

8.0 ARCHITECTURAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The Archaeology Company was employed to carry out the architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage assessment of the proposed development of a Civic Amenity (CA) waste handling facility located at Labre Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 12. The assessment is based on a brief provided by Patel Tonra Ltd. and meeting the criteria set out in the 2002 Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements from the Environmental Protection Agency. The site was visited by James Lyttleton on 18th October 2004. A number of photographs were taken. See plates 8.1-8.6.

8.2 Receiving Environment

8.2.1 The site of proposed development consists of waste ground, partially covered by a substantial heap of loose masonry rubble surrounded by an iron fence. The rest of the area is under grass, with disturbance of the topsoil evident, particularly in the vicinity of electricity pylons, which carry two high-tension lines across the site. The topography is flat at 100-200 feet OD (see plates 8.1 & 8.2). Trial test pits conducted during this phase of works have uncovered what appears to be municipal waste and construction & demolition (C&D) waste which was historically deposited in what appears to be old quarry site. The trial pits were spread out around the development site.

8.2.2 This waste ground is located in the townland of Ballyfermot Lower. The proposed site of development is bounded to the north by an open surface drain (see plate 5), which separates the site from an area where it is proposed to build additional houses adjacent to existing social housing at Labre Park. To the east of the site another development is proposed, a U-Store It warehouse fronting onto the Kylemore Road. The Grand Canal with its sixth lock bounds the site to the south, while to the west there is another proposed development, a trailer park to be operated by a local waste management company. The townland of Ballyfermot Lower is situated in the parish of Ballyfermot in the barony of Uppercross in County Dublin.

8.2.3 There are no recorded monuments listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) within the development. No visual impact on RMP sites, or protected structures was noted during field inspection. This field inspection found no new monuments or archaeological features. However medieval settlement has been a feature of the general Ballyfermot area.

8.2.4 A study of cartographic sources and aerial photographs illustrates the development of the area. The first edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 series surveyed in 1837 illustrates that the Grand Canal with its sixth lock was already constructed by this stage forming the southern boundary of the site. A line of trees defined both sides of the canal at this time. Construction of the canal was begun in 1755, though by 1779 it had only progressed twelve miles (McWatt No date, 28). The same map indicates an open field on the site with no apparent surface structures except a road approaching the sixth lock of the Grand Canal from the west and an open drain curving from W to E to SSE meeting the canal just to the east of the same lock.

- 8.2.5 The 1866 and 1910 editions of the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 series again indicates that the site had not gone through any ascertainable change. The 1938 edition of the same map series depicts a disused sand pit in the northern area of proposed development, while the 1944 edition, again of the same map series, depicts the same disused sand pit, though with an electricity line running through the site.
- 8.2.6 By the 1930s and 1940s significant housing was encroaching upon the general area to the south of the canal. A study of aerial photographs held by the Geological Survey of Ireland revealed nothing of archaeological significance (Air Corp May 1958 1:10560, V.251/63-4 & G.S.I. June 1973 1:300, O.141). The Air Corp was more informative with waste ground, a large sand pit and some garden plots occupying the site. A series of drains running N-S appear to have ran through the eastern half of the proposed development.
- 8.2.7 The Dublin Corporation 1:5,000 series of 1980 depicts the proposed site of development as open ground with the same sand pit in place but the curving open drain infilled. Two electricity power lines cross the site. By the 1980s the vicinity of the proposed development saw tremendous development with both housing and industrial units being constructed both north and south of the Grand Canal, but at no stage since 1837 was a building constructed on the actual site itself.
- 8.2.8 Known archaeological sites as recorded by the RMP for County Dublin lie a considerable distance away from the site of the proposed development. Circa 1km to the NW lies the site of Ballyfermot Castle with the adjoining church and graveyard of St. Lawrence (RMP 018-031), which formed a manorial centre at Ballyfermot. A close association of castle and church is typical of manors in the medieval period. There are no apparent surface traces of either the castle or church, presently located in Le Fanu Park on a natural grass covered ridge. Circa 700m to the ESE of the proposed development lies a church and graveyard (RMP 018-033) on the Old Naas Road in the adjacent parish of Drimnagh.
- 8.2.9 Ballyfermot Lower forms part of the parish of Ballyfermot with the nearest known archaeological sites being situated a considerable distance away. These sites are all of medieval date and reflect Ballyfermot's heritage as once forming an Anglo-Norman manor. The placename Ballyfermot derives its name from an obscure Gaelic Irish family known originally by the name of Mac Gilla Mo Cholmog who held lands in the area after the Anglo-Norman invasion. They changed their name eventually to FitzDermot.
- 8.2.10 Old forms of Ballyfermot have been recorded as Balithormod (c. 1260) and Balithermot (c. 1294) (Ua Broin 1944, 215-6). Sometime before 1307, the lands passed to the Fitzwilliam family and in that year William Fitzwilliam and his wife Avicia assigned a third of the manor of Ballyfermot to Thomas Cantock, Bishop of Emly and Chancellor of Ireland. The remainder of the manor later passed from the Fitzwilliams to their relatives, the de Clahulls in 1327. From them it was passed onto the Barnewalls of Drimnagh Castle by the end of the fourteenth century. From that time on the Barnewalls are frequently referred to in connection with Ballyfermot (Ball 1906 101-2, Wren 1987).
- 8.2.11 An antiquarian, Austin Cooper in 1781, recorded the presence of an earthwork to the NE of Ballyfermot Castle with a large tree growing on top of it as a mount or rath (Price 1942, 58; Wren 1987). This may have been the remains of a motte, a suspicion further reinforced by E. R. McClintock-Dix (1898, 168) who asserted that the house depicted by the Ordnance Survey on their maps as Ballyfermot Castle was in fact known by the name of Ballymount. This evidence suggests that an earth-and-timber castle was associated with the manorial center at Ballyfermot between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries. In the fifteenth century this motte appears to have been succeeded by a tower house, a masonry castle popularly constructed in the Pale between the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

- 8.2.12 Drawings of the castle at Ballyfermot by Beranger in the eighteenth century and W.F. Wakeman in the nineteenth century depict an oblong, three-storied tower house of fifteenth century date with simple crenellation with large rectilinear windows visible at first floor level. A possible 17th century house adjoined the castle to one side (Ball 1906, 103; Harbison 1998, 55). By around 1660, the Hearth Money Roll records that besides Ballyfermot Castle, which apparently contained ten hearths, there were some twenty other houses in the parish of Ballyfermot, of which only two contained more than one hearth (Ball 1906 102-5). This highlights the rural character of the parish in the early modern period with a relatively low population level. The census of 1821 for the parish returned a population of 172 people, with a later census in 1831 seeing an increase to 402 inhabitants (D'Alton 1838, 320).
- 8.2.13 The ruins of a parish church (circa 18m by circa 6.3m) in Ballyfermot were recorded as surviving at the turn of the twentieth century, however today there are no surviving upstanding remains. It was apparently dedicated to St. Lawrence, and was in the possession of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem at Kilmainham in the thirteenth century. It remained in the hands of the Knight Templars right up to the dissolution of this house in the sixteenth century. In 1539 the church was transferred to John Allen and in 1608 James I granted to Sir Robert Newcomen 'the ruinous chapel called St. Laurence's chapel near Ballyfermot' with 84 acres there and the profits of the fair (D'Alton 1838, 321). In 1615 the Regal Visitations reported that the church and chancel were in ruins (R.M.P. file 018-031(03/04)). There is no definitive record of the upkeep of the church in this period though various Protestant clergymen were responsible for the parish, the Reverend Simon Swayne in 1615, the Reverend Matthew Forster in 1628, the Reverend John Lenox in 1629, the Reverend Thomas Humphries in 1639, and Reverend Gilbert Deane in 1643. After the restoration of the Stuart monarchy in 1660 the church appears to have fallen out of use (Ball 1906, 106; Wren 1987). Austin Cooper in 1781 wrote of the old church at Ballyfermot covered in ivy, with an old baptismal font present, though with no ancient grave memorials apparent (Wren 1987). Even as late as 1978 Henry Wheeler of the O.P.W. was able to inspect the wall footings of the church along with some gravestones of 19th century date (R.M.P. file 018-031(03/04)).

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Plate 8.1: View of general area of proposed development from east.
Note the Grand Canal bordering the site to the south

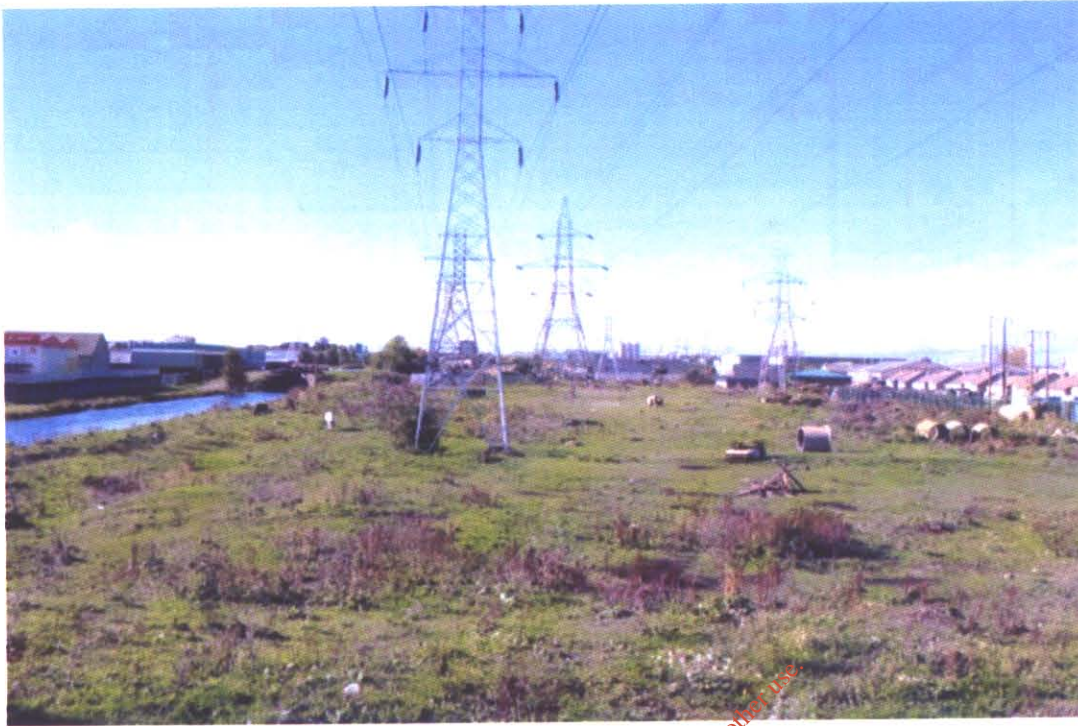
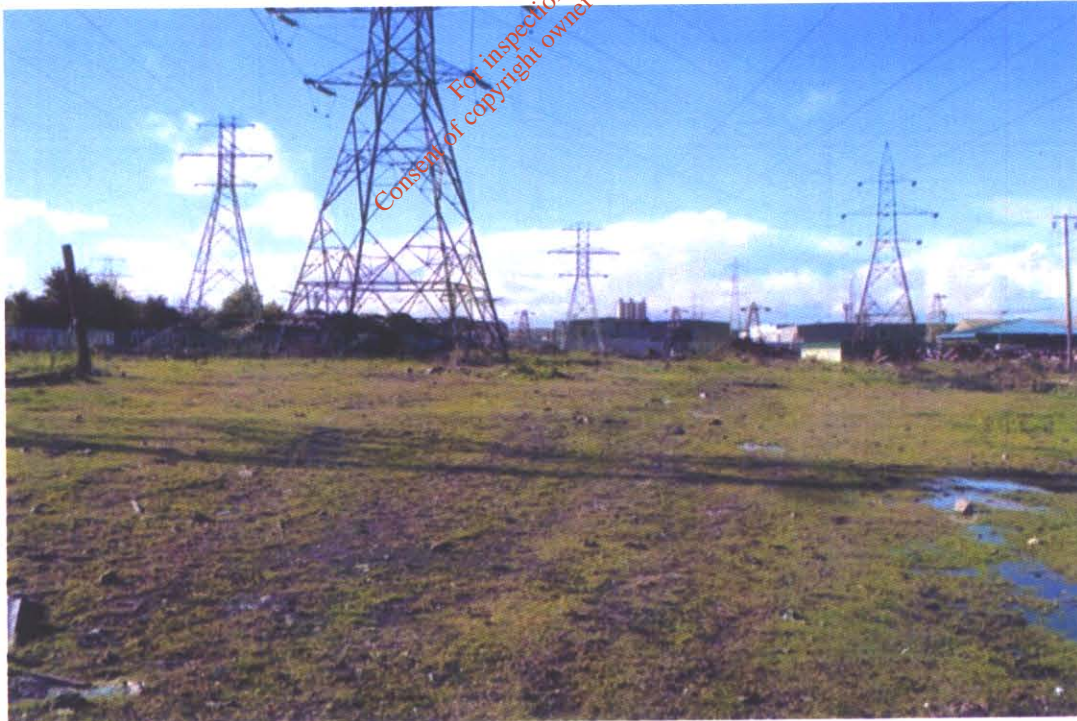


Plate 8.2: View of proposed development from east



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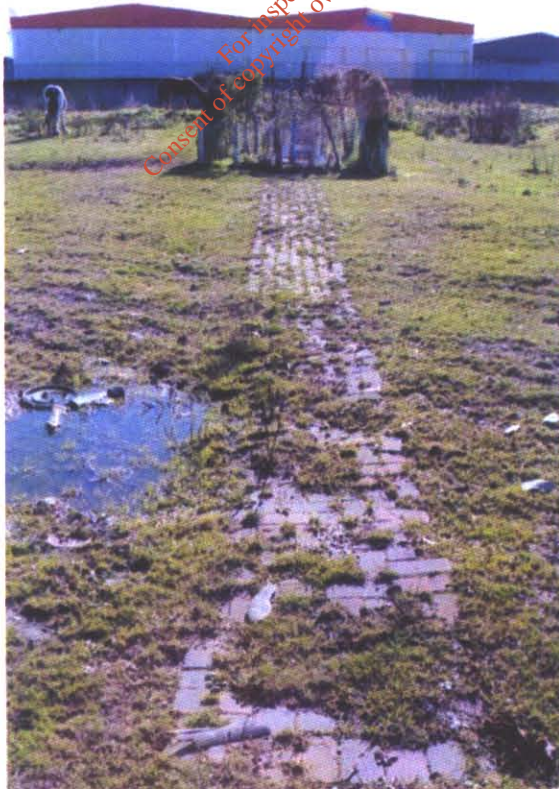
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Plate 8.3: View of memorial to Johnny Hanifin from northwest



Plate 8.4: View of brick pathway approaching memorial to Johnny Hanifin from north



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Plate 8.5: View of proposed development site from WSW.
Note open surface drain which borders site to the north.



Plate 8.6: View of proposed access route from Kildemore Park West.
Taken from south



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8.3 Characteristics of the Proposal

During Construction

- 8.3.1 It is proposed to construct a Civic Amenity (CA) waste handling facility on waste ground at Labre Park, Ballyfermot, Dublin 12 and will occupy part of the existing waste ground with the remainder being developed independently. The proposed new CA site will cover a total area of circa 11,053m². This area will accommodate the main CA Facility (including green waste deposit area), a street cleaning deposit area for Dublin City Council street cleaning vehicles, a waste electrical and electronic equipment storage area and a waste deposit area for the controlled disposal of construction/demolition wastes.

During Operation

- 8.3.2 The Civic Amenity Facility will provide a flat yard to allow members of the public to dispose of domestic recyclable materials such as glass, papers, plastics and bulky wastes such as carpets, furniture, and fridges in an environmentally sensitive manner. Priority wastes such as paint cans, old bleach bottles, waste oils will be deposited in dedicated storage containers on site e.g. chem-store, double skinned tank. Green waste or cuttings from gardens will also be deposited at a reception area in an area dedicated to green waste where the waste will be compacted in dedicated containers before being shipped off site for further processing. There will be an outdoor yard area to be used by Dublin City Council street-cleaning vehicles for the deposition of waste collected in the area. The contents will be compacted at the location. Any leaching from the compactor will drain to a silt trap before discharge to the foul sewer. Waste electrical and electronic equipment will be stored before being exported for reprocessing. An outdoor yard area will be used for the controlled deposition of construction and demolition wastes e.g. bricks, tiles and wood.

8.4 Possible Effects of Proposals of this kind

- 8.4.1 Potential impacts should be limited to the construction phase of the development. Groundworks and other site preparation works at the start of the construction phase have a high potential for impacting on the Johnny Hanifin memorial. As a large portion of the development site is shown to comprise of a landfill resting on boulder clay the effect on potential buried archaeological remains is low.

8.5 Avoidance, Remedial or Reductive Measures

- 8.5.1 The Johnny Hanifin memorial will be removed and relocated (see plates 2 & 3), with appropriate access for visitors in consultation with the community. The possibility of the presence of archaeological remains in the development site cannot be dismissed. Therefore archaeological testing in the area that has not been disturbed by the sand pit should be carried out in addition to the impact assessment presented in this section to locate the nature and extent of any archaeological remains located within the development site. This would be agreed in advance with the Heritage and Planning Division of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Depending on the results it may be necessary to preserve any archaeological remains found *in situ*, or if this is not possible by record. These investigations should be carried out in advance of the main construction phase if possible. There will be no need for avoidance, remedial or reductive measures during operational phase of the development.

8.6 Likely Effects of this Proposal

- 8.6.1 There is a likelihood that the Johnny Hanifin memorial will be directly impacted during construction phase of the development. There is a low likelihood that previously unrecorded archaeological remains, should they exist, either associated with the early history of the Ballyfermot area, or with earlier human activities at the proposed development site, will be directly impacted during construction phase of the development. It is unlikely that there will be any further impact during the operational phase of the development.

8.7 Monitoring

- 8.7.1 If the proposed archaeological testing programme is intensive enough to identify the nature and extent of archaeological features and objects to the satisfaction of the Heritage and Planning Division of the DoEHLG and the planning authority, any potential archaeological investigations in the field should be complete before the main contractor starts their construction programme. If this programme is not satisfactory for any reason, or there are unforeseen difficulties, the initial groundworks and site clearance works should be archaeologically monitored. Further archaeological investigations may be required on archaeological evidence found during monitoring.
- 8.7.2 No monitoring should then be required for the rest of the construction phase or any of the operational phases.

8.8 Reinstatement

- 8.8.1 In consultation with the residents of Labre Park, the Johnny Hanifin memorial will be reinstated to an alternative location. No other reinstatement issues are identified in relation to archaeological remains at the site.

8.9 Forecasting Methods

- 8.9.1 A desktop study was carried out to characterize the receiving environment in terms of potential impacts on cultural heritage. This involved assessing the known and recorded history of the development site and identifying potential archaeological remains in relation to these.
- 8.9.2 A walkover survey was carried out to further assess the receiving environment in terms of potential impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological sites, remains or objects. The visual impact of the proposed development on recorded monuments and protected structures was analysed at this stage using a landscape archaeology approach, considering the development site within its broader physical, historical and archaeological context. Potential impacts were assessed in terms of being high or low.
- 8.9.3 Proposed mitigation measures are in line with heritage and planning legislation affecting cultural heritage in the development context.

8.9.4 Historical and archaeological sources were consulted at the following locations:

- The Record of Monuments and Places Archives of the Heritage and Planning Division of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland.
- Ballyfermot Public Library
- Dublin City Archive, Pearse Street.
- Map Library, Trinity College Dublin
- Boole Library, University College Cork
- Aerial photographs (G.S.I 1973 & Air Corps 1955), Geological Survey of Ireland, Beggars Bush, Dublin

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8.10 References

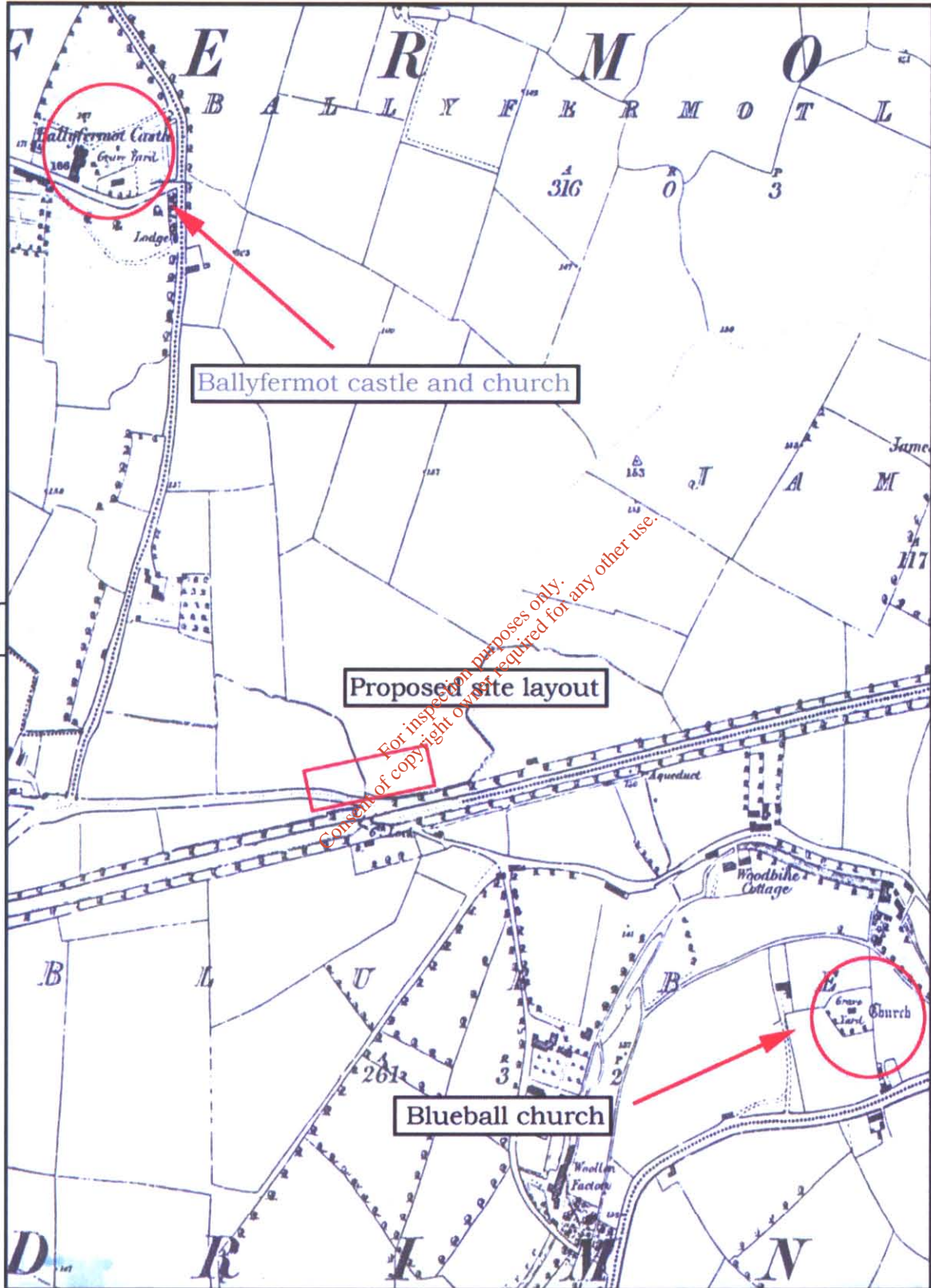
8.10.1 These are the main works referred to in the report:

- Down Survey, parish map of Clondalkin and Balliforment, 1655-7, Ms. 714,
- First edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 (Dublin sheet 18; surveyed 1837)
- First edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 (Dublin sheet 18-13; surveyed 1866, published 1866)
- Second edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 (Dublin sheet 18-13; surveyed 1907, published 1910)
- Third edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 (Dublin sheet 18-13; surveyed 1936, published 1938)
- Fourth edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 (Dublin sheet 18-13; surveyed 1943-4, published 1944)
- Dublin Corporation 1:5,000 (Sheet 5, surveyed 1980)
- Ball, F.E. 1906 A history of the County Dublin, the people, parishes and antiquities from the earliest times to the close of the eighteenth century. Volume 4. Gill and Macmillan. Dublin.
- D'Alton, J. 1838 The history of County Dublin. Hodges & Smith. Dublin.
- Harbison, P. (ed.) 1998 Beranger's antique buildings of Ireland. Four Courts Press. Dublin and Portland.
- Lewis, S. 1837 A topographical dictionary of Ireland. S. Lewis & Co. London.
- McClintock-Dix, E.R. 1898 The lesser castles in the Co. Dublin. The Irish Builder 40, 177-8.
- McWatt, Denis No date Ballyfermot. Unpublished transcript. Local history file Ballyfermot. Cabinet 1. Dublin City Library and Archive.
- Mount, Charles 1995 New research on Irish Early Bronze Age cemeteries. In John Waddell and Elizabeth Shee Twohig (eds), Ireland in the Bronze Age, Proceedings of the Dublin conference, 97-112. The Stationary Office. Dublin.
- Price, L. (ed.) 1942 An eighteenth-century antiquary, the sketches, notes and diaries of Austin Cooper 1759-1830. John Falconer. Dublin.
- Ua Broin, L. 1944 Clondalkin and its neighbourhood. Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries 74, 215-6.
- Wren, J. 1987 The villages of Dublin. Tomar Publishing Enterprises. Dublin.

8.11 Difficulties in Compiling Specified Information

8.11.1 No difficulties were encountered that adversely affected the assessment.

Figure 8.1: View of proposed development in relation to nearest upstanding archaeological sites. Extract from O.S. Dublin 1:10,560, Sheet 18 (1837).



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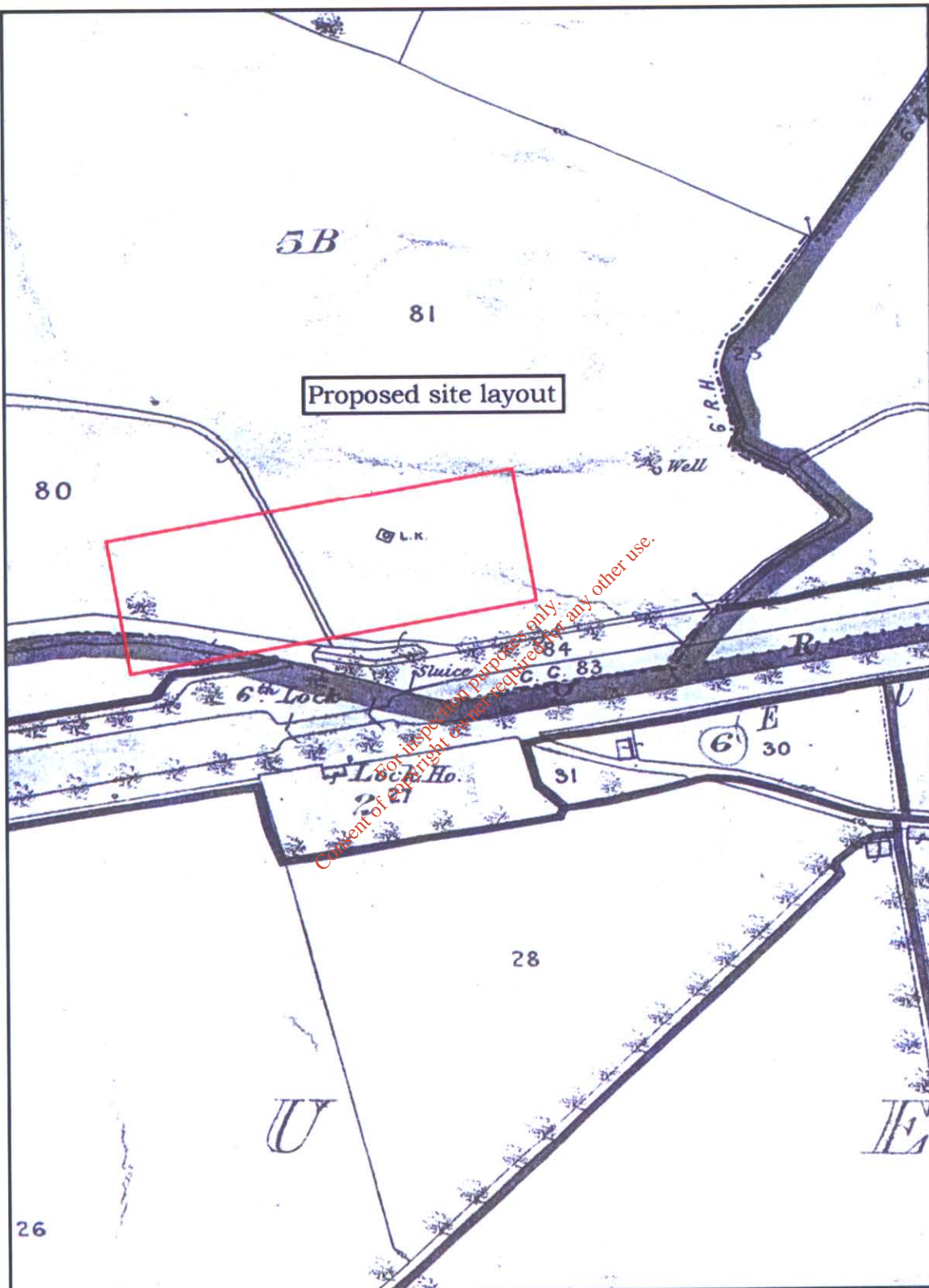
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Figure 8.2: Proposed site layout over extract from O.S. Dublin 1:2,500 Sheet 18 (published 1866).



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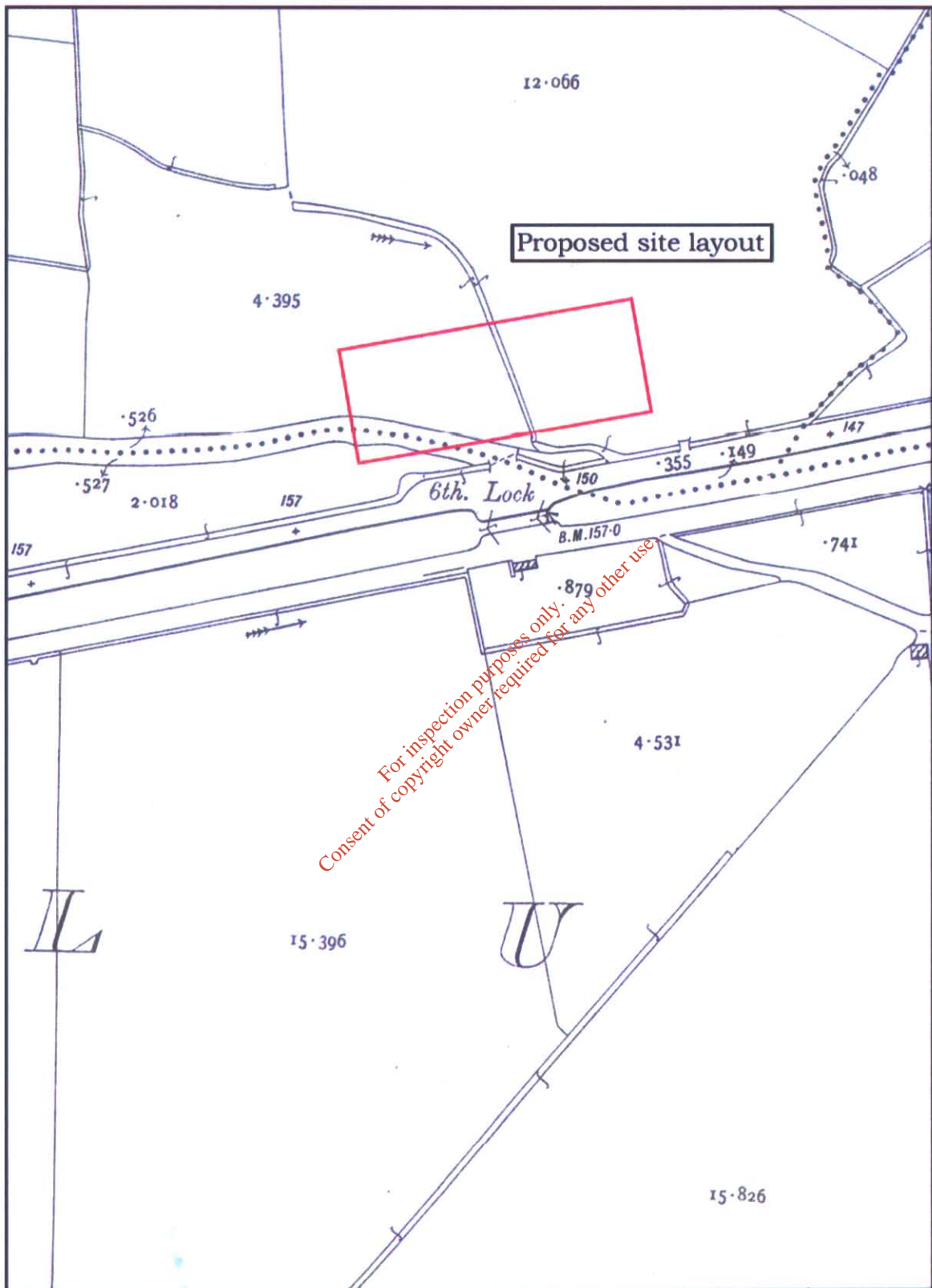
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Figure 8.3: Proposed site layout over extract from O.S. Dublin 1:2,500 Sheet 18 (published 1910)



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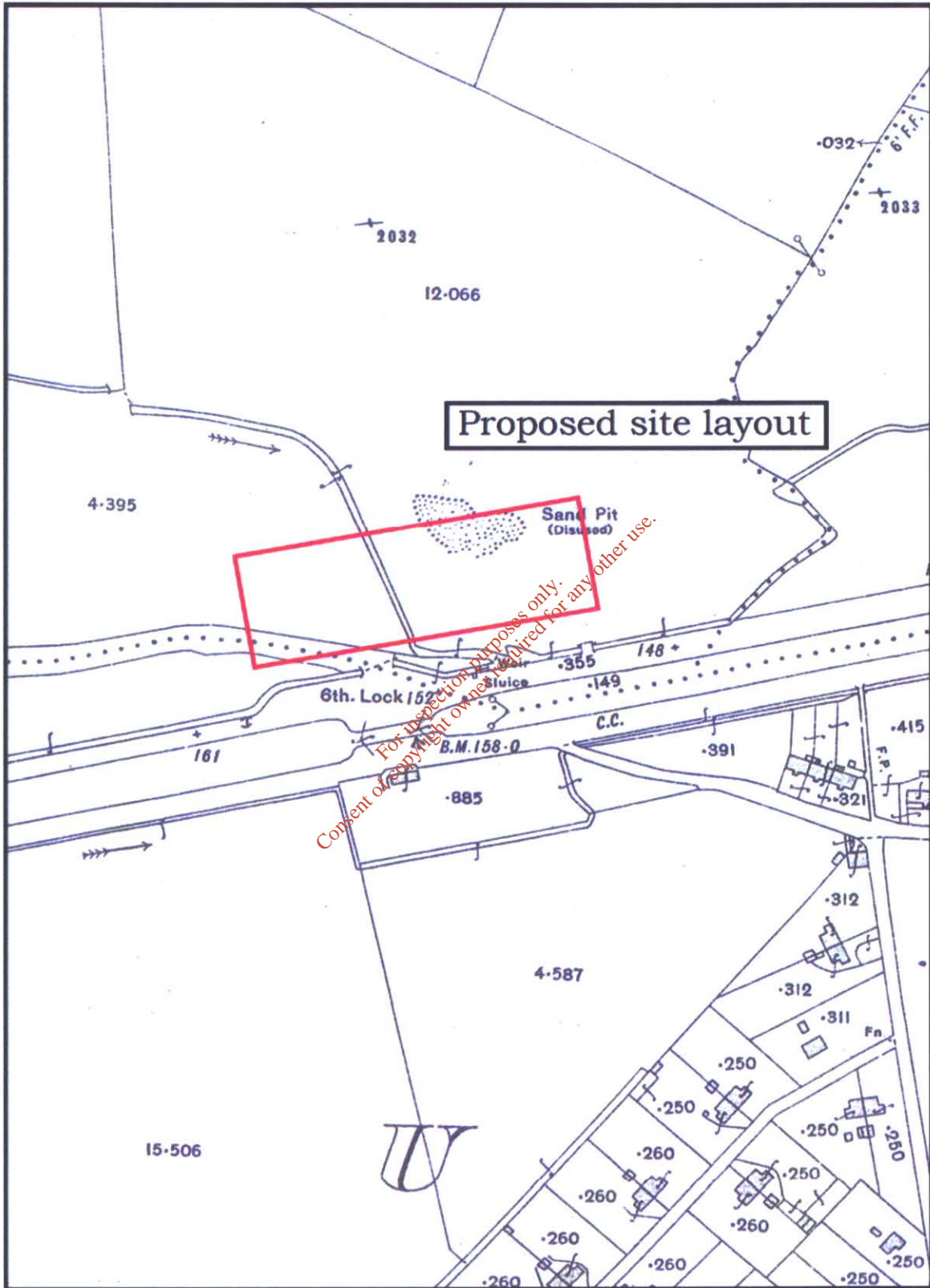
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Figure 8.4: Proposed site layout over extract from O.S. Dublin 1:2,500 Sheet 18 (published 1938)



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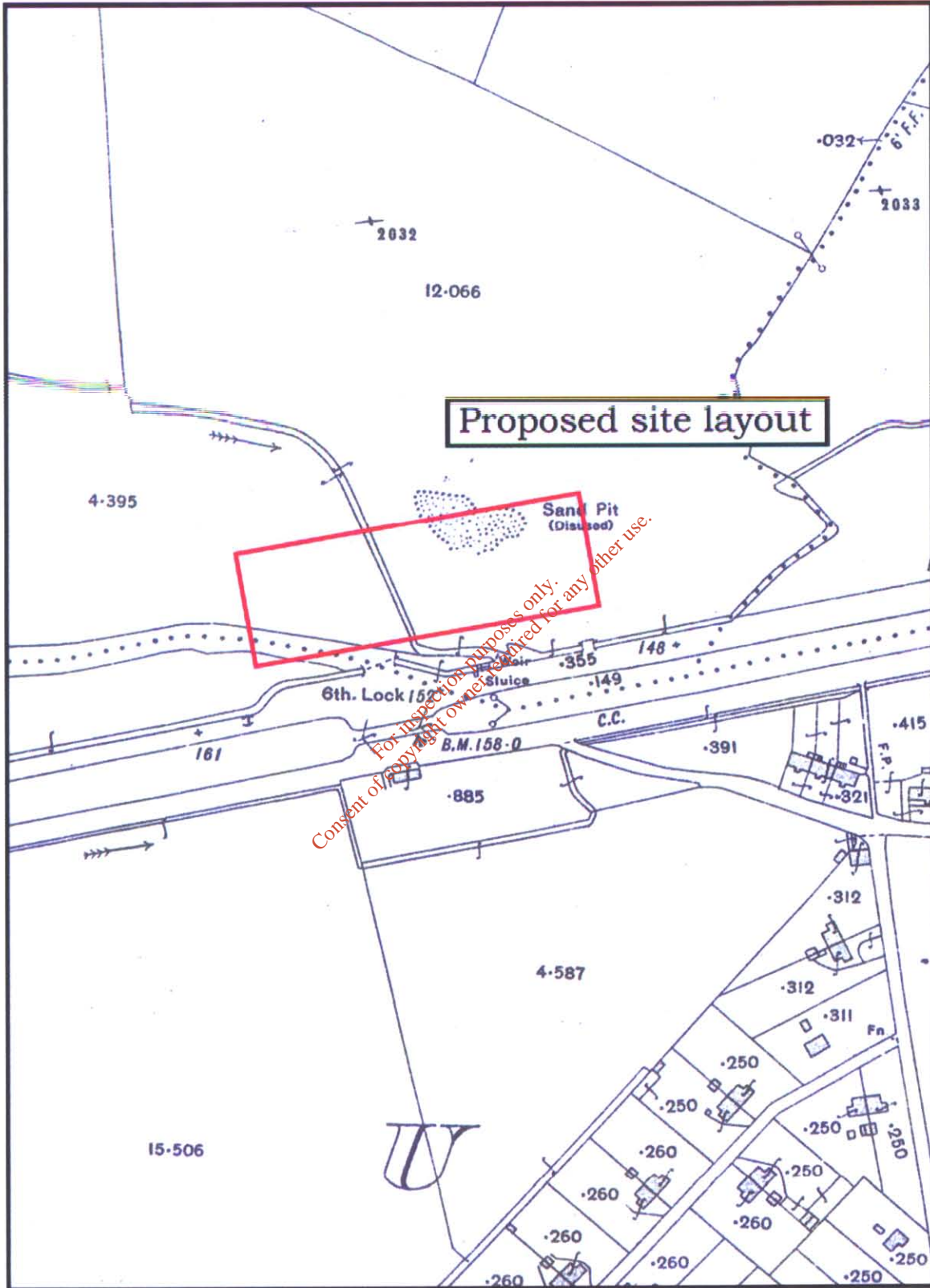
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Figure 8.5: Proposed site layout over extract from O.S. Dublin 1:2,500 Sheet 18 (published 1944).

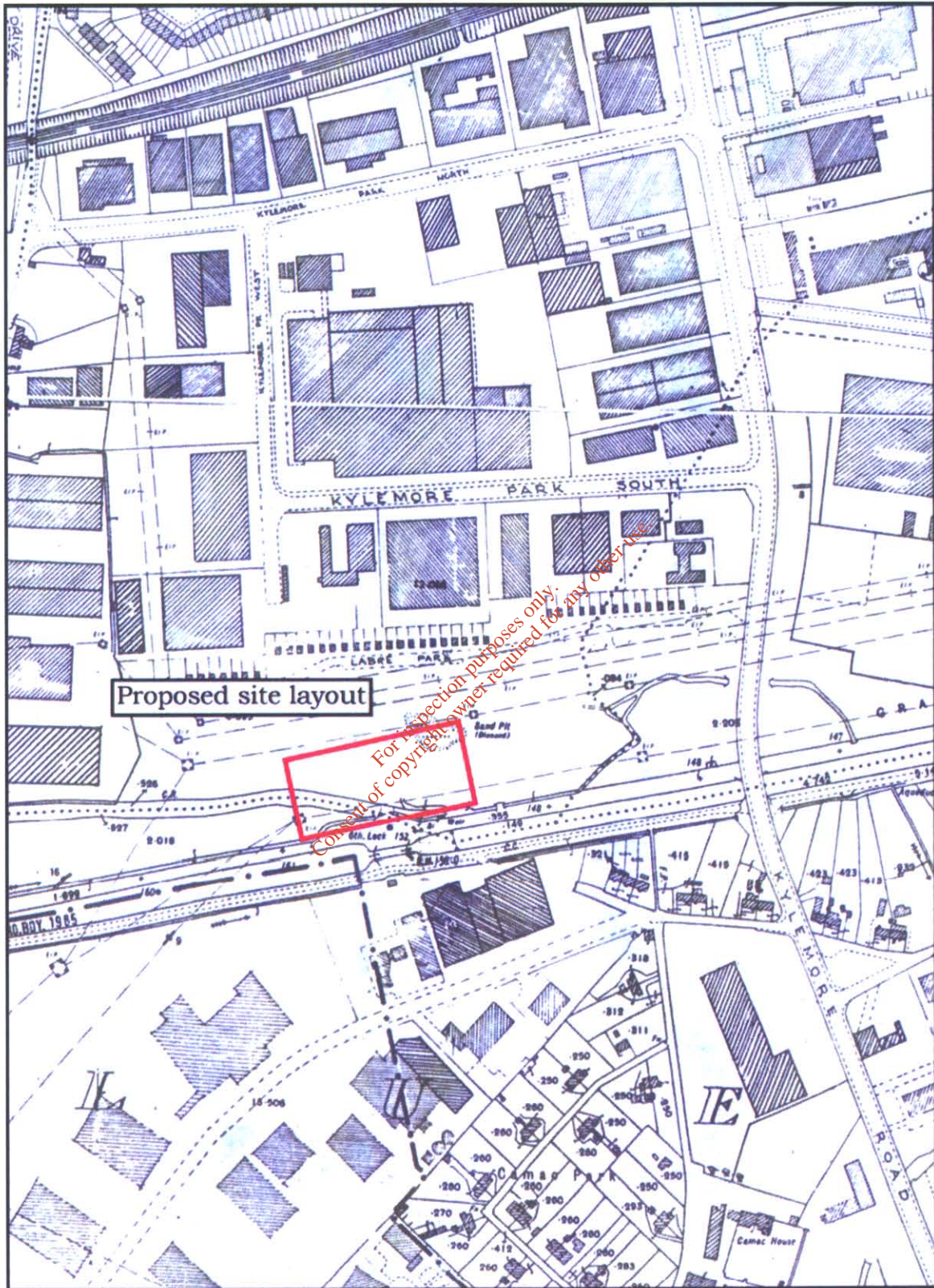


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Figure 8.6: Proposed site layout over extract from O.S. Dublin 1:5,000 Sheet 5 (published 1980)



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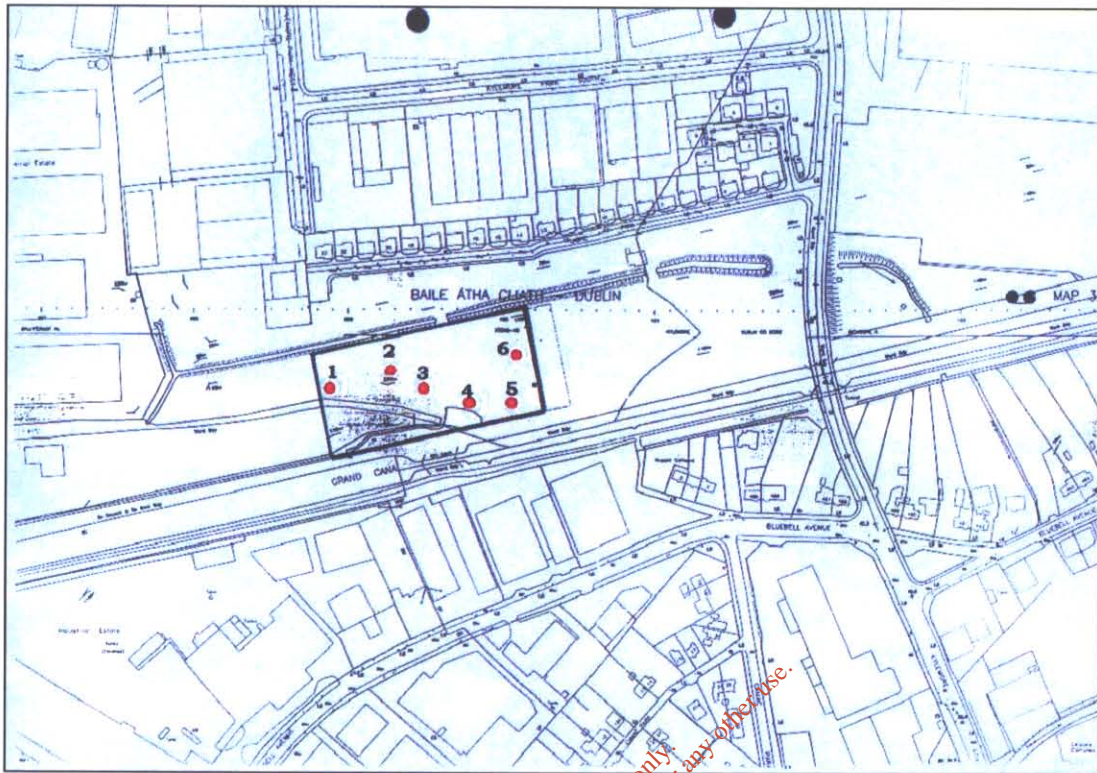
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Figure 8.7: Site layout plan showing trial test pit locations



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