and transepts were added on the north and south giving the church a cruciform plan. The most interesting architectural feature of the church is the 13th-century column of the south arcade of the original church nave, subsequently incorporated into the south wall of the reconfigured late medieval nave.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001006

Licence number: C000808; E004855

Author: Anne Carey

Site type: Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 550383 m, N 728020 m

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Monitoring of groundworks associated with the installation of a new external stairs was carried out under Ministerial Consent at Athenry Castle, a National Monument. Three trenches were manually excavated to the east of the castle, with two of the trenches facilitating the erection of the new stairs and the third trench accommodating access to the stairs. Excavation in all trenches achieved a depth of 0.3m and a highly mixed topsoil only was revealed. No features of archaeological significance were discovered.

Site name: Athenry

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001006

Licence number: C000808; E004855

Author: Anne Carey

Site type: Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle

Period/Dating: Multi-period

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Site name: Athenry: Church Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: E004395

Author: Martin Fitzpatrick, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Graveyard

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750–2000)

ITM: E 550071 m, N 727783 m

Monitoring and excavation at the site of a new parish centre were undertaken over a period of eight weeks from 15 September 2011. The site is located on the grounds of the existing Roman Catholic Church (built in 1968) and adjacent to the site of the medieval town wall and moat (GA084-100). In the course of monitoring, some thirteen burials, associated with the 19th-century church that once occupied the site, were recorded and excavated. In addition, a partially collapsed vaulted burial chamber, containing at least three bodies, was uncovered. This chamber was built on the site of a lime-kiln, a portion of which survived to the south. It was possible to preserve the burial chamber *in situ*. Elsewhere on site, numerous large pits were uncovered and appear to have functioned as extraction pits associated with the construction of the 19th- and 20th-century churches at the site. The pits were excavated to

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extract sand and backfilled with loose stone and rubble. Throughout the site a number of medieval pits were also uncovered, two of which produced fragments of 13th-century pottery and attest to medieval activity immediately outside the town walls.

Site name: Athenry: Church Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 06E0177 ext.

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Town defences

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400–1600)

ITM: E 550070 m, N 727782 m

Plans for a parish centre in the vicinity of the medieval town defences have been ongoing for a number of years. Testing was initially undertaken in 2006 when a small area was tested revealing a number of pit features (*Excavations 2006*, No. 742, 06E0177). In 2009 three trenches were excavated in the area of a proposed centre (*Excavations 2009*, No. 382, 06E0177 ext.). The testing uncovered the remains of six human burials and the moat of the town defences. Following submission of the archaeological report and correspondence from the National Monuments Division, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government it was decided to move the proposed development further away from the town defences. Plans for a new development were provisionally drawn up and this report deals with the testing associated with these plans. All of this work was undertaken in advance of a planning submission.

Testing was undertaken over a period of four days in 2010. Three trenches were excavated through the site of the proposed development. Two of the trenches were mechanically excavated adjacent to the church, while the third was manually excavated through an existing outhouse facing on to Church Street.

The first area tested is located to the immediate west of that tested in 2009. This location was examined to ascertain if burials extended into this area. The excavation of two trenches (Trenches 1 and 2) revealed no evidence for burials. Two pit features uncovered indicate human activity; however, the dating of this activity is not known and is most likely to be post-medieval. Testing found that the proposed development of the parish centre meeting rooms in this area will not encroach on burials or any structural features.

The second area tested is located within an existing outbuilding in the south-west of the church property. It is proposed that new parish meeting rooms be constructed at this site. The survey undertaken prior to testing revealed that the existing building was originally a stone-constructed outhouse/stable which was more recently altered to accommodate two adjoining sheds. The survey found that the north wall of this building corresponds with the town wall as indicated on the OS maps. The wall is roughly coursed with large and small uncut limestone and has mortar throughout. The almost random coursing has small packing stones in some areas. While it is uncertain if the existing wall is the original town wall, it does compare with the town wall in other areas of Athenry.

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Testing involved the excavation of a single trench (divided into two trenches) through the outhouse. The testing found evidence for an earlier building and evidence for pit features and an area of burning.

Site name: Athenry: Church Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: 06E0177 ext.

Author: Fiona Rooney and Martin Fitzpatrick, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Town defences and Burial

Period/Dating: Multi-period

ITM: E 550070 m, N 727782 m

The proposed development concerns the construction of a parish centre adjacent to the existing Catholic church in Athenry, Co. Galway. The site of the original town wall and moat was thought to survive to the immediate south-east of the development. Following consultation with the National Monuments Division, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, it was decided to test the area in advance of submitting a planning application. Testing was undertaken over a period of three days in September 2009. In the course of testing three trenches were excavated through the site of the proposed development. The trenches were excavated through an existing carpark and adjacent green space using a mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket.

In Trench A, excavation commenced in the northwest, where the gravel covering a modern sewer pipe was encountered directly below the carpark surface. Immediately south of the sewer pipe, the removal of tar and a small stone foundation for tar (C2) revealed a grey sandy clay (C3) at a depth of 0.19 m. This layer was excavated for a depth of 0.33 m and overlay a narrow band of compact clay (C4) 0.13 m deep. A number of cut stones were recovered from C3. C5, found directly below C4, consisted of a loose stone and sandy gravel with occasional large boulders. At 4.6 m from the north-west end of the trench a clay pipe was found cut into the sandy gravel (C3). At 9.7 m from the north-west end the concrete covering of a modern sewer pipe was encountered and extended for a width of 2 m. South of the concrete covering a loose clay layer (C6) was found directly below C2. At a depth of 1.2 m the lower torso of an adult human was uncovered. The burial was orientated east-west and an examination of the area revealed a number of coffin nails. The burial (Burial 1) as revealed consisted of the longer and shorter femur bones, patella, fibula and tibia as well as the tarsus, metatarsals and phalanges. These skeletal remains extended from the west baulk of the trench. Once the remains were recorded, no further excavation work was undertaken in this area.

A gunmetal pipe was found 1.1 m south-east of this burial running roughly east-west through the trench. Immediately south-east of the pipe two further human burials were encountered cut into the loose clay (C6). All of the burials (Burials 1-3) were found cut into C6 and were located at a depth of 1.22 m. All of the remains were orientated east-west and, from the evidence of nails found associated with them, had been buried in coffins. The lower limbs, pelvis, vertebrae and the lower ribs were exposed in Burial 2, while the lower limbs and pelvis were revealed in Burial 3. The burial in the north was larger in size than that to the south and would appear to be an adult, while the southern burial appears to be a female or possibly a child. Once the burials were exposed and recorded, no further excavation was undertaken in this area.



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Trench B was excavated 4 m from Trench A and measured 15 m in length and 1.5 m wide. The stratigraphy was similar to Trench A with the tarred surface overlying the stone foundation for tar (C2). Below C2 there was the grey sandy clay (C3) at a depth of 0.19 m. This layer was excavated for a depth of 0.4 m. C5 was found directly below C3 and consisted of a loose stone and sandy gravel with occasional large boulders. At 9.6 m from the northwest end of the trench the concrete covering of the sewer pipe was exposed and extended for a width of *c.* 2 m. Immediately south of the concrete the loose clay (C6) was encountered directly below C2; 0.5 m south of the concrete covering, Burial 4 was encountered at a depth of 1.22 m.

Burial 4 was the lower limbs, pelvis, vertebrae and the lower ribs of an east–west-orientated skeleton. An examination of the area surrounding the burial revealed a number of iron nails, indicating that the burial was originally in a coffin. Once revealed, no further excavation was undertaken in this area. The east–west-running pipe was uncovered 1.1 m south of Burial 4. Another human burial was uncovered 0.6 m south of the pipe and 2m south of Burial 5. Burial 5 was the upper body, including the lower cranium, clavicle and sternum which was revealed in the west baulk of the trench. Located at a depth of 1.23 m this burial was found in C6.

Trench C was excavated in the west of the proposed development and measured 12 m in length and 1.5 m wide. The stratigraphy at the north-west end consisted of tar and tar foundation over a hard stoney gravel (C7), similar to C3 but more compact and more difficult to excavate. At the north end of the trench, excavations were a maximum of 0.4 m in depth. A concrete covering of a water pipe was encountered at a distance of 2 m from the north-west end of the trench and extended diagonally for a length of 2.5 m. A human burial (Burial 6) was identified *c.* 0.7 m south of the pipe at a depth of 0.8 m. This burial was cut into C7 and appeared to be a child, orientated east–west and having evidence of a wooden box or coffin. Once the outline of the burial was exposed, no further excavation was undertaken in this area.

In the south-east end of the trench the concrete covering of the east–west-running sewer pipe was located. The gunmetal pipe was located 2 m from the concrete cover. Between these features the loose clay C6 was encountered below C2 and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5 m. At the south-east end of the trench a rough stone layer was revealed at a depth of 1.3 m.

The proposed development is located immediately adjacent to the site of the town wall and within the area of archaeological significance. Today the area comprises a carpark and green space associated with the Church of Assumption which was completed in 1968 and is located on the site of the earlier parish church, which dates to the 19th century. The OS maps detail the plan of the earlier church and indicate that the area of the proposed development was located outside the church building and between the church and the town wall.

The results of testing indicate that burials are located throughout the area of the proposed development. The testing uncovered six human burials, but it is most likely that more burials are located at this site. Five of the six burials were located in the green-space area in the south-east of the trenches excavated, but one burial (Burial 6) is located in the centre of the carpark. All of the burials located in the south-east of the site are found at a depth of 1.22 m and all are found in a loose clay. Burial 6, however, is cut into a natural gravel layer and is found at a depth of 0.8 m. All of the six burials are orientated east–west and appear to have been buried in wooden coffins. From the layout of the 19th-century church as indicated on the various OS maps, it appears most likely that the burials are associated with this church.

Trenches A and B revealed burials at the southeast end, but in Trench C there were no burials at this end, and deeper excavations were possible. Unfortunately, the existence of a pipe and a concrete

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covering curtailed the excavations; however, it was possible to excavate to a depth of 1.7 m in one area. The stratigraphy here consisted of tar and tar foundation which overlay the loose clay (C6). Excavations revealed that this loose clay layer extends for a depth of at least 1.5 m and for a length of at least 4–4.5 m. It appears that this loose clay may represent the fill of the town fosse, which would have been located in this area. The fosse would have functioned as a defensive ditch up to 8 m in width, with its outer bank being almost 1 m in height. The fosse would probably have been filled with water diverted from the Clarin River (Rynne 1981, unpublished survey of Athenry Walls). In 1985 Etienne Rynne excavated a portion of a fosse which runs just outside the town wall (*Excavations 1985*, No. 28). Although greatly disturbed in modern times, it was concluded that the feature was flat-bottomed, 1.7 m deep and almost 5.5 m in width. The concrete covering of the sewer pipe and the pipe itself appear to have been excavated at the outer edge of the fosse, thereby preventing locating the outer edge or confirming the existence of an outer bank here. The testing at the site suggests that the majority of burials are located in the original town fosse and that the fosse was filled with a loose clay.

In 1985 Rynne excavated a portion of a fosse which runs just outside the town wall. Although greatly disturbed in modern times, it was concluded that the feature was flat-bottomed, 1.7 m deep and almost 5.5 m in width. The concrete covering of the sewer pipe and the pipe itself appear to have been excavated at the outer edge of the fosse thereby preventing locating the outer edge or confirming the existence of an outer bank here. The archaeological testing at the site suggests that the majority of burials are located in the original town fosse and that the fosse was filled with a loose clay.

Site name: Athenry: Church Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: 07E0482

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Town

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750–2000)

ITM: E 550070 m, N 727782 m

A proposed commercial development at Church Street, Athenry, required pre-development testing as a condition of planning permission. The development site is within the medieval town of Athenry and involved the demolition of an existing structure and construction of a new building. A single trench was excavated as part of the testing. The stratigraphy consisted of fill overlying bedrock, with 20th-century bottle and ceramic fragments recovered from the mixed fill. The recording of bedrock level at such a height within the town is interesting, as previous archaeological work in the vicinity did not reveal such a level.

Site name: Athenry: Church Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084-001

Licence number: 06E0177

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch Consultancy Ltd.

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Site type: Town defences

Period/Dating: Medieval (AD 400–1600)

ITM: E 550070 m, N 727782 m

Following consultation with National Monuments, it was recommended that testing should be undertaken in the area of a proposed pastoral centre south of the existing Roman Catholic Church at Church Street Athenry. The proposed development would be located in the vicinity of the medieval town wall. Two trenches were excavated in the area of the development. The testing revealed archaeological features in the form of small pits at a depth of 0.9 m. It was recommended that archaeological excavations be undertaken if the development was to proceed at this site.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084–001

Licence number: E2900; C182

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: Town

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750–2000)

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

A programme of pre-development test-pitting was carried out on a proposed development site at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway, on 10 and 11 April 2007. Nineteen test-pits, each measuring *c.* 2 m², were plotted on a 40 m grid system and excavated using a tracked excavator fitted with a wide grading bucket. A total of 15 features were uncovered. These comprised eight linear cuts, two subcircular features, three fire spots, a cobbled surface and a wall footing. The testing confirmed the findings of previous and more extensive programmes of testing at the site. There is much evidence of previous ground disturbance across the site, with a considerable depth of overburden present in some parts of the site and frequent cuts into the underlying subsoil. Much of the ground disturbance is considered to be associated with the development of Athenry House, but the site is known to retain considerable archaeological potential.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: GA084–001

Licence number: 06E0021

Author: Dominic Delany, Dominic Delany and Associates

Site type: Town

Period/Dating: Modern (AD 1750–2000)

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

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Two phases of pre-development testing were carried out on a proposed mixed-use development site at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway, in January and November 2006. The site is located in the heart of the medieval town and consisted of an open courtyard area surrounded by dilapidated galvanised sheds with lofts above, and a dwelling house with a long garden plot to the rear.

The first phase of testing comprised the excavation of three trenches, 25–30 m in length, in the courtyard area. A layer of modern overburden, 0.3 m in thickness, covered the site. This generally overlay an old garden soil deposit, which varied between 0.3 and 0.5 m in thickness and overlay orange/brown clay subsoil and grey coarse sand and gravel. Traces of a cobbled surface were exposed just below the existing yard surface. Several pits and linear features were also uncovered, but these were deemed to be relatively modern and of no archaeological significance. A second phase of testing was carried out in November 2006. This phase was concerned with the long garden plot to the rear of the dwelling and the footprint of the (now demolished) outbuildings. The stratigraphic sequence was similar to that recorded during the initial phase of testing. No archaeological material was uncovered.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 02E1758

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

Pre-development testing was undertaken at Cross Street, Athenry, which is within the medieval walls of the town. Two trenches were mechanically excavated, both oriented east–west, 13.5 m long and 1 m wide. Trench A was excavated to a depth of 0.8–0.9 m, and Trench B to a maximum depth of 1 m. The removal of the demolition debris revealed a stony rubble layer in both trenches. Occasional fragments of red brick and pottery were recovered from this layer, all of which were of late 20th-century date. Underlying this was a dark brown, silty clay layer with an average depth of 0.3 m. There was no evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0096

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

The development was situated on Cross Street, Athenry, and concerned the renovation of and an extension to a public house. The location of the development in a zone of archaeological potential necessitated pre-development testing. Three trenches were mechanically excavated. The stratigraphy revealed did not indicate any evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance. The layers

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present were comprised of a concrete surface and gravel layer, a stony rubble layer, a blackish brown silty layer and the natural bedrock. Finds included occasional modern glass, red brick and fragments of 20th-century pottery. The proposed extension on the site will involve the removal of soil for a depth of 0.45–0.5 m. This work would not appear to affect any archaeological layers.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 99E0070

Author: Fiona Rooney, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: Excavation - miscellaneous

Period/Dating: Undetermined

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

The proposed development concerned the erection of two stores and the extension to the rear of the present building. The development is within the Zone of Archaeological Potential of Athenry, and therefore pre-development testing was required.

Three trenches were mechanically excavated. The stratigraphy revealed indicated no evidence of features/deposits of archaeological significance. The layers present consisted of a dark brown garden soil overlying the natural.

Site name: Athenry: Cross Street

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 98E0553

Author: Martin Fitzpatrick, Archaeological Consultancy

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550202 m, N 727780 m

Pre-development testing in the form of trial trenches took place to establish the nature and extent of any archaeological features or deposits at Cross Street, Athenry, Co. Galway. Three trenches were mechanically excavated, with nothing of archaeological significance uncovered.

Site name: Athenry: Barrack Lane

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 84:1

Licence number: 97E0150

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Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550303 m, N 727808 m

Archaeological test excavation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development at Barrack Lane, Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. The site, measuring approximately 35 m², is situated at the east end of Barrack Lane and lies directly across the road from the ruins of the medieval Dominican Friary. Though an Anglo-Norman foundation, the friary owed much to native Irish patronage, with the O'Connors, O'Heynes and O'Kellys all contributing to its early development. The monastery was extensively damaged by fire in 1423, necessitating large-scale rebuilding. In 1574 it was dissolved and granted to the town, and in 1627 the friary was granted to Galway merchants, who allowed the friars to return and restored all the buildings. The Cromwellians expelled the friars in 1652, and the friary was a ruin by the end of the century. The conventual buildings were demolished about 1750 to make way for a military barracks.

A mass concrete house and stone shed were demolished in advance of the excavation, and four medieval dressed stones and architectural fragments were recovered from the stone dump. The stones were probably taken from the nearby friary church and reused as cornerstones in the construction of the shed. Following demolition, four test-trenches were excavated at the site. The stratigraphy was consistent across the excavated area. The topsoil consisted of a dark brown silty clay with inclusions of roots, pebbles, cobbles and flecks of charcoal. It was 0.25 m deep and overlay a mid-brown silty clay with inclusions of roots, pebbles, animal bone, brick, mortar and flecks of charcoal. These silty clays produced several modern pottery sherds and glass fragments. A naturally occurring light grey medium sand and gravel was encountered at 0.7 m below the old ground level. A fill of stones and redeposited soil was uncovered at the eastern end of the trenches. This fill appears to be associated with the banking of the small stream (River Clareen) which forms the eastern site boundary. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered.

Site name: Athenry: Barrack Lane

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 01E0847

Author: Martin Fitzpatrick, Arch. Consultancy Ltd.

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550303 m, N 727808 m

Pre-development testing was undertaken in compliance with a condition of planning permission. It was concerned with the demolition of an extension to the rear of a dwelling-house and the construction of a single-storey extension to the rear of same.

Two trenches were mechanically excavated. In Trench A (8 m by 1 m) the removal of sod uncovered a mixed brown layer (0.6 m in depth) with moderate stone inclusions. Fragments of red brick and pottery

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of 20th-century date were recovered from this layer. Underlying this was a grey/yellow boulder clay. In Trench B (7 m by 1 m) the stratigraphy was similar, with a brown clayey subsoil underlying the surface and overlying the natural boulder clay. No features/deposits of archaeological significance were encountered in either of the trenches

Site name: Athenry: Barrack Lane

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 84:1

Licence number: 97E0150

Author: Dominic Delany

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: E 550303 m, N 727808 m

Archaeological test excavation was carried out in advance of a proposed residential development at Barrack Lane, Athenry, Co. Galway, in May 1997. The site, measuring approximately 35 m², is situated at the east end of Barrack Lane and lies directly across the road from the ruins of the medieval Dominican Friary. Though an Anglo-Norman foundation, the friary owed much to native Irish patronage, with the O'Connors, O'Heynes and O'Kellys all contributing to its early development. The monastery was extensively damaged by fire in 1423, necessitating large-scale rebuilding. In 1574 it was dissolved and granted to the town, and in 1627 the friary was granted to Galway merchants, who allowed the friars to return and restored all the buildings. The Cromwellians expelled the friars in 1652, and the friary was a ruin by the end of the century. The conventual buildings were demolished about 1750 to make way for a military barracks.

A mass concrete house and stone shed were demolished in advance of the excavation, and four medieval dressed stones and architectural fragments were recovered from the stone dump. The stones were probably taken from the nearby friary church and reused as cornerstones in the construction of the shed. Following demolition, four test-trenches were excavated at the site. The stratigraphy was consistent across the excavated area. The topsoil consisted of a dark brown silty clay with inclusions of roots, pebbles, cobbles and flecks of charcoal. It was 0.25 m deep and overlay a mid-brown silty clay with inclusions of roots, pebbles, animal bone, brick, mortar and flecks of charcoal. These silty clays produced several modern pottery sherds and glass fragments. A naturally occurring light grey medium sand and gravel was encountered at 0.7 m below the old ground level. A fill of stones and redeposited soil was uncovered at the eastern end of the trenches. This fill appears to be associated with the banking of the small stream (River Clareen) which forms the eastern site boundary. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered.

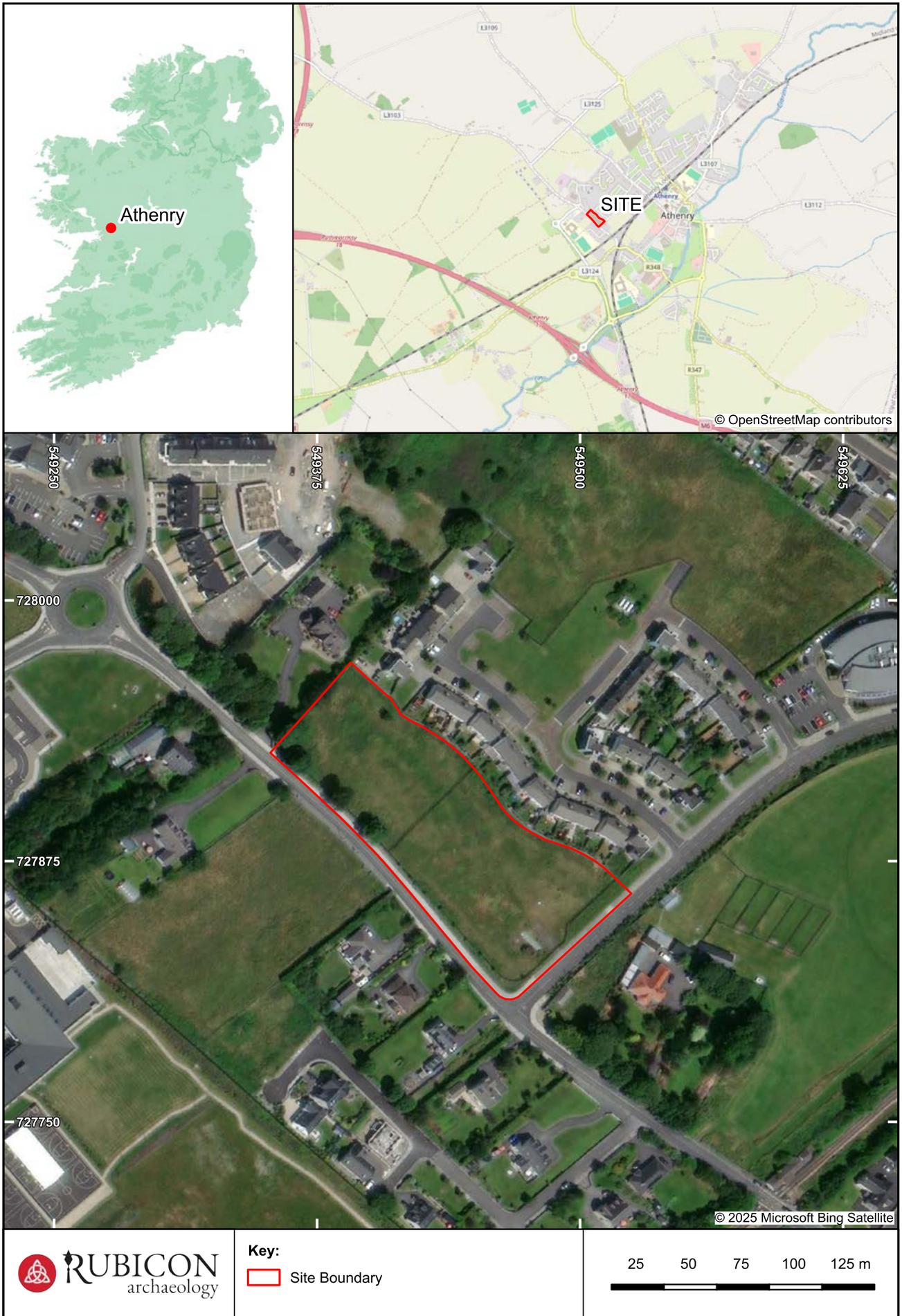


Figure 1 - Site location.

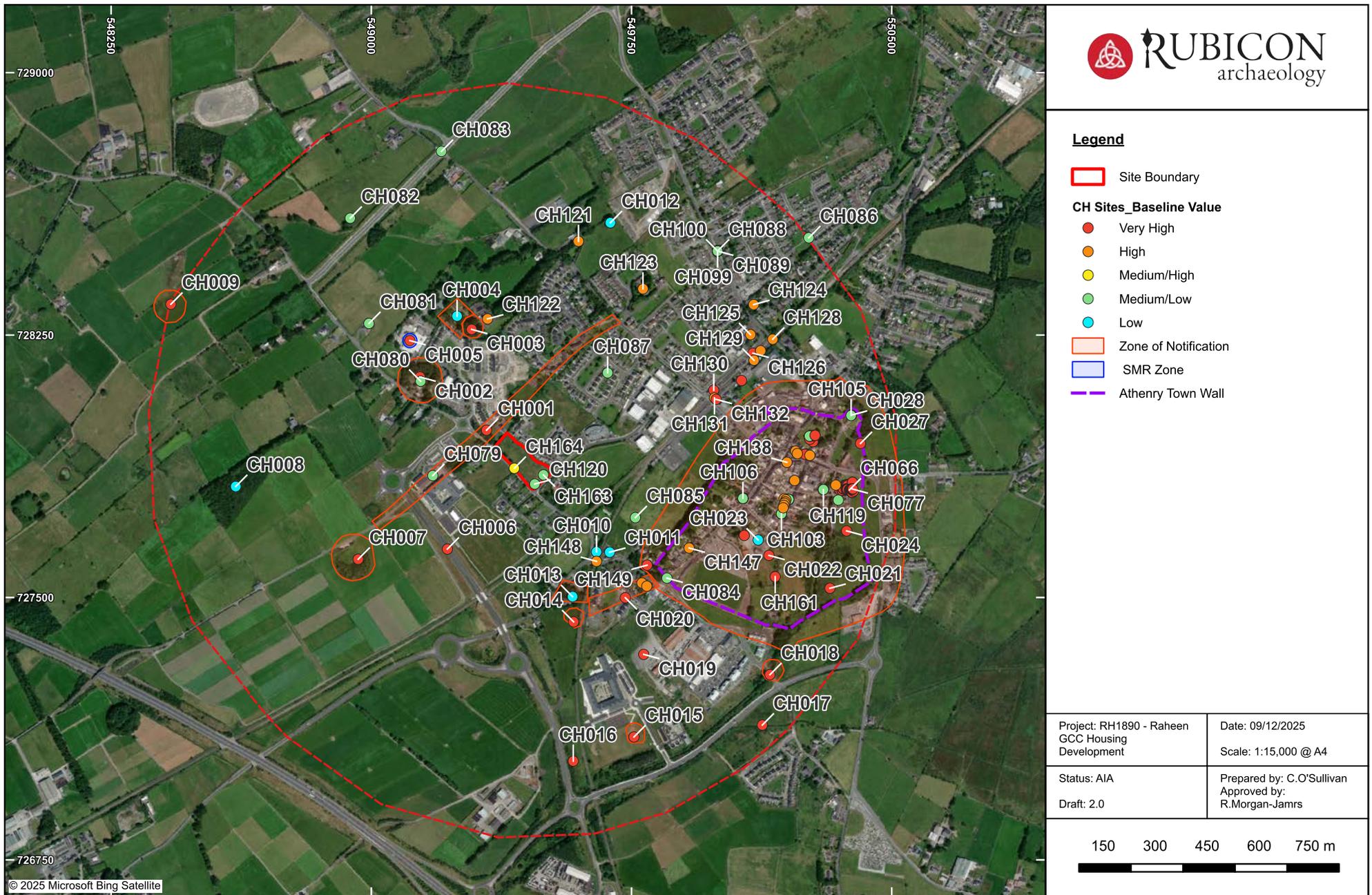


Figure 2.0 - Cultural Heritage sites within the proposed development study area.



Figure 2.1 - Cultural Heritage sites within the proposed development study area.

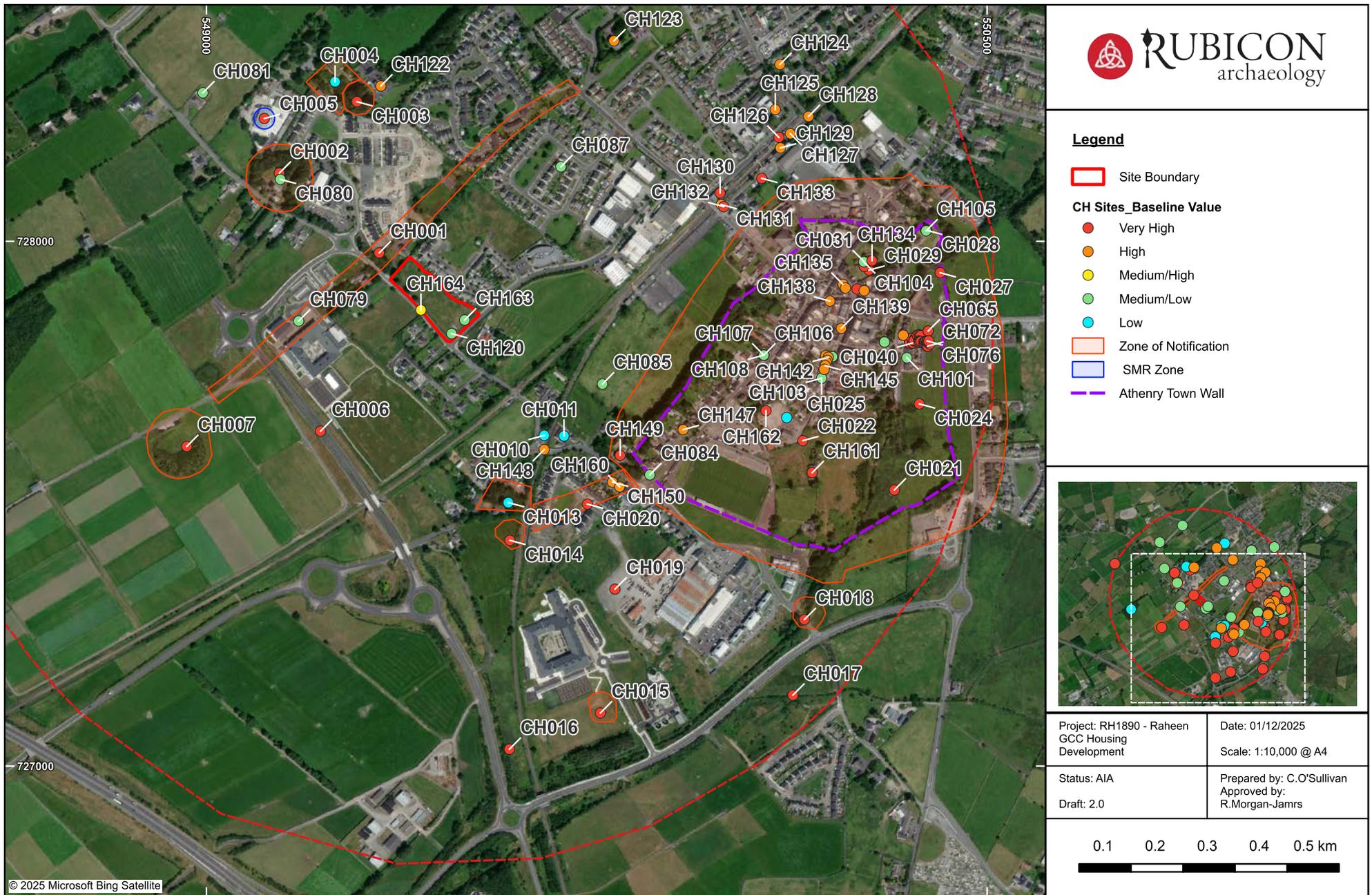


Figure 2.2 - Cultural Heritage sites within the proposed development study area.

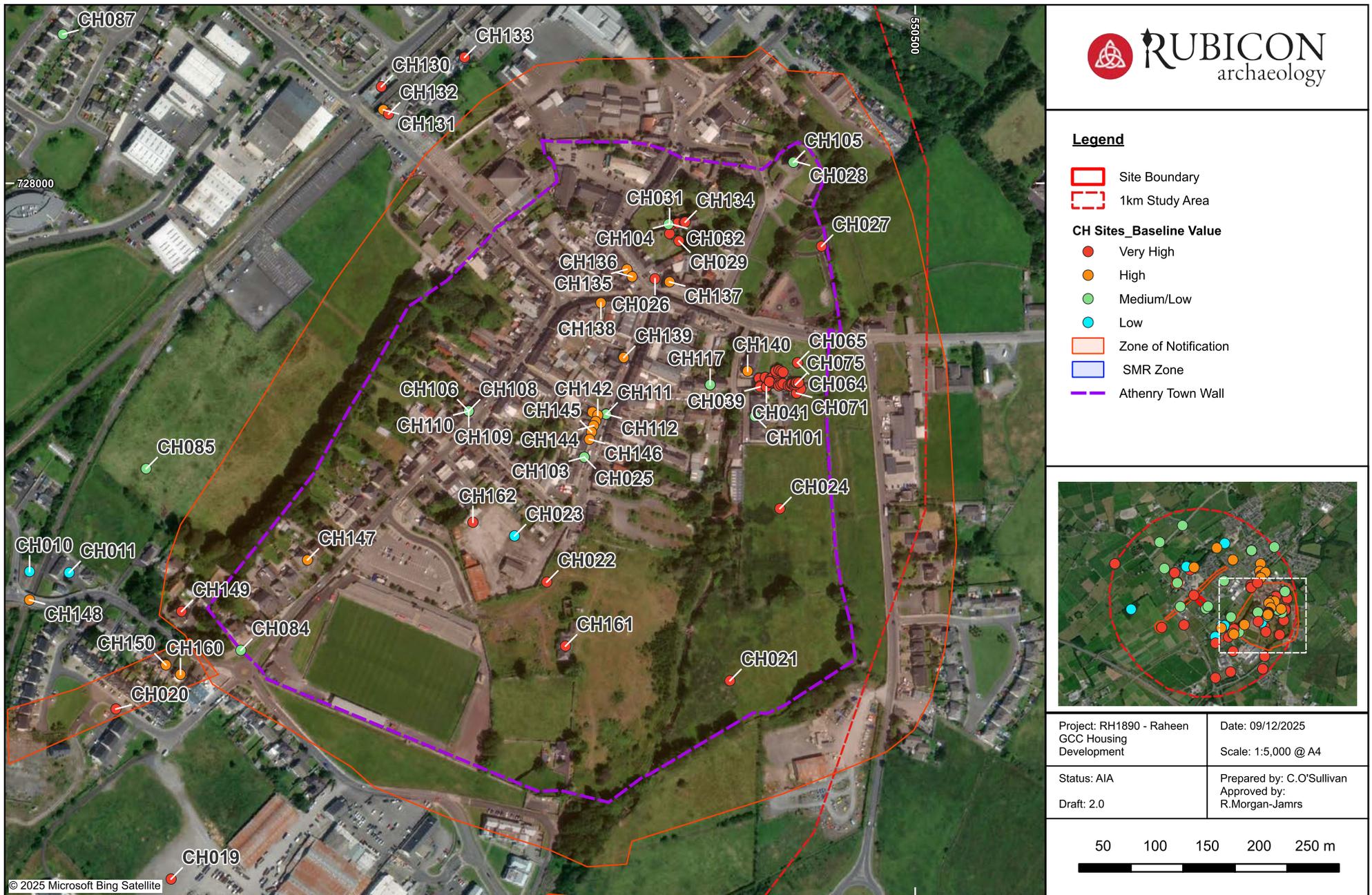


Figure 2.3 - Cultural Heritage sites within the proposed development study area.



Figure 2.4 - Cultural Heritage sites within the proposed development study area.

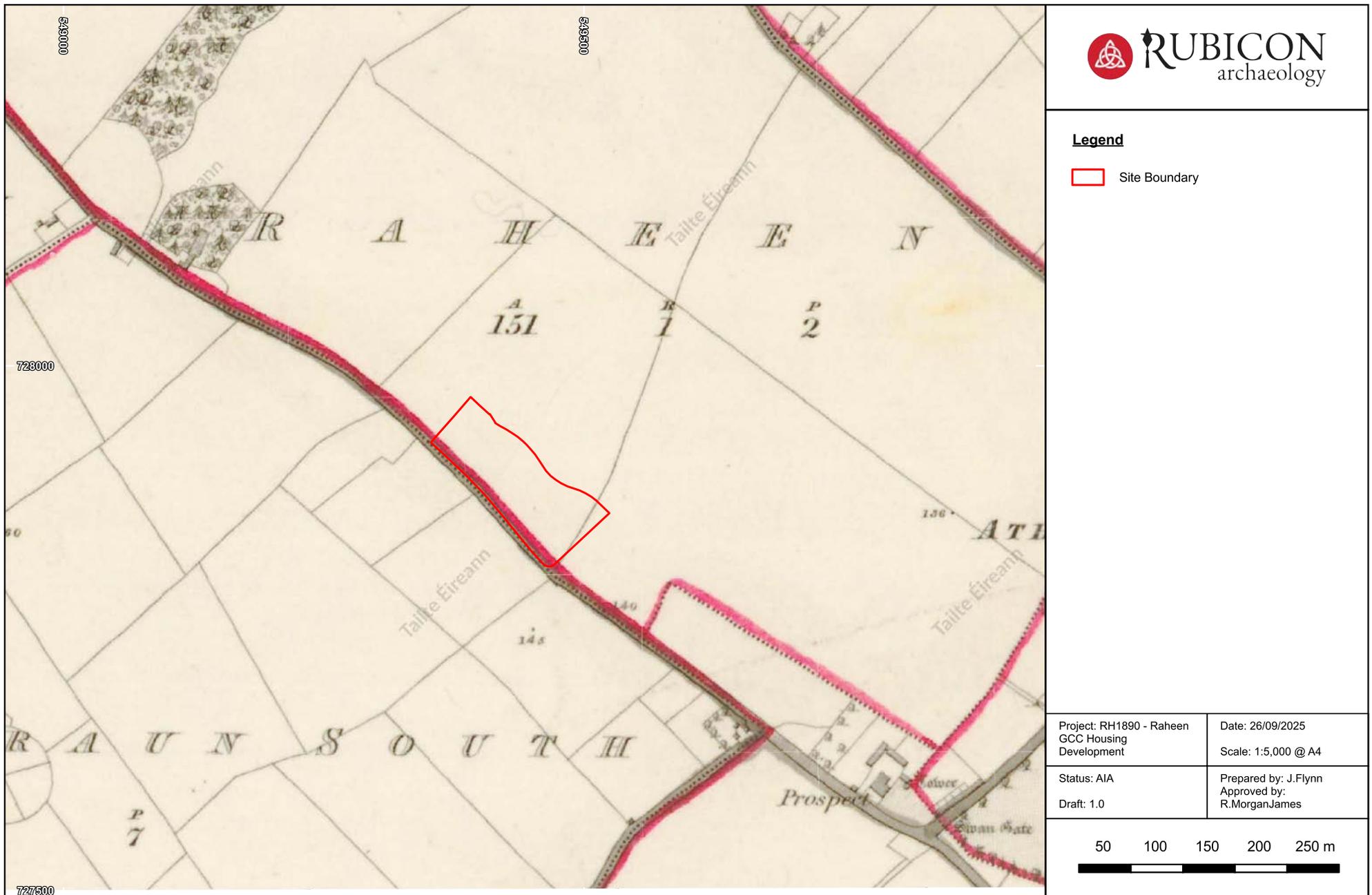
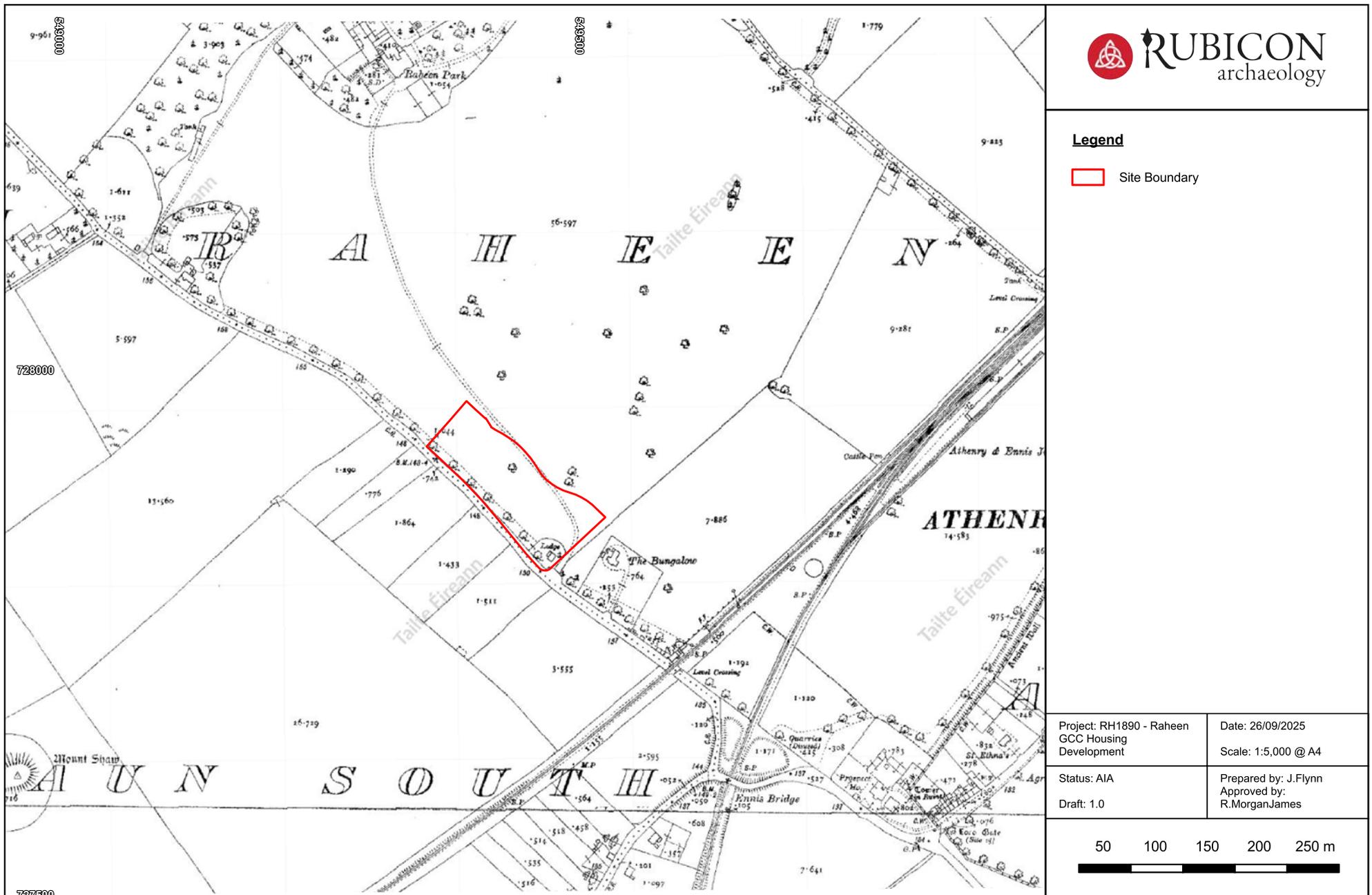


Figure 3 - First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with the proposed development



Legend

Site Boundary

Project: RH1890 - Raheen GCC Housing Development	Date: 26/09/2025 Scale: 1:5,000 @ A4
Status: AIA Draft: 1.0	Prepared by: J.Flynn Approved by: R.MorganJames

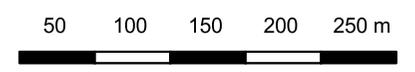


Figure 4 - First Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with the proposed development

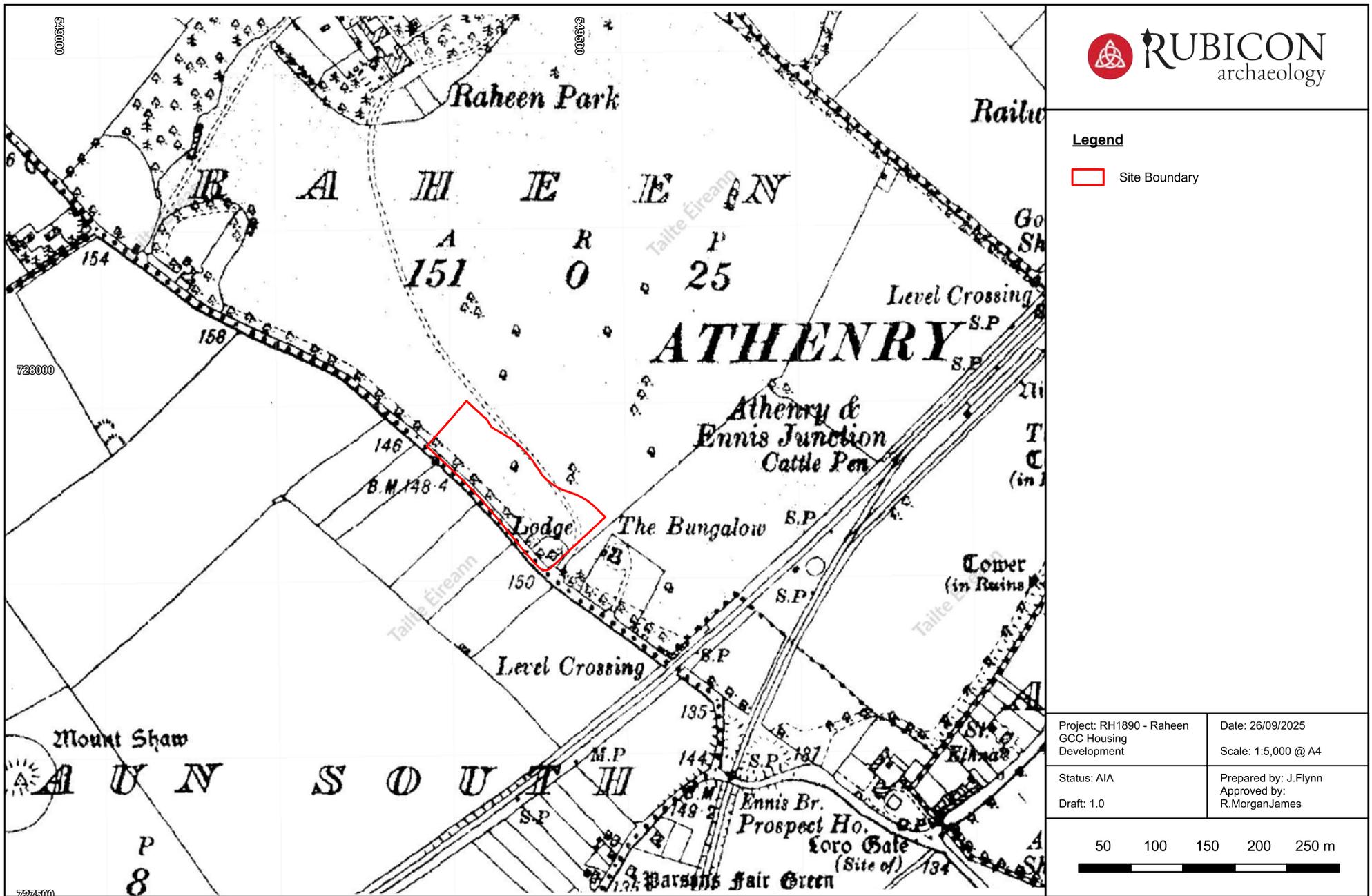


Figure 5 - Cassini 6-inch edition Ordnance Survey map with the proposed development

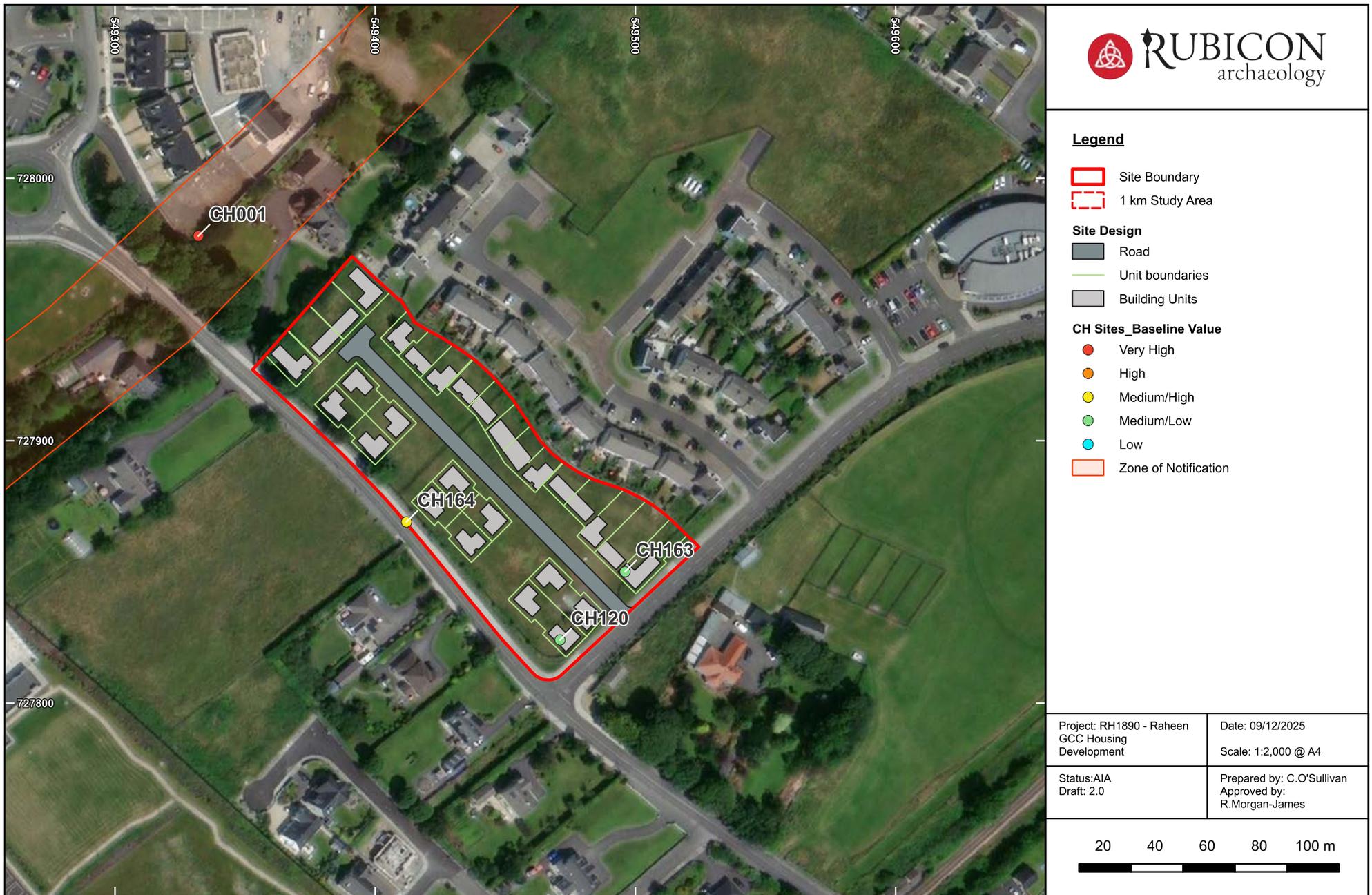


Figure 6 - Final Development Plan with CH sites