

# **Response to Preplanning queries in relation to the Proposed Pontoon at Islandbridge, Dublin 8.**

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## 1 SUMMARY OF PRE-PART VIII ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTATION.

As part of the preplanning consultations associated with the Islandbridge Pontoon Project, the Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAU) of the National Monuments Service (NMS) and the Archaeology, Conservation and Heritage Department of Dublin City Council reviewed an impact assessment<sup>1</sup> carried out by Rubicon Heritage Services (RHS) Ltd. in association with the project (Pawle and Hession 2021; Appendix 1). Having reviewed the report, these bodies recommended that additional archaeological mitigation be undertaken.

This document outlines the additional archaeological mitigation measures proposed by the UAU and the Dublin City Archaeologist and the response of Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd to same.

## 2 ADDITIONAL MITIGATION MEASURES

### 2.1 Underwater Archaeology Unit

(Ref: G Pre000283/2022).

Given that the proposed development includes in-water works (including rock armour, in-stream piling, insertion of stone filled gabions) that could potentially impact on archaeological materials in the river bed at this location the Department has recommended that: an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) report be compiled and submitted for review and comment prior to the commencement of any construction works in order to facilitate the formulation of appropriate archaeological mitigation recommendations. These recommendations are as follows:

1. The developer shall commission an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) report which shall include the following:
  - a. A desktop assessment that addresses the underwater, archaeological and built (including maritime/fishing/industrial) heritage of the proposed development area. The assessment shall include a full inventory and mapping of the sites of all identified archaeological/cultural heritage features and structures (including those identified underwater) and shall also include maps/drawings that clearly indicate any proposed impacts on these assets/areas of archaeological potential arising from the proposed project. The UAIA shall assess all proposed in-water development and shall also assess any proposed Site Investigation impacts and potential secondary or indirect impacts such as construction works to facilitate access and areas of scouring as a result of potential changes in hydrology.
  - b. The UAIA shall include a licensed dive assessment centred on (but not confined to) the area(s) where in-water works are proposed, accompanied by a hand-held metal detection survey, undertaken by a suitably licensed and experienced underwater archaeologist with metal detection experience. All archaeological diving should comply with the Health and Safety Authority's Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Diving) Regulations 2018/2019. A Dive Survey Licence (Section 3 1987 National Monuments Act) and Detection Device consent (Section 2 1987 National Monuments Act) will be required for all of these works. Please allow 5- 6 weeks to facilitate the processing of archaeological licences.

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<sup>1</sup> An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the Proposed Pontoon at Islandbridge, Dublin 8



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- c. Having completed the work, the archaeologist shall submit a written report to the Department and Dublin City Archaeologist describing the findings of the UAIA, including the results of the dive survey. The report should comment on the degree to which the extent, location and levels of all proposed works and other sub- surface/in-water works required for a development may impact upon any archaeological remains. This report should be illustrated with appropriate plans, sections and photographs. Where archaeological materials are shown to be present, further mitigation measures will be required. These may include recommendations for institution of appropriate buffer zones, redesign to allow for preservation in situ, excavation and/or monitoring as deemed appropriate. The Department will advise the developer with regard to these matters. No construction works shall commence until the Department has had the opportunity to fully evaluate the findings of the UAIA and the Department's recommendations (and those, if any, of the Dublin City Archaeologist) have been received.
  - d. A Construction Environment Management Plan should incorporate any significant findings that emerge from the UAIA process, including but not limited to, the location of any archaeological or cultural heritage constraints relevant to a proposed development and present appropriate mitigation measures to protect the archaeological or cultural heritage environment.
2. Archaeological monitoring is to take place of all works that involve groundworks or any impacts to the riverbed and riverbanks, as below:
- a. The services of a suitably qualified and suitably experienced underwater archaeologist shall be engaged to carry out the archaeological monitoring.
  - b. The archaeological monitoring shall be licensed by the Department and a detailed method statement that sets out the monitoring strategy is to accompany a licence application.
  - c. A Finds Retrieval Strategy shall be included in the methodology and all excavated deposits shall be spread and metal detected (under licence) to recover any archaeological objects that they may contain.
  - d. The monitoring archaeologist shall obtain a dive survey licence in order to facilitate investigation of underwater archaeological materials should they be uncovered/identified.
  - e. Please note vetting of licence applications by the Department takes 3-4 weeks.
  - f. A communication strategy is to form part of the monitoring strategy to ensure full communication is in place between the monitoring archaeologist and the plant operator(s) at all times during works. The archaeological personnel undertaking the monitoring will be in a position to monitor directly all elements of the works, to ensure they have unobstructed views of the excavations, and the plant and machinery operators shall be prepared to facilitate the archaeological personnel in the undertaking of their monitoring work.





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- g. Should archaeological materials be found during the course of monitoring, the archaeologist shall have work on the affected area of the site stopped pending further archaeological investigation and a decision by the Department and Dublin City Archaeologist regarding appropriate mitigation. The developer shall be prepared to be advised by the Department with regard to any mitigating action (preservation in-situ and/or excavation). The developer shall facilitate the archaeologist in recording any material found.
- h. The Planning Authority, the Department and Dublin City Archaeologist shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of the monitoring and any subsequent required archaeological investigative work/excavation required, following the completion of all archaeological work on site and any necessary post-excavation specialist analysis. All resulting and associated archaeological costs shall be borne by the developer.

## 2.2 RHS Response to Underwater Archaeology Unit

On foot of the National Monuments Service (NMS) request for an Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment (UAIA) to be undertaken, and in keeping with the recommendations of the Dublin City Archaeologist in response to Pre-Part VIII Notification (from correspondence dated 26/01/23), Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd have appointed ADCO Ltd. The Underwater and Commercial Diving Company to carry out the UAIA. A letter of appointment and a copy of the S26 licence application and method statement submitted to the NMS can be found in in the appendices (Appendix 2, 3 and 4).

## 2.3 DCC Archaeology Section Report

Having reviewed the file, Dublin City Council's Archaeology Section have recommended:

- that pre-development archaeological testing and/or archaeological monitoring of geotechnical testing be undertaken in advance of the development in order to make a detailed impact assessment and a suitable mitigation strategy.
- All site preparation and predevelopment works should be archaeologically monitored by a licence eligible archaeologist/underwater archaeologist as appropriate.
- The pending underwater assessment and the predevelopment testing/impact reports arising will be reviewed by this section on receipt who shall further advise on suitable mitigation such as preservation in situ by way of avoidance, preservation by record and/or presentation within the new scheme.
- Simple signage with high quality archaeological interpretation / historical background to the site would be welcomed as part of this project.

## 2.4 RHS Response to DCC Archaeology Section

The environmental sensitivity of this location has been recognised (McCorkell 2022 and O'Regan 2022). Consequently, the construction methodology has been carefully designed to minimise the impact to existing root networks on the surface of the island and to any surviving sub-surface material associated with the historic island. These works as are summarised below:



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#### 2.4.1 Walkway and Footbridge

The new walkway linking access from the adjoining apartment complex to the proposed pontoon will be installed at a higher level than the existing ground using no dig methods. This new walkway will be constructed from Dycel precast concrete mattress units placed on a bed of suitable hardcore material. The hardcore material will be underlain with Cellweb Tree Root protection System, in order to ensure there is minimal impact to the underlying root system.

The existing footbridge will be retained and set on new legs attached to the existing concrete foundations to suit the raised walkway. As such, no sub-surface ground works are proposed (Weir 2022).

#### 2.4.2 Construction access

The works have been designed to have as little subsurface impact as possible. A temporary access route for construction vehicles will be formed along the route of the existing walkway; whereby the existing walkway will be removed and replaced with suitable hardcore material (Clause 804) underlain with Cellweb Tree Root Protection System (or approved similar equivalent) to reduce the vertical load pressure on underlying root systems and soils. This will involve minimal disturbance to surface vegetation. As part of this process, the existing footbridge will be removed and replaced with a temporary bridge designed to suit construction traffic. The temporary bridge will be supported off the existing concrete foundations associated with the footbridge. As such no subsurface ground works are proposed. Lastly, a temporary causeway will be constructed to facilitate a crossing point for construction vehicles from the construction compound on the southern bank of the River Liffey. No in-river excavation works are proposed as part of these works. However, some excavation and regrading of the existing riverbank (on the southern side) will be required in order to ensure construction vehicles can access the temporary causeway safely (ibid.).

### 2.5 Pontoon Construction


The pontoon platform will be constructed from a number of precast concrete caisson elements. In order to insert the caissons, a localised section of the existing north-western riverbank will be dug-out. Once the caissons have been set at the correct level, they will be filled by stone. Rock armour and stone gabions will be used to secure the caissons and prevent scouring. A concrete slab will be placed on the filled concrete caissons to create a top platform, that will be linked to the floating pontoon via a gangway. The floating pontoon will be held in place via two piles driven into the riverbed at this location (ibid.).

## 3 RECOMMENDATIONS

### 3.1 Archaeological Mitigation

Whilst it is recognised that the site is located adjacent to a historic weir located within the zone of constraint of a Recorded Monument and in an area of known medieval and post-medieval industrial archaeology, measures have been taken to ensure that the proposed works will not impact negatively on the underlying vegetation, subsoils or any potentially surviving sub-surface archaeological features on the island.


It is accepted that some excavation and regrading of the existing riverbank (on the southern side) will be required in order to ensure construction vehicles can access the temporary causeway safely, and that the existing north-western riverbank will be locally excavated to facilitate the installation of the precast

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caissons. However, it is felt that archaeological monitoring of this work (and all other site preparation, predevelopment and groundworks) is deemed suitable mitigation as opposed to pre-development test trenching. As such, the following mitigation measures are now proposed:

1. All ground reduction, including any enabling works should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered during the monitoring programme, works will cease and the relevant heritage authorities including the City Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Resolution (preservation in situ by way of avoidance, preservation by record and/or presentation within the new scheme) of any such significant material will be determined by the City Archaeologist in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.
4. In the event that archaeological features, finds and/or deposits are encountered during the project, provision will be made for the dissemination and exhibition of the results on site via simple signage accompanied by high quality archaeological interpretation/ historical background.

**Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the Dublin City Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.**

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**APPENDIX 1 COPY OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED PONTOON**



**Project code:** RH0337  
**Client:** Dublin City Council  
**Date:** September 2021

# **An Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of Proposed Pontoon at Islandbridge, Dublin 8.**



**Report Author:** Ivan Pawle and James Hession  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to assess the importance and sensitivity of the known, as well as the potential, archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment of the proposed development of a pontoon and associated walkway at Islandbridge, Dublin 8, to identify the impact of the proposed works on this environment and to propose mitigation measures to reduce any impacts on said environment.

These works were undertaken for Dublin City Council.

The proposed works are for the installation of a pontoon and associated walkway off one of the small islands to the northeast of the weir within the River Liffey at Islandbridge, Dublin 8. This is to facilitate access to the River Liffey on the eastern side of the weir by several rowing clubs which are active on this section of the river.

The impact assessment has identified ten sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise one RMP, five sites listed in the NIAH, two of which are also protected structures, two unregistered cultural heritage sites (UCH) and two areas of archaeological potential (AAP). There are no National Monuments or Monuments subject to a Preservation Order within the study area.

The proposed development site lies within the ZAP for Dublin City (CH001) and is considered to be an AAP (CH010) based on its character and proximity to known archaeological monuments and sites of significance.

The proposed works will require the installation of a platform connected to a floating pontoon off one of the small islands to the northeast of the weir. The weir and proposed pontoon will be linked by an associated walkway. No works within the river channel itself are proposed.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction, including any enabling works should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then the City Archaeologist will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by the City Archaeologist in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoH/LGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

**Please note all recommendations are subject to the approval of the Dublin City Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.**

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This report details the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage issues that need to be addressed in respect of the proposed works to River Liffey wall at Islandbridge, Dublin 8. (ITM: 712283, 734322) (Figure 1: Plates 1–7). These works were undertaken for Dublin City Council.

This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the following legislative procedures which are further detailed in Appendix 3:

- National Monuments Acts 1930-2004
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999
- Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts 2000-2015

It has also been undertaken in accordance with the policies set out in Section 11 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022.

### 1.1 Site location

The proposed location for the walkway, platform and pontoon lies off one of the islands within the River Liffey adjacent to the Bellevue apartment complex at Islandbridge, Dublin 8 (Figures 1 and 2).

### 1.2 Proposed development

The proposed development consists of a walkway and platform connected to a floating pontoon. While no substantial groundworks are proposed, there will be ground disturbance related to the installation of the platform (Figures 3–5). No works within the river channel itself are proposed.

### 1.3 Study area

The study area for this assessment has been defined in respect of two factors: 1.) the ability of sites/information sources to provide information pertaining to the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, and 2.) the potential physical impact, as well as impact on setting, that the proposed scheme may have on sites of cultural heritage significance.

Taking these factors into account the study area has been defined as follows:

Subject	Study area
National Monuments and Recorded archaeological monuments (RMPs)	Within 100 m of proposed development site
Protected Structures and/or their curtilage	Within approx. 100 m proposed development site
Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAS)	Within approx. 100 m proposed development site
Structures recorded in the NIAH	Within approx. 100 m of proposed development site
Unregistered features of cultural heritage	Within proposed development site
Townland boundaries	Within proposed development site
Areas of archaeological potential	Within proposed development site
Previous Excavations	Within and adjacent to the proposed development site
Topographical files	Within the area incorporated by the proposed development

Table 1 – Dimensions of the study area

## 2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Objectives

This study aims to assess the baseline archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment, evaluate the likely significant impacts that the proposed development will have on this environment and provide mitigation measures, in accordance with the policies of the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) and Dublin City Council, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 and best practise guidelines, to ameliorate these impacts.

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

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

- Environmental Protection Agency (2002) 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2003) 'Advice notes on current practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)'
- Environmental Protection Agency (2017) 'Draft Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIAR)'
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (DAHGI) (1999) 'Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage'
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2004) 'Architectural Heritage Guidelines'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes'
- National Roads Authority (2005) 'Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes'

### 2.2 Desktop Study Methodology

The present assessment of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the proposed development area is based on a desktop study of a number of documentary and cartographic sources. The desktop study was further augmented by an examination of aerial photography as well as a field survey. The main sources consulted in completing the desktop study are listed here.

- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
- Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022
- National Museum of Ireland (NMI) Topographical Files
- Excavations Bulletin
- Dublin County Archaeology GIS
- Aerial Photographs
- Cartographic Sources

### 2.3 Field Inspection Methodology

A field inspection of the proposed development site was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd on 13 August 2021 (Plates 1–7).

The primary purpose of a field inspection is to assess local topography in order to identify any potential low-visibility archaeological and/or historical sites that are not currently recorded and which may be impacted upon negatively by the proposed development. It is also the purpose of the field inspection to survey any known monuments or sites and to consider the relationship between them and the surrounding landscape, all of which need to be considered during the assessment process.

The methodology used during the field inspection involved recording the present land use as well as the existing topography for the entire area comprising the proposed development site. A photographic record and written description were compiled for any known and/or potential sites of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural significance.

### 2.4 Methodology used for assessing baseline value of sites

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

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

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

It should be noted that the National Monuments Act 1930-2004 does not differentiate between recorded archaeological sites on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity. In addition, the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 2000 does not differentiate between Protected Structures or Areas of Architectural Conservation on the basis of relative importance or sensitivity either. Consequently, professional judgement has been exercised to rate these features based on their perceived importance and sensitivity in relation to physical impacts and impacts on setting.

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

Subject	Baseline Value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recorded Archaeological Monuments</li> <li>- Protected Structures</li> <li>- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)</li> </ul>	Very High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sites listed in the NIAH that are not Protected Structures</li> <li>- Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in good condition and/or which are regarded as constituting significant cultural heritage features</li> <li>- Unrecorded features of archaeological potential</li> </ul>	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unregistered built heritage sites that comprise extant remains which are in poor condition</li> </ul>	Medium/High

Subject	Baseline Value
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unregistered cultural heritage sites (not including built heritage sites) that comprise extant remains</li> <li>- Townland boundaries that comprise extant remains</li> <li>- Marshy/wetland areas</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains but where there is potential for associated subsurface evidence</li> <li>- Townland boundaries for which there are no extant remains</li> </ul>	Medium/Low
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unregistered cultural heritage sites for which there are no extant remains and where there is little or no potential for associated subsurface evidence</li> </ul>	Low

Table 2 – Baseline values of sites

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

## 2.5 Type of impacts

The following table lists the type of impacts that a proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource:

Type of Impacts	Definition
Direct	Direct impacts arise where an archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage feature or site is physically located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, whereby the removal of part, or all of the feature or site is thus required.
Indirect	Indirect impacts arise when an archaeological, architectural, or cultural heritage feature is not located within the footprint of the proposed development, or its associated physical impact zone, and thus is not impacted directly. Such an impact could include impact on setting or impact on the zone of archaeological potential of site whereby the actual site itself is not physically affected.
Cumulative	The addition of many impacts to create a large, significant impact.
Undeterminable	Whereby the full consequence that the proposed development may have on the cultural heritage resource is not known
Residual	The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.

Table 3 – Type of impacts

## 2.6 Methodology used for assessing magnitude of impacts

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

Impact magnitude	Criteria
Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Applies where mitigation would be unlikely to remove adverse effects. Reserved for adverse, negative effects only. These effects arise where an archaeology site is completely and irreversibly destroyed.</li> <li>- An impact that obliterates the architectural heritage of a structure or feature of national or international importance. These effects arise where an architectural structure or feature is completely and irreversibly destroyed by the proposed development. Mitigation is unlikely to remove adverse effects.</li> </ul>
Major	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An impact which, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the environment. An impact like this would be where part of a site would be permanently impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological feature/site.</li> <li>- An impact that by its magnitude, duration or intensity alters the character and/or the setting of the architectural heritage. These effects arise where an aspect or aspects of the architectural heritage is/are permanently impacted upon leading to a loss of character and integrity in the architectural structure or feature. Appropriate mitigate is likely to reduce the impact</li> <li>- A beneficial or positive effect that permanently enhances or restores the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.</li> </ul>
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A medium impact arises where a change to a site/monument is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the archaeological integrity of the site is compromised, and which is reversible. This arises where an archaeological feature can be incorporated into a modern-day development without damage and that all procedures used to facilitate this are reversible.</li> <li>- A medium impact to a site/monument may also arise when a site is fully or partly excavated under license and all recovered data is preserved by record.</li> <li>- An impact that results in a change to the architectural heritage which, although noticeable is not such that alters the integrity of the heritage. The change is likely to be consistent with existing and emerging trends. Impacts are probably reversible and may be of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation is very likely to reduce the impact.</li> <li>- A beneficial or positive effect that results in partial or temporary enhancement of the character and/or setting of a feature of archaeological or cultural heritage significance in a clearly noticeable manner.</li> </ul>



Impact magnitude	Criteria
Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An impact which causes changes in the character of the environment, such as visual impact, which are not high or very high and do not directly impact or affect an archaeological feature or monument.</li> <li>- An impact that causes some minor change in the character of architectural heritage of local or regional importance without affecting its integrity or sensitivities. Although noticeable, the effects do not directly impact on the architectural structure or feature. Impacts are reversible and of relatively short duration. Appropriate mitigation will reduce the impact.</li> <li>- A beneficial or positive effect that causes some minor or temporary enhancement of the character of an architectural heritage significance which, although positive, is unlikely to be readily noticeable.</li> </ul>
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An impact on archaeological features or monument capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.</li> <li>- An impact on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measure merit but without noticeable consequences.</li> <li>- A beneficial or positive effect on architectural heritage of local importance that is capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.</li> </ul>

Table 4 – Criteria used for rating magnitude of impacts

### 2.7 Methodology used for assessing significance level of impacts

The significance level of a construction or operation impact on a feature is assessed by combining the magnitude of the impact and baseline value of the feature. The matrix in Table 5.4 provides a guide to decision-making but is not a substitute for professional judgement and interpretation, particularly where the baseline value or impact magnitude levels are not clear or are borderline between categories. The permanence of the effects are also taken into account, with irreversible effects being more significant while temporary or reversible changes are likely to be less significant.

Magnitude of Impact	Baseline Value				
	Very High	High	Medium/High	Medium/Low	Low
Severe	Very significant	Very significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
Major	Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight	Slight
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible
Minor	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Slight	Slight	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Table 5 – Criteria for assessing significance level of impacts

### 2.8 Difficulties experienced during compilation of assessment

No significant difficulties were encountered during the preparation of this impact assessment.

### **3 BASELINE/RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT**

#### **3.1 *Designated archaeological sites***

##### **3.1.1 *Record of Monuments and Places (RMPs)***

Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments Act 1994 made provision the establishment and maintenance of a Record of Monuments & Places (RMP). Under this Act, each site recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places is granted statutory protection. When the owner or occupier of a property, or any other person proposes to carry out, or to cause, or to permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to a recorded archaeological monument they are required to give notice in writing to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage 2 months before commencing that work.

There is one recorded archaeological monument incorporated by the study area (Figure 1). This is the zone of archaeological potential (ZAP) for Dublin City (CH001) (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). A bridge site (DU018-020274-) and the site of a water-mill (DU018-020276-) lie outside the study area, approximately 280 m to the east of the proposed development. The proposed development site is located with the ZAP (CH001).

##### **3.1.2 *National Monuments***

National monuments are broken into two categories: National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the state and National Monuments in the ownership or guardianship of a local authority. Section 8 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954 provides for the publication of a list of monuments, the preservation, of which, are considered to be of national importance. Two months' notice must be given to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht where work is proposed to be carried out at or in relation to any National Monument.

There are no National Monuments incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

##### **3.1.3 *Sites with Preservation Orders***

The National Monuments Act 1930-2004 provide for the making of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders in respect of National Monuments. Under Section 8 of the National Monument Act 1930 (as amended) the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, can place a Preservation Order on a monument if, in the Ministers' opinion, it is a National Monument in danger of being or is actually being destroyed, injured or removed or is falling into decay through neglect. The Preservation Order ensures that the monument shall be safeguarded from destruction, alteration, injury, or removal, by any person or persons without the written consent of the Minister.

There are no sites with preservation orders incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

#### **3.2 *Designated architectural heritage sites***

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

### 3.2.1 *Record of Protected Structures*

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022 was consulted for schedules of Protected Structures. These are buildings that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, and/or technical point of view. Protected Structures receive statutory protection from injury or demolition under Section 57 (1) of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000. Protected structure status does not exclude development or alteration but requires the developer to consult with the relevant planning authority to ensure that elements which make the structure significant are not lost during development.

There are two Protected Structures incorporated in the study area (Figure 1; please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These are the Dublin University Boat Club (CH002) and a 19th century house (CH006). Neither are located within the proposed development site.

### 3.2.2 *Architectural Conservation Areas*

The Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022 was consulted for records relating to Architectural Conservation Areas ((hereinafter ‘ACAs’). The stated objective of ACAs is to conserve and enhance the special character of the area, including traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscapes, landscape and setting.

There are no ACAs incorporated by the study area (please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area).

### 3.2.3 *National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)*

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

There are five structures listed in the NIAH within the study area (Figure 1: please refer to Section 1.3: Study Area). These include the Dublin University Boatclub (CH002), a folly tower (CH003), a mill race (CH004), a weir (CH005) and a 19th century house (CH006). None are located within the proposed development site.

## 3.3 *Areas of archaeological potential*

Analysis of historic mapping (see Section 3.5 below) indicates the presence of a number of features associated with the former Calico printing factory and flour mills in close proximity to the proposed site including: a mill race (CH004), a weir CH005), a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century building (CH007) and a sluice gate (CH008). All of which are depicted on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8). In addition, an archaeological assessment in advance of repairs to the wall on the south bank of the River Liffey at Bellevue established this area of river frontage as an area of archaeological potential (CH009). This was based on its location within the ZAP for Dublin City (CH001), its proximity to the historic fording point in the River Liffey in the vicinity of Sarah Bridge and the presence of prehistoric material excavated at Clancy Quay and at Bellevue (Bolger 2020).

As such the proposed development site can also be considered an area of archaeological potential (CH010).

### **3.4 Archaeological and historical context (after Bolger 2020)**

#### *3.4.1 Prehistoric period*

Though there is evidence for settlement in County Dublin generally and in the vicinity of the river Liffey from early prehistory, there is very little-known evidence for this in the immediate environs of the proposed development site at Islandbridge. A prehistoric burial mound (DU018-007011-) located to the northwest within the Phoenix Park contained a late Neolithic Linkardstown-type cist burial. Recent investigations associated with the redevelopment of Clancy Quay—to the east of the South Circular Road and Sarah Bridge—uncovered a substantial timber and wood revetment whose earliest levels appear to date to the Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age (see Section 3.6 and Appendix 2).

#### *3.4.2 Early and later medieval periods*

During the early medieval period an ecclesiastical foundation was established at Kilmainham to the south. The exact location of this foundation is uncertain, but it is generally understood to have been located on the ridge of high ground between the Liffey and Camock rivers in the general vicinity of Bully's Acre/grounds of the Royal Hospital Kilmainham. This would have given the ecclesiastical foundation ready access to fording points in both rivers. The fording point in the Liffey is generally accepted to have been located slightly upstream (west) of the current Sarah Bridge.

This fording point is also considered to be a factor in the location and siting of the Hiberno-Norse cemetery. When the railway was constructed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and again during the construction of War Memorial Park in the 1930s an extensive series of Norse and Hiberno-Norse burials were uncovered. Further remains were uncovered during bridge construction works at St John's Road in the 1960s (see Appendix 2) and most recently during utilities works within War Memorial Park (Licence No 08E0693; see Appendix 2).

With the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the 12<sup>th</sup> century the lands of Kilmainham were granted to Hugh Tyrrell. However, immediately prior to this Richard de Clare (Strongbow) established a new priory at Kilmainham under the auspices of the Knights Templar. Initial construction of the mill race and weir at Islandbridge is generally dated this period, in order to power the priory's mills. Towards the end of the medieval period—in the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century—the first bridge was constructed at the fording point at Islandbridge.

#### *3.4.3 Post-medieval period*

The priory at Kilmainham thrived up until the 16<sup>th</sup> century when it was dissolved by Henry VIII and its lands—including much of Islandbridge, Kilmainham and Inchicore—were the subject of a succession of private leases. The weir, fishery and mills on the river Liffey passed through a number of hands during the 17<sup>th</sup> century before being purchased by Dublin Corporation in 1741. The corporation leased out the lands to various enterprises. The industrial buildings at the site are generally accepted as post-dating 1785 when the cotton print mill was established at the site (Walsh 2000).

### **3.5 Cartographic evidence**

#### *3.5.1 Down Survey Map (1656)*

The Down Survey parish map shows a bridge over the River Liffey in the general location now occupied by Sarah Bridge, with a roadway leading south from it. To the immediate east and west of this bridge on the south bank of the Liffey two mills are depicted—probably watermills. The location of the pontoon site is just west of the western mill.

### 3.5.2 *Rocque's Map of County Dublin (1756)*

This also shows a bridge over the River Liffey in the general location now occupied by Sarah Bridge, with a roadway leading south from it towards the entrance to the Royal Hospital, Kilmmainham. Buildings are shown fronting both sides of this road. Immediately west of the bridge a series of islands are shown within the Liffey channel close to the south bank. The proposed pontoon site is located on the north edge of one of these island (Figure 6).

### 3.5.3 *1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch series (1838)*

This map shows both Sarah Bridge and the South Circular Road. The 'island' shown on the earlier map to the west of the bridge is shown but it is now clear that it was created by construction of a millrace from the bend in the Liffey to the west that ran towards (and probably powered) the Flour Mills depicted to the west side of Sarah Bridge on the south side of the river. The 'island' is mostly occupied by buildings that include a printing factory. These are generally set back from the Liffey frontage with the exception of one small building (CH007) shown at the approximate location of the proposed pontoon site. It is likely that a retaining wall is already in place along this section of the river (Figure 7).

### 3.5.4 *Ordnance Survey 25-inch series map (1910-11)*

This map shows only small changes from the previous 6-inch series map. The 'island' is still largely occupied by industrial buildings and the mill race is still present. The building on the river frontage is gone but a retaining river wall seems to be shown with an inset (that is still present) immediately west of the proposed site (Figure 8).

### 3.5.5 *Ordnance Survey Cassini 6-inch series map (1936)*

This does not show any notable changes from the previous 25-inch series map (Figure 9).

## 3.6 *Recent excavations*

A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken at adjacent sites within Islandbridge (see Appendix 2).

These included a series of investigations associated with the redevelopment of the former industrial buildings to form the current Bellevue apartment complex (Licence Nos 99E0674; 99E0674 ext.; 02E1471). These investigations mainly identified post-medieval industrial activity, though works in 2001 (Licence No. 99E0674 ext.) did uncover a post-medieval fish trap located in a rebuilt section of the mill race at the south of the Bellevue site.

Previous investigation on the south bank of the Liffey at sites immediately adjacent to Sarah Bridge (Licence Nos 96E0169; 96E038 ext.) did not uncover anything of particular archaeological significance. However, moving a little further east, archaeological investigations in advance of redevelopment of the Clancy Quay (formerly Clancy Barracks) complex uncovered a c. 130 m long timber and wood revetment (Licence No. 07E0261). Analysis to date indicates a date range from the Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age to the early medieval period.

## 4 IMPACT STATEMENT

### 4.1 Description of the site

The proposed development is located off one of the islands to the northeast of the weir within the River Liffey adjacent to the Bellevue apartment complex at Islandbridge, Dublin 8.

#### 4.1.1 Past impacts on site

The proposed development site lies adjacent to the Bellevue apartment complex, which is largely occupied by former post-medieval industrial buildings relating to the former Islandbridge Mills complex that have been converted in recent years to house apartments. A report in advance of repairs to the post medieval river wall on the south bank of the river identified that previous phases of repair and partial replacement had been undertaken at Bellevue (Bolger 2020). There is no evidence for any past activity having been undertaken at the proposed site and as such it is most likely undisturbed.

#### 4.1.2 Summary of baseline environment

Site Type	Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RMPs</li> <li>- National Monuments</li> <li>- Sites with Preservation Orders</li> <li>- Sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments</li> </ul>	There is one RMP incorporated by the study area. There are no National Monuments or sites with Preservation Orders placed on them.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protected Structures</li> </ul>	There are two Protected Structures incorporated by the study area. None are located within the proposed development site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)</li> </ul>	There is no Architectural Conservation Area incorporated by the study area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sites Listed in the NIAH</li> </ul>	There are five sites listed in the NIAH incorporated by the study area. None are located within the proposed development site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unregistered Cultural Heritage Sites</li> </ul>	There are two unregistered cultural heritage sites incorporated by the study area. These are a building shown on the bank of the Liffey and a sluice gate illustrated on historic mapping.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Areas/features of archaeological potential</li> </ul>	There are two areas of archaeological potential incorporated by the study area. The river Liffey bank and frontage is considered to be an AAP and the site itself is regarded as an area of archaeological potential.

Table 6 – Summary of baseline environment

### 4.2 Description of the proposed development

The proposed development involves the installation of a platform connected to a floating pontoon linked to the weir at the southwest of the site by a walkway. While groundworks are expected to be minimal, there will be some disturbance associated with the installation of the platform and walkway. No works within the river channel itself are proposed.

### 4.3 Impact assessment

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

Mitigation measures to ameliorate these impacts and the residual impact that the proposed scheme will have on each site of cultural heritage significance and/or potential are provided in Sections 5 and 6 below.

All impacts that occur during the construction phase are likely to be direct impacts as a result of sub-surface disturbance or construction works.

The site is located within the ZAP for Dublin (CH001) and is considered to be an area of archaeological potential (CH010) based on its character and proximity to the know archaeological monuments within the study area. It is possible that construction groundworks could uncover and impact upon previous unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits.

CH No.	Impact Type	Description of Impact	Magnitude of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact prior to implementation of mitigation measures
001	Direct	Impacts may occur as a result of: 1. Construction groundworks	Moderate	Very High	Moderate
010	Direct	Impacts may occur as a result of: 1. Construction groundworks	Moderate	Medium /High	Slight

Table 7 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude prior to mitigation



## 5 MITIGATION STRATEGY

The mitigation strategies outlined in this section detail the techniques to be adopted in order to ameliorate the impacts that the proposed development may have on features of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural heritage within the study area during both the construction and operational phases of the scheme. The residual impacts that will remain once these mitigation measures have been implemented are identified in Section 6. further on.

The following mitigation measures proposed are subject to approval by the Dublin City Archaeologist, the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

The current policy of the Minister for Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht is that preservation *in situ* of archaeological material is the preferred option. Where this cannot be achieved then a programme of full archaeological excavation should be implemented to ensure the preservation by record of all affected archaeological material.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction, including any enabling works should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then the City Archaeologist will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by the City Archaeologist in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoCHG).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

## **6 CONCLUSIONS**

### **6.1 *Summary of archaeological findings***

The archaeological assessment of the proposed development of a pontoon at Islandbridge, Dublin 8 has identified ten sites of archaeological, and/or cultural heritage significance within the study area. These comprise one RMP, two protected structures, five sites listed in the NIAH, two unregistered cultural heritage sites (UCH) and two areas of archaeological potential (AAP). There are no National Monuments or Monuments subject to a Preservation Order within the study area.

The proposed development site lies within the ZAP for Dublin City (CH001) and is considered to be an AAP (CH010) based on its character and proximity to known archaeological monuments and sites of significance.

### **6.2 *Recommendations***

The proposed development will require ground reduction, which has the potential to uncover previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits.

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

1. All ground reduction, including any enabling works should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring, under licence, by a suitably qualified archaeologist.
2. If archaeological material is encountered, then it will be investigated and fully recorded. However, if significant archaeological material is encountered then the City Archaeologist will be notified. Resolution of any such significant material will be determined by the City Archaeologist in consultation with the National Monuments Service (DoHLGH).
3. A written report will be prepared detailing the results of all archaeological work undertaken.

### 6.3 Residual impacts

CH No.	Impact Type	Magnitude of impact taking into account mitigation measures	Baseline Value	Significance level of impact after implementation of mitigation measures
001	Direct	Moderate	Very High	Slight
010	Direct	Moderate	Medium /High	Negligible

Table 8 – Summary of impacts and impact magnitude after implementation of mitigation

Please note all the recommendations in this report are subject to approval of Dublin City Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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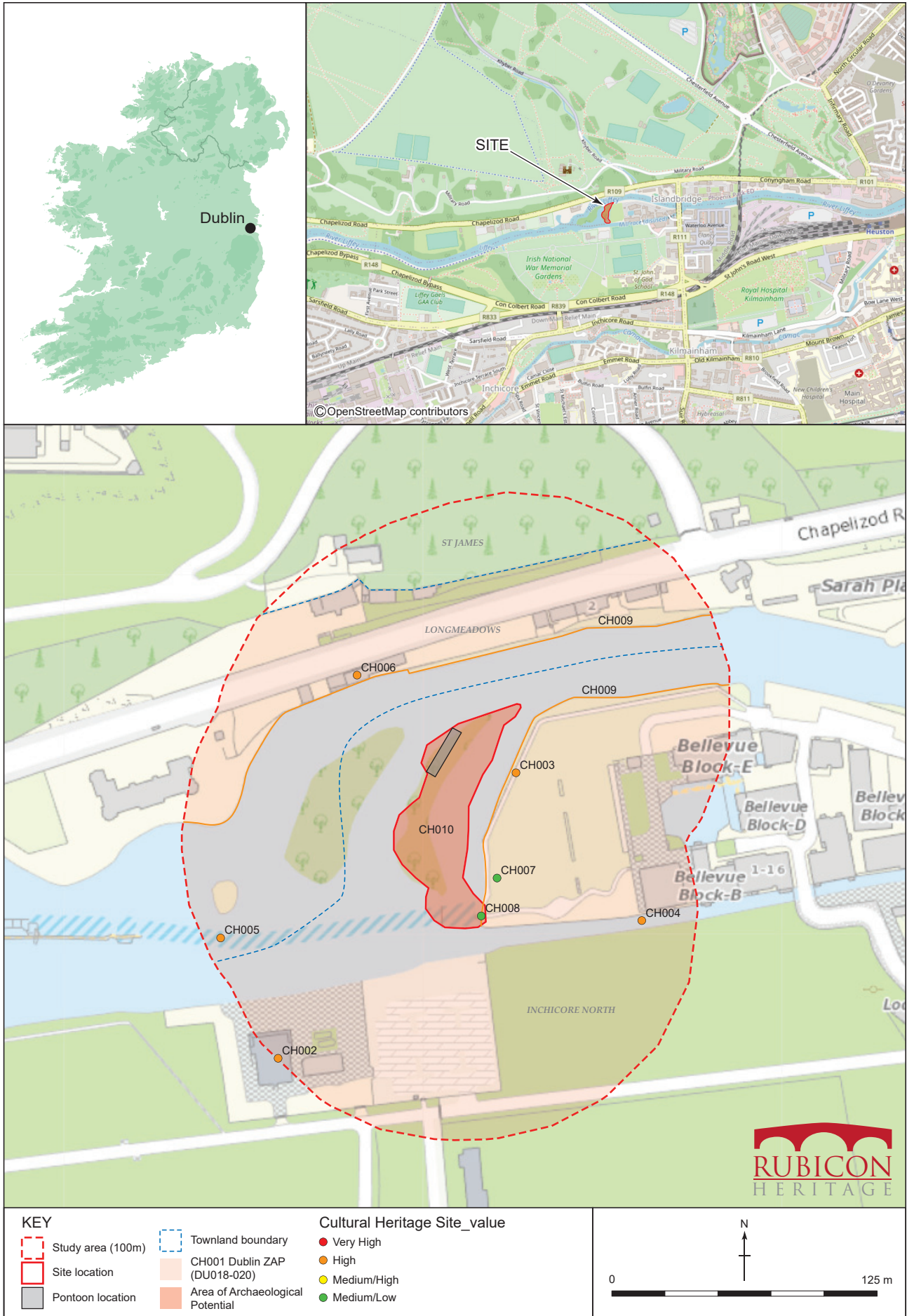
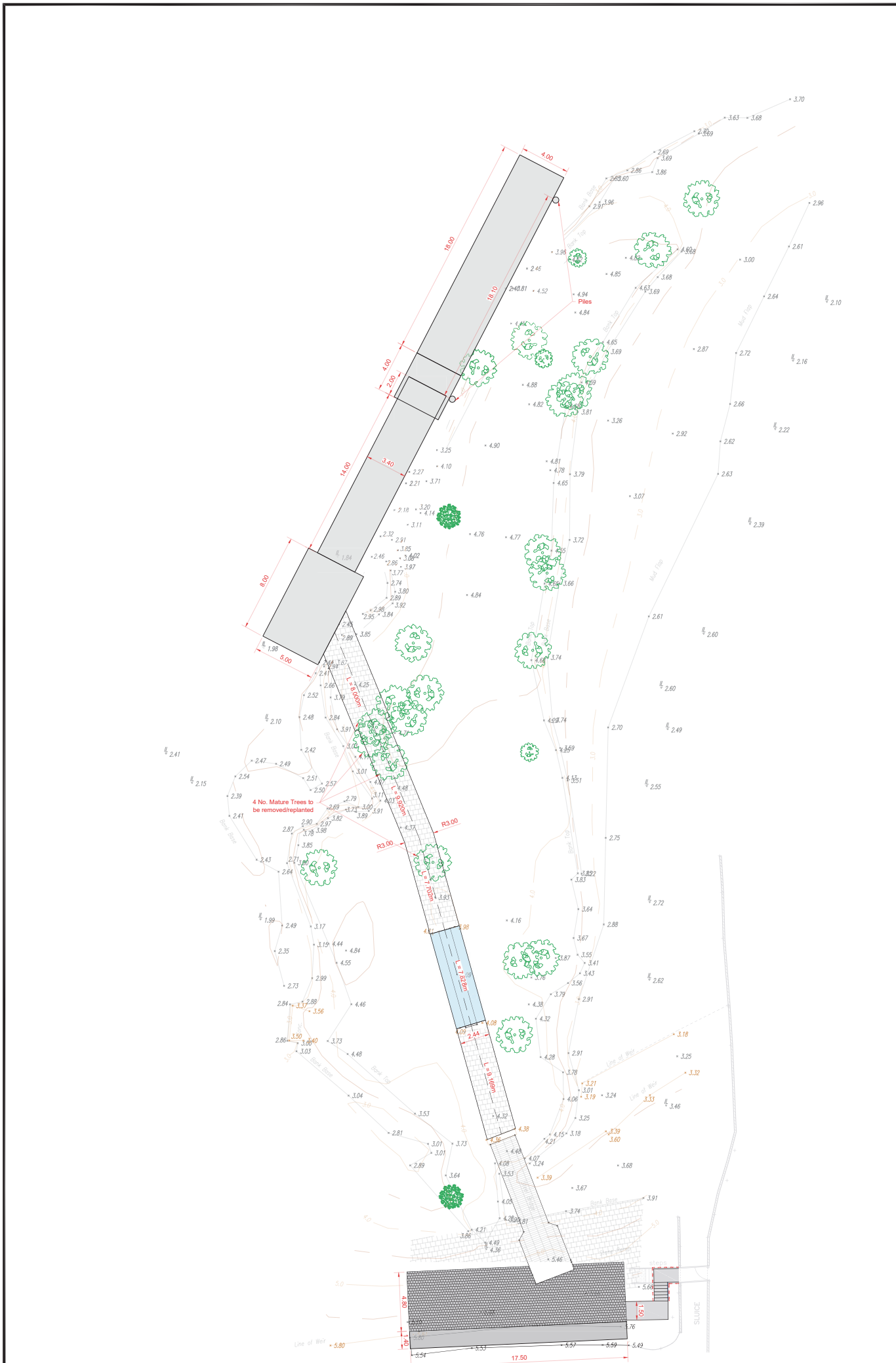


Figure 1 - Site location and identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area.

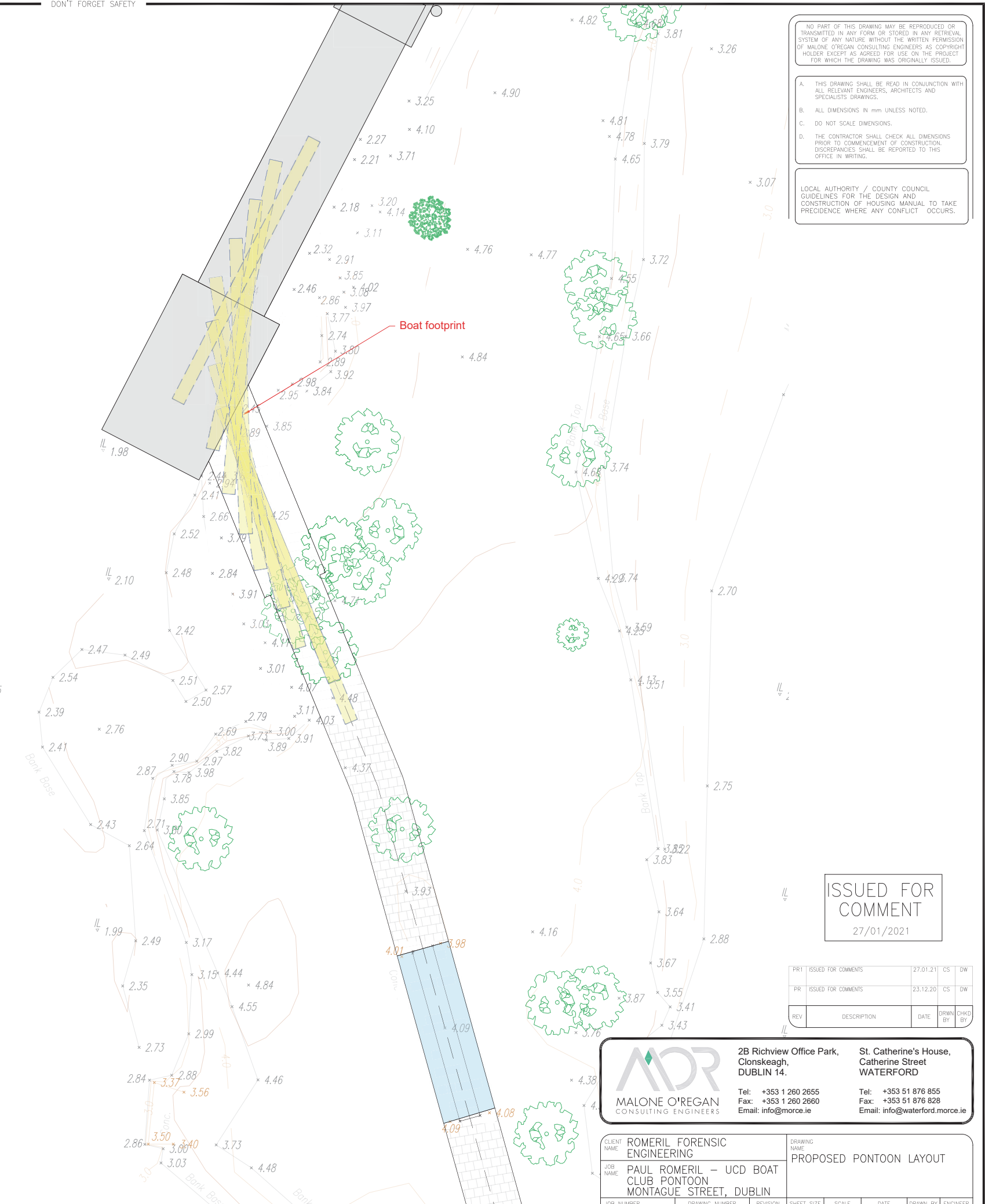
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PLAN OVERVIEW  
SCALE 1:200



BOAT FOOTPRINT PATH  
SCALE 1:100  
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27/01/2021

PR1	ISSUED FOR COMMENTS	27.01.21	CS	DW
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CLIENT NAME	ROMERIL FORENSIC ENGINEERING	DRAWING NAME	PROPOSED PONTOON LAYOUT
JOB NAME	PAUL ROMERIL - UCD BOAT CLUB PONTOON MONTAGUE STREET, DUBLIN	JOB NUMBER	20051
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REVISION	PR1	SHEET SIZE	A1
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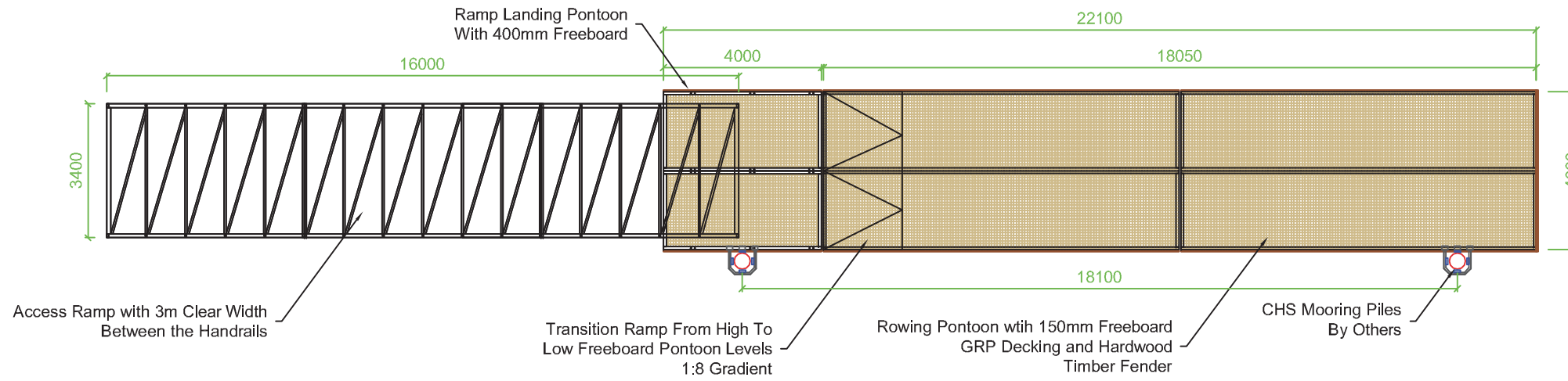
Figure 2 - Location of pontoon, platform and walkway.



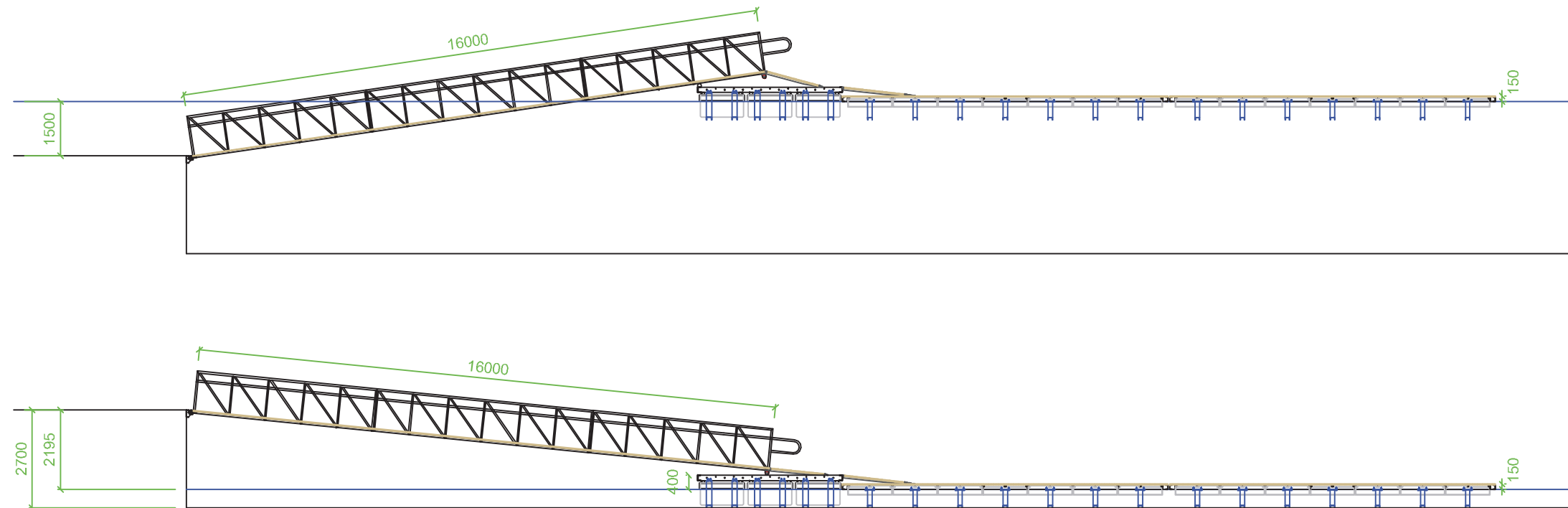
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**DRAWING NOTES**

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Proposed Layout - Plan  
**GENERAL ARRANGEMENT**  
1:150 @ A3



Proposed Layout - Elevations @ HWL and LWL  
**GENERAL ARRANGEMENT**  
1:150 @ A3

Figure 3 - Detail of platform and pontoon.

REV	COMMENTS	BY	DATE
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**TENDER DRAWING**



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**CLIENT**  
UCD Rowing Club

**PROJECT**  
2111 UCD Rowing Club

**DRAWING TITLE** Layout and Elevation **DATE** 01/01/2018

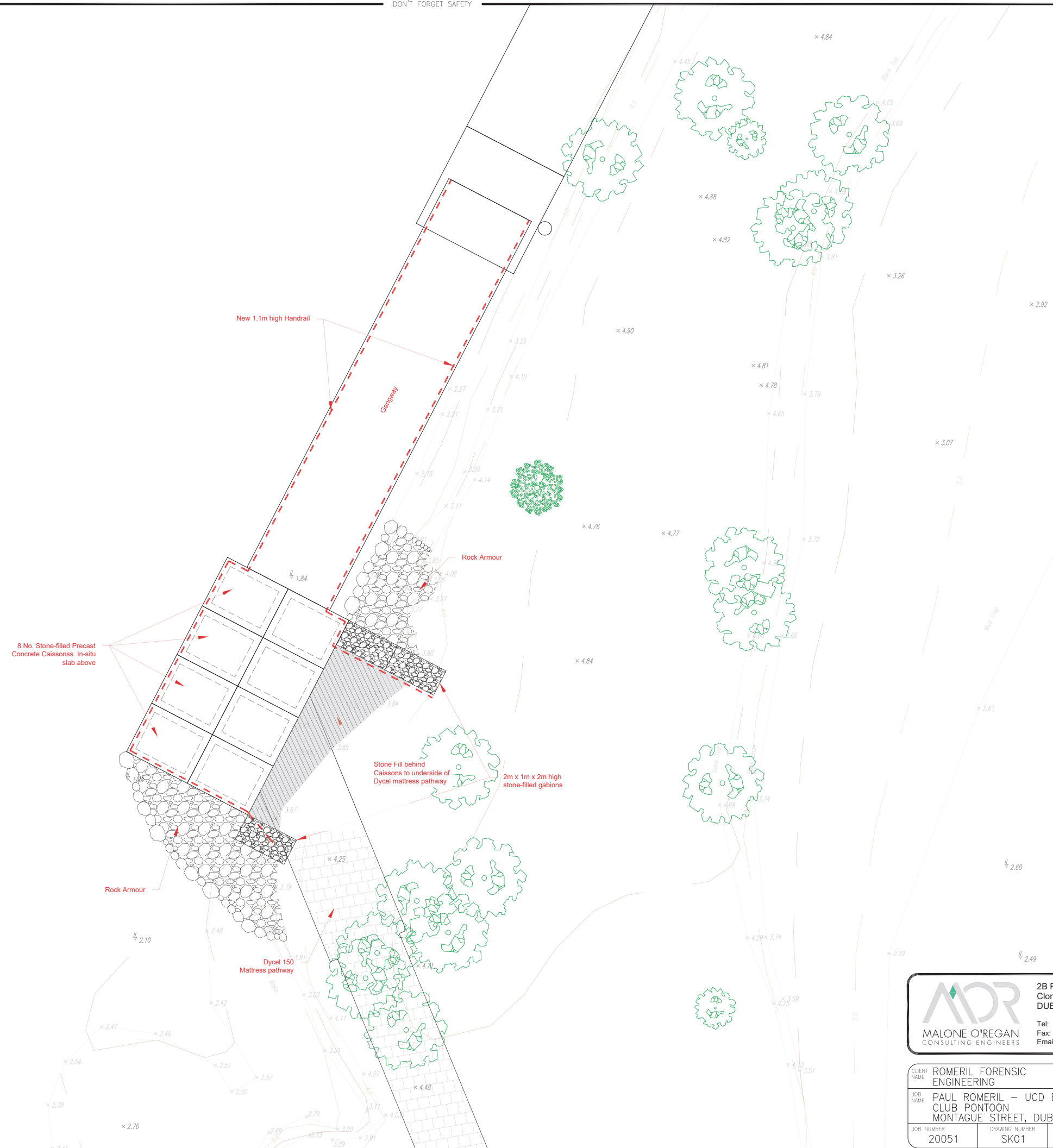
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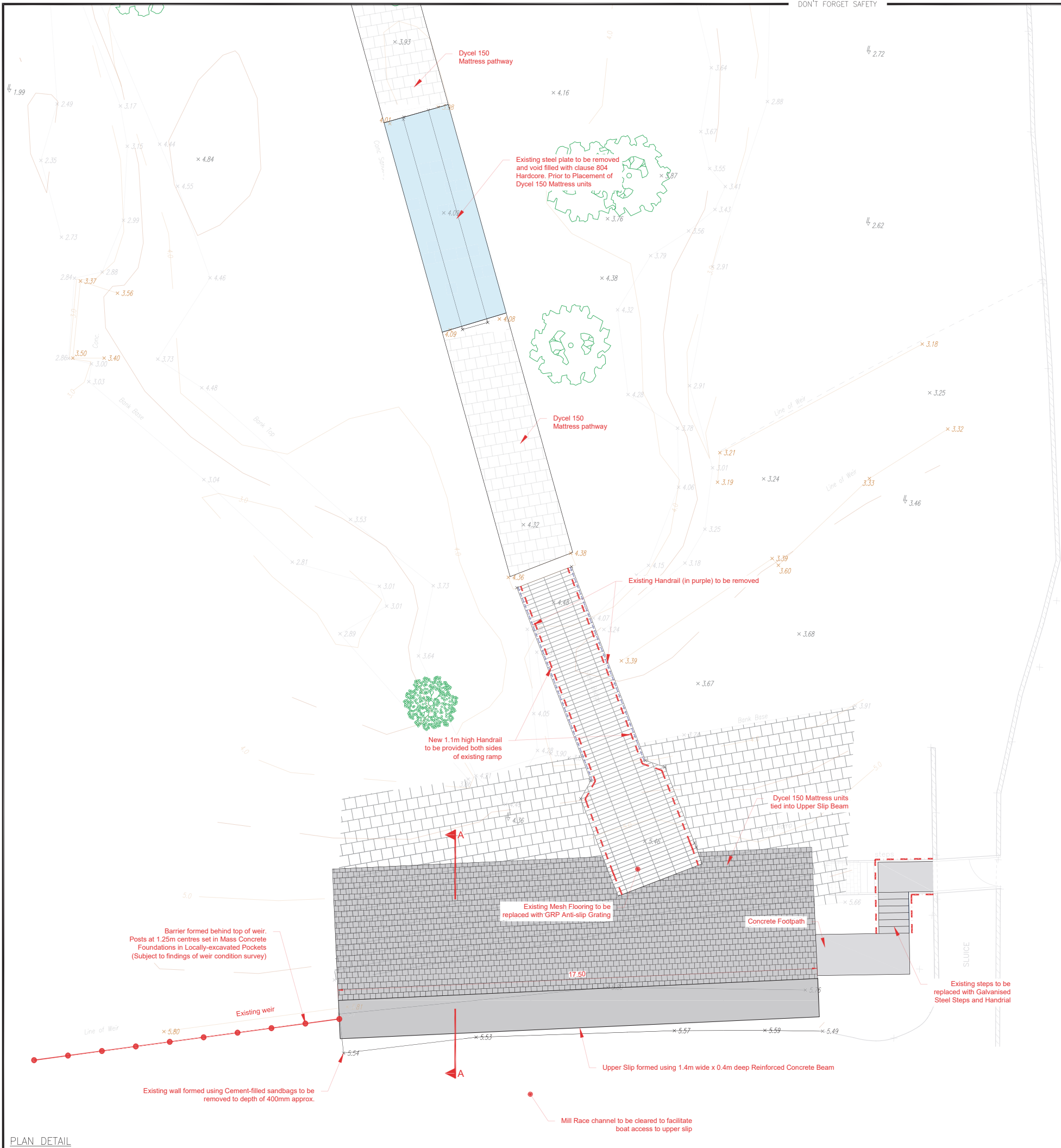
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CLIENT NAME	ROMERIL FORENSIC ENGINEERING		DRAWING NAME	PROPOSED PONTOON DETAIL SHEET 1			
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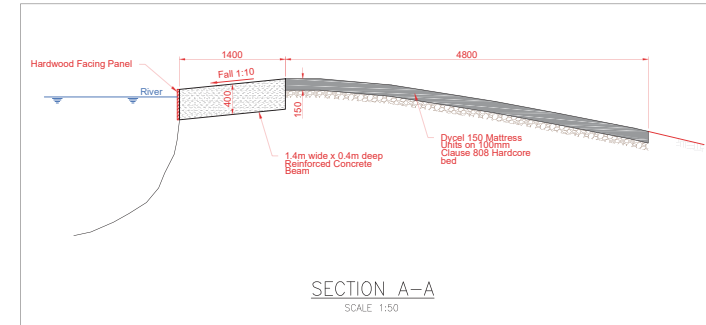
Figure 4 - Detail of platform foundation.



GRP ANTI-SLIP GRATING TO EXISTING BRIDGE



DYCEL 150 CONCRETE MATTRESS UNITS



SECTION A-A  
SCALE 1:50

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PR1	ISSUED FOR COMMENTS	27.01.21	CS	DW
PR	ISSUED FOR COMMENTS	23.12.20	CS	DW
REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DRWN BY	CHKD BY



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CLIENT NAME	ROMERIL FORENSIC ENGINEERING	DRAWING NAME	PROPOSED PONTOON DETAIL SHEET 2
JOB NAME	PAUL ROMERIL - UCD BOAT CLUB PONTOON MONTAGUE STREET, DUBLIN	JOB NUMBER	20051
DRAWING NUMBER	SK02	REVISION	PR1
SHEET SIZE	A1	SCALE	SHOWN
DATE	DEC'20	DRWN BY	CS
ENGINEER	DW		




Figure 5 - Detail of proposed walkway.



# 018-007

018-00719  
018-00713

## KEY

-  Study area (100m)
-  Site location
-  Pontoon location

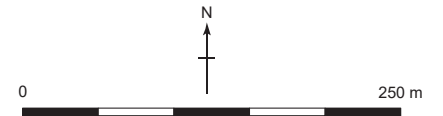
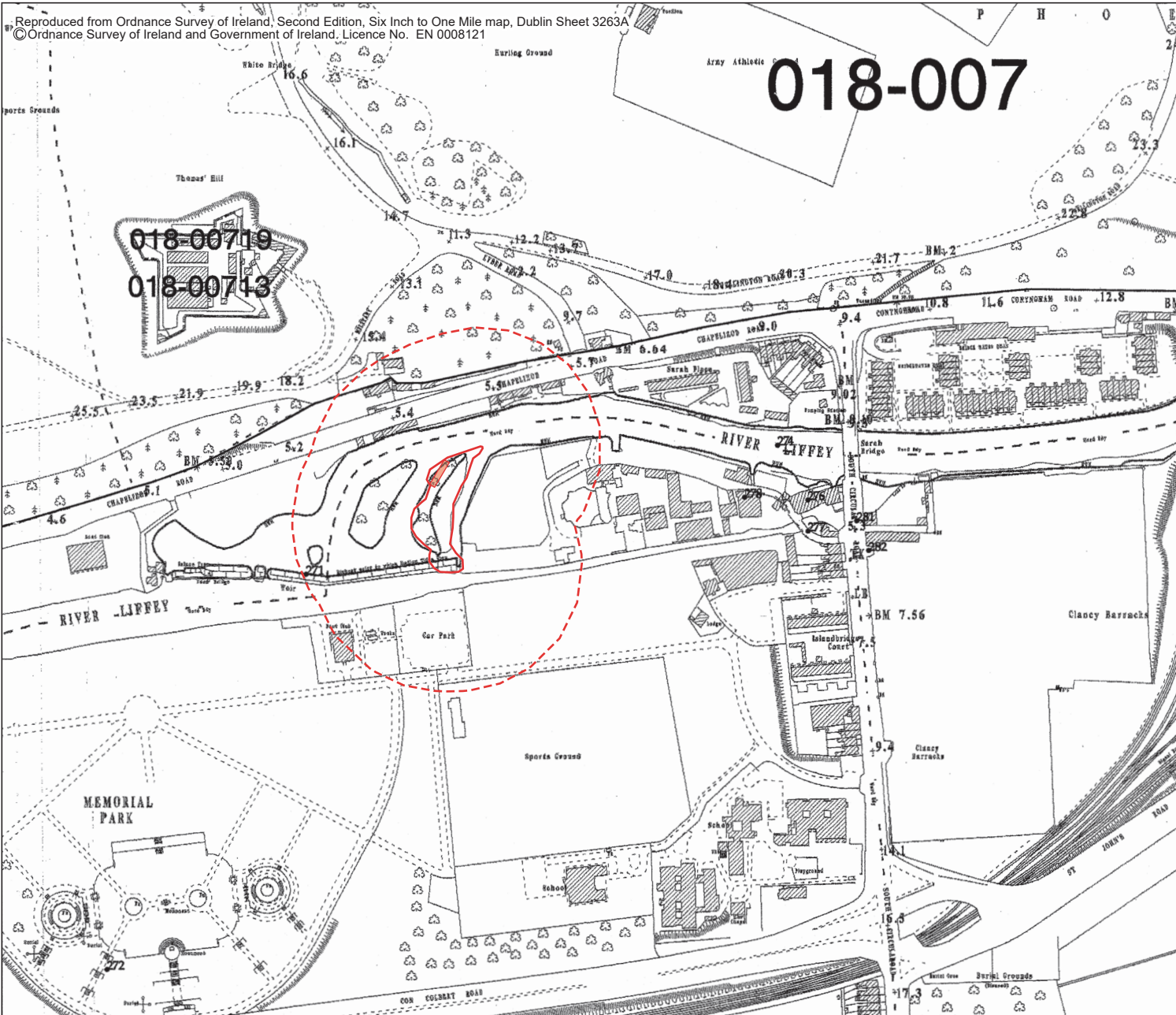


Figure 6 - RMP map with proposed development site.





Figure 7 - Extract from Rocque's Map of County Dublin with proposed development site.



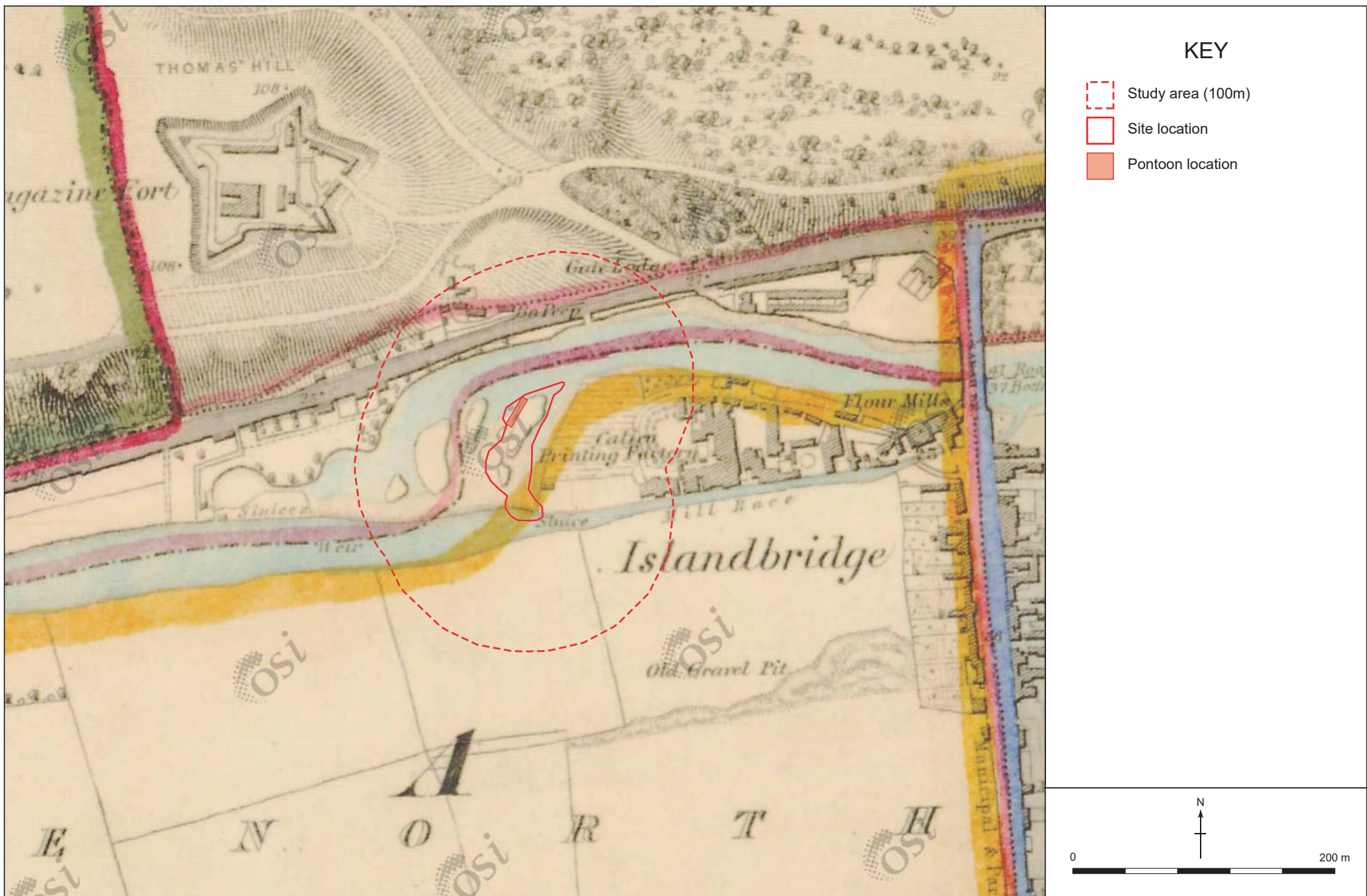


Figure 8 - First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site.

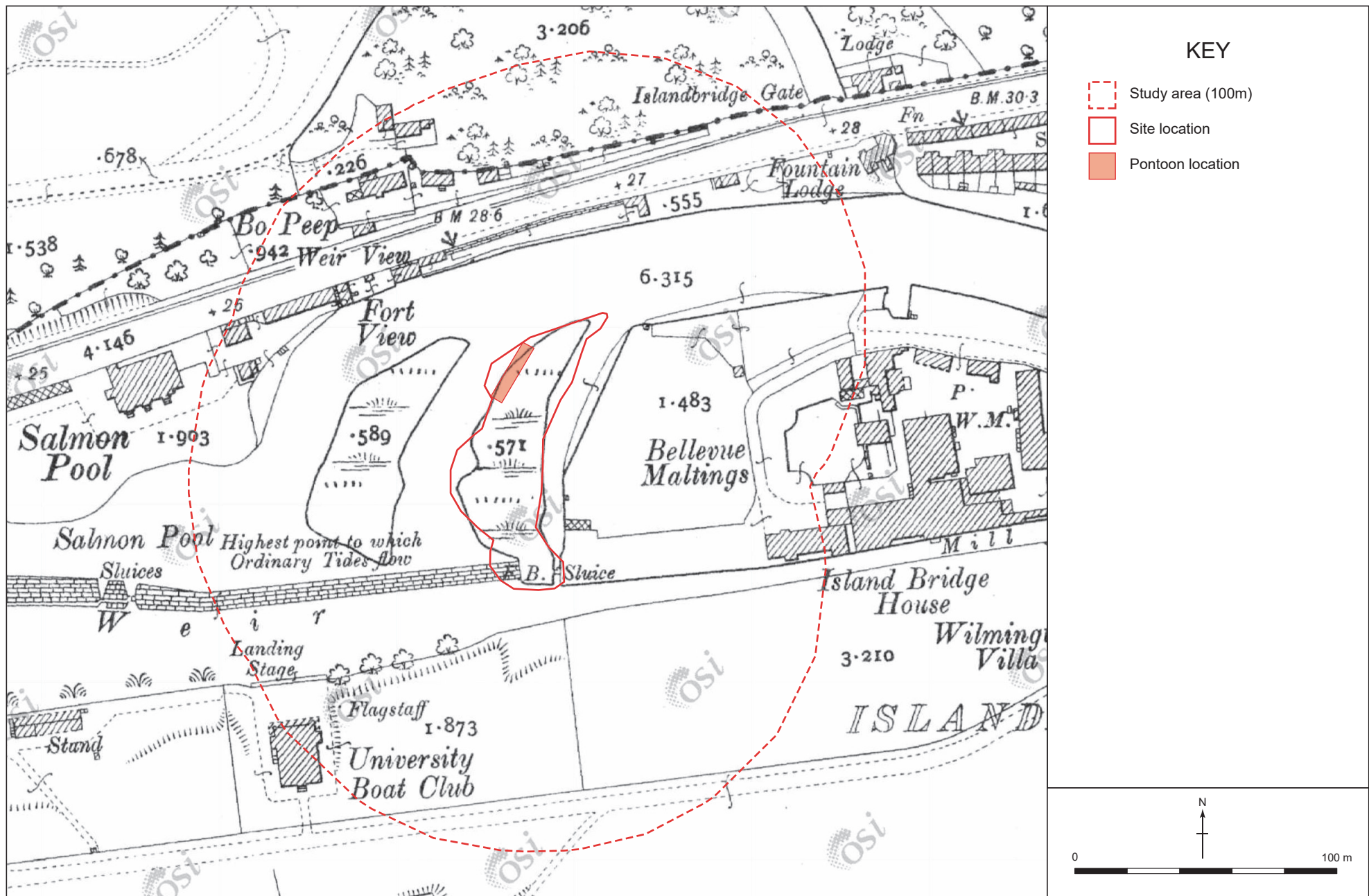


Figure 9 - First Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map with proposed development site .





Plate 1 - CH002, facing north

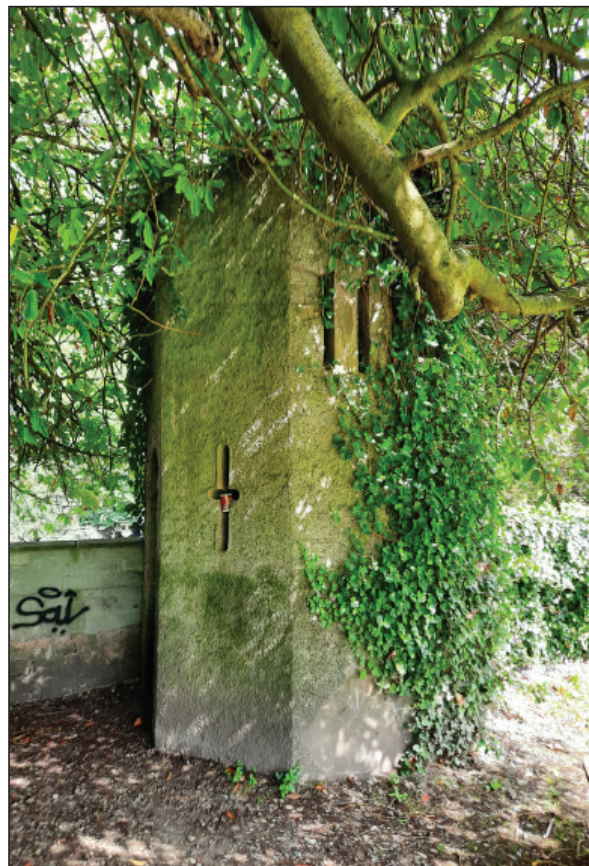


Plate 2 - CH003, facing north





Plate 3 - CH004, facing west



Plate 4 - CH005, facing west





Plate 5 - CH006 from proposed development site



Plate 6 - Location of CH007 and CH008 facing west





Plate 7 - Proposed development site, facing northeast

**Appendix 1 – Inventory of identified sites of cultural heritage significance and/or potential within study area**

CH No.	Category	Legal Status	Baseline Value	Description	Townland/ Street Address	Approx. distance to site (m)	ITM E	ITM N
CH001	RMP	DU018-020-----	Very High	Zone of Archaeological Potential for Historic Dublin	Dublin	0	-	-
CH002	RPS NIAH	4009 50080002	Very High	Detached three-bay two-storey boat clubhouse, built 1898, having gabled end-bays to front (south) elevation flanking entrance porch, gabled breakfronts to east and west elevations, balcony to first floor to rear (north) elevation, having oversailing roof with gables to either end. Timber supports to balcony, timber pilasters supporting overhanging eaves, timber battened ceiling, openwork cast-iron balustrade. Hipped slate roofs to rear. M-profile pitched slate roof set perpendicular to front, flat roof to centre. Red brick chimneystacks, terracotta ridge tiles, cast-iron rainwater goods, timber eaves. Roughcast rendered walls, some cast-iron wall ties. Half-timbered gables. Smooth rendered walls to ground floor to rear, render pilasters, projecting piers to corners supporting balcony. Square-headed window openings, moulded render sills and timber framed windows. Porch to front, hipped slate roof, square-headed door opening having double-leaf timber panelled door, sidelights, opening onto render platform and steps, flanked by rendered retaining walls. Square-headed door opening to first floor to front of projecting bay to west elevation, having render surround, double-leaf timber panelled door opening onto render steps with cast-iron balustrade. Square-headed door opening to west elevation, having render surround, timber battened door and overlight. Elliptical-headed blind arches to ground floor to rear, square-headed door openings within having double-leaf steel door, opening onto render steps.	Islandbridge	140	712213	734171

CH No.	Category	Legal Status	Baseline Value	Description	Townland/ Street Address	Approx. distance to site (m)	ITM E	ITM N
CH003	NIAH	50080003	High	Freestanding octagonal-plan two-stage folly tower built c.1870. Roofless and derelict. Roughcast rendered walls. Cruciform loop windows to ground floor, triple arrangement of square-headed arrow loops to first floor. Segmental-headed door opening to west elevation. Remains of cast-iron spiral staircase to interior. Rubble stone boundary wall of varying heights to west of tower. Rendered in places, alternating stone and brick capping.	Islandbridge	35	712328	734308
CH004	NIAH	50080004	High	Mill race from River Liffey, built c.1770, created by rubble stone sluice constructed to north of river. Rubble stone retaining wall to north, recent concrete retaining wall to north of east of mill race. Timber sluice gate having cast-iron lifting mechanism to north.	Islandbridge	80	712388	734236
CH005	NIAH	50060326	High	Diagonal-plan weir structure, built c.1780, located on River Liffey, opposite Phoenix Park. Ramped profile and of masonry construction. Sluice located to centre. Boat club to south bank, private gated apartments to north bank.	Chapelizod Road	80	712189	734229
CH006	RPS NIAH	50060657	Very High	Detached three-bay two-storey house, built c.1870, having lean-to porch to middle of front elevation. Pitched slate roof with brick corbel course to eaves and rendered gable-end chimneystacks. Painted brick walls with projecting plinth course. Square-headed window openings with two-over-two pane timber sliding sash windows and stone sills. Round-headed window to west gable. Square-headed doorway reached by flight of steps at right angle and sheltered within openwork arcaded porch having square-plan posts, decorative timber valence and brackets, panelled aprons to arcade atop rendered masonry plinth and fish-scale slate roof. Decorative cast-iron railings to front, flanking porch, atop stone plinth, and with wrought-iron gate to steps.	Chapelizod Road	50	712252	734353

CH No.	Category	Legal Status	Baseline Value	Description	Townland/ Street Address	Approx. distance to site (m)	ITM E	ITM N
CH007	UCH (2)		Medium/ High	Building shown on 1st edition OS 6-inch on Liffey bank	Bellevue, Islandbridge	65	712314	734234
CH008	UCH (2)		Medium/ High	Sluice shown on 1st edition OS 6-inch on Liffey bank	Bellevue, Islandbridge	75	712312	734241
CH009	AAP		High	Liffey river wall frontage at Bellevue	Bellevue, Islandbridge	20	712340	734234
CH010	AAP		High	The development site as a whole is regarded as an area of high archaeological potential	Bellevue, Islandbridge	0	712300	734325

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

- RMP: Recorded archaeological monument
- PS: Protected Structure
- NIAH: Site recorded in NIAH
- ACA: Architectural Conservation Area
- UBH: Unregistered built heritage site
- UCH (1): Unregistered cultural heritage site that comprises extant remains
- UCH (2): Unregistered cultural heritage site that does not comprise extant remains
- TB: Townland boundary
- AAP: Area/feature of archaeological potential

## Appendix 2 Previous archaeological investigations

An examination of previous excavations carried out within and around the area proposed for development provides a useful framework for assessment of the study area in terms of its archaeological significance as well as its archaeological potential. The Archaeological Excavations Bulletin is an annual fieldwork gazetteer for Irish Archaeology; it was checked for a record of any licensed archaeological investigations carried out in the vicinity of the development area between 1970 and 2019.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** St John's Road West, Islandbridge, Dublin 8

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** SMR DU018-302 **Licence number:** —

**Author:** —

**Site type:** GRAVES OF INDETERMINATE DATE

**ITM:** E 712726m, N 733966m

In February 1960 human remains were discovered during construction work at St John's Road, near Islandbridge, Dublin.<sup>77</sup> A bridge over the railway was being constructed by Dublin Corporation and, given its proximity to the Scandinavian burials at Islandbridge, the site was visited by Dr Raftery and Dr Lucas. The bones were discovered in a square shaft approximately 1.5m by 1.5m in plan. The human remains were recovered in the digger bucket, so it was not possible for the finders to establish the depth at which they had originally lain. There appeared to be general agreement, however, that they lay in 'buff-coloured' soil below the road surface and fill layer, c. 0.5m thick. Approximately two weeks later, on 23 June, further human remains were noticed, and again the site was visited. This burial too had been removed by the time of Raftery's visit, but according to the finders the body lay extended with the head to the east, at a depth of c. 0.46m. No information was available as to the disposition of the feet or arms. None of the bone appears to have been retained.

77. The site of the burials was not marked on the map but seems to have been located near the junction of St John's Road West and South Circular Road, and therefore the approximate IGR would be 312800 233940. SMR DU018-302 — —.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Islandbridge, Inchicore North

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** —

**Author:** Elizabeth O'Brien, 121 Barton Road East, Dundrum, Dublin 14.

**Site type:** Possible Viking habitation

**ITM:** E 712127m, N 733326m

This excavation was carried out during road-widening operations at Con Colbert Road, adjacent to the War Memorial Park at Islandbridge, an area which over the past 150 years has produced many Viking objects, together with some burials. The excavation was conducted in the area where, during stripping of the plough-soil, Mr P. Healy had observed and excavated two pits in the sub-soil, one of which contained an object of the Early Christian period (see No. 25 above). Excavation revealed that the site was located on a natural gravel ridge, parts of which had been quarried from time to time. Part of the area in question had at some time, post 17th century, been back-filled or levelled by the introduction of brown mineralised soil which contained fragments of post-medieval pottery. The area had been used as gardening plots prior to and during the 1939-45 War. The pit in which the Early Christian object was discovered penetrated the redeposited subsoil to a depth of 80mm. However, this does not rule out the strong possibility that the object was deposited into the pit among debris gathered somewhere nearby. A third pit was revealed during excavation, which contained animal bone, small stones, sherds of white china, pieces of clay pipe, and at its base the skeleton of a dog. The excavation did not reveal activity in this area prior to the post-medieval period.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Salmon Pool, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 94E0104

**Author:** Neil O'Flanagan, Enterprise Centre, Pearse St., Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Urban

**ITM:** E 713426m, N 734626m

The site was assessed for archaeological deposits on July 14, 1994. The site lay directly to the west of Islandbridge, on the north banks of the Liffey adjacent to Chapelizod Rd. The site was made up primarily of enormous quantities of redeposited sand which had been laid down evidently for general reclamation in the modern era. The underlying silty clay indicated the existence of a marshland over the natural sands and gravel. A significant conclusion to be drawn from the assessment is that the area was uninhabitable until the modern reclamation and that the marshland extended up to the Chapelizod Rd., and possibly to the edge of the Phoenix Park itself.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Conyngham Road, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 96E0026

**Author:** Georgina Scally, c/o 81 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin 4

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 713181m, N 734444m

This site is located on the north bank of the River Liffey, east -of Islandbridge village and Sarah Bridge. Nine test-trenches were excavated by mechanical digger and no finds or features of archaeological significance were uncovered.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Hospital Lane, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 96E038 ext.

**Author:** Cia McConway, Archaeological Development Services Ltd. Power House, Pigeon House Harbour, Dublin 4.

**Site type:** Medieval/post-medieval

**ITM:** E 712681m, N 734293m

An initial assessment had been conducted by Tim Coughlan on this site on 15 February 1996. However, owing to the presence of upstanding buildings and a large marshy area to the north-west of the site, the total area available for testing was severely reduced. The second phase of testing was carried out on 15 July 1996.

During the five months that had elapsed between the two assessments most of the upstanding buildings had been demolished, with the exception of several walls in the southwest corner of the site. The dry weather had allowed the marshy area to dry out sufficiently to allow machine testing.

The site is located along the south bank of the River Liffey at Islandbridge. There are references to mills in the area from 1566, and a mill-race is recorded on the site. At present the line of this mill-race appears to have been marked by the line of an existing boundary wall running across the site north-east/south-west.

Three trenches were opened in the southern area of the site along the line of the recently demolished building. No surviving archaeological material was found owing to the severe ground disturbance from foundation walls and basements.

The boundary wall as it existed during this assessment stood some 1.8m high along its western face; the ground had been built up with a sterile brown clay within the eastern face of the wall and was almost level with the top of the wall as it then stood. The upper course of the wall as noted by Coughlan had since been demolished—but this, as pointed out, had been an obviously later addition. On initial inspection the wall was thought to be constructed from huge lime-stone blocks, roughly dressed and without mortar. The western or outer face was steeply angled, forming a batter. The wall was



investigated in two places and was seen to be bonded with mortar, with the suspicion of red brick in section.

A second wall was discovered below the ground surface to the west of the upstanding wall and was discovered to be of the same limestone block and mortar construction. Because of the remarkably similar appearance and construction technique of the two walls, it can be concluded that they are contemporary and associated in some way. All finds from the clays abutting the walls were of nineteenth/twentieth-century date and clearly do not date back to the late medieval mill-race.

In Coughlan's first assessment he noted that a second wall ran along Clancy Barracks, bounding the Liffey. He noted that the upstanding wall on the site had continued eastwards as an inner boundary wall of the barracks, and had postulated that perhaps this wall was the inner or eastern wall of the mill-race. In the light of further investigation, it would appear likely that the second wall uncovered is a continuation of the outer boundary wall along the barracks and may not be directly associated with the mill-race. While it is plausible that the line of the eastern wall of the mill-race was reused as a much later boundary wall, there was no direct surviving evidence for this earlier mill-race.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** 765 South Circular Road, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** SMR 18:16 **Licence number:** 96E0169

**Author:** Dominic Delany, 20–21 Main St., Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

**Site type:** Urban

**ITM:** E 712623m, N 734298m

Archaeological test excavation was undertaken in advance of a proposed extension to the existing premises at 765 South Circular Road, Islandbridge, Dublin 8, in July 1996. The site is located immediately west of Sarah or Kilmainham Bridge on the north bank of the River Liffey. The existing premises occupies the site of a nineteenth-century flour mill, but there may have been a mill here since the medieval period.

The site measures 10.8m east–west by 3.7m north–south and forms part of an open concrete yard, delimited by concrete walling at the north and east. There is a 4.5m fall to a landscaped area on the riverbank at the north. A single trial-trench (10.15m east–west by 1m north–south) was mechanically excavated to a depth of 1.9m. The ground was composed of a series of modern rubble fills. The earliest stratigraphic features were two wall foundations, extending north–south, which were located the base of the trench. The foundations appear to be associated with the flour mills and probably date from the nineteenth century. The remains of two brick floors, which postdate the wall foundations, were also located. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered. The excavated area is reclaimed land which has been raised to a considerable height above the banks of the River Liffey.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** 28-31 CONYNGHAM ROAD, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 96E0026 ext.

**Author:** Georgina Scally, c/o 81 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin 4.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 713181m, N 734444m

The site at Conyngham Road, Islandbridge, lies on the north bank of the River Liffey, a short distance east of Islandbridge village and Sarah Bridge. Phase 1 of the test excavation was undertaken in 1996 (Excavations 1996, 34, 96E026), and Phase 2 in 1998. In all, twelve trenches were excavated by mechanical digger, and in no trench were finds or features of any archaeological significance uncovered.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** FORMER BELLVUE MALT MILLS, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 99E0674

**Author:** Claire Walsh, Archaeological Projects Ltd, 25A Eaton Square, Terenure, Dublin 6W.

**Site type:** Post-medieval

**ITM:** E 712410m, N 734289m

The site encompasses the western end of Mill Island, with an access road through the northern part of the lands adjacent to the War Memorial Park. Test excavation began in late 1999, and monitoring continued up to June 2000. Clearance of the foundations of the late 18th–19th-century industrial buildings on the site was undertaken in tandem with an industrial and building survey carried out by Fred Hamond.

Despite the significance of its location, in relation to both the Viking cemeteries of Kilmainham/ Islandbridge and the medieval mills of the Knights Hospitallers at Kilmainham, no medieval finds were uncovered from the testing or monitoring. The earliest deposits relate to mill buildings of late 18th-century date on the site. Furnaces of a gas-manufacturing works of mid-19th-century date were uncovered and recorded, as were the original water channels, sluices and other industrial features. All water channels are to be retained in the new development.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN BOAT CLUB, INCHICORE NORTH, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 00E0271

**Author:** Ian W. Doyle, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 2 Killiney View, Albert Road Lower, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

**Site type:** Possible ford site

**ITM:** E 712215m, N 734172m

The University of Dublin, Trinity College, Boat Club is located on the south bank of the River Liffey at Islandbridge. The Irish National War Memorial Garden is to the south-west of the site. The ground slopes from the south to the north, i.e. from the crest of the Kilmainham ridge at Con Colbert Road to the River Liffey. The university intends to construct an extension to the existing structure.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, Viking Age material was recovered from the Kilmainham/ Islandbridge area. Some of these artefacts derived from gravel pit excavation in ground between the River Liffey and Con Colbert Road. Further remains were discovered in the 1930s when the War Memorial Park was laid out. Additional material is described as having derived from 'The King's Ford', which was 'just above the weir at Dublin University Boat Club, Islandbridge', Dublin (O'Brien 1998, 216). The National Museum purchased these finds in 1937.

Two test-trenches were excavated in October 2000 on the line of the southern and western ranges of the proposed extension. Both trenches revealed sod and topsoil overlying natural boulder clay.

#### *Reference*

O'Brien, E. 1998 The location and context of Viking burials at Kilmainham and Islandbridge, Dublin. In H.B. Clarke, M. Ní Mhaonaigh and R. Ó Floinn (eds), *Ireland and Scandinavia in the Early Viking Age*. Dublin.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Mill Island, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 99E0674 ext.

**Author:** Claire Walsh, 25A Eaton Square, Terenure, Dublin 6W.

**Site type:** 18th/19th-century fishtrap

**ITM:** E 712410m, N 734289m

Dúchas were notified that a wattle feature of possible archaeological significance was exposed in the developer's site section close to the mill-race. The area was inspected by Andrew Halpin, NMI, and subsequently by the writer, who had carried out the initial test excavation on the site (Excavations 2000,

No. 303). The wattle feature appears to be the end or eye of a fishtrap of post-medieval date. The section was cut back in part by c. 0.4m to clean and identify the feature, over two days in late March 2001.

The post-and-wattle feature survived between two substantial walls of post-medieval date in a rebuilt section of the mill-race. The fishtrap measures 0.87m in width and stands to a height of 0.78m. It is constructed of interlinked posts and rods, with a simple weave of one under/one over, twisted around the posts at the end of the feature. The ends of the rods, where noted, were pointed. The posts were single, and widely spaced at c. 0.25m apart, but paired to either side of the feature. The floor of the trap has a double line of rod.

The dating of the fishtrap is certain, as it is built up against a wall of probable late 18th-century date, and several sherds of glazed blackware (late 18th-early 19th-century) were recovered from the fill. The northern wall probably dates from the establishment of a printworks on the island in 1786, while the southern wall dates at least from the construction of the main mill buildings and Islandbridge House between 1801 and 1837. The trap may have been for catching eels.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Neptune Rowing Club, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** SMR 18:20 **Licence number:** 01E0997

**Author:** Georgina Scally, 81 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin 4, for Margaret Gowan and Co. Ltd.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 711786m, N 734237m

Test excavation in advance of construction of an extension to the Neptune Rowing Club was requested owing to the location of the site within the zone of archaeological potential for Dublin. The site (53m x 38m) lies on the banks of the River Liffey between the medieval villages of Kilmainham and Islandbridge. Four trenches were excavated by mechanical digger. In no trench were finds, features or structures of any archaeological significance uncovered.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** St John of God's Day Care Centre, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 02E0243

**Author:** Claire Walsh, 27 Coulson Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 712634m, N 733987m

Testing was carried out on this site on 7 March 2002. The entire ground area of the new building was cleared to subsoil. No finds of archaeological significance were recovered.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** St John of God's Day Care Centre, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 02E1866

**Author:** Claire Walsh, 27 Coulson Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 712554m, N 733999m

Testing was undertaken before the construction of an extension to the swimming pool at the day-care centre. Deep topsoil, indicating documented market garden activity, overlay subsoil. No finds or features of archaeological significance were present.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** 765 South Circular Road, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 02E1471

**Author:** Claire Walsh, 27 Coulson Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6.

**Site type:** Post-medieval

**ITM:** E 712563m, N 734293m

Testing was carried out on the site of the former Wyeth Chemical Stores at Islandbridge, Dublin 8, on 30 September 2002. Large, late 18th-century industrial buildings on the site are to be retained. The site

lies on the south bank of the River Liffey, to the north of the Viking cemeteries uncovered in the late 19th/early 20th century. The island appears to have been the site of a mill since at least the 12th century. The location of the medieval mill/s was at the upper end of the mill headrace, that is, on or close to the present development site.

Three trenches were excavated using a machine fitted with a toothed bucket. Pottery from the 17th and 18th centuries was recovered from a deposit of organic soil in one trench; otherwise, the only deposits were of rubble and foundations that correspond with buildings on the OS maps. Further testing is to be undertaken in 2003.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** 717-727 SOUTH CIRCULAR ROAD, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 04E0243

**Author:** Helen Keogh, 11 Norseman Place, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 712619m, N 734103m

The site is located in an area of archaeological/ historical interest close to the Islandbridge/ Kilmainham Viking burial sites to the south. Historical maps have shown buildings along the street frontage at this location since at least 1756 (e.g. Rocque's map). The present site, incorporating Nos 717-727, forms part of what was an Islandbridge village area, with the buildings having both residential and commercial use.

Because of its proximity to the River Liffey, in medieval times the Islandbridge/Kilmainham area was one where mills were sited, harnessing the river, north of the site location.

There was no evidence for any significant archaeological features within the test-trenches opened. The overall stratigraphical profile of the site reflected its historic use as a gravel pit, with a gravel horizon present throughout all the trenches, using the rear of the site for the infilling of rubble and refuse.

Monitoring for the basement excavation is to be carried out in 2005.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** CHAPELIZOD ROAD, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 05E0430

**Author:** Helen Keogh, 11 Norseman Place, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7.

**Site type:** Urban post-medieval

**ITM:** E 711794m, N 734203m

There was no evidence for any archaeological features or deposits from the excavated trenches. A large live ceramic sewer pipe extended diagonally across the site, which indicated extensive excavation of the area in previous decades. The proliferation of introduced infill deposits indicated build-up of the site area over natural river silts.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Clancy Barracks, South Circular Road, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU018-020/281 **Licence number:** 07E0261

**Author:** Franc Myles, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Early Christian waterfront

**ITM:** E 712758m, N 734186m

The demolition of modern structures along the river frontage at Clancy Barracks opened up an area that had not been previously investigated; the contractor thus requested the presence of an archaeologist to monitor the opening of six trenches across the area (Trenches A-F), ostensibly to investigate the presence of gravels.

It was found that a deposit of grey/black silty clay extended across the very northern part of the site along a strip up to 25m in width (north–south) and possibly covered the full 170m width of the site at this point. The deposit directly overlay the natural alluvial gravels and silts and was sealed by post-medieval dumping of redeposited subsoil and large backfilled gravel pits. Towards the centre of the area, where the deposit was darkest and at its thickest (up to 0.6m in depth), worked timbers and strands of wattle were present (Trenches C and D). Elsewhere, to the east and to the west, wattle was recorded in the same deposit.

The deposit is located at 3.6–4.5m underneath the concrete ground slab at c. 0m OD and was initially thought to date to the Viking period.

A death date of ad 595 from two samples of worked timber was subsequently obtained from the Department of Archaeology and Palaeoecology at QUB, indicating that the material may in fact be associated with the early Christian site of Kylmehanok.

The site was later excavated by Kevin Lohan (see No. 519 below).

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Clancy Barracks, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU018–020/281 **Licence number:** 07e0261

**Author:** Kevin Lohan, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Urban post-medieval and riverside early medieval

**ITM:** E 712737m, N 734129m

The excavation at Clancy Barracks was carried out after testing undertaken by Franc Myles (see No. 518 above). This testing uncovered, 3.6m below the current ground surface, a layer of river-deposited silty clays containing fragments of worked wood. On foot of this it was decided that all archaeological groundworks on site were to be monitored.

Clancy Barracks is situated at Islandbridge and is bounded to the east by Heuston Station, to the north by the River Liffey, to the west by the South Circular Road and to the south by St John's Road West.

During monitoring, the rubble associated with the construction of the barracks was removed and the foundations of previously demolished barracks buildings were recorded. Beneath these several layers of post-medieval cultivation soils were also removed. Below this was a layer of sterile orange sandy clay. It was this layer which sealed the deposits that contained the wood recovered during the testing phase.

These deposited clays, which sat directly over the glacial gravels in a 25m-wide strip along the extreme northern edge of the site, were then excavated by hand. This portion of the site is directly adjacent to the River Liffey. When the orange, sterile sandy clay which sealed these deposits was removed and the clays exposed, the remains of a riverside revetment were uncovered. It stretched for 130m along the old riverbank, although it was heavily disturbed in places. The basic construction was a post-and-wattle fence erected a small distance into the river, with a large quantity of wood dumped behind it to consolidate the ground on the land side of the fence. The fence which marked the river side of the revetment did not survive for the full length of the site. The wattle panels were made entirely from hazel and the majority of the fence posts marking the river side of the revetment were of willow. Apart from these elements of the structure, the wood that made up the majority of the revetment was a mix of species, eleven in total. Wood from three separate ecological groupings was present, dry land mature woodland, alder carr and scrub woodland/hedgerows. The majority of the timbers and brushwood came from species from the dry land woodland and of these 50% came from two species, oak and hazel. Other species represented were alder, elm, blackthorn and wild cherry. In the central portion of the site the revetment had been heavily disturbed. The wood was still there but the fence line was displaced

with the stakes being scattered throughout the structure. Both the archaeological and environmental evidence shows that the structure petered out towards the eastern portion of the site.

No artefacts were recovered from the site and it proved impossible to dendrochronologically date the oak timbers from the site; 14C dates from the site are pending.

During the excavation of the revetment a large square pit was uncovered at the northern limit of the site. The skeletal remains of two horses, one male and one female, were uncovered at the base of the pit. These proved to be the remains of a cavalry horse that was attached to the 5th Dragoon Guards when they served in the Crimea and an unknown horse. The cavalry horse is commemorated by a plaque which reads:

Near this spot lies buried the remains of  
Dickie Bird B7  
Troop Horse 5th Dragoon Guards  
Which was foaled in 1850  
Joined the Regiment in 1853  
And served throughout the entire Crimean Campaign  
From May 1854 to June 1856  
He was shot on the 21st Nov 1874  
By special authority of the Horse Guards  
To save him from being sold at auction.

Along with the skeletal remains of the two horses a bridle and reins set with the date 1846 stamped on it was recovered from the pit.

The final archaeological site found during the project was a homemade crypt containing four coffined burials. This crypt would have been situated in the back garden of one of the houses fronting on to the South Circular Road. The four burials were all female and were aged between fourteen and 24 years. Two of them possibly had syphilis. There is also evidence for scurvy; malnourishment and TB were also present. All four of them had been coffined, although the wood had long since rotted away; the corroded handles remained. The crypt had been adapted for this use from a smaller underground structure, most probably an icehouse. The structure had been extended and the narrow steps leading down into it blocked with flagstones. The burials were Victorian in date, probably around 1850, as shortly afterwards this area was acquired by the army to extend the barracks.

Archaeological monitoring of groundworks is ongoing on site.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Islandbridge gatelodge, Phoenix Park, Dublin

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU018-007 **Licence number:** 07E1172

**Author:** Antoine Giacometti, Arch-Tech Ltd, 32 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** No archaeological significance

**ITM:** E 712427m, N 734429m

Monitoring was carried out at Islandbridge Gatelodge during redevelopment works of the gatelodge, which is a protected structure, in the vicinity of three recorded monuments, and within the national monument of the Phoenix Park. Much of the small-scale subsurface groundworks for the development were carried out in the absence of archaeological supervision, which was fully in compliance with the (unusually lenient) planning conditions associated the development.

The tiny portion of the groundworks which were monitored, being two small hand-excavated pits excavated to locate a gas main, identified the gas main and revealed nothing of archaeological interest. A masonry drain identified to the north and west of the gatelodge by the construction workers was

partially recorded, and comparison with cartographic sources suggests that it represents a partially culverted waterway which meandered through Phoenix Park and possibly flowed into the Liffey, appearing on maps from 1837–44.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** N/A **Licence number:** 08E0693

**Author:** Maeve Sikora, National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Burial

**ITM:** E 712519m, N 734193m

Excavation of a trench for an electricity cable uncovered an iron sword and spearhead at the War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge, Dublin. The artefacts, both of Scandinavian type, were retrieved from the spoil by a construction worker and subsequently reported to the National Museum. Bone had also apparently been visible in the trench in the vicinity of the sword but was not removed. A small cutting was opened for the purposes of retrieving the disturbed human remains and any other finds which may have been associated with the burial. The burial, apparently oriented approximately north–south, had been heavily disturbed and pieces of disarticulated bone were found throughout the backfill of the trench. A small portion of an in situ inhumation burial was discovered at the base of the trench. It had also been badly damaged by a wall which was built on top of it some ten years ago. Only portions of the vertebral column, ribs and one femur were found in situ. A copper-alloy plain-ringed loop-headed ringed pin was discovered in the area of the upper ribs, and a possible scale pan and pointer were also found in this area, but not in situ.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** CLANCY BARRACKS, SOUTH CIRCULAR ROAD, ISLANDBRIDGE

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU018–020 (281) **Licence number:** 09E0434

**Author:** Melanie McQuade, Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Site type:** Post-medieval

**ITM:** E 712742m, N 734274m

Monitoring of excavations associated with drainage works was carried out along the western and southwestern end of the Clancy Barracks site. Works entailed the excavation of a trench c. 2m wide, 3.5m deep and 180m long. The soil profile indicated that the ground surface had been raised by the deposition of fill in post-medieval and recent times. Previous ground disturbance had also been caused by the insertion of services.

A mid-19th-century masonry basement wall was exposed on the western end of the site c. 105m to the north of the existing gateway to the site. An underground tunnel was exposed to the west of, and was almost certainly connected to, the late 19th-century barracks building on the south-west of the site. This tunnel was located 3m south of the northwestern corner of the building and its roof was 1.1m below present ground level. It was constructed of limestone blocks and red brick bonded with mortar/early concrete. The cavity was 2.5m wide and 1.35m high and was more or less on the same level as the basement of the adjoining building. The tunnel probably extended to the road but was truncated by previous works on site.

A brick drain was uncovered at the south-western corner of the same building, where it was 1.4m below present ground level. It was constructed of red brick bonded with mortar and was capped with limestone flagstones. The drain cavity was 0.3m wide and 0.4m deep. A sherd of blackware in the fill of the cut for the drain indicates a 19th-century date. The remains of a masonry wall were exposed to the immediate north of the drain c. 0.95m below present ground level. The wall was constructed of cut limestone blocks bonded with mortar and was orientated east–west. It was 0.8m high and is probably late 19th century in date.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** Con Colbert Road/Memorial Park, Islandbridge

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** DU018-020 **Licence number:** 10E0128

**Author:** Linzi Simpson, Margaret Gowen and Co. Ltd, 22 Killiney View, Albert Road Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

**Site type:** Possible medieval

**ITM:** E 712297m, N 733951m

An assessment took place, fronting on to the north side of the Con Colbert Road, to the south-east of the Irish National War Memorial Park, at Islandbridge, Dublin 8. The site lies 90m to the east of DU018-020-272, which marks the position of the Viking burials found during railway works in the 19th century. The testing, which was carried out as part of the Dart Underground investigations, consisted of a series of linear test-trenches, which were opened up over a proposed ventilation/intervention shaft in April 2010. The area had been previously tested in 1989 by both Patrick Healy and Elizabeth O'Brien (Excavations 1989, Nos 25 and 26).

The assessment established that the ground had been very disturbed in the late 1980s along the southern end of the site, where it fronted on to the Con Colbert Road. Parts of the site had been stripped previously, during the earlier archaeological investigations, and this was most marked on the eastern side of the site, where the ground was almost down to the natural deposits. The assessment confirmed that the site is located on the remains of a truncated gravel esker, which was quarried in the 19th century but which also contained undisturbed bands of natural boulder clay in places. While evidence of possible early medieval activity was identified in the form of four pits, which could not be dated, this evidence was limited and there was no evidence of any human burials or human bone on-site, despite intensive testing. The post-medieval deposits were also extremely limited, confined to several pits, and one very poor cobbled surface.

**County:** Dublin **Site name:** War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge, Dublin 8

**Sites and Monuments Record No.:** 01235134124 **Licence number:** 16E0252

**Author:** Helen Kehoe

**Site type:** Monitoring

**ITM:** E 312351m, N 234124m

Dublin City Council commissioned an art installation, 'Sound Bridge', to be located close to the river bank in the War Memorial Gardens. The artwork required the installation of a 270m length of speaker cable 0.1m below the present grass level. Monitoring took place of the shallow narrow trench, the contents of which consisted of redeposited topsoil. No archaeology was found.



## **Appendix 3 Legislative and Policy framework**

### *EIA Legislation*

EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended by 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/31/EC requires that certain developments be assessed for likely environmental effects before planning permission can be granted. This original directive and its amendments were consolidated informally in EIA Directive 2011/92/EU and further amended 2014/52/EU.

Directive 2014/52/EU that among other factors, information is to be provided on:

‘cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects’ (Annex IV, Section 3)

Each of these assets is addressed within this assessment report.

### *Cultural Heritage Legislation*

#### *Archaeological Monuments/Sites*

Archaeological heritage is protected primarily under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004. Section 2 of the 1930 National Monuments Act defines the word ‘monument’ as including:

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

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

In effect, the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 provide a statutory basis for:

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

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

‘When the owner or occupier (not being the Commissioners) of a monument or place which has been recorded [in the Record of Monuments and Places] or any person proposes to carry out, or to cause or

permit the carrying out of any work at or in relation to such monument or place, he shall give notice in writing of his proposal to carry out the work to the Commissioners and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Commissioners, commence the work for a period of two months after having given the notice.'

#### *Archaeological artefacts*

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

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

#### *Architectural Sites*

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

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

'architectural heritage means all—

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

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

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

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

#### ***Policy Framework***

*Dublin City Development Plan 2016–2022*

**CHC1:** To seek the preservation of the built heritage of the city that makes a positive contribution to the character, appearance and quality of local streetscapes and the sustainable development of the city.

**CHC9 :** To protect and preserve National Monuments.

1. To protect archaeological material in situ by ensuring that only minimal impact on archaeological layers is allowed, by way of the re-use of buildings, light buildings, foundation design or the omission of basements in the Zones of Archaeological Interest.
2. That where preservation in situ is not feasible, sites of archaeological interest shall be subject to 'preservation by record' according to best practice in advance of re-development.
3. That sites within Zones of Archaeological Interest will be subject to consultation with the City Archaeologist and archaeological assessment prior to a planning application being lodged.
4. That the National Monuments Service will be consulted in assessing proposals for development which relate to Monuments and Zones of Archaeological Interest.
5. To preserve known burial grounds and disused historic graveyards, where appropriate, to ensure that human remain are re-interred, except where otherwise agreed with the National Museum of Ireland.
6. That in evaluating proposals for development in the vicinity of the surviving sections of the city wall that due recognition be given to their national significance and their special character.
7. To have regard to the Shipwreck inventory maintained by the DAHG. Proposed developments that may have potential to impact on riverine, inter-tidal and sub-tidal environments shall be subject to an underwater archaeological assessment in advance of works.
8. To have regard to DAHG policy documents and guidelines relating to archaeology.

**CHC10:** To continue to preserve, and enhance the surviving sections of the City Wall and city defences, a National Monument, according to the recommendations of the City Walls Conservation Plan 2015, with reference to the National Policy on Town Defences, adopted by the Department of the Environment in 2008

**CHC11:** To preserve historic place and street names and ensure that new street names should reflect appropriate local historical or cultural associations.

**CHC12:** To promote tourism in the medieval city and suburbs.

**CHC13:** To support and pursue a World Heritage nomination for the Historic City of Dublin, in partnership with the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and other stakeholders.

**CHC14:** To promote the awareness of Dublin's industrial, military and maritime, canalside (including lock-keepers' dwellings) and rural (vernacular) heritage.

**CHC15:** To preserve, repair and retain in situ, historic elements of significance in the public realm including railings, milestones, city ward stones, street furniture, ironmongery, and any historic kerbing and setts identified in Appendices 7 and 8 of the Development Plan, and promote high standards for design, materials and workmanship in public realm improvements. Works involving such elements shall be carried out in accordance with the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht Advice Series: Paving, the Conservation of Historic Ground Surfaces.

**CHC16:** To undertake a feasibility study with a view to establishing a Museum of Dublin with a range of stakeholders including OPW, the National Cultural Institutions, Little Museum of Dublin, The Heritage Council and the City Council, in recognition of the wide range of cultural artefacts relating to the history and development of the city.

**CHC17:** To co-operate with and facilitate the state in its presentation of the National Monument at 14-17 Moore Street on a joint venture basis.

**CHC18:** To support and promote a strategy for the protection and restoration of the industrial heritage of the city's waterways, such as the River Dodder, including retaining walls, weirs and millraces.

**CHC19:** To seek a use for Aldborough House on Portland Row in Dublin 1 that would facilitate its restoration.

**CHC20:** To support the retention and refurbishment of the cultural quarter associated with 1916 on Moore Street.

**CHC21:** Dublin City Council recognises the exceptional archaeological, architectural and historical significance of the St. Sepulchre's Palace complex (Kevin Street Garda Station) and will work with all stakeholders and interested parties to develop a Conservation Plan to safeguard the future of St. Sepulchre's, identify appropriate future use(s) that reflects its historic and architectural importance and unlock the cultural tourism potential of the site in the context of the cathedral quarter and the historic city.

**CHC22:** To seek the preparation of a detailed Masterplan for the Mountjoy Prison site prior to any proposed redevelopment that fully assesses the buildings/structures of special architectural/ social/ historic interest".


## Appendix 4 Terms and definitions used

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

- (i) The phrase 'cultural heritage' is a generic term used in reference to a multitude of cultural, archaeological and architectural sites and monuments. The term 'cultural heritage', in compliance with Section 2(1) of the Heritage Act (1995), is used throughout this report in relation to archaeological objects, features, monuments and landscapes as well as all structures and buildings which are considered to be of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest.

For the purpose of this assessment, each identified cultural heritage site is assigned a unique cultural heritage number with the prefix 'CH'.

- (ii) A feature recorded in the 'Record of Monuments and Places' (RMP) refers to a recorded archaeological site that is granted statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1930-2004. When reference is made to the distance between an RMP and the proposed development site (see below), this relates to the minimal distance separating the site from the known edge of the RMP. Where the edge of the RMP is not precisely known, the distance relates to that which separates the site from the boundary of the RMP zone of archaeological potential as represented on the respective RMP map; where this is applied, it is stated accordingly.
- (iii) An 'area of archaeological potential' refers to an area of ground that is deemed to constitute one where archaeological sites, features or objects may be present in consequence of location, association with identified/recorded archaeological sites and/or identifiable characteristics.
- (iv) The term 'proposed development site' refers to the defined area of land within which the proposed development, including access tracks etc, may be constructed.
- (v) In relation to the term 'study area' please see Section 1.3 above.
- (vi) The term 'receiving environment' refers to the broader landscape within which the study area is situated. Examination of the site's receiving environment allows the study area to be analysed in its wider cultural context.
- (vii) The terms 'baseline environment' and 'cultural heritage resource' refer to the existing, identifiable environment against which potential impacts of the proposed scheme may be measured.

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**APPENDIX 2 LETTER OF APPOINTMENT OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGIST**



# Rubicon Heritage

James Hession MA MIAI  
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Midleton,  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 087 9936038  
Email: [james.hession@rubiconheritage.com](mailto:james.hession@rubiconheritage.com)

Niall Brady, MA PhD FSA  
Director and Secretary  
The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd  
Beverley Studies  
Church Terrace  
Bray,  
Co. Wicklow.  
A98 P3V2

24/01/2023

**Re: Underwater Archaeological Impact Assessment, Islandbridge, Dublin 8. (Ref: G Pre000283/2022).**

Dear Niall,

I am pleased to inform you that you have been appointed to carry out the underwater archaeological impact assessment at Islandbridge, Dublin 8 (having received your quote for the works on 19/12/22).

If you have any comments or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

James Hession MA, MIAI  
On behalf of Rubicon Heritage.

Cork:

Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.,  
Unit 2, Europa Enterprise Park,  
Midleton, Co. Cork  
P25 TV25  
T 021 452 0286

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**APPENDIX 3 COPY OF DIVE LICENCE APPLICATION & METHOD STATEMENT**



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

**Form NMS 3 – 06**

**Application for a licence to Dive/Survey**

Section 3 (5) of the National Monuments  
(Amendment) Act 1987

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY PART OF THIS FORM WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT FOR COMPLETION. ANY QUERIES ON THE PROPER COMPLETION OF THE FORM MAY BE ADDRESSED TO THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HERITAGE, ROOM G50, CUSTOM HOUSE, DUBLIN 1**

1. Applicant:

2. Address:

Diving Club / Organisation or Company:

Tel:  Fax:  E-mail:

3. Reason for dive/survey: Recreational:  Research:  Commercial:   
(If for research or commercial purposes attach method statement. See attached checklist for details.)

4. Name of Site:

If a maritime wreck use **name of ship** and **port of origin** if known. If on land use **County** followed by **townland** name. If an urban site use **county** followed by **town** name, **street**, and **street number(s)**.

5. Location: Urban:  Rural:  Wreck:  County:

Ship Name:  Port of Origin:

Townland:  Town:

Street Name:  Street/Site Number:

National Grid: (Easting) **312368** (Northing) **234322**

Latitude: **53:20:50** Longitude: **-06:18:47** Use GPS to derive co-ordinates

OS 6' Sheet:  RMP Number:

Other Maps:

6. Site Type: Shipwreck:  Intertidal:  Other:  If other specify:

6(a) Shipwreck Details: Name of wreck:

Vessel Type:  Material from which constructed:

Date of Vessel:  Depth of wreck:

**For Office use only:**

Application Received: ...../...../..... Sent to Dept. of Marine: ...../...../.....

**7. Licensing Period:**

Weeks from

**25/3/23 - 10/5/23****8. Has site been inspected by applicant:**Yes: No: **9. Current condition of wreck:****N/A****10. Owner of site:****Dublin City Council****Owners address:****Civic Offices, Woodquay, D8, Dublin**

**Note:** The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage may, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 (5) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act (1987), at his discretion, refuse a licence to any applicant where he considers that the application is incomplete or that the method statement (if required) is incomplete, lacking in sufficient detail or otherwise deemed to be invalid.


### *Conditions relating to Dive Licences granted under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014*

1. The licence holder must obtain permission from the owner of the land/wreck to carry out their project, if such an owner is known. No responsibility shall attach to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for failure on the part of the licence holder to obtain such permission.
2. The licence holder shall be responsible for all loss, damage or injury, to persons or property, in any way arising from their project and shall indemnify the State and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, his/her officers, agents and employees against all action, loss, claims, damages, expenses and demands arising therefrom.
3. The licence holder shall comply in all respects with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 and any Acts altering, amending or replacing those Acts. Copies of the Acts are available from the National Monuments Service website [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).
4. Finders of wrecks must report any such find within four days, to the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, or to a member of the Garda Síochána, stating their name and address, the nature of the wreck found and the circumstances in which it was found.
5. Under the provisions of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) all archaeological objects, whose ownership is unknown, are the property of the State. Finders of archaeological objects must, by law, report the find within 4 days of such a find to the Director of the National Museum of Ireland, or to a member of the Garda Síochána, stating their name, address and the nature of the object found and the circumstances in which it was found.
6. The licence holder shall be given a reference number in relation to dive, which shall be used in all correspondence relating to the project.
7. The licence holder must be present when dives are taking place.
8. If a licence is sought for commercial or research purposes, a full method statement is required. This must accompany the application. Such a method statement should comply with the attached guidelines for method

statements. Any variation to the attached method statement must be approved in advanced by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

9. The licence holder must inform the National Monuments Service, at least two working days in advance of commencing dive operations.
10. Neither the licence holder, nor persons diving in support of the licence holder may interfere with or remove any part of the wreck/site in question.
11. Licence holders are required to provide a short account of their dives and a brief description of the general state of the site/wreck, before the end of the year in which the licence was granted. The report should be in the following formats **one digital (PDF format on CD or USB) and two hard copies** of a preliminary report on the excavation with the National Monuments Service, and **one digital (PDF format on CD or USB) and one hard copy** of same with the National Museum of Ireland.
12. The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage may revoke this licence at any time should he form the view that the project is not being conducted in accordance with the conditions of the licence or is otherwise contrary to the protection of the archaeological heritage.

I declare that the above information is accurate and that if the licence is granted I will abide by the conditions set out overleaf.

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 24/2/23

The completed application form, together with a detailed method statement/research design, if in relation to a commercial or research dive, must reach the **National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Room G50, Custom House, Dublin 1**, at least **three weeks prior** to the date on which it is proposed to commence the project.

*Checklist of material to be included in the Method Statement /  
Research Design to accompany Dive Licence application:*  
(in respect of applications associated with research or commercial dives)

1.  **Summary:**
  
2.  **Location:** Provide copy of Admiralty Chart or OS map (1:5,000) for rural sites, (1:1,000) for urban sites and/or 6" or RMP maps as appropriate. Topographical description. Description of site location. Where available, provide survey information, aerial photographs etc.
  
3.  **Aims of project:** Description of planning history/research objectives. Description of local archaeological context – previous excavations/surveys. Description of archaeological potential of the site/location.
  
4.  **Project Strategy:** Survey area described. Method of survey to be described.
  
5.  **Description of dive and its schedule (where relevant):** Include planning condition if relevant and explain timescales involved and time restrictions (if any).
  
6.  **Constraints on archaeological methods (if applicable):** Safety hazards, Access.
  
7.  **Project Team:** Outline team structure – number of divers/archaeologists/supervisors. Backup measures, logistical support.
  
8.  **Types of report envisaged (and estimated timescales):** Preliminary, detailed and publication.
  
9. **Illustrations:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OS 6"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OS 25"/1:2500	<input type="checkbox"/> OS 1:1,000 (Urban)
<input type="checkbox"/> OS 1:5,000 (Rural)	<input type="checkbox"/> Admiralty Chart	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photograph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Layout	<input type="checkbox"/> Layout of cuttings
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Photographs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other

# ADCO Method Statement for Island Bridge Rowing Pontoon Site Investigations

## 1. Summary:

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The survey area covers a small island and its surrounding waters immediately east of the weir that is upriver of Island Bridge on the River Liffey (see Plate 1). The proposed development contains two temporary bridges and a floating pontoon with rock armour (see Plate 2). The footprint of these construction elements has been enclosed in a rectangular area that signifies the limits of the archaeological survey area (see Plate 3). The coordinates of the four corners of this survey area are provided below in Table 1 from the Irish National Grid.

Table 1: coordinates (Irish National Grid) that define the extent of the archaeological survey area.

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B (northwest corner)	312328	234321
C (northeast corner)	312368	234322
D (southeast corner)	312371	234194
E (southwest corner)	312331	234193

## 3. Aims of project:

Prepare and carry out non-disturbance foreshore survey and underwater archaeological dive survey of the area to meet the requirements of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DAHG). The DAHG has reported that 'the proposed development area is situated within the zone of archaeological potential for Dublin City and a bridge site (DU018-020274-) and the site of a water-mill (DU018- 020276) lie approximately 280m to the east of the proposed development.' It is an area of high archaeological potential due to the historical use of the riverine environment from Viking times up through to the industrial era. This industrial use is evident with the aforementioned mills, and mill races, that can be seen in OSI maps (see Plates 4-6). The high archaeological potential is exhibited in the discovery of a large Viking cemetery nearby that was uncovered during railway building in the nineteenth century. It contained at least 35 individuals who had been interred with swords, shields and spears as well as trade items such as weights and balances. This discovery of a large cemetery so far west of the Blackpool longphort has led some archaeologists and historians to suggest that there may have been a second Viking longphort in the nearby location of the confluence of the River Liffey and the River Camac (under modern day Houston Station) (<http://irisharchaeology.ie/2011/06/dublins-viking-warrior-burials>). The area also has the potential to act as a catchment area and retain mobile archaeology (particularly artefacts within the river system of the upper Liffey). The main aim of this project is to identify any potential archaeological material and to protect that cultural heritage through an impact assessment report complete with mitigation measures.

## 4. Project Strategy:

A thorough desktop study into the history and previous archaeological investigations in the general area will be conducted in preparation for the on-site archaeological surveys. This will include consulting: the National Museum of Ireland's (NMI) topographic files, the National Monument's Service's (NMS) Record of Monument's and Places (RMP) data, the NMS National Inventory of Archaeological Heritage (NIAH) data, the NMS Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) data, historic maps, the Wreck Inventory of Ireland, Excavations.ie and existing publications and archaeological literature on the area.

The sitework will begin with a bankside inspection and walkover inspection with data capture using DGPS ROVER or other accurate positioning system, access permitting. The rest of the survey will require a mixture of inter-tidal surveys and diving surveys. The riverbank area where a temporary crossing is planned to be built will not be deep enough to allow for a dive survey. It and the other foreshore banks of the survey area will be inspected at Low Water to maximise area coverage and recording as an intertidal exercise. The footprint for the remaining temporary bridge and floating pontoon will be deep enough to allow for a dive survey at High Tide to accomplish complete coverage of the area. This dive survey will also capture data using DGPS ROVER. Any observations from all surveys - walkover, wading, and diving - will all be recorded with a photographic log. The dive survey will be conducted by a five-person archaeological team from a Dive Support Vessel with a coxswain. The archaeological dive survey will be conducted as a non-disturbance survey.

#### **5. Description of dive and its schedule (where relevant):**

Divers using Surface Supplied Diving Equipment (SSDE) will deploy from a low-draft Dive Support Vessel. They will progress in linear search patterns sweeping in a controlled zig-zag pattern to ensure ample and overlapping coverage of the survey area. Dive schedules will be planned with the 7<sup>th</sup> edition US Navy Tables before arrival on site. The dive team will be briefed on the specifically prepared method statement and risk assessment.

Personnel will be equipped with a hand-held underwater metal-detector, and will be recording riverbed topography and conditions, As well as any features or artefacts of archaeological interest. A photographic record will be maintained, above and below the waterline.

It is anticipated that site work will take two (2) working days to complete.

#### **6. Constraints on archaeological methods (if applicable):**

This is a shallow section of the River Liffey which may constrain the access of the dive support vessel and make the dives more challenging in terms of manoeuvrability.

The dense tree canopy may adversely affect GPS device triangulations.

Natural constraints also apply to what is a dynamic low visibility environment beside a large weir, which may include unusual currents and sediment disruption.

A site-specific health and safety risk assessment will be completed in advance of attending on site.

ADCO carries out all site work in compliance with Health and Safety requirements for Diving at Work and specifically the Industry (Diving Operations) Regulations 1981, SI 422.

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Dr Niall Brady, project manager, archaeologist and diver tender  
Rex Bangerter, archaeologist and safety diver tender  
Jimmy Lenehan, archaeologist and safety diver  
Brian MacAllister, dive supervisor  
Liam O'Shea, coxswain

#### **8. Type of report envisaged:**

The final report will collate all of the observations made from the desktop study and the on-site surveys into an easily digestible template. It will include project drawings that will meet the requirements of the



National Monument Service (NMS) and serve to inform the project design team. A report draft will be circulated to the client for comment and once these comments have been received, reviewed and absorbed, an official report will be issued. The report will include:

- Executive summary
- Introduction
- Receiving environment
- Site work
- Impact assessment
- Recommendations
- Appendices that provide factual information observed and recorded
- Figures and Plates

## 9. Illustrations:



Plate 1: satellite image showing island and surrounding riverine area in question. Courtesy of Dublin City Council's Proposal for the Island Bridge Rowing Pontoon.

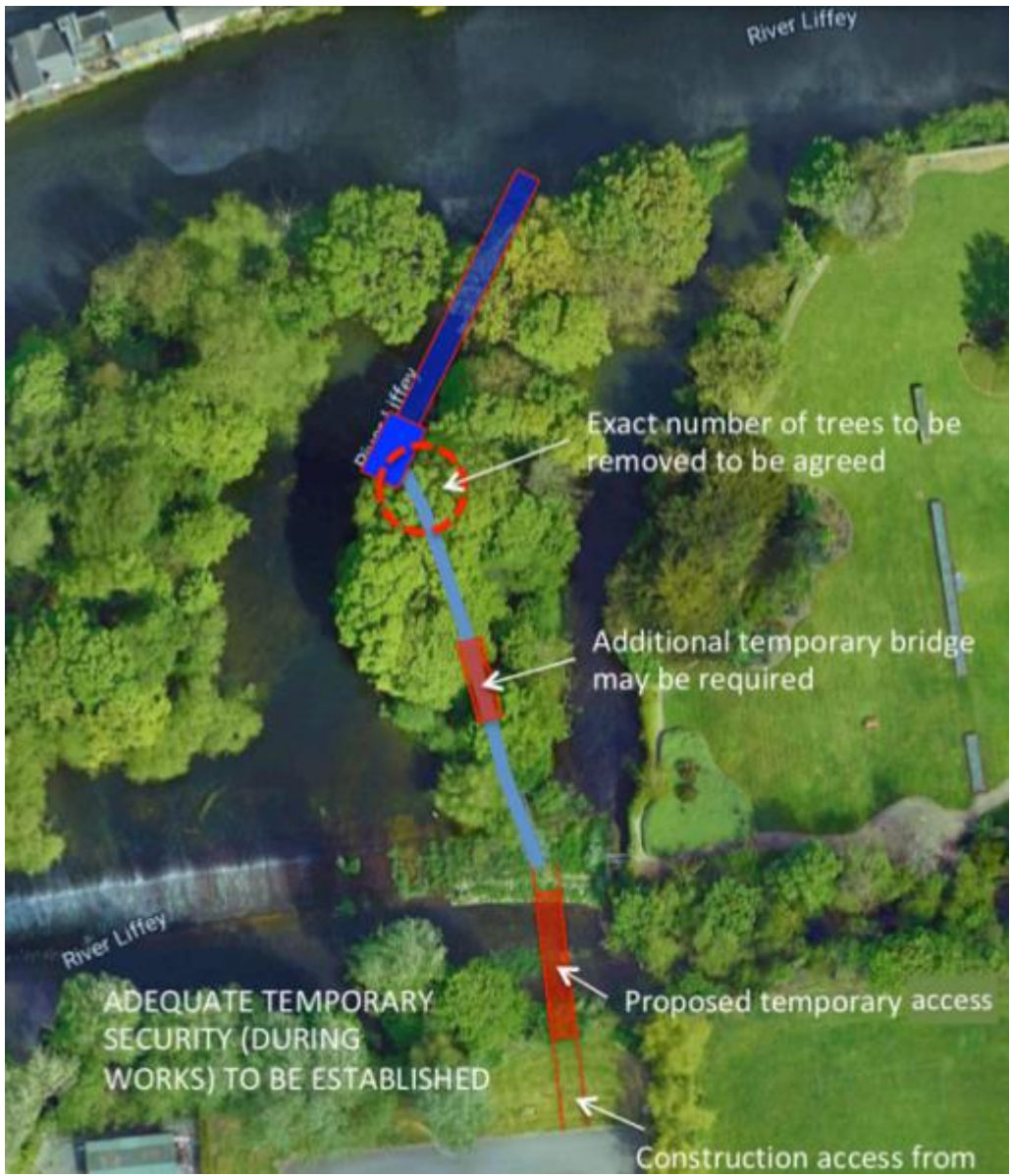


Plate 2: satellite image overlaid with planned construction features. Courtesy of Dublin City Council's Proposal for the Island Bridge Rowing Pontoon.



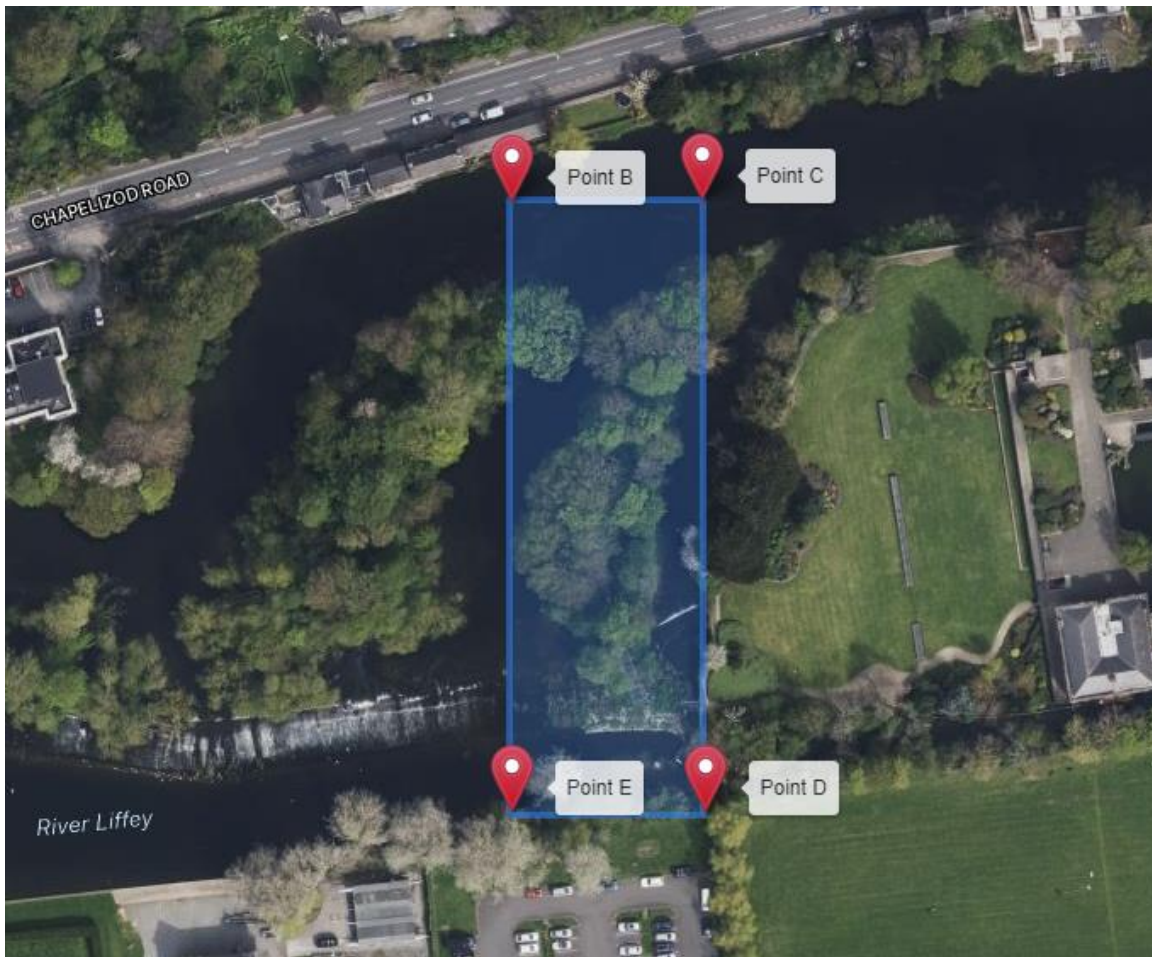


Plate 3: satellite image of archaeological survey area. Courtesy of Irish.gridreferencefinder.com



Plate 4: OSI 6-inch map first edition. Courtesy of Geohive.com

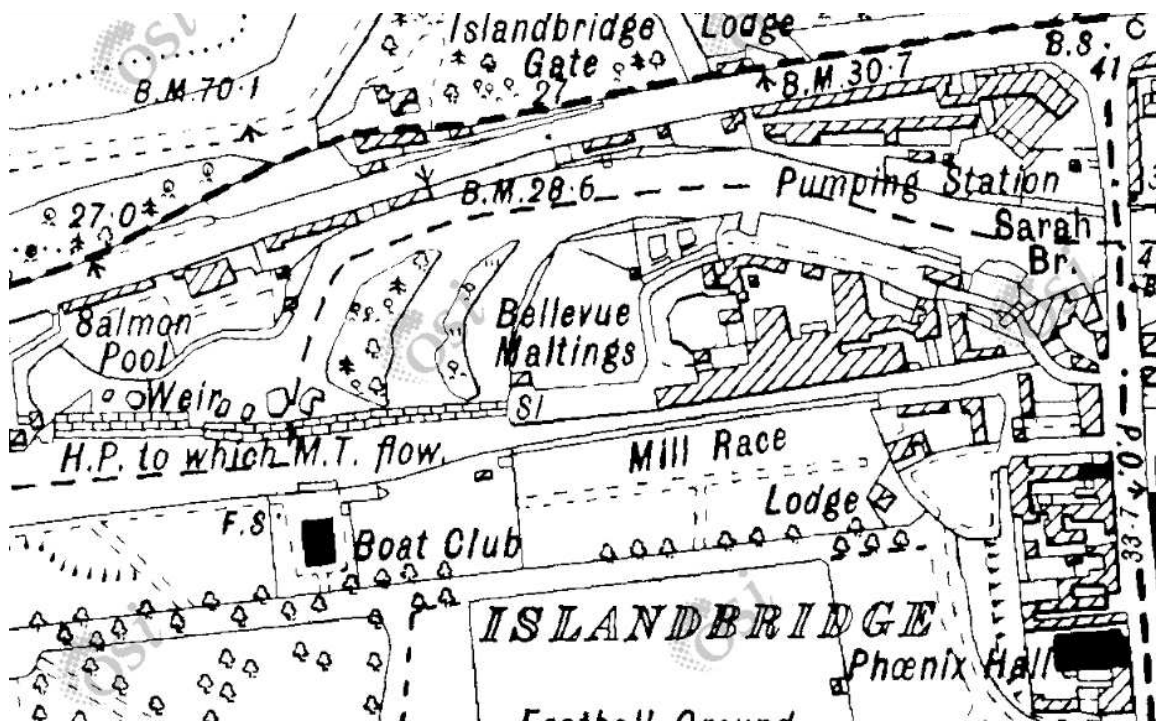


Plate 5: OSI 6-inch map last edition. Courtesy of Geohive.com

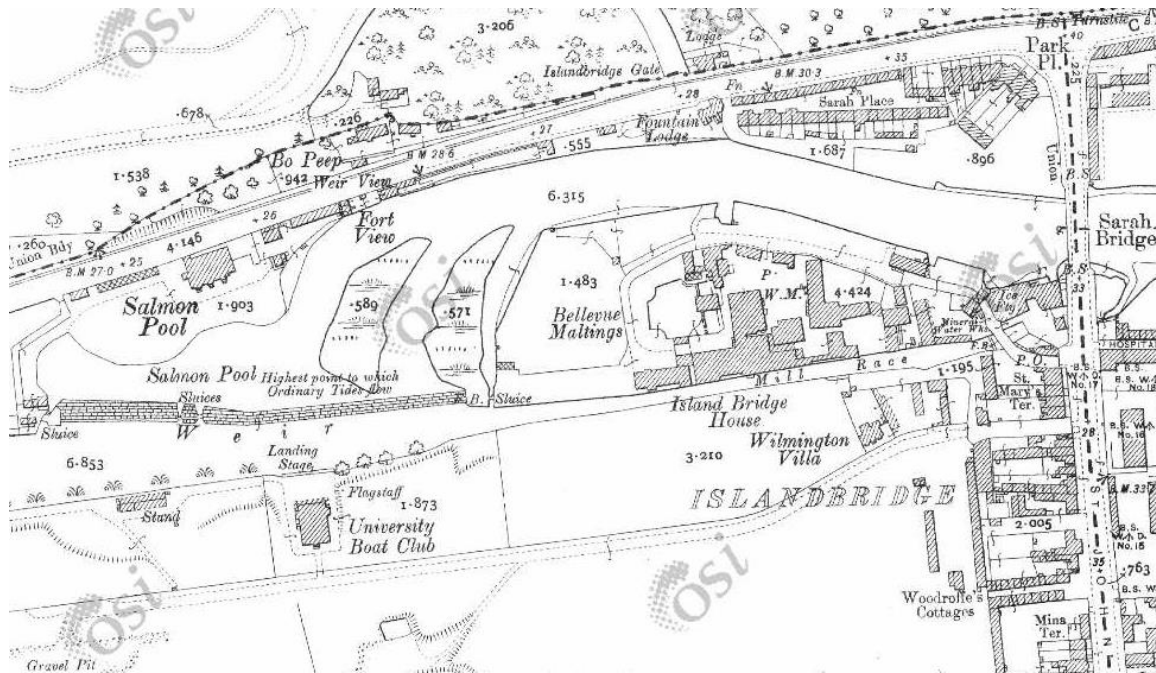



Plate 6: OSI 25-inch map. Courtesy of Geohive.com

	No:	SF-327	Version:	01	Effective Date:	10.11.22
	Title:	Response to Preplanning Queries in Relation to a Proposed Pontoon at Islandbridge, Dublin 8				Page IV

**APPENDIX 4 COPY OF APPLICATION FOR DETECTION DEVICE CONSENT**





An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

**Form NMS 2 – 06**

**Application for a Consent to use a  
Detection Device**

Section 2 (2) of the National Monuments  
(Amendment) Act 1987

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY PART OF THIS FORM WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT FOR COMPLETION. ANY QUERIES ON THE PROPER COMPLETION OF THE FORM MAY BE ADDRESSED TO LICENSING SECTION, THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HERITAGE.**

1. Applicant:

2. Address:

Tel:  Fax:  E-Mail:

3. Relevant archaeological experience:

4. Name of Site:

Use county followed by townland name. If an urban site use county followed by town name, street, and street number(s). If a maritime wreck use name of ship and port of origin if known.

5. Location: Urban:  Rural:  \* Wreck:  County:

Townland:  Town:

Street Name:  Street/Site Number:

\* Ship Name:  \* Port of Origin:

National Grid: (Easting) **312368** (Northing) **234322**

\* Latitude: **53:20:50** Longitude: **-06:18:47** Use GPS to derive coordinates

OS 6' Sheet:  RMP Number:

Other Mapping:

6. Site Type:

7. Type of device:

8. Period for which Consent Applied for:

9. Has site been inspected by applicant: Yes:  No:

\* Applies only to maritime sites.

**For Office use only:**  
Application Received: ...../...../..... Sent to NMI: ...../...../.....

**Form NMS 2 – 06**10. Owner of site: **Dublin City Council**Owners address: **Civic Offices, Woodquay, D8, Dublin**11. Purpose of project: **Survey to detect presence of archaeological material**

12. Planning Details: (to be filled out only if the Licence is in connection with a development)

**Proposed rowing pontoon with temporary bridges for access during construction**Planning Authority: **Dublin City Council** Planning Register Number: Are you aware of the planning conditions relating to this site? Yes:  No: ***Conditions relating to a Consent to use a Detection Device under Section 2 (2) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1987***

1. The consent holder must obtain permission from the owner of the land/ \*wreck to carry out their project before availing of this licence. No responsibility shall attach to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage for failure on the part of the licence holder to obtain such permission.
2. The consent holder shall be responsible for all loss, damage or injury, to persons or property, in any way arising from their project and shall indemnify the State and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, his/her officers, agents and employees against all action, loss, claims, damages, expenses and demands arising therefrom.
3. A consent to use a detection device does not include permission to excavate for archaeological objects. If excavation or the recovery of archaeological objects is envisaged, a separate excavation licence must be applied for (see Form NMS 1-06).
4. The consent holder shall comply in all respects with the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 and any Acts altering, amending or replacing those Acts. Copies of the Acts are available on the National Monuments Service website [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).
5. Please note that Consents are granted subject to the provisions of the National Monuments Act 1930 (as amended) which requires the finders of archaeological objects to report the find, within four days of finding, to the Director of the National Museum (his servants or agents), or a member of the Garda Síochána, stating his/her address, the nature and character of the object found and the circumstances in which it was found. He/She must allow the object to be inspected, examined and photographed and surrender it to the National Museum if required to do so.
6. \* Finders of wrecks must report any such find within four days, to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, or to a member of the Garda Síochána, stating their name and address, the nature of the wreck found and the circumstances in which it was found.
7. The consent holder shall be given a reference number in relation to each consent, which shall be used in all correspondence relating to the project.
8. This consent relates only to the types of detection devices mentioned in the consent document. If at any stage, any other piece of detection equipment is required, a separate consent should be applied for.

9. The consent holder must inform the National Monuments Service at least two working days in advance of the actual commencement of the project.
10. The consent holder shall provide a report on the results of the use of the detection device(s) to the Licensing Section, National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Room G.50, Custom House, Dublin 1. S/He must lodge **one digital (PDF format on CD or USB) and two hard copies** of a preliminary report on the excavation with the National Monuments Service, and **one digital (PDF format on CD or USB) and one hard copy** of same with the National Museum of Ireland within four weeks of the completion of the consent. Note that the coordinate referencing system in current use is the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) and not the 'National Grid'.
11. The licence holder must inform the National Monuments Service within two working days of completion of the project.
12. The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage may revoke this consent at any time should he form the view that the consent is not being carried out in accordance with the conditions of the consent or is otherwise contrary to the protection of the archaeological built heritage.

I declare that the above information is accurate and that if the consent is granted I will abide by the conditions set out above.

Signature: 

Date: 24/2/23

The completed application form must be received by the **Licensing Section, National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Room G50, Custom House, Dublin 1** at least **three weeks prior** to the date on which it is proposed to commence the project.



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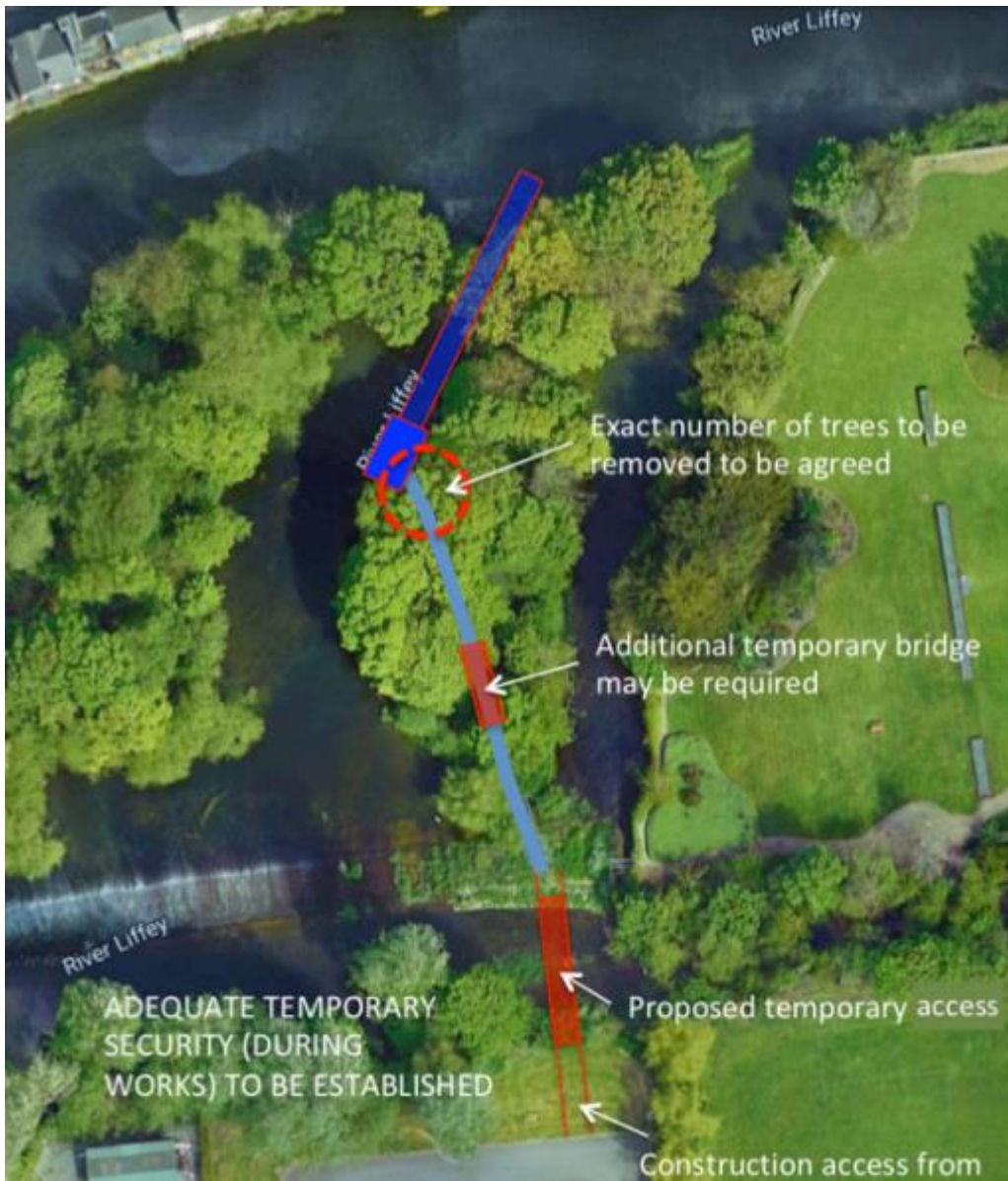


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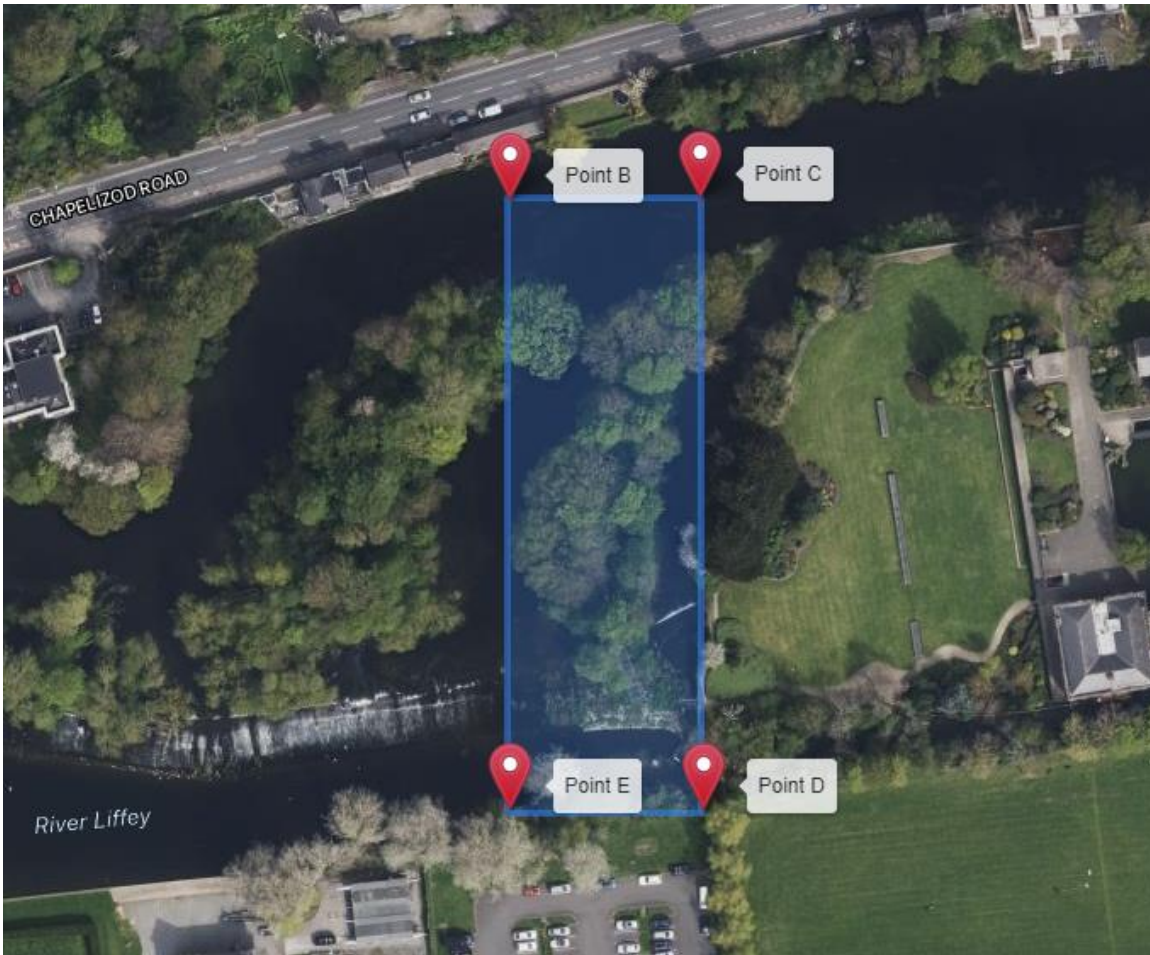


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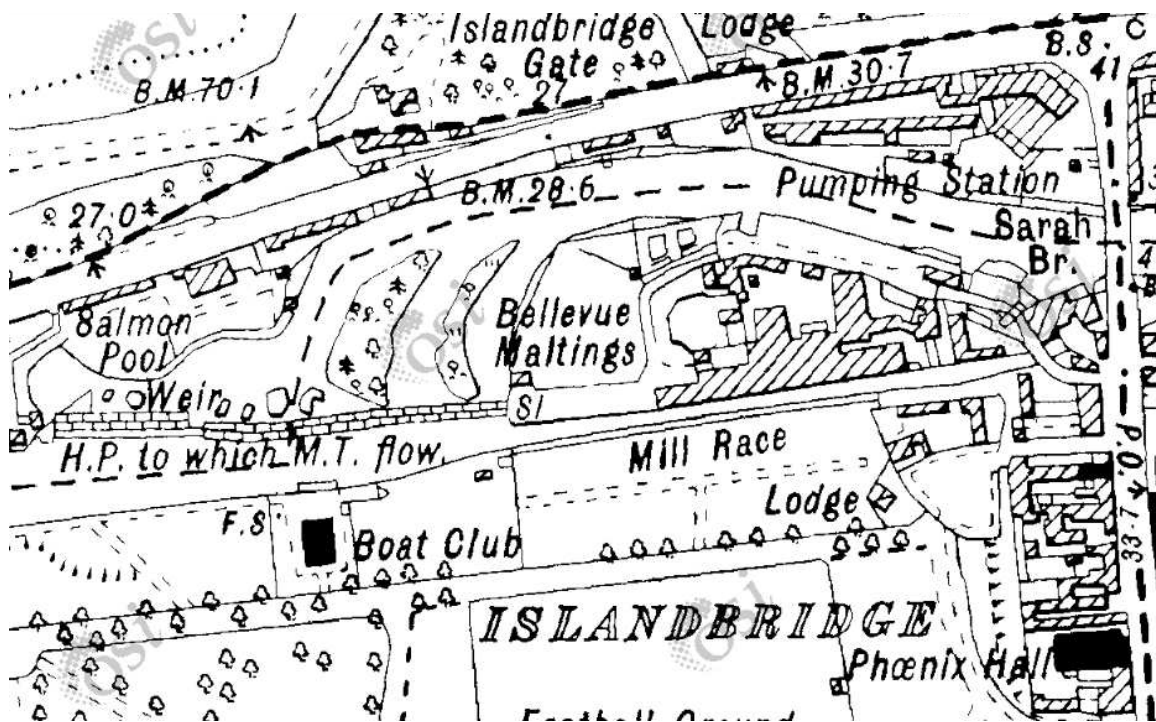


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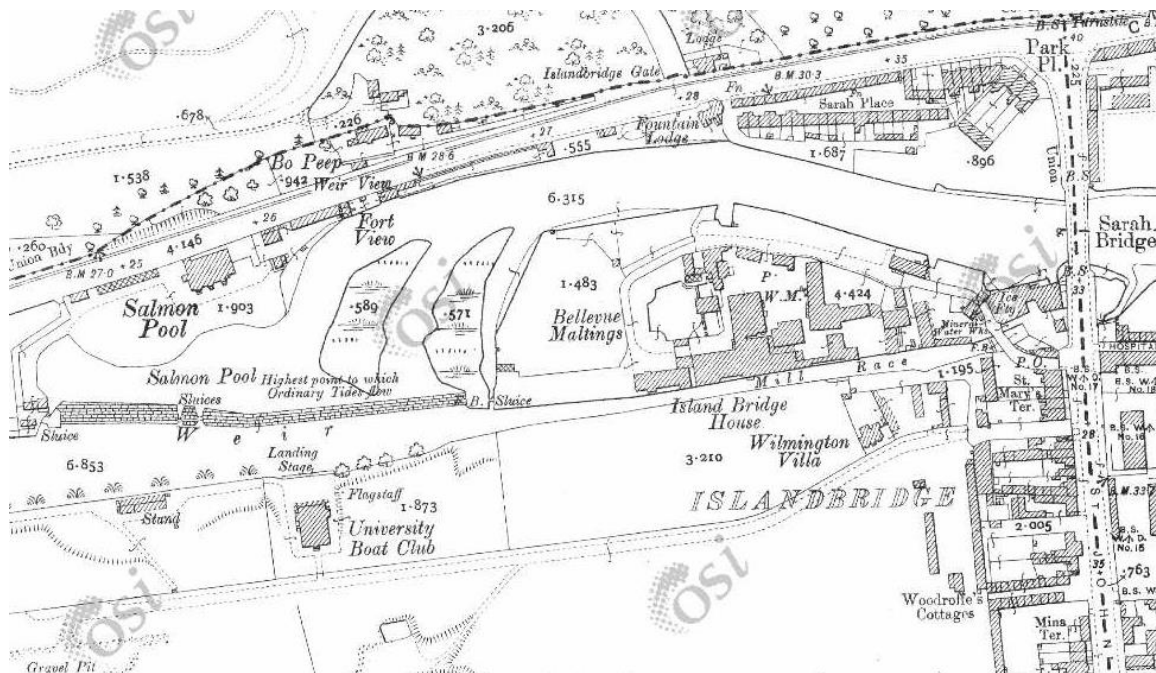


Plate 6: OSI 25-inch map. Courtesy of Geohive.com