



An Roinn  
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta  

---

Department of  
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Your Ref:

Our Ref: **G Pre00216/2017**

*(Please quote in all related correspondence)*

22 November 2017

Dr. Clare Crowley  
Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd  
Lynwood House,  
Ballinteer Road,  
Dublin 16

Via email to [Clare@courtneydeery.ie](mailto:Clare@courtneydeery.ie)

**Re: Pre-planning meeting for a Strategic Housing Development project at Magee Barracks, Kildare**

A chara

On behalf of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading(s).

### **Archaeology**

Having considered the archaeological assessment report compiled in relation to the proposed development site and having discussed the proposed development with you at our meeting in the Customs House, Dublin on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, it is evident that the barracks area, incorporating the site of the Lock Hospital, has undergone extensive ground disturbance over many years and is unlikely to yield pre-1700 archaeological remains.

There is however the possibility that human burials associated with the Lock Hospital will be encountered on site and it is suggested in the assessment report that a burial ground might be found in the area of the former Officers' Garden or the site of a gravel pit, situated towards the middle of the development site.

Despite their relatively recent date, the existing site layout and the structures on site, are of considerable interest from the point of view of industrial/military, post-medieval archaeology.

In addition, due to their position between two areas of archaeological potential, (Recorded Monuments KD022-029---- (Town) and KD 022-071---- (Archaeological Complex)), the green field areas proposed for development in this and a later phase, have considerable archaeological potential.

In order to address the archaeological potential outlined above and in accordance with the recommendations regarding mitigation made in the assessment report, the National Monuments Service recommends as follows:

- Archaeological monitoring should be undertaken at the location of the former Lock Hospital, during the site preparations stage and well in advance of construction, to identify and record the surviving foundations.
- Archaeological monitoring should also be undertaken in the parade ground area, with a view to establishing the date and function of the network of channels identified there. This monitoring should be carried out by an archaeologist with specialist knowledge of military/industrial archaeology.
- Archaeological monitoring should be undertaken at the site of the former gravel pit associated with the hospital, in order to identify (if possible in this disturbed location) whether this area might have been used for burial purposes. The monitoring should be carried out during the site preparations stage and well in advance of construction.
- Archaeological testing should be undertaken in the former garden area at the Officers' Mess in the vicinity of the former pump / sewage tank associated with the hospital, in order to identify whether this location might have been used for burial purposes. This work should be carried out well in advance of construction and under the terms of an excavation licence issued by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- Archaeological testing should be undertaken within the area identified as field 1 in the assessment report, in order to identify any previously unknown archaeological features or deposits that may survive below ground in this area. This work should be carried out well in advance of construction and under the terms of an excavation licence issued by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

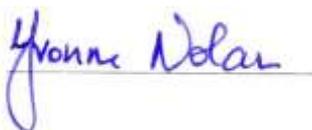
This Service also agrees that geophysical investigations should be carried out in greenfield areas, in advance of any future, phase 2, development on this site. Further archaeological mitigation measures, if required, will be based on the results of the geophysical investigations.

The above observations/recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations that the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority/ies, in her/his role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

You are requested to send further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at [manager.dau@chg.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@chg.gov.ie) (team monitored); if this is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager  
 Development Applications Unit (DAU)  
 Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
 Newtown Road  
 Wexford  
 Y35 AP90

Is mise, le meas



Yvonne Nolan  
 Development Applications Unit