

Passagewest Greenway, Co. Cork

Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

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Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 1.2 1.3	Scope of WorkProject Team and QualificationsDevelopment Description and Site Location	2
2	STATUTORY CONTEXT	
2.1	Current Legislation	5
2.2	Policies of the Cork County Development Plan 2022	
	2.2.2 Built Heritage	
3	PLANNING REQUIREMENTS	
4	ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY	10
4.1	Desktop Assessment	10
	4.1.1 Record of Monuments and Places	
	4.1.2 Cartographic sources and aerial photography	
	4.1.3 Topographical Files - National Museum of Ireland	
	4.1.4 Excavations Database	
	4.1.5 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)	
4.2	4.1.6 Record of Protected Structures	
- .∠ 5	EXISTING ENVIRONMENT	
5.1		
	5.1.1 National Monuments	
	5.1.2 Recorded Monuments	
	5.1.3 Excavations Database	
	5.1.4 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland	
5.2		
	5.2.1 Cartographic Review	
	5.2.3 NIAH Structures and Historic Gardens	
	5.2.4 Architectural Conservation Areas	
5.3		
6	POTENTIAL IMPACTS	
6.1	Construction Impacts	
	6.1.1 Direct Impacts	
6.2		
	6.2.1 Indirect (Visual) Impacts	
7	MITIGATION MEASURES	40
8	CONCLUSION	40
9	SOURCES	4 1

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of Work

The proposed development comprises a 2km long pedestrian and cycle lane to improve connectivity between Glenbrook and Passagewest, Co. Cork. Tobar Archaeological Services have been appointed to carry out an archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment of the proposed development. The assessment includes desk-based research, site inspection and GIS mapping, and provides an assessment of potential impacts on the archaeological and cultural heritage resource within and adjacent to the proposed development site. Further detail regarding the development proposals and layout can be referred to in the planning application drawings.

1.2 Project Team and Qualifications

Miriam Carroll and Annette Quinn are the directors of Tobar Archaeological Services and both graduated from University College Cork in 1998 with a Masters degree in Methods and Techniques in Irish Archaeology. Both directors are licensed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) to carry out excavations and are members of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland. Annette Quinn and Miriam Carroll have been working in the field of archaeology since 1994 and have undertaken numerous projects for both the private and public sectors including excavations, site assessments (EIAR) and surveys.

1.3 Development Description and Site Location

The proposed development site is situated in the townlands of Ardmore and Pembroke, Passagewest, Co. Cork (Error! Reference source not found.). It is bounded to the north by Lough Mahon and at its south-eastern end by the River Lee in the Lower Cork Harbour. It comprises an existing 2m wide pedestrian path which extends between the Cork City and County boundaries for c. 2km.

The development proposal is described as follows:

The purpose of this project is to improve walking and cycling connectivity between Glenbrook and Rochestown, through the town of Passage West. The proposed works for the 2km long pedestrian and cycle lane will widen an existing 2.0m wide path to a 3.5-4.0m wide tarmac path between the Cork City and Cork County border, and Passage West playground. There will be new bridge decks where the existing path crosses streams, and public lighting will be provided along the route.

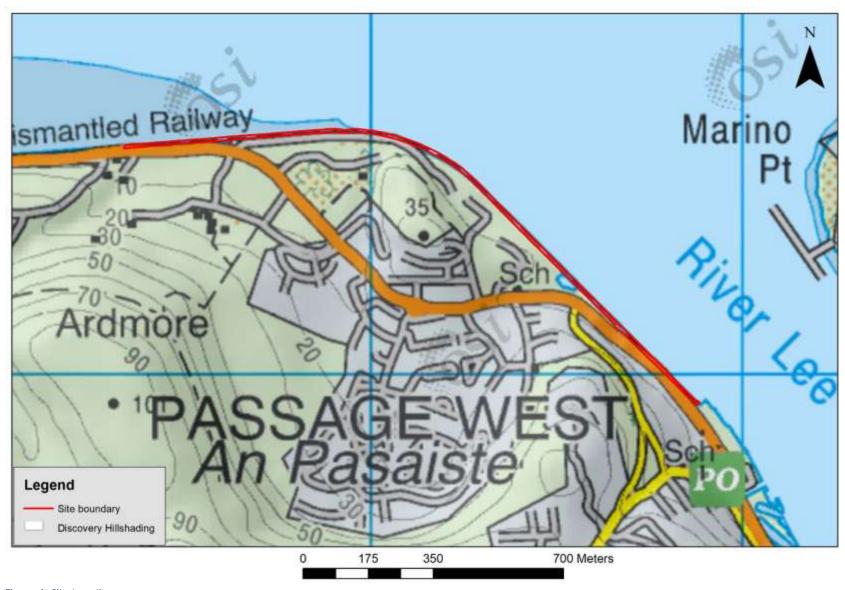


Figure 1: Site location map.



Figure 2: Proposed development area on aerial background.

2 STATUTORY CONTEXT

2.1 Current Legislation

Archaeological monuments are safeguarded through national and international policy, which is designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource. This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention). This was ratified by Ireland in 1997.

Both the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2004 and relevant provisions of the Cultural Institutions Act 1997 are the primary means of ensuring protection of archaeological monuments, the latter of which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date. There are a number of provisions under the National Monuments Acts which ensure protection of the archaeological resource. These include the Register of Historic Monuments (1997 Act) which means that any interference to a monument is illegal under that Act. All registered monuments are included on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and consists of a list of known archaeological monuments and accompanying maps. The Record of Monuments and Places affords some protection to the monuments entered therein. Section 12 (3) of the 1994 Amendment Act states that any person proposing to carry out work at or in relation to a recorded monument must give notice in writing to the Minister (Environment, Heritage and Local Government) and shall not commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice. All proposed works, therefore, within or around any archaeological monument are subject to statutory protection and legislation (National Monuments Acts 1930-2004).

Under the Heritage Act (1995) architectural heritage is defined to include 'all structures, buildings, traditional and designed, and groups of buildings including street-scapes and urban vistas, which are of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest, together with their setting, attendant grounds, fixtures, fittings and contents...'. A heritage building is also defined to include 'any building, or part thereof, which is of significance because of its intrinsic architectural or artistic quality or its setting or because of its association with the commercial, cultural, economic, industrial, military, political, social or religious history of the place where it is situated or of the country or generally'.

The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), sets out the legal framework for the protection of buildings/structures which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. Such protection is afforded through the mechanism of the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). In relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, the term 'structure' includes the interior of the structure, the land lying within the curtilage of the structure, any other structures lying within that curtilage and their interior, and all fixtures and features which form part of the interior or exterior of that structure. The protection also extends to any features specified as being in the attendant grounds.

2.2 Policies of the Cork County Development Plan 2022

The Cork County Development Plan 2022 came into effect on 6th June 2022. It outlines a number of objectives relating to archaeology and built heritage and as follows.

2.2.1 Archaeology

HE 16-2: Protection of Archaeological Sites and Monuments

Secure the preservation (i.e. preservation in situ or in exceptional cases preservation by record) of all archaeological monuments and their setting included in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) (see www.archaeology.ie) and the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and of sites, features and objects of archaeological and historical interest generally. In securing such preservation, the planning authority will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Development Applications Unit of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage as outlined in the Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage policy document or any changes to the policy within the lifetime of the Plan.

HE 16-3: Underwater Archaeology

Protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites and associated underwater and terrestrial features. In assessing proposals for development, the development will take account of the potential underwater archaeology of rivers, lakes, wetlands, intertidal and sub-tidal environments through appropriate archaeological assessment by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

HE 16-4: Zones of Archaeological Potential in Historic Towns and Settlements

Proposed development works in Historic Towns and settlements, Zones of Archaeological Potential, Zones of Notification and the general historic environs in proximity to the zones, should take cognisance of the impact potential of the works, and all appropriate archaeological assessments employed to identify and mitigate the potential impacts.

HE 16-5: Zones of Archaeological Potential

Protect the Zones of Archaeological Potential (ZAPs) located within historic towns, urban areas and around archaeological monuments generally. Any development within the ZAPs will need to take cognisance of the upstanding and potential for subsurface archaeology, through appropriate archaeological assessment.

HE 16-6: Industrial and Post Medieval Archaeology

Protect and preserve industrial and post-medieval archaeology and long-term management of heritage features such as mills, limekilns, forges, bridges, piers and harbours, water-related engineering works and buildings, penal chapels, dwellings, walls and boundaries, farm buildings, estate features, military and coastal installations. There is a general presumption for retention of these structures and features. Proposals for appropriate redevelopment including conversion should be subject to an appropriate assessment and record by a suitably qualified specialist/s.

HE 16-7: Battlefield, Ambush and Siege Sites and Defensive Archaeology

Protect and preserve the defensive archaeological record of County Cork including strategic battlefield, ambush and siege sites, and coastal fortifications and their associated landscape due to their historical and cultural value. Any development within or adjoining these areas shall undertake a historic assessment by a suitably qualified specialist to ensure development does not negatively impact on this historic landscape.

HE 16-8: Burial Places

Protect all historical burial places and their setting in County Cork and encourage their maintenance and care in accordance with appropriate conservation principles.

HE 16-9: Archaeology and Infrastructure Schemes

All large scale planning applications (i.e. development of lands on 0.5 ha or more in area or 1km or more in length) and Infrastructure schemes and proposed roadworks are subjected to an archaeological assessment as part of the planning application process which should comply with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht's codes of practice. It is recommended that the assessment is carried out following pre planning consultation with the County Archaeologist, by an appropriately experienced archaeologist to guide the design and layout of the proposed

scheme/development, safeguarding the archaeological heritage in line with Development Management Guidelines.

HE 16-10: Management of Monuments within Development Sites

Where archaeological sites are accommodated within a development it shall be appropriately conservation/ protection with provision for a suitable buffer zone and long-term management plan put in place all to be agreed in advance with the County Archaeologist.

HE 16-11: Archaeological Landscapes

To protect archaeological landscapes and their setting where the number and extent of archaeological monuments are significant and as a collective are considered an important archaeological landscape of heritage value.

HE 16-12: Raising Archaeological Awareness

As part of the Heritage Plan it is an objective to develop a management plan, if resources allow, for the archaeology of County Cork, which could include an evaluation of the Historic Character Assessment of Cork County helping to identify areas for tourism potential, and strategic research while also promoting best practice in archaeology and encouraging the interpretation, publication and dissemination of archaeological findings from the development application process.

HE 16-13: Undiscovered Archaeological Sites

To protect and preserve previously unrecorded archaeological sites within County Cork as part of any development proposals. The Council will require preservation in situ to protect archaeological monuments discovered. Preservation by record will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

2.2.2 Built Heritage

The CDP 2022 also outlines objectives relating to built heritage such as Protected Structures and those listed in the NIAH.

HE 16-14: Record of Protected Structures

- a) The identification of structures for inclusion in the Record will be based on criteria set out in the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011).
- b) Extend the Record of Protected Structures in order to provide a comprehensive schedule for the protection of structures of special importance in the County during the lifetime of the Plan as resources allow.
- c) Seek the protection of all structures within the County, which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. In accordance with this objective, a Record of Protected Structures has been established and is set out in Volume Two Heritage and Amenity, Chapter 1 Record of Protected Structures.
- d) Ensure the protection of all structures (or parts of structures) contained in the Record of Protected Structures.
- e) Protect the curtilage and attendant grounds of all structures included in the Record of Protected Structures.
- f) Ensure that development proposals are appropriate in terms of architectural treatment, character, scale and form to the existing protected structure and not detrimental to the special character and integrity of the protected structure and its setting.
- g) Ensure high quality architectural design of all new developments relating to or which may impact on structures (and their settings) included in the Record of Protected Structures.
- h) Promote and ensure best conservation practice through the use of specialist conservation professionals and craft persons.
- i) In the event of a planning application being granted for development within the curtilage of a protected structure, that the repair of a protected structure is prioritised in the first instance i.e. the proposed works to the protected structure should occur, where appropriate, in the first phase of the development to prevent endangerment, abandonment and dereliction of the structure.

HE 16-15: Protection of Structures on the NIAH

Protect where possible all structures which are included in the NIAH for County Cork, that are not currently included in the Record of Protected Structures, from adverse impacts as part of the development management functions of the County.

HE 16-16: Protection of Non-Structural Elements of Built Heritage

Protect non-structural elements of the built heritage. These can include designed gardens/garden features, masonry walls, railings, follies, gates, bridges, shopfronts and street furniture. The Council will promote awareness and best practice in relation to these elements.

HE 16-17: Areas of Special Planning Control

Establish areas of special planning control within Architectural Conservation Areas where appropriate. These areas will include a scheme setting out objectives for the conservation and enhancement of the special character of the area, and will be based on an Architectural Appraisal of each town.

HE 16-18: Architectural Conservation Areas

Conserve and enhance the special character of the Architectural Conservation Areas included in this Plan. The special character of an area includes its traditional building stock, material finishes, spaces, streetscape, shopfronts, landscape and setting. This will be achieved by;

- (a) Protecting all buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes and all other features considered to be intrinsic elements to the special character of the ACA from demolition and nonsympathetic alterations.
- (b) Promoting appropriate and sensitive reuse and rehabilitation of buildings and sites within the ACA and securing appropriate infill development.
- (c) Ensure new development within or adjacent to an ACA respects the established character of the area and contributes positively in terms of design, scale, setting and material finishes to the ACA.
- (d) Protect structures from demolition and non sympathetic alterations.
- (e) Promoting high quality architectural design within ACAs.
- (f) Seek the repair and re-use of traditional shopfronts and where appropriate, encourage new shopfronts of a high quality architectural design.
- (g) Ensure all new signage, lighting advertising and utilities to buildings within ACAs are designed, constructed and located in such a manner they do not detract from the character of the ACA.
- (h) Protect and enhance the character and quality of the public realm within ACAs. All projects which involve works within the public realm of an ACA shall undertake a character assessment of the said area which will inform a sensitive and appropriate approach to any proposed project in terms of design and material specifications. All projects shall provide for the use of suitably qualified conservation architects/ designers.
- (i) Protect and enhance the character of the ACA and the open spaces contained therein. This shall be achieved through the careful and considered strategic management of all signage, lighting, utilities, art works/pieces/paintings, facilities etc to protect the integrity and quality of the structures and spaces within each ACA.
- (j) Ensure the protection and reuse of historic street finishes, furniture and features which contribute to the character of the ACA.

HE 16-19: Vernacular Heritage

- a) Protect, maintain and enhance the established character, forms, features and setting of vernacular buildings, farmyards and settlements and the contribution they make to our architectural, archaeological, historical, social and cultural heritage and to local character and sense of place.
- b) Cork County Council encourages best conservation practice in the renovation and maintenance of vernacular buildings including thatched structures through the use of specialist conservation professionals and craft persons. Development proposals shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation compiled by experienced conservation consultant.
- c) There will generally be a presumption in favour of the retention of vernacular buildings and encouragement of the retention and re-use of vernacular buildings subject to normal planning considerations, while ensuring that the re-use is compatible with environmental and heritage protection.

HE 16-20: Historic Landscapes

- a) Recognise the contribution and importance of historic landscapes and their contribution to the appearance of the countryside, their significance as archaeological, architectural, historical and ecological resources.
- b) Protect the archaeological, architectural, historic and cultural element of the historic/heritage landscapes of the County of Cork.
- c) All new development within historic landscapes should be assessed in accordance with and giving due regard to Cork County Councils 'Guidance Notes for the Appraisal of Historic Gardens, Demesnes, Estates and their Settings' or any other relevant guidance notes or documents issued during the lifetime of the Plan.

2.2.3 Cultural Heritage

HE 16-23: Cultural Heritage

Protect and promote the cultural heritage of County Cork as an important economic asset and for its intrinsic value to identity of place and the well being of people within the County.

HE 16-24: Naming of New Developments

Promote and preserve local place names, local heritage and the Irish language by ensuring the use of local place names or geographical or cultural names which reflect the history and landscape of their setting in the naming of new residential and other developments. Such an approach will be a requirement of planning permissions for new developments.

- HE 16-25: Gaeltacht Areas Protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht areas of Cork by: a) Encouraging development within the Gaeltacht and in the Gaeltacht Service Town of Macroom, which promotes, facilitates or complements the cultural heritage, including Irish language use:
- b) Encouraging development within the Gaeltacht and the Gaeltacht Service Town of Macroom, which provides employment or social facilities, especially, but not exclusively, where these are of relevance to local young people;
- c) Resisting development within the Gaeltacht, which would be likely to erode the cultural heritage (including the community use of Irish language), unless there are over-riding benefits for the long-term sustainability of the local community or for the proper planning and sustainable development of a wider area:
- d) Ensuring that where the County Council erects signs within the Gaeltacht, these have Irish as their primary language, unless there are positive and over-riding reasons for doing otherwise;
- e) Discouraging the exhibition of advertisements within the Gaeltacht which do not use Irish as their primary language;
- f) Consider the requirement for the use of demanding linguistic impact analyses with planning applications for particular major developments. These would be cases where the potential impact of the development on the use of Irish as the community language is not immediately apparent and pivotal in the determination of the application.
- g) Facilitate the preparation and implementation of local Gaeltacht Plans, Programmes and Initiatives, including Language Plans and Conservation Plans such as the Múscraí Heritage Plan, in the interests of the proper planning and sustainable development of Cork's Gaeltachts, provided that such plans are in keeping with Council policy.
- h) Encourage the use of the Irish language, not just in Gaeltacht areas but throughout the County, particularly with regard to service provision, planning and development and Council initiatives/activities.
- i) The use of the Irish language is promoted in the design of developments e.g. business advertising, recreational and community facilities are clearly identified and provided and shop-front signage should be in the Irish language;
- j) The Plan encourages collaboration between Gaeltacht stakeholders, Gaeltacht communities and State agencies in the future planning and development projects to ensure the protection and promotion of the Irish language as the community language

3 PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Tobar Archaeological Services were appointed to undertake an archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment report which will be submitted with the planning application.

4 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The assessment of the archaeology and cultural heritage of the proposed development area comprised desk-based research and GIS analysis.

4.1 Desktop Assessment

A number of sources were consulted as part of the desktop assessment of the proposed development in order to ensure that all the known and potential archaeology and cultural heritage of the area was considered as part of this report.

The sources consulted included but were not limited to the following:

- The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland on www.heritagemaps.ie
- Down Survey Barony maps (1656-8) (www.downsurvey.tcd.ie)
- First edition Ordnance Survey map
- Second edition Ordnance Survey map
- Third edition Ordnance Survey map
- Aerial photographs
- Excavations Database
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)
- Cork County Development Plan 2022

4.1.1 Record of Monuments and Places

A primary cartographic source and base-line data for the assessment was the consultation of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Cork. All known recorded archaeological monuments are indicated on 6 inch Ordnance Survey (OS) maps and are listed in this record. The SMR/RMP is not a complete record of all monuments as newly discovered sites may not appear in the list or accompanying maps. In conjunction with the consultation of the SMR and RMP the electronic database of recorded monuments which may be accessed at http://webgis.archaeology.ie/historicenvironment was also consulted.

4.1.2 Cartographic sources and aerial photography

The 1st (1840s) and 2nd (1900s) edition OS maps for the area were consulted as was OSI aerial photography, Down Survey Barony maps (1656-8) and any other available cartographic sources.

4.1.3 Topographical Files - National Museum of Ireland

Details relating to finds of archaeological material and monuments in numerous townlands in the country are contained in the topographical files held in the National Museum of Ireland. The townland within which the development is located were checked for such finds on www.heritagemaps.ie.

4.1.4 Excavations Database

The excavations database is an annual account of all excavations carried out under license in Ireland. The database is available online at www.excavations.ie and includes excavations from 1985 to 2022. This database was consulted as part of the desktop research for this assessment to establish if any archaeological excavations had been carried out within or near to the proposed development area.

4.1.5 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

This source lists some of the architecturally significant buildings and items of cultural heritage and is compiled on a county by county basis by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The NIAH database was consulted for all townlands within and adjacent to the study area. The NIAH survey for Cork has been published and was downloaded on to the base mapping for the proposed development. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a state initiative under the administration of the former Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999.

The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the planning authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in their Record of Protected Structures (RPS). The published surveys are a source of information on the selected structures for relevant planning authorities.

4.1.6 Record of Protected Structures

The dataset for Cork Record of Protected Structures was added to the GIS base mapping for the project.

4.2 Geographical Information Systems

GIS is a computer database which captures, stores, analyses, manages and presents data that is linked to location. GIS is geographic information systems which includes mapping software and its application with remote sensing, land surveying, aerial photography, mathematics, photogrammetry, geography and tools that can be implemented with GIS software. A geographic information system (GIS) was used to manage the datasets relevant to the archaeological and architectural heritage assessment and for the creation of all the maps in this report. This involved the overlaying of the relevant archaeological and architectural datasets on georeferenced aerial photographs and road maps (ESRI), where available. The integration of this spatial information allows for the accurate measurement of distances of a proposed development from archaeological sites and the extraction of information on 'monument types' from the datasets. Areas of archaeological sensitivity may then be highlighted in order to mitigate the potential negative effects of the development on archaeological heritage.

5 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Archaeological Heritage

For the purposes of this report archaeological heritage includes all recorded archaeological monuments listed in the RMP/SMR and shown on the associated maps, sites identified during

archaeological excavations as summarised in the Excavations Database and any find spots listed in the Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland.

5.1.1 National Monuments

The term 'national monument' as defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Act (1930) means a monument 'the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto...'. National monuments in State care include those which are in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG). Other owners of national monuments are empowered under Section 5 of the National Monuments Act (1930) to appoint the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht as guardian of such monuments. This means in effect that while the property of such a monument remains vested in the owner, its maintenance and upkeep are the responsibility of the State. Monuments which may be defined as national monuments are also in the ownership or guardianship of Local Authorities which have similar responsibilities under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004) to DCHG.

For national monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a Local Authority or which are subject to a preservation order or temporary preservation order, the prior written consent of the Minister is required for any works at or in proximity to the monument.

No National Monuments are located on or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site. The nearest National Monument is situated c. 6.3km to the north-east and comprises Barryscourt Castle (Nat. Mon. No. 641) (Figure 3).

It is described on the Historic Environment Viewer (HEV) as follows:

CO075-018001-

Scope note

Class: Castle - tower house Townland: BARRYSCOURT

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: On slight rise, in flat low-lying area of reclaimed slob (Coleman 1915, 67-8). Large tower house, with three projecting towers, located at SW corner of, and partially enclosed by, bawn wall which has towers at SE, NE and NW corners.

Chief seat of Barrys in cantred of Olethan (Uí Liatháin)/Barrymore from 1170s (Jefferies 1986). Castle 'defaced and despoiled' during Desmond rebellion in 1581 and briefly occupied by Sir Walter Raleigh. David Barry regained possession c. 1583 and undertook substantial improvements; after his death in 1617 Castlelyons Castle (CO045-004---) became chief seat in Barrymore.

Tower house consists of rectangular main block (14m N-S; 11m E-W) with subsidiary projecting towers at NE (c. 7.5m E-W; 5m N-S) and SW (c. 4m N-S; 4.2m E-W) corners; 3rd tower projects E (c. 2m E-W; c. 3.5m N-S) from S end of E wall.

Main tower entered by pointed-arch door at N end of E wall; doorway appears to be inserted. Small lobby gives access straight through to main ground-floor chamber and S to steep mural staircase rising to SE corner; this gives access to main 1st-floor chamber and, at apex, to main 2nd-floor chamber. At 1st-floor level, on S wall of stairway, traces of inserted masonry suggest former presence of external entrance door.

Main ground-floor chamber lit by double-splayed window opes. At E end of N wall mined entry into low chamber in NE tower. Main 1st-floor chamber covered by barrel-vault which replaced earlier pointed vault, part of latter survives at S end; two slit lights in W wall flank hooded fireplace. Door at E end of N wall leads to chamber in NE tower at mezzanine (over 1st floor) level, garderobe chamber in thickness of W wall of NE tower, and chamber over entrance lobby; also 1st-floor chamber in NE tower. Door at S end of W wall of main 1st-floor chamber leads through short passage to narrow garderobe chamber in SW tower; door at E end of S wall leads into chamber in SE tower.

Main 2nd-floor chamber (c. 12m N-S; c. 6m E-W), at 2nd floor level, entered through pointed-arch door at S end of E wall. Lit by 2- and 3-light mullioned and transomed windows inserted into wide splayed

embrasures, originally with window seats: two each on W and E walls; one to S. Fireplace on W wall with carved surround (Coleman 1915, pl. opp. 63) with date of 1588; its insertion partially blocked window embrasure. In E wall narrow mural stair descends to infilled mural chamber in haunches of main vault. Door at E end of N wall accesses mural passage leading to chapel in NE tower and via stairs to private chamber. Ogee-headed door at W end of S wall of main 2nd-floor chamber accesses, via slanted passage, large garderobe chamber in SW tower; also base of spiral staircase which leads up to two higher chambers in SW tower. Narrow door with rounded arch at S end of W wall leads down sharply into spiral stairs which accesses small vaulted chamber in SW tower, beneath garderobe chamber. Near E end of S wall of hall descending spiral staircase entered through ogee-headed doorway. This gives access first through very low door (H 0.95m) to chamber in SE tower slightly below level of hall; lit by single slit window in N wall. Stairs descend further to vaulted L-shaped chamber in SE tower and thence to vaulted L-shaped chamber beneath. At E end of S wall of hall, round-arched door leads into spiral stairs which ascend to give entry to two uppermost chambers and wall walk. Nearly all chambers in corner towers covered by wicker-centred vaults.

Internal face of E, N and W bawn walls partially obscured by and lowered to accommodate 18th/19th-century farm buildings. S bawn wall (L 24.5m) heavily reconstructed; 2-storey 19th century farmhouse, now coffee-shop, built against external face. Original entry to bawn through rebuilt segmental-arched gateway in S bawn wall. SE corner tower (5.4m x 5m) recently repaired. E bawn wall (L 44m) has recent break near SE tower. NE corner tower (c. 5.2m x 5m) has vaulted chamber lit by slit windows partially blocked to form musket loops.

N bawn wall runs W for 34.5m, then returns N for short distance (L c. 4m) before running W for a further 10.5m, latter section wider and more prominently battered. NW tower (c. 4.5m N-S; c. 4.0m E-W), flush with N bawn wall, projects to W: contains chamber with large garderobe. W bawn wall (L 32.5m) has two large double-light pointed-arch windows with widely-splayed embrasures and window seats. At S end of W wall is short return E (L c. 7.0m) to NW corner of main house.

Underlying W bawn wall and NW tower, on slightly different alignments, wall foundations of undressed masonry, indicate presence of earlier structure; similar wall recently uncovered near NE corner of bawn (Lennon 1988a). Projecting section of N bawn wall, NW tower and W bawn wall all part of early hall-type structure possibly in part 13th/14th century, largely 15th century, otherwise bawn wall and its corner towers of 15th century date; NW and SE towers refurbished in 16th century. Tower house probably originally 15th century with 1st-floor entry but substantially rebuilt and repaired in 16th century when SW corner tower added and present entrance inserted. Currently under restoration by OPW. (Monk and Tobin 1991)

See Excavation 1998, no. 61, p. 15, 16 and Excavations 2003, 44.

The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Cork. Volume 2: East and South Cork' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1994). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.

Date of upload/revision: 14 January 2009

This monument is subject to a preservation order made under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 (PO no. 4/1974).



Plate 1: Barryscourt Castle (Nat. Mon. No. 641) (Photo courtesy of The National Monuments Service).

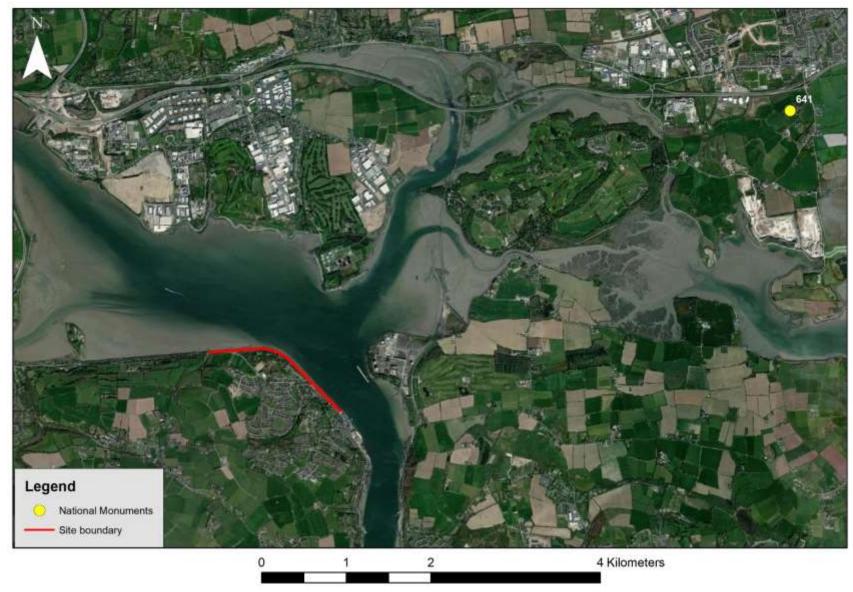


Figure 3: Proposed development in relation to nearest National Monument (NM No. 641) Barryscourt Castle.



Figure 4: Proposed development in relation to nearest recorded monument CO075-079---- Country House.

5.1.2 Recorded Monuments

No recorded monuments are located on or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site. The nearest monument comprises a County House CO075-079---- which is situated c. 209m to the south-west of the proposed development in the townland of Ardmore (Figure 4). It is described on the HEV as follows:

CO075-079----

Class: Country house

Townland: ARDMORE (Kerrycurrihy By.)

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Near Passage West, mid/late 18th century 3-storey house, birthplace of Capt. Roberts (Mould 1991, 213). Entrance front N of 5-bays; central ashlar porch obscures original doorway, flanked by later, 2-storey, 3-bay bows. Gable ended, chimneys on gables; parapet wall with cornice. Gabled additions to rear. Tall ashlar archways (one blocked) on either side of front elevation provides access into yard to rear.

The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Cork. Volume 2: East and South Cork' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1994). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.

Date of upload/revision: 14 January 2009

5.1.3 Excavations Database

A review of the database of excavations undertaken in Ireland was carried out for those carried out in townlands in which the proposed development site is located and adjacent townlands. One entry was returned for the townland of Ardmore but did not produce archaeologically positive results. The summary description as provided on www.excavations.ie is provided below.

2003:326 - Passage West, Cork

County: Cork Site name: Passage West

Sites and Monuments Record No.: SMR 87:501, 502 Licence number: 03E0290

Author: Sheila Lane, AE House, Monahan Road, Cork.

Site type: No archaeological significance

ITM: E 576917m, N 568843m

A request for further information, requiring testing, was issued in order to progress an application for a Grant of Planning for the construction of a dwelling at Hilltop, Ardmore, Passage West, Co. Cork. The site lies within the zone of archaeological potential for a graveyard and church. Five trenches were excavated along the footprint of the proposed development and along the proposed entrance. The trenches were excavated to a depth of 0.2–0.3m to reveal natural orange/brown boulder clay. No finds or features of an archaeological nature were noted in the trenches.

5.1.4 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

The database of find spots held in the National Museum of Ireland was checked on www.heritagemaps.ie for any recorded finds within the study area. One findspot is recorded towards the south-eastern end of the proposed development in the townland of Pembroke (Figure 5). It comprises a dug-out canoe (1965:6).

National Museum Point: Wooden Dug-out Canoe

Name 1965:6

Object Type Wooden Dug-out Canoe



Figure 5: Proposed development in relation to nearest Museum find spot.

5.2 Architectural and Cultural Heritage

5.2.1 Cartographic Review

A review of the available historic mapping for the area was carried out. The proposed development is located in the Barony of Kerrycurrihy and the present day parish of Marmullane. The Down Survey map (1656-8) for the barony and parish does not show any features of note within Ardmore or Pembroke townlands apart from the church in Ardmore (Figure 6).

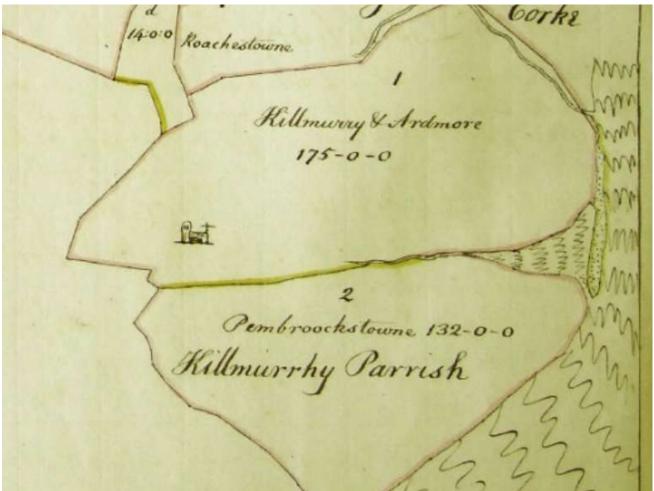


Figure 6: Extract from Down Survey Barony map of Kerrycurrihy showing the parish of 'Killmurrhy' and the townlands of Ardmore and Pembroke.

The first edition 6-inch OS map also shows the proposed development area extending along and adjacent to the shoreline with no structures or features apparent (Figure 7). By the later 25-inch OS map the Cork Blackrock & Passagewest Railway had been constructed. The proposed development and the existing path along which the latter extends follows the line of the now dismantled railway (Figure 8). The second edition map shows the railway and a number of associated features along same, primarily bridges, some of which are included in the Record of Protected Structures (see Section 5.2.2 below). Towards the south-eastern end of the route a foot bridge and a wooden bridge are both indicated on the 25-inch historic OS map. Neither structure is included in the RPS or NIAH, however, elements of both are extant (see Section 5.3 below) (Figure 12).

A history of the emergence and construction of the Cork Blackrock & Passagewest Railway is provided on Ask About Ireland (www.askaboutireland.ie) and is summarised below.

'In the early years of the nineteenth century, the harbour town of Passage West played an important role in the commercial life of Cork City. Because the river was not fully navigable beyond Passage, ships' cargoes were regularly discharged there and transshipped in lighters, or carried overland to the city. Likewise emigrant and passenger ships frequently discharged or collected clients at Passage..... The potential of a railway link between Cork City and the lower harbour was obvious and the early 1830s mooted such a scheme linking Passage and Cork. Before the end of the 1830s a number of rival companies, each suggesting a different route to Passage, had been established. Eventually, rivals amalgamated but the project did not commence until the mid 1840s when parliamentary obstacles were surmounted, an agreed route selected and various legalities, such as obtaining land rights, had been finalised. The eventual line route went from the city to Blackrock and then through cuttings and over embankments to Rochestown, before making its way along a scenic riverside causeway to Horsehead and then along a quay to the Steam Packet Quay at Passage.

Construction work commenced on 15 June 1847 when the wife of Sir Thomas Deane ceremoniously raised the first sod at Dundanion castle, Blackrock. On the following day 50 labourers commenced excavation work on the railway route near Blackrock...... Two thirds of the workings as far as the outskirts of Passage were completed by November 1849. The Hop Island to Horsehead embankment required a huge amount of filling most of which was moved from the side of the adjacent roadway. A bridge, which was formerly used for drawing seaweed from the strand, can still be seen at the side of this road. The section of the rail embankment from Horsehead to the Passage terminus, which included a new quay wall, and the construction of two iron-topped bridges was also nearly completed.

By the end of April 1850 the permanent way from the Cork terminus at Victoria Road to Passage West was in place. A trial run along the line took place on 14 May and a week later the company's directors made an official inspection of the route when they journeyed from the city to Passage and back. The return trip to the city took just 10 minutes. By the end of the month the line had passed a government inspection and the Railway Commissioners certificate had been received.

During the 1860s and 1870s a number of independent schemes to continue the rail system to Monkstown, Carrigaline and Crosshaven were mooted; ultimately these were rejected. In the early 1890s the C.B. & P.R. resolved to extend its railway network. In 1894 Richard Perry, the Company's engineer, undertook an extensive survey which included consulting some of the earlier proposals. His completed plans met with approved and his suggestion that the introduction of a 3 foot gauge system (i.e., narrow gauge) would save the company £30,000, was enthusiastically received. It was also decided to convert the existing line to narrow gauge.

Work connected with bypassing the centre of Passage and not interfering with its important dockyard industry necessitated the construction of a tunnel under part of the town. The boring of this Passage to Ferry Point tunnel was extremely troublesome and had caused much of the delay in completing the project in the first instance..... On 25 July 1902 the Passage to Monkstown section of the line was inspected and passed by the Board of Trade inspector. This section was a continuation of the Cork to Passage narrow gauge track, which had been converted from broad-gauge and had come into use on 29 October 1900.'

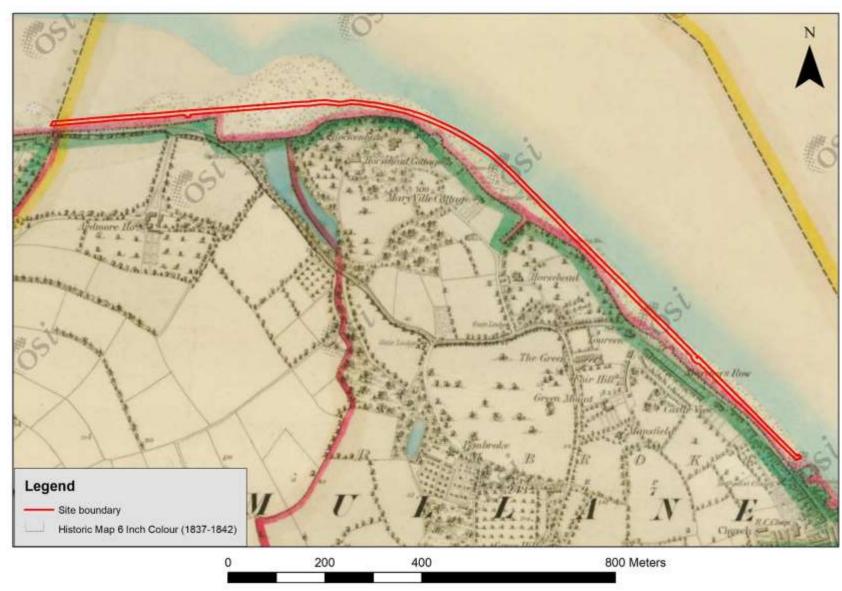


Figure 7: Proposed development on 1st edition OS background.

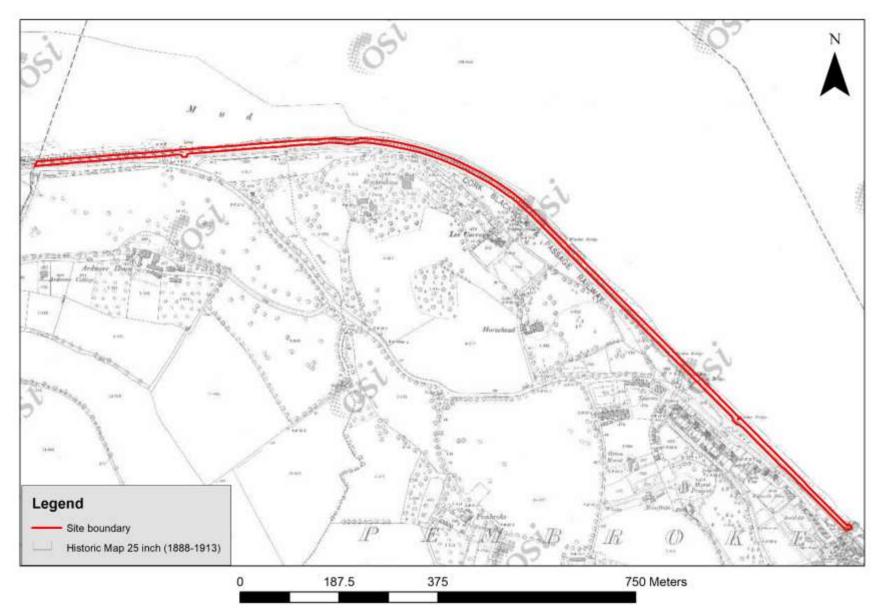


Figure 8: Proposed development on 2nd edition 25-inch OS background.

5.2.2 Protected Structures

The Record of Protected Structures for Cork was added to the constraints mapping for this assessment in order to assist in assessing potential impacts to this resource. Three Protected Structures (RPS Ref. 01475, 01476 and 01474) are located along the proposed development site and all comprise bridges associated with the Cork Blackrock and Passagewest Railway (Figure 9).

RPS Ref. 01474 comprises Robert's Bridge and is located towards the north-west end of the proposed development site. Approximately 800m to the south-east is RPS Ref. 01476 Abbott's Bridge which is indicated on the second edition OS map as 'Wooden Bridge'. The third bridge (RPS Ref. 01475) is a further c. 288m to the south-east and is also indicated on the historic map as 'Wooden Bridge'. A water tower (RPS Ref. 01469) is located a short distance to the west of the proposed development site at the south-east end of same but is not located within the redline boundary (Plate 3).

As part of the development it is proposed to replace the concrete decks of the bridges with a 5m wide concrete or steel deck. The existing bridge abutments will remain in place but minor works may be required to extend the abutment walls to support the wider deck.

5.2.3 NIAH Structures and Historic Gardens

No NIAH structures or historic gardens are located on the proposed development site. The nearest NIAH structure comprises a house on Cork Street (Reg. 20854034) which is situated c. 18m to the west of the proposed development towards the south-east end of same (Figure 10). It is described on www.buildingsofireland.ie as follows:

Description

Terraced two-bay three-storey house, built c.1840. Pitched artificial slate roof having rendered chimneystack, cast-iron and uPVC rainwater goods. Lined-and-ruled rendered walls. Diminishing square-headed window openings with stone sills, moulded render surrounds and two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows. Square-headed door opening within render doorcase comprising pilasters, architrave, frieze and cornice with replacement timber panelled door and overlight.

Appraisal

This house is set among a terrace of houses of similar form and scale, overlooking Cork Harbour. It retains much of its original form and interesting features such as timber sliding sash windows and fine doorcase. It was apparently once owned by Captain Benjamin Askey, who captained the ship 'The Lucy Ann', in the late 1800s.

5.2.4 Architectural Conservation Areas

The south-eastern end of the proposed development area is located within the Passagewest Architectural Conservation Area. Approximately 400m of the proposed route are located within the ACA (Figure 11).

5.3 Results of Site Inspection

A walk-over survey of the proposed development site was carried out in October 2022. No new archaeological monuments or features were noted along the proposed development area.

The railway structures noted on the 25-inch OS map and those included in the RPS were inspected and a photographic record made of same.



Plate 2: South-east end of proposed route, looking NW.



Plate 3: RPS structure 01469 Water Tower to west of proposed route, looking NW.



Plate 4: Proposed route, looking NW.



Plate 5: Bridge (labelled Wooden Bridge) not included in the RPS, looking NW.



Plate 6: Girders immediately E of bridge in Plate 5, looking E.



Plate 7: Abutments of foot bridge indicated on 25-inch OS map, looking NW.



Plate 8: Deck of railway bridge RPS 01475, looking NW.



Plate 9: Abutment of bridge RPS 01475, looking W.



Plate 10: Existing path and proposed route, looking NW.



Plate 11: Deck of Abbott's Bridge RPS 01476, looking NW.



Plate 12: Abutments at SW side of Abbott's Bridge.



Plate 13: Railway embankment at shoreline to NW of Abbott's Bridge, looking E.



Plate 14: Gate and pillars to south of proposed route, possibly associated with Rockenham House RPS 00510 which is situated further to the SE.



Plate 15: Proposed route, looking W.



Plate 16: Robert's Bridge RPS 01474, south elevation.



Plate 17: Proposed route west of Robert's Bridge, looking W.



Plate 18: West end of proposed route, looking E.



Figure 9: RPS structures on and in the vicinity of the proposed development site.



Figure 10: Proposed development boundary in relation to NIAH structures and historic gardens.



Figure 11: Proposed development in relation to the Passagewest ACA.



Figure 12: Railway structures not included in the RPS.

6 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Archaeological and cultural heritage is a non-renewable resource. The overall objective of this assessment of impacts of the proposed development is to ensure that where a potential impact has been identified, it can be mitigated against to ensure that the archaeological and cultural heritage will be available for future generations. The potential impacts on the archaeological and cultural heritage, both recorded and potential sub-surface sites, are assessed here.

Impact will be discussed according to the types of impacts that may occur during and after the project has been completed.

6.1 Construction Impacts

6.1.1 Direct Impacts

Potential impacts during the construction phase of the proposed development could include damage to recorded monuments, newly recorded monuments, sub-surface features, Protected Structures or items listed in the NIAH by excavations works or tracking machinery etc. The aim of the assessment, however, is to highlight any potential impacts as described above so that suitable mitigation measures may be implemented in order to avoid any such impacts, where relevant.

6.1.1.1 National Monuments

No National Monuments are located on or in close proximity to the proposed development site. No direct impacts to such monuments as a result of the proposed development are identified.

6.1.1.2 Recorded Monuments

No recorded monuments are located on or within close proximity to the proposed development site. No direct impacts to this resource are therefore identified.

6.1.1.3 Sub-surface Archaeology

The proposed development area comprises an existing pedestrian walkway which extends along the line of the dismantled Cork Blackrock & Passagewest Railway. The development proposals involve widening the existing 2m wide track to 3.5-4m. Given that this area has already been developed in the 19th century for the construction of the railway the potential for the presence of sub-surface archaeology is regarded as low. In this regard, a potential direct impact to such sub-surface archaeological features during the construction phase of the development is unlikely.

6.1.1.4 Protected Structures

Three protected structures (RPS Ref. 01475, 01476 and 01474) are located on the proposed development site and comprise bridges which were constructed in the 19th century as part of the dismantled Cork Blackrock & Passagewest Railway. The development proposals include replacing the existing concrete bridge decks and making good existing abutments, where required. The existing bridge abutments will remain in place however minor works may be required to extend the abutment walls to support the wider deck. Those works may include re-pointing joints with concrete grout between existing cut stones at the base of abutments, or to provide a new level area in the grass/gravel beside the bridge span where a wider bridge deck and parapet wall may be installed.

Specific proposals regarding each Protected Structure are outlined as follows, as provided by Ryan Hanley:

Regarding Abbotts Bridge (RPS Ref. 01476), Existing Bridge 3 (RPS Ref. 01475), and the Wooden Bridge it was noted that these bridges have not been designed for a marine environment. As such, it is proposed that existing bridge decks shall be removed, existing abutments be made good (where required), and to cast new reinforced concrete pads on top of the existing abutments. Furthermore, it is proposed that a new bridge deck in reinforced concrete or structural steel be installed to provide safe passage for pedestrians and cyclists.

Regarding Roberts Bridge (RPS Ref. 01474), the structural work proposed would be to repair the riverside wingwalls to mitigate against further erosion. In addition to this, it is proposed that vegetation along the verges of the proposed pedestrian and cycle path be cleared, and adequate drainage be provided so that water does not penetrate the bridge arch barrel.

Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas have statutory protection under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Significant direct impacts to the bridge abutments are not anticipated given that works to same are proposed to be minor in nature and will be carried out to ensure the continued preservation of the structures. It is recommended, however, that any proposed works to the three protected structures located along the route should be carried out in consultation with the Conservation Officer of Cork County Council and also with reference to the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines which state the following regarding proposed works to bridges which are Protected Structures:

Proposals to reinforce, widen or infill sections of a bridge which is a protected structure, resulting in the concealment of any part of it, should be treated with caution. Where reinforcement is proven to be unavoidable, efforts should be made to ensure that the least possible structural and visual damage is caused to the bridge.

6.1.1.5 Railway Structures not included in the RPS

Two railway structures comprising a bridge and footbridge abutments which are not included in the RPS are also located along the existing path and within the proposed development site. No potential direct impacts to the foot bridge abutments are anticipated as no works to same are proposed.

The width of the second bridge (Wooden Bridge on 25-inch OS map) will be extended to the northeast by approximately 0.75m and to the south-west by approximately 0.8m. To do this, a new 4.5m wide concrete deck will be constructed. New 300mm wide parapet walls and 1.45m high railings will be constructed at 4.5m wide centres. This will result in a 4.5m path width but will not infringe on the existing railway infrastructure (girders) located at the north-east side of the bridge.

It is recommended that any proposed works to the bridge should be carried out in consultation with the Conservation Officer of Cork County Council and also with reference to the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines.

6.1.1.6 NIAH and Garden Survey

No structures listed in the NIAH or garden survey are located on the proposed development site. No direct impacts to this resource as a result of the proposed development are identified.

6.1.1.7 Architectural Conservation Areas

The south-eastern end of the proposed development is located within the Passagewest Architectural Conservation Area. Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas have statutory protection under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). No direct impacts to the ACA are anticipated as a result of the proposed development, however, potential indirect (visual) effects are considered below (Section 6.2.1.6).

6.2 Operational Impacts

6.2.1 Indirect (Visual) Impacts

Operational impacts are taken to be those that occur after the construction phase of the project, when all construction activities have been completed and the proposed development is built. In terms of archaeology and upstanding cultural heritage items these impacts are mainly indirect (visual) impacts.

6.2.1.1 National Monuments

No National Monuments are located on or within close proximity to the proposed development site. The nearest national monument is located over 6km to the north-east and no visual effects to this monument as a result of the proposed development will occur.

6.2.1.2 Recorded Monuments

No recorded monuments are located on or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site. The nearest monument comprises a County House CO075-079---- which is situated c. 209m to the south-west. Given the nature of the development proposal which is essentially the widening of an existing pathway no effects on the setting of this recorded monument are anticipated.

6.2.1.3 Protected Structures

Three Protected Structures (RPS Ref. 01475, 01476 and 01474) are located along the proposed development site and all comprise bridges associated with the Cork Blackrock and Passage Railway. Potential direct impacts to these structures are discussed in Section 6.1.1.4 above. The proposed development works primarily comprise the widening of an existing 2m wide path to a 3.5-4m wide track. Existing concrete bridge decks will be replaced by a 5m wide concrete or steel deck. A change to the immediate setting of the bridges will occur, however, the visual effect is regarded as Slight given that an existing path crosses the structures. In order to minimise such potential visual effects any works should, where possible, comprise minimum intervention to the original bridge structures.

6.2.1.4 Railway Structures not included in the RPS

Two railway structures not included in the RPS are located along the proposed development route and comprise a bridge and footbridge abutments. The proposed development works primarily comprise the widening of an existing 2m wide path to a 3.5-4m wide track. Existing concrete bridge decks will be replaced by a 5m wide concrete or steel deck. A change to the immediate setting of the bridge will occur, however, the visual effect is regarded as Slight given that an existing path crosses the structure. In order to minimise such potential visual effects any works should, where possible, comprise minimum intervention to the original bridge structure. No visual impacts to the foot bridge are anticipated.

6.2.1.5 NIAH and Garden Survey

No structures listed in the NIAH or garden survey are located on the proposed development site. While some NIAH structures are located adjacent to the latter the nature of the proposed development which largely comprises with widening of an existing 2m wide path is unlikely to detract from the setting of those NIAH structures. No significant impacts to the wider setting of the adjacent NIAH structures are therefore identified.

6.2.1.6 Architectural Conservation Areas

The south-eastern end of the proposed development is located within the Passagewest Architectural Conservation Area. Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas have statutory protection under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The proposed development works primarily comprise the widening of an existing 2m wide path to a 3.5-4m wide track. The nature of this work is unlikely to detract from the character of the ACA and significant visual effects are not anticipated. Other proposed elements of the development, such as public lighting, have the potential to impact on the existing character of the ACA. Consideration should be given to the use of fixtures and finishes appropriate to the ACA within which the development is located and consultation should be made in this regard with the Conservation Officer, Cork County Council.

7 MITIGATION MEASURES

As no direct or indirect impacts to the archaeological resource have been identified no mitigation measures are deemed necessary. No direct or indirect impacts to any NIAH structures have been identified therefore mitigation measures for same are not required.

Potential direct impacts to three Protected Structures (RPS Ref. 01475, 01476 and 01474) may occur as a result of the development proposals to widen the existing path at these locations. The following mitigation measures are recommended in order to ameliorate any potential direct impacts to the 19th century bridge structures.

- Proposed works to the three protected structures and the additional bridge (Wooden Bridge)
 not included in the RPS located along the route should be carried out in consultation with the
 Conservation Officer of Cork County Council.
- Any works should, where possible, comprise minimum intervention to the original bridge structures.
- Any materials used should be in keeping with those used in the original structures and the
 advice of a conservation specialist should be sought where necessary to advise regarding
 same.

In order to minimise any potential visual effects to the character of the ACA within which the southeastern end of the proposed development is located the following mitigation is recommended.

 Any finishes and fittings such as public lighting should be in keeping with the character of the ACA consultation should be made in this regard with the Conservation Officer, Cork County Council.

8 CONCLUSION

This report comprises an archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment of a proposed development at Ardmore and Pembroke, Passagewest, Co. Cork. The assessment is based on desktop research, GIS mapping and a site inspection. The proposed development comprises the widening of an existing 2m wide path to a 3.5-4m wide pedestrian and cycle path. The existing path and the proposed development follows the dismantled Cork Blackrock & Passagewest Railway. Three protected structures comprising railway bridges and an additional bridge not included in the RPS are located on the proposed development. Potential direct impacts to the structures have been identified, however, they are not regarded as Significant and mitigation measures to ameliorate such impacts are recommended. No direct or indirect impacts to the archaeological resource have been identified.

9 SOURCES

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Cork

1st Edition 6 inch OS map

2nd Edition 25 inch OS map

Down Survey Maps (http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/down-survey-maps)

Historic Environment Viewer (HEV) https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/