

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESKTOP REPORT AND
IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR A DEVELOPMENT
AT CONNOLLY BARRACKS, LONGFORD TOWN,
CO. LONGFORD**

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ABSTRACT

This report evaluates the archaeological impacts associated with a proposed development at Connolly Barracks, Longford Town, Co. Longford. Mitigation measures are provided to avoid, reduce, or offset potential adverse impacts.

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1.0 Introduction

This archaeological heritage impact assessment report has been prepared by Horizon Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Robin Lee Architect to assess and define the impact, if any, on the known archaeological heritage resources, of a proposed development within the townland of Abbeycartron, Co. Longford. The subject site, the former Officers Building, is situated within the grounds of Sean Connolly Barracks to the north of Longford Town centre. The report includes mitigation measures designed to avoid, reduce or offset any potential adverse impacts.

The key objectives of this report are to assess, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, any impacts the proposed development may have on the known archaeological heritage assets. The following key issues are addressed:

- Direct and indirect construction impacts on recorded and unrecorded archaeological or architectural heritage features.
- Direct and indirect operational impacts on recorded and unrecorded archaeological or architectural heritage features.
- Residual and cumulative impacts on recorded and unrecorded archaeological or architectural heritage features.

Archaeological mitigation in the form of archaeological test trenching is recommended to ameliorate the risk of impacting on any subterranean archaeological heritage assets. This archaeological test trenching should take place following consultation with and approval by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Longford County Council.

Methodology

The research for this report consisted of a paper and digital survey of archaeological, historical and cartographic sources.

A study area with a 300m radius for known archaeological sites has been imposed around the proposed development area. An impact assessment and mitigation strategy has been prepared. The impact assessment is undertaken to outline potential adverse impacts that the proposed development may have on the known resources, while the mitigation strategy is designed to avoid, reduce or offset such adverse impacts.

Data sources

The following sources were examined, and a list of sites and areas of archaeological heritage value or potential was compiled:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Co. Longford;
- Topographical Files (Topo) of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Record of Protected Structures (RPS) for Co. Longford.
- Cartographic and documentary sources relating to the study area;
- County/town Development Plan
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH).

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a list of archaeological sites known to National Monuments Service. Back-up files of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) provide details of documentary sources and field inspections where these have taken place. There are nine sites recorded on the RMP and SMR within 200m radius of the proposed development site (see Table 1 and Figure. 3).

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

The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) includes all known structures within the county of Longford that are of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, social, scientific or technical importance. By inclusion in the RPS these structures are afforded legal protection under the Planning and Development Act 2000. There are ten buildings listed on the RPS within the 100m radius study area (see Table 2 and Figure 8) The RPS for Co. Longford is maintained by Longford County Council and is available at the following address:

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/services/planning/longford-county-development-plan-2021-2027/volume-2-appendix.pdf>

Cartographic sources are important in tracing land use development within an area of land take, as well as providing topographical information on sites and areas of archaeological potential. Cartographic analysis of relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies that may no longer remain within the landscape. Documentary sources were consulted to gain background information on the historical and archaeological landscape of the proposed development area.

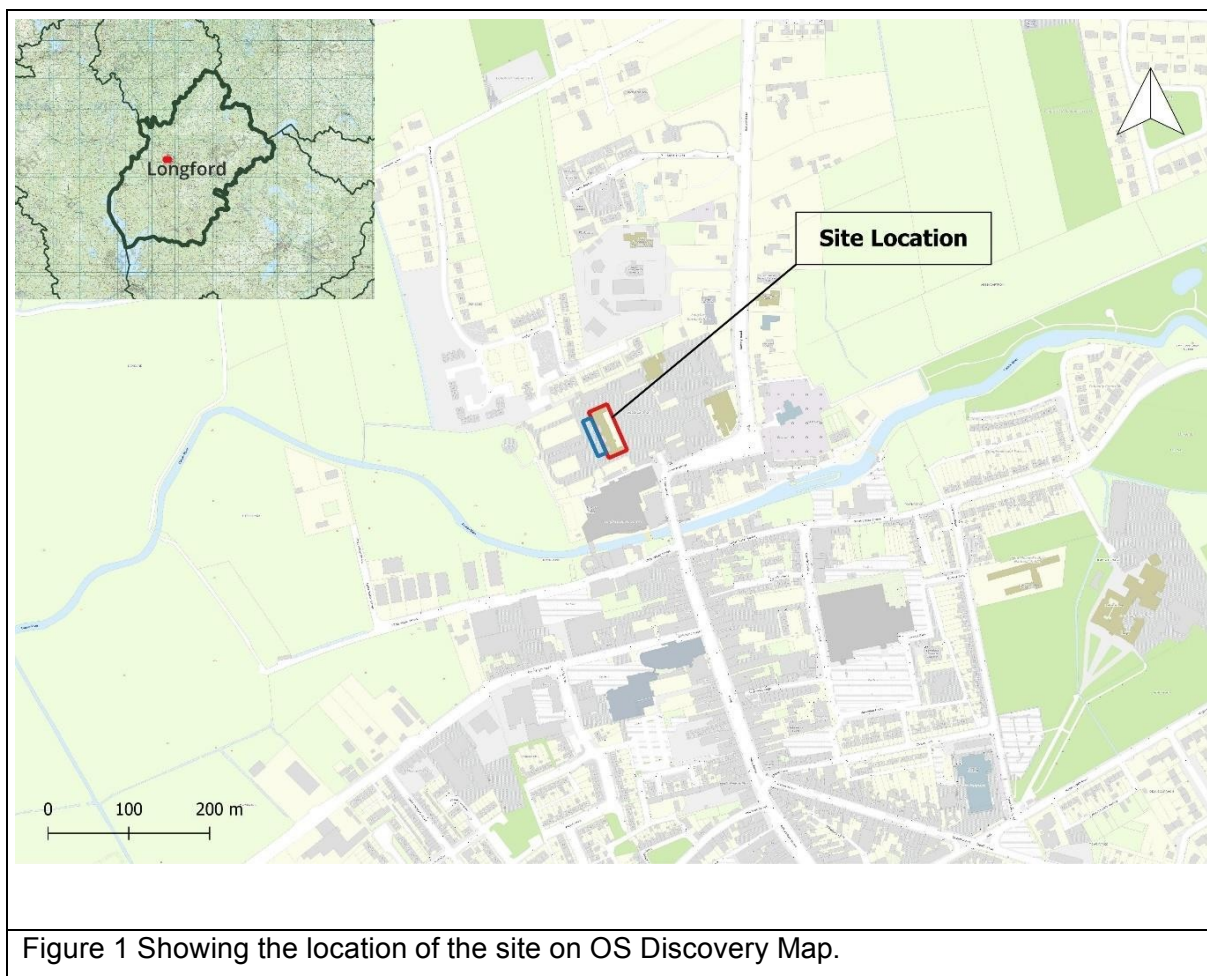
Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 and Draft Longford Town Local Area Plan 2025-2031 contain objectives on the preservation and management of cultural heritage. It was consulted to obtain information on sites within the proposed development area and the 200m radius study area.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a section within the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The work of NIAH involves identifying and recording on a non-statutory basis the architectural heritage of Ireland from 1700 to the present day. There are ten structures contained within the NIAH within 100m of the site (see Table 2 and Figure 8).

2.0 Location

The proposed development is located at the western side of the parade ground and barrack complex. The latter is bounded to the south by a shopping centre, the west by a green field, the north by residential properties and the east by Barrack Road. Several other buildings, including a hospital, guard house, prison and market house (used as stables), are also associated with the former barrack complex.

The site can be accessed via Barrack Road, which bounds the former Sean Connolly Barracks complex to the east. This road provides the primary route to the parade ground, where the former Officers Building is situated on the western side.



4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

General

The following section presents summary details of the main periods within the Irish archaeological record with references to associated monuments located within the study area. The dating framework used for each period is based on Guidelines for Authors of Reports on Archaeological Excavations as published by the National Monuments Service.

There are no archaeological sites located within the proposed development site. There are three sites contained in the County Longford Record of Monuments and Places (1995) within the 200m study area. These are amongst a total of nine archaeological sites contained within the Sites and Monuments Record database within the 200m radius study area (Table 1 and Figure 3). Of these, the closest to the development site are a tower house (LF013-026003-), a fortified house (LF013-062----) and a bawn wall (LF013-062001-) located nearby to the southeast within 50m. The 17th century market-house (LF013-026008-) is slightly further to the west. The site of a Dominican Friary (LF013-026001-) – now occupied by St. John's Church – with accompanying graveyard lies just within the 200m radius of the site to the west.

Table 1 Listing the archaeological sites from the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within 200m. Those which are on the RMP are highlighted.

SMR No.	MONUMENT CLASS	TOWNLAND	ITM E	ITM N
LF013-026001-	Religious house - Dominican friars	ABBEYCARTRON	613208	775763
LF013-026003-	Castle - tower house	ABBEYCARTRON	613041	775701
LF013-062----	House - fortified house	ABBEYCARTRON	613044	775698
LF013-026004-	Bridge	ABBEYCARTRON, TOWNPARKS (Ardagh By.)	613067	775623
LF013-026002-	Graveyard	ABBEYCARTRON	613228	775778
LF013-026008-	Market-house	ABBEYCARTRON	613091	775749
LF013-026014-	House - 17th century	ABBEYCARTRON	613058	775580
LF013-062001-	Bawn	ABBEYCARTRON	613025	775680

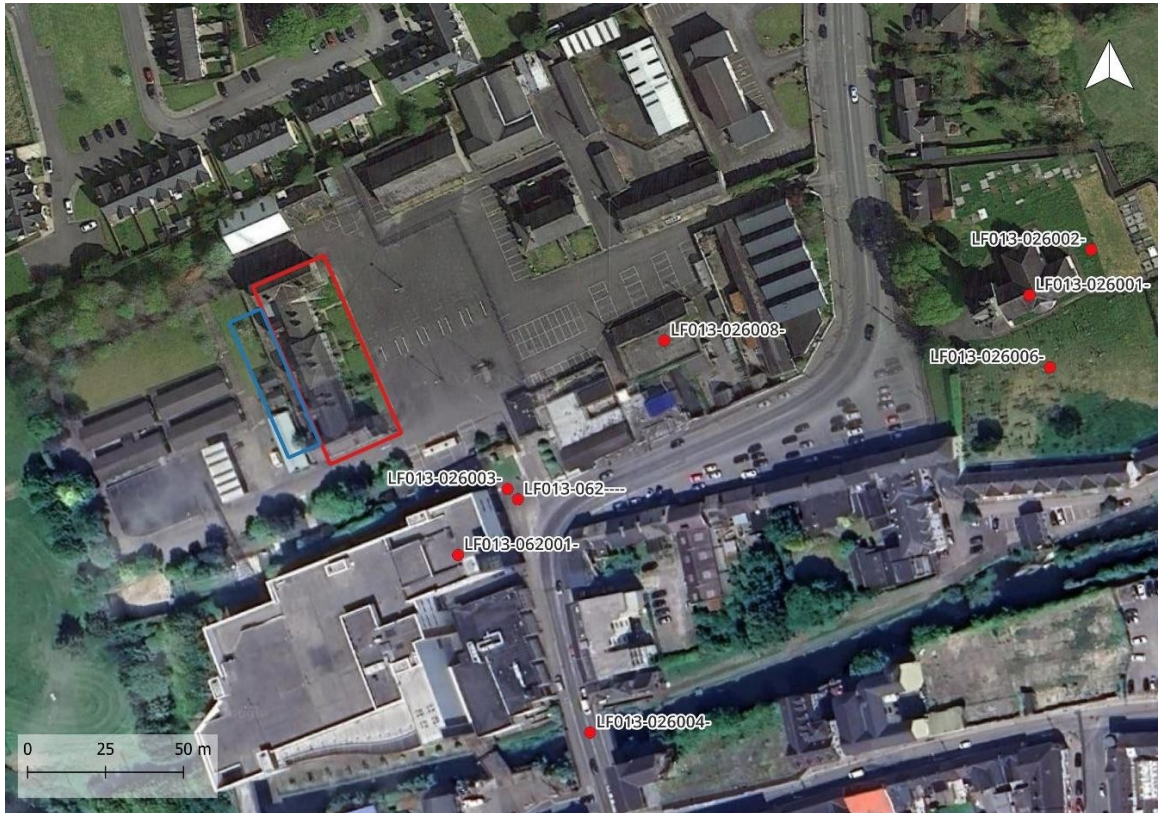


Figure 3 Showing the archaeological sites from the RMP and SMR within the study area (after the Historic Environment Viewer). Red line denotes existing building / works area. Blue denotes location of proposed extension.

Prehistoric

Archaeological evidence points to human activity in the Longford area from the Neolithic period (c. 4000–2500 BCE). Megalithic tombs, including dolmens and passage graves, are scattered across the county, indicating a well-established agrarian society. Artefacts such as stone axes and pottery sherds further attest to Neolithic habitation. The Bronze Age (c. 2500–800 BCE) left behind burial sites, including cist graves and fulachta fiadh. Located in low-lying pasture at Demesne Lane to the north of Connolly Barracks, a burnt area (LF013-119) (c. 4m N-S; c. 3m E-W) containing charcoal, heat-shattered stone, and burnt clay was uncovered during archaeological monitoring (Pieczarka and Tierney 2006). The Iron Age saw the emergence of ringforts and crannógs (lake dwellings), reflecting the area's growing social complexity.

Early Medieval

The early medieval period (5th–12th centuries CE) saw Longford develop as a key site within the Gaelic kingdom of Annaly. Dominated by the Ó Fearghail (O'Farrell) clan, the region was characterised by its network of ringforts, crannógs, and early Christian monastic foundations. Abbeyshrule and Inchcleraun on Lough Ree served as religious, educational, and economic hubs, marked by remnants such as high crosses and holy wells. Longford's strategic location

on the River Shannon and its tributaries facilitated trade and cultural exchange. Unlike other regions of Ireland, Longford's settlement and growth were shaped entirely by native Irish influence, with no significant Anglo-Norman presence during this era.

Late Medieval Period

The late-medieval period saw Longford emerge as a key settlement under the patronage of the O'Farrell clan, who established the Dominican priory (LF013-026001-) in 1400 on the north side of the Camlin River. This religious foundation served as a focal point for spiritual, social, and economic activities. The settlement, referred to as 'Longphort Uí Fergail' by 1448, became the seat of the O'Farrell chieftains following the division of Anghaile in 1445. A native Irish market developed during this period, drawing merchants from the east coast, though it faced restrictions from the English parliament, which sought to limit trade with Irish markets. By the end of the 15th century, Longford's identity as a Gaelic stronghold and economic hub was well established, despite challenges posed by external influences and internal rivalries. A castle, or tower house (LF013-026003-), was likely constructed during the late 15th or early 16th century. Longford remained in O Fearghail hands until the reign of Elizabeth I when the town, along with the castle fell into English hands. The county's naming in 1571 underscored the town's regional prominence.

Post-medieval and early modern period

The post-medieval and early modern period marked a transformative era for Longford. The first royal grant for a market and fair was issued in 1605 to Richard Nugent, baron of Delvin (Cal. pat. rolls Ire., Jas I, 86). It appears that the Nugent family did not take up this licence and a town does not appear to have been successfully established for in 1613 Longford was unable to send any burgesses to the Irish Parliament because there was in the county 'no town fit for it' (Cal. S.P. Ire. 1611-14, 333). In 1668 it was incorporated and made a borough by King Charles II (ibid., 646).

During the early 17th century, Longford expanded south of the Camlin River into what became known as 'Newtown-Longford.' This growth was supported by significant royal grants, including one in 1605 for a market and fair, although the establishment of the town was formalised in 1620 under Francis Aungier, Baron of Longford. The town was incorporated as a borough in 1668 by King Charles II, further cementing its importance as an administrative and economic centre. The town was described by Nicholas Dowdall in 1682 as a 'Large Countrey Village having but few good houses in it, there runneth a small river thro it which affordeth little Fishes and is of Litle use save some few Mills it drives.'

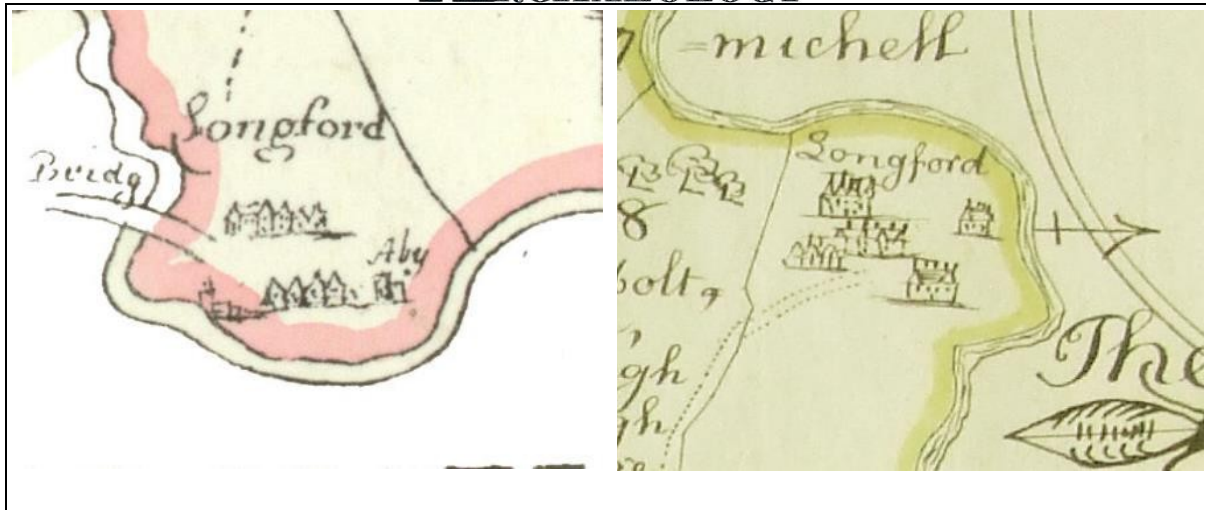


Figure 4 Showing extract from the Down Survey maps of Longford Barony (left) and Clongish Parish (right), north of the river Camlin.



Figure 5 Showing extract from the Down Survey maps of Ardagh Barony (left) and Ballymackarmoth Parish (right), south of the river Camlin.

The Cromwellian and Williamite Wars in the mid-17th century brought widespread destruction, including damage during the 1641 rebellion when Irish forces burned much of the English-settled parts of the town. Archaeological and historical records from this period include references to fortified houses, markets, and significant civic structures. For instance, the Down Survey maps depict a cluster of large buildings on the north side of the Camlin and a large building surrounded by smaller cabins on the south, indicating urban expansion and consolidation despite the upheaval (Figures 4 and 5). Prominent civic buildings such as the early 17th-century market house (LF013-026008-) exemplify Longford's evolving urban identity. The earlier tower house was either destroyed or incorporated into a new fortified house (LF013-062) which was constructed c. 1627 by Lord Aungier. This, along with its associated bawn wall (LF013-062001-) was demolished by the County Council in the early 1970s.

By the 18th and 19th centuries, Longford's street layout and civic architecture reflected Georgian influences. Main Street and Bridge Street trace their origins to medieval and early modern settlement patterns. Near the end of the 18th century the British War Office purchased the site of the castle (LF013-026003-) and market house (LF013-026008-) for the construction of the The Longford Cavalry Barracks which was completed by 1815. The Royal Canal, completed in 1817, further integrated Longford into Ireland's commercial network and the construction of St. Mel's Cathedral gave the Diocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise a headquarters in the town. However, the Great Famine (1845–1852) caused population decline and emigration, leaving a lasting socio-economic impact.

The 1st edition 6 inch map of Longford town shows the Cavalry Barracks as it existed not long after construction (Figure 6). The Officer's Quarters, which is the site of the proposed development, is surrounded by several buildings including a magazine (store), two pumps, mews (stable), prison, riding school and canteen, all of which are enclosed by wall which was entered through from the east and south.

In the 20th century, Longford played a role in Ireland's struggle for independence. After the war, the Barracks were handed over to the Irish Free State and was renamed after Brigadier Sean Connolly who was fatally wounded during the struggle. The 1st edition 15 inch map, which was surveyed shortly prior to these events depicts the complex of buildings much as it had been when it was built, although with the addition of several unlabelled buildings (Figure 7). The nearest of these buildings to the proposed site of development are two small rectangular roofed structures immediately west of the Officer's Quarters. A long narrow building roofed building stood slightly further to the west. However this building is no longer standing.

Modern aerial imagery of the site shows a number of additional buildings constructed during the 20th century including four identical roofed buildings to the west of the Officer's Quarters.

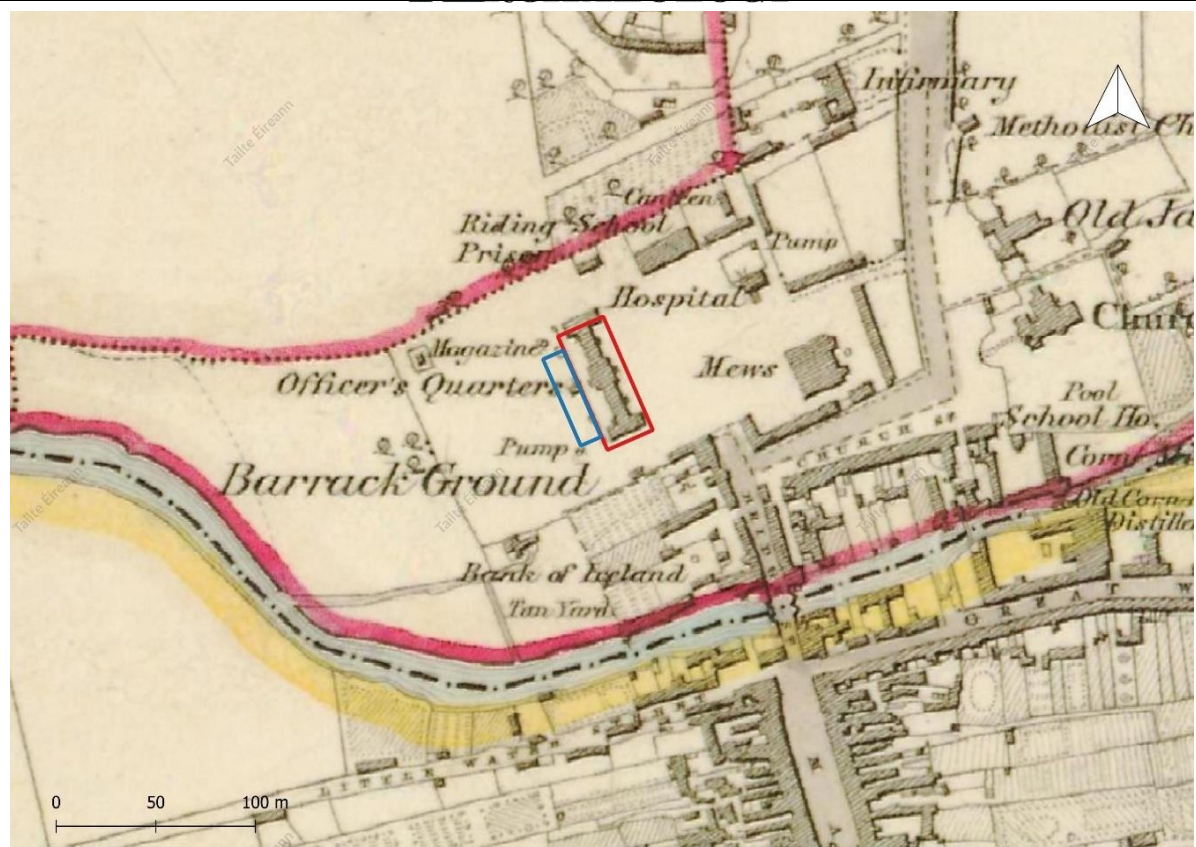


Figure 6 Extract from 1st Edition 6" Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1836, showing the proposed development area. Sheet: LD013.

Red line denotes existing building / works area. Blue denotes location of proposed extension.

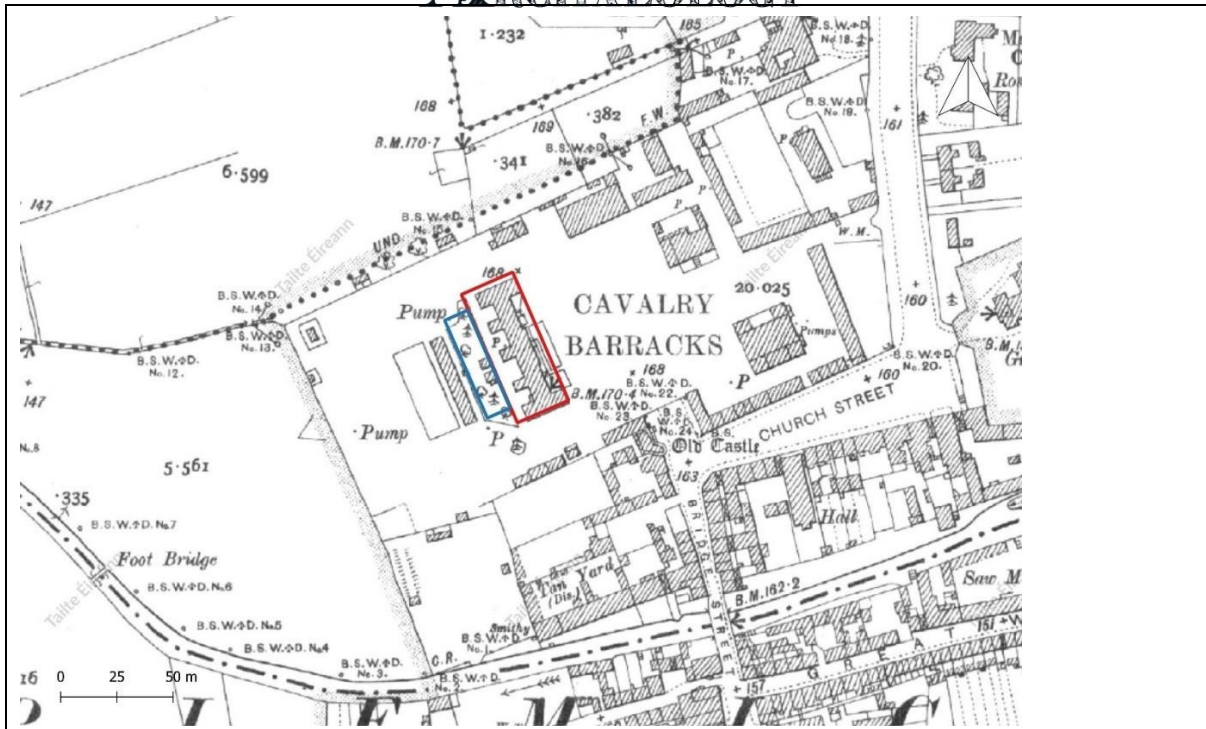


Figure 7 Extract from 1st Edition 25" Ordnance Survey Map surveyed in 1911, showing the proposed development area. Sheet LD013-08.

Red line denotes existing building / works area. Blue denotes location of proposed extension.

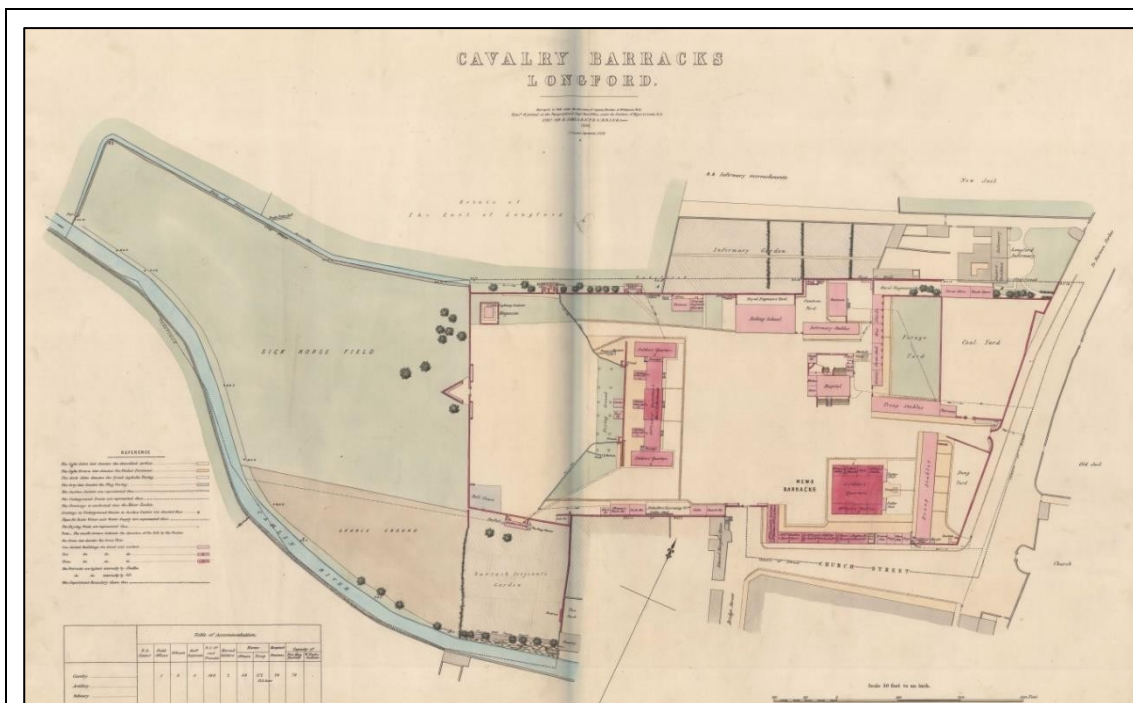


Figure 8 Cavalry Barracks site map from 1863 (Source: www.militaryarchives.ie)

Place names

Townland names are an important source in understanding the archaeology, geology, land-use, ownership and cultural heritage of an area. The following translations were taken from www.logainm.ie.

Longford – Irish: *an Longfoirt*, a term used by Irish monks to refer to Viking ‘ship forts’ but may imply the presence of a Gaelic fortress in the case of Longford Town which has no strong evidence for Viking settlement.

Abbeycartron – Irish: *Cartrún na Mainistreach*, meaning ‘Monastery Quarter’ or ‘Abbey Quarter’. This suggests that this townland was once held by the Dominican Priory.

Summary of Previous Fieldwork in the Study Area

Reference to Summary Accounts of Archaeological Excavations in Ireland (www.excavations.ie) revealed that relevant archaeological investigations took place within the townlands containing and surrounding the proposed development site.

Townland: Abbeycartron, License no: 04E1560, Author: Stuart D. Elder, The Archaeology Company

Results: The client proposed a large-scale retail complex on the site of the former Lyons/AIBP meat factory adjacent to the Sean Connolly Barracks. The barracks were constructed on the site of the 17th-century Longford Castle, of which a round tower and dwelling house survived until the latter half of the 20th century. Evidence from a series of historical maps shows that the meat factory buildings were constructed on the site of earlier buildings that were demolished to make way for the new construction. Nothing of these older buildings remained visible in the fabric of the buildings occupying the site.

Four trenches were excavated east-west across the yard, which had a concrete surface of up to 0.2m thick, reinforced with steel mesh in places. Beneath this, there was mostly a deposit of rubble left behind after the demolition of the buildings that had stood on the site before the meat factory was constructed, and this rubble had been utilised as a levelling layer and bed for the concrete yard surface.

Trench 1 was closest to the river and revealed concrete and gravel to a depth of 0.8m overlying peat to a depth of 2.5m, where bedrock was encountered. Two large tanks were noted, lined with planks of pine and separated by a 0.4m-thick layer of grey clay. The timber of the planks was still very yellow, suggesting a relatively recent date for the installation of the tanks. The

larger tank, to the west, was filled with roughly hewn stones, whilst the smaller tank to the east was filled with an organic material, probably wood-shavings. Tanks are depicted on the 1894 edition of the OS map, though these are further to the west of those found. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

Townland: Townparks, License no: 04E1556, Author: Stuart D. Elder, The Archaeology Company

Results: The client proposes to build a mews-style dwelling complex with underground car parking on the site of a former sawmill. Adjacent to the river, there is a mill-race on the opposite side of the northern boundary wall exhibiting features such as a wheel pit and sluices, suggesting that the mill was water-powered. Evidence from a series of historical maps shows that the mill buildings went through a series of changes before being demolished. The northern, eastern and southern boundary walls are part of the fabric of these mill buildings.

Three trenches were excavated east-west across the yard of the former mill complex. The yard had a surface of concrete up to 0.08m thick, beneath which there was mostly a deposit of rubble left behind after the demolition of the buildings, utilised as a levelling layer and bed for the concrete yard surface. Several fragments of wall foundation and floor surfaces relating to the former mill complex were located, but these had been heavily disturbed since the end of use of the site and were not considered worthy of preservation.

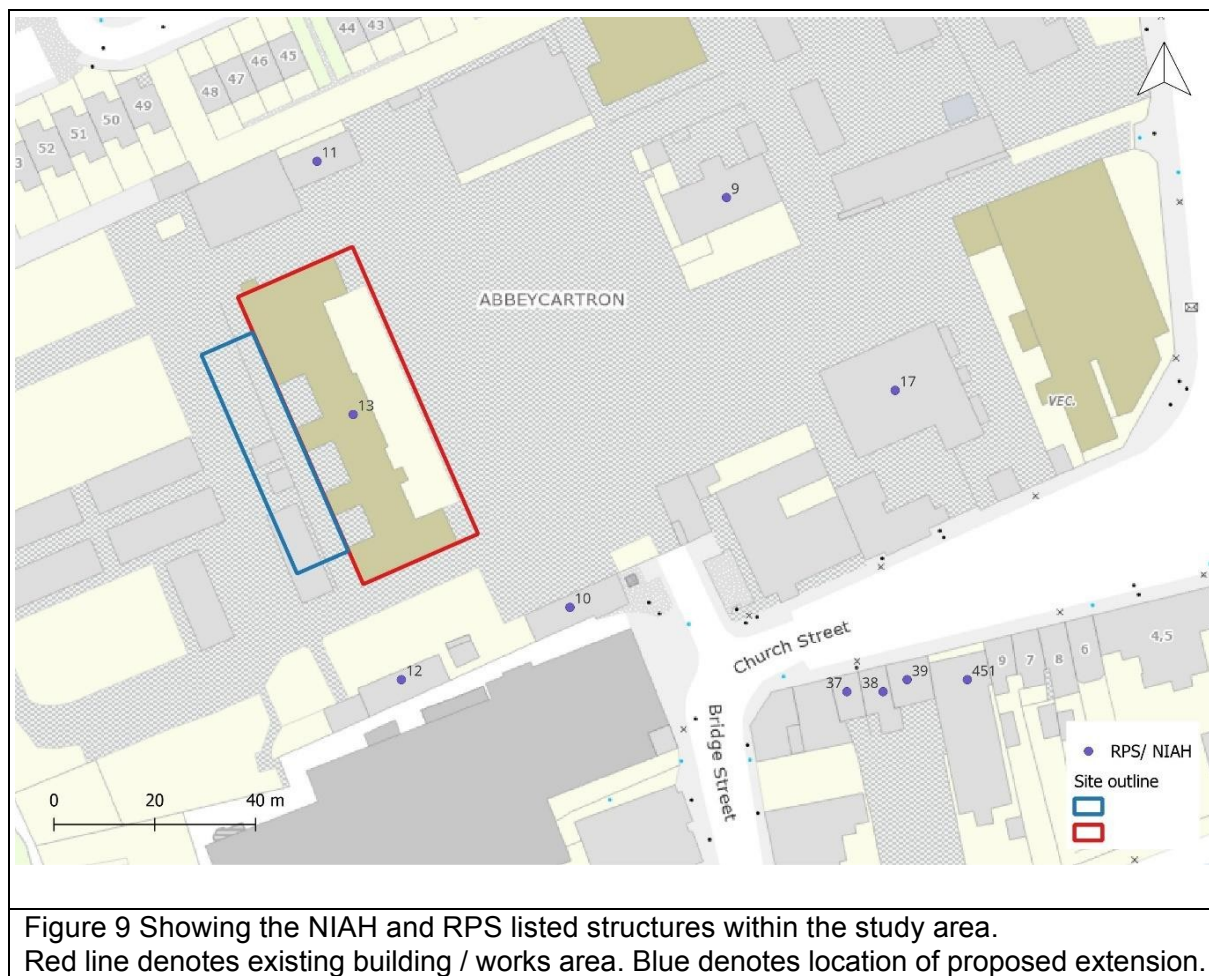
The southern side of Great Water Street and Water Street appears to be the northern extent of the town proper. There was no indication of town defences or habitation of any date within the confines of the property boundary. All evidence points towards post-medieval industrial activity related to the mill complex.

Built Heritage

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) maintains a non-statutory register of buildings, structures etc. recorded on a county basis. *Volume 2, Appendix 6* of the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 contains a statutory Record of Protected Structures (RPS) within Co. Longford. There are ten entries recorded on the NIAH building survey within 100m of the proposed development, including the Officer's Quarters itself. Each of these are also contained within the Record of Protected Structures for Co. Longford (see Table 2 and Figure 8).

Table 2 Listing the NIAH and RPS structures within the study area.

RPS. NO.	NIAH. NO.	NAME/ ADDRESS	ORIGINAL USE	RATING	Distance
451	13002022	No. 5 Church Street	Church Hall	Regional	100m SE
39	13002023	Church Street	House	Regional	86m SE
38	13002024	Church Street	House	Regional	82m SE
37	13002025	Church Street	House	Regional	75m SE
17	13002495	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Market house	National	80m E
9	13008016	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Hospital/infirmary	Regional	65m E
10	13008017	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Guard house	Regional	24m SE
11	13008018	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Prison/jail	Regional	13m N
12	13008019	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Outbuilding	Regional	22m S
13	13008020	Sean Connolly Barracks, Church Street	Barracks	Regional	Site itself



County and Town Development Plans

Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027

The Co. Longford Development Plan 2021-2027 was consulted for the following information:

Section 11.10.1, Table 11.1 lists National Monuments in State ownership or guardianship within the county. None of the listed sites are located on or near the proposed development site.

Section 11.10.2, Table 11.2 lists monuments protected under Preservation Orders within the County. None of the listed sites are located on or near the proposed development site.

Section 11.10.3, Table 11.3 lists monuments of Archaeological, Historical and Cultural Interest within the county. None of the listed sites are located on or near the proposed development site.

Section 11.10.3 contains the following list of archaeological policy objectives:

CPO 11.47 — Protect known and unknown archaeological areas, sites, structures, monuments and objects in the County.

CPO 11.48 — Protect the integrity of the settings of archaeological areas, sites, structures, monuments and objects in the County.

CPO 11.49 — Protect the National Monuments and monuments protected under Preservation Orders in the County (see Table 11.1: National Monuments In County Longford, Table 11.2: Monuments Protected under Preservation Orders and Appendix 6: Built and Cultural Heritage).

CPO 11.50 — Protect the monuments of Archaeological, Historical and Cultural Interest in the County (see Table 11.3: County Longford Monuments of Archaeological, Historical and Cultural Interest and Appendix 6: Built and Cultural Heritage).

CPO 11.51 — Encourage and promote the appropriate management and enhancement of the County's rich archaeological heritage, to include community initiatives.

CPO 11.52 — Encourage and promote access to and understanding of the archaeological heritage of the County.

CPO 11.53 — Seek to increase awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of the archaeological heritage for all, through the provision of information to landowners and the community generally, in cooperation with statutory and other partners. Investigate and promote the provision of improved access to important archaeological sites.

CPO 11.54 — Presume in favour of the physical preservation in-situ of archaeological remains and their settings, where appropriate, feasible and in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the County.

CPO 11.55 — Consult with the National Monuments Service in relation to proposed developments adjoining archaeological sites.

CPO 11.56 — Contribute, as appropriate, towards the protection and preservation of underwater archaeological sites in riverine or lacustrine locations.

Sections 11.6 and 11.7 contains the following list of architectural heritage policy objectives:

CPO 11.1 - Promote and direct users to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) website (www.buildingsofireland.ie) wherever appropriate.

CPO 11.2 - Cooperate with the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage in assessing and celebrating historic designed landscapes, demesnes and gardens.

CPO 11.3 - Implement the County Heritage Plan 2019-2024 and seek to update the Heritage Plan over the lifetime of the County Development Plan.

CPO 11.4 - Promote the maintenance and appropriate re-use of the existing building stock.

CPO 11.5 - Ensure that all development should be appropriate to its setting in the landscape or townscape and responds to and reinforces local character and heritage.

CPO 11.6 - Encourage the enhancement, management, protection and the promotion of access to and understanding of the architectural heritage of the County.

CPO 11.9 - Ensure that proposals for development to structures included as part of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (DoEHLG) and any updated version, maintain and enhance the character of these structures.

CPO 11.10 - Ensure that development in the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Zone of Archaeological Potential is sited and designed in a sensitive manner with a view to minimal detracting from the monument or its setting.

CPO 11.11 - Require, as part of the development management process, archaeological impact assessments, geophysical survey, test excavations or monitoring as appropriate, for development in the vicinity of monuments or in areas of archaeological potential. Where there are upstanding remains, a visual impact assessment may be required.

CPO 11.12 - Refer any proposed development which may impact on the integrity and/or setting of any monuments, sites, objects or areas of archaeological, cultural, architectural, historical or heritage importance under the protection of this Development Plan and/or the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the relevant section of the DoAHG for observations/comment prior to a grant of permission/approval being obtained.

CPO 11.16 - Promote best conservation practice and encourage the use of appropriately qualified professional advisors, tradesmen and craftsmen, with recognised conservation expertise, for works to Protected Structures.

CPO 11.17 - Ensure the protection of structures included in the Record of Protected Structures by:

- Controlling development which would alter the character of Protected Structures and proposed Protected Structures.
- Monitoring the condition of Protected Structures and proposed protected structures to identify those endangered by neglect, vandalism or unauthorised development and taking appropriate action.
- Preventing the endangerment of Protected Structures in the Council's ownership.

CPO 11.19 - Encourage the rehabilitation, renovation and reuse of existing older buildings/ buildings of architectural merit, where appropriate, in preference to their demolition and redevelopment. In certain cases, land use zoning restrictions may be relaxed in order to secure the conservation of the Protected Structure.

CPO 11.20 - Facilitate contemporary and innovative design providing that they are of a sufficient high quality and do not detract from the character of the historic fabric of the Protected Structure.

CPO 11.21 - Require applications for development where a Protected Structure or its setting is likely to be materially affected, to submit a detailed assessment of the building.

CPO 11.22 - Protect the setting of Protected Structures and refuse permission for development within the curtilage or adjacent to a Protected Structure which would adversely impact on the character and special interest of the structure, where appropriate

Longford Town Plan (Draft) 2025-2031

Section 12.9.2 contains the following Archaeological Heritage Objectives:

AH 01 — Comply with the relevant policies as contained in Chapter 11: Built and Cultural Heritage of the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027.

AH 02 — Safeguard the archaeological heritage located within the boundary of the Local Area Plan and avoid negative impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.

AH 03 — Prioritise the protection/preservation in situ items of archaeological interest from inappropriate development that would adversely affect and/or detract from the interpretation and setting of these sites.

AH 04 — Encourage, where practicable, the provision of public access to sites identified on the Sites and Monuments Record under the direct ownership or control of the Local Authority and the State.

AH 05 — Provide for the protection of historic burial grounds within Longford, in co-operation with agencies such as the Office of Public Works and the National Monuments Section of the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

AH 06 — Ensure that development proposals contribute towards the protection and preservation of the archaeological value of underwater or archaeological sites associated with the River Camlin, the Royal Canal and associated features.

5.0 Archaeological Impact Assessment

The proposed development of a new building block at Connolly Barracks, Longford will see ground works take place in the immediate vicinity of an existing 19th century military complex. The development will include site works including internal refurbishment and alterations, external alterations, repairs and upgrades to the former Officers Building. The project will result in the demolition of rear boundary wall and utilitarian buildings to the west of the Officers Building. The development will result in disturbance works for a new single storey extension to the rear (west) of the Officers Building, and public realm enhancements comprised of permeable hard landscaping to facilitate universal access, and new car parking services. Public realm enhancements comprised of permeable hard landscaping to facilitate universal access.

Historical sources indicate that known archaeological sites are located within the environs of the proposed development. Cartographic sources indicates that the development site was subject to some degree of previous ground disturbance activities, associated with the construction of the barracks complex.

No known archaeological sites will be directly impacted by the proposed development. No invasive archaeological works have been carried out as part of this assessment. Therefore, the presence of subterranean archaeological features within the development area is possible. The proposed development presents a low degree of risk of impacting on archaeological heritage assets.

6.0 Conclusions and recommendations

The proposed development will not impact on any known archaeological sites. Archaeological mitigation measures will ameliorate the risk of impacting on any subterranean (unknown) archaeological features within the development area.

A program of archaeological test trenching is recommended to investigate the proposed development area. This archaeological test trenching should take place following consultation with and approval by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Longford County Council.

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