

**Planning Application No. 1, Flemington Lane,
Balbriggan, Co Dublin
Archaeological Impact Assessment and Test
Excavation Report**

Client: Lagan Homes

Licence No: 26E0722

Archaeologist: Maeve McCormick, Bart Korfanty

Report Date: 14th August 2026

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Planning Application No. 1, Flemington Lane, Balbriggan, Co Dublin

SITE NAME	Planning Application No. 1, Flemington Lane, Balbriggan, Co Dublin
CLIENT	Lagan Homes
INVESTIGATION TYPE	Archaeological Impact Assessment and Test Excavation
LICENCE NO	26E0722
PLANNING REF	N/A
TOWNLAND	Flemingtown and Bremore
IRISH TRANSVERSE MERCATOR	718355, 764598
RMP NO	N/A
RPS NO	N/A
ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANT	Archer Heritage Planning Ltd.
ARCHAEOLOGIST	Maeve McCormick and Bart Korfanty
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SUMMARY

This archaeological impact assessment was undertaken on lands at Flemington Lane, Balbriggan, Co Dublin (Flemington and Bremore Townlands, Centre of site ITM 718355, 764598 Figure 1) as part of a development project on behalf of Lagan Homes. This report compiles findings of desk based study, licenced geophysical survey (26R0294) and licenced test excavation (26E0722). The c.4.1 ha site currently comprises agricultural land on the northern outskirts of Balbriggan. The assessment was undertaken from June-July 2026 and aims to identify and describe known and potential archaeological and cultural heritage constraints within the site and offer recommendations for the mitigation of such impacts. The following factors were identified in the course of study:

- The site is large in scale measuring c. 4.1 Ha in extent.
- There are no Recorded Monuments located within the site boundary. However, there are numerous monuments located in the surrounding area marking it as an area of enhanced archaeological potential.
- No new archaeological features or increased archaeological potential were noted within the subject area from the analysis of cartographic sources. However it is noted that the townland boundary between Flemington and Bremore townlands pass through the subject area.
- No new archaeological features or increased archaeological potential were noted within the subject area from the study of aerial photography
- There were no previous archaeological excavations within the site.
- The topographical files were searched for the relevant townlands; there were no stray finds recorded for any of these townlands.
- There are no Protected Structures or structures listed on the NIAH within the subject area.
- The subject area is not within an ACA
- The site visit revealed no new features of archaeological potential; the townland boundary was noted to comprise a ditch with mature native hedgerow.
- A written and photographic survey of the townland boundary between Flemingtown and Bremore was retained in the course of the assessment.
- Geophysical survey (26R0294) registered several areas of archaeological potential, notably a possible Enclosure and Annex to the east side of the site (Anomaly 2)
- Test excavation (26E0722) aimed at verifying findings of geophysical survey and testing the general archaeological potential of the site, discovered nothing of archaeological interest.

The above factors indicated that the potential for the continued survival of buried archaeological sites and features within the development area is **low** and the impact of this proposed development in regard of archaeology is **neutral**.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The above factors indicated that the potential for the continued survival of buried archaeological sites and features within the development area is **low** and the impact of this proposed development in regard of archaeology is **neutral**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No further works are recommended for this site (Phase 1).

NOTE: All conclusions and recommendations expressed in this report are subject to the approval of The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the relevant local authorities. As the statutory body responsible for the protection of Ireland's archaeological and cultural heritage resource, the DHLGH may issue alternative or additional recommendations.

Revision	Status	Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Issued by
1	Final	14/08/26	AOC	MMC	CMG

1. INTRODUCTION

This archaeological impact assessment was undertaken on lands at Flemington Lane, Balbriggan, Co Dublin (Flemington and Bemore Townlands, Centre of site ITM 718355, 764598 Figure 1) as part of a development project on behalf of Lagan Homes. This report compiles findings of desk based study, licenced geophysical survey (Bart Korfanty 26R0294) and licenced test excavation (Maeve McCormick 26E0722). The c.4.1 ha site currently comprises agricultural land on the northern outskirts of Balbriggan. The assessment was undertaken June-July 2026 and aims to identify and describe known and potential archaeological and cultural heritage constraints within the site and offer recommendations for the mitigation of such impacts.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The site is an irregularly shaped area measuring c. 4.1 hectares and located on the northern outskirts of Balbriggan. The red line area encompasses part of two townlands: Flemingtown and Bremore. The southern boundary is formed partially by Flemington Lane and Newhaven Court. To the west and north the site is bound by mature hedgerows and open field to the east. The land appears relatively flat and is currently in various agricultural use.

The proposed large scale residential development (LRD) consists of 144no. dwellings in the form of 118no. houses and 26no. apartments in the following mix – 13no. 1-bed, 29no. 2-bed, 89no. 3-bed and 13no. 4-bed, and a single storey childcare facility with play space, car parking and drop off area on Flemington Lane. All housing will be one or two storey in height. The apartment buildings will be three storey in height.

Three new vehicular accesses off Flemington Lane are proposed to serve the development. The proposal also provides for public open space including a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), communal open space associated with apartments, landscaping, boundary treatments, public lighting, car parking, motorcycle parking and bicycle parking and structures including an active travel hub and cycle route, bin storage structures, works to Flemington Lane itself including two pedestrian crossing points, undergrounding of ESB overhead lines, 2no. ESB substations, infrastructure services and all other associated site development works.

3. METHOD STATEMENT

The following sources were consulted in the preparation of this report:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)/ Sites and Monuments Record¹
- Aerial photography
- Historical maps

¹ Archive Unit National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht ,

- Documentary research
- Relevant on-line databases (e.g. Excavation Bulletin; NRA Archaeological Database).
- Fingal County Council Development Plan (2023-2029)

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 *Brief archaeological & historical background*

In 1659, Balbriggan was a tiny hamlet with a population of thirty people, centred on two holdings, the 'great farme' and 'little farme' totalling some 220 acres; the property of the Barnewall family, lords of Bremore, Balrothery and Balbriggan from the end of the fourteenth century who retained extensive estates in the area until the eighteenth century. Much of the Barnewall holdings were sold by the early eighteenth century, with Balbriggan purchased in 1736 by Alexander Baron Hamilton, a solicitor and MP for Killelagh, Co. Derry, who also held land around Balrothery. Balbriggan at this time was a town in unchecked decline with a population of just a dozen or so inhabitants earning their livelihoods from fishing. Hamilton built a residence at Hampton Hall but died in 1759 (Lewis 1837; Simington 1945). His successor and son, George, was distinguished for his promotion of trade and between 1761 and 1765 had constructed Balbriggan harbour with the assistance of parliamentary grants and his own capital, funded through personal loans and re-mortgaged properties. The harbour was a success, however, and quickly established itself for fishing and trade. George Hamilton enlarged and centralised a local cottage industry in cotton fabrics, constructing two large cotton mills during the 1780's, again part funded by government subsidies that were intended to decentralise the textile industry throughout the countryside. This caused an enormous economic boom within the town and facilitated the development of a very successful hosiery industry which produced over 700 pairs of stockings each week. By the time of George's death in 1793, the town thronged with smiths, weavers, tailors, butchers, brewers, and spinners, all attracted to Balbriggan by mills, which spurred growth into the nineteenth century. In the 1830's, the town was home to over 3000 inhabitants in 600 houses. Three hundred people were employed in the factories, and a further 942 were employed in and around the town working hand looms. Other industries within the town included a salt works and tannery with extensive quayside stores for corn. By the end of the decade however, a decline in the revenues for the fishing and cotton industry caused factory closures and job losses in the years leading up to the Famine in the late 1840's.

4.2 *Record of Monuments & Places*

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a statutory inventory of archaeological sites protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 (Section 12, 1994 Act), compiled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI). The inventory concentrates on pre-1700 AD sites and is based

on a previous inventory known as the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which does not have legal protection or status (see www.archaeology.ie).

Thirty-one recorded monuments are located in proximity of the site. These are illustrated on Figure 1 and detailed in APPENDIX 1 below. The sites were largely identified during previous archaeological investigations. The closest RMPs are located c. 140m to the SW: DU001-004---- Ritual site- Holy well, DU001-022001- Excavations miscellaneous and DU001-022002- Pit.

4.3 Cartographic Sources

Analysis of historic mapping can show human impact on landscape over a prolonged period. Large collections of historical maps (pre- and early Ordnance Survey maps as well as estate or private maps) are held at the Glucksman Map Library, Trinity College and other sources (UCD Library, Ordnance Survey Ireland, local libraries and published material). The development of the site and its vicinity recorded in nineteenth and twentieth century cartography is described below (Figure 4).

On the first available detailed depiction (6-inch OSI 1844) the site encompasses portions of two separate fields. The land is entirely agricultural with one NW/SE aligned field boundary crossing the area. This field boundary is also the townland boundary between Flemingtown and Bremore. Later depiction mapping offers no change to the first edition. A row of small buildings with elongated plots of land appears along SE edge outside of the site in the later Cassini Map (1915-1940).

No areas of enhanced archaeological potential were noted in the mapping sources.

4.4 Aerial photography

Aerial photography (or other forms of remote sensing) may reveal certain archaeological features or sites (earthworks, crop marks, soil marks) that for many reasons may not be appreciated at ground level. Online orthostatic photographs of the site were examined (Ordnance Survey Ireland 1995, 2000 & 2005; Google Earth Pro).

The site is depicted as being in agricultural use between 1995 and present. **No new archaeological features or increased archaeological potential were noted within the subject area from the study of aerial photography (Figure 5).**

4.5 Previous Archaeological Excavations

The Excavation Bulletin is a database of summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 onwards. Summaries relating to archaeological excavations undertaken

by the National Roads Authority are also available on-line and were consulted for any adjacent sites. Reports on licensed archaeological works are also held by the Archive Unit of the National Monuments Section.

No previous licensed archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the site but there are several in the vicinity.

Roughly 140m to the south of the site is RMP DU001-022001 which represents an excavation. Geophysical survey (licence no. 05R0137) identified a series of anomalies (Nicholls and Shiel 2005) that suggested the presence of potential archaeological features. Test excavation (Licence no. 07E0057) confirmed the presence of a dense pit cluster interspersed with a series of linear features and curving ditches within an area measuring 45m by 50. A piece of struck flint was recovered from a linear feature suggesting a prehistoric date.

Additionally, nearby archaeological excavations under licence 05E0663 discovered extensive remains of early medieval activity. The details of previous archaeological investigations in proximity of the site are presented in APPENDIX 2 below.

4.6 Architectural Heritage

Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to safeguard architectural heritage in accordance with Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000. Under S.51 (1), a County Council must compile a Record of Protected Structures (RPS), which lists all structures which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. The protection, unless otherwise stated, includes the exterior and interior of the structure, lands lying within its curtilage (boundary), other structures and their interiors within the curtilage, plus all fixtures and fittings which form part of the interior or exterior of any of these structures. Buildings can be added to, or deleted from the RPS at any time, though generally this occurs when the county development plan is being reviewed.

There are no Protected Structures located within the site. The closest RPS (No. 15 Bremore Lodge) is located c. 400m to the SE of the site.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) 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. It is intended to provide a basis for recommendations of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and

Heritage to Local Authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in Records of Protected Structures (RPS). There are no structures listed on the NIAH within the subject area.

4.7 Topographical Files

The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files is the national archive of all known antiquities recorded by the National Museum listed by county and townland/street. These files relate primarily to artefacts but also include references to monuments and contain a unique archive of records of previous archaeological excavations. The Museum files present an accurate catalogue of objects reported to that institution from 1928.

The topographical files were searched for the townlands of Flemingtown, Bremore and surrounding townlands. There were no records or stray finds for any of these townlands.

4.8 Geophysical survey (26R0294)

A detailed magnetic gradiometer survey was carried out on the subject site between the 12th and 18th of June 2026 by Bart Korfanty and Aidan O'Connell of Archer Heritage Planning Ltd. The objective of the survey was to identify and describe magnetic anomalies within the site that may represent unrecorded archaeological features or deposits.

The survey located a variety of magnetic anomalies (Figure 6). Those are described below:

1. Large magnetic anomaly running N-S across the site. The origin of this anomaly is unknown, potential presence of underground electrical service should be considered here.
2. Series of anomalies in this location form a pattern resembling potential enclosing feature with small annex to the south. Presence of an enclosure type settlement should be considered in this location.
3. An area of enhanced magnetism of unknown origin. Possible archaeological feature.

It was recommended that test excavations should be carried out across the site to determine the exact nature of geophysical findings and whether archaeological features exist in the wider area that have not left a magnetic trace.

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST TRENCHING (LICENCE NO 26E0722)

Test excavation was undertaken between the 30th and 31st of July 2026 under license 26E0722 in dry sunny conditions. It was proposed to excavate 7 test trenches (663 linear meters). Trenches were set out with the aid of a Geomax Zenith 16 GPS receiver accurate to <2cm. Trench locations were agreed

in advance with the NMS. Each trench was inspected for archaeological remains and all trenches were reinstated on completion.

5.1 Constraints

There were no constraints to the proposed methodology.

5.2 Results

A total of 7 trenches measuring c. 663 linear meters were mechanically excavated across the site under constant archaeological supervision (Figure 6; Plates 1-7). The topsoil was a loose and friable mid brown clay/loam. The topsoil overlay a compact light yellow brown silty clay subsoil. Gravely land drains were encountered in two locations during the testing. However, no archaeologically significant features were recorded.

Table 1: Test Trenching Results

Trench	L x B x D (metres)	Orientation	Description
T1	160 x 1.8 x 0.39	NE-SW	This trench was excavated in heavily compacted, dry soil of a disused field. A large negative magnetic anomaly registered in geophysical survey was indiscernible within the subsoil. No archaeology found.
T2	160 x 1.8 x 0.39-0.50	NE-SW	This trench was excavated in similar soil as above. The topsoil was deeper at the SW portion of the trench. No archaeology found.
T3	80 x 1.8 x 0.38	NW=SE	The subsoil in this trench displayed evidence of deep ploughing aligned in same N-S direction. No archaeology found.
T4	134 x 1.8 x 0.42	NW-SE	This trench was positioned to verify the presence of a potential enclosure registered in geophysical survey. The anomaly registered in that survey was indiscernible within the subsoil. No archaeology found.
T5	15 x 1.8 x 0.42	NE-SW	As above.
T6	30 x 1.8 x 0.40	NE-SW	This trench was positioned to verify another of the geophysical findings. The subsoil in this area was saturated with oxidised particles. No archaeology found.
T7	84 x 1.8 x 0.4-0.45	NW-SE	This trench was positioned to verify two trends and a linear feature (interpreted as modern) from geophysical survey. All of the anomalies were indiscernible within the uncovered subsoil. No archaeology found.
Total	663 Linear metres		

5.3 Townland Boundary

The subject site is currently bisected by the Townland boundary between Flemingtown and Bremore (Plates 8–10). The boundary is aligned NNW–SSE and consists of a round-bottomed ditch (c. 2.5m

wide x 1.5m deep) with a low (c. 0.2m high) bank visible on the eastern side. The boundary is overgrown with mature hedgerow although there are some gaps apparent. It extends NNW from the redline area.

6. IMPACTS

6.1 *Summary of Archaeological Potential*

This archaeological impact assessment was undertaken on lands at Flemington Lane, Balbriggan, Co Dublin (Flemington and Bomore Townlands, Centre of site ITM 718355, 764598 Figure 1) as part of a development project on behalf of Lagan Homes. This report compiles findings of desk based study, licenced geophysical survey (26R0294) and licenced test excavation (26E0722). The c.4.1 ha site currently comprises agricultural land on the northern outskirts of Balbriggan. The assessment was undertaken June-July 2026 and aims to identify and describe known and potential archaeological and cultural heritage constraints within the site and offer recommendations for the mitigation of such impacts. The following factors were identified in the course of study:

- The site is large in scale measuring c. 4.1 Ha in extent.
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- No new archaeological features or increased archaeological potential were noted within the subject area from the study of aerial photography
- There were no previous archaeological excavations within the site.
- The topographical files were searched for the relevant townlands; there were no stray finds recorded for any of these townlands.
- There are no Protected Structures or structures listed on the NIAH within the subject area.
- The subject area is not within an ACA
- The site visit revealed no new features of archaeological potential; the townland boundary was noted to comprise a ditch with mature native hedgerow.
- A written and photographic survey of the townland boundary between Flemington and Bomore was retained in the course of the assessment.
- Geophysical survey (26R0294) registered several areas of archaeological potential, notably a possible Enclosure and Annex to the east side of the site (Anomaly 2)

- Test excavation (26E0722) aimed at verifying findings of geophysical survey and testing the general archaeological potential of the site, discovered nothing of archaeological interest.

The above factors indicated that the potential for the continued survival of buried archaeological sites and features within the development area is **low** and the impact of this proposed development in regard of archaeology is **neutral**.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

No further works are recommended for this site (Phase 1).

NOTE: All conclusions and recommendations expressed in this report are subject to the approval of The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the relevant local authorities. As the statutory body responsible for the protection of Ireland's archaeological and cultural heritage resource, the DHLGH may issue alternative or additional recommendations.

8. REFERENCES

8.1 Bibliography

Lewis, S. 1837. A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland. Lewis & Co. London.

Simington, R.C. 1945. The Civil Survey Vol. 7. County of Dublin. 1654-1656.

9.2 Web references

Online Excavations bulletin www.excavations.ie [accessed July 2026]

Aerial Photography <http://map.geohive.ie/mapviewer.html> [accessed July 2026]

Cartographic sources www.geohive.ie [accessed July 2026]

Online Archaeological Survey of Ireland www.archaeology.ie [accessed July 2026]

Logainm <https://www.logainm.ie> [accessed July 2026]

Fingal County Council Development Plan (2023-2029) <https://www.fingal.ie/development-plan>
[accessed July 2026]



Maeve McCormick

14th Aug 2026



Bart Korfanty

APPENDICES*Appendix 1: Table of RMP/SMR sites in vicinity of site*

RMP No	Class	Townland	ITM
DU001-004----	Ritual site - holy well	FLEMINGTOWN	718181, 764328
Natural spring well situated in an area of rock outcrop adjacent to farm buildings. Enclosed by a recently constructed ditch and bank which was built to keep farm animals out. Annotated 'Lady Well' on all editions of the OSi historic maps. Described by Ó Danachair (1958, 72) as a 'small pool c. 5' x 3', between 2 flat rock in the corner of a small garden, with a good spring. No devotions now, but known as a holy well'. Lady Well described in 1974 by Henry A. Wheeler as a small pool with concrete dam, apparently used for watering animals' (SMR File 14/05/1974). Comprises a roughly circular, water filled depression into which modern field drains empty. It was once a large structure and water was channelled through the rock into a small stream (Skyvova, 2005, 51). Geophysical prospecting within the field immediately to the east of the holy well picked up natural and ferrous anomalies but no definite archaeological sites			
DU001-014----	House - Neolithic	FLEMINGTOWN	718259, 763937
Pre-development investigations in 2005 identified evidence dating from the Neolithic through to the early medieval period. The earliest activity at the site dates from the Neolithic. It comprises a Neolithic house, oriented roughly N-S (L 10m, Wth 6m). The footprint of the building was wholly defined by a slot trench, suggesting that the structure was plank built with evidence for a doorway on the W side. A substantial assemblage of early Neolithic pottery and struck flint were retrieved from the slot trench. This produced a radiocarbon date of 3394-3387 cal. BC			
DU001-015----	Enclosure	FLEMINGTOWN	718227, 764112
Pre-development investigations in 2005 revealed a multiple-ditched enclosure. There was no indication of a habitation area within the excavated portion of the site and only very limited evidence for structures. One of the ditches produced a calibrated radiocarbon date of AD 1002-1013			
DU001-016----	Industrial site	FLEMINGTOWN	718226, 764114
Pre-development investigations in 2005 revealed evidence for metalworking in the form of bowl furnaces with associated pits. A large quantity of ferric slag was retrieved from the site.			
DU001-017----	Kiln - corn-drying	FLEMINGTOWN	718226, 764110
Pre-development investigations in 2005 revealed a cluster of kilns including one keyhole-shaped feature with a perfectly circular chamber (Diam.2.60m, D 0.05m-0.24m) and a flue or passage which exited the chamber on the W. The upper stone of a rotary quern was also uncovered.			
DU001-022001-	Excavation - miscellaneous	FLEMINGTOWN	718202, 764336
Geophysical survey (licence no. 05R0137) identified a series of anomalies (Nicholls and Shiel 2005) that suggested the presence of potential archaeological features. Test excavation (Licence no. 07E0057) confirmed the presence of a dense pit cluster interspersed with a series of linear features and curving ditches within an area measuring 45m by 50. A piece of struck flint was recovered from a linear feature suggesting a prehistoric date.			
DU001-022002-	Pit	FLEMINGTOWN	718219, 764306
Geophysical survey (licence no. 05R0137) identified a series of anomalies that suggested the presence of potential archaeological features. Test excavation confirmed the presence of a pit cluster that consisted of at least six pits, circular in plan (average 0.30m diam.) with similar charcoal rich fills with burnt bone inclusions.			
DU001-023----	Field system	FLEMINGTOWN	718186, 764158
Geophysical survey (Licence 05R137; Nicholls and Shiel, 2005) identified strong linear and rectilinear responses that suggest a large complex at the interior of which are numerous internal divisions, pit-type responses and possible industrial activity. Possibly a continuation of early medieval activity excavated immediately to the south.			
DU001-024----	Enclosure	FLEMINGTOWN	718235, 764031
Geophysical survey (licence no. 05R0137) identified a series of anomalies (Nicholls and Shiel 2005). Test excavation (licence no. 07E0057) confirmed the presence of a series of ditches (average 0.30m deep) that form a sub-square enclosure.			

RMP No	Class	Townland	ITM
DU001-025----	Enclosure	FLEMINGTOWN	717965, 763921
Geophysical survey (licence no. 050R137) identified a series of anomalies thought to represent a series of conjoined enclosures with several large pit-type anomalies (Nicholls and Shiel 2005). Test excavation (licence no. 07E0057) confirmed the presence of a cluster of pits and related linear and curvilinear features. Fill of features consisted of charcoal rich soil, some with burnt bone inclusions.			
DU001-026----	Excavation - miscellaneous	FLEMINGTOWN	718116, 764054
Geophysical survey (licence no. 050R137) identified a series of anomalies thought to represent a series of conjoined enclosures with several large pit-type anomalies (Nicholls and Shiel 2005). Test excavation (licence no. 07E0057) confirmed the presence of a cluster of pits and possible structural features within an area 30m x60m under redeposited natural. Burnt and charcoal fills were predominant.			
DU001-028----	Excavation - miscellaneous	CLONARD OR FOLKSTOWN GREAT	718256, 763766
Test excavation (licence no. 07E0057) identified a V-shaped linear feature orientated north-west/south-east (Elliot 2007, 295). A flint blade was recovered from the fill suggesting a prehistoric date. In the field to the northeast is a Neolithic house (DU001-014----).			
DU001-029----	Pit	CLONARD OR FOLKSTOWN GREAT	718260, 763582
Test excavation (licence no. 07E0057) identified a large circular pit with charcoal rich fill. A flint blade was recovered from the fill suggesting prehistoric date for the feature.			
DU001-030----	Kiln - corn-drying	FLEMINGTOWN	717572, 764669
Excavated in 2002 (licence no. 02E0296), the monument consisted of a sub-circular bowl (0.26m deep) with a shallow curvilinear flue cut into the natural subsoil. Three fills indicated at least three episodes of use, and each produced carbonised barley grains. Two small fragments of baked clay, two angular flint fragments and a bipolar flake were recovered from the bowl. Comparable kilns have been dated to the Early Bronze Age.			
DU001-031----	Enclosure	FLEMINGTOWN	717507, 764593
Excavated in 2002 (Licence no. 02E0297), the remains were found to consist of a curvilinear fosse (1m in width), representing roughly one third of a circle (10.5m diam.). A sherd of Bronze Age coarse pottery was recovered from the ditch. Two radiocarbon dates of 985-817 cal. BC and 217-344 cal. AD indicated a construction date for this enclosure in the late Bronze Age with subsequent activity in the late Iron Age. The enclosure was truncated by a linear field drain from which a sherd of Leinster cooking ware was recovered.			
DU001-033----	Enclosure	FLEMINGTOWN	717837, 764114
Located at the SE corner of a large arable field is the southern half of a circular enclosure, one of a number of cropmark enclosures W of Balbriggan. It is clearly visible on Google Earth imagery (24 June 2018). Site bisected by later field boundary with enclosure most clearly visible in arable field to S. It comprises an circular enclosure (ext. diam. c. 35.4m) defined to the S by a ditch (Wth c. 1.3m). Other linear and curvilinear cropmarks to the E and W may be associated with the enclosure.			
DU002-002001-	House - fortified house	BREMORE	719708, 764574
Manor Castle of Bremore (Brí Mhór/Big Hill) aka Pierstown, the ancestral home of the Barnewall (De Berneval) family stands 985m to the N of the town of Balbriggan, 280m W of the coastline, with Balbriggan Martello Tower No. 12 (DU002-004----) 480m to the SSE. The present castle has been rebuilt by the Parks Department of Fingal County Council, all of the upper floors from c. 4m upwards have been built in these 20th-century works. In 1783, the artist and antiquarian, Austin Cooper described the setting of Bremore Castle as; 'situated on a rising ground very near the sea & commanding a delightful prospect thereof' (Price 1942). The manorial chapel or the chapel of Lambecher (Beekeeper) (D'Alton 1838, 479) also known as St Molaga's Church (DU002-002002-) and graveyard (DU002-002003-) stands 55m to the S.			
DU002-002002-	Church	BREMORE	719700, 764510
In disused graveyard S of Bremore fortified house (DU002-002001-). This is reputed to be the early monastic site of 'Lann Beachaire' possibly founded by St. Molaga in the 7th-century (Walsh 1888, 252; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 396). Traditionally associated with the transportation of bees from Wales to Ireland by St Modomnócc			

RMP No	Class	Townland	ITM
(Newman Johnson 2007, 250). The 1992 describes the remains are of a late medieval church, which was the manorial chapel for Bremore, and comprised a rectangular featureless structure with undivided nave and chancel (13.1m E-W, 7m N-S, max. wall H 3m) and a small extension to the W (orientated NE-SW). Built throughout of coursed limestone masonry. Remains of doorway traceable in the N wall of the nave, which is incorporated into a garden wall. Lit by plain loop in S wall. Buttress near E end of S wall. Now extensively overgrown with only southern church wall discernible. Fragments of decorated seventeenth-century stonework were cemented into place along interior of southern church wall, including a lintel (DU002-002006-) dated to 1689 and decorated with emblems of the Passion; two double-light decorated window heads (DU002-002005-). A carved crucifixion (DU002-002004-) has since been removed to Ardgillan Castle. A plain lintel also lies on the ground adjacent to the gate piers at the entrance to the graveyard. A mass dial thought to have come from the manorial chapel was recovered during excavations to the north of the site (DU002-014----).			
DU002-002003-	Graveyard	BREMORE	719683, 764496
This is a disused graveyard (L 40m, Wth28m) SW of Bremore fortified house (DU002-002001-) which is reputed to be the early monastic site of 'Lann Beachaire' possibly founded by St. Molaga in the 7th-century (Walsh 1888, 252; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 396). It is completely overgrown with elders and briars but a masonry wall is visible along the N side of the site. In the graveyard are remains of a church (DU002-002002-) and a finely carved and sculptured door lintel with instruments of the passion, dated 1689 (Wth 0.45m, D. 0.53m) (DU002-002006-) (Newman Johnson 2007, 252). A survey of the headstones was undertaken in 1993 (Egan). As part of the Conservation Plan undertaken in 2011/12, an electrical resistivity survey (Detection Licence No. 11R0038) was carried out by Target Ltd. within the walled garden immediately north of the graveyard. No indication of an ecclesiastical enclosure associated with the early medieval foundation associated with St Molaga's graveyard was identified.			
DU002-002004-	Cross	BREMORE	719699, 764504
A late medieval carving of the Crucifixion on a cross was affixed to the top of the decorated lintel (DU002-002006-) near the remains of the late-medieval manor church (DU002-002002-) at Bremore. In 2009, this cross was taken into storage at Ardgillan Castle (DU005-078----). A photograph of the monument taken by Patrick Healy in 1985 (https://source.southdublinlibraries.ie/handle/10599/3599) shows the carving of a small Latin Cross with Crucified Jesus carved in relief, long outstretched arms with hands nailed to the cross, wearing a loincloth or perizoma around his waist with overlapping feet resting on the top of the skull of Adam. I N R I acronym incised into the top of the cross above the head of Jesus. The face of Jesus appears to be damaged. INRI is a Latin acronym for Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum, which translates to "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews". According to Jewish traditions, Golgotha or Calvary was the place where the skull of Adam was buried. The Crucified Jesus was sometimes referred to as 'The Second Adam' who died to live, in contrast to the First Adam who lived to die. According to the Oxford Dictionary of Christian Art and Architecture, the term 'Calvary' was a Latinized form of the Hebrew Golgotha meaning '[place of] a skull'. It is recorded as the site of the Crucifixion as Calvary by Luke and as Golgotha by the other evangelists. The original of the name is not clear, but from early times it was regarded as the burial place of Adam's skull, so that Christ's blood shed on it would bring redemption to the human race' (Jones et. al. 2013, 92). Cross-referenced with DU005-078----.			
DU002-002005-	Architectural fragment	BREMORE	719697, 764506
Fragments of two twin-light ogee-headed windows with curly-headed angels depicted at arch. East has tulips, west rosettes. Decoration similar to that on 1689 architectural fragment (DU002-002006-). Both set on a concrete plinth adjacent to church wall (DU002-002002-).			
DU002-002006-	Architectural fragment	BREMORE	719697, 764506
A chimney-piece stone dated to 1689 with emblems of the passion has been set against the extant wall of the remains of the late medieval church (DU002-002002-) on a concrete plinth. Slabs were cemented on top.			
DU002-002007-	Bawn	BREMORE	719691, 764552
Bawn area to the W of the rebuilt Castle of Bremore (Brí Mhór/Big Hill), the ancestral home of the Barnewall (De Berneval) family stands 985m to the N of the town of Balbriggan, 280m W of the coastline, with Balbriggan Martello tower No. 12 (DU002-004----) 480m to the SSE. The ruins of a manor chapel (DU002-002002-) and graveyard (DU002-002003-) lie immediately S of Bremore castle and bawn. The chapel is reputed to be the			

RMP No	Class	Townland	ITM
early monastic site of 'Lann Bechaire' possibly founded by St. Molaga in the 7th-century (Walsh 1888, 252; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 396). The present castle has been rebuilt by the Parks Department of Fingal County Council, all of the upper floors from c. 4m upwards have been built in these 20th-century works. In the 1654-56 Civil Survey of Dublin, the castle was described as standing on the lands of 'Breemore & Newhaven a fishing towne' which in 1641 belonged to the 'Irish Papist' Matthew Barnewall of Bremore (Simington 1945, 4). The 16th-century fishing town of Newhaven (DU002-005----) stood in the fields 1.2km to the N of Bremore Castle. The castle building and associated structures was described in the 1654-56 Civil Survey as; 'one Burnt Castle with a great Barne & eight tenements one orchard & parke with some small young Ashtrees' (ibid.). In 1783, the artist and antiquarian, Austin Cooper described Bremore Castle and possible adjoining bawn area as; 'a modern building with good limestone quoins, window frames, muinnions [mullions] &c..The lower part of this Cas[t]le is very strong & arched in a very irregular manner, & appears to me to have been not many years ago inhabited. Besides a number of Garden walls & such like inclosures still to be traced are the walls of a Chapel in wch. nothing is remarkable' (Price 1942). The ruins of Bremore Castle and the adjoining bawn enclosing an area to the W of the castle was described in the 1880s which was then in the possession of the King family; 'Mr King who takes a great interest in this relic of antiquity, and showed me every part of it. Proceeding westward along the north side, but still inside the castle, we find a small open space immediately adjoining the small stone chamber, and then comes the place where the stair turret was, at the north-west corner. A few steps still remain, showing that the stairs were strong and wide. This turret projects beyond the west wall a few feet, as is found so often. The southern wall of this turret forms the north side of the original main entrance. At a little distance from this entrance, and right across the present yard, are seen stone pillars in a wall which, Mr. King explained, were the remains of the outer gate through which the castle was approached in old times' (Dix 1898, 68). Monitoring in 1995, revealed stone-built channels associated with a garderobe and drainage (Swan 1996, 11). As part of the Conservation Plan undertaken in 2011/12, a resistivity survey (Licence No. 11R0038) was carried out by Target Ltd. within the walled garden at the eastern side of the castle and extended to the adjacent playing pitch. A concentration of anomalies, suggesting buried remains, was identified within the walled garden. These may represent remains including a possible well/water feature, pathways, and internal divisions. A portion of the possible foundation of the medieval walled enclosure was recorded in this area.			
DU002-002008-	Barn	BREMORE	719671, 764557
The rebuilt Manor Castle (DU002-002001-) of Bremore (Brí Mhór/Big Hill), the ancestral home of the Barnewall (De Berneval) family stands 985m to the N of the town of Balbriggan, 280m W of the coastline, with Balbriggan Martello tower No. 12 (DU002-004----) 480m to the SSE. The present castle has been rebuilt by the Parks Department of Fingal County Council, all of the upper floors from c. 4m upwards have been built in these 20th-century works. The precise location of a 'great Barne' associated with the manor castle of Bremore has not been identified. The castle building with a barn, an orchard and a park with a settlement cluster was described in the 1654-56 Civil Survey as; 'one Burnt Castle with a great Barne & eight tenements one orchard & parke with some small young Ashtrees' (Simington 1945, 4). One of three long buildings indicated on OSi historic maps located to the W, and NE of the castle may have been the site of the 'Great Barne'. The ruins of Bremore Castle and the adjoining bawn enclosing an area to the W of the castle was described in the 1880s which was then in the possession of the King family; 'Mr King who takes a great interest in this relic of antiquity, and showed me every part of it. He stated that his late father was of the opinion that their residence, which adjoins the Castle, and the walls of which are fully 8ft. [2.4m] thick, formed originally the malt-house belonging to the Castle' (Dix 1868, 68). This malt-house may have been the 'great Barne' referred to in the 1654-56 Civil Survey. The long narrow building forming the N boundary of the castle bawn depicted on the 1837 ed. OSi six-inch map may have been the site of the 'great Barne', it is unclear of this building was the 'Malt House' lived in by the King family in the 19th-century. Alternatively the two long buildings depicted to the NE of the castle on the 1837 six-inch map may have been the site of the barn. On the 1837 ed. OSi six-inch map the building furthest to the NE of the castle has a Thrashing Machine immediately to the E of the building which may indicate that this building had an agricultural function.			
DU002-014----	Field system	BREMORE	719563, 764698
Pre-development investigations in 2001 identified part of a field system adjacent to Bremore castle (DU002-			

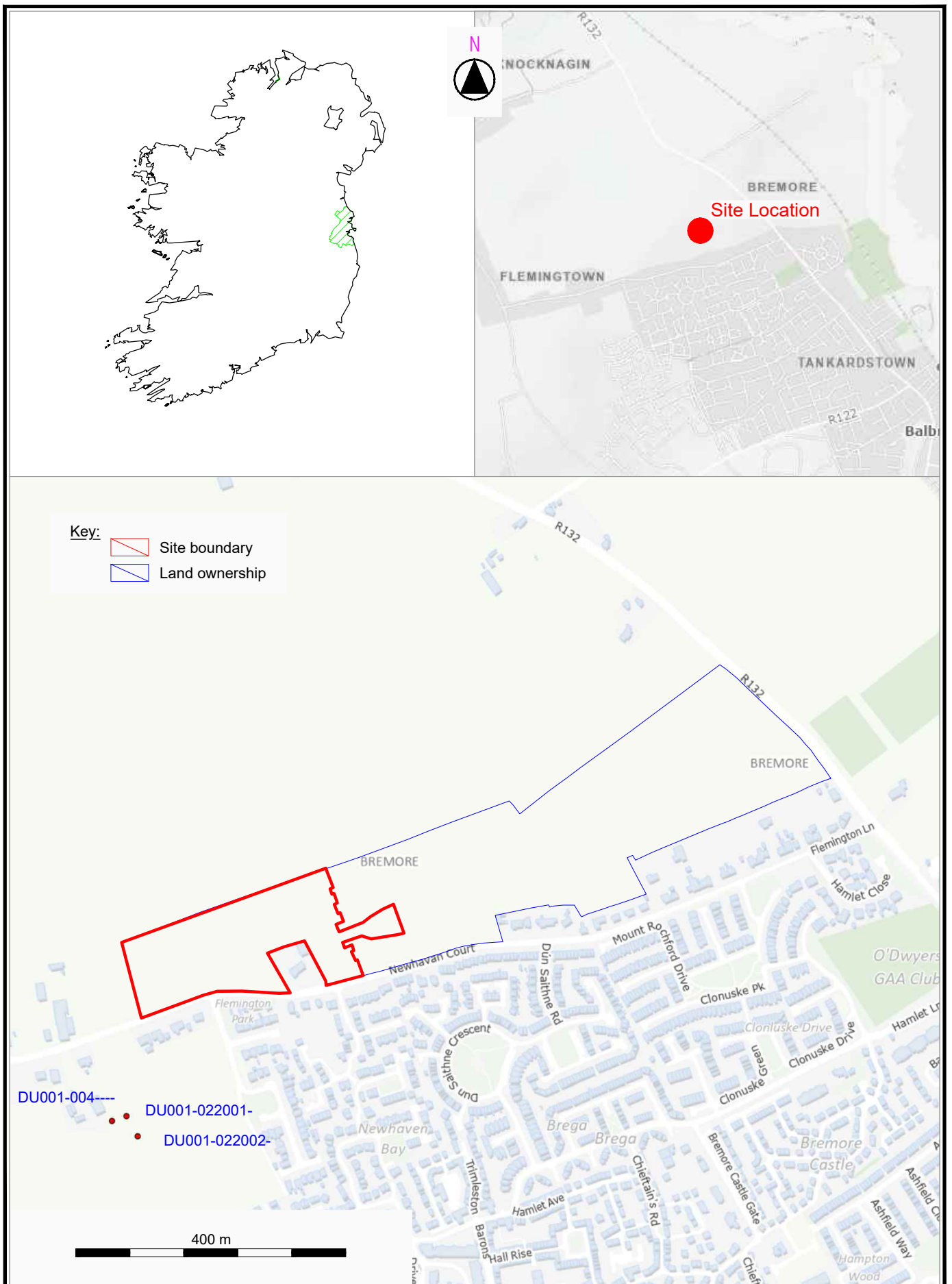
RMP No	Class	Townland	ITM
002002-).	Two parallel ditches extending E-W (L 150m) and 50m apart formed the borders. Cultivation seems to have taken place in the enclosed plot and the field system may have extended across the present N1 road, joining to a lane known locally as Hamlet Lane which runs along the same E-W axis as the southern ditch (O'Carroll 2003, 79-80). Analysis of charred remains from the furrows yielded evidence for cereal grains, principally wheat, barley, oats and legumes. This suggests a pattern of intensive cultivation and crop rotation. Prior to the setting out of the field, the area was already used for cultivation. A shallow, flat-bottomed broad feature which produced Leinster Cooking Ware and 13th to 14th century local wares was interpreted as the remains of a manure heap. At a later stage in the 16th to early 17th century these fields may have been transformed into a parkland or orchard.		
DU002-018----	Enclosure	BREMORE	718761, 765383
A rectangular enclosure visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). At relatively high point in landscape with Bremore passage tombs to the northeast. No visible remains.			
DU002-019----	Field system	BREMORE	718554, 765623
A field system visible as a crop mark on Digital Globe orthoimage taken between 2011-13 (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). At relatively high point in landscape with Bremore passage tombs to the northeast. No visible remains.			
DU002-020----	Enclosure	CLONARD OR FOLKSTOWN GREAT	718623, 763740
Geophysical survey (05R137) identified the remains of an oval enclosure 50m x 40m in diameter which coincides with an area of raised ground. A small circular enclosure (c.15m diam.) with a south-eastern entrance is indicated within its interior, as are several pit responses. As series of underlying weak deposits may indicate earlier settlement of suggest more than one phase of occupation.			
DU002-021----	Burnt spread	CLONARD OR FOLKSTOWN GREAT	718628, 763570
Test excavation (Licence no. 07E0057) identified a burnt spread (7m by 10m) within a natural basin (Elliot 2007, 305).			
DU002-022----	Sundial	BREMORE	719563, 764698
Pre-development investigations in 2001 by Finola O'Carroll under licence No. 01E0370 identified part of a field system adjacent to Bremore castle (DU002-002002-) along with a slate sundial. The results of this excavation was summarised as follows; 'Excavation of an area adjacent to the site of Bremore Castle commenced in April 2001 in advance of a large-scale housing development to the north of a medieval complex. The site consists of a large open field covering approximately 4.5ha, the eastern quarter of which is to remain as parkland. The castle lies immediately to the south, surrounded by a number of modern farm buildings, and is currently being restored. The modern N1 road borders the field to the west, and a lane running from this road to the castle yard forms the field's southern boundary. The sea lies 300m to the east. Closer to the castle a pit was excavated, contemporary with the cobbling and containing a large amount of late medieval pottery. A second pit excavated adjacent to the southern ditch also contained a large quantity of medieval pottery and a handsome slate sundial, possibly unfinished, of late medieval date. The possible footprint of a small structure, of either medieval or early post-medieval date, was also exposed in the vicinity, between these two pits'			
DU002-025----	Quarry	KNOCKNAGIN	718457, 765771
Small irregular-shaped quarry (approx. dims. 30m E-W x 20m N-S) on S side of field boundary depicted on the 1837 ed. OSi six-inch map. Area depicted as a tree plantation on the last edition of the OSi six-inch map. Area of old quarry visible as a tree covered area in tillage field on the 2013-18 Map Genie orthoimage.			

Appendix 2: Previous Archaeological Excavations

Licence	RMP	Townland/ Street	Ex. Bull. Ref.	Author
21E0583	N/A	BALBRIGGAN: Bremore Regional Park, Dublin	2021:318	I. Russell
Test trenching was carried out at the proposed Bremore Regional Park, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, between 15–20 September 2021, in fields designated M3 and M4 only. Testing was carried out at the request of the client to assess the archaeological potential of the site following a geophysical survey carried out by Target Archaeological Geophysics in March 2020 (20R0032) and an Archaeological Impact Assessment carried out by Dr. Kerri Cleary (ACSU) in 2019. Testing succeeded in identifying a number of archaeological features in the area of geophysical anomaly number 10 in Trenches 9–10, 13 & 23 and all were visible on the grey scale image. These consisted of a number of linear features (C6, C9 & C11), a curving linear feature, possibly a portion of an enclosing ditch (C7) and a possible boundary ditch (C8). All of the features had occasional inclusions of charcoal and animal bone. Portions of post-medieval field systems (C3–C5 & C10) were also identified within Trenches 6–8 & 15–16. No further archaeological features were identified in the remainder of the trenches. The archaeological assessment succeeded in identifying a number of archaeological features, possibly parts of an enclosing element, at geophysical anomaly number 10 in Trenches 9–10, 13 & 23. As it was not possible to excavate Trenches 12 & 17, which were situated below topsoil bunds, it is recommended that these areas are subject to archaeological testing upon their removal. Similarly, it is recommended that the anomaly identified at the western edge of the proposed development is tested following the removal of the haul road.				
01E0370	SMR 2:00202	BREMORE, Balbriggan, Dublin	2001:324	F. O'Carroll
Excavation of an area adjacent to the site of Bremore Castle (see <i>Excavations 2001</i>, No. 323) commenced in April 2001 in advance of a large-scale housing development to the north of a medieval complex. The site consists of a large open field covering approximately 4.5ha, the eastern quarter of which is to remain as parkland. The castle lies immediately to the south, surrounded by a number of modern farm buildings, and is currently being restored. The modern N1 road borders the field to the west, and a lane running from this road to the castle yard forms the field's southern boundary. The sea lies 300m to the east. Excavation concentrated on the southern third of the field, adjacent to the castle and laneway, where pre-development testing had identified the greatest density of archaeology. Excavation was subject to time constraints so a series of separate cuttings were excavated by hand to sample the depth and scale of archaeological deposits. A total area of 1250m² was covered. Significant amounts of archaeological material were exposed. Part of a medieval field system was uncovered. Two parallel ditches extending for at least 150m east–west across the field and 50m apart, at a slight angle to the existing lane, formed the borders. Little evidence for cultivation was detected north of the area, but at some stage post-medieval drains had replaced the ditches. This narrow plot had been densely cultivated and contained a number of separate furrow systems, running both parallel and perpendicular to the ditches, suggesting that it had been a defined area of cultivation from the medieval period onwards. To the south of this area, between the southern ditch and the existing laneway, a number of features of medieval and post-medieval date were exposed. A regular metalled surface formed of compacted small stones was uncovered, apparently the remnants of a path or laneway. This ran parallel to the two ditches, close to the modern laneway leading to the castle, suggesting that it was the original path which had been replaced by the extant path to the south. Two Elizabethan coins dating from 1601–2 were recovered from separate points within the surface. Closer to the castle a pit was excavated, contemporary with the cobbling and containing a large amount of late medieval pottery. A second pit excavated adjacent to the southern ditch also contained a large quantity of medieval pottery and a handsome slate sundial, possibly unfinished, of late medieval date. The possible footprint of a small structure, of either medieval or early post-medieval date, was also exposed in the vicinity, between these two pits. A number of features of post-medieval date were uncovered. A mortared stone wall with an associated stone drain and cobbled surface lay over one of the pits. As mentioned above, post-medieval drains appeared to have replaced the original medieval ditches bounding the cultivation area. Atop a bank adjacent to the southern ditch the trench of a destroyed boundary wall was exposed. A number of pits and large irregular cuts of indeterminate function were also exposed adjacent to the southern boundary of the site, with concentrations of brick, rubble, mortar and slate in the area closest to the castle, some of which may have represented debris from the castle's destruction. Closer to the modern road a concentration of slag and iron-rich soil was exposed in a post-medieval context, suggesting a small-scale industrial site.				

Licence	RMP	Townland/ Street	Ex. Bull. Ref.	Author
The pottery from the site totalled approximately 4000 sherds. The majority of this pottery was late medieval in date, with a very large proportion of Leinster Cooking Ware. The assemblage included a broad sample of post-medieval wares, including ridge tiles of North Devon Ware which may have originally been attached to the castle. On the basis of a preliminary examination of the pottery, other associated finds and the evidence of excavation, there appears to have been intensive activity associated with the use of the castle in the late medieval period and extending into the early post-medieval period, before a possible hiatus. Cultivation appears to have taken place in the enclosed 'plot', and the field system may have extended across the present N1 road, joining to a lane known locally as Hamlet lane which runs along the same east-west axis as the southern ditch. Post-medieval activity was also extensive but does not appear to have taken the form of extensive regular cultivation. The material evidence would appear to broadly match with the historical evidence, in which Bremore is described as a Barnewall holding from the 14th century onwards, and as a manorial seat of a branch of the Barnewall family in the 16th and 17th centuries. Historical sources from this period also mention an 'orchard and parke', and Rocque's map dating from 1756 shows a narrow band of trees directly to the north of the laneway leading to the castle. These may have been planted at the end of the period of cultivation, creating a gap in the stratigraphic record.				
05E0266	DU002-002001	BREMORE, Dublin	2005:394	T. Coughlan
Ten test-trenches were excavated across a site at Bremore, Balbriggan. The position and coverage of the test-trenches gave a good representation of the surviving stratigraphy on site. The areas of the site that contained extant warehouses were unavailable for testing due to the presence of these buildings. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered during the testing programme. In the greenfield area at the southern half of the site, the topsoil directly sealed natural subsoil. In the northern half of the site, in the vicinity of the warehouses, the existing yard (tarmac) surface directly sealed natural subsoil.				
07E1155	N/A	CLOGHEDER/CLONARD/FOLKSTOWN GREAT/FLEMINGTON (PARKWAY, BALBRIGGAN), Dublin	2008:379	T. Connell
An assessment by test-trenching took place on a proposed water main installation at Parkway, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, between 22 and 24 January 2008; 20 test-trenches comprising a total of 2829 linear metres were excavated. The purpose of this assessment was to identify and record any archaeological features and deposits located along the route of the proposed water mains and to assess the archaeological nature of a number of features that had been previously identified by Ruth Elliot (the Archaeology Company) in an earlier assessment in 2007 (<i>Excavations 2007</i>, No. 422, 07E0057). Three areas containing archaeological features were identified during the excavation of these trenches. These areas contained two burnt-stone mounds and two possible pit-type features all of which were previously identified in the earlier assessment. No other features or deposits of an archaeological nature were identified within the route of the proposed water mains.				
08E0528	N/A	FLEMINGTON TOWN: Flemington Lane, Dublin	2008:455	J. Lyttleton
Pre-planning testing was carried out of a site at Flemington Lane, north-west of Balbriggan town centre, Co. Dublin. The site is at the northern end of a proposed ring road where it merges with Flemington Lane. It is bounded to the south by a holy well (DU001-004). A previous geophysical survey recorded three definite archaeological features in the immediate vicinity of the holy well and the proposed road route. These included part of a large settlement complex c. 100m south of the holy well, possibly early medieval in date, and the remains of a prehistoric barrow site. Testing was carried out between 26 and 30 June 2008 on one of two proposed routes for the ring road. Twelve test-trenches with a total length of 353m were opened, 10m apart, across the site. Trenches 1-3 and 10-12 revealed a number of modern stone drains associated with drainage and a field boundary, but nothing of archaeological significance. Archaeology was, however, revealed in Trenches 4, 7 and 9, where features of medieval date were revealed. In Trench 4 three linear features were exposed, filled with mid-brownish-grey sandy clay. Two of these features produced medieval pottery including a fragment of Leinster cooking ware. In Trench 7 another three linear features were uncovered, filled with mid-greyish-brown to yellow silty clay. Also found in this trench was a curvilinear feature, measuring c. 4m in diameter and filled with mid-brownish-grey silty clay. Its cut was shallow with gradually sloping sides descending into a concave base, measuring 0.35m wide and 0.07m deep. Trench 9 also produced a linear feature, filled with mid-greyish-brown silty clay. One piece of medieval pottery was recovered from this feature. The location of the holy well close to the area further implies the potential for subsurface features associated with the activities around the well. Due to the exposure of medieval features, a possible prehistoric feature, the substantial archaeology in the				

Licence	RMP	Townland/ Street	Ex. Bull. Ref.	Author
surrounding fields, and the close proximity to the holy well, it was recommended that the road lay out be altered to minimise the impact on the underlying archaeology and if this is not possible, that all features revealed to be fully excavated.				
05E0663	N/A	FLEMINGTON, Dublin	2007:512	T. Bolger
The development site extends over c. 9.34ha, located in the townland of Flemington, to the north-west of Balbriggan. Previous investigations at the site by Abi Cryer and the writer (<i>Excavations 2005</i>, No. 487; <i>Excavations 2006</i>, No. 658) had identified an extensive archaeological site (Areas A–E) located along the western edge of the development site. Testing and geophysical survey indicated that the complex extended over c. 1ha and was localised along a ridge of high ground parallel to the western perimeter of the site. Excavation of a substantial section of the main archaeological complex (the eastern portion of Areas A–C) was undertaken during 2006. During 2007, investigations focused on Areas D–E. Thirteen phases of activity were identified, primarily dating to the early medieval period. While the main complex is superficially similar in size and scale to other early medieval enclosure complexes, it does not seem to fit as comfortably alongside these sites as it might initially appear; no settlement focus was identified, there was little evidence for habitation or structures and most of the identifiable activities would be classed as ancillary to a settlement or habitation site. The early medieval activity is characterised by a complex sequence of ditches, some of which appear to define or delimit areas; others appear to be designed to conduct water and lead into cisterns or basins located at the eastern perimeter of the site, where the main ridge of high ground on which the site is located dropped down into what was originally a low-lying wetland area (encompassing the bulk of the development site). There is evidence for both the recutting of ditches and also the deliberate replacement of ditches, indicating a prolonged duration of activity. Possible corn-drying kilns and bowl furnaces are situated in localised sections of the site, suggesting specific zones set aside for particular activities. An initial set of radiocarbon dates indicates occupation at the site from at least the late 6th until the early 11th century. Further radiocarbon dates will be obtained to clarify the phasing and chronology of activity at the site. In addition to this, there was residual evidence for prehistoric activity, mainly Bronze Age and Neolithic. A small Neolithic house (heavily truncated by early medieval ditches) was excavated at Area E. A substantial assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery (over 250 sherds) was retrieved, primarily from the slot-trenches. A radiocarbon date of 4778±31bp (UBA-8523, 3642–3518 cal BC; 3394–3387 cal BC) was obtained.				



Archer
Heritage Planning

1 Tenure Business
Park,
Tenure, Co. Louth
A92 K2VF

Flemington Lane, Balbriggan,
Co. Dublin

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Scale: 1:8000 A4

Date: July 2026

Origin: NMS

Ref: 2026_24_AIA_01

Figure 1: Location of site

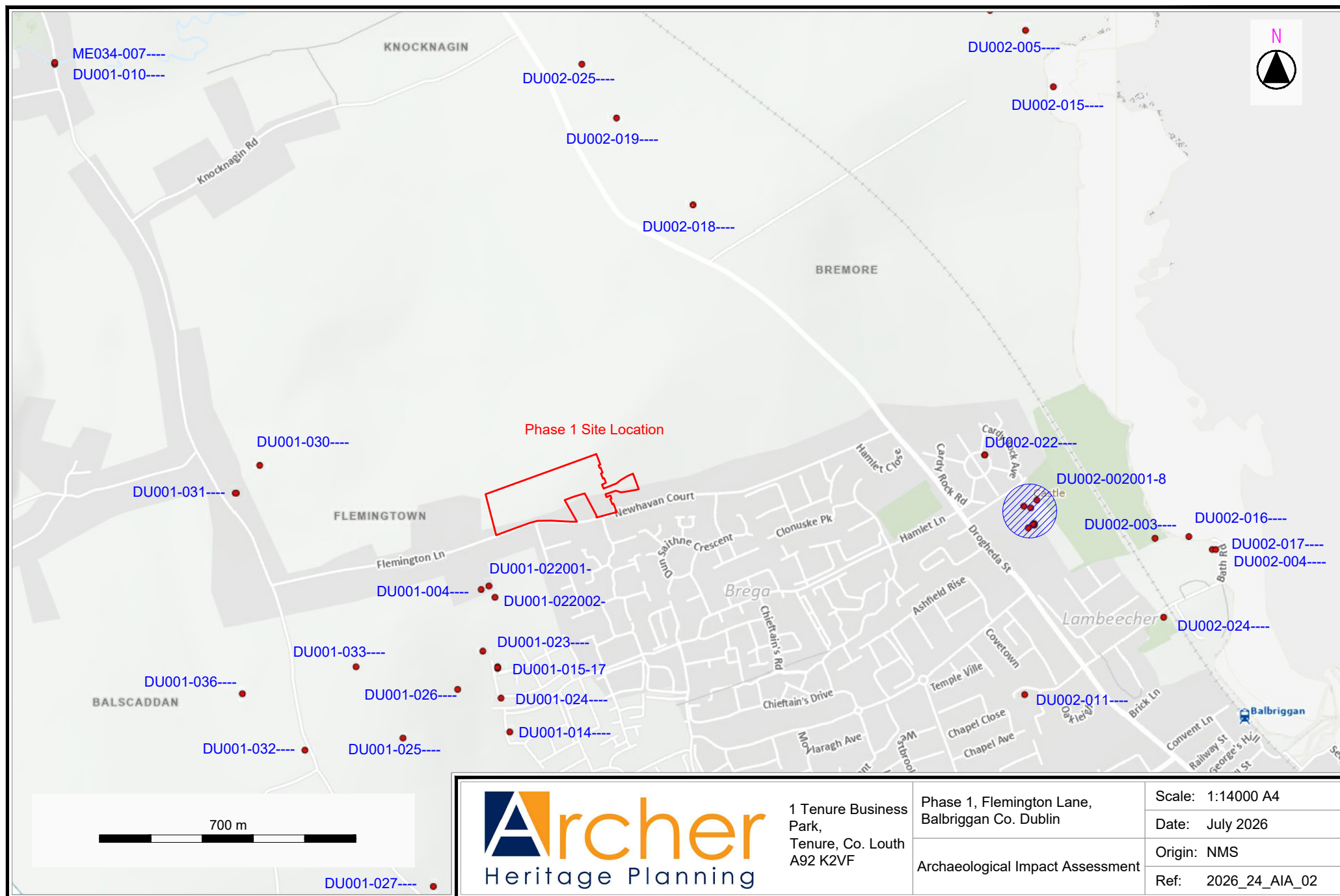


Figure 2: Location of site with surrounding RMPs

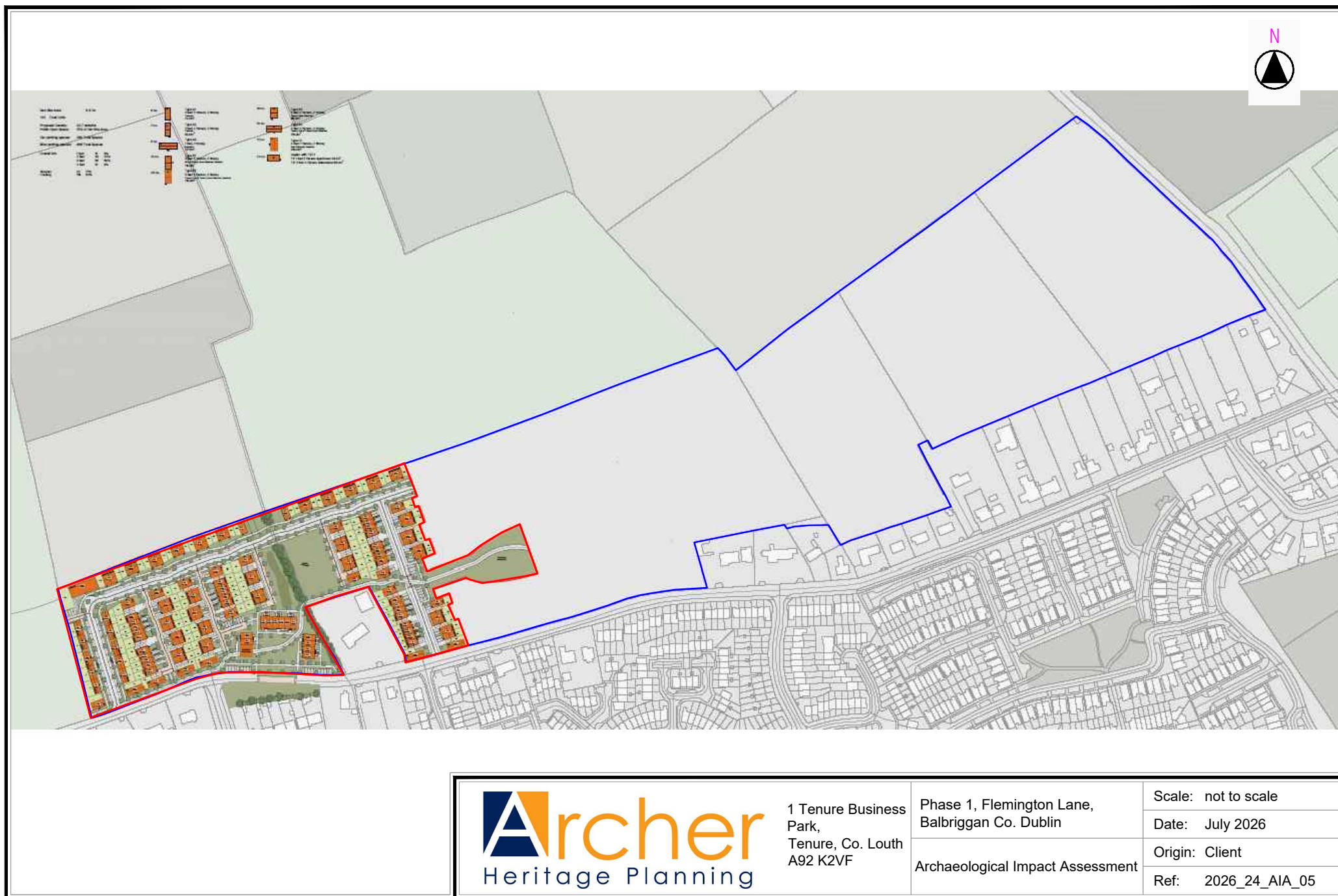
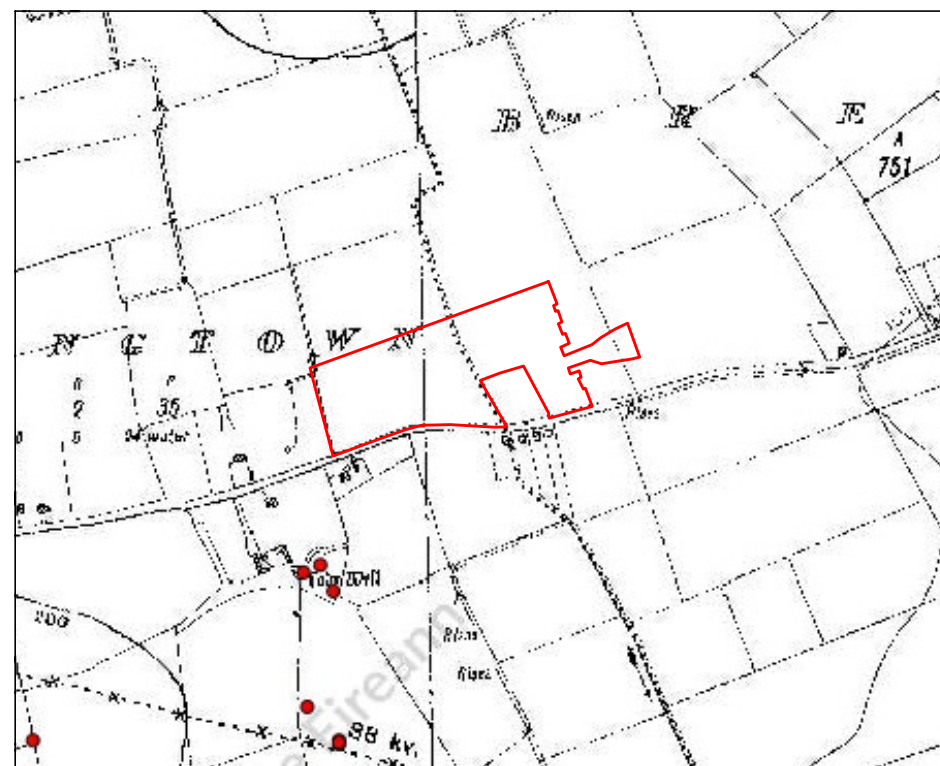
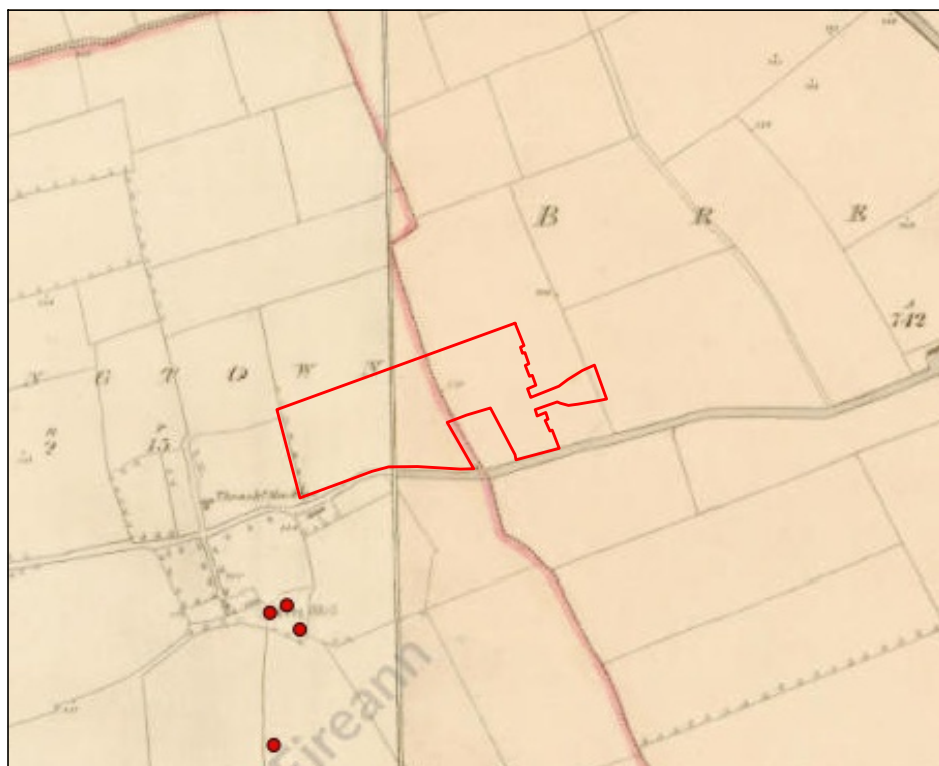


Figure 3: Proposed Development Plan



(l) 1st OSI - 1844

(r) Cassini map (1915-1940)



1 Tenure Business
Park,
Tenure, Co. Louth
A92 K2VF

Phase 1, Flemington Lane,
Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Scale: Not to scale

Date: July 2026

Origin: NMS

Ref: 2026_24_AIA_03

Figure 4: Extracts from historical maps



(l) 1995

(r) 2013-18



1 Tenure Business
Park,
Tenure, Co. Louth
A92 K2VF

Phase 1, Flemington Lane,
Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Scale: Not to scale

Date: July 2026

Origin: NMS

Ref: 2026_24_AIA_04

Figure 5: Extracts from aerial photography





Plate 1: Trench T1, looking NW



Plate 2: Trench T2, looking SW



Plate 3: Trench T3, looking SE



Plate 4: Trench T4, looking N



Plate 5: Trench T5, looking E



Plate 6: Trench T6, looking W



Plate 7: Trench T7, looking E