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CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Prepared by
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Our Reference 21107

Your Reference NA

ROSSES POINT PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENTS, ROSSES POINT CO. SLIGO

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This report describes work commissioned by LUC.

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Purpose

This report describes the results of a cultural heritage desktop and walkover assessment of a Public Realm Enhancement proposed at Rosses Upper, Rosses Point, Co. Sligo. The results, conclusions and recommendations contained within this report are based on information available at the time of its preparation. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that all relevant data has been collated, the author and Moore Group accept no responsibility for omissions and/or inconsistencies that may result from information becoming available after the reports completion. Moore Group accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the Client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

Filename: 21107 Rosses Point Public Realm CHA

Non-Technical Summary

Moore Group was commissioned to complete a cultural heritage impact assessment of the potential impact of a proposed Public Realm Enhancement at Rosses Upper, Rosses Point Co. Sligo. Detailed design of the proposed development is still being finalised at the time of this report. The study area is in the coastal village of Rosses Point in North County Sligo, 8.5km from Sligo town.

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage environment (hereafter referred to as cultural heritage environment or cultural heritage resource), to evaluate the potential or likely impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and, where appropriate, to suggest mitigation measures to ameliorate potential impacts. Following on from this, the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on the baseline cultural heritage resource is identified and evaluated.

The assessment found that the proposed development is adjacent to several recorded monuments but will not directly impact the Zones of Notification of two archaeological sites or monuments, SL008-174---- Enclosure and SL008-214---- Midden. There will be no residual impact either physical or visual to any known and recorded archaeological or architectural sites by the proposed Public Realm Enhancement works at Rosses Point.

However, given the archaeological nature of the immediate environs of the Proposed Development Area it is possible that archaeological deposits, material, and artefacts may survive below ground at the following locations: along the old village road at the former gated entrance to Elsinore House, at the road to the east of Elsinore House and adjacent to the entrance to Rosses Point Golf Course, outside Driftwood Restaurant, Harry's Bar and the Little Cottage Café as well as at the entrance to the village.

Therefore, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring be conducted by a suitably qualified archaeologist, under license to the Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, with provision being made for full recording, preservation in situ or excavation of any archaeological features or deposits which may be exposed during the course of future development work at the site.

Care should be taken to ensure that no inadvertent impacts to any of the sites, monuments, sites of architectural significance and vernacular features identified in this report are caused by machinery or personnel operating in these areas.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) and Sligo County Councils Conservation/Heritage Officer.

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Abbreviations

AAP	Area of Archaeological Potential
ACA	Architectural Conservation Areas
ASI	Archaeological Survey of Ireland
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
DLHG	Demesne Landscapes and Historic Gardens
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NMI	National Museum of Ireland
OSI	Ordnance Survey Ireland

RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
PDA	Proposed Development Area

Coordinate System

All GPS coordinates given in this report are in Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM).

1 Introduction

Moore Group was commissioned to complete a cultural heritage impact assessment of the potential impact of a proposed Public Realm Enhancement scheme for Rosses Point, Co. Sligo. Detailed design of the proposed development is still being finalised at the time of this report.

The Proposed Development Area (PDA) is located at Rosses Upper townland in the coastal village of Rosses Point roughly 8.5km west of Sligo town, the urban centre of County Sligo. The site consists of existing roads and open public spaces in the core of the village, mainly concentrated along the areas facing the sea and focusses along the promenade, the R291 road and the old road along where the public spaces including green areas and car parking areas are located.

1.1 Scope of Work

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment (hereafter referred to as cultural heritage environment or cultural heritage resource), to evaluate the potential or likely impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and, where appropriate, to suggest mitigation measures to ameliorate potential impacts, in accordance with the policies of:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The National Monuments Acts (1930-2014).
- Sligo County Development Plan; and
- Best practice guidelines.

Following on from this, the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on the baseline environment is identified and evaluated.

For the purposes of this report the definition of "cultural heritage" is taken broadly from the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972, which considers the following to be "cultural heritage":

- Tangible cultural heritage.
- movable cultural heritage (artefacts).
- immovable cultural heritage (monuments, archaeological sites, etc).
- underwater cultural heritage (shipwrecks, underwater ruins, and cities); and
- Intangible cultural heritage (oral traditions, folklore etc).

This impact assessment addresses Cultural Heritage under the two headings of archaeology and architectural/built heritage.

1.2 Methodology

The methodology used in the preparation of this assessment is broadly based on guidance provided in the National Roads Authority's (NRA) Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005a), and Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage

Impacts on National Road Schemes (NRA 2005b) (the 'NRA Guidelines'), which were deemed applicable to the task at hand.

1.2.1 Desktop Assessment

The desktop assessment was undertaken by archaeologist Tamlyn McHugh.

All known cultural heritage sites were reviewed on the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) along with aerial photography and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) mapping. Sites mapped included the following:

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the tentative list of candidate sites.
- National Monuments, be they in the ownership or guardianship of the State, in the ownership of a local authority or monuments under preservation orders.
- Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) from www.archaeology.ie.
- Records of Protected Structures from Sligo County Council.
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) for Co. Sligo; and
- Demesnes Landscapes and Historic Gardens indicated on the OSI First Edition Mapping.

All townlands located within 1km of the proposed development site were listed and cross referenced with:

- National Monuments, a list for Co. Sligo available from www.archaeology.ie.
- Preservation Orders, a list available from the National Monuments Service; and
- Lists contained in to the Report of the Commissioners or Church Temporalities of Ireland (1879) which contain lists of Churches, School Houses and Graveyards that were vested in the Representative Church Body and the Burial Boards under The Irish Church Act, 1869. These sites which have the potential to be in the ownership of the Local Authorities were highlighted as potential National Monuments.

The baseline historical research included a search of the British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography (www.biab.ac.uk) and the Royal Historical Society Bibliography (www.rhs.ac.uk/bibl/bibwel.asp). Hayes's catalogue of Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilisation (Hayes 1965) was consulted and entries in this catalogue are by person, place, subject and date. Other sources consulted include the Ordnance Survey Records for the area and several local history publications (see References).

The Sligo County Development Plan (2017-2023) was reviewed to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the cultural heritage of the area. The development plans contain lists of cultural heritage sites including national monuments, recorded monuments, architectural conservation areas, protected structures, and protected views as well as baseline assessments of the landscape character of the county.

The plans also outline the county's heritage policies and objectives that aim to protect and promote the archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage of the region. This evaluation was carried out with due regard to these policies and other relevant information contained within the plans.

The Rosses Point Mini-Plan, published in August 2017 was also reviewed.

To assess the potential impact of the proposal the following sources were also consulted or reviewed:

- Excavations Bulletin.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland.
- Cartographic Sources.
- Toponyms.
- Aerial photographs.
- Published archaeological inventories; and
- Documentary Sources: several literary references were consulted.

1.3 Terms and Definitions

Cultural Heritage

The phrase 'cultural heritage' is a generic term used to identify a multitude of cultural, archaeological, and architectural sites and monuments. The term 'cultural heritage', in Environmental Impact Statement 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 have historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical significance/merit.

Record of Monuments and Places

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. The RMP is the most widely applying provision of the National Monuments Acts. It comprises a list of recorded monuments and places (resulting from the Archaeological Survey of Ireland [ASI]) and accompanying maps on which such monuments and places are shown for each county. The information contained within the RMP is derived from the earlier non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). However, some entries were not transferred to the statutory record as they refer to features that on inspection by the Archaeological Survey were found not to merit inclusion in that record or could not be located with sufficient accuracy to be included. Such sites however remain part of the SMR. The record is a dynamic one and is updated to take account of on-going research.

When reference is made to the distance between an RMP and the proposed development site, 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.

Sites and Monuments Record

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) is an inventory of the known archaeological monuments in the State. There are more than 150,800 records in the database and over 138,800 of these relate to archaeological monuments.

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.

Register of Historic Monuments

Section 5 of the 1987 National Monuments Act states that the Minister is required to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded in the Register without the permission of the Minister is illegal, and two months' notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. This list was largely replaced by the Record of Monuments and Places following the 1994 Amendment Act.

1.4 Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023

The relevant policies and objectives for Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage management for Sligo were reviewed.

These policies and objectives are outlined in Chapter 7, Sections 7.2 of the County Development Plan.

The relevant policies are appended herein in section 5.3.4 of this report.

1.5 Description of Project

The development comprises several interventions aimed to create a safe, friendly and well-connected village core with exciting, vibrant and innovative public realm enhancements, enhancing links to the beach whilst protecting the valuable and unique environment of Rosses Point.

The key objects of the Public Realm Enhancement are to:

- Ensure pedestrian safety.
- Strengthen connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Reduce traffic speeds.
- Enhance the character, views, and heritage.
- Create a destination at the heart of the village.
- Enhance car parking provision.



Figure 1 Ordnance Survey map showing location of Proposed Development Area (PDA) at Rosses Point ©OSI



Figure 2 Aerial image showing PDA site at Rosses Point ©OSI

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Location Details

The site is in the townland of Rosses Upper, in the coastal village of Rosses Point in North County Sligo, which is accessed via the R291 road from Sligo to Rosses Point.

Table 1 Location details

County and town	Sligo (Rosses Point)
Barony	Carbury
Parish	Drumcliff
Street	R291
Townland	Rosses Upper
Locations	West of Sligo Town; within the coastal village of Rosses Point; urban coastal location of mixed used settlements & tourist businesses.
OS Sheet number (s)	SL008
Archaeological Monuments	None within subject site boundary. The recorded sites and monuments in the vicinity of the site are listed in the Introduction of Section 1 above.
Architectural Sites	None as listed by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) directly within the site boundary. Elsinore House (reg. no. 32304009) is located c. 50m to the west of the site.
ITM	Centred on 563792/839784

2.2 Archaeological, Architectural and Historical Background

2.2.1 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1.1 Mesolithic Period

The Mesolithic (middle stone age) people were the first inhabitants of Ireland, arriving about 9000 years ago (c.6000BC – 4000 BC). They were a mobile society relying on wild resources for food which was hunted and gathered using stone tools as well as boats, nets, and traps. Settlement was in temporary and semi-permanent groups of huts constructed of wood slung with hide which may have operated as seasonal or hunting camps.

In many cases, the edges of coastal estuarine areas were the preferred location of Mesolithic settlement. Antiquarians of the 19th and early 20th centuries believed a stone flake found in Rosses Point, Co. Sligo was evidence of Palaeolithic settlement in the county. However, this item is now believed to be natural

in origin and the earliest artefacts are in fact worked chert from the excavations at Lough Gara, which date to the Mesolithic. Some of the dates received from the archaeological excavations at Carrowmore have led to speculation over a transitional Mesolithic/Neolithic 'culture' involving semi-permanent dwellings and seasonal harvesting of wild food.

2.2.2 Neolithic Period

Farming was first adopted in the Middle East but spread gradually across Europe in succeeding centuries, arriving in Ireland about 4000 BC. Tending of crops and animals required a more sedentary lifestyle and larger permanent settlements were built. The megalithic (from the Greek mega – large and lith – stone) monuments of the Neolithic people built as communal tombs or for ceremonial purposes, are relatively common in the landscape. New methods were adopted for shaping stone tools and the first long distance trade networks were established.

The earliest substantial evidence for human habitation in this area dates to the Neolithic period (c.4000BC – 2500BC). Sligo is well represented by megalithic monuments of the Neolithic, having examples of all four types, which accounts for 15% of the national total. Carrowmore and Carrowkeel are two of the most important passage tomb cemeteries in Ireland with the former yielding the earliest C14 dates. These Sligo cemeteries account for 39% of the national total. Recent excavations by Stefan Berg have uncovered field systems and occupation sites associated with these monuments, which have provided an added material context for their construction.

There are also many court tombs in Sligo including a typical example of a full court tomb at Creevykeel near Cliffooney and a central court tomb at Deerpark. There are 38 wedge tombs in County Sligo including examples at Cabragh on the southern slopes of the Ox Mountains and at Culdaly near Aclare in the south of the county. Portal tombs in the county include the Labby rock at Carrickglass, which is topped by a 70-tonne capstone and a collapsed example at Clogher. Excavations at Waste Gardens in Sligo town uncovered Neolithic chert. Recent archaeological work carried out at Caltragh uncovered a 'prehistoric' field system and Neolithic settlement site. There have also been Neolithic field systems discovered on Benbulbin.

2.2.3 The Bronze Age/The Iron Age/Early Historic Period

As stone tools were replaced by the use of copper, later combined with tin to make bronze, the structure of society also changed over centuries. While some communal megalithic monuments, particularly wedge tombs continued to be used, the Bronze Age is characterised by a movement towards single burial and the production of prestige items and weapons, suggesting that society was increasingly stratified and warlike. In late Bronze Age Ireland, the use of the metal reached a high point with the production of high-quality decorated weapons, ornament, and instruments, often discovered from hoards or ritual deposits. Beaker pottery and funerary remains were found in the Moyturra wedge tomb at the end of the 19th Century. There have also been over 100 'barrow' or mound burials found in Sligo. The most common field monuments of the Bronze Age however are fulacht fiadh. These are mounds of burnt stone usually associated with troughs (often wood lined) and ancillary pits or 'pot boilers'. While the usual explanation of their use involves the cooking of meat this is by no means conclusive. Other theories

have included ritual bathing, felt making and brewing. It may be more helpful to view these monuments in terms of a then current technology for the heating of water rather than focussing on the search for an exclusive employment of that water. Regional and cultural differences may have occurred. These could certainly be reflected in the variety of troughs found. Several of these monuments have been excavated in County Sligo at Carrowgobbadaw and Caltragh.

The Iron Age however is known as a 'dark age' in Irish prehistory. Iron objects are found rarely but there is no evidence for the warrior culture of the rest of Europe although the distinctive La Tené style of art with animal motifs and spirals was adopted. Life in Iron Age in Ireland seems to have been much as it was in the early historic period – mixed farmers living in or around small, defended settlements known as ringforts or stone cashels. In the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age distinctive settlement sites known as Hillforts arose. These are large defensive enclosures situated on elevated or hilltop locations. There are several examples in Sligo including a 700m x 320m site on Knocknashee near Lavagh. The defensive element of this site is composed of two bank and ditch enclosures incorporating earthen and stone ramparts. The enclosed area covers a total of 53 acres. Promontory forts situated on cliff edges are a monument associated with the Iron Age and an example of these can be found at Knocklane in the north of the county. This is situated on a narrow peninsula defended on its eastern side by a double bank and ditch linked by a causeway and a third bank and ditch further on. There is a cliff edge fort at Carrowhubbock North near Enniscrone which consists of three outer banks and an inner ditch with a maximum diameter of 70m.

Cashels and Rathes are a feature of the Early Historic or Early Christian period in Ireland. These are circular enclosures consisting usually of an earthen bank and ditch in the case of Rathes or stone walling in Cashels. There is a gap in the enclosure for access and egress and there is often a causeway to facilitate this. These sites are often associated with souterrains, stone lined underground passages which probably acted as storage areas and, when the need arose, places of refuge. Examples in the county include Rathmullagh ringfort south of Enniscrone which is a 66m bank and ditch enclosure containing a multi chambered souterrain and Clogher cashel near Monasteraden which has a 2m surviving stone wall 26m in diameter enclosing three souterrains. Cashelore, is referred to in the Annals of the Four Masters wherein, "O'Rourke invaded County Sligo but was encountered at Cashelore by the cavalry of the O'Healys. The latter were defeated, and their territory pillaged."

Early Christian monuments in Co. Sligo include the monastic settlement on Inishmurray Island, which consists of a cashel enclosing two churches, a beehive cell and a later medieval building. There is another church outside the main enclosure and also a sweathouse and graveyard. There are also over 50 engraved stone slabs on the island. It is recorded that the Vikings raided the island in the year 807. Other ecclesiastical sites include: Kilaspugbrone in Strandhill reputed to have been founded in the 5th Century by Bishop Bronus, a disciple of St. Patrick; Carrowntemple south of Gurteen; Kiltura in the same area; St. Fecin's church northwest of Ballisodare and Drumcliffe round tower and high cross. There are also numerous holy wells including Tober Na nAlt holy well on the shore of Lough Gill.

2.2.4 Later Historic Period

The Medieval period includes the arrival of the Anglo Normans in the 12th century. The Late Medieval Period may be running up to the 17th century. From 1169 AD when one of the warring kings (Dermot

MacMurrough) in the east of Ireland appealed to the King of England for help in his fight with a neighbouring king, the response of which was the arrival of the Anglo-Norman colonisation of Ireland. Norman control meant the eclipse of many Gaelic lords and chieftains, chiefly the O'Connor's of Connacht. Following the collapse of the lordship in the 1330s, all these families became estranged from the Anglo-Irish administration based in Dublin and assimilated with the Gaelic-Irish, adopting their language, religion, dress, laws, customs and culture and marrying into Irish families. They "became more Irish than the Irish themselves".

The Anglo Normans encouraged and established many religious orders from continental Europe to settle in Ireland. Mendicant orders—Augustinians, Carmelites, Dominicans and Franciscans began new settlements across Ireland and built large churches, many under the patronage of prominent Gaelic families. During the 15th and 16th centuries, despite regular conflicts between them as England chopped and changed between religious beliefs, the Irish usually regarded the King of England as their King. When Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne in the mid-16th century, the English people, as was customary at that time, followed the religious practices of the reigning Monarch and became Protestant. Many Irish people had close relationships with the English monarchy and the English kings and queens were welcome visitors to Irish shores. The Irish however, generally held onto their Catholic religious practices and beliefs. The early plantations of settlers in Ireland began during the reign of Queen Mary in the mid-16th century and continued throughout the long reign of Queen Elizabeth I until 1603. In September of 1588 the galleons of the Spanish Armada were wrecked by storms along the west coast of Ireland at Streedagh, Co. Sligo. Some of the hapless Spaniards came ashore, only to be robbed and imprisoned, and in many cases slaughtered. Almost all the religious foundations set up by the Anglo Normans were suppressed in the wake of the Reformation in the 16th century.

Protestant settlers from Scotland, England, and elsewhere in Ireland, settled in the County in the early 17th century. Many would be killed or forced to flee because of the 1641 Rebellion, during which a number of massacres were committed by the Catholic Gaelic Irish. A third of the overall population was reported to have perished due to warfare, famine and plague between 1641 and 1653, with several areas remaining disturbed and frequented by Reparees into the 1670s.

Sligo town was extensively fortified during the Jacobite war and the Green Fort became the strongest point of the town's defences. Both town and fort changed hands several times in this period. In 1689 the Jacobite Commander Patrick Sarsfield constructed additional defensive works at the Green Fort. After the Jacobite defeat at the Battle of the Boyne in July 1690, Sir Teige O'Regan took command of Sligo and brought guns up from the Stone Fort to the higher situation of the Green Fort which he considered of key importance to the defence of the town. O'Regan held out from the Williamites until September 1691 with a garrison of 600 men and sixteen guns. The original earthworks and bastions of the fort survive well on the site, however the location of the extra defences constructed in 1689 are unknown.

The Green Fort stands in the townland of Rathquarter and has also related to the name Rath Na Vritoge. There are no obvious defended settlements in the immediate area, and it has been suggested that the star shaped fort may have replaced an earlier construction. None of the secular buildings of the medieval and post medieval appear to survive today, with the only visible remnant of the towns urban defences being the 17th century Green Fort.

2.3 Archaeological Heritage

2.3.1 World Heritage Sites

Although not formally recognised in Irish legislation, impacts on World Heritage Sites will nonetheless be a material consideration for developments in their wider vicinity.

There are no potential World Heritage Site contained in the Tentative List of Candidate Sites within 5km of the study area.

2.3.2 National Monuments in State Care, Guardianship or under Protection Order

On a national level, the highest degree of protection granted to archaeological monuments are those afforded National Monument status, which are protected under the National Monuments Act of 1930 and its various amendments. These are the pre-eminent archaeological sites in Ireland and fall into several categories including:

- Sites that are in the ownership or guardianship of the state;
- Monuments that are the subject of Preservation Orders;
- Monuments in the ownership of a local authority; and
- Walled towns.

Generally National Monuments in state care are numbered amongst the best preserved and most impressive monuments in the country.

There are no National Monuments within or within the immediate vicinity.

2.3.3 Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)

The legislation that affords protection to the archaeology of Ireland has seen several amendments since the first National Monuments Act of 1930 and there is a legacy of several different registers and associated terminology.

The following sections contain information relative to the Register of Historic Monuments (RHM), the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD). Archaeological monuments are general registered by the National Monuments Service using a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) number.



Figure 3 Showing the proposed development area and nearest RMP/SMR sites indicated by the red dot



Plate 1 SE facing view of Midden SMR No.: SL008-214----

2.3.4 Archaeological Survey Database

The most up-to-date record of archaeological monuments, the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD), is available for viewing and download on the www.archaeology.ie website. This record is continually revised and indicates several additional sites that do not feature in the RMP. The National Monuments Service also makes available SMR Zones of Notification on the website.

Archaeological monuments listed in the ASD that are located in the vicinity of the proposed development are presented in Table 2. Distances indicated are from the point data, made available in the ASD, to the site boundary.

Table 2 Relevant SMR's in the vicinity of the subject area.

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM Reference (E)	ITM Reference (N)	Distance
SL008-174----	Enclosure	Rosses Upper	564079	839677	c.100m W
SL008-213----	Midden	Rosses Upper	562806	829694	c.280m W
SL008-214----	Midden	Rosses Upper	562968	839844	c. 150m S

SMR No.: SL008-174----

Classification: Enclosure

Description: Situated in gently undulating pasture 100m to N of foreshore at W end of Rosses Point. There are excellent views over Oyster Island, Coney Island and the mouth of Sligo Harbour. This enclosure is not depicted on any edition of the OS 6-inch map, but is recorded on an aerial photograph (OS 3 0337-8, roll 158, pr. 24). A field inspection in 1994 found that the enclosure had been leveled, but a faint outline could still be traced. It consisted of a circular area (diam. 9.5m N-S) defined by a fosse, evident as a shallow depression (Wth 2-2.3m; D 0.2m). Outside the fosse, an outer bank could be traced at NE-W as a very low rise (Wth c. 2m; int. H 0.2m; ext. H 0.1m). The overall diameter from mid bank to mid bank was 16m N-S. The interior sloped gently down from N to S. When inspected in 2004, there was no visible surface trace at ground level.

SMR No.: SL008-213----

Classification: Midden

Description: Located on the stony SW shoreline of the Rosses Point peninsula, on the N side of the mouth of Sligo Bay. Coney Island is 300m to S and Oyster Island 500m to SW in the bay. The midden is exposed on the S arm of a small dry dock, which dates to the modern era. The dry dock consists of a

sandy-based, subrectangular area (c. 6-8m N-S; c. 12m E-W) which was dug out to create a sheltered resting place for boats, and is faced on the N and S sides by drystone walling.

The exposed portion of the midden is visible as a dense layer (L c. 6m E-W; D c. 0.5m) of oyster shells, with occasional cockle, whelk and periwinkle shells, intermixed with small stones/pebbles. The shells in the lower 0.2m of the layer appear more fragmentary. The full depth of the midden is unclear as the lower portion of the section face is obscured by the dry dock drystone walling (H 0.45m; Wth 0.6m). The original extent of the midden cannot be determined: at E it ends at the terminal of the dry dock; at W it disappears into a gently rising, grass-covered slope; the top of the section face is covered by a thick layer of humic soil and long grass, which extends for 4m to S where it meets the stony beach.

SMR No.: SL008-214----

Classification: Midden

Description: On the S shoreline of Rosses Point peninsula, on the N side of Sligo Bay. This midden is exposed in section in a high vertical scarp (H 1.3m at W, 2-2.4m at E) along the W and S side of a curving arm of elevated, dry ground, which encloses a small lagoon on its N side and is bordered by a stone beach on its S, sea-ward side.

The midden is visible towards the top of the vertical scarp and is overlain by a layer of sod. Much of the section face is concealed beneath overgrowth, but glimpses of a shell layer can be traced intermittently along the E-W length of the scarp for a total of c. 40m. It is most substantial, and more fully exposed, at the W end (ITM 564080 839680) of its extent, where it is visible as a concentrated layer (L 15-20m; D c. 0.4-0.5m) of oyster shells, with occasional periwinkle shells, intermixed with some pebbles and small stones. The lower portion (D c. 0.2-0.25m) of the layer reveals a concentration of relatively intact oyster shells; above this the shells are highly fragmented. Evidence of the midden becomes increasing scant towards the E end (ITM 534148 839653) of the scarp. In parts, deposits of shell are visible at lower levels on the scarp face, and some at least of these appear to be displaced portions of the midden, which have slumped or been eroded out of the scarp.

2.3.5 Historic Maps

Analysis of historic mapping shows how the landscape has changed over time. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered or removed over a period of time. Sometimes features that appear on these early maps are found to be of potential archaeological significance during fieldwork. For this study the following historic maps were consulted:

- First edition Ordnance Survey 6" Maps circa 1830; and
- Third edition Ordnance Survey 25" Maps circa 1900.

A review of the available cartographic sources began with the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6" Maps (Figure 4) depicts the subject area in pre-famine times (created 1829-1841). The lands adjacent to the PDA are depicted as clusters of clachan settlements at Upper and Lower Rosses. Houses line the street which separated the houses from the shore. The present Promenade along the R291 road was not built until the 1970s and the old road functioned as the main access to the village and the hinterlands towards

Bowmore Strand. The name change to Rosses Point did not occur until the 1870s. Notable on the map is 'Elsinore House' and nearby is the 'Waterguard Station' and associated 'Flag Staff'.

Figure 5 depicts the subject area on the Third edition OS 25" map (1897-1913). At this stage, a gate lodge is indicated at the entrance to Elsinore House. Several buildings are now indicated including Presbyterian Church east of the gate lodge, and a new Church of Ireland and Coastguard Station are present at the eastern end of the scheme at the entrance to the village. Facing the street are a proliferation of houses and associated linear plots and several hotels.



Figure 4 Extract from OS 6" first edition map showing subject site.

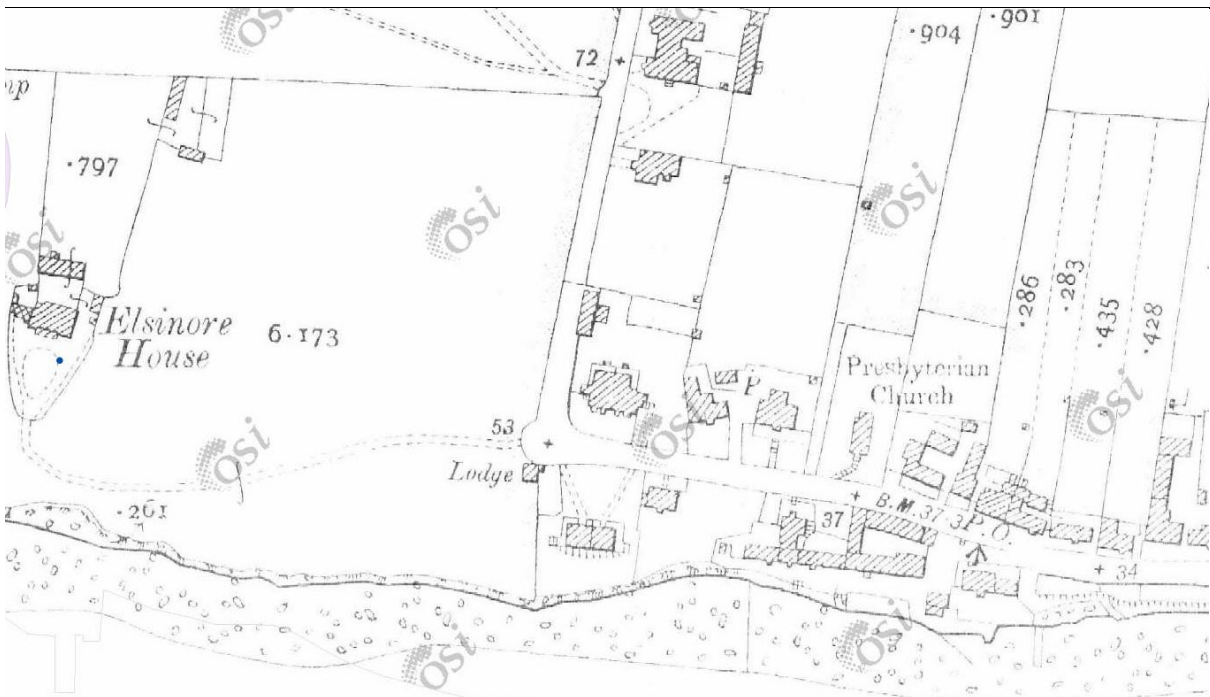


Figure 5 Extract from OS 25" third edition map showing West area of the subject site in c. 1913.

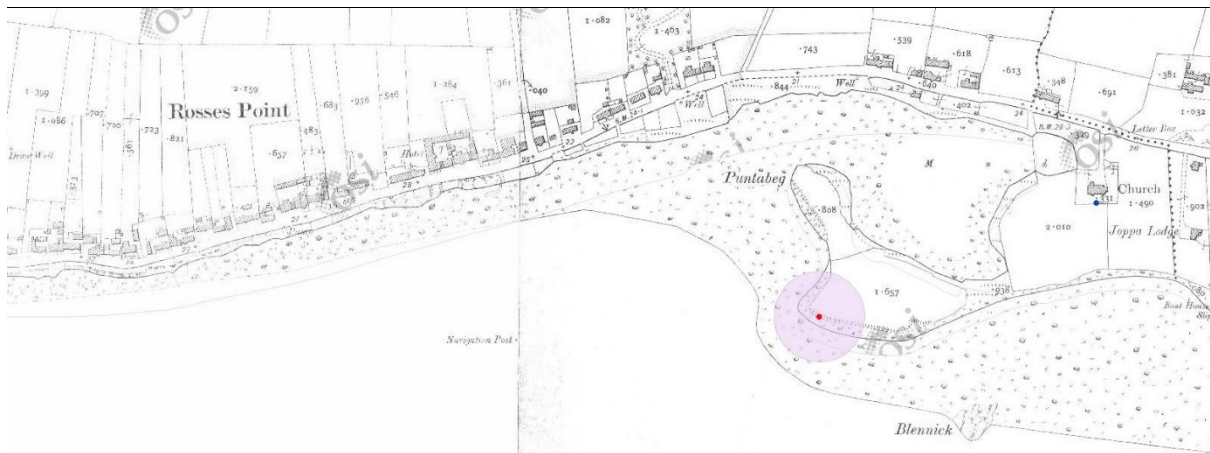


Figure 6 Extract from OS 25" third edition map showing East area of the subject site in c. 1913.

2.3.6 Aerial Photography

The usefulness of aerial photography is that it allows for a different perspective - 'the distant view'. Archaeological sites may show up on the ground surface, depending on their state of preservation, by light and shadow contrasts (shadow marks), tonal differences in the soil (soil marks) or differences in height and colour of the cultivated cereal (crop marks). It is also a useful aid in pinpointing existing features and can assist in ascertaining their extent and degree of preservation. Nothing of cultural heritage significance was noted within the site boundary.



Figure 7 Aerial image of the site.

2.3.7 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

The topographical files of the NMI identify all recorded finds held in the NMI archive that have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation. The files sometimes include reports on excavations undertaken by NMI archaeologists in the early 20th century. Valuable information that can be gleaned might include the exact location, ground type, depth below ground level and condition when found, of each find. However, the amount and the usefulness of the information

available on each find can vary considerably. The topographical files are listed by county and townland and/or street name.

There are no records of finds in the vicinity of the subject area available from the NMI topographical files.

2.3.8 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork

The Excavation Bulletin is both a published annual directory and an online database that provides summary accounts of all the excavations carried out in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 to 2022.

The database gives access to over 15,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including Year, County, Site Name, Site Type, Grid Reference, Licence No., Sites and Monuments Record No. and Author.

The National Roads Authority (NRA) archaeological database (<http://archaeology.nra.ie>) contains a description of the results of excavations carried out in advance of various road schemes. In general, the database contains information on sites for which final excavation reports have been received.

The following entries are recorded in the general area:

2002:1660 - Rosses Upper, Rosses Point, Sligo

County: Sligo Site name: Rosses Upper, Rosses Point

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A Licence number: 02E0278

Author: Martin A. Timoney, Bóthar an Chorainn, Keash, Co. Sligo.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 563357m, N 840303m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 54.310158, -8.563080

This development of thirteen small houses is on a site measuring 0.75ha on the south side of the Rosses Point peninsula, opposite Oyster Island. This land was part of the back gardens of houses of the 19th-century seaside village of Rosses Point.

A major deep trench from earlier works was backfilled to facilitate the work. Soil-stripping for the proposed road and footpaths and the southern of two semi-detached house sites was monitored over four days in April 2002. The topsoil was rich in organic material. In the deeper cutting, reaching to 1.4m at the northern end, what seemed to be glacial deposits with some rocks up to 0.6m across were encountered. There were no archaeological deposits or finds of any sort.

2.3.9 Toponym Analysis

Townland names are a rich source of information for the land use, history, archaeology and folklore of an area. The place name can have a variety of language origins such as, Irish, Viking, Anglo-Norman and English. The names can provide information on families, topographical features, and historical incidents. In terms of the built environment many names reference churches, fords, castles, raths, graveyards, roads and passes etc. In compiling the following data, a number of resources were consulted

including the Placenames Database of Ireland www.logainm.ie and Irish Names of Places by P.W. Joyce (Joyce, 1913).

Table 3: Toponyms

Townland Name/ Name	Irish Version	Translation
Rosses Upper/Rosses Point	An Ros genitive: an Rois	'Ros' – meaning (wooded) height; wood; promontory

2.4 Architectural Heritage

2.4.1 Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA)

The Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, provides that all Development Plans must now include objectives for preserving the character of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs). An ACA is a place, area, group of structures or townscape of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest, or which contribute to the appreciation of protected structures.

In these areas, the protection of the architectural heritage is best achieved by controlling and guiding change on a wider scale than the individual structure, in order to retain the overall architectural or historic character of an area.

There are no ACA's adjacent to the site boundary, within Rosses Upper townland, or within adjacent townlands.

2.4.2 Record of Protected Structures (RPS) / National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)/ Industrial/Vernacular Heritage

The importance of our built heritage is enshrined in the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (Part II, Section 10) which places a statutory obligation on local authorities to include in their Development Plans objectives for the protection of structures, or parts of structures, which are of special interest. The principal mechanism for the protection of these structures is through their inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). This list provides recognition of the structures importance, protection from adverse impacts and potential access to grant aid for conservation works. The record of Protected Structures is an ongoing process and can be reviewed and added to. In considering additions to the Record of Protected Structures local authorities have recourse to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which provides a source of guidance on the significance of buildings in their respective areas.

There are 5 Records of Protected Structures in the general area of the subject site, as listed by Sligo County Council:

Location	Structure/Site	Description
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Rosses Upper, Rosses Point	Rosses Point Church (Col) (NIAH reg. no. 32304012) RPS no. 349	Detached multiple-bay limestone Church of Ireland church, built c. 1850.
Rosses Upper, Rosses Point	Greenland Villas (NIAH reg. no. 32304011) RPS no. 348	Pair of semi-detached two-bay two- storey rendered houses, built c. 1900.
Rosses Upper, Rosses Point	Thatched cottage (NIAH reg. no. 32400832) RPS no. 350	Detached five-bay single-storey thatched house, built c. 1830.
Rosses Upper, Rosses Point	Elsinore House (NIAH reg. no. 32304009) RPS no. 351	Detached multiple-bay two-storey rendered house, built c. 1880, now ruinous.
Rosses Upper, Rosses Point	Golf Club (NIAH reg. no. 32304008)	Detached multiple-bay single-storey rendered golf clubhouse, built 1894.

2.4.3 Designed Landscapes/Demesnes, Historic Gardens & Country Estates

The Architectural Section of the DHLGH is in the process of a multi-phase study looking at Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens that appear as shaded areas on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps, circa. 1830.

'The objective of this survey is to begin a process of understanding of the extent of Ireland's historic gardens and designed landscape. Sites were identified using the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps. These were compared with current aerial photography to assess the level of survival and change.'

There are no listed historic gardens/designed landscapes in the general area of the subject site.

2.5 Fieldwork

The site inspection was conducted on the 20th of January 2022. The conditions were good for the inspection and all areas were fully accessible. A site walkover was completed, and a visual inspection undertaken at the six locations of the proposed works as part of the Public Realm Enhancement at Rosses Point. The work is aimed at improving connectivity between the old village road and the promenade and will focus on the following six areas are:

1. Crossing near Sligo Golf Club.
2. Crossing outside Austie's Bar & Restaurant.
3. Crossing at The Driftwood.
4. Crossing at New Road to Car park at Harry's Bar.
5. Crossing at the Little Cottage Café.
6. Entrance junction to Rosses Point.

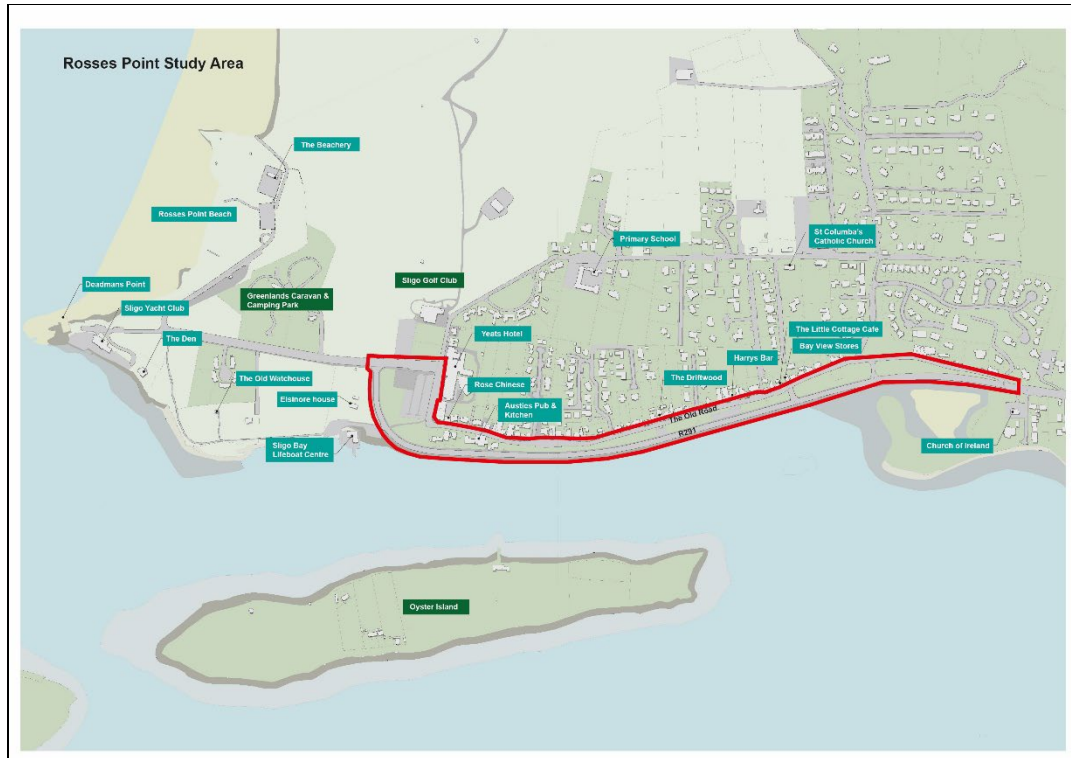


Figure 8 Rosses Point Study area and PDA

2.5.1 Crossing near Sligo Golf Club

A site walkover took place of the road and access area to the Sligo Golf Course. The proposed concept design will provide for the narrowing of the junction to help divert unnecessary traffic from the Old Road and to integrate three raised pedestrian crossing points to help slow the traffic and further deter traffic from the Old Road. In proximity to the PDA is Elsinore House, which is located directly to the west of the Promenade/R291 Road. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

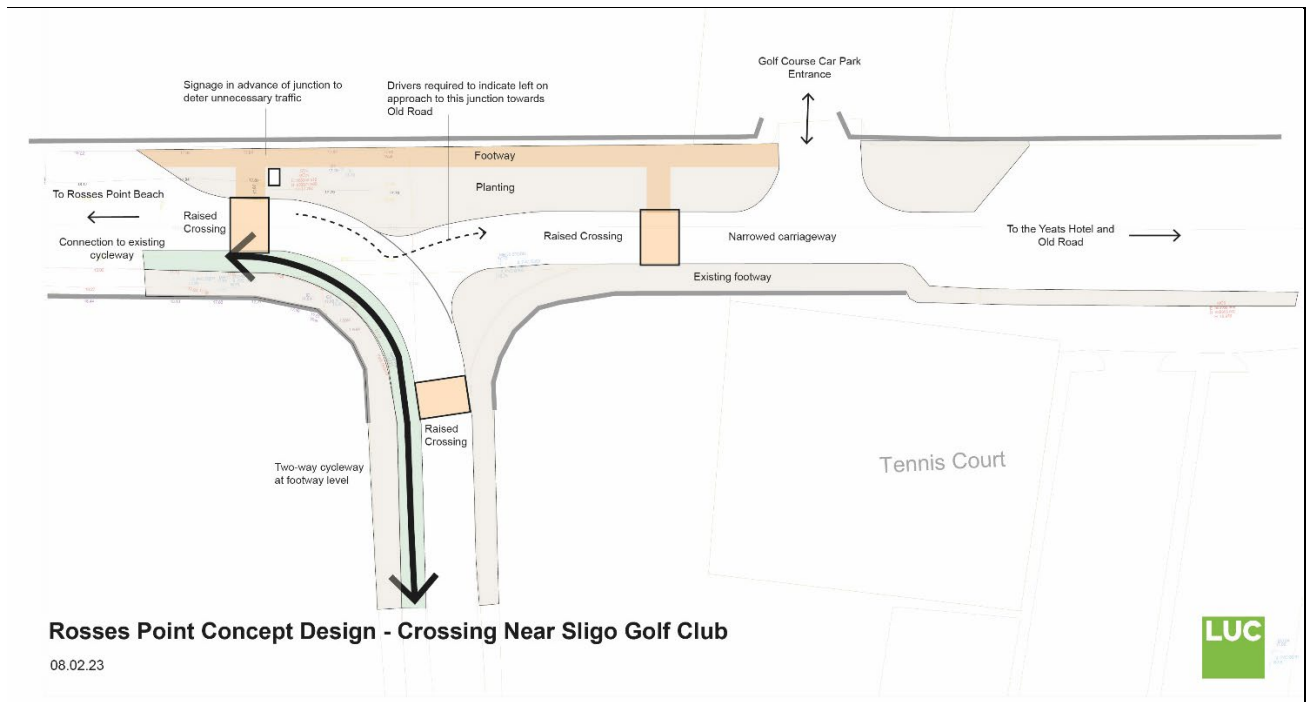


Figure 9 Rosses Point Concept Design for the crossing near Sligo Golf Course



Plate 2 NW facing view of the junction near Sligo Golf Club



Plate 3 West facing view of the entrance to Sligo Golf Club

2.5.2 Crossing outside Austie's Bar & Restaurant

A site walkover took place of access area to the fore of Austie's Bar & Restaurant. The concept design will provide for a controlled crossing point at Austies, which will provide for a raised table replacing the existing controlled crossing. This will regulate parking in the area and connect the Promenade to Austie's and that general area of the village. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

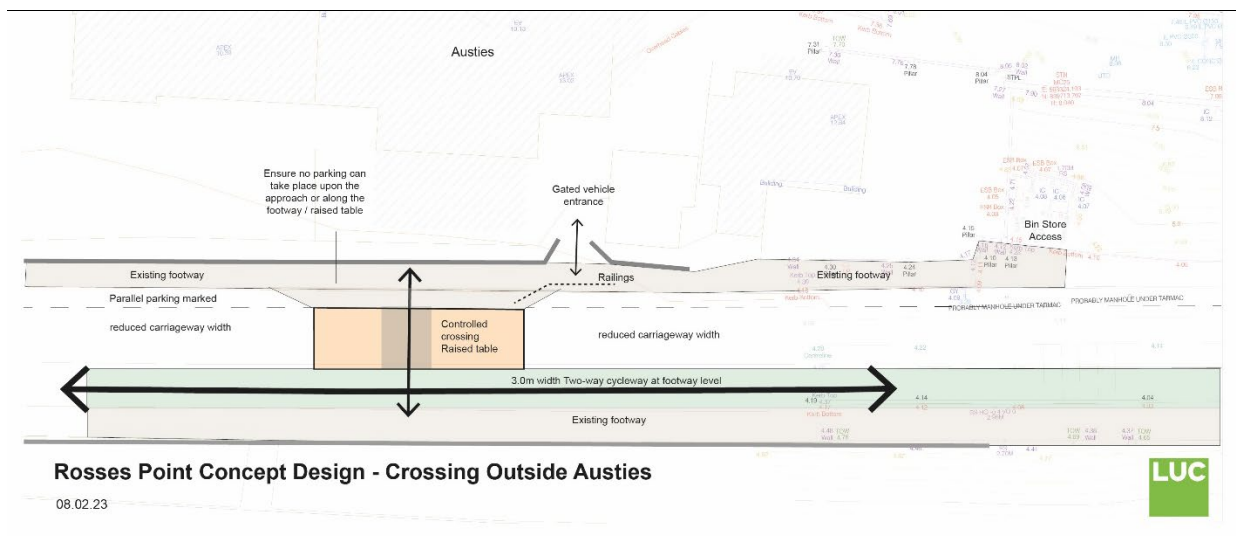


Figure 10 Rosses Point Concept Design – crossing outside Austies



Plate 4 West facing view of the crossing to Austies from the Promenade

2.5.3 Crossing at The Driftwood Restaurant

A site walkover was undertaken of the area to the fore and surrounding the Driftwood Restaurant. The concept design provides a crossing point from outside the Driftwood to the Promenade. It is proposed to build a ramp connecting the Promenade with the Old Road and the Driftwood area, a raised table crossing is proposed along with a plan for reconfiguring parking in that area. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

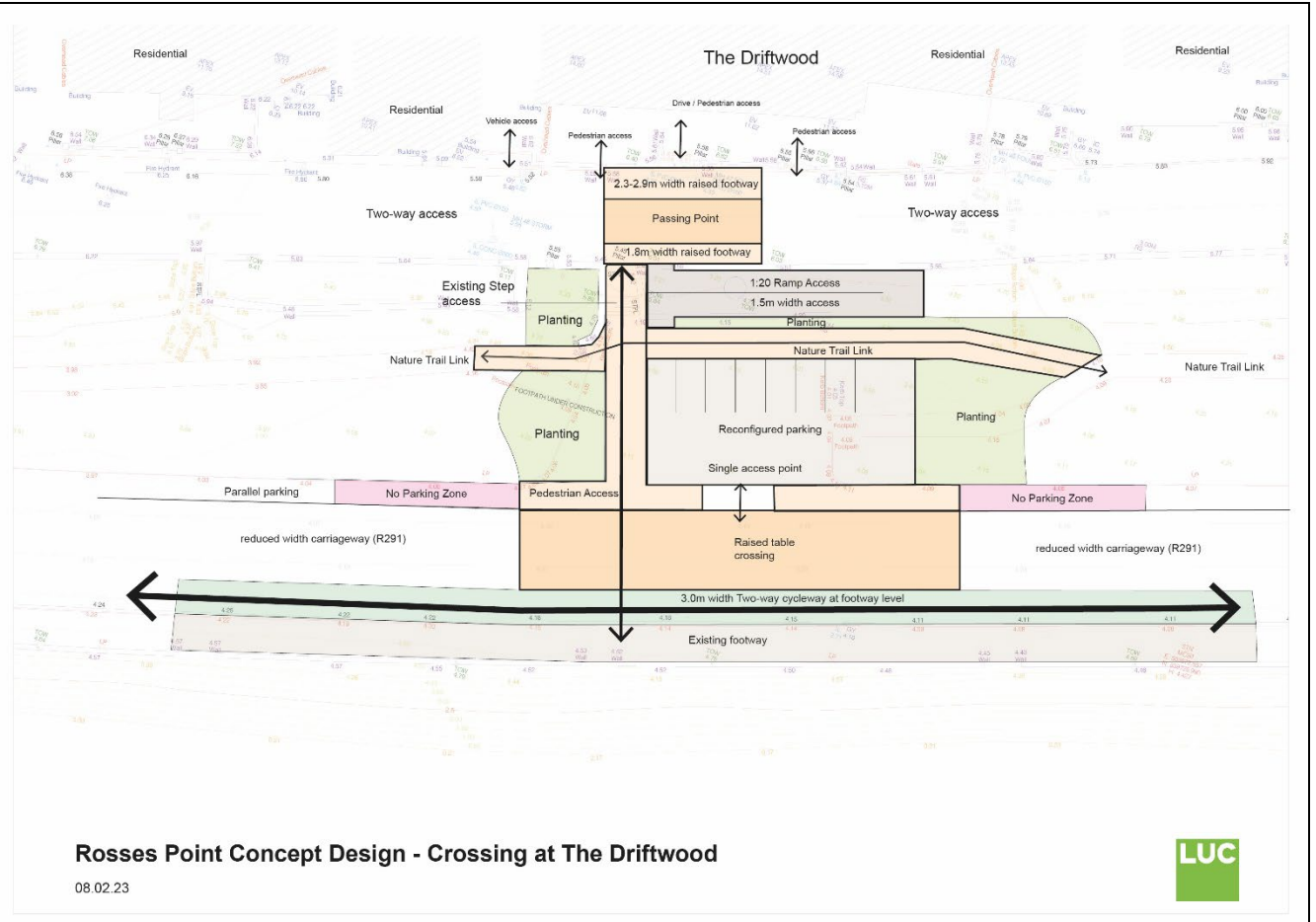


Figure 11 Rosses Point Concept Design – Crossing at The Driftwood



Plate 5 NW facing view of the carpark for The Driftwood



Plate 6 West facing view of the carpark and old road outside The Driftwood

2.5.4 Crossing along New Road opposite Harry's Bar

A site walkover was undertaken of the area to the fore and surrounding Harry's Bar. The concept design provides a controlled crossing point from the Promenade to the car park opposite Harry's Bar. It is proposed to build a raised footway and use street furniture to prevent ad-hoc parking. Proposals include a nature trail directed to the back of the existing parking area and a raised table crossing is proposed to

connect this area to the Promenade. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

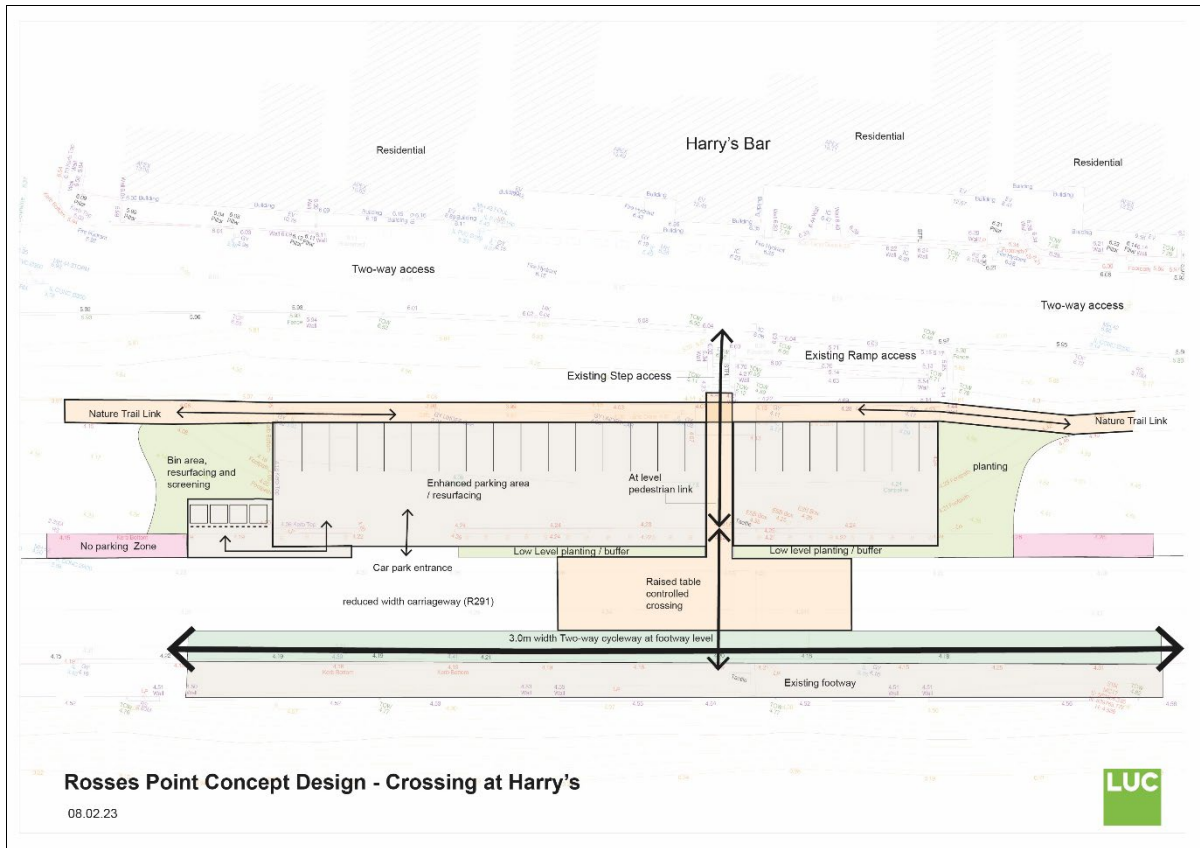


Figure 12 Rosses Point Concept Design – Crossing at Harry's Bar



Plate 7 South facing view of the carpark for Harry's Bar with the Promenade in the background



Plate 8 NW facing view of the carpark with Austies in the background

2.5.5 Crossing at the Little Cottage Café

A site walkover was undertaken of the area to the fore and surrounding the Little Cottage Café. The concept design enhances this junction near the Little Cottage Café with crossing points improved as well as reconfigured and enhanced car parking. It is proposed to build raised table crossings from the Promenade, another between two green areas and a further one in front of the Little Cottage Café. Proposals include pedestrian linkage points across the green area to connect this area to the Promenade. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

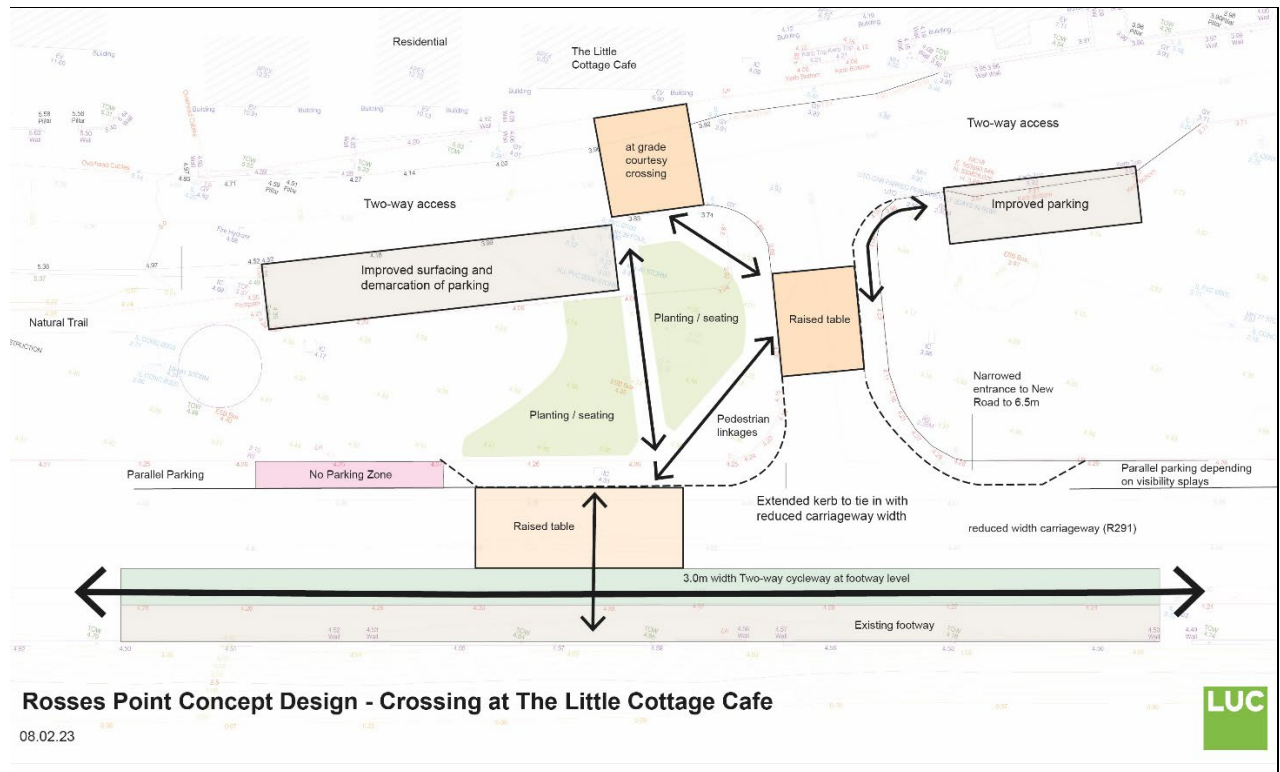


Figure 13 Rosses Point Concept Design – Crossing at The Little Cottage Café



Plate 9 NW facing view of the junction at the Little Cottage Café



Plate 10 West facing view of the Little Cottage Café and existing parking

2.5.6 Entrance junction to Rosses Point

A site walkover was undertaken of the area at the entrance to the village from the east. The concept design proposes to enhance with a new gateway feature and new signage. It is proposed to reconfigure cycle lanes and to narrow carriageways as well as constructing a controlled crossing point from the Promenade to the green area opposite and link by footpath to a play area. No material of an archaeological nature was noted during the site walkover.

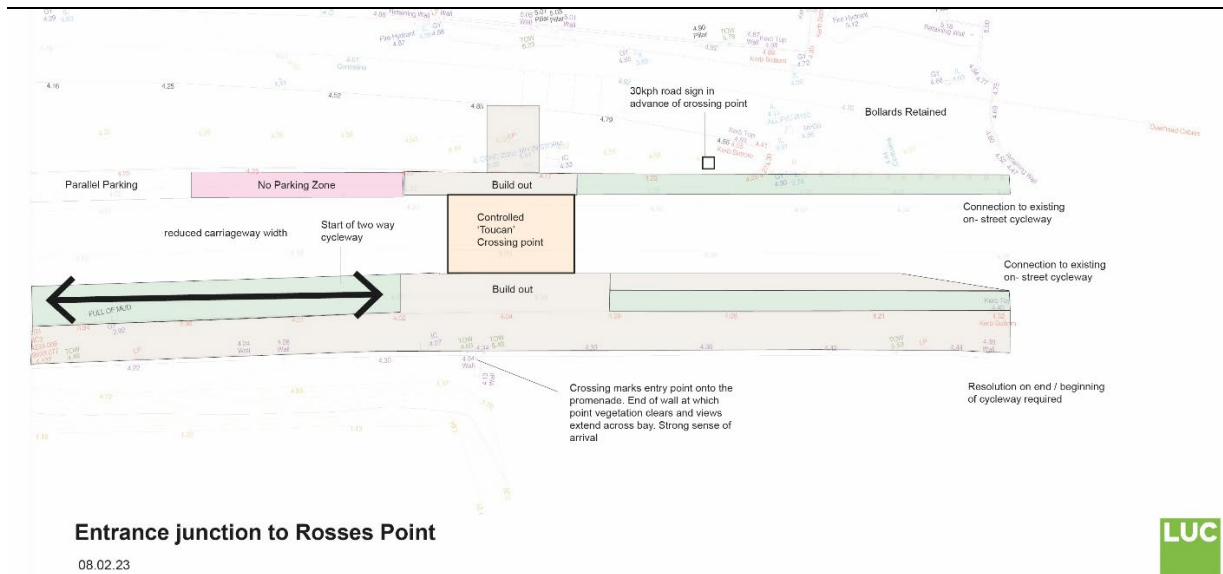


Figure 14: Rosses Point Concept Design – entrance junction to Rosses Point



Plate 11 West facing view of the entrance to Rosses Point along the Promenade



Plate 12 East facing view of the entrance to Rosses Point

2.6 Potential Direct Impacts

Direct negative impacts may occur where sites of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage significance are located within the footprint of the proposed development, which would potentially be impacted upon by ground disturbances.

In relation to the proposed development, direct, physical impacts on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage can manifest themselves in the following ways:

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

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

2.6.1 Potential direct Impacts on Recorded Archaeological Monuments

There is likely to be no impact on any recorded archaeological monuments by the proposed development.

2.6.2 Potential direct Impacts on unrecorded Archaeological Monuments

Groundworks have potential to impact on previously unrecorded remains.

2.6.3 Potential direct Impacts Architectural Sites

Internally there are no Protected Structures or NIAH site or previously unrecorded vernacular features within or adjacent to the subject site.

2.6.4 'Do Nothing scenario'

In this instance, there would be no impact on any potential unrecorded sub surface deposits.

2.6.5 'Worst Case' scenario'

In this case, construction work could potentially negatively impact previously unknown sites resulting in the loss or damage of archaeological artefacts and features.

2.7 Potential Impacts on setting

Impacts on setting are primarily visual and examine the effect of the development upon the setting of a site within the wider landscape. Visual impacts can be reduced with sensitive site development and screening. The impact of the development is usually proportional to the extent to which that development is visible to and from the extant recorded monuments and features.

2.7.1 Archaeology Sites

There are no recorded archaeological sites/features listed as being located within the boundary of the subject site. Following a site inspection and review of online sources, there will likely be no impact on any recorded archaeological sites by the development.

2.7.2 Architectural Sites

There are no architectural sites (as stated in section 2.4.2 above) that are likely to be affected by the proposed development.

3 Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts

There will be no residual impact either physical or visual to any known and recorded archaeological or architectural sites by the proposed Public Realm Enhancement works at Rosses Point.

However, given the archaeological nature of the immediate environs of the Proposed Development Area it is possible that archaeological deposits, material, and artefacts may survive below ground at the following locations: along the old village road at the former gated entrance to Elsinore House, at the road to the east of Elsinore House and adjacent to the entrance to Rosses Point Golf Course, outside Driftwood Restaurant, Harry's Bar and the Little Cottage Café as well as at the entrance to the village.

Therefore, it is recommended that monitoring is conducted by a suitably qualified archaeologist, under license to the Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, with provision being made for full recording, preservation in situ or excavation of any archaeological features or deposits which may be exposed during the course of future development work at the site.

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The Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Sites and Monuments Record, County Sligo.

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National Monuments Acts 1930-2014.

National Museum of Ireland. Topographical files, County Sligo.

Sligo County Development Plan 2017-2023.

4.2 Electronic Sources

<http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/>

<http://www.excavations.ie/>

<http://www.sligococo.ie/>

<https://heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/HeritageMaps/index.html>

<http://www.logainm.ie/>

<http://www.museum.ie/>

<http://webgis.archaeology.ie/>

<http://www.worldheritageireland.ie/tentative-list/>

5 Conventions, Directives and Legislation

Ireland has ratified several European and international conventions in relation to the protection of its cultural heritage. This section summarises Ireland's obligations as a signatory to a number of International and European conventions relating to the protection and conservation of cultural heritage sites. Also

included is a synopsis of existing national legislation governing the care and protection of our cultural heritage resources.

5.1.1 ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration, 2005

Ireland is a signatory to an international declaration sponsored by International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, 2005, that endeavours to ensure the safeguard and conservation of the World's cultural heritage as part of its sustainable and human development.

5.1.2 EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended

To assist planning and other consent authorities in deciding if significant effects on the environment are likely to arise in the case of development below the national mandatory EIS thresholds, the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government published a Guidance document in August 2003.

5.1.3 The European Landscape Convention 2000

In 2002 Ireland ratified the European Landscape Convention - also known as the Florence Convention, which promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues. It is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all dimensions of European landscape.

5.1.4 Valletta Convention, 1997

In 1997 the Republic of Ireland ratified the Council of Europe, European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valletta Convention'). Obligations under the Convention include: provision for statutory protection measures, including the maintenance of an inventory of the archaeological heritage and the designation of protected monuments and areas.

5.1.5 Granada Convention, 1997

Under the European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage (Granada Convention), 1997, the Republic of Ireland is obliged to maintain inventories of architectural heritage, to protect the architectural heritage and adopt conservation policies as integrated planning objectives.

5.1.6 UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972

This Convention provides for the identification, conservation and preservation of cultural and natural sites of outstanding universal value for inclusion in a world heritage list. The World Heritage status is a non-statutory designation and no additional statutory controls result from this designation. However, the impact of proposed development upon a World Heritage Site will be a key material consideration in determining planning applications.

5.2 Legislation

5.2.1 The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006

The Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 ensures the protection of the archaeological heritage resource by requiring that all applications under this Act are accompanied by an EIS including information on material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, and the cultural heritage.

5.2.2 The National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014

Irish legislation for the protection of archaeological heritage is based on the National Monuments Acts 1930 and amendments of 1954, 1987, 1994, 2004 & 2014. These acts are the principal statutes governing the care of monuments in the Irish Republic. The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) provide for the protection of national monuments through the use of preservation orders. The overall state archaeological service is provided by the Department of and delivered through the Planning and Heritage Section of the DHLGH and the National Museum of Ireland (Irish Antiquities Division) on behalf of the Minister.

Monuments are protected under the National Monuments Acts in a number of ways:

- National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a local authority;
- National Monuments, which are subject to a preservation order;
- Historic monuments or archaeological areas recorded in the Register of Historic Monuments; and
- Monuments recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).

5.2.3 The Planning and Development Act 2000

Under arrangements which came into operation on 1 January 2000 (The Planning and Development Act 2000), the system of listing buildings was replaced with strengthened procedures for the preservation of protected structures and structures in architectural conservation areas (ACA).

5.2.4 The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act, 1999

This Act provides for the establishment of a national inventory of architectural heritage which forms the basis for recommendation from the Minister to local authorities of sites for inclusion in the local authorities Record of Protected Structures

5.3 Other Policy Contexts and Guidelines

5.3.1 The Archaeological Survey Database (ASD)

The ASD is maintained by the National Monuments Service of the DHLGH and contains the most up to date information on archaeological monuments within the State. The site is regularly updated with new sites as they come to light and has increasing volumes of information about individual sites.

5.3.2 The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

NIAH data is available to be viewed and / or download from the www.buildingsofireland.ie website. The website contains detailed notes and photographs of all structures included in the recommendations made by the Minister to the relevant local authorities.

5.3.3 The Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage guidelines, 1999

This document sets out the basic principles of national policy on the protection of the archaeological heritage. A key principle set out in these guidelines is that there should always be a presumption in favour of avoidance of developmental impacts on the archaeological heritage and preservation in-situ of archaeological sites and monuments must be presumed to be the preferred option.