

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
AT  
FORMER RIVER MALL CHANNEL  
TEMPLEMORE  
COUNTY TIPPERARY**

**ON BEHALF OF: TOBIN CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
FOR: TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**DETECTION LICENCE REF: 22R0025**

**AUTHOR: TIM COUGHLAN**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This report has been prepared for Tobin Consulting Engineers, on behalf of Tipperary County Council, to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological resource of the proposed infilling works on the former River Mall channel Templemore, Co Tipperary (Figure 1, ITM 610803, 671760 to 611116, 671166). The report was undertaken by Tim Coughlan of IAC Archaeology. A metal detection survey was carried out under licence number 22R0025.

Built Heritage is reported on separately within a report by Rob Goodbody.

The results of the assessment, and the associated field inspection, have confirmed that there are no known sites of archaeological significance along the route of the proposed pipe or infilling works.

The existing canalised channel has resulted in the former riverbed being substantially below existing ground level and that of existing outfalls. It is anticipated that the existing river bed level will be roughly at grade with the formation level for the proposed header pipe, and limited excavation or grading of the existing river bed will be required (Figure 2). It is anticipated that localised grading and vegetation removal will be required along the length of the works but this is not anticipated to involved any significant volume of material, but to facilitate successful completion of pipelaying and infilling works.

The field inspection also confirmed that the channel is highly contaminated with modern debris and will have been substantially impacted by works associated with the building of the canalised walls along much of its length. Given the raised deposits beneath the various bridges along the route, it is likely that much of the river bed has been subject of dredging.

It remains possible that there may be adverse impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. This will be caused by ground disturbances associated with the proposed development. It is recommended that all ground disturbances associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 GENERAL

The following report details an archaeological assessment undertaken in advance of proposed infilling works on the former River Mall channel at Templemore, Co. Tipperary (Figure 1; ITM 610803, 671760 to 611116, 671166). This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological and historical resource that may exist within the area. The assessment was undertaken by Tim Coughlan of IAC Archaeology (IAC), for Tobin Consulting Engineers on behalf of Tipperary County Council. The built heritage resource is reported upon separately within a report authored by Rob Goodbody.

The archaeological assessment involved a detailed study of the archaeological and historical background of the proposed development site and the surrounding area. This included information from the Record of Monuments and Places of County Tipperary, the topographical files within the National Museum and all available cartographic and documentary sources for the area. A field inspection has also been carried out with the aim to identify any previously unrecorded features of archaeological or historical interest. A metal detection Survey was also carried out in conjunction with the field inspection under Licence Ref: 22R0025

## 1.2 THE DEVELOPMENT

The Proposed Development will involve the following works (Figure 2 and 6):

- I. The construction of a 900mm drainage header pipe in the existing redundant channel section of the River Mall and manholes.
- II. Provision for the connection of 26 existing surface water outfalls, currently discharging to the redundant channel section of the River Mall, to the 900mm drainage header pipe along with all accommodation works.
- III. The infilling of the redundant channel section, including pipe surround of the 900mm drainage header pipe, to match existing ground elevations surrounding the river channel.
- IV. Provision of a footpath and grass area over the infilled river from Templemore Town Park pedestrian entrance to a point 100m south in the direction of the N62, behind an existing stone wall / parapet.
- V. Provision of approximately 100m of new footway adjacent to the Blackcastle Road to the junction of the N62 (at Young's garage), with a footway width by 1.8m which and reduced carriageway width.
- VI. Removal of existing parapet wall to create an AC hardstanding area adjacent to Youngs garage.
- VII. The demolition of approximately 50m of existing stone wall and bridge parapet north of the N62 to allow for the construction of a new proposed footway to match existing from O'Dwyer Bridge.
- VIII. Provision of improvement works north of O'Dwyer bridge for approximately 40m to include increasing corner radius, installation of aggregate bollards and hard landscaping area.
- IX. Widening of the carriageway crossing O'Dwyer bridge along the N62.

- X. The demolition of approximately 15m of existing stone wall and bridge parapet south of the N62 to allow for improvement works to include a new footway, increased corner radius and increase sight lines between The Mall Road and the N62.
- XI. Construction of approximately 70m AC pavement over the existing channel south of the N62 and maintenance of the existing stone wall / parapet.
- XII. The demolition of sections of existing stone walls to allow for the construction of a new proposed footpath from O'Dwyer Bridge to the Templemore Town Park.
- XIII. Construction of a proposed stone wall separating the property boundaries and the proposed footpath, along with associated streetscape works at O'Dwyer Bridge.
- XIV. Landscape works to match existing surrounding environment at the Templemore town park.
- XV. Construction of proposed hardstand/pavement over existing channel at Youngs Garage and Templemore Motor Works.
- XVI. Demolition of existing bridge structures at residential accesses
- XVII. Landscape works to match existing surrounding environment from Templemore Motor Works, in a southerly direction, to the outfall to the existing River Mall.
- XVIII. Construction of a discharge headwalls.
- XIX. Construct new agricultural entrance approximately 180m south of O'Dwyer's bridge on the western side of the Mall Road.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

Research for this report was undertaken in two phases. The first phase comprised a paper survey of all available archaeological, historical and cartographic sources. The second phase involved a field inspection of the site, which included a metal detection survey.

### 2.1 PAPER SURVEY

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Tipperary;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Tipperary;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders List;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028;
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2022);

**Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)** is a list of archaeological sites known to the National Monuments Section, which are afforded legal protection under Section 12 of the 1994 National Monuments Act and are published as a record.

**Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)** holds documentary evidence and field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g. only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Section as ‘un-located sites’ and cannot be afforded legal protection due to lack of locational information. As a result, these are omitted from the Record of Monuments and Places. SMR sites are also listed on a website maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) – [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).

**National Monuments in State Care Database** is a list of all the National Monuments in State guardianship or ownership. Each is assigned a National Monument number whether in guardianship or ownership and has a brief description of the remains of each Monument.

The Minister for the DoHLGH may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

**Preservation Orders List** contains information on Preservation Orders and/or Temporary Preservation Orders, which have been assigned to a site or sites. Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

**The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland** are the national archive of all known finds recorded by the National Museum. This archive relates primarily to artefacts but also includes references to monuments and unique records of previous excavations. The find spots of artefacts are important sources of information on the discovery of sites of archaeological significance.

**Cartographic sources** are important in tracing land use development within the development area as well as providing important topographical information on areas of archaeological potential and the development of buildings. Cartographic analysis of all relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies or structures that no longer remain within the landscape.

**Documentary sources** were consulted to gain background information on the archaeological and cultural heritage landscape of the proposed development area.

**Development Plans** contain a catalogue of all archaeological sites within the county. The Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028 was consulted to obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

**Aerial photographic coverage** is an important source of information regarding the precise location of sites and their extent. It also provides initial information on the terrain and its likely potential for archaeology. A number of sources were consulted including aerial photographs held by the Ordnance Survey and Google Earth.

**Excavations Bulletin** is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2010 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files. This information is also available online ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)) from 1970–2023.

## **2.2 FIELD INSPECTION**

Field inspection is necessary to determine the extent and nature of archaeological and historical remains, and can also lead to the identification of previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds through topographical observation and local information.

The field inspection entailed -

- Walking the proposed development and its immediate environs;
- Noting and recording the terrain type and land usage;
- Noting and recording the presence of features of archaeological significance;
- Verifying the extent and condition of any recorded sites;
- Visually investigating any suspect landscape anomalies to determine the possibility of their being anthropogenic in origin; and
- Metal detecting the former river bed and banks.

### 3 RESULTS OF DESKTOP STUDY

#### 3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed development area is located at the former River Mall channel on the west of the town of Templemore. The proposed development, running from north to south, extends from a point in Belleville/Templemore Demesne townlands northwest of Templemore for approximately 805m to a point in Manna South/Kiltillane townlands (Figure 1). The former river channel forms the townland boundary between Belleville and Templemore Demesne in the north of the development and between Manna South and Kiltillane in the south. The town of Templemore is on the plain beneath the eastern slopes of the Devil's Bit Mountain range, in the centre of the upper Suir Valley, a prosperous agricultural area. The town is defined by the Devil's Bit Mountain range to the west, by Barnalisheen and Baunmore bogs to the east, by Roscrea (17km) town to the north and by Thurles town (12km) to the south. Templemore is situated in the north of Tipperary.

##### 3.1.1 Prehistoric Period

The earliest site in the wider Templemore area (TN029-022) is classified as a boulder burial c. 1km to the northwest of the scheme. This monument type is common in the southwest of the country and likely dates to the Bronze Age (2500-800BC), a period of substantial population growth throughout the county. The boulder burial is located within a field in pasture with views of the Devils Bit Mountain to the north-northwest. These sites are sometimes associated with earlier monuments or can be associated with areas of copper mining as in Cork and Kerry.

As with the rest of the country, evidence of Iron Age (800BC-AD500) occupation is relatively limited, which suggests, as yet, an unexplained decrease in the country's population during this time. The surviving evidence suggests that Iron Age activity is almost exclusively confined to the northern third of the county. A single Roman coin found at Lisbeen near Templemore in 1821 (Raleigh 1985, 29).

##### 3.1.2 Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

Templemore was situated in the ancient kingdom of *Éli*. MacCotter suggests that the *Éli* were originally lords of the Cashel area before the rise of the *Eoganacht* c. AD 500 (MacCotter 2008, 212). After this, the kingdom was split between northern and southern dynasts. It appears that the *Éli* retained control of the area right up to the advent of the Normans at which point the southern kingdom, within which Templemore is located, became the Norman cantred of *Elí Uí Fhócarta* and later barony of Eliogarty.

The ancient name of the district on which the town now stands was *Tuatha Corca Teine*. Templemore was known as Corkatenny (*Corca Teine*) until the 16th century. Tradition maintains that Teine was the son of the King of Connacht, arriving in the district shortly after St. Patrick. A Saint Síoláin, who is reputed to have built a church in the area, accompanied him. The townland in which the town is built is Kiltillane (*Cill*

*Síoláin*) – this saint is also associated with Kilsheelan in South Tipperary. Ó Riáin equates the name *Síoláin* with *Cillín* and lists several saints named *Cillín*. Only one of these has an association with St Patrick – St Cillín of Tehallan (baronies of Cremore and Monaghan) where he is said to have been installed by Patrick and a church bears his name (Ó Riain 2011, 175). The presumed location of this church is at the location of the later medieval church in Town Park (TN029-062). It is from this church that the town takes its present name *An Teampall Mór* (Templemore).

Habitation and agricultural activity during this period are suggested at by a number of enclosure sites and a ringfort in the vicinity of Templemore (RMP Nos. TN029-041, TN029-043, TN029-044, TN029-052 and TN029-074). The closest of these is located c. 550m west of the scheme (TN029-052). A redundant record (TN029-088) located c. 200m northeast of the scheme is described as follows ‘modern housing development located on site of possible enclosure which is not marked on any edition of the OS 6-inch map’ (archaeology.ie). Further information from the Urban Survey notes that a local informant alleged that ‘a ringfort was destroyed to make way for a housing development.’ As no further corroboration could be gained, it was decided not to include the site on future revision of the RMP (Tipperary Urban Survey, 69; Caimin O’Brien, pers. comm.). Despite the uncertainty surrounding this feature, it may relate to early medieval activity in the immediate area of the scheme and the identified human remains.

### 3.1.3 Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

Gwynn and Hadcock, in their landmark study of Ireland’s medieval religious houses paid undue attention to local tradition and uncritical placename evidence suggesting that Templemore was established by the Order of Knights Templar (1970, 342). Templemore however was founded by secular barons, most likely on a pre-existing locus of settlement comprising a church site and several habitation sites as discussed above.

Following the Norman takeover of the Kingdom of Limerick sometime after AD 1185, the Anglo-Norman Theobald Walter was granted large areas of Northern Tipperary (Bradley 1985, 35). Walter then proceeded to enfeoff his followers with freeholdings throughout the area. One Thomas de Hereford was created the first lord of Corkatenny and Loughmoe sometime before Walter’s death in 1206 (Empey 1985, 85), though it is possible that this grant was made as early as 1190 (as discussed below). Thomas de Hereford is likely to have established a borough at Templemore.

Bradley has noted that, following the Norman takeover of Tipperary, 35 known boroughs were established, although he concedes that there were likely to have been many more of differing scales across the county (1985, 35). These settlements ranged from walled market towns to small farming communities who held land by burgage tenure. There is a record that in 1612 a 'castle (TN029-051001), town and lands of Oldtown (TN029-051) were granted to John Cantwell' (Griffith 1966, 197). The site of this castle and adjacent medieval habitation are located c. 2km west of the scheme and aerial photographs have identified earthworks that represent a series of attached rectangular enclosures that are likely to belong to a medieval field system.

A second possible borough, c. 1km west of the scheme, is suggested in the first edition OS mapping where a series of long, relatively narrow fields run north from a small road within the townland of Manna South. The area is defined on two sides by the townland boundary with Priory Demesne. The fields are at variance with the patchwork pattern of surrounding fields. These could be remnants of burgage plots fronting onto a small lane to the south. 'Manna Cottage' is shown on the first edition map occupying a small demesne comprising the eastern portion of this possible borough. In the Civil Survey (1654-6) Templemore is described as 'The Mannor, Castle Towne, and lands of Tamplemore' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). It is possible that the 'Manna' townland name is a corruption of 'Mannor' as described in the Civil Survey.

A borough of some kind was almost certainly established by Thomas de Hereford in the vicinity of the modern town centre of Templemore – though no evidence for this remains. It is possible that such a borough may have initially occupied the space between the site of the Black Castle and the church associated with St Síoláin although the later creation of the current lake in that area may suggest that it was formerly waterlogged.

The site of the Black Castle, immediately northeast of the scheme is believed to be the site of an early castle and is the site of three recorded monuments – a Tower House (TN029-062002) and associated Bawn (TN029-062004), while a separate stone house is described at this complex in the Civil Survey (TN029-062003; Simington 1931, 78). The Archaeological Survey describes the Black Castle as 'A large rectangular three-storey tower house (ext. dims. c. 17.1m x c. 10.9m) composed of roughly coursed limestone rubble, with substantial base-batter and dressed quoins. Most of the base-batter has been robbed and this has revealed an internal facing. The S and W walls are supported by tall buttresses, the bases of which have also been robbed' (Farrelly and O'Brien 2002, 336).

Previous studies have suggested that the castle was built c. 1450 AD by the Butlers and subsequently leased to the families of Purcell of Loughmore and Morris of Knocka (Walsh 1991, 46-7). James Earl of Ormond is listed as the owner in 1640. While the castle was inhabited and modified into the 18th century, several aspects of the surviving masonry suggest that the castle pre-dates the 15th century. The size and shape of the structure along with the presence of wall pilasters (described as buttresses in the Archaeological Survey) are suggestive of a date early in the 13th century (Tadhg O'Keeffe – pers. comm.). The presence of intramural passages and a dividing wall at first floor level and first floor garderobe add further support to this reading of the building and places Black Castle in context with late 12th/early 13th, single-pile residential donjons identified by O'Keeffe (2021, 93). Donjons with similar dimensions and similar features to those listed above are common in the wider region with possibly the densest concentration of such donjons clustered to the northwest along the Shannon at Ballycapple (33km northwest), Ballylusky (34km northwest), Dromineer (50km northwest), Lisbunny (38km west-northwest) and Clohaskin (38km north-northwest). It is possible therefore that elements of the upstanding structure were constructed close to the outset of the lordship by Thomas de Hereford or by Theobald Walter for his tenant.

In a charter dated from c. 1195–1200, Thomas de Hereford granted all the tithes and benefices ‘in the 15 knight’s fees which I hold in Eliogarty’ to the Augustinian abbey of St Thomas the Martyr in Dublin (Gilbert 1889, 194). It is assumed that his Order built a church (TN029-062001) in the town probably early in the 13th century, although the first reference to it in the abbey register dates to 1240 (Gilbert 1889, 315-16). The abbey was founded in 1177 by Henry II and became a very popular foundation to endow to with the first and second generation of Anglo-Norman aristocracy (see Duffy 2021). The survival of the townland name Priory Demesne is interesting in this context as, in its initial incarnation, the abbey of St Thomas the Martyr was designated a priory. The location of the Priory Demesne townland to the southwest of the castle corresponds to an area designated church land on the Down Survey barony map. Sometime in the later 12th century the priory was upgraded to an abbey. Recent work done by Marie Therese Flanagan on the unpublished register of the abbey has identified a date of 1192 for the upgrade of the priory to an abbey (pers. comm.). Given that the Priory Demesne townland is one of only two in the country to carry the name of priory, it is proposed that Thomas de Hereford’s grant to the canons of St Thomas was affected by 1192, thereby resulting in the townland name.

Thomas de Hereford appears to have relinquished his claims on Templemore as William de Marisco was found to have held land of Theobald Walter, son of the first Theobald, at 'Coredofeney' at the time of his death in 1284 (Sweetman 1875, 510). A Purcell lord of Corketeni was noted in 1356 but the de Marisco family are again associated with the area in the later sixteenth century (Hamilton 1867, 366).

### **3.1.4 Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1800)**

During the 17th century Templemore passed through the hands of Purcell, Baron of Loughmoe and Walter Lawless (Walsh 1991, 6-7). In the Civil Survey (1654-6) Templemore is described as 'The Mannor, Castle Towne, and lands of Tamplemore' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). In 1698 John Carden leased 'the Manor Town, Castle and lands of Templemore containing two colpes [c. 2000 acres]' (Walsh 1991, 126). In 1704 Carden bought the freehold to this property from the Duke of Ormond (ibid.). The Carden family lived in Templemore castle until 1740, when it was destroyed by fire (Walsh 1991, 5). The present town of Templemore was built as a market town in the latter half of the 18th century.

Carden applied for a charter to hold cattle fairs, and ever since the town has been synonymous with fairs for cattle sheep, pigs and horses. It is through the holding of fairs that the town developed with its large market square, being attributed to the planning of Carden. In the Civil Survey Templemore is described as 'The Mannor Castle Towne and lands of Tamplemore'. In 1698 John Carden leased 'the Manor Town, Castel and lands of Templemore containing two colpes (c.2acres)'. In 1704 Carden bought the freehold to this property from the Duke of Ormond. The Carden family lived in Templemore Castle until 1740 when it was destroyed by fire. The present town of Templemore was built as a market town in the latter half of the 18th century (Farrelly & O'Brien 2002). The family moved to a new location, c. 600m to the west of Black Castle in the townland of Priory Demesne. They named their new house

'The Priory', though it is unclear whether there was already a building at this location. The house is shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey mapping of 1843. The house was rebuilt in the 1860s and the Carden family undertook largescale landscaping projects around the house. The 1909 25-inch map shows extensive neo-Gothic Garden features to the south of the house in the form of faux-medieval curtain walls and a forework to the main entrance of the house with rounded corner towers and what appear to be columns with moulded gothic profiles. There is a circular tower shown to the east of the house and the Templemore Irish Tourist Association Report, compiled in 1944 notes that the tower was '40 feet high and 15 feet in diameter and was built by the Carden family during the famine period to relieve distress.'

In the early 1800's the British Government opted for Thurles as the location for its new military barracks. However due to its location near the Ursuline Convent and the ensuing furore, the War Office relocated the barracks at Templemore, and this event dominated much of the future development of the town. Sir John Carden donated a 17-acre site and also supplied the adjoining 40 acres for training and recreation. The barracks consisted of 2 squares, surrounded by company lines, stores, married quarters, officer's mess, military prison, church and hospital. Completely surrounded by a high wall, with protective/defensive posts at each corner, it had accommodation for 25 officers, married quarters for 48 other ranks, and 767 unmarried personnel. A total of 36 hospital beds and 15 guardroom cells were located within the complex as well as stabling for 27 officers' horses. The Richmond barracks as it was named, and the surrounding area was quickly developed, with names such as Talevara Place, Vinemara Mall, and Regent Bridge, reminding all and sundry of the ongoing wars with which the barracks had become associated.

During the First World War, German prisoners of war were detained in the barracks. Mostly Prussian Guards, they were considered some of the best soldiers in the German Army. A feature of this period was the unique separate parades on Sundays of the different Faiths marching to Mass or Service while singing their own national songs. During the War of Independence, the Northamptonshire Regiment was based at the Barracks and conducted reprisals in the town on two occasions, once for the shooting of D.I. Wilson in Patrick Street, when the Town Hall was destroyed by fire, and secondly in avenging a successful ambush on a convoy of Crown Troops by Nationalist Forces at Thomastown Castle.

Following the Treaty in 1922, the Richmond Barracks was handed over to the Irish Provisional Government by Major Phibbs of the 10th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment, to Commandant Sean Scott, O/C, 2nd Battalion, Mid Tipperary Brigade. Under the command of Brigadier James Leahy, the 2nd Mid Tipperary Brigade now took over the renamed McCan Barracks. Subsequently the troops decided to support the anti-treaty side and a state of defence was in operation within the barracks. Through the intervention of Most Rev Dr Harty, Archbishop of Cashel & Emly, hostilities were avoided and the troops in possession of the barracks were allowed evacuate. The National Army remained there until 1929. World War II commenced in 1939, and the 10th Uisneachs Battalion was garrisoned at McCan Barracks, until the end of hostilities.

### **3.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK**

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2023) has revealed that there have been several archaeological excavations in the wider vicinity of the scheme.

Monitoring was carried out in 2006 and 2007 in Kiltillane townland (Licence Ref.: 06E0790), c. 1.2km to the northeast of the scheme. Nothing of archaeological significance was identified.

A desktop assessment and field survey were carried out by Moore Group in the production of a cultural heritage chapter in the Environmental Impact Statement for the River Mall (Templemore) Drainage Scheme (Tobin, 2015). The field walkover carried out by Moore Group in 2004 and 2014 and covered the entire area to be impacted by the proposed Flood Relief scheme. It noted the proximity of the works to the surrounding RMP sites and also topographical undulations, which may have been indicative of the presence of previously un-recorded archaeological deposits. The field walkover commenced at Templemore Demesne in the northern end of the town and travelled south to the terminus south of Cloone Bridge. It concluded that there were several areas of significance noted along the project route (Sites 1-8). No impacts were noted on any recorded monuments. The report recommended archaeological monitoring of construction works associated with the drainage scheme and archaeological testing of one area in Belleville.

Archaeological monitoring has been ongoing intermittently since 2017 as part of the Flood Relief Scheme works by the Tim Coughlan of IAC Archaeology under Licence 17E0348. Nothing of archaeological significance has been identified during the monitoring works carried out to date.

An underwater archaeological wade survey of the section of the river downstream of the new flood relief channel, and downstream of the current development, was carried out under licence 17D0081 and 17R0206. The work was carried out by Aisling Collins in 2017. The survey concluded that the riverbed has been dredged several times in the last few years so the potential for archaeological finds in the riverbed is low. There is always a possibility of archaeology in the river banks. There were multiple responses to the metal detection but these were all identifiable as modern debris.

Archaeological test trenching was carried out to the west of the current development area in Belleville at the location of a proposed embankment as part of the flood relief scheme project. It was carried out by Tim Coughlan of IAC Archaeology under licence 18E0360 in 2021. Nothing of archaeological significance was identified.

### **3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS**

#### **Barony Map of Iliogurty 1656-8 (Figure 3)**

The barony map shows the parish of Templemore with what is presumably Black Castle a close to the centre of the parish. A small area of land to the southwest of the castle is marked as church land. No other details relating to the study area are shown.

**First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1843, scale 1:10,560 (Figure 4)**

This is the first accurate historic mapping coverage of the area containing the proposed scheme. The river is shown extending along its current course. O’Dwyer’s Bridge is referred to as Kings Bridge, and Small Bridge is referred to as Regent Bridge. The river is depicted as forming the townland boundary between Belleville and Templemore Demesne in the north, and Kiltillane and Manna South in the south of the current scheme. There are no other notable features.

**Ordnance Survey Map, 1907, scale 1:2,500 (Figure 5)**

The river continues to be shown extending along its current course. Both Bridges are still referred to at Kings Bridge and Regent Bridge. A building is evident extending across the river north of King (O’Dwyer’s) Bridge. This is discussed in the field inspection noted below. Adjacent text refers to “Masonic Hall” but it is not clear which structure the text directly relates to. There are no other notable changes to the earlier maps.

**3.4 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Tipperary Development Plan (2022-2028) recognises the statutory protection afforded to all Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) sites under the National Monuments Legislation (1930–2014). The development plan lists a number of aims and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage.

There are four recorded monuments within 250m of the scheme (Table 1; Figure 1; Appendix 1). The nearest recorded monument consists of the archaeological zone of potential for the Historic Town (RMP TN029-062), which extends into the northern extent of the proposed development.

**TABLE 1:** Recorded Archaeological Sites

RMP NO.	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION	DISTANCE FROM SCHEME
TN029-062	Templemore Demesne. 611084,671698	Historic town	0m (northern end of scheme within zone of notification)
TN029-062002	Templemore Demesne. 610743, 672814	Castle - tower house	c. 100m
TN029-062003	Templemore Demesne. 610742, 672819	House - indeterminate date	c. 100m
TN029-062004	Templemore Demesne. 610749, 672808	Bawn	c. 100m

**3.5 TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND**

Information on artefact finds from the study area in County Tipperary has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic

activity in the study area. There are no recorded finds from within the study area of the scheme.

### **3.6 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS**

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995–2013), Google Earth (2008–2020), and Bing Maps revealed. A review of online images via the OSI website and Google and Bing Maps did not note any additional previously unrecorded sites along the route of the proposed scheme

### **3.7 FIELD INSPECTION AND METAL DETECTION**

The field inspection sought to assess the site, its previous and current land use, the topography and any additional information relevant to the report. During the course of the field investigation the proposed development site and its surrounding environs were inspected (Figure 1).

The field inspection was carried out over the course of two days in March 2022 by Tim Coughlan and Maria Woodlock of IAC Archaeology. The proposed works included a metal detection survey of the former river bed and banks under Detection Licence 22R0025 (Plate 5). A large amount of modern debris was found to be located within the survey area, and as such the metal detection survey was largely abandoned due to multiple and constant detections relating to same.

The field inspection was broken into three main sections – from the outfall from Templemore Lake to north of O’Dwyer’s Bridge, along “The Mall” between O’Dwyer’s Bridge and Small Bridge, and south of Small Bridge. Note the area north of the Templemore Lake outfall in Belleville was not inspected as this area had been previously infilled by the OPW as part of remedial works following the opening of the new Flood Relief Scheme diversion channel (Plates 1 and 2). Much of the channel has been canalised and is mostly walled on both sides until south of Small Bridge when natural river banks are evident.

The built heritage resource, including O’Dwyer’s Bridge and Small Bridge, as described in full within the separate architectural heritage report (Goodbody 2023).

#### **Section 1 – Lake Outfall to O’Dwyer’s Bridge**

Field inspection commenced at the lake outfall and proceeded southwards (downstream along the former channel). The channel at the outfall has been dammed to divert lake overflow into the newly constructed channel to the west. Within this northern section there was significant pooling for c. 24m with an average water depth 0.15m (Plate 3). The northeastern side of the channel is bounded by the Townpark (from outfall Chainage 2700 to Chainage 2600) and is defined by a mortared wall, constructed of undressed limestone. The southwestern side of the channel is also defined by a wall which along most of its length has a defined rough concrete plinth and a main construction combined of concrete and mortared undressed limestone. The channel is 6.7m wide from wall to wall. The edges of the channel bed are overgrown with reeds and grasses to c1.5m out from each wall, with the southwest

side consisting a 0.40m high bank. There was a substantial amount of modern debris visible such as plastic bottles and tin cans.

South of the area of pooling the northwestern bank widens to 3.8m into the channel and is heavily overgrown. For 20m the dry river bed is exposed with bedrock visible and extending across the full width of the exposed channel (Plate 4). This bedrock ridge is responsible for the pooling upstream. The concrete foundations of the southwestern boundary wall are clearly visible. In the area of the Rock outcrop there was multiple hits with the metal detector but with no obvious items visible. The metal detector was possibly picking up mineral content in the bedrock. When some of the loose vegetation was cleared and the area assessed fragments of modern glass and debris were visible.

Downstream from the bedrock ridge, the base of the channel flattens out and consists of gravel and stone (Chainage 2600-2550). On the northwest side of the channel the former boundary with the Townpark is replaced by a modern boundary wall with Young's garage which is constructed of concrete block and brick (Plate 5). There is a modern access bridge going into the garage, it is also constructed of concrete and red brick. On the southwest side of the channel the concrete wall with base plinth and mortared stone capping continues. This section is heavily overgrown in places with deposits of soil and debris but the main river bed consists of gravel and silt. The roadside bank (southwest) extends into the river channel 3.8-4.0m and the thalweg is confined to the garage side (northeast) of the channel. Modern debris continued to be identified on the surface (Plates 7 and 8). Under the Young's bridge the thalweg channel meanders towards the southwest/road side.

To the south of Young's Bridge there is a substantial stone bridge/culvert (Plate 9). It is described in the EIS as *"Single-arched bridge with cut stone voussoirs with remains of two-bay stone building surmounting bridge. Carriageway opening to front with cut stone surround and voussoirs. Some patchy remains of lime render to walls. Building may have originally been higher, as it appears to have undergone some demolition. Building is not shown on the 1st edition (1843) OS map; however it is shown on the 2nd (1902-03) edition OS map. The 2nd edition also describes a Masonic Hall in this area but it is not clear as to what structure it is referring to"* (Moore, 2015). It is not listed as an RPS/RMP/NIAH.

There is some localised pooling between Youngs bridge and the large stone bridge, caused by the river bed being raised under both structures. The bank on the road side is silty and soft underfoot. Immediately downstream of the large stone bridge there is a small bridge with a timber and steel deck for local yard access (Plate 10). The stone piers on either side may have originally supported a different deck structure. There was large reinforced concrete slabs and modern debris in the river bed at this location.

Upstream of the O'Dwyer's Bridge the channel was heavily overgrown and in particular on the eastern side there was a substantially overgrown bank (Plate 11). The channel continues to be canalised with a mix of stone and concrete walls

extending to O'Dwyer's Bridge. There was significant pooling in the channel upstream of O'Dwyer's Bridge again caused by higher bed levels beneath the bridge structure. A large volume of modern debris was also evident. Two inlets were noted in the channel walls on the upstream side of O'Dwyer's bridge which are interpreted as being associated with surface water drainage into the channel (Plate 12). O'Dwyer's Bridge itself is shown in Plates 13 and 14.

### **Section 2 – Along “The Mall” between O'Dwyer's Bridge and Small Bridge**

This section extends between O'Dwyer's Bridge and Small Bridge and runs alongside and west of “The Mall”. The channel is largely canalised along this stretch.

Downstream of O'Dwyer's Bridge the channel is defined by a mortared stone wall set on a rough concrete footing on the west side of the channel (Toyota garage side). On the east (town) side the channel is bounded by a wall consisting of a concrete foundation with mortared stone above. A cobbled surface extends (5m N-S x 2m E-W) across the top of this wall to The Mall road boundary wall. South of the raised cobble surface the channel is bounded by the The Mall boundary wall which constructed of mortared undressed limestone. An overgrown bank (1.1m high) extends into the channel at the base of the wall for 2.1m, covering the wall foundation.

At Chainage 2440 (approx.) to the east of the Toyota Garage on the western boundary of the river an iron water pump is evident on top of the river boundary wall (Plate 16). There is a cobbled on the surface of the wall surrounding the pump. To the rear (west) of the pump a domed mortared stone (3m wide x 1.1m high) wall has been built in front of the modern concrete garage wall. It is interpreted that the pump and wall has been set here as a decorative feature

Downstream from the pump (Chainage 2400 approx) the walls on both sides of the channel sit directly on top of bedrock which is also evident at the base of the channel. To the south of the Toyota Garage building on the western boundary the defined boundary wall is replaced by an earthen bank with large trees. There is still some evidence of walling and it is unclear if this banked section may have had walled façade which has now largely collapsed (Plate 17), or whether this portion was not walled. On the east side of the channel the wall construction now consists of a concrete foundation and 4 courses of bonded stone above this (Plate 18).

The section from Chainage 2380 – 2330 was inaccessible due to the excessive depth of pooled water which exceeded 0.40m. the eastern boundary of the channel continues to be walled with a concrete foundation, although much of the upper wall at the road level has collapsed. The western boundary is heavily overgrown with mature trees and this combined with the water depth left it impossible to assess whether any walling was evident, but none was visible from the The Mall to the east.

A number of domestic houses are evident on the west of the river south of Chainage 2300. These are accessed from The Mall by a series of modern concrete access bridges (Plate 19). These bridges are to be removed during construction. The river bed level is higher beneath the bridges which has caused the pooling upstream to the

north. The walls of the channel are of concrete in this section and often sitting on a concrete foundation. The plinth base extends into the river for 0.9-1.1m in places and is 0.2m thick (Plate 20). It is possible that the full bed may once have had a concrete based which has now eroded, but regardless the construction of the walls on both side of the channel would have significantly impacted the original river bed. Modern debris continues to be clearly identifiable along the reiver bed (Plate 21).

At the southern end of the section, north of Small Bridge both sides of the channel are heavily vegetated with trees, bushes and grasses (Plate 22). The fabric of any walls or bank material was not visible. The bank is 0.8m high and 1.3m wide on the approach to Small Bridge. Small Bridge is shown in Plate 23.

### **Section 3 - South of Small Bridge to the new channel outfall.**

This section of the scheme is not canalised and meanders from Small Bridge to the outfall of the new channel into the original channel. This section is heavily overgrown with mature trees and hedges.

There is a boundary wall on the east side of the channel constructed of loosely mortared irregular calp limestone blocks which extends for c 20m. There is no wall visible on the western side of the channel. There is a concrete pipe crossing the river at water level 14m downstream Small Bridge. The river bed is very stony with gravel. Downstream of the pipe there is water pooling for 20m. The banks on both sides are heavily vegetated with brambles and trees. There is modern debris on the river bed and banks such as plastic, concrete blocks and iron bars. The thalweg channel is 2.4m wide with a 3.4m wide raised bank on the west side.

The remainder of this section continues in a meander with no visible features on the river banks of on the river bed. There continues to be intermittent evidence of modern debris and the river bed consists mainly of stone and gravels. The banks are heavily overgrown and largely inaccessible. At the southern end the river bed is notably siltier; however, this is likely associated with the dam placed at the outfall location which allows only a flow through a 4-inch pipe into the open downstream section. This would have allowed for significant pooling and sediment settlement.

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## 4 CONCLUSIONS

This report has been prepared for Tobin Consulting Engineers, on behalf of Tipperary County Council, to study the impact, if any, on the archaeological resource of the proposed infilling works on the former River Mall channel Templemore, Co. Tipperary (Figure 1, ITM 610803, 671760 to 611116, 671166). The archaeological assessment involved a detailed study of the archaeological and historical background of the proposed development site and the surrounding area.

Following the completion of the River Mall (Templemore) Flood Relief Scheme, a section of abandoned dry riverbed channel will remain in Templemore, County Tipperary. There is no river flow in this old channel. It is located on the edge of Templemore town centre and runs southwards from opposite the Templemore Town Park to Talavera, just south of Small's Bridge.

The main construction elements consist of the insertion of a 900mm drainage header pipe in the existing dry river channel section of the River Mall which will be connected to 29 existing surface water outfalls. The infilling of the dry river channel section, including pipe surround of the 900mm drainage header pipe, to match existing ground elevations surrounding the river channel. Demolition of modern bridge access structures and landscaping to match surrounding environment. In the area of retained bridge structures (O'Dwyer's Bridge, Small Bridge, and the large bridge structure north of O'Dwyer's Bridge) it is proposed to install the pipe and infill the area under the structure, surrounding the pipe with a foam concrete as there will be inadequate room to mechanically compact infill material. Due to the impact on sight lines at the intersection located at O'Dwyer's Bridge it has been deemed necessary to remove to parapet walls of the bridge to road surface level.

The existing canalised channel has resulted in the former river bed being substantially below existing ground level and that of existing outfalls. It is anticipated that the existing river bed level will be roughly at grade with the formation level for the proposed header pipe, and limited excavation or grading of the existing river bed will be required (Figure 2). It is anticipated that localised grading and vegetation removal will be required along the length of the works but this is not anticipated to involve any significant volume of material, but to facilitate successful completion of pipelaying and infilling works.

The results of the assessment have confirmed that there are no known sites of archaeological significance along the route of the proposed pipe or infilling works. The field inspection also confirmed that the channel is highly contaminated with modern debris and will have been substantially impacted by works associated with the building of the canalised walls along much of its length. Given the raised deposits beneath the various bridges along the route, it is likely that much of the river bed has been subject of dredging, as indicated in the underwater assessment of the adjacent downstream section by ACAS (2018).

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## 5 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION STRATEGY

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological resources potentially affected. Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; and burial of sites, limiting access for future archaeological investigation. Upstanding archaeology can be affected adversely by direct damage or destruction arising from development, from inadvertent damage arising from vibration, undermining etc. and also by indirect impacts to a building's visual setting, view or curtilage.

### 5.1 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- There may be an adverse impact on previously unrecorded archaeological feature or deposits that have the potential to survive beneath the current ground level. This will be caused by ground disturbances associated with the proposed development.

### 5.2 MITIGATION

- It is recommended that all ground disturbances associated with the proposed development be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation *in-situ* or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the DoHLGH.

*It is the developer's responsibility to ensure full provision is made available for the resolution of any archaeological remains, both on site and during the post excavation process, should that be deemed the appropriate manner in which to proceed.*

**Please note that all recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service of the Heritage and Planning Division, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.**

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### **CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES**

Down Survey Mas 1656-8

Ordnance Survey maps of County Tipperary, 1843, 1901, 1938

### **ELECTRONIC SOURCES**

[www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) – Summary of archaeological excavation from 1970–2020.

[www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie) – DoHLGH website listing all SMR sites.

[www.heritagemaps.ie](http://www.heritagemaps.ie) – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural and natural heritage.

[www.googleearth.com](http://www.googleearth.com) – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.

[www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com)– Satellite imagery of the proposed development area

[www.booksulster.com/library/plnm/placenamesC.php](http://www.booksulster.com/library/plnm/placenamesC.php) - Contains the text from Irish Local Names Explained by P.W Joyce (1870).

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) –Placenames Database of Ireland launched by Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaelige and the DoHLGH.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 SMR/RMP SITES WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

<b>SMR NO.:</b>	TN029-062002-
<b>RMP STATUS:</b>	Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP
<b>TOWNLAND:</b>	Templemore Demesne
<b>PARISH:</b>	Eliogarty
<b>BARONY:</b>	Templemore
<b>I.T.M.:</b>	610737, 671811
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	Castle - tower house
<b>DIST. TO SITE:</b>	c. 100m
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<p>Situated on a natural hillock with good views in all directions. Described in the Civil Survey (1654-6) as 'a Castle and the Walls of a stone house out of repaire' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). James Earl of Ormond is listed as proprietor in 1640 (ibid.). A large rectangular three-storey tower house (ext. dims. c. 17.1m x c. 10.9m) composed of roughly coursed limestone rubble, with substantial base-batter and dressed quoins. Most of the base-batter has been robbed and this has revealed an internal facing. The S and W walls are supported by tall buttresses, the bases of which have also been robbed. The E wall and E end of the N wall have been destroyed. In the interior, at the NW end, there is a raised area formed by a vaulted chamber which was inserted at ground-floor level. This chamber, together with a double bellcote surmounting the S wall and a circular turret on the N wall, were probably built as demesne features of the Carden estate in the nineteenth century. The S wall has been subject to a lot of modification. At the W end of the wall there is a large break which has been infilled. Above this at first-floor level there is an opening, probably a window embrasure. There is a similar embrasure above this at third-floor level from which a mural passage runs westward, continuing into the W wall. The W wall has been partially repaired in recent times. Two embrasures at first-floor level, both containing a single ogee-headed light with punch-dressed limestone jambs. At second-floor level there is a large embrasure, placed S of centre, with a mural passage running N from it. There are three windows in the W wall, the centre window and possibly the N one, providing light exclusively for the mural passage. The remains of an internal dividing wall exist between the S embrasure and the N embrasure on the first floor. This wall continues from the first floor up to the second-floor level. At the N end of the W wall there is a rectangular garderobe chute (dims 1.1m x 0.82m W), surmounted by the circular turret described above, which exits the building at a point 2.6m above ground level in the external face of the N wall. The remains of a bawn wall (T 1.6m) extend N-S from roughly the centre of the N wall and extend E-W from the S wall.</p> <p>The above description is derived from 'The Archaeological Inventory of County Tipperary. Vol. 1 - North Tipperary' compiled by Jean Farrelly and Caimin O'Brien (Dublin: Stationery Office, 2002). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.</p>
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	<a href="http://www.archaeology.ie/SMR">www.archaeology.ie/SMR</a> file
<b>SMR NO.:</b>	TN029-062003-
<b>RMP STATUS:</b>	Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP
<b>TOWNLAND:</b>	Templemore Demesne

<b>PARISH:</b>	Eliogarty
<b>BARONY:</b>	Templemore
<b>I.T.M.:</b>	610742, 671819
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	House - indeterminate date
<b>DIST. TO SITE:</b>	c. 100m
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Situated on a natural hillock with good views in all directions. Described in the Civil Survey (1654-6) as 'a Castle and the Walls of a stone house out of repaire' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). James Earl of Ormond is listed as proprietor in 1640 (ibid.). Though the tower house (TN029-062002) may have been modified and inhabited in the seventeenth century, the reference in the Civil Survey suggests that the stone house was a separate building.
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	www.archaeology.ie/SMR file

<b>SMR NO.:</b>	TN029-062004-
<b>RMP STATUS:</b>	Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP
<b>TOWNLAND:</b>	Templemore Demesne
<b>PARISH:</b>	Eliogarty
<b>BARONY:</b>	Templemore
<b>I.T.M.:</b>	610749, 671808
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	Bawn
<b>DIST. TO SITE:</b>	c. 90m
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Situated on a natural hillock with good views in all directions. Described in the Civil Survey (1654-6) as 'a Castle and the Walls of a stone house out of repaire' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). James Earl of Ormond is listed as proprietor in 1640 (ibid.). A large rectangular three-storey tower house (TN029-062002) composed of roughly coursed limestone rubble, with substantial base-batter and dressed quoins. Most of the base-batter has been robbed and this has revealed an internal facing. The S and W walls are supported by tall buttresses, the bases of which have also been robbed. The E wall and E end of the N wall have been destroyed. The remains of a bawn wall (T 1.6m) extend N-S from roughly the centre of the N wall and extend E-W from the S wall.
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	www.archaeology.ie/SMR file

<b>SMR NO.:</b>	TN029-062----
<b>RMP STATUS:</b>	Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP
<b>TOWNLAND:</b>	Templemore Demesne
<b>PARISH:</b>	Eliogarty
<b>BARONY:</b>	Templemore
<b>I.T.M.:</b>	610907, 671925
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	Historic town
<b>DIST. TO SITE:</b>	0m
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Situated on flat pasture with good views in all directions. Templemore, known as Corkatenny until the sixteenth century, was granted to Thomas de Hereford by Theobald Walter before his death in 1206. In a series of charters dating to the early thirteenth century de Hereford gave tithes and ecclesiastical benefices of all his lands, including 'Corcateny' to the Augustinian abbey of Saint Thomas in Dublin (Reg. St. Thomas, Dublin 194, 196, 237). This Order built a church (TN029-062001) in the town probably early in the thirteenth century, though the first reference to it in the Abbey register dates to 1240 (Gilbert 1889, 315-16).

	<p>Thomas de Hereford appears to have relinquished his claims on Templemore as William de Marisco was found to have held land of Theobald Walter, son of the first Theobald, at 'Coredofeney' at the time of his death in 1284 (CDI, vol. 2, 510). A Purcell lord of Corketeni was noted in 1356 but the de Marisco family are again associated with the area in the later sixteenth century (CSPI, vol. 2, 366). The castle (TN029-062002) at Templemore dates to this period. During the seventeenth century Templemore passed through the hands of Purcell, Baron of Loughmoe and Walter Lawless (Walsh 1991, 6-7). In the Civil Survey (1654-6) Templemore is described as 'The Mannor, Castle Towne, and lands of Tamplemore' (Simington 1931, vol. 1, 78). In 1698 John Carden leased 'the Manor Town, Castle and lands of Templemore containing two colpes [c. 2000 acres]' (Walsh 1991, 126). In 1704 Carden bought the freehold to this property from the Duke of Ormond (ibid.). The Carden family lived in Templemore castle until 1740 when it was destroyed by fire (Walsh 1991, 5). The present town of Templemore was built as a market town in the latter half of the eighteenth century.</p>
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	<p><a href="http://www.archaeology.ie/SMR">www.archaeology.ie/SMR</a> file</p>

## **APPENDIX 2 LEGISLATION PROTECTING THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE**

### **PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

The cultural heritage in Ireland is safeguarded through national and international policy designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource to the fullest possible extent (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands 1999, 35). This is undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Valletta Convention), ratified by Ireland in 1997.

### **THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE**

The *National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014* and relevant provisions of the *National Cultural Institutions Act 1997* are the primary means of ensuring the satisfactory protection of archaeological remains, which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date except buildings habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes. A National Monument is described as ‘a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto’ (National Monuments Act 1930 Section 2). A number of mechanisms under the National Monuments Act are applied to secure the protection of archaeological monuments. These include the Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places, and the placing of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders on endangered sites.

### **OWNERSHIP AND GUARDIANSHIP OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS**

The Minister may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

### **REGISTER OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS**

Section 5 of the 1987 Act requires the Minister to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded on the register is illegal without the permission of the Minister. Two months’ notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a registered monument. The register also includes sites under Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders. All registered monuments are included in the Record of Monuments and Places.

### **PRESERVATION ORDERS AND TEMPORARY PRESERVATION ORDERS**

Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site

illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

### **RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES**

Section 12(1) of the 1994 Act requires the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (now the Minister for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) to establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes that such monuments exist. The record comprises a list of monuments and relevant places and a map/s showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. All sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Act 1994. All recorded monuments on the proposed development site are represented on the accompanying maps.

Section 12(3) of the 1994 Act provides that ‘where the owner or occupier (other than the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands) of a monument or place included in the Record, or any other person, proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such a monument or place, he or she shall give notice in writing to the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands to carry out work and shall not, except in case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the work until two months after giving of notice’.

Under the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004, anyone who demolishes or in any way interferes with a recorded site is liable to a fine not exceeding €3,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months. On summary conviction and on conviction of indictment, a fine not exceeding €10,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years is the penalty. In addition, they are liable for costs for the repair of the damage caused.

In addition to this, under the *European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989*, Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are required for various classes and sizes of development project to assess the impact the proposed development will have on the existing environment, which includes the cultural, archaeological and built heritage resources. These document’s recommendations are typically incorporated into the conditions under which the proposed development must proceed, and thus offer an additional layer of protection for monuments which have not been listed on the RMP.

### **THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000**

Under planning legislation, each local authority is obliged to draw up a Development Plan setting out their aims and policies with regard to the growth of the area over a five-year period. They cover a range of issues including archaeology and built heritage, setting out their policies and objectives with regard to the protection and enhancement of both. These policies can vary from county to county. The Planning and Development Act 2000 recognises that proper planning and sustainable

development includes the protection of the archaeological heritage. Conditions relating to archaeology may be attached to individual planning permissions.

## **APPENDIX 3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE**

### **POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REMAINS**

Impacts are defined as ‘the degree of change in an environment resulting from a development’ (Environmental Protection Agency 2022). They are described as profound, significant or slight impacts on archaeological remains. They may be negative, positive or neutral, direct, indirect or cumulative, temporary or permanent.

Impacts can be identified from detailed information about a project, the nature of the area affected and the range of archaeological and historical resources potentially affected. Development can affect the archaeological and historical resource of a given landscape in a number of ways.

- Permanent and temporary land-take, associated structures, landscape mounding, and their construction may result in damage to or loss of archaeological remains and deposits, or physical loss to the setting of historic monuments and to the physical coherence of the landscape.
- Archaeological sites can be affected adversely in a number of ways: disturbance by excavation, topsoil stripping and the passage of heavy machinery; disturbance by vehicles working in unsuitable conditions; or burial of sites, limiting accessibility for future archaeological investigation.
- Hydrological changes in groundwater or surface water levels can result from construction activities such as de-watering and spoil disposal, or longer-term changes in drainage patterns. These may desiccate archaeological remains and associated deposits.
- Visual impacts on the historic landscape sometimes arise from construction traffic and facilities, built earthworks and structures, landscape mounding and planting, noise, fences and associated works. These features can impinge directly on historic monuments and historic landscape elements as well as their visual amenity value.
- Landscape measures such as tree planting can damage sub-surface archaeological features, due to topsoil stripping and through the root action of trees and shrubs as they grow.
- Ground consolidation by construction activities or the weight of permanent embankments can cause damage to buried archaeological remains, especially in colluviums or peat deposits.
- Disruption due to construction also offers in general the potential for adversely affecting archaeological remains. This can include machinery, site offices, and service trenches.

*Although not widely appreciated, positive impacts can accrue from developments. These can include positive resource management policies, improved maintenance and access to archaeological monuments, and the increased level of knowledge of a site or historic landscape as a result of archaeological assessment and fieldwork.*

### **PREDICTED IMPACTS**

The severity of a given level of land-take or visual intrusion varies with the type of monument, site or landscape features and its existing environment. Severity of impact can be judged taking the following into account:

- The proportion of the feature affected and how far physical characteristics fundamental to the understanding of the feature would be lost;
- Consideration of the type, date, survival/condition, fragility/vulnerability, rarity, potential and amenity value of the feature affected;
- Assessment of the levels of noise, visual and hydrological impacts, either in general or site-specific terms, as may be provided by other specialists.

## **APPENDIX 4 MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCE**

### **POTENTIAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE REMAINS**

Mitigation is defined as features of the design or other measures of the proposed development that can be adopted to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset negative effects.

The best opportunities for avoiding damage to archaeological remains or intrusion on their setting and amenity arise when the site options for the development are being considered. Damage to the archaeological resource immediately adjacent to developments may be prevented by the selection of appropriate construction methods. Reducing adverse effects can be achieved by good design, for example by screening historic buildings or upstanding archaeological monuments or by burying archaeological sites undisturbed rather than destroying them. Offsetting adverse effects is probably best illustrated by the full investigation and recording of archaeological sites that cannot be preserved *in situ*.

### **DEFINITION OF MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE**

The ideal mitigation for all archaeological sites is preservation *in situ*. This is not always a practical solution, however. Therefore, a series of recommendations are offered to provide ameliorative measures where avoidance and preservation *in situ* are not possible.

*Archaeological Test Trenching* can be defined as ‘a limited programme of intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate’ (ClfA 2020a).

*Full Archaeological Excavation* can be defined as ‘a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design’ (ClfA 2020b).

*Archaeological Monitoring* can be defined as ‘a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be

disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive (ClfA 2020c).

*Underwater Archaeological Assessment* consists of a programme of works carried out by a specialist underwater archaeologist, which can involve wade surveys, metal detection surveys and the excavation of test pits within the sea or river bed. These assessments are able to access and assess the potential of an underwater environment to a much higher degree than terrestrial based assessments.



TN029-062001 Church  
 TN029-062007 Graveslab  
 TN029-062005 Graveyard  
 TN029-062006 Graveslab

TN029-062003 House  
 TN029-062004 Bawn  
 TN029-062002 Tower House

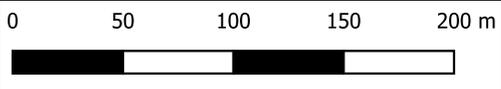
TN029-062 Historic Town

TN029-088 Redundant Record

17E0348

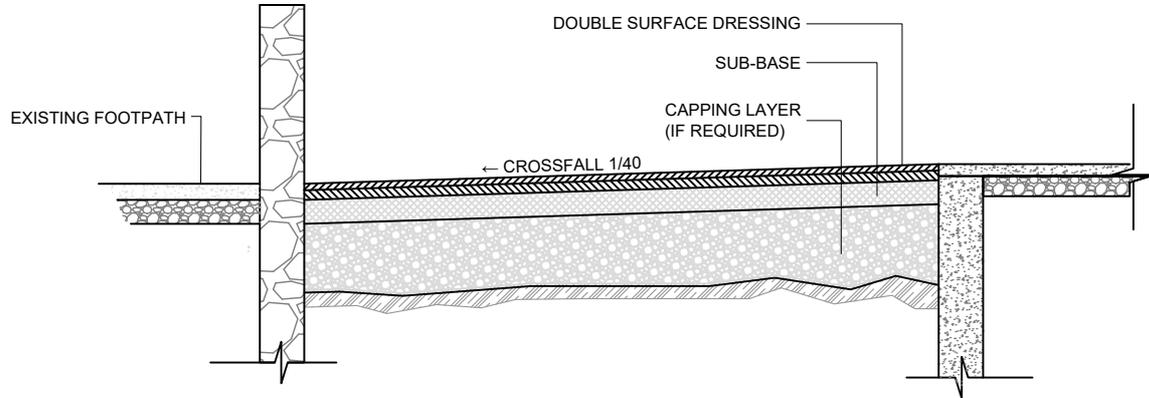
**Legend**

-  Site Boundary
-  Assessment Area
-  Monitored Area (17E0348)
-  Recorded Monuments
-  Zone of notification
-  Existing River
-  Diversion Channel
-  Old Channel (now dry)

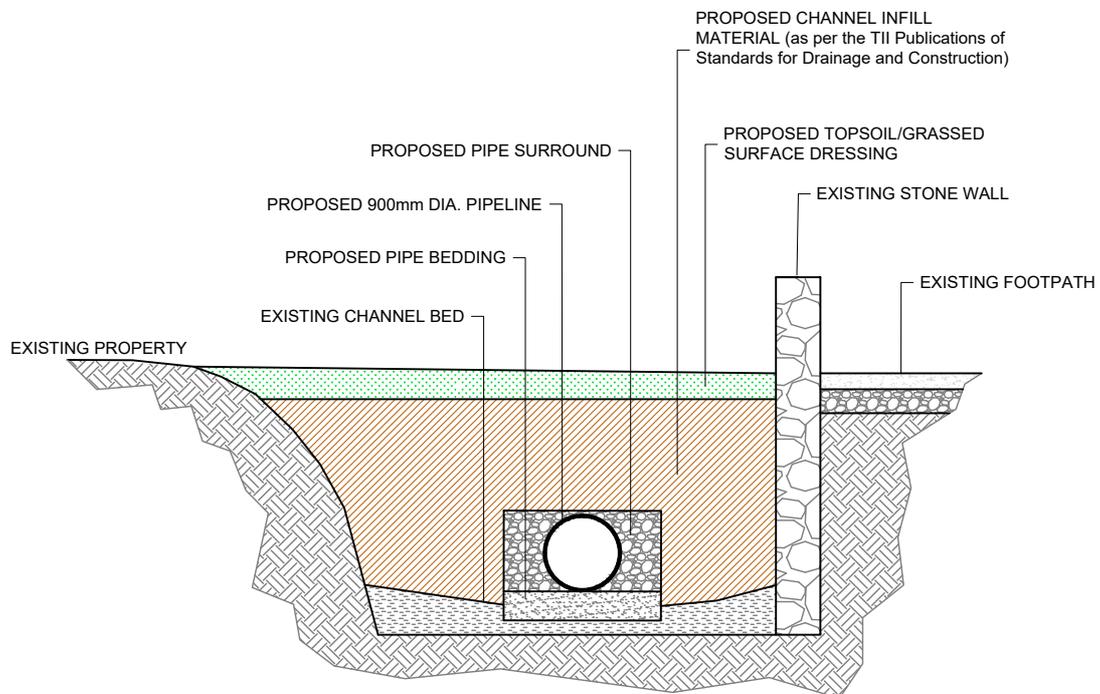


Title: Site location showing recorded monuments	Scale: 1: 9000	Drawn By: RB
Project: Former River Mall Channel (Templemore)	Date: 24/05/23	Checked By: TC
	Job No.: J3920	Fig. 1
		Rev. 1

PROPOSED INFILL DETAIL (PAVED AREAS) - TYPICAL CROSS SECTION



PROPOSED INFILL DETAIL (GRASSED AREAS) - TYPICAL CROSS SECTION





IAC Archaeology

Title: Down Survey barony map of Ilogurty 1656-8

Project: Former River Mall Channel (Templemore)

Scale: NTS

Date: 13/04/22

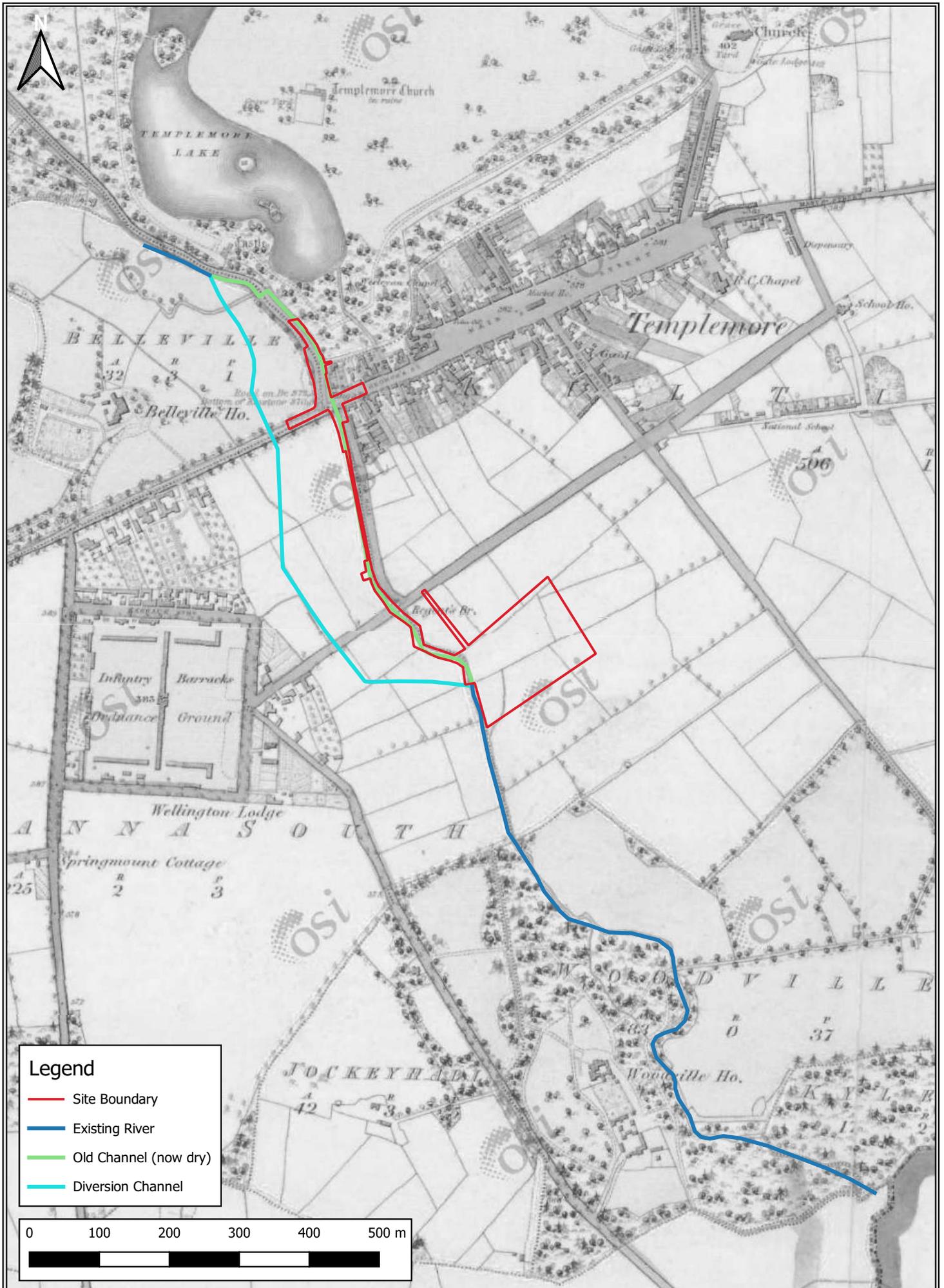
Drawn by: RB

Checked by: TC

Job no.: J3920

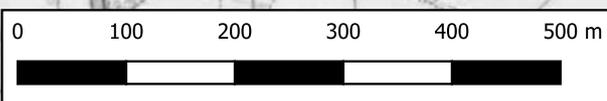
Fig. 3

Rev. -

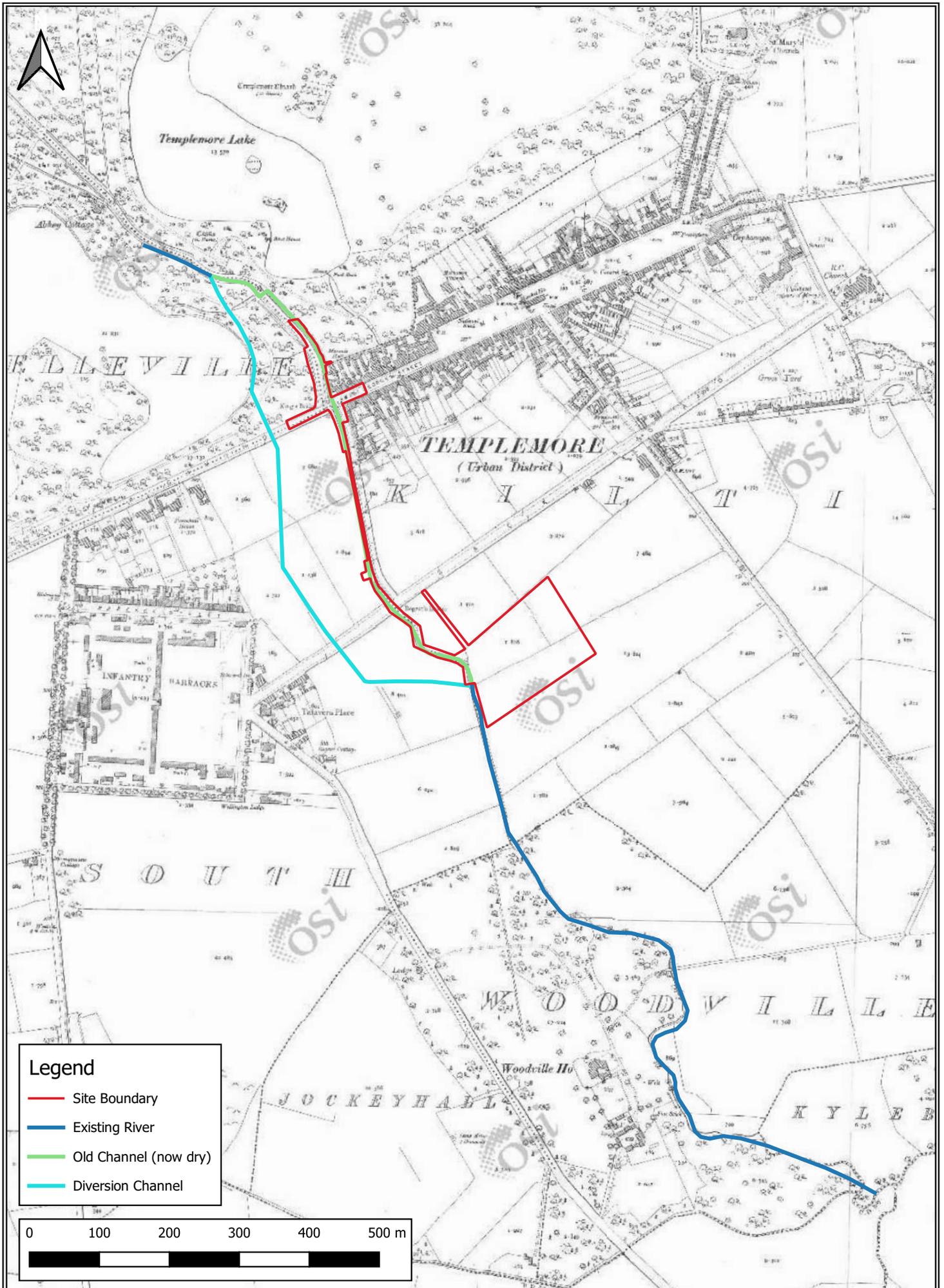


**Legend**

- Site Boundary
- Existing River
- Old Channel (now dry)
- Diversion Channel



Title: Site location overlain the 1st edition 6" OS map (1843)	Scale: 1:7000	Drawn By: RB
Project: Former River Mall Channel (Templemore)	Date: 24/05/23	Checked By: TC
	Job No.: J3920	Fig. 4 Rev. 1

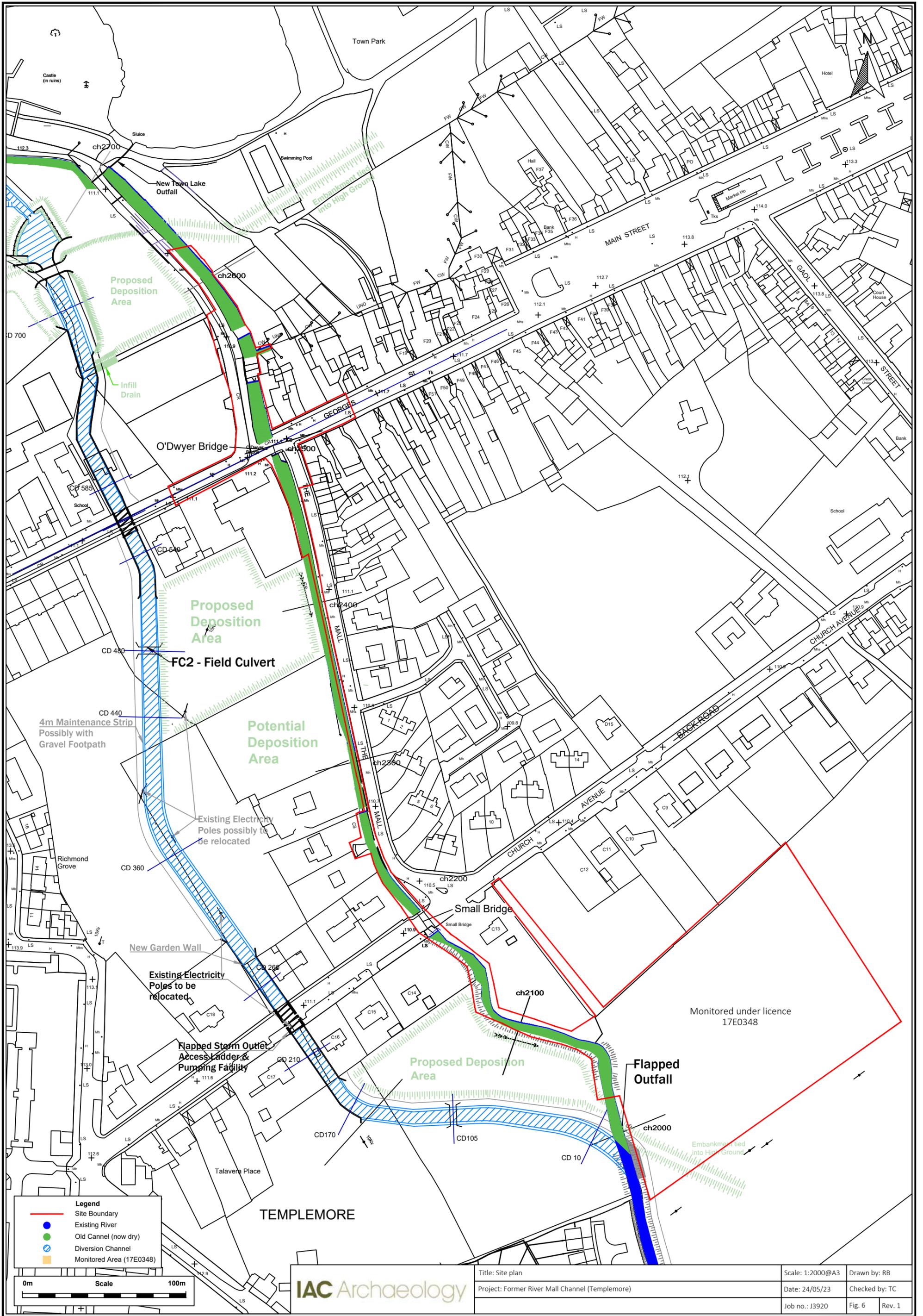


**Legend**

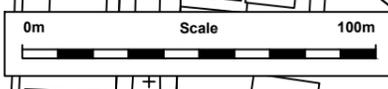
- Site Boundary
- Existing River
- Old Channel (now dry)
- Diversion Channel



<b>IAC Archaeology</b>	Title: Site location overlain the 3rd edition 25" OS map (1907)	Scale: 1:7000	Drawn By: RB
	Project: Former River Mall Channel (Templemore)	Date: 24/05/23	Checked By: TC
		Job No.: J3920	Fig. 5



- Legend**
- Site Boundary
  - Existing River
  - Old Cannel (now dry)
  - ▨ Diversion Channel
  - ▭ Monitored Area (17E0348)



**IAC Archaeology**

Title: Site plan	Scale: 1:2000@A3	Drawn by: RB
Project: Former River Mall Channel (Templemore)	Date: 24/05/23	Checked by: TC
Job no.: J3920	Fig. 6	Rev. 1



Plate 1 New channel upstream, facing south



Plate 2 Former Channel Infilled in Bellview,  
facing northwest



Plate 3 Pooling south of dam at Lake outfall,  
facing north



Plate 4 Walled Channel with overgrowth and  
bedrock exposed on base, facing south



Plate 5 Modern Wall bounding river at Young's  
Garage, facing southeast



Plate 6 Metal detecting at Young's Garage,  
facing south



Plate 7 Modern debris Section 1



Plate 8 Modern debris Section 1



Plate 9 Large Stone Arched bridge/structure,  
facing south



Plate 10 Timber and steel decked access bridge,  
facing north



Plate 11 Overgrown area upstream from  
O'Dwyer's Bridge, facing north



Plate 12 Drainage outlet upstream of O'Dwyer's  
Bridge, facing west



Plate 13 O'Dwyer's Bridge, facing south



Plate 14 Boundary Wall on E side of channel,  
south of O'Dwyer's Bridge, facing northeast



Plate 15 Cobbled surface at channel boundary,  
facing south



Plate 16 Water Pump decorative feature, facing  
west



Plate 17 Earthen bank with possible façade  
walling, facing northwest



Plate 18 Area of deep water Chainage 2330,  
facing north



Plate 19 Concrete boundary walls and access bridges at houses on The Mall, facing south



Plate 20 Concrete channel walls and concrete plinth foundation, facing northwest



Plate 21 Modern debris on The Mall section



Plate 22 Overgrown area north of Small Bridge, facing north



Plate 23 Small Bridge, facing north



Plate 24 Channel Boundary Wall south of Small Bridge, facing southeast



Plate 25 Heavily overgrown channel south of  
Small Bridge, facing north



Plate 26 Modern debris (glass, brick, concrete,  
metal) in Section 3



Plate 27 Central Area Section 3, facing southeast



Plate 28 Southern Area Section 3, facing north