



Archaeological Impact Assessment: Test Excavation Report Forest Road, Forrest Great, Swords, Co. Dublin

Part 1 – Archaeological Information

Licence Number: 25E0856

Caroline Cosgrove
September 2025
Report Status: Final


ACSU Ref.: 24198



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PROJECT DETAILS

Project Forest Road, Forrest Great, Swords, Co. Dublin

Report Type Archaeological Test Excavation

Licence No. 25E0856

Townland(s) Forrest Great

RMP/SMR No. N/A

RPS Id./NIAH Reg. No. N/A

ITM Ref. 716555, 745222

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Report Author(s) Caroline Cosgrove

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VERSION CONTROL

Revision	Date	Description	Status	Author	Reviewed	Approved
1.0	24.09.2025	Archaeological test excavation report	Final	C.C.	L.C.	D.M.

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY


This report details the results of test excavations carried out at Forest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin (ITM 716555, 745222). The testing was carried out in response to a further information request attached to Item 8, Decision Order PF/2387 /25; Register Ref. LRD0057/S3E; LGMA Ref. 120000063247 by Fingal County Council.

The site contains no monuments listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) or the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The nearest such site is a Ring Ditch (DU011-119), identified as a cropmark and recorded in an adjacent field, c. 110m to the southwest of the site. The site does not contain any Protected Structures, as listed in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023–2029, nor any structures listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH).

An archaeological impact assessment for this site was carried out by Magda Lyne of Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit (ACSU) Ltd. This recommended a geophysical survey. The Geophysical survey (25R0166) identified a potential archaeological feature along the eastern portion of the field, consisting of a circular anomaly that had the potential to be a ring ditch (M1). Potential spread/pit remains of archaeological significance were also recorded throughout the survey area. Test trenching was recommended across the footprint of the development and targeted the anomalies identified in the geophysical survey.

Archaeological testing was carried out by Caroline Cosgrove under licence 25E0856, issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland. A total of 46 test trenches were excavated. Each trench measured 1.8m in width, and in total, 1,140m of linear trenches were excavated. The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied from a grey and brown gravely clay to a mottled light grey and yellow clay to an orange clay.

Trench 25 was not excavated as it ran across the site entrance and beneath an overhead electricity wire. A number of field drains were identified in the trenches, and deactivated service ducts were also recorded in the trenches, where a building once stood. Trench 30, where a potential ring ditch (M1) was identified in the geophysical survey, cut through a slightly raised circular grass mound, with gravel directly beneath the sod. The mound and gravel were both modern. No archaeological features or deposits were observed or exposed within Trench 30 or any of the other trenches; therefore, the proposed development will have no impact on archaeological features. No further work is recommended.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This final report details the results of test excavations carried out at Forest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin (ITM 716555, 745222; Figures 1 – 2). The site is situated along Forest Road and is located within a large, grassy field.

The site contains no monuments listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) or the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The nearest such site is a Ring Ditch (DU011-119), identified as a cropmark and registered in an adjacent field, c. 110m to the southwest of the site. The site does not contain any Protected Structures, as listed in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023–2029, nor any structures listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH).

A geophysical survey (25R0166; Murphy, 2025) was previously conducted, and the report has been submitted. The survey identified a potential ring ditch (M1) along the eastern portion of the field. Potential spread/pit remains of archaeological significance were also recorded throughout the survey area (ibid).

Archaeological testing was carried out in September 2025 by Caroline Cosgrove under licence 25E0856, issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland.

1.1 Project Background

The test trenching is in relation to a proposed Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD), on lands at Forest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin:

The proposed development will consist of a total of 109 no. Residential units (42 no. duplex units; 41 no. apartments and 26 no. houses).

2. SOILS, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The survey area comprised a portion of a large green field located west of Forest Road. The site has an elevation of between 53m and 58m Ordnance Datum (OD).

The underlying geology consists of Aggillaceous bioclastic limestone, shale of the Malahide Formation. The lower part of this formation is composed of calcareous shales, siltstones and sandstones, and occasional thin limestones at its base. (Geological Survey Ireland). This bedrock geology is overlaid by Limestone till soils (Teagasc Soil Information System).

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3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

3.1 Archaeological & Historical Background

The proposed development site is located in the Townland of Forest Great (*An Fharaois Mhór*). The first known written reference to the townland is from 1256 when it was known as *Werhewell*, in the manor of Swords (recorded in the Calander of Archbishop Alen's Register). It had many names in the following centuries including the moch and little farowe recorded in 1530 and Moche Fforrowe in 1547. The first known written reference to Great Forest is from 1664, when it was referenced in the Hearth Money Rolls for County Dublin. (Logainm.ie).

Swords

Prehistoric period:

The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity near Swords is located along the shore of the Malahide Estuary, where Larnian flints and shell middens were found, dating back to the Mesolithic period (7000 BC–4000 BC) (Stout and Stout, 1992). Excavations at Feltrim Hill (Eogan and Hartnett, 1964) uncovered the remains of a Neolithic (4000–2500 B.C) settlement, located to the southeast of Swords. A flint core (NMI Ref. 1964:31) was recorded in Drinan townland, and also two flint fragments were found in Swords Glebe in disturbed soil near the foundations of a wall on the west side of the monastic graveyard (NMI Ref. 1978:11-12). A fine-grained, basic igneous rock was the raw material used for a polished stone axe head found in Fostertown North (MNI Ref. 1959:13) (Courtney and Goucher, 2007). Excavations at Mount Gamble, where the Pavilions Shopping Centre is now located, identified an assemblage of artefacts that included 31 flints, one chert, and one quartz piece. The assemblage was dated to the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, representing small-scale flint working (O'Donovan, 2005 Licence Ref: 02E0608).

Bronze Age period:

While little recorded evidence for prehistoric settlement at Swords exists, a handful of prehistoric objects have been recovered around the town indicating settlement activity in the Bronze Age (2400 to 500 B.C), these objects include two flat axe's (NMI Ref. 1939:16; E92:335), the earliest type of bronze axe, and a palstave (NMI Ref. 1939: 17), a type of middle Bronze Age axe. A socketed bronze spearhead was also found in Sword's townland (NMI Ref. 1998:48) (Courtney and Goucher, 2007). Bronze Age ring ditches have been identified in Newpark, near Swords, Holybanks, and Nevinstown West (ibid.).

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Early Medieval period:

The archaeological significance of Swords town is well-documented in both the archaeological and historical records. The origin of the city is attributed to St Colmcille, who reputedly founded a church there in the 6th century. The local folk tradition records that when St. Colmcille established his church, he took possession of the pre-Christian well, blessing and renaming it Sord Colmcille, from the Irish word sord, meaning ‘pure’; it is the name given also to a pagan spring or well (Joyce, 1995). The well was one of the principal sources of water supply in the town and is attributed to the modern-day name of Swords (Courtney and Goucher, 2007).

This association of St. Colmcille and the foundation of Swords could suggest a sixth-century date for the site’s foundation (Gwynn and Hadcock, 1988); however, no contemporary documentary sources confirm this. There are records of three early Christian churches built in Swords, dedicated to St. Fintan, St. Brigid, and St. Catherine. Historians think that these churches were all located within the present Church of Ireland site, with its standing round tower (D’Alton, 1838). A Bishop of Swords and Lusk, named Alild, died in AD 965, indicating that a monastery was located on this site by at least the 10th century. The round tower, rising to 75 feet high, is the only surviving portion of the original monastic establishment. The medieval church tower, 68 feet high, belongs to a structure which was erected not later than the 14th century. The tower is surmounted by a cross, which was placed there approximately 100 years ago.

The excavation at Mount Gamble uncovered an unrecorded Early Medieval cemetery which covered an area measuring 15m east–west and 10m north–south (O’Donovan, 2005). The report indicates that the hillock at Mount Gamble served as the tribal burial ground for a local population from AD 549 to 1164. A total of two hundred and eighty-three burials, representing all ages and sexes, were excavated from the burial ground. The predominant burial rite was extended inhumation with the head to the west; however, the earliest burials recorded indicate that the pre-Christian local population were burying their dead on the site prior to the introduction of the new ‘Christian’ burial rite (ibid.).

The most significant component of Early Medieval secular settlement is the ringfort, the only domestic monument surviving in significant numbers from any period in Irish history. These sites consist of circular areas defined by banks and external ditches, and excavation often reveals associated field systems as well as the remains of dwelling houses and outbuildings for extended families. They are typically situated on gentle slopes in open grasslands, offering good views of the surrounding area. Dating evidence from excavations places these sites in the period AD 500-1000. The Annals of the Four Masters record that a fortress known as the High Rath once existed at Swords (D’Alton, 1838); however, the present research has not identified the location of the monument. A number of ringfort sites are located in the following townlands close to Swords,

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Broadmeadow (DU011-079), Cloghran (DU011-046), Forrest Great (DU011-043). In Newtown, a site (DU011-078) has been interpreted as a levelled ringfort with an associated field system. The name of the adjacent townland of Rathbeal may suggest the existence of an early medieval settlement in this area. Enclosure sites and possible ringfort sites are also recorded at Lissenhall Great (DU012-015 and DU012-012) and at Newtown (DU011-017) (Courtney and Goucher, 2007).

The Annals of the Four Masters inform us that the Vikings first targeted Swords at the close of the tenth century, pillaging the town in AD 1012 and again in AD 1016. After defeat at the Battle of Clontarf in AD 1014, the bodies of Brian Boru and his son, Murchad, passed through Swords on route to Armagh for burial. The monastery was raided several more times between AD 1020 and 1166, during which time the village of Swords had become part of the Scandinavian kingdom of Dublin. In AD 1035, the Viking King of Dublin, Sitric Silkenbeard, raided the church at Ardbracon. In retaliation, the King of Meath, Conchabhar Ua Maeleachlainn, razed the church at Swords, carrying away captives and cattle. (Bradley, 1998).

Medieval period:

In the early 13th century, the archepiscopal residence, which later became the site for the Anglo-Norman Castle at Swords, was constructed. The building was designed to defend the entire population and their possessions behind formidable walls from attacks by the Irish family of the O'Byrnes of Wicklow, who were in revolt in the late 13th century. Manorial in character, it is still completely walled on all five sides. It has a gatehouse, a chapel, and a small mural tower on its northern side. It has several phases of construction, and its stepped crenellations date back to the 15th century (Leask, 1973).

Due to several construction projects in the late 1990s and early 2000s, significant archaeological development occurred around the town centre of Swords. In 1971, a fourteenth-century tile pavement was uncovered in a chapel or oratory adjacent to the castle gatehouse (Bradley 1998). In 1992, monitoring of excavation work of the foundation trenches at 'The Pound' licensed premises on Bridge St, adjacent to the castle, was undertaken. A moat or ditch that encircled the outer face of the castle wall was discovered, dating to the medieval period, by the recovery of pottery (Swan, 1994). An excavation of the vicarage building, in 1997, uncovered skeletal remains of up to twelve individuals, identified as Christian burials pre-dating the 17th-century vicarage (Dunne 1998, 61).

Archaeological finds dating to the Medieval period are a rare occurrence during any investigations along Main Street in Swords. Many of the monitoring of advanced works in the 1990s and 2000s on Main Street failed to yield any evidence other than possible periodic dumping. However, two sherds of medieval pottery were

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recovered at The Star Bar on Main Street/Chapel Lane (McMahon, 2000, 69). Limited testing at No. 3 Main Street, a premises that adjoins the curtain wall of the castle, did uncover deposits up to a 1m deep that are medieval in date (Walsh, 2002, 188). Further finds of note include the discovery of medieval burials in the floodplain of the Ward River in Windmill Lands townland in 1999 (Brady & Kelleher 2000, 94) and urban medieval activity on the south side of Church Road opposite the Early Medieval monastic settlement (O’Carroll 2000, 67–68; 2002, 120–122). This suggests that archaeological material can still be found in unexpected locations during excavations.

The borough in Swords, established by the archbishops of Dublin, is one of the longest-lasting in Ireland. An extent of the manor of Swords in AD 1326 registered 122 burgesses and referenced to burgesses and burgages in Archbishop Alen’s register throughout the following centuries, indicating that the borough continued to function into the sixteenth century (Bradley, 1998). In AD 1578, Queen Elizabeth I granted Swords a new charter as a parliamentary borough; the village sent representatives to parliament until the Act of Union in 1800 (Bradley, 1998). The town of Swords has been laid out along one long, wide street, referred to as High Street in the Medieval period and currently known as Main Street. The street was overlooked from the west by the medieval church, which was established next to the remains of the Early Medieval monastery, as evidenced by the remaining coursed limestone round tower. The tower is c. 26m high with a basal circumference of 16.20m. Much of the medieval churches’ building materials were used in the construction of the present edifice, St. Columbus Church of Ireland, in AD 1818, and only the 15th-century west square belfry tower of the earlier structure now survives (Courtney and Goucher, 2007).

3.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

A geophysical survey was previously conducted at this site (25R0166; Murphy, 2025; see details in the section below). No previous excavations took place within the site. However, assessments in the environs were carried out, resulting in archaeological remains being exposed and subsequently excavated. These include a burnt mound, a bivallate enclosure and an archaeological complex (09E0466; Hession 2009) identified to the southeast of the site during test trenching in relation to the Metro North light rail project and prehistoric activity and early medieval settlement (15E0334; McGlade 2016) to the northwest of the site identified during test trenching in relation to Ridgewood development.

Listed below (Table 1) are the nearest previous archaeological investigations undertaken in the environs of the site (see Figure 2), which further demonstrate the overall archaeological potential of the site and its surrounding townlands. The following information was taken from the *Database of Irish Excavation Reports*

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(www.excavations.ie), and associated reports were accessed through the National Monuments Service's (NMS) Virtual Reading Room.

Table 1: Previous archaeological investigations within the environs of the site

Excavation.ie reference	Licence No.	Site-Type	Investigation Type
2016:052 - Rathingle, Swords, Dublin	15E0334	Prehistoric activity and early medieval settlement	Testing Monitoring Excavation
2009:337 - FOSTERSTOWN SOUTH, Dublin	09E0466	Burnt mound, bivallate enclosure, archaeological complex	Geophysical Survey Testing
1996:141 - OLD VICARAGE, Swords, Dublin	95E0035	No archaeology found	Testing

Geophysical Survey (25R0166; Murphy 2025)

The geophysical survey was conducted by Donald Murphy, Robert Breen and Jeanne Rochford of Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit Ltd. (ACSU) under licence 25R0166 issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. A complete, detailed gradiometer survey was undertaken throughout the application area using a SENSYS MAGNETO MXV3 8-sensor fluxgate gradiometer cart system.

The survey identified a potential archaeological feature along the eastern portion of the field, consisting of a circular anomaly that may represent a ring ditch (M1). Potential spread/pit remains of archaeological significance have also been recorded throughout the survey area. An archaeological interpretation for responses in these areas is highly tentative, and a natural soil or geological origin or recent land use for these anomalies should be considered. A sample of these responses should be assessed through test trenching.

The anomalies identified are listed in Table 2 below.

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Table 2: Geophysical survey results

Anomaly No.	Form/Nature of Anomaly	Possible Source(s) of Anomaly	Description
M1	?Archaeology	Possible ring ditch	Positive circular anomaly that may represent a ring ditch with a diameter of c. 7m, along the eastern portion of the survey area.
-	?Archaeology	Small to medium anomalies: pits, posts, spreads, kilns, cut features	A series of positive anomalies occurs sporadically across the survey area. These might represent cut features such as pits, postholes, spreads, kilns, or other types of archaeological features. It may also be natural in origin.
-	Magnetic disturbance	Modern disturbance	Increased dipolar responses occurred throughout the survey area, which are likely associated with modern ground disturbances.
-	Magnetic disturbance/ increased magnetism	Modern disturbance	Increased magnetic disturbance occurring along field boundaries, associated with metal fencing.
-	Modern anomalies	Modern disturbance	Increased dipolar responses occur towards the eastern portion of the survey area. A concrete pad and building rubble in the field correspond with this anomaly.
-	Modern anomalies	Modern disturbance	A series of dipolar circular anomalies occurs in the southeast portion of the survey area; these appear to correspond with areas of disturbance visible on aerial imagery and may be associated with the golf club.
-	Ferrous	Magnetic disturbance from modern debris	Bipolar anomalies sporadically occurring that are associated with magnetic interference from modern

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Anomaly No.	Form/Nature of Anomaly	Possible Source(s) of Anomaly	Description
			ferrous material, either in the topsoil or the surface of the survey area.

3.3 Recorded Monuments

The *Record of Monuments and Places* (RMP) and *Sites and Monuments Record* (SMR) are compiled and updated by the National Monuments Service and the National Historic Properties Service. The RMP comprises manuals that list all known archaeological sites and monuments in a county, accompanied by maps (based on Ordnance Survey (OS) six-inch maps) that locate these sites. All sites included in the RMP are protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930–2004). The SMR consists of all records stored in the Archaeological Survey of Ireland national database and is presented in the Historic Environment Viewer. The last published RMP for County Dublin is dated 1998, and as such, many of the sites listed in the SMR are scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP.

The site contains no monuments listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) or the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). The nearest such site is a Ring Ditch (DU011-119), identified as a cropmark and registered in an adjacent field, c. 110m to the southwest of the site.

Below (Table 3) is a list of the recorded monuments located in the environs of the site (Figure 2). These descriptions are derived from the National Monuments Service Archaeological Survey Database (<https://heritagedata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/>).

Table 3: Recorded Monuments in the environs of the site

DU011-119----	Ring-ditch	FORREST GREAT
<p>A circular ring-ditch visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph (SMR file; pers. comm. T. Condit). The site is located in a relatively low-lying field within a gently undulating landscape. No visible remains at ground level.</p> <p>Compiled by: David O'Connor</p> <p>Updated by: Christine Baker</p> <p>Date of upload: 09 January 2015</p>		

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Six-Inch First Edition:

Six-Inch Latest Edition: Not indicated

ITM Coordinates: 716208, 745254

Latitude and Longitude: 53.444541, -6.250687

DU011-163----	Enclosure	RATHINGLE
<p>First identified by Leo Swan and provided to the ASI by the Discovery Programme (copyright of the images vested in the National Museum of Ireland), this bivallate crop-mark enclosure was identified in oblique aerial photographs (LS_AS_35CT_00022_34m, LS_AS_35CT_00022_35m, LS_AS_67BWN_00001_05, LS_AS_67BWN_00001_07, LS_AS_67BWN_00001_11). The crop-mark consists of a central circular area (approximate diam. 20m N-S) enclosed by a fosse with an outer oval enclosure (approximate diam. 50m E-W). Faint traces of an earlier small sub-rectangular crop-mark enclosure can be seen beyond the NE quadrant, truncated by the outer ditch. The enclosure is situated S of the ring-ditch of DU0110-162----</p>		
DU011-114---	Ring-ditch	FOSTERSTOWN SOUTH
<p>A circular ring-ditch visible as a crop mark on an aerial photograph. To the southeast, a sub-circular enclosure is also visible within the same field (DU011-113----). The site is located on low-lying land that rises steeply to the south. No visible remains at ground level.</p>		
DU011-162----	Ring-ditch	RATHINGLE
<p>First identified by Leo Swan and provided to the ASI by the Discovery Programme (copyright of the images vested in the National Museum of Ireland) the ring-ditch was identified in oblique aerial photographs (LS_AS_678BWN-00001_07, LS_AS_678BWN-00001_11). The cropmark consists of a small circular ring-ditch (approximate diam. 12m N-S) lying just to the N of the bivallate crop-mark enclosure of DU0110-163----</p>		
DU011-044----	House - 16th/17th century	FORREST GREAT
<p>The Civil survey (1654-6) mentions a fair stone house at the Great Forrest held by Lord Ranelagh (Simington 1945, 113). This is probably the building shown on the 1840 OS 6-inch map, as 'Forrest House in ruins'. In the 1992 report, there were foundations of this building present at the rear of a large farmhouse. Now a yard. No visible remains.</p>		

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3.4 Record of Protected Structures and National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

A Protected Structure is a structure that a planning authority think is of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social, or technical point of view. The structure is recognised as essential and is protected from harm under legislation. Every local authority in Ireland is required to maintain a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) in its development plans.

The NIAH identifies, records, and evaluates the post-1700 architecture of Ireland in order to protect and conserve our built heritage. It is under the administration of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It also forms the basis of a list for structures that should be included in the Record of Protected structures compiled by local authorities.

The site does not contain any Protected Structures, as listed in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023–2029, nor any structures listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). The nearest such site is World War II Pillbox (RPS ID 952) located c. 0.5km to the south of the site, in the grounds of Forrest Little Golf Course. Described as Mid-20th century (built circa 1941), flat-roofed, square-plan concrete WWII pillbox/machine-gun post to defend Collinstown Aerodrome (now Dublin Airport). Currently used as a pumphouse for the golf course.


3.5 Finds listed within the Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland list all archaeological artefacts in the care of or known to the museum. Such a record can provide evidence for human settlement or activity in the absence of physical remains or documentary references.

A number of finds are listed in the environs of the site, including a polished basalt axe head (NMI Reg. No. 1959:13) from Fosterstown North and a retouched flint flake (NMI Reg. No. 2004:117) retrieved from Windmill Lands.

3.6 Cartographic Evidence

A review of available historic mapping for the area was conducted, including the Down Survey map of County Dublin, specifically the Barony of Nethercross (1656), and an actual survey of the county of Dublin by John Rocque - northeast sheet (1760). It also included the Ordnance Survey (OS) of Ireland (now Tailte Éireann) 6-

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inch (surveyed 1836, published 1843) and 25-inch (surveyed 1906, published 1908) maps (Figures 3-4). Potential archaeological or cultural heritage features are often marked on such maps, providing a helpful resource for identifying sites, particularly when they no longer have any above-ground remains.

The 1656 map labelled the area of the site as 'Unforfeited' with no more detail given. On the 1760 map, the site is depicted as part of a field adjacent to an established road lined by trees; that road is roughly within the current footprint of Forest Road.

On the Ordnance Survey map, the site is examined and depicted as agricultural land with no buildings illustrated. The northern boundary is marked by a wet ditch and a townland boundary. The site is shown as a portion of two fields on the 1836 map (Figure 3). By the 1906 map (Figure 4), the field boundary had been removed.


No monuments or features of archaeological significance were noted on the examined mapping.

3.7 Aerial Photography

A review of available aerial photography for the area was also undertaken as part of this assessment. Aerial photographs dating between 1995 and 2018 from Tailte Éireann were assessed, along with Google Earth imagery dating between 2002 and 2025. Unrecorded archaeological sites can often be identified in aerial photographs as cropmarks or differential growth in a field, particularly during periods of drought, such as those experienced in the summer of 2018. While in built-up or urban areas, such as towns and cities, aerial images can help trace changes in the layouts of buildings and roads.

By the time of the 1995 aerial, the eastern portion of the site had undergone some groundworks, with access and a structure present. These were removed by the time of the 2002 aerial, leaving the associated footprint at the location of the access and building apron still noticeable. From 2008, the hedge lines and trees bounding the southeast of the site started expanding northwest. From 2019, bushes of brambles began to pepper the site. The site is grassed and overgrown, as shown in the 2025 aerial imagery.

Nothing of cultural heritage significance was identified within the site on the examined aerial imagery.

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4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Test Excavation

Test Excavation

Test excavation was carried out in accordance with the *IAI Code of Conduct for Archaeological Assessment Excavation* (Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland 2006a). All trenches were excavated to natural by a mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket under the direct supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist (Caroline Cosgrove).

All spoil from the trenches was also examined for artefacts.

4.2 Conditions

Weather throughout the duration of the on-site works was dry and sunny. A safe means of access to the site was maintained at all times. No livestock were present in the field during the test trenching.

4.3 Constraints on Methods

There was an ESB pole at the entrance of the site, where test Trench 25 was proposed (Plate 34). This was not excavated. Trenches 32, 33, 34, and 38 were placed within the tree/hedge line along the southeast site boundary. The machine cleared the heavy vegetation out of the way to excavate the trenches. An east-to-west-aligned concrete structure shortened Trench 37 slightly at the west.

5. TEST EXCAVATION RESULTS

Table 4: Trench descriptions

Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
1	25	0.6-0.77	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 5). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a compact, mottled grey and brown clay with frequent stone.

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
2	25	0.82	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 6 &7). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a compact, mottled grey and brown clay with frequent stone.</p> <p>A northwest-to-southeast field drain was recorded in the trench (Plate 6).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
3	5	0.46	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 8). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a compact, mottled grey and brown clay with frequent stone.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
4	19	0.73	<p>Northwest to southeast-aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 9). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown, clayey silt with frequent root growth. The natural (C2) was a grey and brown, gravelly clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
5	32	0.58 – 0.99	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 10). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a grey and brown, gravelly clay.</p> <p>A northwest-to-southeast field drain was recorded in the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
6	32	0.6	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 69). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between an orange clay and a grey, brown, and gravelly clay. No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench
7	32	0.4 – 0.8	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 11). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between an orange clay and a grey and brown, gravelly clay. No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
8	17	0.57	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 12). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between an orange clay and a grey, brown, and gravelly clay. No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
9	37	0.57	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 13). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between an orange clay and a grey, brown, and gravelly clay. No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
10	37	0.68	Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 14). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between an orange clay and a grey gravel. No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
11	37	0.62	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 15 & 16). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied between a mottled grey and brown clay to an orange clay with spreads of light grey clay.</p> <p>A northwest to southeast field drain and an east to west stone drain were recorded in the trench (Plate 15).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
12	7	0.8	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 17). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled dark grey and brown clay.</p> <p>A northwest to southeast field drain (Plate 17).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
13	37	0.64	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 18). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled dark grey and brown clay.</p> <p>A modern cut (0.4m width) ran NE/SW along the eastern side of the baulk and was filled with an orangish-brown clayey silt (Plate 18). It is likely a backfilled drainage ditch.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
14	17	0.52	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 19). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled dark grey and brown clay with frequent stone.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
15	37	0.3-0.42	<p>Northeast to southwest -aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 20). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled dark grey and brown clay with frequent stone.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
16	7	0.48	<p>East-southeast to west-northwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 21). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a grey and brown, gravelly clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
17	39	0.48 – 0.62	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 22). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown/ orangish brown clayey silt with frequent plastic rubbish concentrated in the southeast. The natural (C2) was a grey and brown, gravelly clay.</p> <p>An east to west aligned stone drain was recorded at the southern end of the trench (Plate 70).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
18	5	0.52	<p>East-southeast to west-northwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 23). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled grey and yellow clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
19	5	0.73	<p>East-to-west aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 24). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown. The natural (C2) was a grey and brown gravelly clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
20	36	0.63	<p>Trench shortened at the southern end due to a manhole (Plate 25). Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 26-27). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a compact, mottled light grey and brown clay with frequent stone.</p> <p>A southwest-to-northeast service duct filled with pea gravel was recorded in the trench (Plate 25).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
21	21	0.75 – 0.8	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 28). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a compact, mottled light grey and brown clay with frequent stone, including dark grey mudstone.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
22	24	0.93	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 29). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt with plastic rubbish inclusions. The natural (C2) was a gravelly clay. Hardcore stone was recorded at the southern end of the trench, where it clipped a driveway.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
23	31	0.98	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 30-31). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown, clayey silt with frequent root growth. The natural (C2) was a mottled light brown and grey clay.</p> <p>Trench 23 cut through a hardcore stone driveway. A southwest-to-northeast-aligned waterpipe was recorded in the trench (Plate 30).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
24	31	0.73	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 32-33). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown, clayey silt with frequent root growth. The natural (C2) was a mottled light brown and grey clay.</p> <p>Trench 24 cut through a hardcore stone driveway.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
25			Not excavated as the proposed trench went across the site access and beneath the electricity wires (Plate 34).
26	54	0.4	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 35-36). The corner of a long, northeast-to-southwest concrete structure ran into the trench and was bypassed (Plate 35). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a brown and grey clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
27	37	0.43 – 0.86	West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 37-38). Trench cut through a hardcore stone driveway. The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled brown and grey clay.

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			<p>An active water pipe was recorded at the western end of the trench (Plate 37).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
28	39	0.4 – 0.82	<p>West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 39-41). The trench cuts through the foundations of a demolished building, along with its associated service ducts (Plate 38). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt with plastic and concrete blocks in the topsoil. The natural (C2) was a mottled brown and grey clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
29	31	0.5-0.62	<p>West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 39-41). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt with plastic and concrete blocks in the topsoil. The natural (C2) was a mottled brown and grey clay.</p> <p>Service ducts filled with pea gravel were recorded in the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
30	12	0.58	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 43-45). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled brown and grey clay with frequent stone, including mudstone.</p> <p>The trench cut through a slightly raised grass mound. Beneath the sod was a layer of gravel (Plates 43 and 44). This is the anomaly (M1) that showed up on the geophysical survey.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
31	7	0.86	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 46). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled brown and grey clay with frequent stone.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
32	26	0.43 – 0.67	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 47-49). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a yellow clay natural.</p> <p>A northeast-to-southwest stone drain (Plate 47) and a pea-gravel-filled service duct (Plate 48) were recorded in the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
33	25	0.52	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 50 – 51). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a yellow clay natural.</p> <p>A pea gravel-filled service duct (Plate 50) was recorded in the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
34	25	0.5	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 52). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt, with a layer of pea gravel at the northwest end. The natural (C2) was a yellow clay natural.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
35	30	0.47	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 53). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a light brownish orange clay.</p> <p>A north-to-south-aligned stone drain was recorded in the trench (Plate 53).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
36	17	0.47 – 0.75	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 54 -55). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled, orangish-brown and grey clay.</p> <p>A north-to-south-aligned stone drain was recorded in the trench (Plate 54).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
37	30	0.5	<p>Northwest to southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 56). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled, orangish-brown and grey clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
38	30	0.47	<p>East-southeast to west-southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 57 -58). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a brownish-orange clay.</p> <p>A north-to-south-aligned service duct filled with pea gravel was recorded in the trench (Plate 57).</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
39	6	0.43	<p>North to south aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 59). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a gravelly clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
40	6	0.42	<p>Southwest to northeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 60). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a gravelly clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
41	24	0.47	<p>West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 61). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a gravelly clay with frequent stones.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
42	29	0.44 – 0.63	<p>West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 62). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a gravelly clay.</p> <p>A northeast-to-southwest-aligned drain was noted at the eastern end of the trench.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
43	6	0.58	<p>East-to-west aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 63). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was an orange clay.</p>

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Trench Number	Length (m)	Trench depth (m)	Description
			No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.
44	20	0.63	<p>West-northwest to east-southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 64). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled grey and brown gravel clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
45	6	0.6	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 65). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was a mottled grey and yellow clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
46	6	0.4	<p>Northeast to southwest aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plate 66). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was an orangish-brown clay.</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>
47	23	0.71	<p>Northwest to southeast aligned trench (Figures 7-8, Plates 68 & 71). The topsoil (C1) was a mid-brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) was an orange-coloured clay.</p> <p>A number of service ducts filled with pea gravel were recorded at the northwestern end of the trench (Plate 71).</p> <p>No archaeological structure, feature or deposit was identified in the trench.</p>


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Table 5: Context descriptions

Context	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Basic Description
C1				Topsoil
C2				Natural

6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

No archaeological structures, features or deposits were recorded in any of the trenches excavated. Therefore, the proposed development will not impact any archaeology within the development site.

7. CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A total of 46 test trenches were excavated across the proposed development site (Figures 7 & 8, Plates 1- 71). Each trench measured 1.8m in width, and in total, 1,140m of linear trenches were excavated. The topsoil (C1) ranged in depth from 0.4m to 0.98m and from a mid-brown clayey silt to an orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied from a grey and brown gravelly clay to an orange clay to a mottled grey and brown clay. Several modern features were noted in the trenches in the form of field drains, stone drains, service ducts, and building foundations. The possible ring-ditch identified in the geophysical survey (25R0166: Murphy 2025) was not identified in the targeted trench (Trench 30). However, a slightly raised mound, with gravel directly beneath the sod (Plates 43 & 44) could explain the anomaly on the geophysical survey. No archaeological features or deposits were observed or exposed within any of the trenches, and no archaeological artefacts were recovered; therefore, the proposed development will have no impact on archaeological features. No further work is recommended.

8. EXCAVATION BULLETIN

County: Dublin

Site name: Forest Road, Forrest Great, Swords, Co. Dublin

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A

Licence number: 25E0856

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Author: Caroline Cosgrove

Site type: No archaeology found

Period/Dating: N/A

ITM: 716555, 745222

Date of completion: September 2025

Summary:

A total of 46 test trenches were excavated across the proposed development site. Each trench measured 1.8m in width, and in total, 1,140m of linear trenches were excavated. The topsoil (C1) ranged in depth from 0.4m to 0.98m and from a mid-brown clayey silt to an orangish brown clayey silt. The natural (C2) varied from a grey and brown gravely clay to an orange clay to a mottled grey and brown clay.

Several modern features were noted in the trenches in the form of field drains, stone drains, service ducts, and building foundations. The possible ring-ditch identified in the geophysical survey (25R0166: Murphy 2025) was not identified in the targeted trench. However, a slightly raised mound, with gravel directly beneath the sod, could explain the anomaly on the geophysical survey. No archaeological features or deposits were observed or exposed within any of the trenches, and no archaeological artefacts were recovered; therefore, the proposed development will have no impact on archaeological features.


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Caroline Cosgrove, Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit Ltd, Unit 21 Boyne Business Park, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co Louth


9. PUBLICATION PLAN

An account of this archaeological assessment and its results will be published online as an excavation bulletin for the *Database of Irish Excavation Reports* (see Section 11).

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Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029

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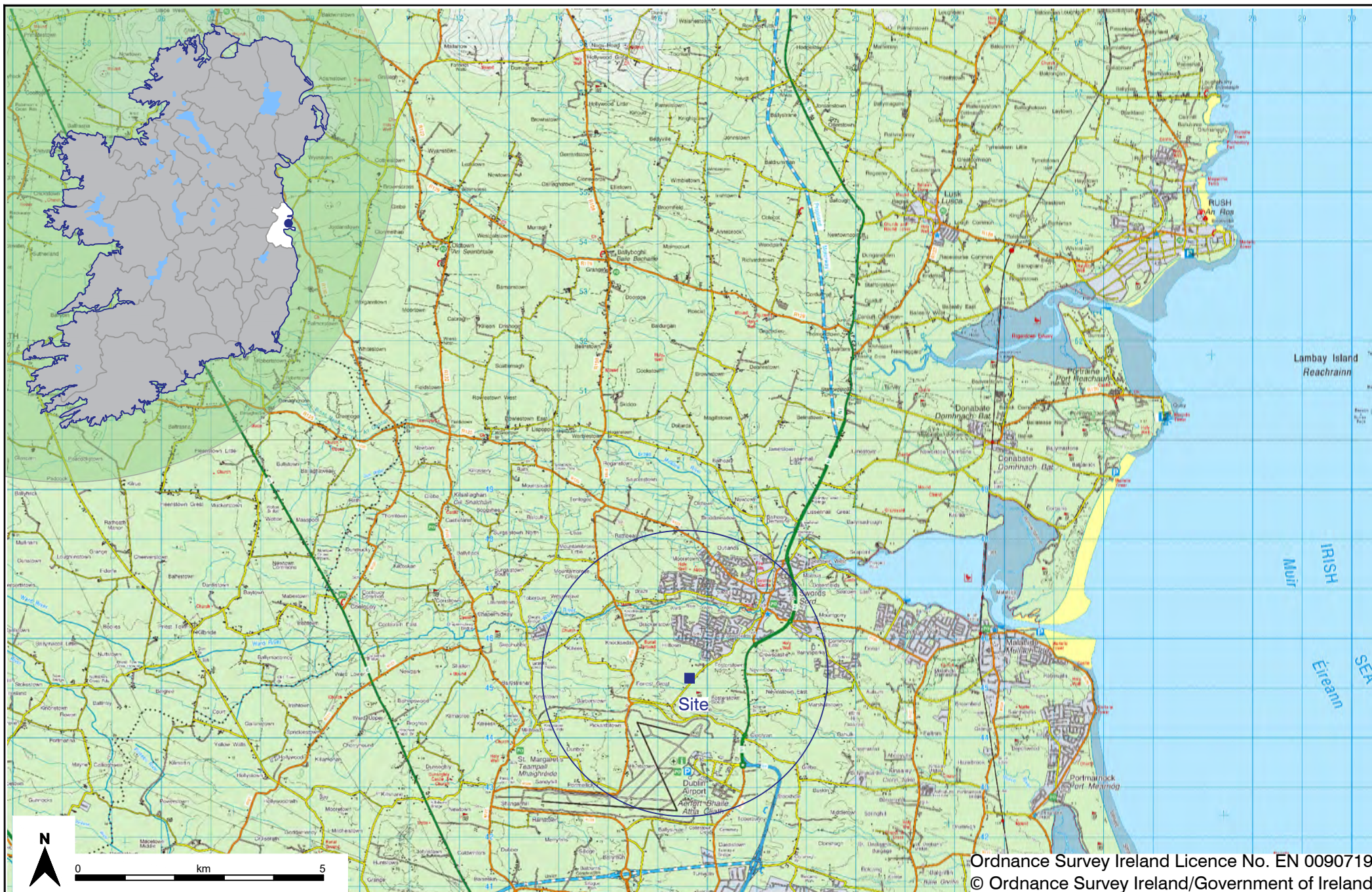
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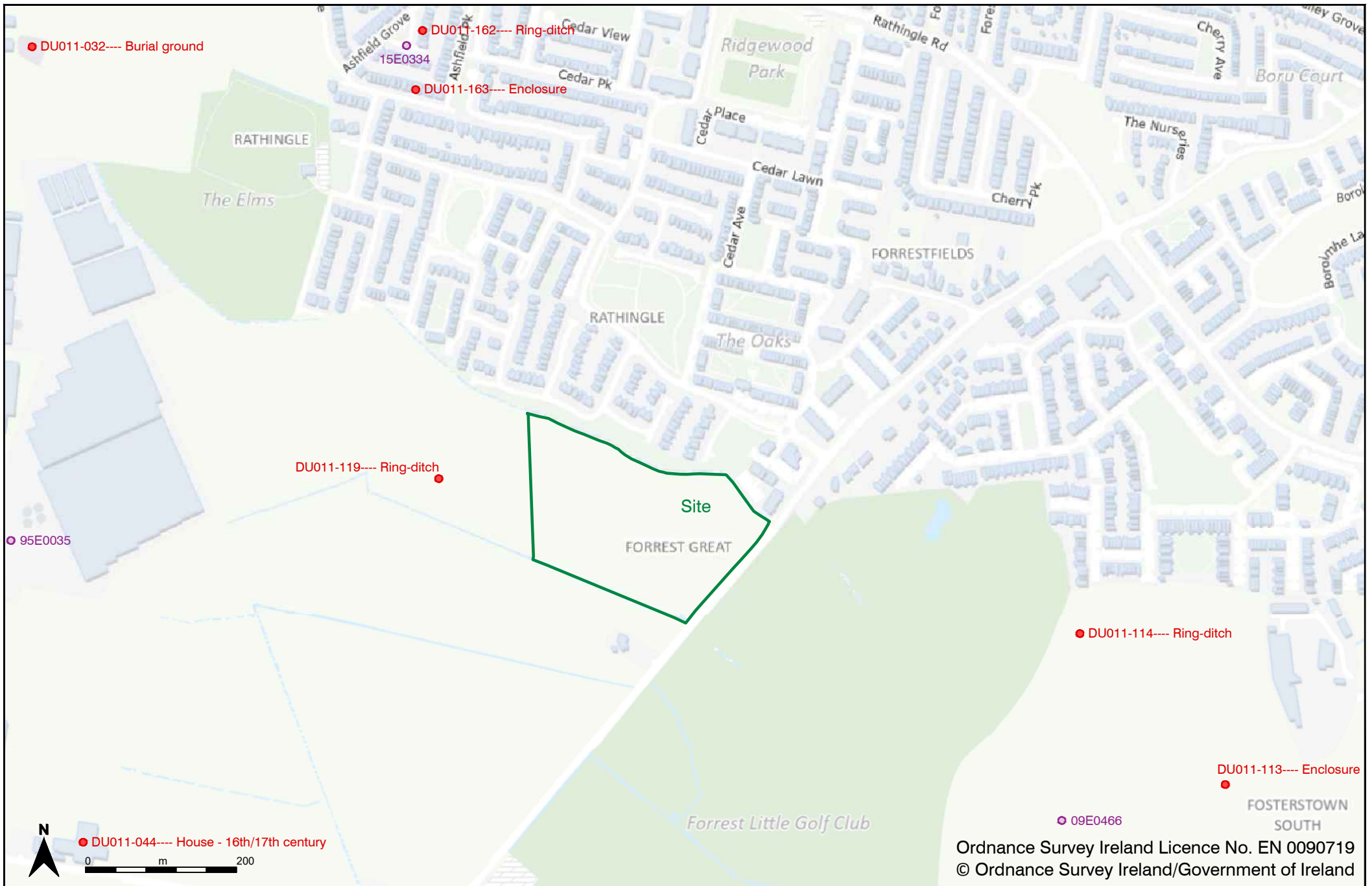
Project Forrest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Date September 2025


Drawing No. 24198_C1001

Figure 1 Location of site

Scale 1:100,000 @ A4



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Project Forrestdale Road, Swords, Co. Dublin	Date September 2025	Drawing No. 24198_C1002	 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES UNIT
Figure 2 Location of site, previous archaeological investigations and nearby Sites and Monuments Record sites		Scale 1:6,500 @ A4	



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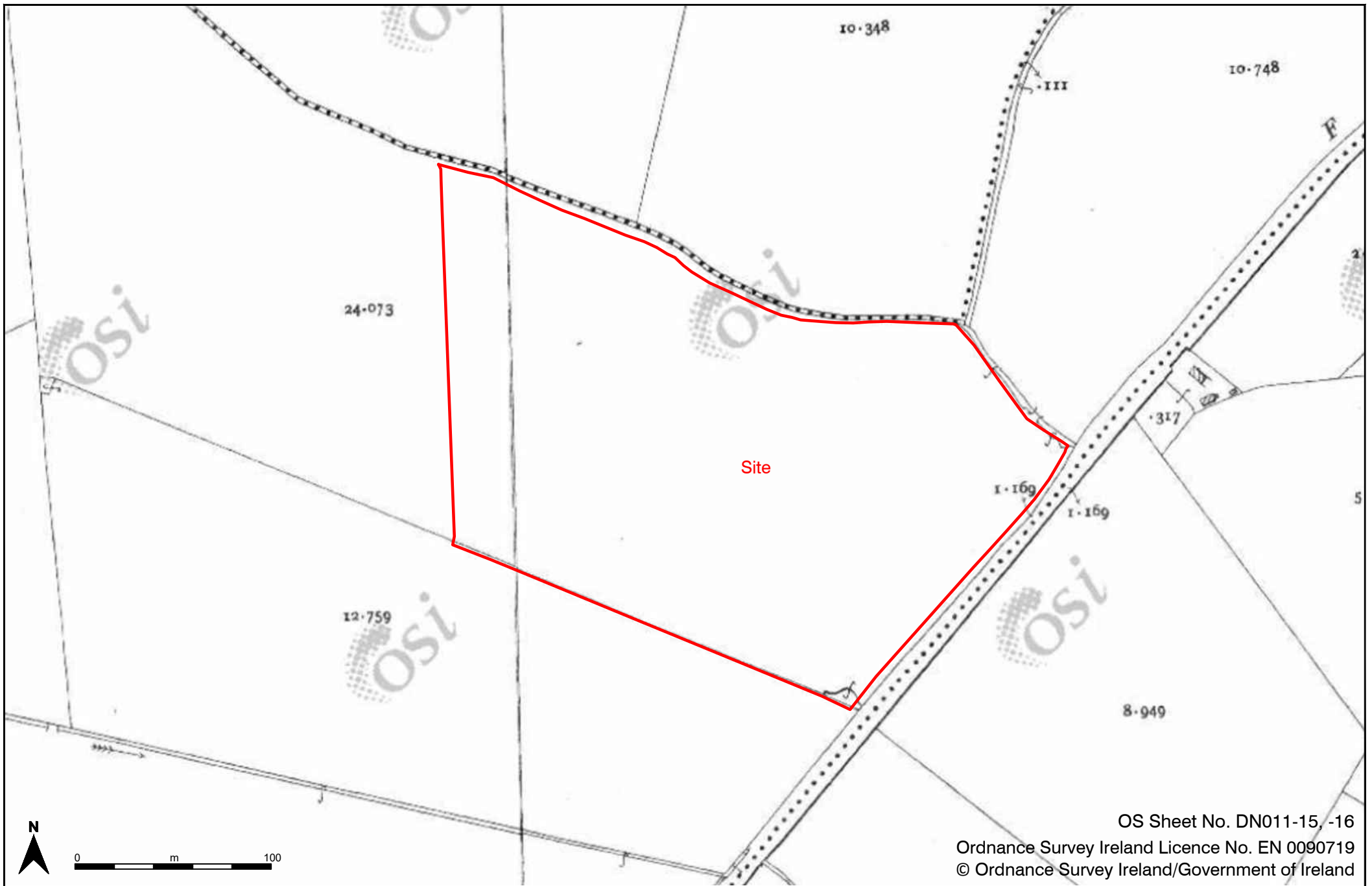
Project Forrest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Date September 2025

Drawing No. 24198_C1003

Figure 3 Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 6-inch map (surveyed 1836 - published 1843), showing location of site

Scale 1:2,500 @ A4



OS Sheet No. DN011-15, -16

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Project Forrest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Date September 2025

Drawing No. 24198_C1004

Figure 4 Extract from 3rd edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25-inch map (surveyed 1906 - published 1908), showing location of site

Scale 1:2,500 @ A4



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Drawing No. 24198_C1005

Figure 5 Aerial view of site

Scale 1:2,500 @ A4





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Date September 2025

Drawing No. 24198_C1006

Figure 6 Aerial view of site, showing geophysical survey results (greyscale images)

Scale 1:2,000 @ A4

Trench details

(average width=1.8 m)

T1 = 25 m	T25 = not excavated
T2 = 25 m	T26 = 54 m
T3 = 5 m	T27 = 37 m
T4 = 19 m	T28 = 39 m
T5 = 32 m	T29 = 31 m
T6 = 32 m	T30 = 12 m
T7 = 32 m	T31 = 7 m
T8 = 17 m	T32 = 26 m
T9 = 37 m	T33 = 25 m
T10 = 37 m	T34 = 25 m
T11 = 37 m	T35 = 30 m
T12 = 7 m	T36 = 17 m
T13 = 37 m	T37 = 30 m
T14 = 17 m	T38 = 30 m
T15 = 37 m	T39 = 6 m
T16 = 7 m	T40 = 6 m
T17 = 39 m	T41 = 24 m
T18 = 5 m	T42 = 29 m
T19 = 5 m	T43 = 6 m
T20 = 36 m	T44 = 20 m
T21 = 21 m	T45 = 6 m
T22 = 24 m	T46 = 6 m
T23 = 31 m	T47 = 23 m
T24 = 31 m	

Excavated test trenches

Site

- Archaeology
- ? Archaeology
- Trend
- ? Early field system
- Former boundary
- Buried service
- Cultivation
- Land drain
- Natural/underlying geology
- Magnetic disturbance
- Modern anomalies
- Ferrous



Project Forrest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Date September 2025

Drawing No. 24198_C1007

Figure 7 Aerial view of site, showing geophysical survey interpretation and excavated test trenches

Scale 1:2,000 @ A4

Trench details (average width=1.8 m)

T1 = 25 m	T25 = not excavated
T2 = 25 m	T26 = 54 m
T3 = 5 m	T27 = 37 m
T4 = 19 m	T28 = 39 m
T5 = 32 m	T29 = 31 m
T6 = 32 m	T30 = 12 m
T7 = 32 m	T31 = 7 m
T8 = 17 m	T32 = 26 m
T9 = 37 m	T33 = 25 m
T10 = 37 m	T34 = 25 m
T11 = 37 m	T35 = 30 m
T12 = 7 m	T36 = 17 m
T13 = 37 m	T37 = 30 m
T14 = 17 m	T38 = 30 m
T15 = 37 m	T39 = 6 m
T16 = 7 m	T40 = 6 m
T17 = 39 m	T41 = 24 m
T18 = 5 m	T42 = 29 m
T19 = 5 m	T43 = 6 m
T20 = 36 m	T44 = 20 m
T21 = 21 m	T45 = 6 m
T22 = 24 m	T46 = 6 m
T23 = 31 m	T47 = 23 m
T24 = 31 m	

Excavated test trenches

- Archaeology
- ? Archaeology
- Trend
- ? Early field system
- Former boundary
- Buried service
- Cultivation
- Land drain
- Natural/underlying geology
- Magnetic disturbance
- Modern anomalies
- Ferrous

Site



0 m 100

Project Forrest Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Date September 2025

Drawing No. 24198_C1008

Figure 8 Detail of site development, showing geophysical survey interpretation and excavated test trenches

Scale 1:2,000 @ A4



Plate 1: View from entrance of site, looking west



Plate 2: View of northeast corner of site, looking south



Plate 3: View from northwest corner of site looking southeast



Plate 4: Concrete driveway, running along centre of site, looking south



Plate 5: Trench 1, looking northeast



Plate 6: Field drain, in Trench 2, looking northwest



Plate 7: Trench 2, looking northeast



Plate 8: Trench 3, looking northeast



Plate 9: Trench 4, looking southeast



Plate 10: Trench 5, with field drain in foreground, looking southwest



Plate 11: Trench 7, looking northwest



Plate 12: Trench 8, looking southeast



Plate 13: Trench 9, looking southwest



Plate 14: Trench 10, looking northeast



Plate 15: Trench 11, looking northeast



Plate 16: Trench 11, looking south



Plate 17: Trench 12, showing stone drain, looking southwest



Plate 18: Trench 13, looking northeast



Plate 19: Trench 14, looking southwest



Plate 20: Trench 15, looking southwest



Plate 21: Trench 16, looking east-southeast



Plate 22: Trench 17, looking southwest



Plate 23: Trench 18, looking east-southeast.



Plate 24: Trench 19, looking northeast



Plate 25: Manhole at southern end of Trench 20



Plate 26: Field drain in Trench 20, looking northeast



Plate 27: Trench 20, with pea gravel filled duct in foreground, looking northeast



Plate 28: Trench 21, looking northeast



Plate 29: Trench 22, looking northeast



Plate 30: Water pipe, in Trench 23, looking north



Plate 31: Trench 23, looking southeast.



Plate 32: Stone drain, in Trench 24, looking northeast



Plate 33: Trench 24, looking northeast



Plate 34: Site access and ESB pole, along route of proposed Trench 25



Plate 35: Northwest corner of concrete drive, in Trench 26, looking southwest



Plate 36: Trench 26, looking northeast



Plate 37: Deactivated electrical duct , in Trench 27, looking west



Plate 38: Trench 27, looking west-northwest



Plate 39: House foundations, electrical ducts and a stone drain at western end of Trench 28



Plate 40: Active water pipe at western end of Trench 28



Plate 41: Trench 28, looking west-northwest



Plate 42: Trench 29, looking west-northwest



Plate 43 : Pea gravel beneath the sod in Trench 30, looking northeast



Plate 44: Pea gravel in eastern baulk of Trench 30



Plate 45: Trench 30, looking northeast



Plate 46: Trench 31, looking northeast



Plate 47: Stone drain in Trench 32, looking west



Plate 48: Service duct in Trench 32, looking west



Plate 49: Trench 32, looking east-southeast



Plate 50: Pea gravel filled duct , in Trench 33, looking west



Plate 51: Trench 33, looking east-southeast



Plate 52: Trench 34, looking east-southeast



Plate 53: Trench 35, with stone drain, looking west



Plate 54: Stone drain, in Trench 36, looking west



Plate 55: Trench 36, looking west-northwest



Plate 56: Trench 37, looking northwest



Plate 57: Pea gravel filled duct, in Trench 38, looking west



Plate 58: Trench 38, looking east-southeast



Plate 59: Trench 39, looking south



Plate 60: Trench 40, looking southwest



Plate 61: Trench 41, looking west-northwest



Plate 62: Trench 42, looking west-northwest



Plate 63: Trench 43, looking east



Plate 64: Trench 44, looking west-northwest



Plate 65: Trench 45, looking southwest



Plate 66: Trench 46, looking northeast



Plate 67: Pea gravel filled duct, in Trench 47, looking northwest



Plate 68: Trench 47, looking southeast



Plate 69: Trench 6, looking southwest



Plate 70: Stone drain, in Trench 17, looking north



Plate 71: Service ducts, in Trench 47, looking northwest