

JOHN CRONIN & ASSOCIATES

ARCHAEOLOGY | CONSERVATION | HERITAGE | PLANNING

Archaeological Assessment

Large-scale Residential Development (LRD), 57 - 61 Prussia Street, Dublin 7



Prepared by
John Cronin & Associates
3a Westpoint Trade Centre
Ballincollig
County Cork

Commissioned by
Lyonshall Limited
c/o HW Planning
Joyce House
Ballincollig
County Cork

March 2024

Document Control Sheet

Client	Lyonshall Limited				
Project	Large-scale Residential Development, 57 - 61 Prussia Street, Dublin 7				
Document type	Archaeological Assessment				
Document comprises	<i>DCS</i>	<i>NTS</i>	<i>TOC</i>	<i>Pages</i>	27
	<i>Y</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Appendices</i>	1

<i>Rev</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Author(s)</i>	<i>Reviewed by</i>	<i>Approved by</i>	<i>Office of origin</i>	<i>Issue date</i>
01	Draft	Peter Looney & John Cronin	Peter Looney	John Cronin	Cork	26/02/24
02	Final	Peter Looney & John Cronin	Peter Looney	John Cronin	Cork	11/03/24

© 2024 Cultural Resource Management and Planning Ltd. "John Cronin & Associates" is a trading name of Cultural Resource Management and Planning Ltd. All Rights Reserved. Cultural Resource Management & Planning Ltd has used reasonable skill, care, and diligence in compiling this report and no warranty is provided as to the report's accuracy. Cultural Resource Management & Planning Ltd is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from the use of information outlined in this report. No part of this report may be copied or reproduced, by any means, without the written permission of Cultural Resource Management & Planning Ltd.

Contents

<i>1. Introduction</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>2. Methodology</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3. Context</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>4. Description of site</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>5. Assessment of impacts</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>5. Conclusions and recommendations</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>6. References</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Appendix: Excavation bulletin summaries</i>	<i>22</i>

1. Introduction

John Cronin and Associates have been commissioned by **Lyonshall Limited** to compile an archaeological assessment of a proposed residential development at 57 - 61 Prussia Street, Dublin 7; the development proposal will be the subject of a Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) planning application to Dublin City Council.

The subject site comprises c.0.6ha of brownfield land. The development will consist of a Student Accommodation scheme with 373 no. student bedspaces, a café and all ancillary site development works. The site is located on the western side of Prussia Street, c.880m north of the River Liffey, it is within the townland of Grangegorman West (**Figure 1**).

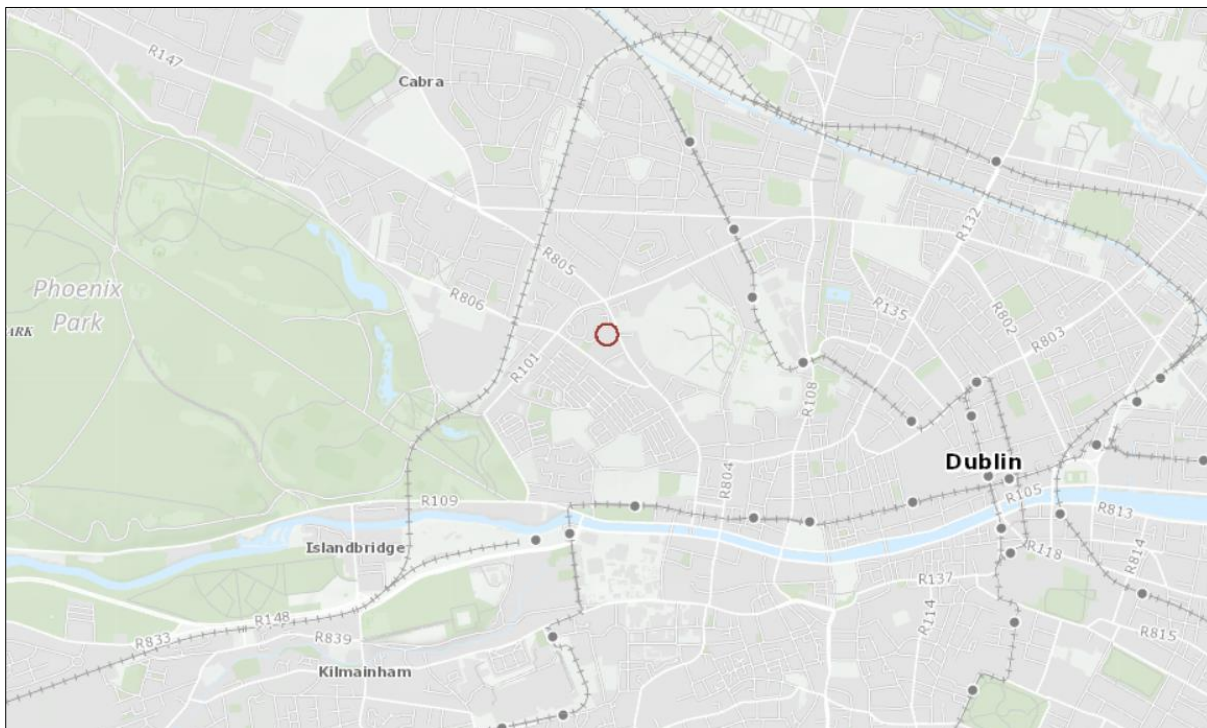


Figure 1: General location of development area (red circle) (Source: Government of Ireland)

This assessment was prepared by Peter Looney & John Cronin of John Cronin and Associates and is based on a programme of desktop research and a summary field inspection carried out on the 22nd of February 2024 by a suitably qualified archaeologist (John Cronin).

This report presents summary details on the locations of recorded elements of the archaeological resource within the environs of the subject site. The study area for this assessment comprised the internal area of the proposed development site combined with the lands extending for approximately 500m from the outer boundary of the site (study area). **There are no recorded archaeological sites within the proposed development boundary. There are two recorded archaeological sites within the wider study area.**

2. Methodology

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Dublin, published by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI), were the principal sources for identifying known archaeological constraints. The *Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028* was consulted to review the planning authority's policies and objectives designed for the protection of the archaeological resource and historic landscapes.

In addition, the following sources were consulted to assess the potential for the presence of unrecorded archaeological sites within, and in vicinity to, proposed work areas:

- *Archaeological Survey of Ireland*: Since the publication of the original county SMRs and RMPs, the ASI has continued to record and add entries to the Sites and Monuments Record. In addition, the ASI has developed an online database and web viewer known as 'Historic Environment Viewer'. This has been developed to "enhance the user's experience by facilitating access to the database of the National Monuments Service Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) in a seamless one stop point of access for both data resources" (Source: www.archaeology.ie).
- *Database of Irish excavation reports*: This database contains summary accounts of all licensed archaeological excavations carried out in Ireland (North and South) from 1969 to 2023.
- *Historical publications and cartographic sources*: various published sources and historical maps were consulted as part of the assessment.
- *Aerial imagery*: available online aerial imagery of the study area was consulted to determine if any traces of unrecorded, sub-surface archaeological sites were evident within the proposed development area.

Types of impact

Impacts are categorised as either being *direct*, *indirect* or of *no predicted impact*. The criteria for determining the nature of impacts are based on the following:

- **Direct Impact** – where a cultural heritage site is physically located within the footprint of the scheme, which will result in its complete or partial removal.
- **Indirect Impact** – where a cultural heritage site or its setting is located in close proximity to the footprint of the scheme.
- **No predicted impact** – where the potential scheme will not adversely or positively affect a cultural heritage site.

A significance rating for these impacts is then applied; whether *profound*, *significant*, *moderate*, *slight*, or *imperceptible*

- A **profound** impact applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects that arise where a cultural heritage site is completely and irreversibly destroyed by a proposed development.

- A **significant** impact applies when an impact, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the environment. It applies where part of a cultural heritage site would be permanently impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about the feature/site.
- A **moderate** impact applies when a change to a cultural heritage site is proposed that, though noticeable, does not compromise the integrity of the site and which is reversible. This arises where a cultural heritage site can be incorporated into a modern-day development without damage and where all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible.
- A **slight** impact causes changes in the character of the environment which are not significant or profound and do not directly impact or affect a cultural heritage site.
- An **imperceptible** impact applied where an impact is capable of measurement but does not carry noticeable consequences.

Field survey

A suitably qualified archaeologist (John Cronin) carried out an inspection of the land parcel on 22nd February 2024. The subject site was assessed in terms of historic landscape, land use, vegetation cover, presence, and potential for undetected archaeological sites/features. No difficulties were encountered during topographical survey. Extracts from the photographic record are presented below.

3. Context

The subject site is located within the townland of Grangegorman West, in the Civil Parish of Grangegorman and comprises c.0.6 hectares in total (**Figure 2**). The underlying geology of this area comprises dark limestone and shale of the Lucan Formation (Source: Geological Survey Ireland). The proposed development area is located within the area to the rear of what was formerly five adjoining parcels comprising numbers 57 to 61 Prussia Street. The site is situated on the western side of Prussia Street, within a built-up area and is surrounded by residential and business premises.



Figure 2: Detailed location of the subject site (Source: Google Earth pro)

Legal & Policy Framework

In October 2023, the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill 2023 was signed into law by President Michael D. Higgins. The new Act repeals existing legislation and institutes new provisions equipped to cater for the protection of historic heritage in a modern era.

The Act repeals the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 and replace those Acts with provisions for the protection of historic heritage, provisions for the protection of archaeological heritage, provisions for the regulation of certain activities in the interests of such protection and provisions enabling the State to ratify or accede to certain international conventions which relate to such protection or regulation; to give effect to the EIA Directive and the Habitats Directive in relation to the carrying out of works at, on, in, under, to, or within the immediate surroundings of monuments; to give further effect to the Valletta Convention; to consequentially repeal or amend

certain other enactments; to make miscellaneous amendments to the Foreshore Act 1933, the Lough Corrib Navigation Act 1945, the Planning and Development Act 2000, the Valuation Act 2001, the Local Government Act 2001, the Local Government Rates and other Matters Act 2019 and the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021; and to provide for related matters

The Act introduces the following innovative measures:

- newly discovered archaeological sites are afforded immediate legal protection, mirroring the existing system for archaeological objects and historic wrecks that are automatically protected without a need for formal designation or registration;
- a statutory reporting scheme for finds of monuments;
- a new ‘Register of Monuments’ will be established, replacing several overlapping designation and registration systems hitherto in operation;
- “World Heritage Property” is defined for the first time in Irish legislation;
- subject to certain exceptions, archaeological objects with no known owner will automatically become the property of the State;
- the Act provides the necessary provisions to allow for the ratification of two important international treaties, the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, and the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects;
- the Act enables the State to ratify the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage;
- an integrated licensing system whereby one licence can authorise a range of activities will be introduced and, for the first time, a statutory appeals process will be established to review licensing decisions, and
- a new civil enforcement procedure can be used as an alternative to, or to supplement, criminal proceedings.

The Act defines archaeology as “the study of past human societies of all periods, either as a whole or of various aspects of them, through the material remains of all forms, moveable and immovable, left by those societies and the evidence of their environment, and includes the study of climatological, ecological, geological, geomorphological or pedological factors relevant to understanding the nature or context of those societies or the distribution or nature of their material remains, and “archaeological interest” shall be construed accordingly”.

Section 14 of the Act provides for the establishment of a register to be known as the Register of Monuments. The Act sets out transitional provisions applicable to Register of Historic Monuments, Record of Monuments and Places and National Monuments.

The *Dublin City Council Development Plan 2022-2028* includes the following objectives in relation to the protection of the archaeological resource:

Objective BHA26

To protect and preserve Monuments and Places listed on the statutory Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 which have been identified in the Record of Monuments and Places and the Historic Environment Viewer (www.archaeology.ie) and all wrecks over 100 years old including those in the Shipwreck Inventory of Ireland.

To protect archaeological material in situ by ensuring that only minimal impact on archaeological layers is allowed, by way of re-use of standing buildings, the construction of light buildings, low impact foundation design, or the omission of basements (except in

exceptional circumstances) in the Monuments and Places listed on the statutory Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994.

To seek the preservation in situ (or where this is not possible or appropriate, as a minimum, preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places; all wrecks and associated objects over 100 years old and of previously unknown sites, features and objects of archaeological interest that become revealed through development activity. In respect of decision making on development proposals affecting sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, the council will have regard to the advice and/or recommendations of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government.

Development proposals within the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, notification of sites over 0.5 hectares size with potential underwater impacts and of sites listed in the Dublin City Industrial Heritage Record, will be subject to consultation with the City Archaeologist and archaeological assessment prior to a planning application being lodged.

To preserve known burial grounds and disused historic graveyards. Where disturbance of ancient or historic human remains is unavoidable, they will be excavated according to best archaeological practice and reburied or permanently curated.

Preserve the character, setting, and amenity of upstanding and below ground town wall defences.

Development proposals in marine, lacustrine and riverine environments and areas of reclaimed land, shall have regard to the Shipwreck Inventory maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and be subject to an appropriate level of archaeological assessment.

To have regard to national policy documents and guidelines relating to archaeology and to best practice guidance published by the Heritage Council, the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Archaeological and historical context

There are a total of two archaeological sites published by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) within a 500m study area surrounding the subject site, **Figure 3**. These are an 18th/19th century house (Monument Number DU018-020251-) and a graveyard (DU018-045----), which dates from the early 18th century. The house, which was the closest of these sites, is no longer extant. The house formerly stood on what is now the Park Shopping Centre, though three programmes of archaeological monitoring at the shopping centre site did not encounter remains of the house. The online database of the ASI (available at www.archaeology.ie) describes the house as follows:

Craig (1969, 327) mentions early 18th century dwellings opposite 54 Prussia Street.

The graveyard (DU018-045----) is described by the ASI as follows:

The graveyard in Arbour Hill, Stonybattery dates from (1704-1920s). The majority of the graves are for British military personnel. The plot known as 'Croppies Acre' is part of this burial ground.

Table 1: Archaeological sites within 500m of the subject site

SMR No.	Class	Townland	Easting	Northing
DU018-020251-	House - 18 th /19 th Century	Grangegorman West	713986	735364
DU018-045----	Graveyard	Grangegorman West	714090	734799

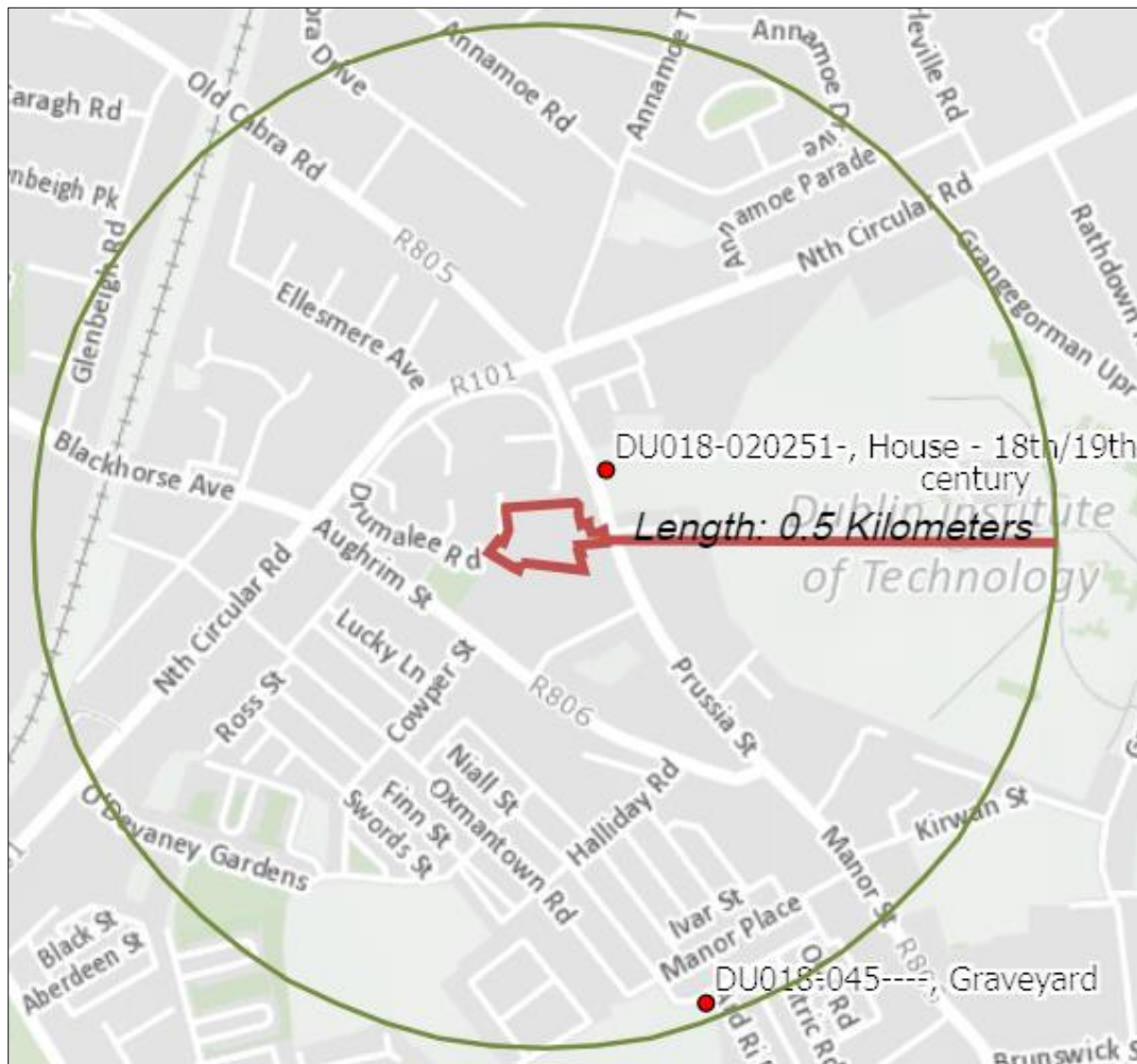


Figure 3: Recorded archaeological sites (red dots) within the study area, development site outlined in red

Early prehistoric period

Traditionally, the earliest recorded evidence for human settlement in Ireland dated to the Mesolithic period (8000–4000 BC) when groups of hunter-gatherers arrived on the island. However, recent evidence in the form of a butchered bear patella found in Alice and Gwendoline Cave near Ennis in County Clare now suggests that humans were present in Ireland during the Palaeolithic period between 12,800 to 12,600 cal BC (Dowd and Carden, 2016, 161). The Mesolithic settlers did not construct any settlements or monuments that leave any above ground traces although their presence in an area can often be identified by scatters of worked flints in ploughed fields and rivers. The Neolithic period (4000-2400 BC) began with the arrival and establishment of agriculture as the principal form of economic subsistence, which resulted in

more permanent settlement patterns. As a consequence of the more settled nature of agrarian life, new site-types, such as more substantial rectangular timber houses and various types of megalithic tombs, begin to appear in the archaeological record during this period. **There are no recorded sites dating to either period within the study area, however a boar tusk of potential prehistoric date was found in 1955 in the nearby Aughrim Street.**

Late prehistoric period

Metalworking arrived in Ireland with the advent of the Bronze Age period (c. 2400–500 BC). This period was also associated with the construction of new monument types such as standing stones, stone rows, stone circles and fulachta fia. Fulacht fia translates as cooking places of the wild (or of deer), they are often interpreted as the remains of cooking sites and are the most numerous archaeological site type in Ireland, radiocarbon dating of excavated examples has generally produced dates in the Bronze Age (c.2400-500BC). The development of new burial practices saw the construction of funerary monuments such as cairns, barrows, boulder burials and cists. The later first millennium BC and the early centuries AD comprise the Irish Iron Age, which is the most obscure period in the Irish archaeological record. While there is general agreement that the introduction of an iron technology was a significant factor in the eventual demise of bronzeworking on a large scale, but how, why and when this came about in Ireland is far from clear. **There are no recorded sites dating to this period within the study area.**

Early medieval period

The early medieval period began with the introduction of Christianity and continued up to the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the late 12th century (c. 400–1169 AD). While this period saw the emergence of the first phases of urbanisation around the larger monasteries and the Hiberno-Norse ports, the dominant settlement pattern was still rural-based and founded on a small-scale agricultural economy centred around enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts. These comprise circular enclosures delimited by concentric banks and ditches and are the most widespread archaeological field monuments in the Irish landscape.

The City of Dublin grew up at a strategic low tide crossing point across the River Liffey. Two foci of population emerged in the early historic period: one named *Áth Cliath* (after a man-made ford) was located to the south of the Liffey and west of the Poddle; the second, *Duiblinn*, was located to the east of the Poddle and appears to have been an ecclesiastical settlement. In the mid-ninth century the Vikings established two *longphoirt* at or near the pre-existing settlements and also appear to have established scattered settlements along both banks of the Liffey. In the tenth century the Vikings began to consolidate their settlements and a fortified town known as *Dyfflinn* was established in the area centred on Christchurch. The town initially had strong earthen defences which were replaced in stone between 1100 and 1120AD. This settlement was further developed in the subsequent centuries following the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the 12th century. By 1170 there were four discrete suburbs extending outwards to the four cardinal points from the walled town.

Late medieval (AD 1169 – 1550)

The arrival and conquest of large parts of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans in the late 12th century marks the advent of the late medieval period. This period saw the continuing expansion of Irish urbanisation as many of the port cities developed into international trading centres and numerous villages and towns developed as local or regional market centres. The City of Dublin grew in this period to be the dominant urban centre in Ireland.

During the medieval period the modern townland of Grangegorman West was a grange or ecclesiastical farm, for which it was named. Grangegorman manor was granted to the cathedral of the Holy Trinity [Christ Church] on the foundation of the cathedral in 1030, it remained under the control of the Holy Trinity until the sixteenth century. Grangegorman then passed into private hands and the manor was subdivided over the following centuries.

The parish of Grangegorman was established in 1829 and roughly follows the boundaries of Grangegorman manor, the parish is extensive and consists of the townlands of Grangegorman North, Grangegorman Middle, Grangegorman South and Grangegorman East in addition to Grangegorman West.

Post-medieval to early modern

The centuries following 1550 AD are referred to as the post-medieval period, which is generally considered to continue until the development of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century. This period saw the development of both high and low status rural housing stocks and dispersed agricultural settlements consisting of single-storey thatched cottages with associated farm buildings, which began to be replaced by two-storey farmhouses during the late 19th century.

There are two recorded sites: (a) a house dating to the 18th/19th century (DU018-020251-) and (b) a graveyard (DU018-045----), dating to this period within the study area. The post-medieval and early modern periods saw the expansion of Dublin City and suburbs into the area surrounding the subject site.



Plate 1: View towards the site of the 18th/19th century house (Monument Number DU018-020251-)

Cartographic review

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

cartographic sources examined for the study areas include John Rocque's Map of Dublin (1758), the first edition 1:10,560 (or '6-inch') Ordnance Survey map (1837) and the later 1:2500 (or '25-inch') Ordnance Survey map (1907-1908).

John Rocque's map of Dublin City from 1756 (**Figure 4**) depicted the general area to the north and west of the site as rural hinterland of the city. Prussia Street, then called Cabra Lane, was mostly lined with buildings, though these became less frequent towards the northwest away from the city. The area behind these buildings on the western side of the road consisted of walled and organised gardens and orchards.

On the first edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1837, the development site was within the Municipal & parliamentary Boundary but was very much on the northern periphery of the city. The buildings fronting Prussia Street in this location are among those furthest northwest from the city. The streets are no longer lined with buildings another 100m in a northwest direction along Prussia Street, and from there, the landscape is dominated by enclosed farmland with sporadic buildings. There is a large rectangular walled garden at the northern portion of the site, and one smaller garden was shown south of that, but the remainder of the area behind the street-fronting buildings was largely shown to be a large orchard.

As time progressed significant changes within the wider landscape can be identified, the addition of the cattle market to the northwest of the subject site was one such significant change, this is first seen on an OS map from 1888 (**Figure 9**), which also showed a large east to west orientated building in the north of the site, on the footprint of the sheds that stood until 2022.

The outward expansion of Dublin City can be clearly seen on the maps. Whereby the subject site on Prussia Street was at the periphery of the city on the first edition OS map it was surrounded by built-up areas on the 25-inch edition in 1907. This map also depicted the division of most of the subject site into small compounds, which were likely related to the adjacent cattle market.

A review of modern aerial imagery from 1995 to present shows that the site has remained built on and in use for industrial purposes during that period. Two long east to west orientated sheds were present in the northern portion of the site on all of the available aerial images until late 2022, when they were knocked. These sheds appear to have been the same sheds visible on a historic photograph of the site, **Figure 9**, dated 1880 to 1900, and were also likely what was depicted on the OS maps from 1888 onwards. As such, they are the only documented buildings in that part of the site. The area where these sheds stood should be relatively less disturbed than other areas of the site and thus any potential archaeological deposits may remain undisturbed.

There were **no indications of previously unknown archaeological sites** from the cartographic review or the review of the available aerial photographs.



Figure 4: Extract from John Rocque's map of Dublin City (1756) (Source: Harvard Library <https://iif.lib.harvard.edu/manifests/view/ids:10135315>)



Figure 5: Extract from the first edition 6-inch OS map (1837) (Source: Government of Ireland)

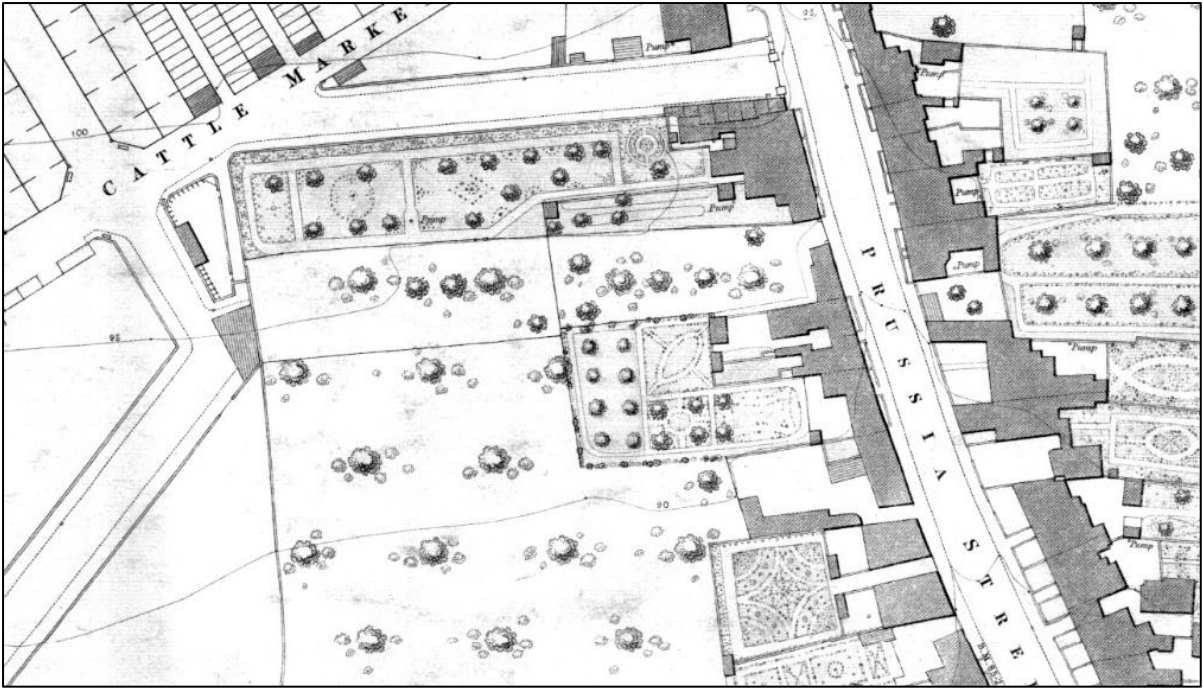


Figure 6: Extract from OSI map 1864 (Source: UCD library)



Figure 7: Extract from OSE map 1888 (Source: UCD library)



Figure 8: Extract from the 25-inch OS map (1907) (Source: Government of Ireland)



Figure 9: Detail from photograph of Prussia Street Cattle Market, dated 1880-1900 (Source: National Library of Ireland <https://catalogue.nli.ie/Record/vtls000041136>)

Previous archaeological investigations

The Excavation Database contains summary accounts of all licensed archaeological investigations carried out in Ireland (North and South) from 1969 to present. The database gives access to over 27,000 reports and can be browsed or searched using multiple fields, including year, county, site type, grid reference, license number, Sites and Monuments Record number and author.

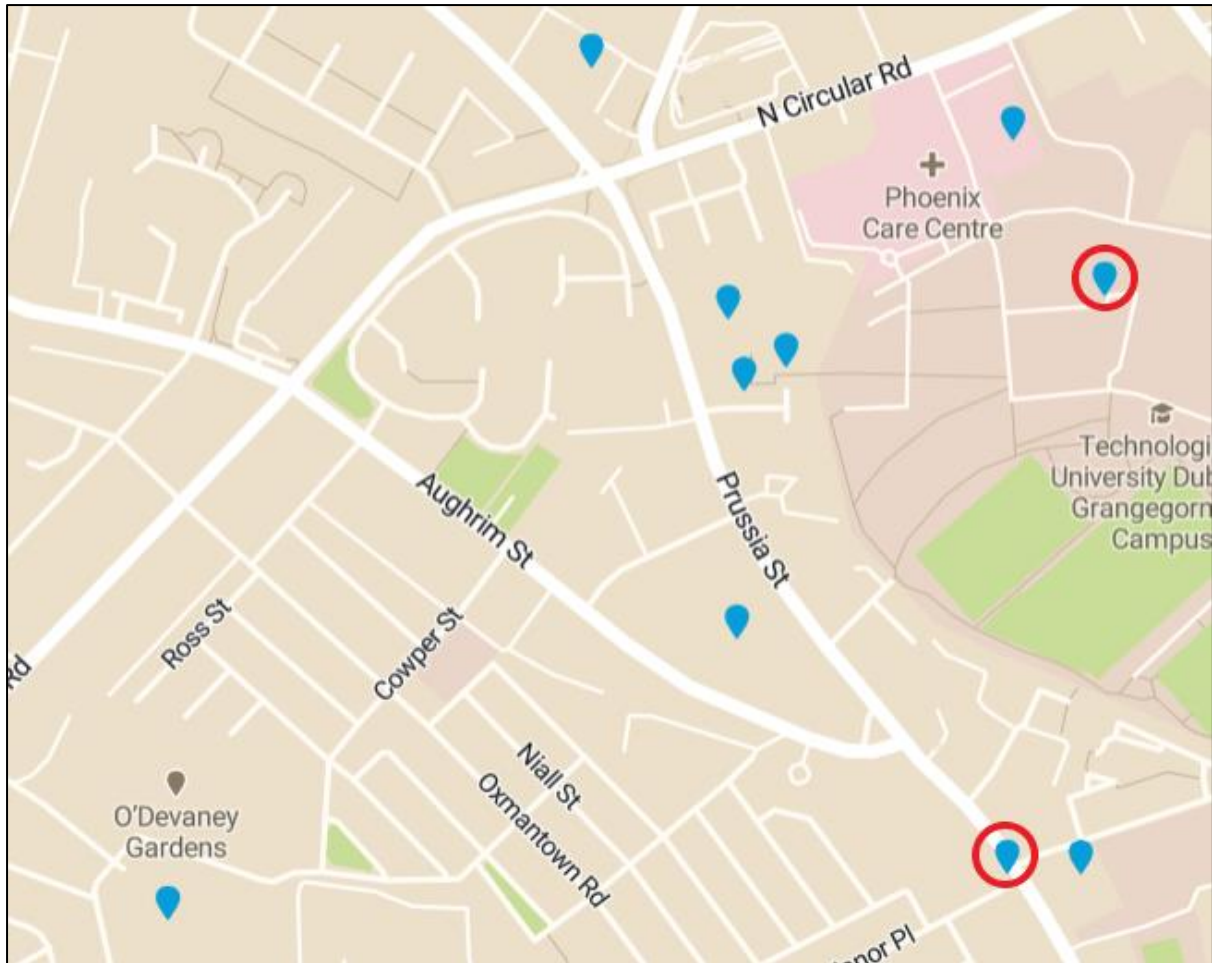


Figure 10: Licensed archaeological investigations within 500m of subject site, those where any archaeological material was found are circled in red.

A review of the townland of Grangegorman West and adjacent townlands revealed that nine licensed archaeological excavations have taken place within 500m of the proposed development, see **Figure 10** and the **Appendix** of this report for further details. Three of these are related to the Park Shopping Centre, to the east of the proposed development site, on the other side of Prussia Street, but nothing of archaeological interest was encountered during these three programmes of monitoring. Only two of the nine programmes of investigation revealed any material of archaeological interest, both of which revealed post-medieval or early modern material.

Stray finds

According to the National Museum of Ireland: Finds Database (2010), a boar's tusk (1955:11) was found on Aughrim Street, to the southwest of the site.

Placenames database

The Placenames Database of Ireland (available at www.logainm.ie) which provides translations of the Irish origins of townland names was consulted. Townlands are the smallest unit of land division in the Irish landscape, and many may preserve early Gaelic territorial boundaries that

pre-date the Anglo-Norman conquest. The boundaries and nomenclature of the Irish townlands were recorded and standardised by the Ordnance Survey in the 19th-century. The Irish roots of townland names often refer to natural topographical features, but some name elements may also give an indication of the presence of past human activity within the townland, e.g., dun, lios or rath indicate the presence of a ringfort while temple, saggart, termon or kill record an association with a church site.

The subject site is located within the townland of Grangegorman West. This name is derived from the Irish name *Gráinseach Ghormáin*, *gráinseach* meaning a grange or monastic farm. This name has been recorded as far back as 1179, as per logainm.ie. This is an indication of the medieval use of the lands in this area as farmland, connected to the church, in this case the cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

4. Description of site

A suitably qualified archaeologist (John Cronin) carried out an inspection of the land parcel on 22nd February 2024. The subject site was assessed in terms of historic landscape, land use, vegetation cover, presence, and potential for undetected archaeological sites/features. No difficulties were encountered during the survey. A selection of photographs are presented below.

The land parcel is situated on the western side of Prussia Street and is sub-rectangular in form. The street frontage consists of a metal palisade fence and double gate (see **Plate 2**).



Plate 2: View towards the site entrance on the western side of Prussia Street

The buildings on site are generally arranged in three rows, orientated in east-west ranges. The oldest range of buildings were located along the northern third of the site and consist of the fragmentary remains of nineteenth-century steel-frame sheds. The central portion of the site consists of a row of six units. The southern row of buildings are set against the southern boundary of the site. It is evident that the construction of the central and southern building ranges would have involved significant ground disturbance and the potential for the survival of any archaeological deposits would be extremely low. The site visit did not identify any previously unrecorded archaeological features.



Plate 3: Remains of sheds within the northern portion of the development site



Plate 4: Remains of sheds within the northern portion of the development site – note the rear elevation of the modern industrial units on the left hand side of the photograph



Plate 5: Looking east (towards Prussia Street) showing central range of units on the left of the photograph and the southern range of warehousing on the right of the photograph. The presence of manhole covers on the roadway is indicative of the presence of modern underground services.

Geotechnical Investigations

Geotechnical investigations were carried out at the site by Ground Investigations Ireland in April 2023. These works involved the excavation of two foundation inspection pits and four boreholes (light percussion boreholes and rotary core follow-on boreholes).

Made Ground deposits were encountered at all exploratory hole locations and ranged in depth for 0.60m to 1.00m BGL. These made ground deposits were described generally as sandy clayey fine to coarse subangular Gravel or slightly sandy slightly gravelly Clay with occasional subangular to subrounded cobbles and occasional fragments of anthropogenic material including red brick, coal, mortar, ceramic, concrete and metal.

Elsewhere in the report, plastic was listed among inclusions in the lower made ground layer in both foundation inspection pits. There is no indication from the description of the made ground deposits that they are archaeological in nature.

Assessment of significance

There are no features of archaeological significance recorded at this site and the desk-based study and site survey ***did not identify any features of potential archaeological interest***. Should there be any remains of archaeological interest at the site, these would consist of sub-surface deposits that have survived the considerable disturbance resulting from the construction works at the site.

5. Assessment of impacts

The proposed development will consist of a Student Accommodation scheme with 373 no. student bedspaces, a café and all ancillary site development works. The proposed development consists of 2 no. apartment blocks ranging in height from 4 to 5 storeys and a terrace of 6 no. studio units and all ancillary development works (**Figure 11**).

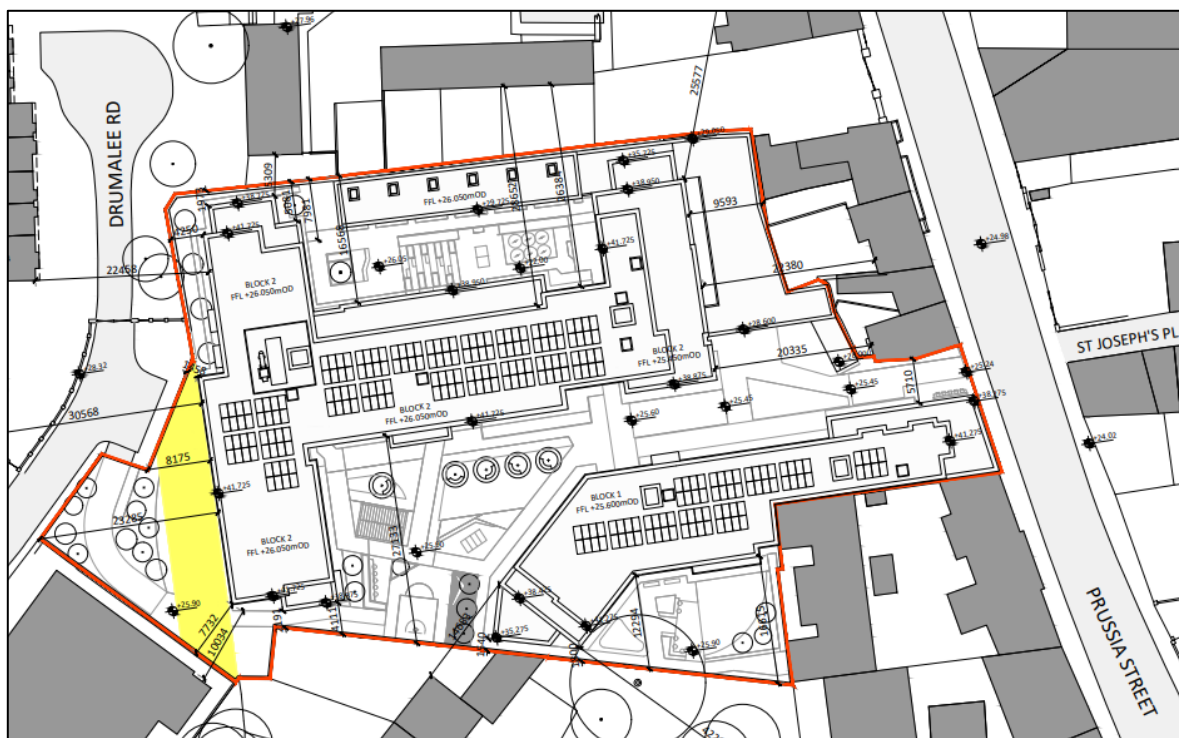


Figure 11: Proposed site layout

Following a review of the relevant datasets the assessment has identified that there are no recorded archaeological sites within the lands comprising the subject site.

The entirety of the site is currently occupied by buildings or by a concrete surface. The proposed development would involve the demolition and clearance of all buildings and surface concrete at the site, though this does not include the buildings fronting Prussia Street. It is anticipated that the construction of the current buildings on the site as well as any buildings prior to these will have considerably disturbed the ground below.

There is a **low potential** for archaeological deposits to have existed on the site and to have survived the disturbance of the building activity.

Should any such archaeological deposits exist, they would be directly impacted by the proposed development. Therefore, archaeological mitigation measures outlined in the following section of this report are proposed to identify any such archaeological deposits.

5. Conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

The proposed development site has been the subject of very considerable change since the eighteenth century (at which time it was partly in residential use but largely undeveloped) over the course of the nineteenth century (when it came to be used as part of the Dublin Cattle Market) and throughout the twentieth century (which saw a move to more industrial uses after the closure of the Market). The Archaeological Survey of Ireland records only two archaeological sites within 500 metres of the development site. The wider landscape around the proposed scheme contains a low number of archaeological investigations and of nine licensed programmes of archaeological investigation within 500m of this site, only two identified archaeological material, both of which dated to the post-medieval period.

This desktop assessment (and summary site inspection) has revealed that the subject site has been **subject to a high degree of modern disturbance and development**, having been entirely built on with structures and concrete surface. In addition to this, there are no recorded archaeological sites within the site boundary and a review of the available historic maps does not give any indication of the presence of previously unrecorded archaeological sites in this location. The area retains a **low archaeological potential**, though it remains possible that archaeological deposits may remain under the concrete at the site.

Recommendations

It is noted that Dublin City Council's Notice of Opinion on the LRD (Planning Authority Reference Number LRD6050/23-S2) stated the following:

... in the event of a grant of permission, the removal of the ground slab should be monitored under licence and post demolition archaeological testing should be carried out at a pre-condition stage.

However, having undertaken desktop research and a review of available geotechnical data, it is recommended that this suggested mitigation measure be adjusted and that, in the event of a grant of planning permission, that a planning condition stipulating **a targeted programme of pre-development archaeological test trenching** take place (ahead of widespread demolitions and clearance at the site). The northern area, where the sheds stood until late 2022 would be a suitable place for such pre-development testing as it is the only area with a modicum of potential for the survival of any archaeological deposits.

The results of the programme of archaeological testing should be submitted to Dublin City Council and the National Monuments Service for consideration. Should any archaeological deposits or features be identified during this work, further mitigation measures shall be agreed upon in consultation with these bodies (including, and not limited to, archaeological monitoring of demolition and site development works).

It should be noted that these recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service and Dublin City Council.

6. References

- Ball, F. E. 1920. *A History of the County Dublin*. Vol VI.
- Craig, M. 1969. *Dublin 1660–1860: The Shaping of a City*. Dublin: Figgis.
- Database of Irish Excavation Reports. 2023. Available at: <https://excavations.ie/> [Accessed 20/02/2024].
- Dowd, M. & Carden, R.F. 2016. First Evidence of a Late Palaeolithic Human Presence in Ireland. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 139, 158 – 163.
- Dublin City Council. 2022. *Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028*. Available at: <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/planning/strategic-planning/dublin-city-development-plan/development-plan-2022-2028> [Accessed 19/02/2024].
- Gillespie, R. 2022. *Explore Grangegorman before the Institutions*, Royal Irish Academy. Available at: <https://www.ria.ie/news/grangegorman-histories/explore-grangegorman-institutions> [Accessed 21/02/2024].
- Google Earth Pro. 2023. Available at: <https://www.google.com/earth/versions/> [Accessed 26/01/2024].
- Google Maps. 2023. Available at: <https://www.google.com/maps> [Accessed 20/02/2024].
- Government of Ireland. 2023. *Historic Environment Viewer*. Available at: <http://webgis.archaeology.ie/historicenvironment/> [Accessed 20/02/2024].
- Ground Investigations Ireland. 2023. *Ground Investigation Report, Prussia Street*. Unpublished report.
- Heritage Council. 2023. *Heritage Map Viewer*. Available at: <https://heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/HeritageMaps/index.html>. [Accessed 20/02/2024].
- Irish Placename Resource. 2023. *Logainm.ie. Marino*. Available at: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/57169> [Accessed 19/02/2024].

Appendix: Excavation bulletin summaries

<i>Name & Licence no.</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Summary</i>
Tesco Park Shopping Centre, Prussia Street, Dublin 03E1324	Patricia Lynch	Monitoring of groundworks, which consisted of the digging of a single trench 2m in length by 0.8m in depth by 0.5m in width, was carried out on 22 April 2004. The fill of the trench contained modern rubbish and had modern services at the base; no artefacts or sites of archaeological significance were identified.
Park Shopping Centre, Prussia Street, Dublin 7, Dublin 15E039	Antoine Giacometti	A programme of monitoring was undertaken at the Park Shopping Centre, Prussia Street, Dublin 7 in February 2015. The development concerns minor alterations to the existing shopping centre associated with the construction of a new pedestrian access linking the new DIT Campus in Grangegorman to the east with Prussia Street to the west. The groundworks took place within a narrow line running east-west along the southern boundary of the shopping centre. The only feature of archaeological or heritage interest is the Grangegorman boundary wall. This feature (a Protected Structure) is described in detail in the Grangegorman Masterplan Part 8: Conservation (Grangegorman Development Agency, 2008). This is a limestone wall of early 19th-century date. No archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.
Park Shopping Centre, Prussia Street, Dublin 11E0133	Antoine Giacometti	A monitoring programme was conducted in May 2011 during construction of the foundations of a small extension behind Unit 2 (Park Pharmacy) of the Park Shopping Centre in North Dublin city. The foundation trenches reached a depth of 1m below the existing ground surface. The monitoring programme found that modern disturbance associated with the construction of the Park Shopping Centre in the 1980s reached a depth of 0.8–1m. Below this were two thin archaeological layers (both truncated by the modern disturbance) dating from the industrial period (18th or 19th century). No features of interest were noted.
84 – 87 Prussia Street, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7 19E0016	Seán Shanahan & Marion Sutton	Test excavations were undertaken at 84 - 87 Prussia Street, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7. The 0.5 hectare development site is located on the west side of Prussia Street, within the angle formed by Prussia Street, Aughrim Street and St. Joseph's Road. The proposed development comprises the demolition of the vacant commercial building and the construction of student accommodation. A total of 9 test trenches were excavated across the site. Confined space and structural constraints within the existing building limited the number and length of test trenches inside the building. The leased and active nature of the carpark fronting Prussia Street prohibited the excavation of test trenches in this area. Therefore, it was not possible to excavate 12 test trenches as proposed in the agreed Method Statement. The trenches were excavated with an 8-tonne and 6-tonne digger, utilising a 1.5m-wide flat-bladed bucket. Trenches measured approximately 1.8m in width, and ranged from 15m to 30m in length. Trenches 1 to 5 were excavated in the carpark or yard outside the north-west end of the vacant commercial building. The carpark sits at different levels, with the higher level at the back or north-west extent of the site. The ground slopes gradually to the south-east, to the floor level inside the building. Trenches 6 to 9 were excavated inside the

Name & Licence no.	Author	Summary
		<p>vacant building, which is of steel frame construction. Structural girders and existing internal walls dictated the placement and length of the four internal trenches. The natural, a light brown clay, was consistent throughout the site.</p> <p>As well as archaeological test trenches a number of geotechnical slit trenches, bore-holes and test pits were also excavated and monitored. Geotechnical monitoring results were consistent with the results of the archaeological test excavation.</p> <p>Supported by the nature of the remains and the finds across the site, the deposits and features exposed most likely relate to late 19th-and/or early 20th-century buildings shown on the c. 1912 and c. 1940s Ordnance Survey maps. Finds from the site consisted of ceramic, clay pipe, animal bone and glass.</p> <p>A specialised brick (upper surface of which was moulded into two raised squares with bevelled edges) of a dark bluish-purple colour, exposed in Trenches 2, 3 and 4 (and ST02), are marked 'E. PARRY, BUCKLEY'. This was a firm founded in 1860, with Buckley, in Flintshire, being a prominent brick- and pottery-making town. The company existed until 1960. The remains include cobble stone, grooved concrete and brick floor or yard surfaces, which would have provided an easily drained, non-slip surface for a cattle yard or cattle related activities. Given the location of the Dublin Cattle Market, which operated from a large site to the north of St. Joseph's Road, between Aughrim Street and Prussia Street, from 1863 to 1973, there is a strong likelihood that the site at 84 - 87 Prussia Street was utilised for activities directly related to the Cattle Market. An upstanding feature that supports a cattle - related usage is a row of white painted concrete feeding troughs lining the north-east boundary wall of the development site</p> <p>The remains at 84 - 87 Prussia Street, although of modern date, are related to a type of industrial site of which there has been little archaeological investigation and research. The site type is also a limited resource, particularly as the site of the formal market, which played a significant role in the social and economic history of Prussia Street and the surrounding area for over one hundred years, was developed post-1973 in the absence of any archaeological record. It was concluded that the site at 84 - 87 Prussia Street merits further archaeological mitigation.</p>
12-32 Old Cabra Road, Dublin 7 16E0391	Aidan O'Connell	Monitoring was carried out on the site of a mixed-use development. No archaeology was found.
73 Manor Street, Dublin 05E0347	Fintan Walsh	Monitoring carried out at a proposed development revealed nothing of archaeological significance on site. The surviving stratigraphy consisted of 0.3m of building rubble overlying natural subsoil.
Grangegorman Academic Hub, Grangegorman Lower, Dublin 20E0435	Muireann Ni Cheallachain	<p>Post-medieval urban.</p> <p>These are the preliminary results of an archaeological excavation at Academic Hub, Grangegorman undertaken on behalf of Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA) in advance of proposed development comprising change of use and works to North House East (part of 'Top House or North House' – Protected Structure No. 3282).</p> <p>Analysis of the historic mapping has revealed that the site was previously situated on agricultural lands associated with the medieval manor at Grangegorman. From the late 18th century, construction of various institutions commenced across the wider Grangegorman area,</p>

Name & Licence no.	Author	Summary
		<p>with the Richmond District Lunatic Asylum within the development area being constructed in 1854. Fire damage to the main southern wing and associated buildings to the north occurred in the 1950s and their subsequent demolition was undertaken in the early 1980s. The current upstanding remains of the Asylum consisting of the 'Top House' and the GDA/DIT office building, were constructed between 1869 and 1909.</p> <p>The excavation uncovered a substantial portion of the western side of the southern wing of the former Richmond District Lunatic Asylum. Three phases of activity were established from the identified remains: Phase 1 was associated with activity pre-dating the construction of the District Asylum in the form of agricultural furrows. Phase 2 was associated with the initial construction in 1854. The foundation walls of some the interior rooms of the western arm of the southern wing were uncovered, including two cells, a main corridor, a lavatory, a large day room and a room for the attendants. Phase 3 related to a phase of expansion of the facility undertaken from 1869 to 1899 which saw a toilet block extension added to the northern section of the southern wing.</p> <p>Post-excavation analysis of the artefacts recovered from the excavation is ongoing.</p>
<p>Stanhope Street National School, Manor Street, Dublin 10E0137</p>	<p>Melania McQuade</p>	<p>Post-medieval occupation</p> <p>Test excavations were carried out on the site of a proposed development within the school grounds. The proposed development is located on the site of the now demolished late 19th-century school structures. The recorded site of Grange Gorman medieval manor, DU018-020(565), is located c. 90m to the south-east of the testing area.</p> <p>Three test-trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed development. A post-medieval garden soil was uncovered at the southern end of the site and ceramic sherds within this deposit indicate that it dates from the 18th or 19th century. No other features or finds of archaeological significance were uncovered in the test-trenches or engineering trial-pits, and the indications are that much of the site was disturbed during the construction of the late 19th-century school building and later extensions to that structure.</p>
<p>Kirwan Street, Dublin 03E0174</p>	<p>Claire Walsh</p>	<p>Test excavation of a development site to the rear of Manor Street, Stoneybatter, along Kirwan Street, was undertaken on 19 February 2003. The developers propose to construct townhouses on Kirwan Street, where a light industrial structure had occupied the site. No finds or deposits of archaeological significance are present on this site.</p>