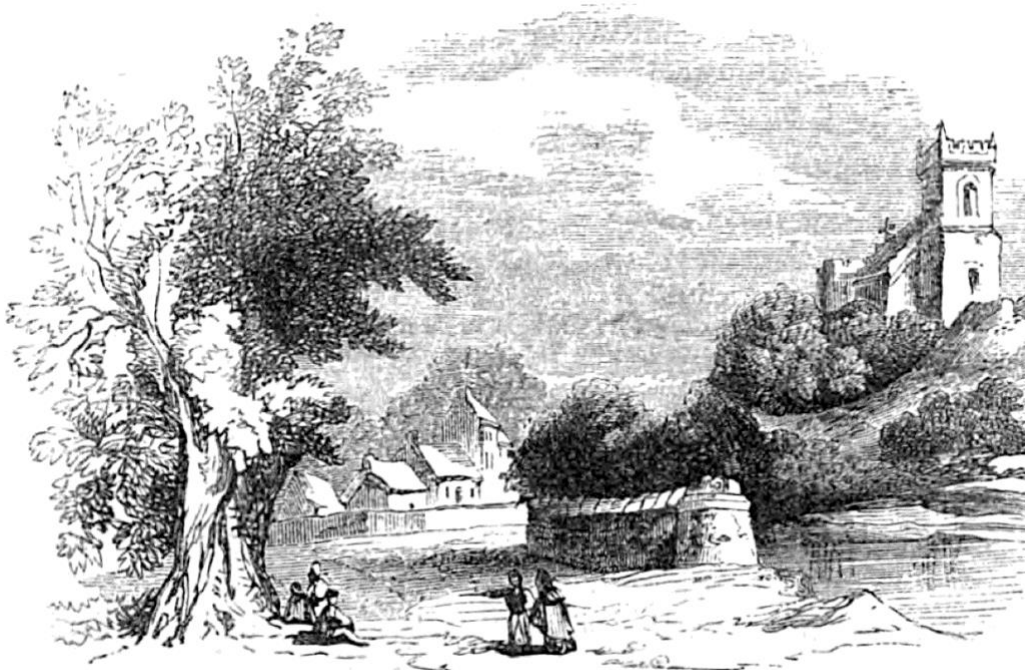


Updated Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: N59 Oughterard Footbridge, Oughterard, County Galway



OUGHTERARD.

By Dr Caroline McGrath

For Galway County Council on behalf of AtkinsRéalis

June 2025

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Dr Kim Rice	Archaeological Management Solutions	Technical reviews and edits
Pat Ruane	Archaeological Management Solutions (sub-consultant). Architect and former Architectural Conservation Officer with Cork City Council	Built Heritage Specialist (Walkover Survey)

Summary

Archaeological Management Solutions were appointed by Galway County Council on behalf of AtkinsRéalis to undertake a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment to support the planning application for the proposed N59 Oughterard Footbridge in Oughterard, County Galway. The proposal will involve the construction of a single-span footbridge over the Owenriff River. No instream works are proposed.

The purpose of the assessment was to provide a comprehensive analysis of the receiving cultural heritage environment, with a view to informing an appropriate archaeological and built heritage strategy to avoid any likely impacts to cultural heritage. A 500 m study area that included and extended from the proposed works area was assessed. Forty-two cultural heritage assets were identified in the study area.

The development of the proposed footbridge will result in no negative impacts to cultural heritage assets. Thus, it is proposed that the proposed new footbridge will positively contribute to the built heritage of Oughterard and amenity of the Owenriff River.

Four direct effects of Moderate Positive significance are predicted to result from the construction of the N59 Oughterard Footbridge. These include positive impacts to the setting, views, character and amenity value of Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area, Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church (SMR GA054-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013), the former Oughterard Courthouse (RPS 667; NIAH 30326012), and the existing late eighteenth-century bridge over the Owenriff River (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008).

No impacts are predicted for any of the remaining cultural heritage assets in the study area.

On present information there are no features, deposits or objects of archaeological interest in the development site, or in proximity to it. However, it is recommended that a programme of advance archaeological testing is carried out post-consent and in advance of construction works.

In April 2025, it was confirmed that an addendum to the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment should be prepared to assess the impacts of a proposed compound site on Station Road in Cregg townland, in addition to a proposed tree planting area in Carrowmanagh Park. No impacts are predicted as a result of the proposed tree-planting at Carrowmanagh Park, as it is highly likely from the evidence of aerial photography that the area was substantially disturbed in the 1990s during the construction of the residential estate and subsequent landscaping.

The proposed site compound is located in an area of archaeological potential (CH43), as it comprises a greenfield area. Consequently, if archaeological remains are present, there is the potential for direct negative impacts to the area of archaeological potential as a result of ground reduction works and the excavation of service trenches.

It is recommended that a programme of advance archaeological testing is carried out within the area of the proposed site compound post-consent and in advance of construction works.

Recommendations are subject to the agreement of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the National Museum of Ireland and the relevant planning authority, as applicable, and should only be carried out in accordance with the necessary approvals. Please note that the statutory and local authorities may issue alternative and/or additional recommendations/conditions.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation/Acronym	Definition
AAP	Area of Archaeological Potential
DAHG	Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
DAHGI	Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands
DAU	Development Applications Unit
DCHG	Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
GIS	Geographic Information System
ITM	Irish Transverse Mercator
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
NRA	National Roads Authority
OS	Ordnance Survey
RHM	Register of Historic Monuments
RMP	Record of Monuments and Places
RPS	Record of Protected Structures
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
ZoN	Zone of Notification

Coordinate Reference System

All grid coordinates in this report use the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) coordinate reference system unless otherwise stated.

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

Archaeological Management Solutions was appointed by AtkinsRéalis on behalf of Galway County Council to undertake a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment to support the planning application for the N59 Oughterard Footbridge development, in Oughterard, County Galway (Figure 1).

1.2 Site Location

The proposed footbridge will span the Owenriff River in Oughterard. Oughterard lies to the east of Lough Corrib and c.25 km northwest of Galway City (Figure 1). The toponym Oughterard is derived from *Uachtar Ard*, which translates from Irish as the High Upper/Southern Part,¹ while the Owenriff River is *Abhainn Ruibhe*, meaning the River of Sulphur or Brimstone River.²

A 500 m study area that included and extended from the proposed works area was assessed for the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (Figure 2–Figure 5). The study area includes the townlands of Canrawer East, Canrawer West, Clare, Carrowmanagh, Cregg, Fough West, Fough East, Lemonfield and Ordnance Ground (Table 1).³

Table 1: Townlands in the study area.

Townland	Irish Name	Suggested Meaning	Civil Parish	Barony
Canrawer East	<i>Ceann Ramhar Thoir</i>	The Fat Eastern Headland	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Canrawer West	<i>Ceann Ramhar Thiar</i>	The Fat Western Headland	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Clare	<i>An Clár</i>	The Plank Bridge	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Carrowmanagh	<i>An Cheathrú Mheánach</i>	The Middle Quarter	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Cregg	<i>An Chreig</i>	The Rock/Crag	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Fough East	<i>An Fhuathach Thoir</i>	The Eastern Burial Place	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Fough West	<i>An Fhuathach Thiar</i>	The Western Burial Place	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Lemonfield	<i>An Chorr</i>	The Round Hill	Kilcummin	Moycullen
Ordnance Ground	<i>An Campa</i>	The Camp	Kilcummin	Moycullen

The Owenriff River runs between Lough Adrehul and Lough Corrib. The subject site occurs within the Lough Corrib Special Area of Conservation⁴ as designated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The site is located at an elevation of c.20

¹ See: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/20886> [Accessed: 27.08.24].

² See: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/116520> [Accessed: 27.08.24].

³ Available at: <https://www.logainm.ie> [Accessed: 14.08.24].

⁴ See: <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000297> [Accessed: 14.08.24].

m OD, though a number of mountain ranges are located in the wider landscape, such as the Maamturks and the Twelve Bens to the northwest.

The bedrock geology of the study area comprises a combination of Dolomitic limestone and shale of the Oughterard Limestone Waterfall Member group and dark limestone with thin shales of the Owenriff Member group,⁵ while the soil associations consist of a combination of urban soils.⁶

1.3 Proposed Works

The proposed development consists of the construction of a new low, steel bow-string truss pedestrian footbridge over the Owenriff River, located approximately 150 m downstream (north-east) of the existing N59 road bridge, in the townlands of Cregg, Carrowmanagh, and Fough West, Oughterard, County Galway (Figure 4 and Figure 5).

The proposed footbridge will be up to approximately 3.6 m in height, and approximately 48.2 m in length, with a 3 m clear deck width. It will be a single-span footbridge with abutments to either side of the Owenriff River, and there will be no instream works. It will also contain a 3 m clear width access ramp to tie into the Carrowmanagh Road to the northwest with stepped access to the riverside walkway. A new pedestrian crossing with speed table is proposed on Carrowmanagh Road with realigned kerb line. A path is proposed to tie into the N59 Clifden Road to the southeast with a new pedestrian crossing with speed table, and realigned carriageway kerb line. Works will include the demolition and rebuilding/realignment of the existing boundary wall to the existing dwelling to the north (adjacent to the riverside walkway) and to the existing dwelling to the south known as The Old Barracks. Ancillary works will include walls, fencing, pedestrian railings, bollards, signage, lighting, benches, hard and soft landscaping, including compensatory tree planting at Carrowmanagh Park, the diversion/replacement of an existing watermain and combined sewer, and a temporary construction compound on lands at Station Road, Oughterard.

1.4 Planning Background

In 2007, ROD Consulting Engineers and the Roads Department of Galway County Council applied for Part 8 planning permission for a realigned road bridge over the Owenriff River in Oughterard. On 14 August 2024, Archaeological Management Solutions requested information regarding this application from the TII-assigned Project Archaeologist, who subsequently contacted Sara Duffy of Galway County

⁵ Available at:

<https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0ab2fbde2aaac3c228>
[Accessed: 14.08.24].

⁶ Available at: <http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/map.php> [Accessed: 14.08.24].

Council. On 15 August, an Environmental Screening Report (Corrigan 2007) and Advice Note (Jones 2007), which were prepared as part of the 2007 planning application for the proposed bridge realignment, were forwarded to Archaeological Management Solutions. The Advice Note comprised a desktop study and walkover survey in order to record archaeological and built heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed bridge.

1.5 Purpose and Scope of the Assessment

The Government policy document *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* states that “where it is considered that a proposed development may (due to its location, size, or nature) have archaeological implications, then an archaeological assessment should be carried out” and defines archaeological assessment as an investigation aimed at:

1. “gaining a better understanding of a known or suspected archaeological site or monument with particular reference to considering the implications of proposed development for such a site or monument”; and,
2. “locating previously unidentified archaeological sites or monuments (or possible ones) prior to the commencement of development works with particular reference to considering the implications of proposed development for such sites or monuments” (DAHGI 1999, 25).

In line with this, the purpose of this current assessment is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the development site that incorporates previous studies and surveys, as well as in-depth archaeological historical and cartographic analysis, with a view to informing an appropriate archaeological and built heritage strategy to avoid/mitigate any likely impacts to cultural heritage, as well as measures to remedy or offset (i.e. compensate for) adverse effects that cannot be avoided during the development project that are identified.

This report conforms to industry standards as set out in *Advice Notes on Current Practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)* (EPA 2003),⁷ *Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports* (EPA 2022),⁸ and *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects* (TII 2024).⁹ A key remit of the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment is to ensure the project complies with legal requirements regarding the protection of the archaeological and built heritage. The legal requirements include the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014, the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and

⁷ Available at: https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/EPA_Advice_Notes-on_Current-Practice-on-prep-EIS_2003.pdf [Accessed: 15.08.24].

⁸ Available at: https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/EIAR_Guidelines_2022_Web.pdf [Accessed: 15.08.24].

⁹ Available at: <https://www.tiipublications.ie/library/PE-ARC-02009-01.pdf> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

the amended Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2014/52/EU and sustainable development principles.

Thus, the key objectives of this Impact Assessment include:

1. To assess and document all detail relating to cultural heritage for the study area, including archaeological heritage, built heritage, portable heritage and intangible cultural heritage.
2. To establish an understanding of the cultural heritage of the study area and assess its heritage significance.
3. To present and discuss the significant archaeological and built heritage assets in the study area and contextualise the findings.
4. To recommend a mitigation, conservation and interpretation strategy for archaeological and built heritage assets in the study area.

It should be noted that any recommendations made in this report are subject to the agreement of the relevant statutory authorities and the relevant planning authority, as applicable, and should only be carried out in accordance with the necessary approvals.

1.6 Legal and Policy Context

1.6.1 Archaeological Heritage

The National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 are currently the primary legislation for the protection and preservation of archaeological sites, monuments, and objects in the Republic of Ireland. However, new legislation, entitled the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 (the Act), was enacted on 13 October 2023. When fully commenced, the Act will replace the existing National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014, and other related legislation, and introduce a range of new provisions to protect and conserve Ireland's historic heritage. In June 2024, the Minister of State with Responsibility for Nature, Heritage, and Electoral Reform commenced provisions within the Act. The provisions now in force allow for the establishment and maintenance of inventories of relevant things of archaeological interest, architectural heritage, and wrecks of archaeological or historic interest.¹⁰

Under the terms of the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage is charged with a range of functions regarding the protection of monuments, wrecks, and archaeological objects, including the regulation of activities impacting the archaeological heritage. At present, an archaeological monument is protected in one of four ways:

- It is recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- It is registered in the Register of Historic Monuments (RHM).

¹⁰ <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2023/act/26/enacted/en/html> [Accessed: May 2025].

- It is subject to a Preservation Order or temporary Preservation Order.
- It is a national monument in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage or a local authority.

Different levels of protection apply to a monument depending on which of the four categories it falls under. Some Recorded Monuments are also national monuments, as defined by Section 2 of the National Monuments Act (1930). A national monument is a monument whose preservation is a matter of national importance. For national monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister or a local authority, or which are subject to a Preservation Order or temporary Preservation Order, the prior written consent of the Minister is required for any works at or in proximity to the monument.

When the owner or occupier of a property (or any other person) proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out, of any work at or in relation to a Recorded Monument or a Registered Monument, they are required to give notice in writing to the Minister two months before commencing that work. This is to allow the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage time to consider the proposed works and how best to proceed to further the protection of the monument.¹¹ The National Monuments Acts can also protect elements of the built heritage or offer dual/parallel protection in conjunction with the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

National policy on the protection of the archaeological heritage during development is set out in *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (DAHGI 1999). Under this policy, avoidance of development impacts on archaeological heritage and preservation of archaeological sites and monuments *in situ* is always the preferred option. When a site, or part of a site, must be removed due to development, then preservation by record must be undertaken (i.e. through excavation and recording of the site). The policy also sets out requirements for archaeological assessment. For more information on the protection of the archaeological heritage, also refer to *Archaeology in the Planning Process* (DHLGH/OPR 2021).

The Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028¹² sets out policies and objectives for the protection of archaeology (see Table 2).

Table 2: Archaeological policy objectives in the Galway County Development Plan.

Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028
ARC 1. Legislative Context: Support and promote the preservation, conservation and appropriate management and enhancement of the County's archaeological sites and monuments, together with the

¹¹ See: <https://www.archaeology.ie/monument-protection> [Accessed: 15/08/2024].

¹² Available at: <https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/adopted-galway-county-development-plan-2022-2028> [Accessed: 03/09/2024].

Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028

settings of these monuments, having regard to the legislative, statutory and policy provisions relevant to the conservation of the archaeological heritage.

ARC 4. Protection of Archaeological Sites: Protect archaeological sites and monuments, their settings and visual amenity and archaeological objects and underwater archaeological sites that are listed in the RMP, in the ownership and/or guardianship of the State, or that are subject of Preservation Orders, or have been registered in the RHM, or that are newly discovered and seek to protect important archaeological landscapes.

ARC 5. Development Management: All planning applications for new development, redevelopment, any ground works, refurbishment, and restoration, etc. within areas of archaeological potential or within close proximity to Recorded Monuments or within the historic towns of County Galway will take account of the archaeological heritage of the area and the need for archaeological mitigation.

ARC 9. Recorded Monuments: Ensure that any development in the immediate vicinity of a Recorded Monument is sensitively designed and sited and does not detract from the monument or its visual amenity.

ARC 10. Zones of Notification: To protect the ZoN located within both urban and rural areas and around archaeological monuments generally as identified in the RMP. Any development within the zones will need to take cognisance of the potential for subsurface archaeology and if archaeology is demonstrated to be present appropriate mitigation will be required.

ARC 11. Industrial and Post-Medieval Archaeology: Protect and preserve the archaeological value of industrial and post medieval archaeology such as mills, limekilns, bridges, piers, harbours, penal chapels and dwellings. Proposals for refurbishment, works to or redevelopment of these sites should be subject to careful assessment.

ARC 12. Archaeology and Infrastructure Schemes: Have regard to archaeological concerns when considering proposed service schemes and proposed roadworks (both realignments and new roads) located in close proximity to RMP and their known archaeological monuments.

1.6.2 Built Heritage

The Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, is Ireland’s primary planning and development legislation and includes provision for the preservation and protection of the archaeological and built heritage. The Planning and Development Act 2024 (the Act) was signed into law by the President on 17 October 2024. The Act consolidates and revises the law relating to planning and development and repeals and replaces the Planning and Development Act 2000. The Act will undergo further amendment, as detailed regulations will be required to implement it in stages before it is fully commenced.

The importance of built heritage is outlined in *Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities* (DAHG 2011).

Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, provides the legislative basis for the protection of architectural heritage. Under the terms of the Act, the term ‘architectural heritage’ includes:

“structures, or parts of structures... which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest”.

Under the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, Local Authorities are required to maintain a Record of Protected Structures as part of their Development Plan. These are structures recognised by the Local Authority as having special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. The legal protections afforded to Protected Structures are set out in Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Section 81 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 makes provision for the creation of Architectural Conservation Areas to preserve the character of a place, area, group of structures or townscape. The proposed development is located within the Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area (Figure 3).

The Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028 set out policies and objectives of the local authority in relation to the protection of built heritage (Table 3).

Table 3: Built heritage policy objectives in the Galway County Development Plan.

Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028
<p>AH 1. Architectural Heritage: Ensure the protection of the architectural heritage of County Galway which is a unique and special resource, having regard to the policy guidance contained in <i>Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities</i> (DAHG 2011).</p>
<p>AH 2. Protected Structures:</p> <p>(a) Ensure the protection and sympathetic enhancement of structures including their curtilage and attendant grounds included and proposed for inclusion in the RPS that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest, together with the integrity of their character and setting.</p> <p>(b) Review the RPS in order to provide a comprehensive schedule for the protection of structures of special importance in the County during the lifetime of the plan.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that development proposals are appropriate in terms of architectural treatment, character, scale and form to the existing protected structure and not detrimental to the special character and integrity of the protected structure and its setting.</p> <p>(d) Ensure high quality architectural design of all new developments relating to or which may impact on structures (and their settings) included in the Record of Protected Structures.</p> <p>(e) Promote and ensure best conservation practice through the use of specialist conservation professionals and craft persons.</p> <p>(f) Prohibit development proposals, either in whole or in part, for the demolition of protected structures, save in exceptional circumstances.</p>
<p>AH 3. Protection of Structures on the NIAH: Give regard to and consideration of all structures which are included in the NIAH for County Galway, which are not currently included in the Record of Protected Structures, in development management functions.</p>
<p>AH 4. Architectural Conservation Areas: Protect, conserve and enhance the special character of the ACAs included in this plan through the appropriate management and control of the design, location and layout of new development, modifications, alterations or extensions to existing structures, surviving historic plots and street patterns and/or modifications to the character or setting of the ACA. Works within the ACA shall ensure the conservation of traditional features and building elements that contribute to the character of the area. The special character of an area includes its traditional building stock and material finishes, spaces, streetscape, shop fronts, landscape and setting. New proposals shall have appropriate regard to scale, plot, form, mass, design, materials, colours and function. This will be achieved by:</p> <p>(a) Protecting all buildings, structures, groups of structures, sites, landscapes and all features which contribute to the special character of the ACA from demolition and non-sympathetic alterations.</p> <p>(b) Promote appropriate and sensitive reuse and rehabilitation of buildings and sites within the ACA.</p>

Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028

(c) Ensure new development within or adjacent to an ACA respects the established character of the area and contributes positively in terms of design, scale, setting and material finishes to the ACA.

(d) Promote high quality architectural design within ACAs.

(g) Protect and enhance the quality of open spaces within ACAs and ensure the protection and where necessary reuse of street furniture and use of appropriate materials during the course of public infrastructure schemes within ACAs.

2. Methodology

The methodology used in the preparation of this Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment adheres to the guidance set out in the Environmental Protection Agency's *Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports* (EPA 2022), *Advice Notes on Current Practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements)* (EPA 2003), and *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects* (TII 2024).

The study was divided into two main components: the collation of baseline data (comprising desk and field-based assessments) and the analysis of this data to determine any likely cultural heritage impacts.

2.1 Desktop Assessment

The methodology for the first component comprised a high-level desktop survey to identify all recorded archaeological and built heritage sites within a study area extending for a 500 m radius from the boundary of the proposed works area (Figure 2). The study area ensured that a comprehensive review of potential cultural heritage impacts could be undertaken, as well as providing a baseline for archaeological mitigations and recommendations.

This component also included a desktop review of other readily available information to provide an indication of the archaeological and built heritage potential of the receiving environment, including analysis of the cartographic and aerial photography resources and in-depth historical research. Table 4 lists the sources that were consulted for this assessment. The cultural heritage assets identified during the desktop survey were mapped using open-source GIS software QGIS (version 3.28).

Table 4: Sources consulted for the desk-based assessment.

Data	Source
Background Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028.¹³ Oughterard Local Area Plan 2006–2012.¹⁴ Placenames Database of Ireland: <i>Logainm.ie</i>.¹⁵ The soil associations of the study area via the Irish Soil Information System map viewer.¹⁶ Cartography: The Down Survey Maps (1656–58);¹⁷ Taylor and Skinner's 'Road Map of Ireland (1777); William Larkin's 'A map of the county of Galway' (1819);

¹³ Available at: <https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/adopted-galway-county-development-plan-2022-2028> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

¹⁴ Available at: <https://www.galway.ie/en/media/Oughterard%20Local%20Area%20Plan%202006-2012.pdf> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

¹⁵ Available at: <https://www.logainm.ie/en/> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

¹⁶ Available at: <http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/map.php> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

¹⁷ Available at: <https://downsurvey.tchpc.tcd.ie/down-survey-maps.php> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

Data	Source
	<p>Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map (1841) and six-inch Cassini map (1903), via Tailte Éireann's 'Irish Townland and Historical Map Viewer'.¹⁸</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerial and satellite imagery: Google Earth via Google Earth Pro; Digital Globe and orthophotographs via Tailte Éireann's Geohive Map Viewer;¹⁹ Bing Satellite and Google Satellite via QGIS (version 3.28) XYZ Tiles. • LiDAR Digital Terrain Model Hillshade for the study area via the Geological Survey Ireland 'Open Topographic Data Viewer'.²⁰ • Bedrock geology and Quaternary sediments via the Geological Survey Ireland 'Spatial Resources' map viewer.²¹ • Previous Archaeological Investigations: Database of Irish Excavation Reports and the 'Digital Heritage Collection' of Transport Infrastructure Ireland.²² • Archaeological objects: National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files available by appointment in the Antiquities Division, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. • The Irish Folklore Commission Schools' Collection, made available online as part of the Dúchas Project,²³ was consulted for folklore associated with the study area. However, no relevant entries were found.
Designated Archaeological Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists of national monuments in State care: Ownership and Guardianship for County Galway, published by National Monuments Service in 2009.²⁴ • List of Preservation Orders, published by National Monuments Service in 2019.²⁵ • Record of Monuments and Places: Statutory list of protected places and monuments, with accompanying constraints maps, published for County Galway in 1997.²⁶ • The National Monuments Service, Historic Environment Viewer: Database of information on sites and monuments based on the Record of Monuments and Places and the non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record.²⁷ The Historic Environment Viewer provides information not only on those archaeological monuments included in the statutory Record of Monuments and Places, but also

¹⁸ Available at:

<https://osi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=bc56a1cf08844a2aa2609aa92e89497e>
[Accessed: 15.08.24].

¹⁹ Available at: <https://webapps.geohive.ie/mapviewer/index.html> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁰ Available at:

<https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b7c4b0e763964070ad69bf8c1572c9f5>
[Accessed: 15.08.24].

²¹ Available at:

<https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0ab2fbde2aaac3c228>
[Accessed: 15.08.24].

²² Available at: <https://excavations.ie/> and <https://repository.dri.ie/catalog/v6936m966> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

²³ Available at: <https://www.duchas.ie/en/> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁴ Available at: <https://www.archaeology.ie/sites/default/files/media/pdf/monuments-in-state-care-galway.pdf>
[Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁵ Available at: <https://www.archaeology.ie/sites/default/files/media/publications/po19v1-all-counties.pdf>
[Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁶ Available at: [https://www.archaeology.ie/sites/default/files/media/pdf/Archaeology-RMP-Galway-Manual-\(1997\)-0015.pdf](https://www.archaeology.ie/sites/default/files/media/pdf/Archaeology-RMP-Galway-Manual-(1997)-0015.pdf) [Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁷ Available at: <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

Data	Source
	<p>in regard to many more that have been identified since the Record of Monuments and Places was published in 1997 (DHLGH 2022).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register of Historic Monuments for County Galway.
Designated Built Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Galway Record of Protected Structures.²⁸ • County Galway Architectural Conservation Areas.²⁹ • National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Building Survey and Survey of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.³⁰

2.2 Advice Note

In 2007, the then TII-assigned Project Archaeologist, Martin Jones, prepared an advice note on the proposed footbridge at Oughterard for Roughan and O'Donovan Engineers and the Roads Department of Galway County Council (Jones 2007). This was submitted in support of a planning application as per Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. An inspection and site survey were undertaken to identify any archaeological and architectural heritage assets within the area of impact of the proposed works, to state the potential impact of the proposed works on any cultural heritage assets and to propose appropriate measures for the avoidance or mitigation of these impacts within the design for the works (ibid.).

The note concluded that no previously unknown archaeological features or areas of archaeological interest or items of architectural heritage value were located within the subject area, and that the proposed works would not impact the riverbed (Jones 2007).

2.3 Outline Architectural Heritage Appraisal

In May 2024, an Outline Architectural Heritage Appraisal was produced by John McLaughlin Architects (McLaughlin 2024). The appraisal assessed the built heritage character of Oughterard and its Architectural Conservation Area, including its key views, the setting of Protected Structures and the use of materials (ibid.). It listed a series of constraints and opportunities in relation to the proposed footbridge, with the following recommendations:

- The new bridge should be sited to take advantage of the existing gaps and setback in the street line.
- Lighting and signage should be simple and uncluttered.

²⁸ Available at:

<https://consult.galway.ie/en/system/files/materials/6962/Appendix%206%20Record%20of%20Protected%20Structures.pdf> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

²⁹ Available at:

https://www.galway.ie/en/media/Aguis%C3%ADn%C3%AD%207%20Architectural%20Conservation%20Area_0.pdf [Accessed: 15.08.24].

³⁰ Available at: <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/> [Accessed: 15.08.24].

- The new bridge should be positioned on a vacant site to avoid demolition of existing structures.
- The existing walls should be retained and adapted where possible.
- The new bridge should incorporate public realm works to enhance the setting and interpretation of Protected Structures in the vicinity.
- The use of heavy utilitarian bridge components should be avoided.
- The material palette of the bridge should be restricted and its colours and textures should be considered with reference to existing structures and vegetation.

2.4 Walkover Survey

A Walkover Survey of the study area was conducted by Joanne Hughes of Archaeological Management Solutions and Built Heritage Specialist Pat Ruane on 31 July 2024. Walkover Surveys examine the environmental conditions on the ground, and aid in the identification of known and previously unknown cultural heritage assets, including Areas of Archaeological Potential, that may be impacted by a proposed development. This information is used in conjunction with the desktop survey to formulate appropriate mitigation proposals for potential impacts.

The key objectives of the survey included:

1. To document the current receiving environment
2. To determine the presence or absence of any extant, above-ground features
3. To record undesignated cultural heritage assets within the study area
4. To determine the potential for a visual impact on other cultural heritage assets within the area as a result of the proposed development

A full photographic survey of all identified assets was also undertaken (Plate 1–Plate 21). The survey was conducted in clear, sunny weather with good visibility. The roads and banks of the Owenriff River were accessible during the survey.

3. Receiving Cultural Heritage Environment

3.1 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1.1 Prehistoric Period (8000 BC–AD 400)

The Irish Mesolithic is subdivided into two phases on the basis of stone tool technologies and cultural traditions – the Early Mesolithic (8000–6500 BC) and Late Mesolithic (6500–4000 BC) (Chapple et al. 2022; Woodman 2011; Bayliss & Woodman 2009). Evidence for the Irish Mesolithic tends to be concentrated around or in close proximity to coastal areas, along river and lake shores, and elevated river valley positions. Mesolithic society was probably characterised by small kin groups of nomadic hunter-fisher-gatherers that exploited seasonally available food resources such as fruit, nuts, berries, fish and wild fowl. The archaeological record of this period presents as the remains of temporary settlements, fishing technology, chipped stone implements and production waste (debitage).

No finds or features of Mesolithic date are recorded from the study area. A search of the Topographical Files in the National Museum of Ireland revealed a retouched flint flake fragment (NMI Ref. 2005:25) was found on the shore of River Island, which is on the mouth of Owenriff River in Lough Corrib. A lithic scatter (GA054-047----) found at the western bank of Lough Corrib also provides evidence of settlement in this area during the Mesolithic period (Waddell 2000, 23; Higgins 1978 & 1987, 28).

In the wider Galway landscape, a large collection of stone artefacts was discovered over time in the River Corrib to the north of Galway city, including Bann Flakes, hammer stones, axeheads and scrapers (Higgins 1987). A large collection of Late Mesolithic and Early Neolithic stone artefacts was also found during the late 1970s in the mid-River Corrib in Denlough Lower and Menlough townlands (Higgins & Gibbons 1987, 133).

In an all-island context, key evidence for Late Mesolithic activity was recorded from Ferriter's Cove, County Kerry. The site, which was located on the Dingle Peninsula, produced evidence for small middens that were seasonally visited over a thousand years, with the main period of activity dating to 4500 cal. BC (Woodman et al. 1999, 114). Possible roasting pits were uncovered, as well as burnt stone platforms and assemblages of faunal remains and typologically diagnostic butt-trimmed flakes and stone axes (ibid.). While Ferriter's Cove contained no formal burials, several pieces of disarticulated human bone and teeth were found, one dated to 4225–3950 cal. BC, and a second to 4250–3980 cal. BC (Schulting 1999). Some of the earliest domesticated cattle bone from Ireland was also recovered from the midden deposits, which was dated to approximately 4300 cal. BC (ibid.) and suggests Ferriter's Cove may represent a key site for our understanding of the Neolithic transition in an Irish context.

The Neolithic period (4000–2500 BC) witnessed the introduction of agriculture to Ireland and the change from a highly mobile hunter-gatherer lifestyle to one of a more sedentary nature based on livestock husbandry and cereal cultivation. This brought corresponding changes in settlement form, food production, burial practices and material culture. The time between 3750 and 3600 BC saw a period of rapid expansion across the country, which included the construction of timber-built rectangular houses and monumental hilltop enclosures, as well as monumental court tombs and portal tombs (e.g. Lynch 2014; Schulting et al. 2012; Whittle et al. 2011). Though no megalithic monuments are recorded within the study area, an Early Neolithic court cairn (GA055-034----) is located in Carrownakib townland, 10 km east-northeast of the subject site, and a megalithic stone structure (GA081-036----) is located in Gort Uí Lochlainn, 13 km southeast of the subject site.

The Bronze Age (2500–800 BC) is typically associated with the introduction and development of metal technology, the production of a diverse range of copper, bronze and gold objects, as well as the emergence of a distinct warrior elite class defined by high-status weaponry towards the end of the period. The material culture included not only weapons and tools, but also high-status items of personal adornment. This technological innovation went hand-in-hand with an intensification of agriculture that was largely facilitated by the availability of more efficient tools. A copper mine at Ross Island, County Kerry, is thought to have been the source of most of the copper used in Ireland between 2400 and 2000 BC. Excavations at the site uncovered smelting operations and a smelting camp where copper ore was processed (O'Brien 2004).

A cist burial that contained a contracted inhumation in association with a vase cinerary urn, flint blade and mussel shells (GA055-008----) is recorded in Annaghkeen townland, 10 km east-northeast of the study area. Another cist burial (GA055-013----) is located on the summit of a promontory on the banks of Loch Corrib, which is 7 km east-northeast of the study area.

Fulachtaí fia (burnt mounds) are amongst the most common site types in Ireland (e.g. Hawkes 2015). The sites are characterised by a low horseshoe- or kidney-shaped mound of heat-shattered stone discarded from the process of heating water in a subsoil-cut trough. Generally found in low-lying ground where the water table is close to the surface, the often wood-lined troughs filled naturally with water. The functions of *fulachtaí fia* were many and varied, from cooking to bathing places to brewing sites and sweat houses. A *fulacht fiadh* (GA041-050----) is located in Tobercrossaun townland, 15 km northeast of the study area, with another (GA068-020----) in Gortmore townland, 13 km to the southeast.

The Iron Age (800 BC–AD 400) contrasts with the rich remains of the previous Bronze Age and the subsequent early medieval period due to the paucity of material evidence. Indications of the presence

of Iron Age communities in Galway is demonstrated through the discovery of Gallagher Man, radiocarbon dated to 470–120 BC, which largely correlates to the dates of other Iron Age bog bodies found in an Irish context (Ó Floinn 1988, 96). Furthermore, a large number of Iron Age furnaces and associated metal-working areas were discovered in excavations along the M6 between 2006 and 2009 (O’Carroll & Mitchell 2012, 116–17).

3.1.2 Early Medieval Period (AD 400–1100)

The early medieval period saw significant social, cultural, political and technological changes in Ireland. The beginning of the period saw the arrival of Christianity, the gradual conversion of the population, the flourishing of Irish monasteries, the development of church sites and the spread of literacy. The period, which spanned 700 years, was also a time of economic and environmental change. Surviving law tracts provide valuable insights into the nature of Irish society at the time, which suggest Ireland was roughly divided into overkingdoms, regional kingdoms and local kingdoms (*túatha*) that largely operated as pastoral communities bounded by ties of kinship (Edwards 1996, 8; MacCotter 2008).

Ringforts/raths and related monuments, such as cashels and raised/platform raths, all comprise forms of early medieval enclosed settlement (e.g. Stout 1997). Excavation and topographical studies have demonstrated that a wide variety of morphologies and dates occur within the ringfort classification (e.g. O’Sullivan et al. 2013, 51–72). They can be univallate, bivallate, or trivallate, can vary greatly in size, can occur singly or in dense concentrations and may or may not contain settlement evidence. Stout (2015, 73) suggested that of the approximately 60,000 recorded Irish ringforts, most were occupied between the early seventh and ninth centuries AD. Although the vast majority appear to have been built during the second half of the first millennium AD, in areas of Gaelic-Irish rule they were sometimes inhabited into the medieval period (e.g. O’Conor 1998). This is particularly true west of the Shannon, where there are examples of continued occupation in cashels as late as the seventeenth century (Fitzpatrick 2009). Stout (1997, 53) observed that western Galway has one of the lowest densities of ringforts at 0.10km². There are no ringforts recorded in the study area, though one cashel (GA054-014----) is located in Clare townland, c.690 m north-northwest of the subject site.

The study area is located within the medieval cantred of Clannargyl, which was derived from the earlier medieval *túath* of *Clann Fhergail* (MacCotter 2008, 133–34). *Clann Fhergail* was a subordinate group to the *Muintir Murchada*, a branch of the Uí Briúin Seóla which was headed by the Uí Flaithbheartaigh (Ó Muraíle 2008, 91). John Brown’s 1591 ‘Map of the Province of Connaught and Clare’ depicted the barony of Moycullen located in the former territories of *Gnó Mór* and *Gnó Beag*. *Gnó Mór* later became the civil parishes of Kilcummin and Killannin, while *Gnó Beag* became the civil parishes of Rahoon and Moycullen. The legend reads “Ireconnacht S[i]r Morough O Farty his countrie part of the county of

Galway” (O’Sullivan et al. 2019, 11). *Gnó Mhór* was ruled by Mac Con Raoi (McConry), and the primary *túath* was recorded in the twelfth century as *Delbhna Tír Dhá Loch* (O’Donovan 1856, 1059).

3.1.3 Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

The kingdom of Iar Connacht was formed after 1051, when the Ó Conchobhair Kings of Connacht drove the Ó Flaithbheartaigh from Maigh Seóla to lands to the west of Loch Corrib (O’Flaherty 1846, 23, 366–7). The arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the region caused a gradual shift in power, seen most notably in the foundation of Norman urban settlements. However, Norman invaders had made few inroads in Connacht until the thirteenth century. In the 1230s, Iar Connacht was conquered by the Clanricarde Burkes, who built a castle in Galway (O’Flaherty 1846, 32). In spite of Norman control over much of Galway, the Uí Flaithbheartaigh were a constant threat to its stability for the next four centuries.

Uí Flaithbheartaigh control in the area is evidenced by a castle at Fough East (GA054-069----). In 1574, the castle was in the possession of Morogh Ó Flaithbheartaigh, son of Gráinne Ní Mháille (Grace O’Malley) (Nolan 1901, 115). Aughnare Castle (National Monument No. 470; RMP GA054-002----), located c.4.5 km southwest of the study area, was built by the Uí Flaithbheartaigh during the sixteenth century. In 1572, the castle fell to English forces but was subsequently retaken and refortified by Morogh Ó Flaithbheartaigh. Oghery Castle (GA068-031----), a tower house built on Ross Island, is located c.10 km southeast of Oughterard. Its existence is recorded in 1574 when it was in the possession of Jonick Ohalorane (Nolan 1901, 115).

The barony of Moycullen, formerly part of *Gnó Beag* was established by the Composition of Connacht in 1585, which established shires which would be under the control of Crown-appointed sheriffs (O’Flaherty 1846, 299 & 310; Mannion 2024). The Composition recorded ‘Ballywoghterarde’ as four quarters or 480 acres (ibid., 310). Shortly after the Composition, Morogh Ó Flaithbheartaigh [O’Flaherty] surrendered his lands and titles in Iar Connacht to the Crown in return for a pardon and regrant of his properties (O’Flaherty 1846, 395).

3.1.4 Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1750)

During the Rebellion of 1641, the Ó Flaithbheartaigh brothers Morogh and Edmond sided against the British, laying siege to the fort at Galway with 1800 men. Edmond was subsequently executed (O’Flaherty 1846, 406–12). In 1651, during Cromwell’s campaigns in Ireland, the Commonwealth Parliament ordered that Moycullen and other baronies in Galway be “excluded from protection” (O’Flaherty 1846, 413). Furthermore, the order solemnised the transplantation of Catholics from Ulster into Moycullen, Ross and Ballynahinch (O’Flaherty 1846, 413–14). Subsequently, the entirety of Iar Connacht was confiscated and regranted to loyal subjects, including Richard Martin, a Catholic who received a pardon after fighting at the battle of Aughrim and other skirmishes and was granted

extensive lands in Moycullen, Ballynahinch, and Ross (O’Flaherty 1846, 418). These lands, constituting a quarter of a million statute acres were named the manor of Clare or Claremont (Burke 1895, 813).

The Down Survey maps of 1656–58 were drawn up to measure Catholic Irish lands to be forfeited in the aftermath of the 1641 Rebellion and the subsequent Confederate Wars. The resulting valuations served as part of a payment towards settled Parliamentary forces who fought in Ireland during the 1640s, as well those adventurers who financed the seventeenth-century wars. The ‘County of Galway’ map, part of a map series published under the name of William Petty in 1685, depicted ‘Canromer’ as a boggy, largely undeveloped area with a church located to the north.

The Books of Survey and Distribution were compiled after the Down Survey and referred to the forfeitures of 1641 and 1688 (Mac Giolla Choille 1962, vi). Oughterard was recorded as “3 car [carucate] ½ whereof belongeth to Robert Martin and Hugh boy Mc Redmund Mc Donnogh. ¾ pts of a Cartron belongeth to Robert Martin and Moyler Mc Donnogh, the rest of the 3 car being ¾ of a car doth belong to Bryan o Flahartye, Owen Mc Connor Mc Donnogh, Edmund Mc Hugh, Rory Mc Teige, Daniell Mc Rory o Flahartye, Murragh O Fiahartye Mc Bryan and Divers others of Arrable and pasture containing Heathy pasture ½ pt profitable” (Mac Giolla Choille 1962, 68).

In 1698, the writer John Dunton (1982, 30) described west Connacht as follows: “a wild mountainous country in which the old barbarities of the Irish are so many and so common, that until I came hither, I looked for Ireland in itself to no purpose”. In the eighteenth century, Connemara was seen by the British as a lawless place, much in need of governance and improvement. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, the landowner of the lands surrounding Oughterard, Usher St. George, was having difficulty renewing leases for his Gaelic tenants, who believed Morogh Ó Flaithbheartaigh to be the proper claimant. The sheriff’s posse were routed, and when three companies of foot were brought in to bring order, the lands were subsequently laid waste (Kelly 1990, 86–87). On 6 May 1758, the Duke of Bedford, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland sent a letter “requesting authority to grant the amount necessary to build a barracks in Oughterard, Connaught”.³¹

3.1.5 Modern Period (AD 1750–2000)

George Taylor and Andrew Skinner’s 1777 “Maps of the Roads of Ireland” depicted a star-shaped barracks located to the south of a bend in the Owenriff River. Fough Castle (GA054-069----) was torn down prior to construction of the barracks and its stones were used in its construction (Kelly 1897, 379). William Larkin’s Grand Jury map of Oughterard from 1819 showed the star-shaped barracks in

³¹ Available at the National Archives, UK: <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C7607233>. [Accessed: 19.08.24].

addition to the road from Galway to Clifden (the modern N59), which had undergone improvements under the Grand Jury system by local landowner John D'Arcy (Villers-Tuthill 2006, 18).

Taylor and Skinner's 1777 "Maps of the Roads of Ireland" also depicts a road bridge extant at the site of the extant bridge over the Owenriff River (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008; see also Figure 7). The bridge is also depicted on Larkin's map. The 1841 first-edition six-inch Ordnance Survey map shows that the barracks had been reconfigured as an elongated building running east–west with two short right-angled wings at either end.

In 1834, Maria Edgeworth took a tour in Connemara, describing Alexander Nimmo's residence "Corrib Lodge", now Keane's Bar (RPS 555) near Maam's Cross, where he took up residence while he was building roads in the district. She recounted Oughterard as a "pretty mountain-scattered village, with a pond and trees, and a sort of terrace-road, with houses and gardens on one side, and a lower road with pond and houses on the other. There is a spa at Outerard to which bettermost sort of people come in the season; but this was not the season, and the place had that kind of desolate look, mixed with *pretensions* too, which a watering-place out of season always has."³² The Chalybeate Spa (GA054-010----), indicated on the six-inch Ordnance Survey map directly to the southwest of the town, was frequented by invalids due to a belief in its mineral content (Lewis 1837, 451).

In the nineteenth century, the town underwent substantial growth, supported by a number of fine estate houses in the vicinity, in addition to the manufacture of coarse linens and woollens (Anon. 1859, 63). Oughterard was also a sessions town, with a courthouse indicated on the first-edition six-inch Ordnance Survey map. A post office and Church of Ireland Church (GA054-032----) are also depicted on the six-inch Ordnance Survey map. In 1837, Charles Bianconi's coach service from Galway to Clifden via Oughterard commenced (Hurley 2015, 5). Black marble quarried near Oughterard was exported to London and other markets (Thom 1862, 1025).

In 1827, after Rev. John William Kirwan was appointed parish priest for Kilcummin, and he described Oughterard as follows:

I found it a neglected and mountainous district with a large, scattered population of 10,000 souls & literally destitute of a house of Worship. I had peculiar difficulties to encounter in erecting even one principal Parochial Chapel, as there was no resident Catholic proprietor in the Parish, and the extreme poverty of the people precluded them from affording me any effective assistance. I was nevertheless encouraged to commence the erection of a House of Worship by Thomas Martin, Esq. M.P. who bestowed for that purpose an acre of land in the Town of Oughterard, together with a subscription of £50, which with £50 from his Father the late Colonel Martin, a similar sum from Mr. St. George of Tyrone [Kilcolgan], and other smaller

³² Available at: https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Life_And_Letters_Of_Maria_Edgeworth/Volume_2/Letter_94 [Accessed: 02.09.24].

sums not amounting in all to £50 was all the support and assistance I ever received from the Parish or from those connected with it (Mitchell 2002, 37).

Construction of the Roman Catholic Church (GA054-007----) began in 1829 and was finally consecrated in 1837 (Mitchell 2002, 40).

The conditions in Connemara were poor for large segments of the population. Tillage was primitive and undeveloped and dairying almost unknown, and most subsisted on the potato as a staple crop. In Oughterard and Glan, lime was used to improve the condition of the soil, while in the coastal parts of Connemara, seaweed was used (Maguire 1951, 86). In addition, a number of crop failures and severe weather conditions in the early decades of the nineteenth century paved the way for the catastrophe of the potato blight of the 1840s (Maguire 1951, 76–83). These included a blight and cholera epidemic in 1822, which inspired relief works such as those undertaken by Nimmo (Gibbons 2004, 20). In order to relieve the humanitarian disasters which followed, Oughterard Poor Law Union was established on 8 October 1849, and a new workhouse was designed by George Wilkinson, architect to the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland and built at a cost of £5,950.³³ One of the most prominent victims of the Famine was landlord Thomas Martin, who perished from fever in 1847.

In 1894, the British Government granted £264,000 to the Midland Great Western Railway to build a railway from Galway to Clifden. The station at Oughterard opened in 1895, but due to low passenger numbers and the advent of motorised transportation, the line closed in 1935 (Shepherd 1994, 119).

Oughterard is renowned for its fishing. In 1852, Edmund and Thomas Ashworth opened the first salmon hatchery in Ireland or England in Oughterard, and 20,000 salmon ova were hatched (Anon 1863, 401). A trout hatchery was subsequently established, which is still in operation today (Connacht Tribune, 12 November 1949). The town was also well known for pearl mussels (Banim 1891, 125). Lead mining began at Glenagowla, within George F. O’Flaherty’s estate near Oughterard in 1850, and soon provided work for upwards of 50 men, women and children of the poverty-stricken area (Moreton 2019, 3, 6). Though all mining ceased in 1912, the site was opened as a tourist attraction in the late twentieth century (ibid., 10–11).

Tourism was a growing industry towards the end of the nineteenth century, and visitors were able to hire jaunting cars at Oughterard to explore the district (Bradshaw 1876, 23). Two inns served the tourists, Murphy’s and O’Flaherty’s, which were located at either end of the town (Hall 1853, 43). The latter of these was likely Corrib House Hotel (CH42) on Bridge Street (Figure 11; Figure 13), which

³³ Available at:
<https://www.dia.ie/works/view/13865/building/CO.+GALWAY%2C+OUGHTERARD%2C+UNION+WORKHOUSE>.
[Accessed: 19.08.24].

Griffith's Valuation recorded as leased from George F. O'Flahertie of Lemonfield for £2 10s.³⁴ The 1901 and 1911 Census returns recorded Thomas Fahy Naughton as being the hotel keeper.³⁵ The hotel comprised fifteen rooms, with seven front windows and four outhouses.

In January 1879, a fire at the Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception (GA054-007----; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011) destroyed much of the building. Between 1932 and 1934, the church was rebuilt, including an elaborate stained-glass window that is attributed to Harry Clarke. However, it is probably from the studio of Clarke, since he died in 1931 (Kiely 2014, 72).

The population of Oughterard continued to decline into the twentieth century, from 17,732 in 1901 to 16,736 in 1911 to 14,492 in 1926 (Thom 1935, 919). In 1913, following the loss of the Titanic, disgraced White Star Line owner, J. Bruce Ismay, took refuge at Costello Lodge in Derrynea (NIAH 30409101), where he resided until his death in 1939.³⁶ A bell bearing the inscription 'Titanic 1912' is hung in the north transept of the Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception.

3.2 Cartographical Analysis

3.2.1 'The County of Galway' (1656–58)

The Down Survey maps (1656–58) were drawn up to measure Catholic Irish lands to be forfeited in the aftermath of the 1641 Rebellion and the subsequent Confederate Wars. The Down Survey map of 'The County of Galway' depicts 'Moycullin' barony, which includes the toponyms of 'Creg' and 'Canromer' to the west of Lough Corrib (Figure 6). The Owenriff River is also shown draining into Lough Corrib, with the symbol of a church depicted to the north. The study area is represented as a large area of peatland.

3.2.2 'From Dublin to Galway & Oughterard', by Taylor and Skinner (1777)

Surveyed in 1777 and published in 1778, *Road Maps of Ireland* by George Taylor and Andrew Skinner includes Map 90, which shows 'From Dublin to Galway & Oughterard' (Figure 7). The late eighteenth-century map depicts a bridge crossing the Owenriff River in the location of the designated road bridge (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008). This suggests the bridge was constructed before 1820. The Ordnance Ground star-shaped barracks, which was constructed in 1761, is shown to the northeast of Oughterard, while the estate of Lemonfield is shown to the southeast of the barracks.

³⁴ Available at: <https://askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/> [Accessed: 28.08.24].

³⁵ Available at: <https://census.nationalarchives.ie/> [Accessed: 28.08.24].

³⁶ Available at: <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/30409101/costello-lodge-derrynea-co-galway> [Accessed: 27.08.24].

3.2.3 'A map of the county of Galway', by William Larkin (1819)

Sheet 8 of William Larkin's 'A map of the county of Galway' illustrates Leitie Móir and Oughterard (Figure 8). The map shows the village of Oughterard located along the main Galway to Clifden Road and to the west-southwest of Lough Corrib. The Owenriff River runs through the village to drain into Lough Corrib; the late eighteenth-century bridge over the river is also portrayed on Larkin's map. The 'Barracks' are labelled to the northeast of Oughterard, with 'Lemonfield' to the southeast and a large area of bog to the south.

3.2.4 Ordnance Survey First-Edition Six-Inch Map (1841)

The first-edition Ordnance Survey six-inch map, which was surveyed in 1838 and published in 1841, indicates the early-nineteenth century development of Oughterard (Figure 9). An improved Galway to Clifden road (now the N59) traverses the town and utilises the late eighteenth-century bridge (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008) over the Owenriff River. The map shows several large houses such as Sandy Mount (now known as Wellpark House; RPS 3752) and Clareville (RPS 673), as well as a 'Church' (Kilcummin Church of Ireland; RPS 666; SMR GA054-005----; NIAH 30326013 [CH03]) and the 'R.C. Chapel' (Church of the Immaculate Conception; RPS 670; SMR GA054-007; NIAH 30326011 [CH02]).

St Michael's Well is indicated in the townland of Clare (RMP GA054-015----) and 'Tobernadannia' well in Fough West (RMP GA054-031----). To the northeast of Oughterard, the Ordnance Ground Barracks (GA054-056----) is portrayed as an east–west elongated structure with two short right-angled wings at both extents. The barracks is enclosed on three sides by the Owenriff River and is approached by a straight road leading north from Oughterard.

3.2.5 Ordnance Survey Six-Inch Map (c.1903)

The last edition Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map, which was published c.1903, depicts significant changes in Oughterard since the publication of the first-edition map in 1841. Most notably, these include the construction of the Union Workhouse to the southwest of the town, which opened in 1852 and included a dispensary, hospital, school and Roman Catholic Church (Figure 10). The map also shows the Midland Great Western Railway Galway & Clifden Branch running in an east–west direction to the south of the town. The first section from Galway to Oughterard opened on 1 January 1895, while the remainder of the line to Clifden was put into operation on 1 July 1895. On the 27 April 1935, the last train left Clifden Station, as a replacement for the railway, the road connection between Galway and Clifden (now the N59) was paved and a bus route was set up (Villiers-Tuthill 1995).

3.2.6 Valuation Map of Oughterard (c.1853)

The five feet to one mile valuation map of Oughterard was surveyed as part of Griffith's Valuation that was undertaken from 1847–64 (Figure 11). The map shows the layout of the town during the mid-nineteenth century, with houses and property divisions delineated on the map.

3.3 Archaeological Heritage

3.3.1 Designated Archaeological Heritage Assets

There are no designated archaeological heritage assets within the area of the proposed footbridge (Figure 2 and Figure 12). However, there are seven designated archaeological assets in the study area. Two of these assets, the Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception (CH02) and Kilcummin Church (CH03), are also listed on the RPS and NIAH.

The assets include two holy wells CH01 (RMP GA054-015----) and CH05 (RMP GA054-031----), the two churches CH02 (SMR GA054-007----; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011) and CH03 (SMR GA054-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013), the historic town of Oughterard CH04 (SMR GA054-005----), and two houses CH06 (SMR GA054-016----) and CH07 (GA054-026----) (Table 5).

Table 5: Archaeological heritage assets in the study area.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Reference	Distance	ITM
CH01	RMP	Ritual site - holy well	GA054-015----	270 m ³⁷	511639, 742778
CH02	RPS; NIAH; SMR	Church of the Immaculate Conception	SMR GA054-007; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011	235 m	511750, 742710
CH03	RPS; NIAH; SMR	Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church	SMR GA054-032; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013	55 m	512030, 742763
CH04	SMR	Town	GA054-005----	100 m	512072, 742814
CH05	RMP	Ritual site - holy well	GA054-031----	240 m ³⁸	512165, 742973
CH06	SMR	House - 18th/19th century	GA054-016----	480 m	511457, 742721
CH07	SMR	House - vernacular house	GA054-026----	370 m	512105, 742434

3.3.2 Undesignated Archaeological Heritage Assets

Eleven undesignated archaeological heritage assets were identified in the study area (Table 6 and Figure 12). These consist of a clachan (site of) (CH09) and limekiln (site of) (CH10), three salmon weirs

³⁷ Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the edge of the ZoN.

³⁸ Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the edge of the ZoN.

(site of) (CH18-CH20), five Ordnance Survey Benchmarks (site of) (CH21-CH25) and Oughterard Union Workhouse (site of) (CH27), and the Owenriff River area of archaeological potential (CH08).

Table 6: Undesignated archaeological heritage assets in the study area.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Source	Distance ³⁹	ITM
CH08	Undesignated	AAP: River Owenriff	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	0 m	511838, 742773
CH09	Undesignated	Clachan (site of)	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps	440 m	512008, 742344
CH10	Undesignated	Limekiln (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	430 m	511889, 742360
CH18	Undesignated	Salmon weir (site of)	OS 1st-Ed. 6-inch map	180 m	511758, 742773
CH19	Undesignated	Salmon weir (site of)	OS 1st-Ed. 6-inch map	40 m	511936, 742891
CH20	Undesignated	Salmon weir (site of)	OS 1st-Ed. 6-inch map	160 m	512042, 742972
CH21	Undesignated	OS Benchmark (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map.	160 m	511809, 742751
CH22	Undesignated	OS Benchmark (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	65 m	512041, 742767
CH23	Undesignated	OS Benchmark (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	415 m	512389, 742836
CH24	Undesignated	OS Benchmark (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	430 m	512217, 743171
CH25	Undesignated	OS Benchmark (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	415 m	511688, 743184
CH27	Undesignated	Union Workhouse (site of)	OS last-Ed. 6-inch map	485 m	511858, 742309

3.4 National Museum of Ireland, Topographical Files

The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland were consulted by Archaeological Management Solutions on Friday 22 August 2024. Seven archaeological objects are recorded from the study area, which are from the townlands of Canrawer East/Canrawer West and Lemonfield (Table 7).

Table 7: Archaeological objects recorded in the Topographical Files

NMI Reg	Townland	Type	Find Circumstances
1465:W134	Canrawer	Polished stone axehead	Stone axe discovered under a root in Canrawer Bog near Oughterard. Incised X on butt.
1466:W135	Canrawer	Polished stone axehead	Stone axe discovered under a root in Canrawer Bog near Oughterard. One flake removed from cutting edge.
1467:W136	Canrawer	Polished stone axehead	Stone axe discovered under a root in Canrawer Bog near Oughterard.

³⁹ Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the known edge of the cultural heritage asset.

NMI Reg	Townland	Type	Find Circumstances
2005:25	Lemonfield	Retouched flint flake fragment	Flint flake found on shore of River Island, which is on the mouth of Owenriff River in Lough Corrib.
2707:W29	Lemonfield	Wooden bowl	Found deep in a bog.
2990:W145	Lemonfield	Wooden bowl	Found in bog adjoining old church.
2013:486	Lemonfield	Pollen sample	Eleven test tube samples obtained from bog; adjacent to site of discovery of dugout canoe.

3.5 Previous Archaeological Investigations

No archaeological investigations are recorded from the study area in the Database of Irish Excavation Reports (Figure 2). The closest investigation consisted of a programme of archaeological monitoring in advance of the construction of the Oughterard Wastewater Treatment Plant in Fough East townland (Licence 16E0511).⁴⁰ However, no archaeological remains were uncovered at the site, which was located 650 m northeast of the proposed footbridge site.

3.6 Built Heritage

3.6.1 Designated Built Heritage Assets

The proposed footbridge is located within the Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area (CH16). There are eight other designated built heritage assets in the study area, none of which are located in the area of the proposed footbridge (Table 8; Figure 3 and Figure 13). The closest designated built heritage asset to the proposed footbridge location is Oughterard Courthouse CH11 (RPS 667; NIAH 30326012), which is sited 40 m to the southwest.

Two of the sites are listed on the SMR; churches CH02 (SMR GA054-007----; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011) and CH03 (SMR GA054-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013). The five other built heritage assets consist of a school CH12 (Oughterard National School; RPS 669), two houses CH13 (Wellpark House; RPS 3752; NIAH 30326007) and CH17 (NIAH 30326010), a bridge CH14 (RPS 3753; 30326008) and a water pump CH15 (RPS 3755; 30326019).

Table 8: Designated built heritage assets in the study area.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Reference	Distance ⁴¹	ITM
CH02	RPS; NIAH; SMR	Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception	SMR GA054-007; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011	235 m	511750, 742710
CH03	RPS; NIAH; SMR	Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church	SMR GA054-032; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013	55 m	512030, 742763

⁴⁰ Available at: <https://excavations.ie/report/2017/Galway/0027384/> [Accessed: 14.11.24].

⁴¹ Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the edge of the built heritage asset.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Reference	Distance ⁴¹	ITM
CH11	RPS; NIAH	Oughterard Courthouse	RPS 667; NIAH 30326012	40 m	511935, 742749
CH12	RPS	National School: Oughterard National School	RPS 669	195 m	511779, 742704
CH13	RPS; NIAH	House: Wellpark House	RPS 3752; NIAH 30326007	375 m	511601, 742708
CH14	RPS; NIAH	Bridge	RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008	140 m	511804, 742752
CH15	RPS; NIAH	Water pump	RPS 3755; NIAH 30326019	194 m	511776, 742769
CH16	ACA	Oughterard ACA	N/A	0 m	511997, 742813
CH17	NIAH	Two-storey farmhouse	NIAH 30326010	390 m	511615, 742611

3.6.2 Undesignated Built Heritage Assets

There are sixteen undesignated built heritage assets within the study area (Table 9 and Figure 13). These were all visited and photographed during the Walkover Survey. The assets consist of one bridge (CH26), eleven houses of built heritage merit (CH28, CH29, CH30, CH32, CH35, CH36, CH37, CH38, CH39, CH41, CH42), two groups of sheds/outbuildings (CH31, CH40), a stone landing platform and steps (CH33) and a riverside boundary wall (CH34).

Table 9: Undesignated built heritage assets in the study area.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Source	Distance ⁴²	ITM
CH26	Undesignated	Bridge	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	430 m	512224, 743171
CH28	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	30 m	511883, 742821
CH29	Undesignated	House	Walkover Survey	70 m	511844, 742813
CH30	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	90 m	511838, 742795
CH31	Undesignated	Outbuildings	Walkover Survey	120 m	511814, 742784
CH32	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	125 m	511798, 742774
CH33	Undesignated	Landing platform and steps	Walkover Survey	115 m	511827, 742775
CH34	Undesignated	Boundary wall	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	125 m	511819, 742766
CH35	Undesignated	House	Walkover Survey	105 m	511872, 742762

⁴² Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the edge of the built heritage asset.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Source	Distance ⁴²	ITM
CH36	Undesignated	House	OS 6-inch Cassini map; Walkover Survey	65 m	511902, 742768
CH37	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	50 m	511919, 742775
CH38	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	10 m	511993, 742790
CH39	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	70 m	512043, 742804
CH40	Undesignated	Sheds	OS 6-inch Cassini map; Walkover Survey	85 m	512060, 742811
CH41	Undesignated	House	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	100 m	512093, 742817
CH42	Undesignated	Hotel	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; Walkover Survey	60 m	511914, 742752

During the Walkover Survey, a modern outfall drain was identified running from Western Way High Road and draining into the north of Owenriff River (Plate 5). Flow control features were identified in the river which resemble ‘mini-weirs’ or pools for fish-spawning. These appeared to be modern, minor interventions (Plate 6). A nineteenth-century, three-storey house (CH28) was identified as a feature of interest on Western Way High Road to the northwest of the river. The house is bounded by well-crafted and preserved railings and a gate upon carved ashlar bases and has two chimneystacks, one at each gable (Plate 7). A two-storey, three-bay derelict house (CH29) with ashlar quoins was noted, fronted by old ironwork fencing and rendered footings (Plate 8).

Next door, a two-storey nineteenth-century house (CH30) was recorded, consisting of three bays to west and one bay extension to the east (Plate 9). A group of rubble-built tin-roofed sheds and outbuildings (CH31) were noted, consisting of a two-storey plastered probable hay barn with four-bay stables to the southeast (Plate 10). A two-storey building (CH32), a possible former public house seen on historical OS maps was identified (Plate 11). A landing platform and five quayside steps (CH33) were identified, consisting of nine courses and measuring 30–35 cm, leading to Owenriff River (Plate 12).

A riverside boundary wall (CH34) abutting the bridge (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008) traversing Owenriff River was noted (Plate 13). The bridge features visible repair and modification to its masonry. Visible voussoirs indicated high quality masonry. The remains of an old signpost were visible with the masonry wall carefully angled and built to accommodate its post. A twentieth-century building (CH35) named ‘Le Blason’ with red/pink roof, which was in use as a shop in the 1920s, is now derelict and proposed for demolition (Plate 14). A one-storey “Dispensary-type” bungalow (CH36), possibly visible on the Cassini map, was identified (Plate 15). A three-bay, two-storey nineteenth- or early twentieth-century

house (CH37) with original gate and iron fence was noted. It is typical of urban Irish vernacular. It was later used as Garda Station; it includes modern renovation with six-paned sash windows (Plate 16).

A pink-painted two-storey nineteenth-century house (CH38), which once had access to the river, was identified (six-inch Ordnance Survey map). It is positioned below the modern road suggesting that the house had a basement-level entry from the road with its front entrance to the river (Plate 17). A single-storey vernacular, blue-painted house (CH39) (Plate 18) with slate roof was noted. A group of sheds visible on the Cassini map was also identified (CH40) (Plate 19).

A nineteenth-century six-bay house, and former guesthouse and public house (CH41) was noted (Plate 20). Local sources said that it was originally named Connolly's, and subsequently Kenny's, a pub, grocery and hardware seller that also provided feedstuff for farmers.

4. Impact Assessment

4.1 Assessment Methodology

The Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment considers the potential for impacts to affect the baseline cultural heritage environment as a direct and/or indirect result of the proposed footbridge development. The baseline conditions are defined as the existing state of the environment and how it may develop in the future in the absence of the development. The impact assessment was carried out with reference to the published Environmental Protection Agency guidelines and advice notes (EPA 2003 & 2022) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland Guidelines (TII 2024). The assessment included both quantitative assessment and qualitative judgement.

The importance rating for each cultural heritage receptor was based on evidence from the baseline studies, fieldwork, as well as professional judgement, and with reference to the factors set out in the EPA Guidelines (2022, Table 3.3), and TII Guidelines (2024, Table 5.6). Guiding factors considered included the status (i.e., designation and level of statutory protection) of the cultural heritage receptor, the condition/preservation, special interest, group value, rarity, visibility in the landscape, fragility/vulnerability, amenity value and local significance (ibid., 66; see also DAHG 2011, 24–30).

Likely effects from the development on the cultural heritage environment were categorised as direct, indirect, positive and/or negative in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency and Transport Infrastructure Ireland guidelines (EPA 2022, 47–53; TII 2024, 66–67):

- Direct Effect — an effect that is directly attributable to the development;
- Indirect Effect — an effect that results indirectly from the development because of the direct effects, which may be away from the development;
- Positive Effect – a change that enhances or improves the quality of the cultural heritage environment. Includes enhancement of setting or amenity; and,
- Negative Effect – a change that reduced the quality of the cultural heritage environment. Includes total or partial loss of a site and/or monument, visual intrusion, severance, degradation of setting and/or amenity.

The predicted magnitude (level) of impact was rated as Very High, High, Medium, Low or Negligible (TII 2024, Table 5.7). The predicted magnitude of impact was evaluated by considering the type and quality of impact, extent and context, probability, duration and frequency of impact.

The predicted significance of effect was evaluated by comparing the predicted magnitude of impact with the suggested importance of the cultural heritage receptor using the schedule and definitions of significance adapted from the EPA and TII Guidelines (EPA 2022, 50–51; TII 2024, 70).

4.2 Likely Impacts

Forty-two cultural heritage assets were identified in the study area that was considered for the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (Table 10; Figure 12–Figure 13; see also Appendix 1). There are no World Heritage Properties/Tentative List Properties, national monuments, national monuments in State care subject to Preservation Orders, or sites listed in the Register of Historic Monuments in the study area.

The development of the proposed footbridge will result in no negative impacts to cultural heritage assets. The attractive design of the proposed new footbridge will positively contribute to the built heritage of Oughterard and amenity of the Owenriff River, as it will increase pedestrian circulation within the Architectural Conservation Area and afford aesthetically improved views upstream and downstream. Thus, four direct effects of **Moderate Positive** significance are predicted to result from the construction of the proposed footbridge. These include positive impacts to the setting, views, character and amenity value of Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area (CH016), Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church (SMR GA054-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013 [CH03]), the former Oughterard Courthouse (RPS 667; NIAH 30326012 [CH011]), and the existing eighteenth-century bridge over the Owenriff River (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008 [CH014]).

No impacts are predicted for any of the remaining cultural heritage assets in the study area.

Cumulative effects on cultural heritage arising from the proposed development were also considered, using the metrics outlined in the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines and advice notes (EPA 2003 & 2022) and the Transport Infrastructure Ireland guidelines (2024). Cumulative effects are described as ‘The addition of many minor or insignificant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects’ (EPA 2022, 52). However, due to the overall positive impact of the proposed footbridge to the existing character, setting and amenity of the receiving cultural heritage environment, no negative cumulative impacts are predicted.

Table 10: Predicted impacts on the receiving cultural heritage environment.

Asset No.	Category	Site Type	Designation	Reference	Importance	Type & Quality of Effect	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
CH01	Archaeological Heritage	Ritual site - holy well	Recorded Monument	RMP GA054-015	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH02	Archaeological & Built Heritage	Church – Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception	Protected Structure; listed in the NIAH and SMR	SMR GA054-007; RPS 670; NIAH 30326011	High	None	N/A	N/A
CH03	Archaeological & Built Heritage	Church – Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church	Protected Structure; listed in the NIAH and SMR	SMR GA054-032; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013	High	Direct Positive	Medium	Moderate
CH04	Archaeological Heritage	Town	Listed in the SMR	SMR GA054-005	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH05	Archaeological Heritage	Ritual site - holy well	Recorded Monument	SMR GA054-031	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH06	Archaeological Heritage	House - 18th/19th century	Listed in the SMR	SMR GA054-016	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH07	Archaeological Heritage	House - vernacular house	Listed in the SMR	SMR GA054-026	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH08	Archaeological Heritage	AAP: River Owenriff	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH09	Archaeological Heritage	Clachan (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH10	Archaeological Heritage	Limekiln (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH11	Built Heritage	Courthouse	Protected Structure; listed in the NIAH	RPS 667; NIAH 30326012	High	Direct Positive	Medium	Moderate
CH12	Built Heritage	National school	Protected Structure	RPS 669	High	None	N/A	N/A
CH13	Built Heritage	House	Protected Structure; listed on the NIAH	RPS 3752; NIAH 30326007	High	None	N/A	N/A
CH14	Built Heritage	Bridge	Protected Structure; listed on the NIAH	RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008	High	Direct Positive	Medium	Moderate

Asset No.	Category	Site Type	Designation	Reference	Importance	Type & Quality of Effect	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
CH15	Built Heritage	Water pump	Protected Structure; listed on the NIAH	RPS 3755; NIAH 30326019	High	None	N/A	N/A
CH16	Built Heritage	Oughterard ACA	ACA	N/A	High	Direct Positive	Medium	Moderate
CH17	Built Heritage	House	Listed on the NIAH	NIAH 30326010	Medium	None	N/A	N/A
CH18	Archaeological Heritage	Salmon weir (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH19	Archaeological Heritage	Salmon weir (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH20	Archaeological Heritage	Salmon weir (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH21	Archaeological Heritage	OS Benchmark (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH22	Archaeological Heritage	OS Benchmark (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH23	Archaeological Heritage	OS Benchmark (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH24	Archaeological Heritage	OS Benchmark (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH25	Archaeological Heritage	OS Benchmark (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH26	Built Heritage	Bridge	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH27	Archaeological Heritage	Oughterard Union Workhouse (site of)	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH28	Built Heritage	Nineteenth-century House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH29	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH30	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH31	Built Heritage	Group of outbuildings	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH32	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A

Asset No.	Category	Site Type	Designation	Reference	Importance	Type & Quality of Effect	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
CH33	Built Heritage	Landing platform and steps	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH34	Built Heritage	Riverside wall	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH35	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH36	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH37	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH38	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH39	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH40	Built Heritage	Sheds	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH41	Built Heritage	House	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A
CH42	Built Heritage	Hotel	Undesignated	N/A	Low	None	N/A	N/A

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

This Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment was prepared to support the planning application for the N59 Oughterard Footbridge development, in Oughterard, County Galway (Figure 1). The proposal will involve the construction of a single-span footbridge over the Owenriff River. No instream works are proposed.

The purpose of the assessment was to provide a comprehensive analysis of the receiving cultural heritage environment, with a view to informing an appropriate archaeological and built heritage strategy to avoid/mitigate any likely impacts to cultural heritage, as well as measures to remedy or offset any adverse effects that cannot be avoided during the development project.

A 500 m study area that included and extended from the proposed works area was assessed. Forty-two cultural heritage assets were identified in the study area (Table 10 and Appendix 1). The development of the proposed footbridge will result in no negative impacts to cultural heritage assets.

Four direct effects of **Moderate Positive** significance are predicted to result from the construction of the N59 Oughterard Footbridge. These include positive impacts to the setting, views, character and amenity value of Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area (CH016), Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church (SMR GA054-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013 [CH03]), the former Oughterard Courthouse (RPS 667; NIAH 30326012 [CH011]), and the existing eighteenth-century bridge over the Owenriff River (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008 [CH014]).

No impacts are predicted for any of the remaining cultural heritage assets in the study area. Furthermore, it is proposed that the attractive new footbridge will positively contribute to the built heritage of Oughterard and amenity of the Owenriff River.

On present information there are no features, deposits or objects of archaeological interest in the development site, or in proximity to it. However, because previously unrecorded archaeological objects, features and deposits can occur on construction sites and especially here on the Owenriff riverbank, it is recommended that a programme of advance archaeological testing is carried out post-consent and in advance of construction works, as follows:

- The licensed test excavation should be carried out in advance of construction with provision for full excavation and reporting (preservation by record) of whatever might be discovered on the site. This excavation should take place on both banks of the river, within the construction site of the access ramps and walkways and any associated landscaping.
- The archaeological test excavations should be carried out under a Section 26 excavation licence issued by the Licensing Section of the National Monuments Service and in

accordance with the guidance outlined in *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (DAHGI 1999).⁴³

- The licence application for the archaeological testing should be accompanied by a detailed Method Statement that should be agreed in advance with the TII-assigned Project Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service.
- Following the completion of archaeological testing, reports detailing the findings should be submitted to the National Monuments Service and other statutory authorities, as per the conditions of the archaeological licences. Any significant results should be published in a suitable periodical such as the Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society.
- In advance of testing, consultation should be undertaken with the TII-assigned Project Archaeologist, Galway Heritage Officer and Architectural Conservation Officer regarding any additional mitigation measures that may be necessitated onsite during works.

Recommendations are subject to the agreement of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the National Museum of Ireland and the relevant planning authority and should only be carried out in accordance with the necessary approvals. Please note that the statutory and local authorities may issue alternative and/or additional recommendations/conditions.

⁴³ At the time of writing existing licensing regulations apply, per the 1930–2004 National Monuments Acts, and will continue until the relevant provisions of the new Historic and Archaeological Heritage Act 2023 are commenced by the Minister.

6. Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment Addendum: Proposed Compound and Tree Planting

6.1 Introduction

In April 2025, AtkinsRéalis and the TII-assigned Project Archaeologist confirmed that an addendum to the existing Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, which was submitted in November 2024, was required. The addendum assesses the impact of the proposed compound site on Station Road in Cregg townland (Figure 15), in addition to a proposed tree planting area in Carrowmanagh Park (Figure 16). The works are associated with the proposed N59 footbridge at Oughterard, County Galway (Figure 14).

6.2 Site Location

The proposed site compound location is on Station Road, 270 m southwest of the proposed footbridge (Figure 14). The tree-planting is proposed at Carrowmanagh Park, which lies 25 m northeast of the proposed footbridge in Oughterard, County Galway.

6.3 Proposed Works

The proposed site compound will require excavation of the existing ground to a depth of approximately 200 mm to form the hard standing area. In addition, a series of trenches will be excavated to a depth of 750 mm below ground level for services (Figure 15).

The proposed tree planting at Carrowmanagh Park will comprise the planting of 39 native tree species between 2.5 m to 3 m in height. A hole 1 m square width will be dug to a depth of 0.3 m to enable the trees to be planted (Figure 16).

6.4 Receiving Cultural Heritage Environment

6.4.1 Cartographical Analysis

Ordnance Survey First-Edition Six-Inch Map (1841)

The first-edition Ordnance Survey six-inch map shows the area to the north of the Owenriff River, which includes the modern Carrowmanagh Park, as a series of agricultural rectilinear fields to the north of Oughterard village. The proposed compound area, in the southwestern outskirts of the village, consisted of marginal grazing land, with an outfield area likely related to a clachan settlement (CH09) to the southeast (Figure 17).

Ordnance Survey Six-Inch Map (c.1903)

The last edition Ordnance Survey six-inch map shows changes in land management that occurred in the vicinity of Oughterard since the nineteenth century. The land in the area of the modern Carrowmanagh Park is largely unchanged except for nineteenth-century field boundaries which have

been removed. Station Road has been constructed from Oughterard Railway Station in a northeasterly direction towards the village (Figure 18).

6.4.2 Archaeological Heritage

There are no designated archaeological heritage assets within the proposed locations for either the site compound or the area of proposed tree planting at Carrowmanagh Park (Figure 19, Figure 21, Appendix 1: Cultural Heritage Inventory).

The area of proposed tree-planting at Carrowmanagh Park is located partly within the River Owenriff area of archaeological potential (CH08). Rivers and their alluvial deposits are archaeologically sensitive and there exists the potential for archaeological remains and/or deposits within this area.

The Carrowmanagh Park housing estate was constructed in the 1990s. Satellite imagery from 1996 shows the estate under construction and indicates the area of the proposed tree planting was stripped of topsoil during construction and subsequently landscaped (Figure 23).

A second area of archaeological potential, comprising a greenfield area (CH43), has been identified in the area of the proposed site compound at Station Road (Table 11, Figure 19, Appendix 1: Cultural Heritage Inventory). Greenfield sites have the potential to include previously unrecorded archaeological remains.

Table 11: Archaeological heritage assets in the addendum study areas.

CH No.	Designation	Site Type	Source	Distance ⁴⁴	ITM
CH43	Undesignated	AAP: Station Road Greenfield Area	OS 1st-Ed. & last Ed. 6-inch maps; satellite imagery	0 m	511749, 742524

6.4.3 Built Heritage

There are no designated or undesignated built heritage assets in either the area of the proposed site compound, or the proposed tree planting at Carrowmanagh Park (Figure 20, Figure 22).

There are no undesignated built heritage assets in the area for the proposed site compound, or proposed tree planting at Carrowmanagh Park (Figure 20).

6.5 Impact Assessment

One additional cultural heritage asset has been identified within the area of the proposed site compound at Station Road, which comprises an area of archaeological potential (CH43) (Table 12; Figure 19; see also Appendix 1). Consequently, if archaeological remains are present, there is the

⁴⁴ Distance measurements are from the site boundary to the known edge of the cultural heritage asset.

potential for direct negative impacts to the AAP: Station Road Greenfield Area (CH43) as a result of works associated with the construction of the proposed site compound.

While the proposed tree planting site at Carrowmanagh Park lies within the area of archaeological potential associated with the alluvial deposits of the Owenriff River (CH08), no impacts are predicted. It is highly likely that the area was substantially disturbed in the 1990s during the construction of the residential estate and subsequent landscaping (Figure 23).

No significant cumulative impacts are predicted for either location due to the small scale and isolated nature of the proposed compound location, as well as the screening provided by the existing road boundaries and treeline. Furthermore, the addition of 39 native trees in the greenfield area of Carrowmanagh Park will positively contribute to the setting and amenity of the receiving cultural heritage environment.

Table 12: Predicted impacts for the addendum study areas.

CH No.	Site Type	Designation	Importance	Type & Quality of Effect	Magnitude of Effect	Significance of Effect
CH08	AAP: River Owenriff	Undesignated	Negligible	Positive	Low	Slight
CH43	AAP: Station Road Greenfield	Undesignated	Low	Potential direct negative	Low	Indeterminable

6.6 Conclusions and Recommendations

No impacts are predicted as a result of the proposed tree-planting at Carrowmanagh Park, as it is highly likely that the area was substantially disturbed in the 1990s during the construction of the residential estate and subsequent landscaping (Figure 23).

The proposed site compound at Station Road is located in an area of archaeological potential (CH43), as it comprises a greenfield area. Consequently, if archaeological remains are present, there is the potential for direct negative impacts to the area of archaeological potential as a result of ground reduction works and the excavation of service trenches.

It is recommended that a programme of advance archaeological testing is carried out within the area of the proposed site compound post-consent and in advance of construction works, as follows:

- The licensed test excavation should be carried out in advance of construction with provision for full excavation and reporting (preservation by record) of whatever might be discovered on the site. Should significant archaeology be found and an alternative location cannot be found for the compound, the NMS and TII Archaeologist should be consulted regarding necessary mitigation. Preservation of archaeological sites and monuments *in situ* is always the preferred option.
- The archaeological test excavations should be carried out under a Section 26 excavation licence issued by the Licensing Section of the National Monuments Service and in

accordance with the guidance outlined in *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (DAHGI 1999).

- The licence application for the archaeological testing should be accompanied by a detailed Method Statement that should be agreed in advance with the TII-assigned Project Archaeologist and the National Monuments Service.
- Following the completion of archaeological testing, reports detailing the findings should be submitted to the National Monuments Service and other statutory authorities, as per the conditions of the archaeological licences. Any significant results should be published in a suitable periodical such as the Journal of the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society.

Recommendations are subject to the agreement of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the National Museum of Ireland, the TII Archaeologist and the relevant planning authority and should only be carried out in accordance with the necessary approvals. Please note that the statutory and local authorities may issue alternative and/or additional recommendations/conditions.

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'From Dublin to Galway & Oughterard', Map 90 in *Road Maps of Ireland*, by George Taylor and Andrew Skinner (survey date: 1777; publication date: 1778).

'A map of the county of Galway', Sheet 8 [West: Leitir Móir, Oughterard], by William Larkin (publication date: 1819).

First-Edition Six-Inch Ordnance Survey Map (survey date: 1838; publication date: 1841).

Last-Edition Six-Inch Ordnance Survey (Cassini) Map (survey date: 1838; publication date: 1903).

Large Scale Valuation Map of Oughterard (publication date: 1853).

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Connacht Tribune, 12 November 1949.

Figures

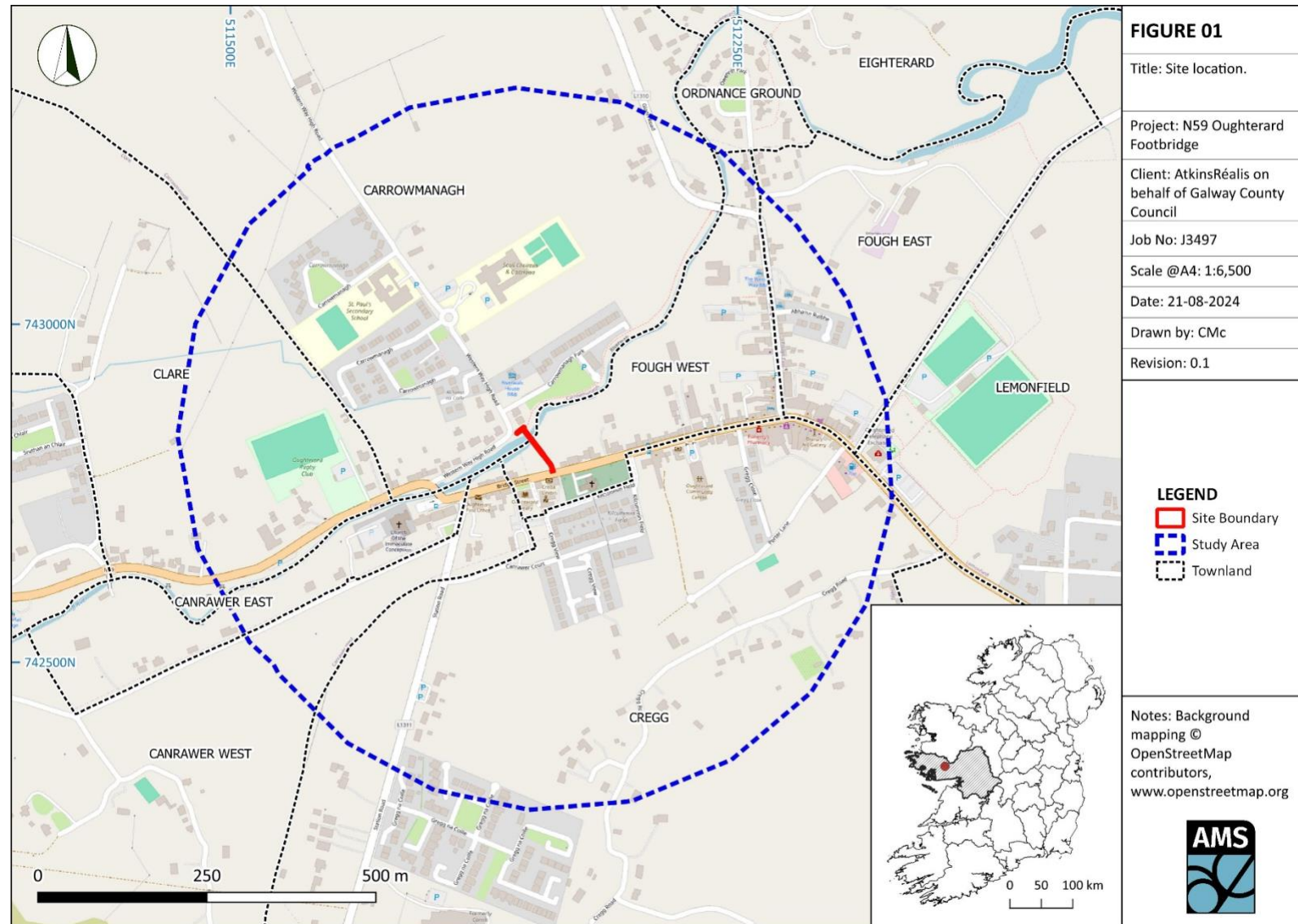


Figure 1: Site location.

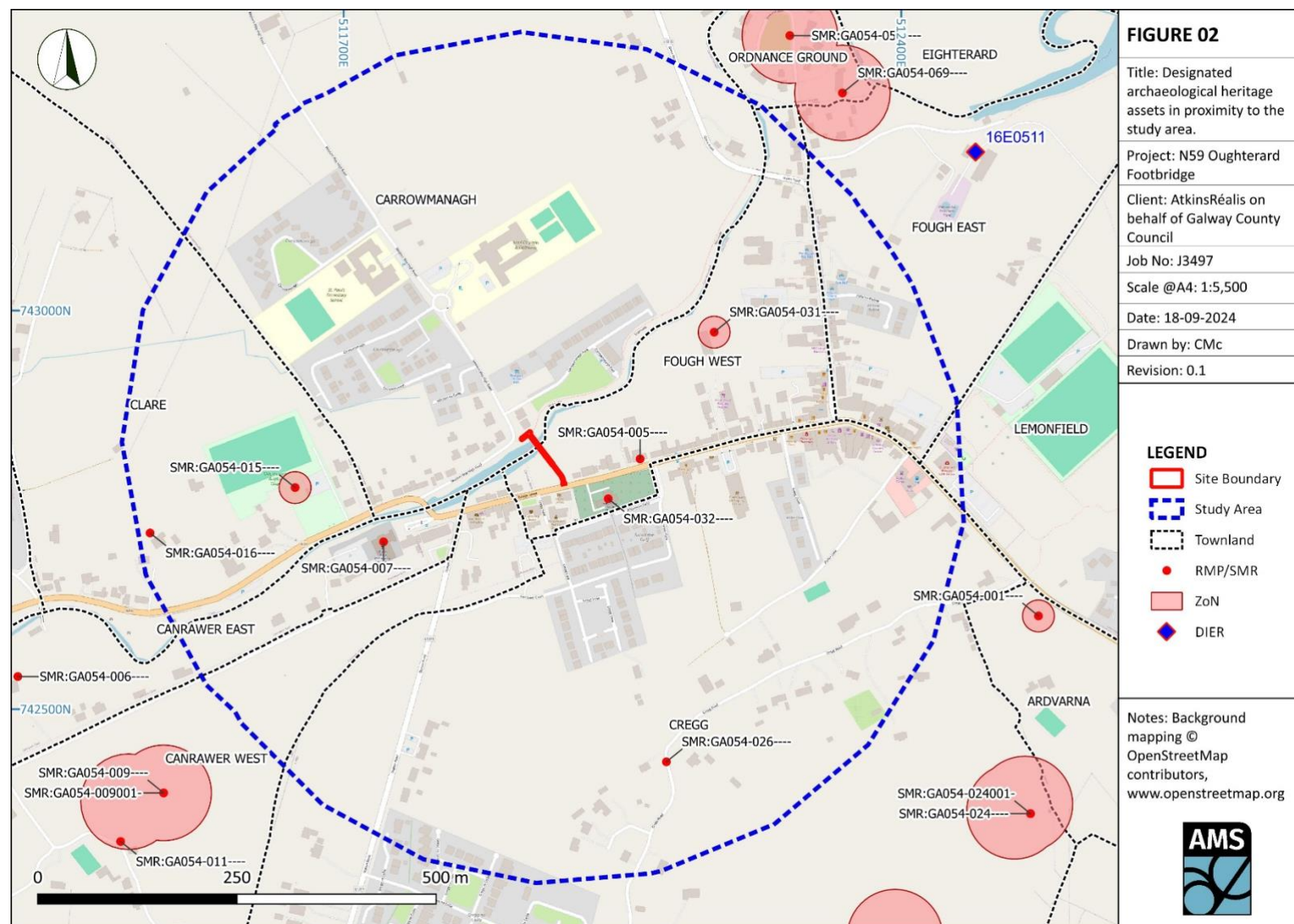


Figure 2: Designated archaeological heritage assets in the study area.

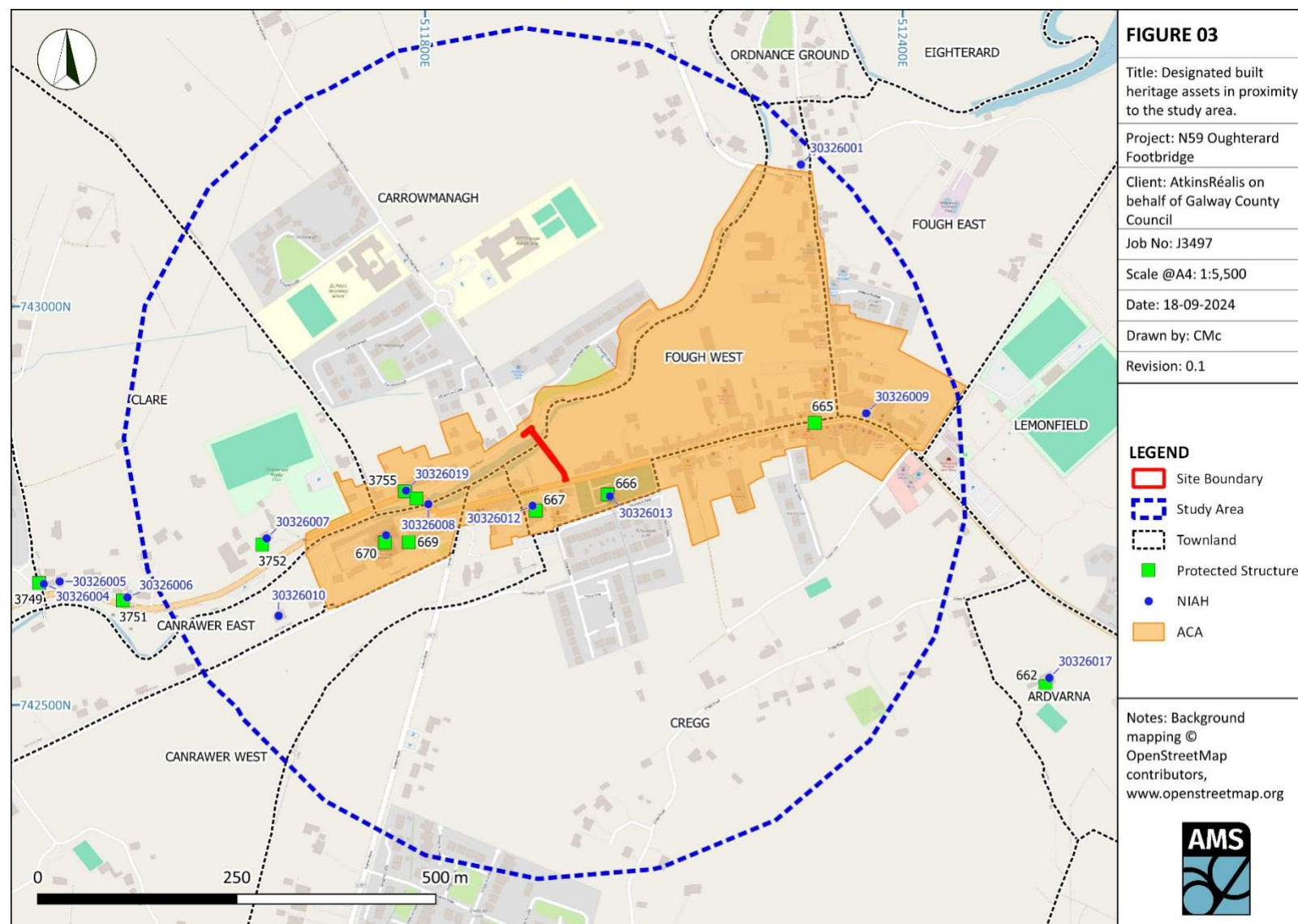


Figure 3: Designated built heritage assets in the study area.



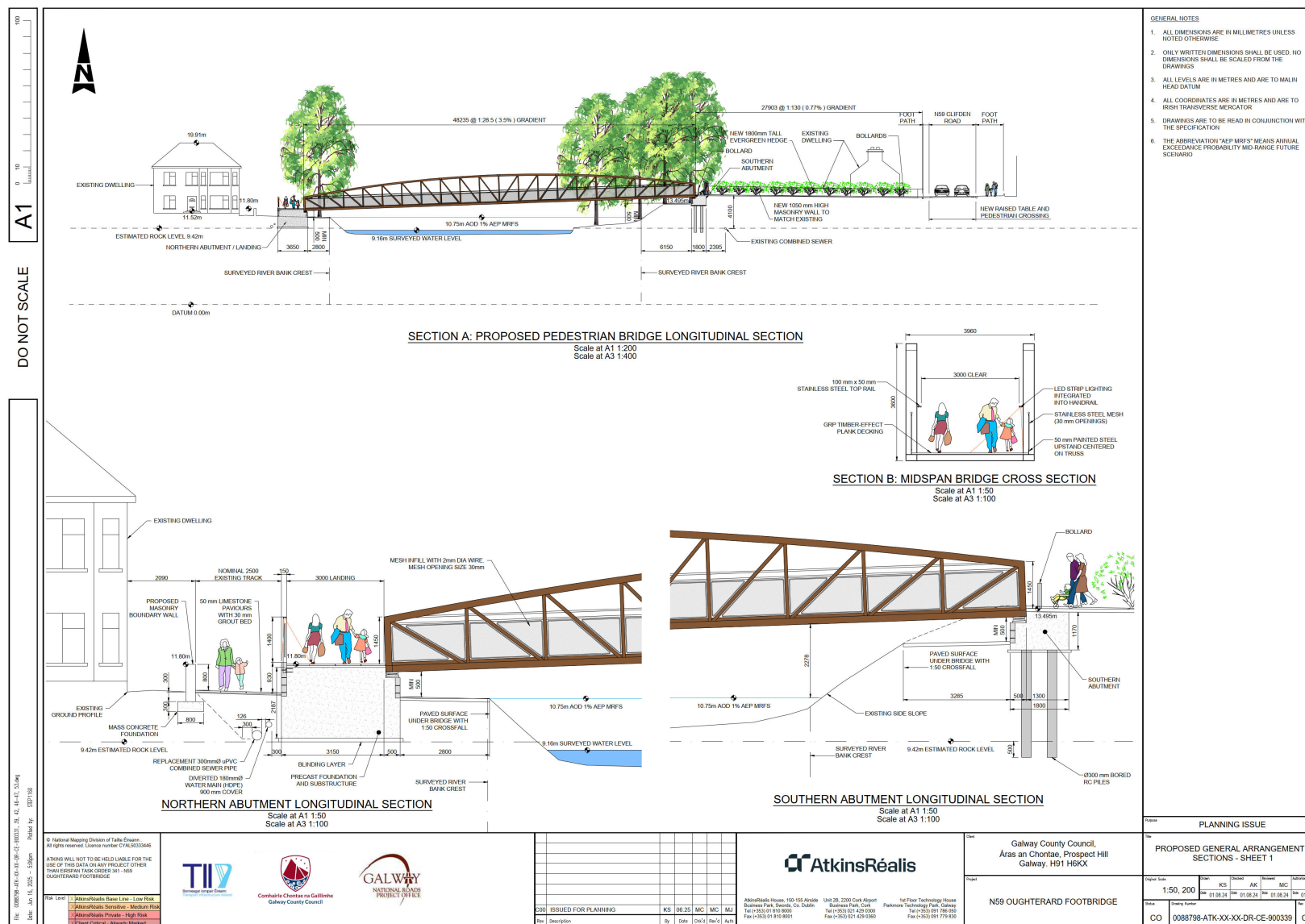


Figure 5: Longitudinal section of footbridge (AtkinsRéalis drawing, preliminary issue, June 2025).

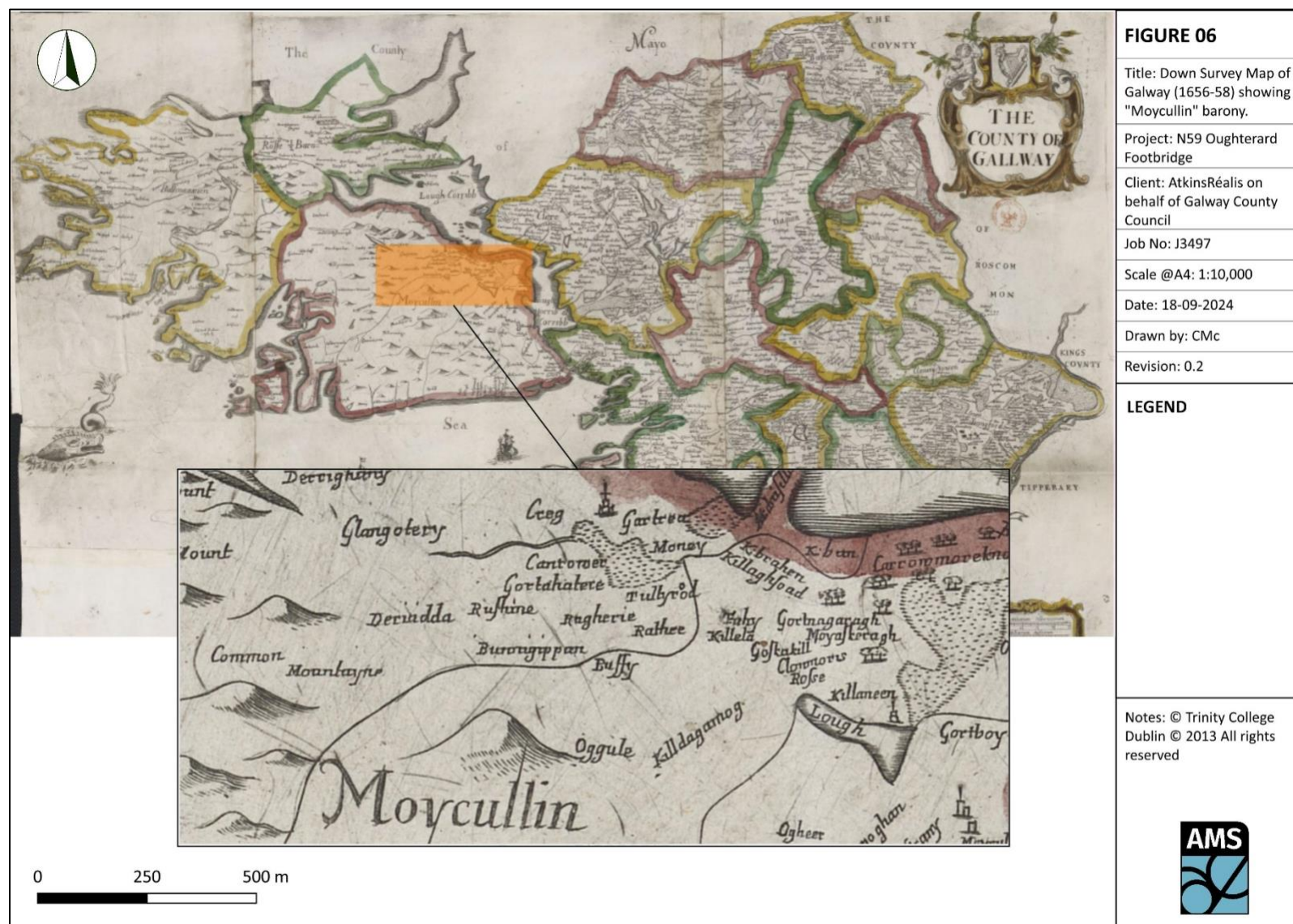


Figure 6: Down Survey Map of 'The County of Galway' showing 'Moycullin' barony (1656-58).

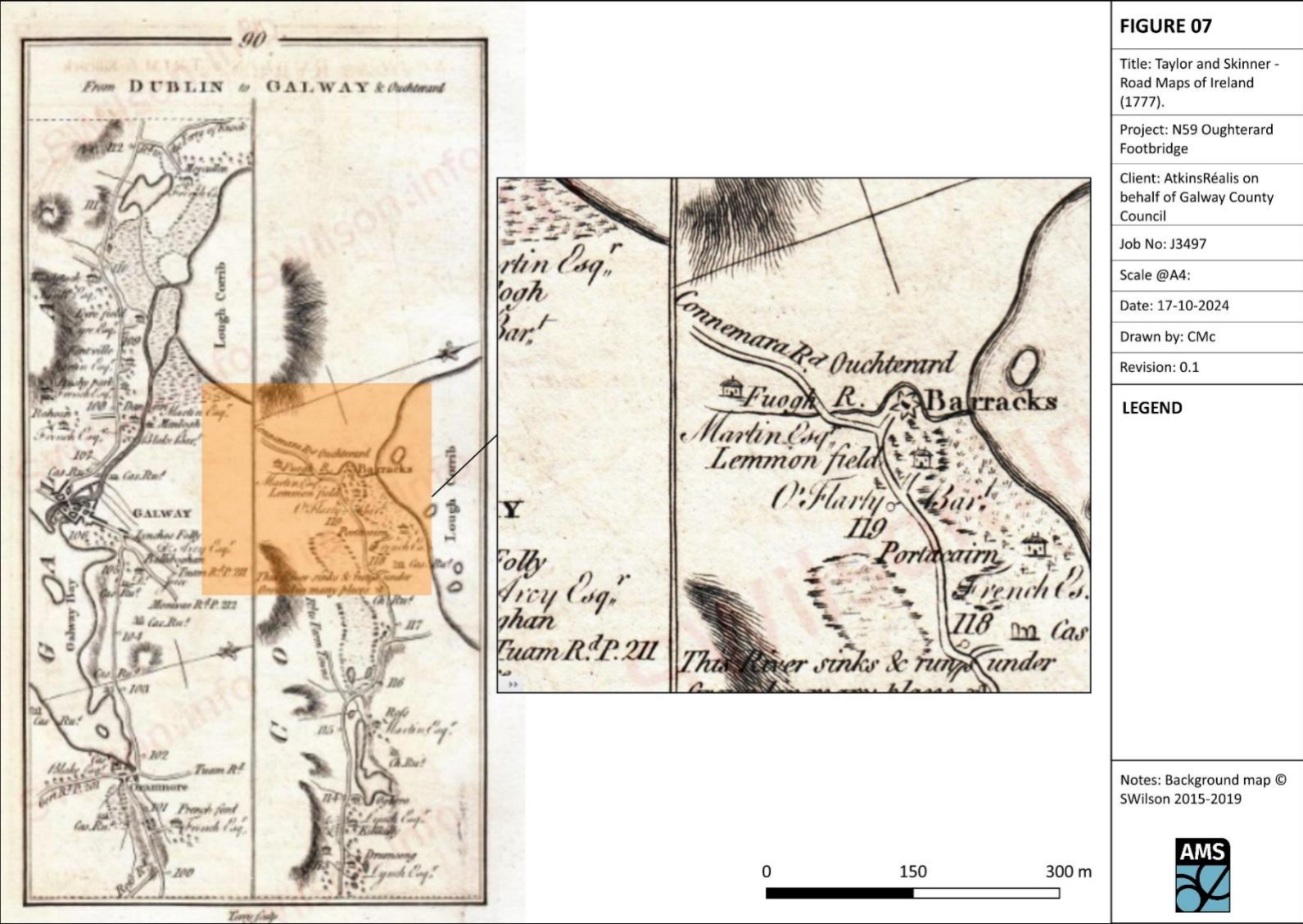


Figure 7: 'From Dublin to Galway & Oughterard', Map 90 in *Road Maps of Ireland*, by George Taylor and Andrew Skinner (1777).



Figure 8: 'A map of the county of Galway', Sheet 8 [West: Leitir Móir, Oughterard], by William Larkin (1819).

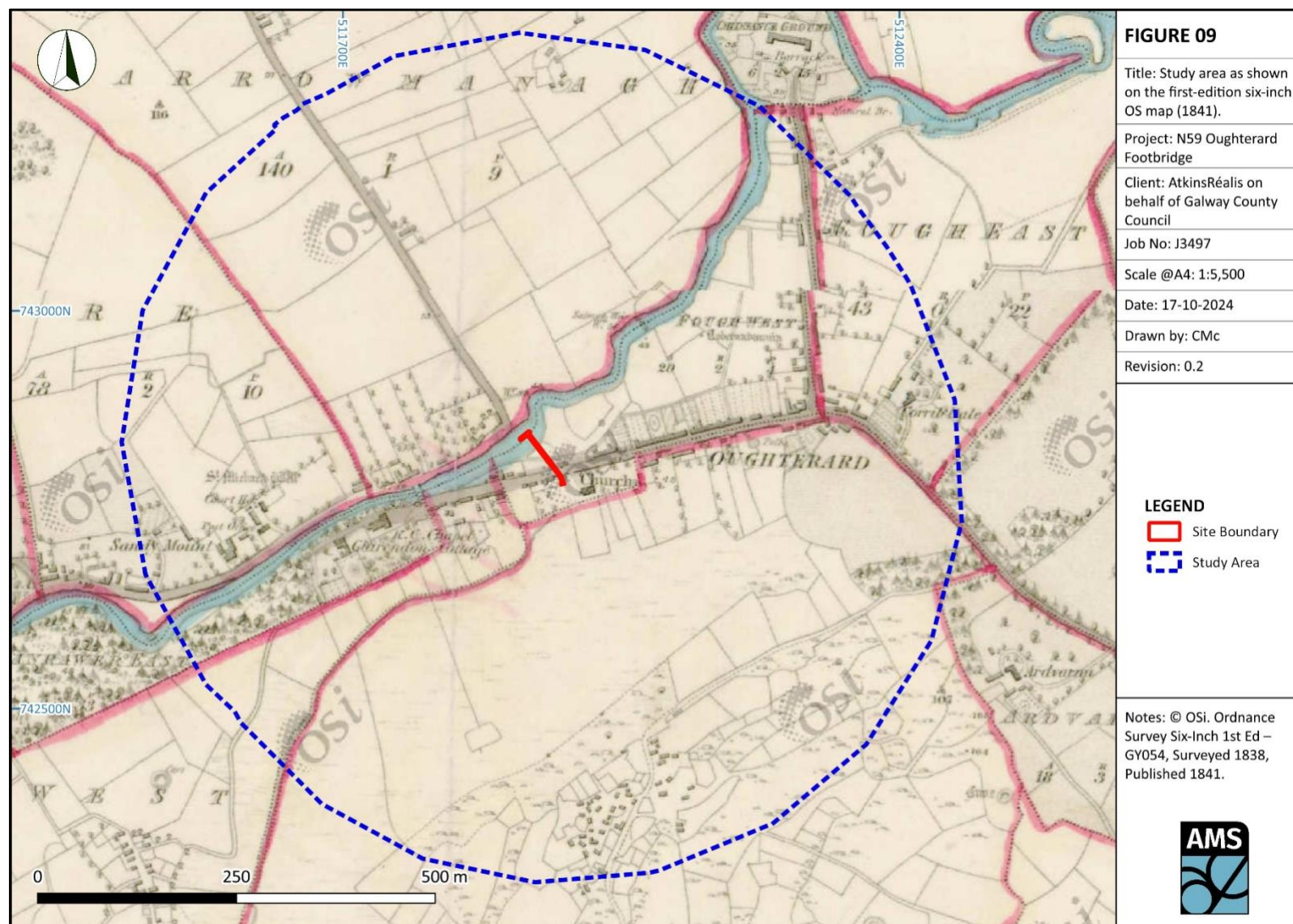


Figure 9: The study area as shown on the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map (1841).

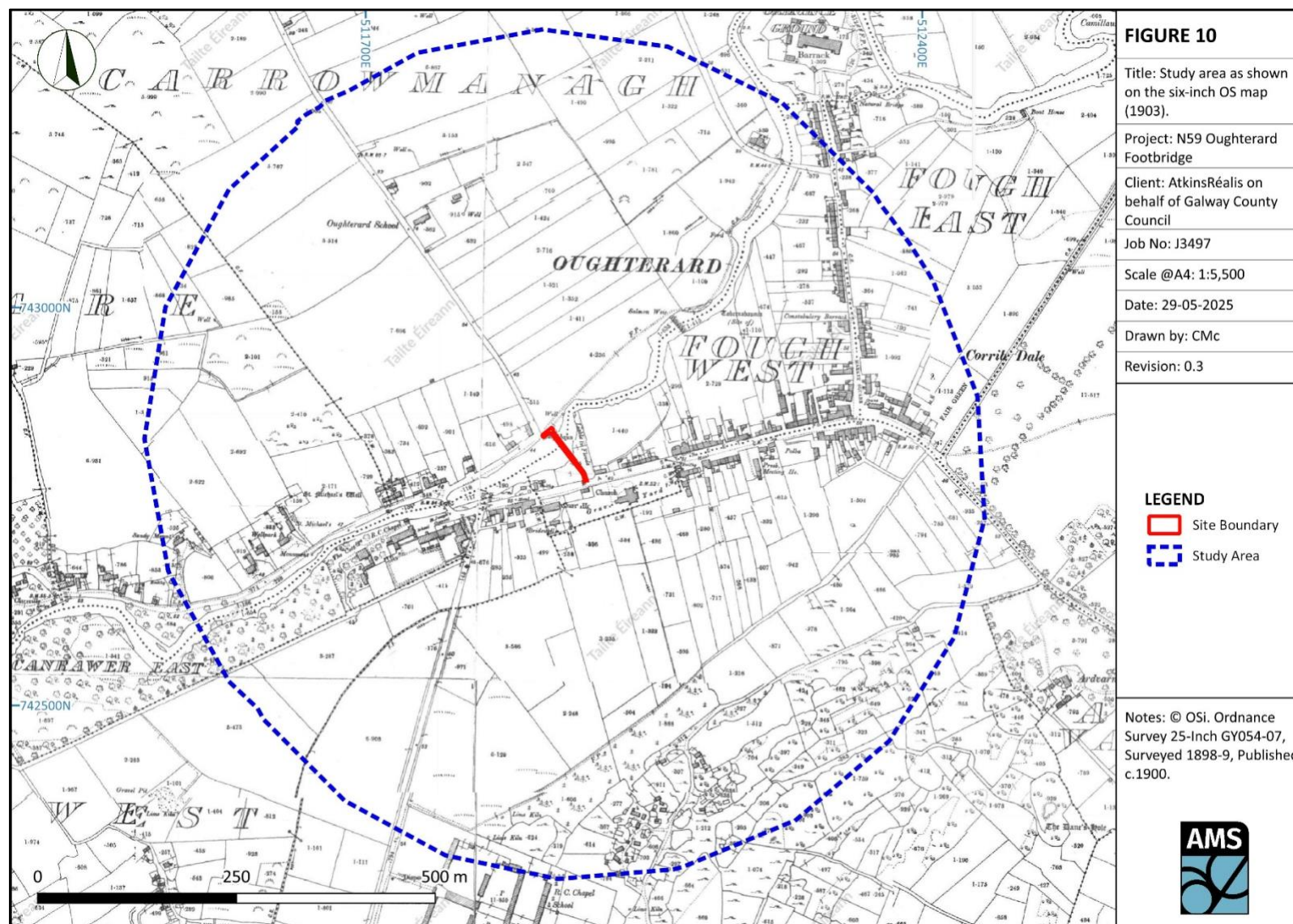


Figure 10: The study area as shown on the Ordnance Survey six-inch map (c.1903).



Figure 11: Valuation Map of Oughterard (c.1853).

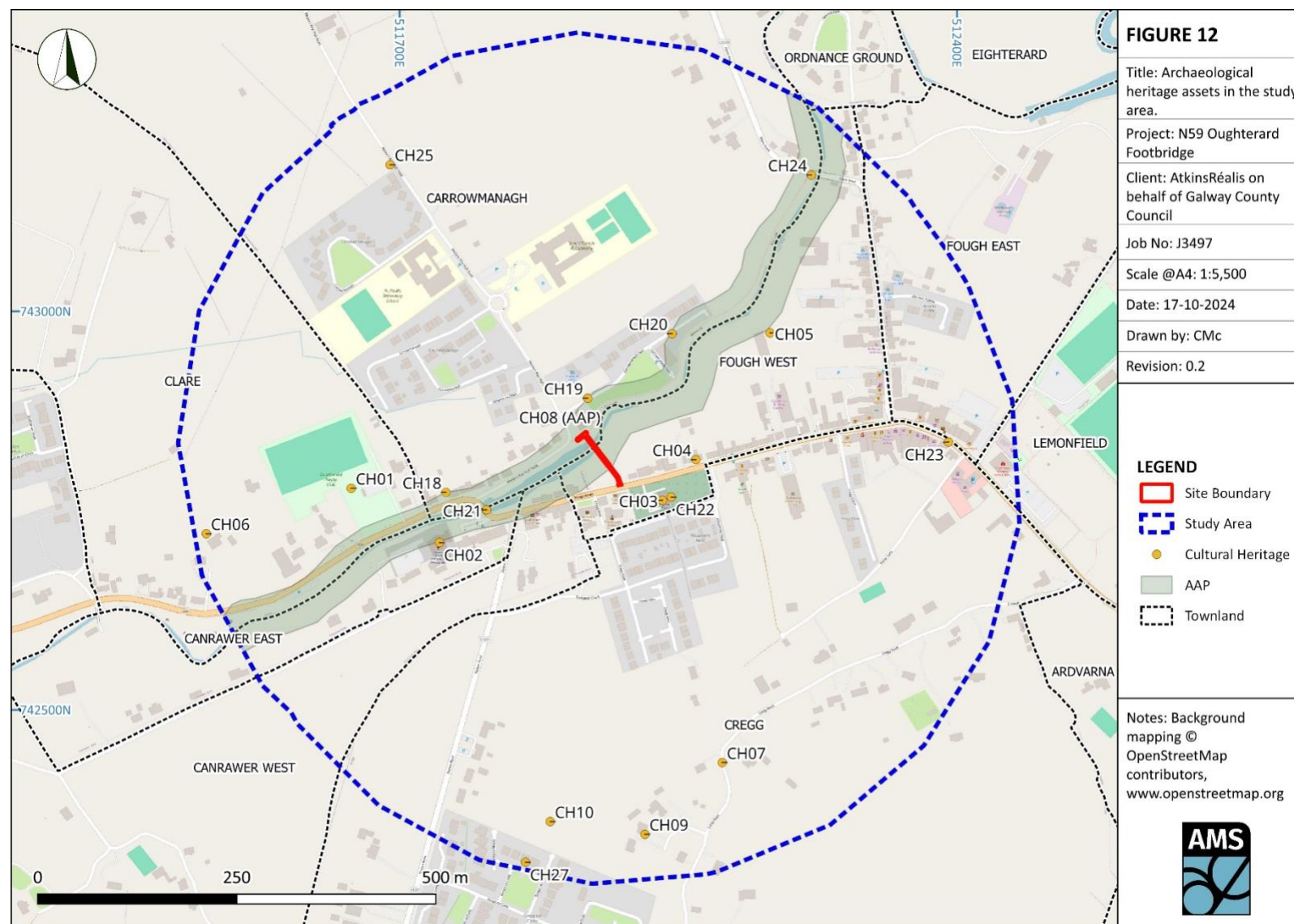


Figure 12: Archaeological heritage assets in the study area.

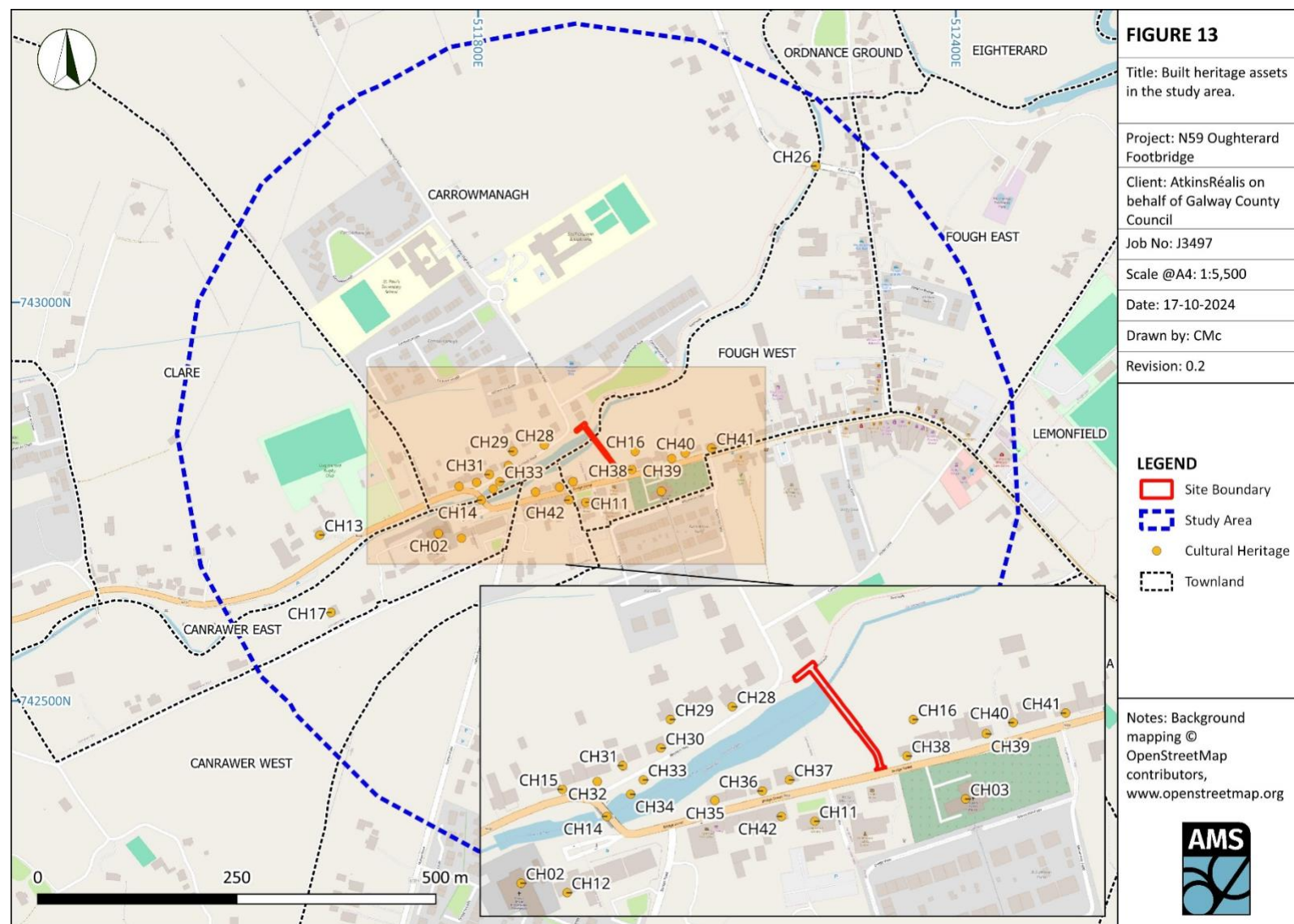


Figure 13: Built heritage assets in the study area.

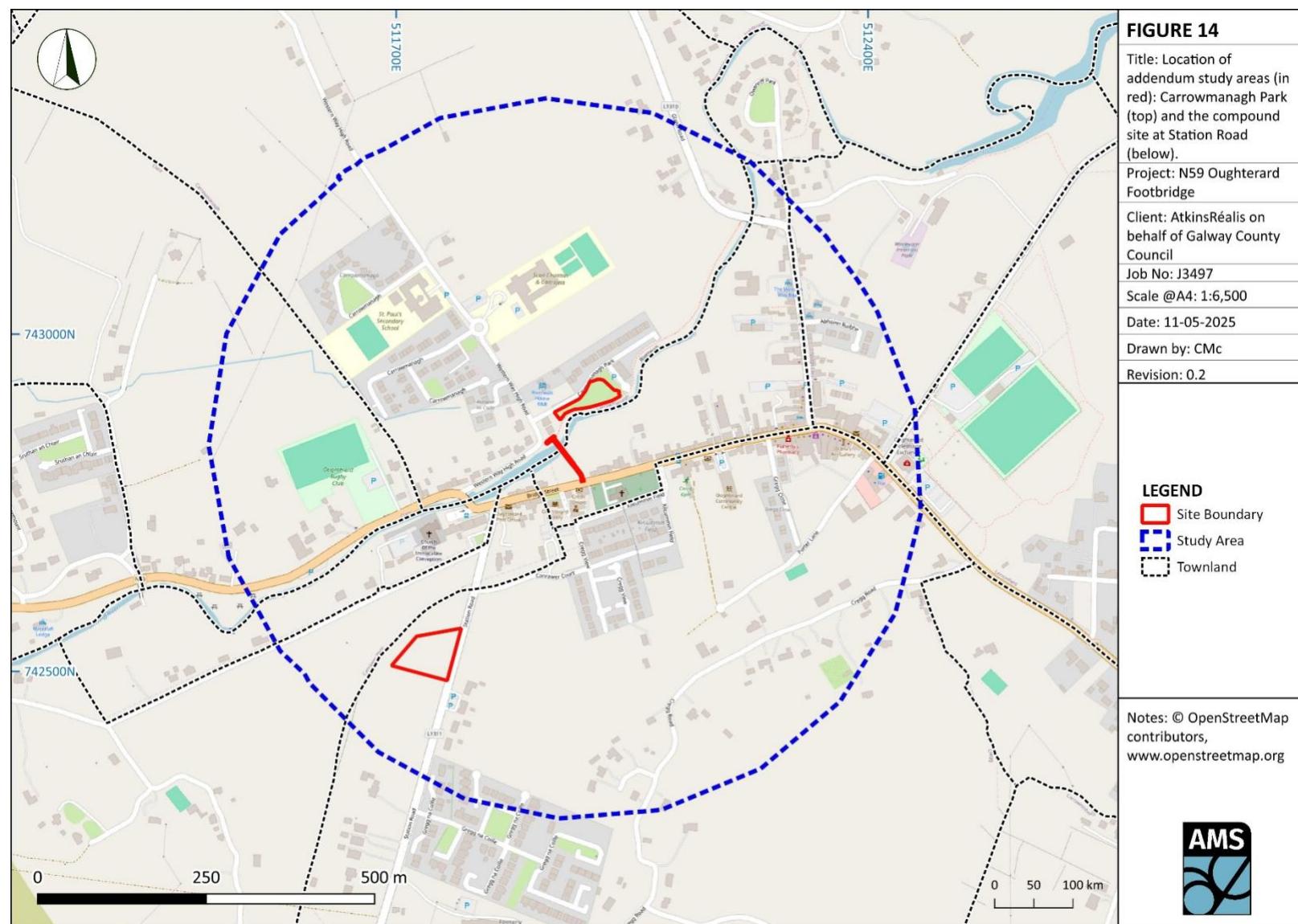


Figure 14: Location of addendum study areas (in red): Carrowmanagh Park (top) and the compound site at Station Road (below).





Figure 16: Landscape site plan for Carrowmanagh Park (drawing by Eamonn Byrne Landscape Architects).

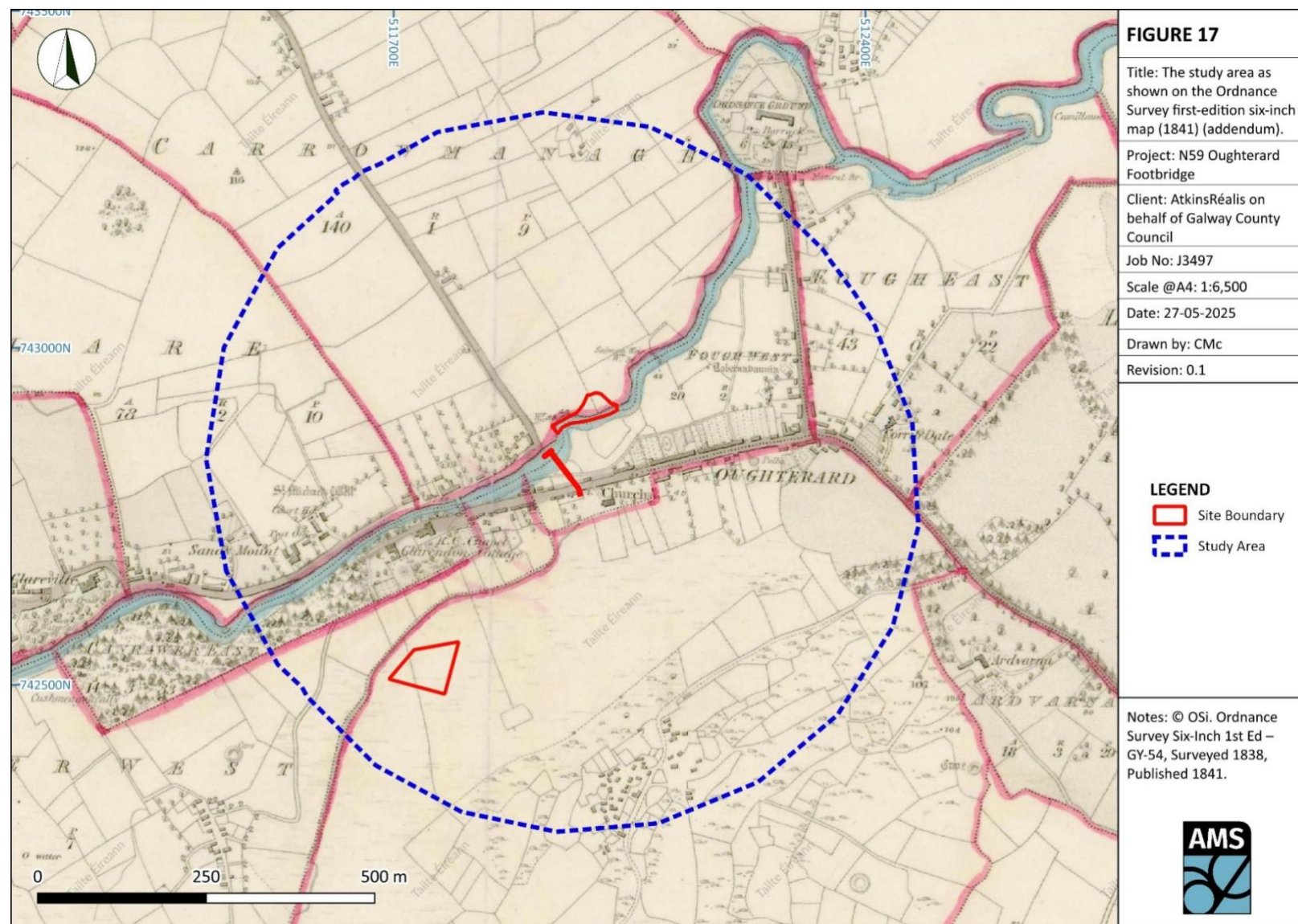


Figure 17: The study area as shown on the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map (1841) (addendum).

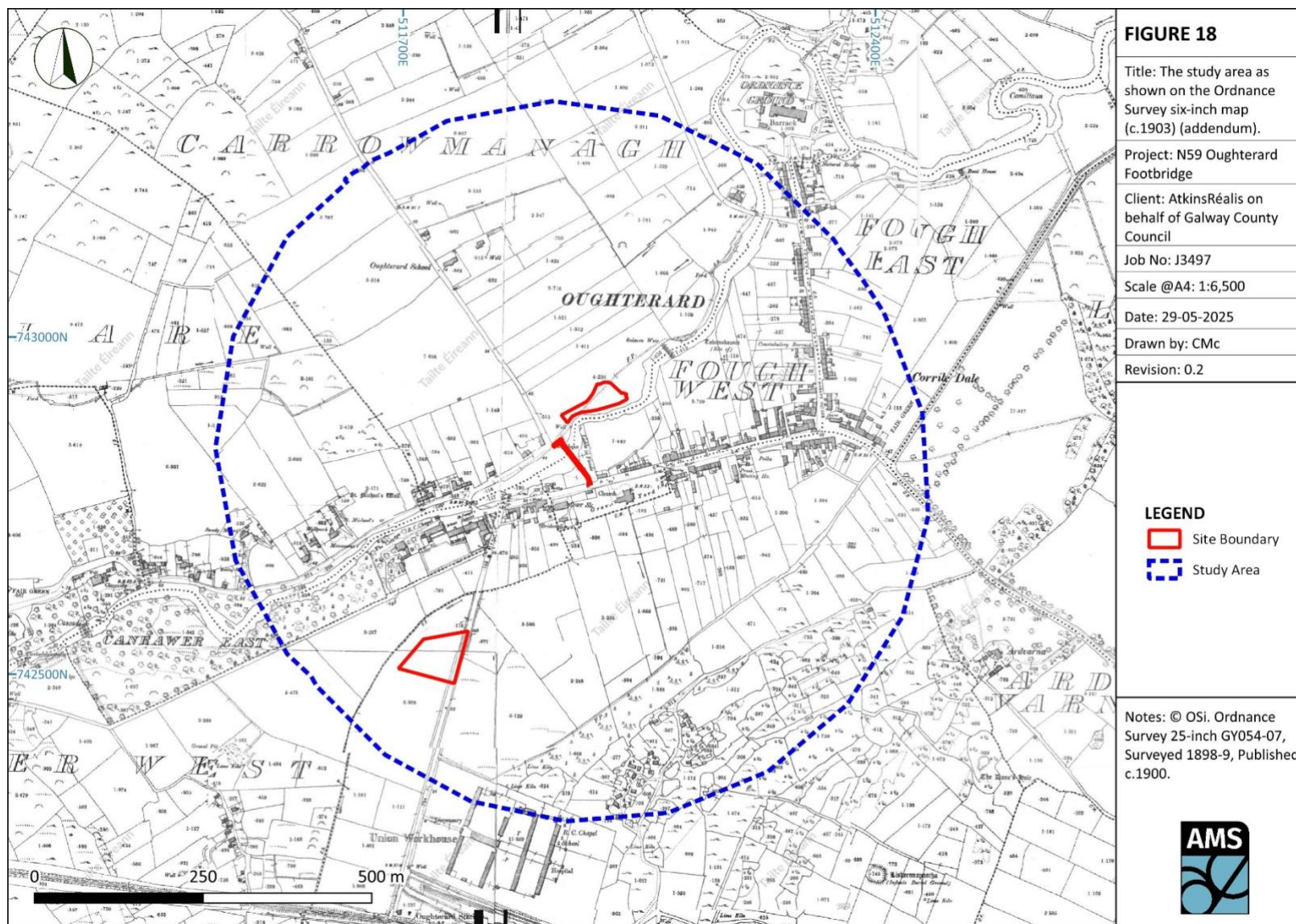


Figure 18: The study area as shown on the Ordnance Survey six-inch map (c.1903) (addendum).

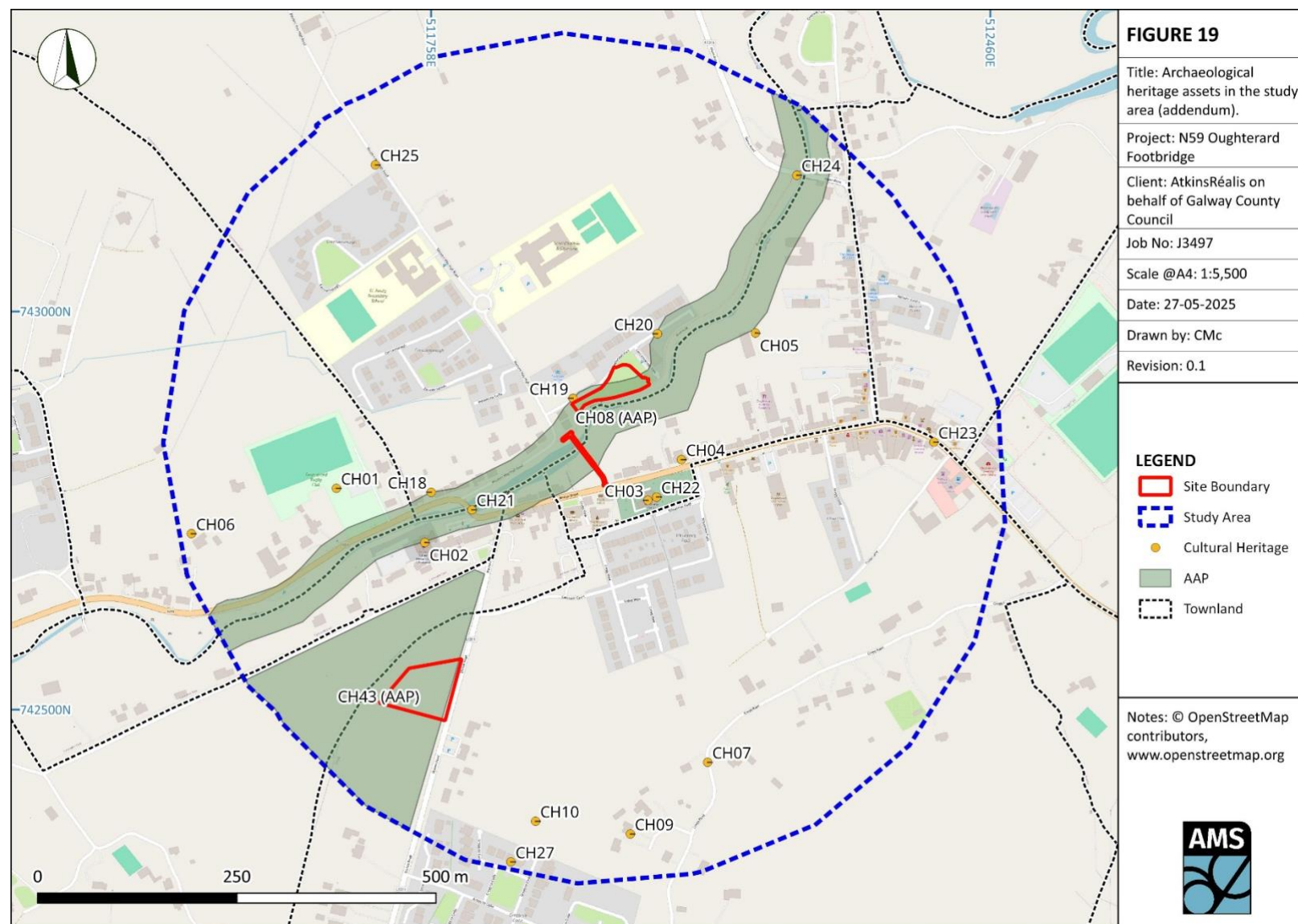


Figure 19: Archaeological heritage assets in the addendum study areas.

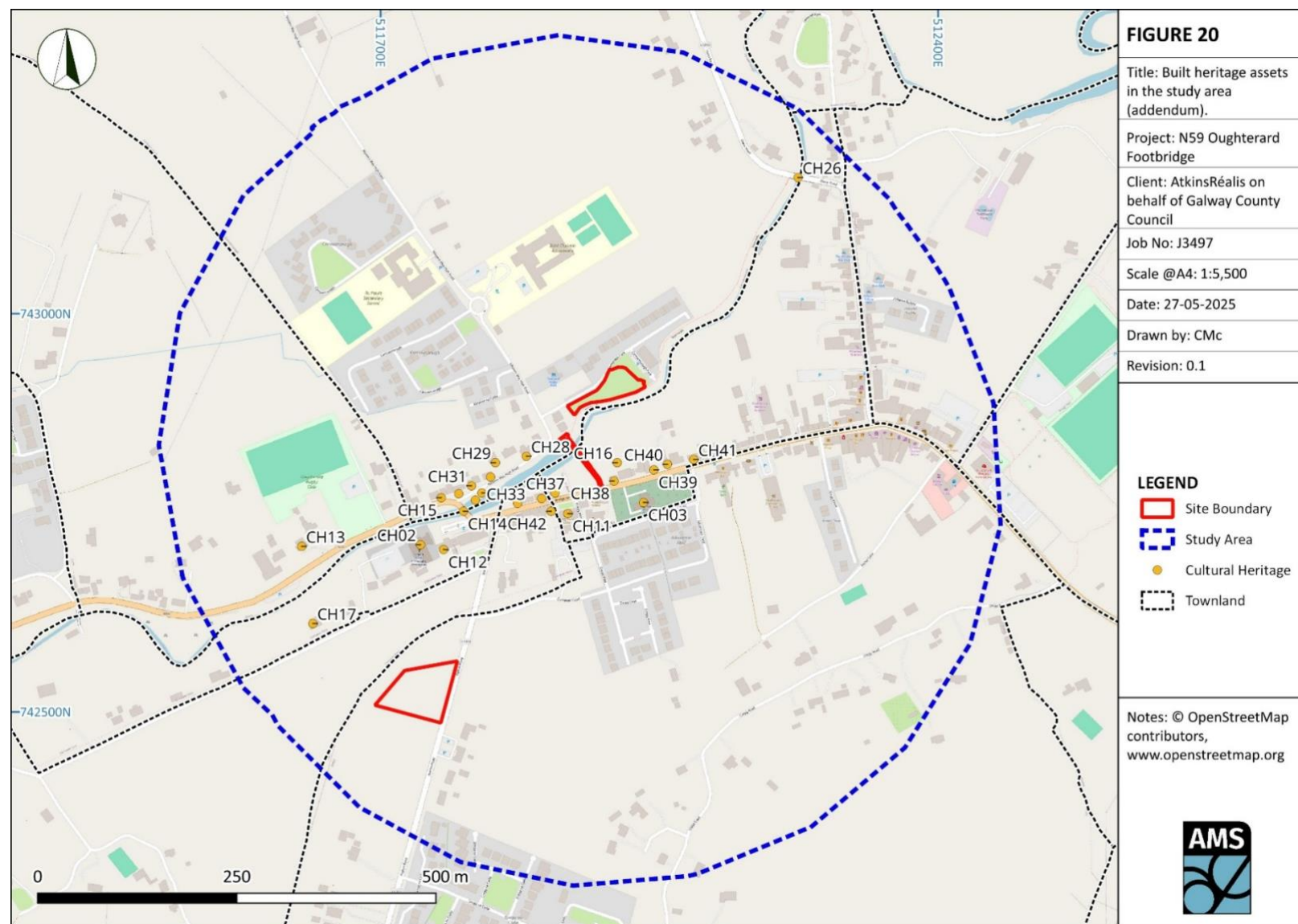


Figure 20: Built heritage assets in the addendum study areas.

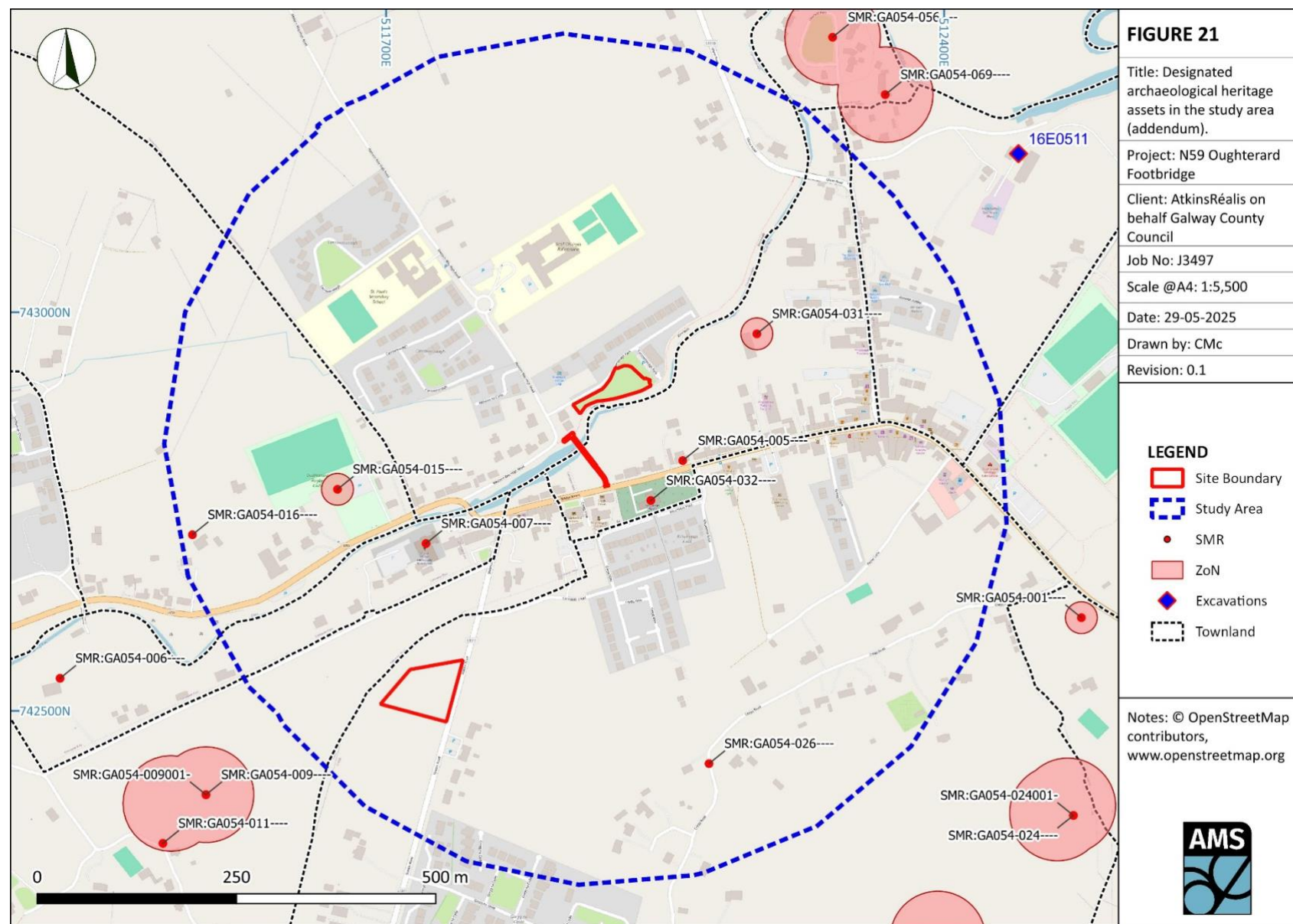


Figure 21: Designated archaeological heritage assets in the study area (addendum).





Figure 23: 1996 satellite imagery showing the construction of Carrowmanagh Park.

Plates



Plate 1: View of existing bridge over the Owenriff River (RPS 3753; NIAH 30326008), facing east.



Plate 2: View of former Oughterard Courthouse (RPS 667; NIAH 30326012), facing southeast.



Plate 3: View of Kilcummin Church (SMR GA055-032----; RPS 666; NIAH 30326013), facing southeast.

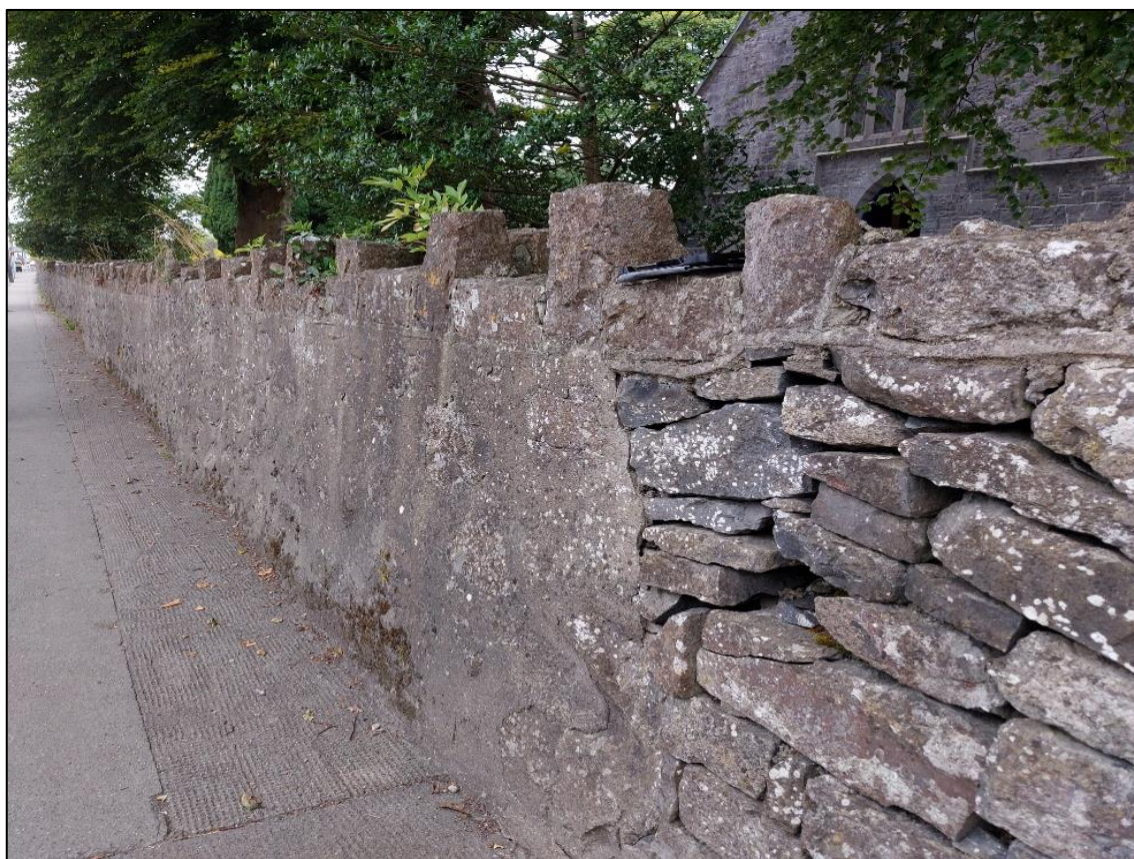


Plate 4: View of boundary wall of Kilcummin Church, facing east.



Plate 5: Modern outfall drain into Owenriff River, facing south.



Plate 6: Flow control features in Owenriff River, facing south.



Plate 7: Nineteenth-century house (CH28) on Western Way High Road, facing northwest.



Plate 8: House (CH29) fronted by old ironwork fencing and rendered footings, facing northwest.



Plate 9: Two-storey house (CH30) with extension to the right, facing northwest.



Plate 10: Group of outbuildings (CH31), facing north.



Plate 11: Former public house (CH32), facing northwest.



Plate 12: Landing platform and steps (CH33) leading to Owenriff River, facing northeast.



Plate 13: Riverside wall (CH34) abutting existing bridge over Owenriff River.



Plate 14: Twentieth-century house (CH35) on Bridge Street, facing northeast.



Plate 15: One-storey house (CH36) on Bridge Street, facing northwest.



Plate 16: Late nineteenth to early twentieth-century urban vernacular house (CH37), on Bridge Street, facing northeast.



Plate 17: Two-storey nineteenth-century house (CH38) on Bridge Street, facing northeast.



Plate 18: Single-storey vernacular house (CH39) on Bridge Street, facing northwest.

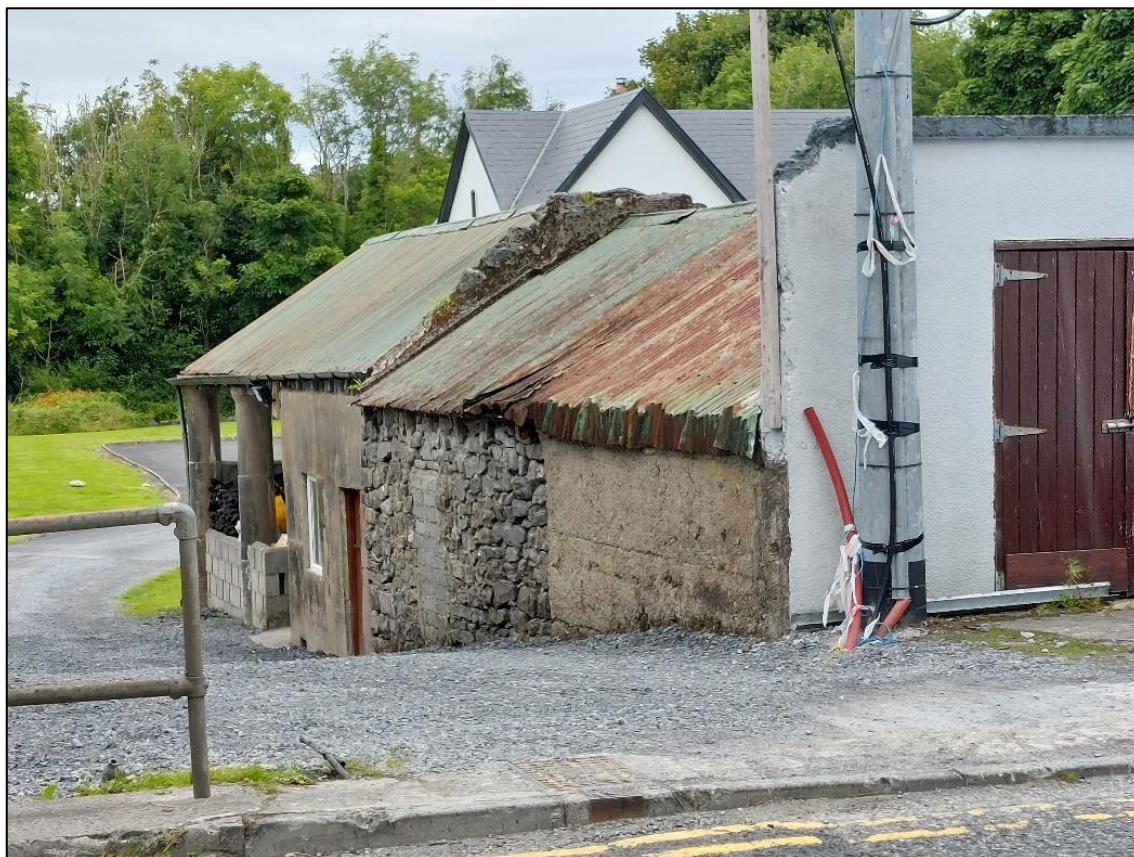


Plate 19: Group of sheds (CH40) on Bridge Street, facing northeast.



Plate 20: Former public house (CH41), facing northeast.

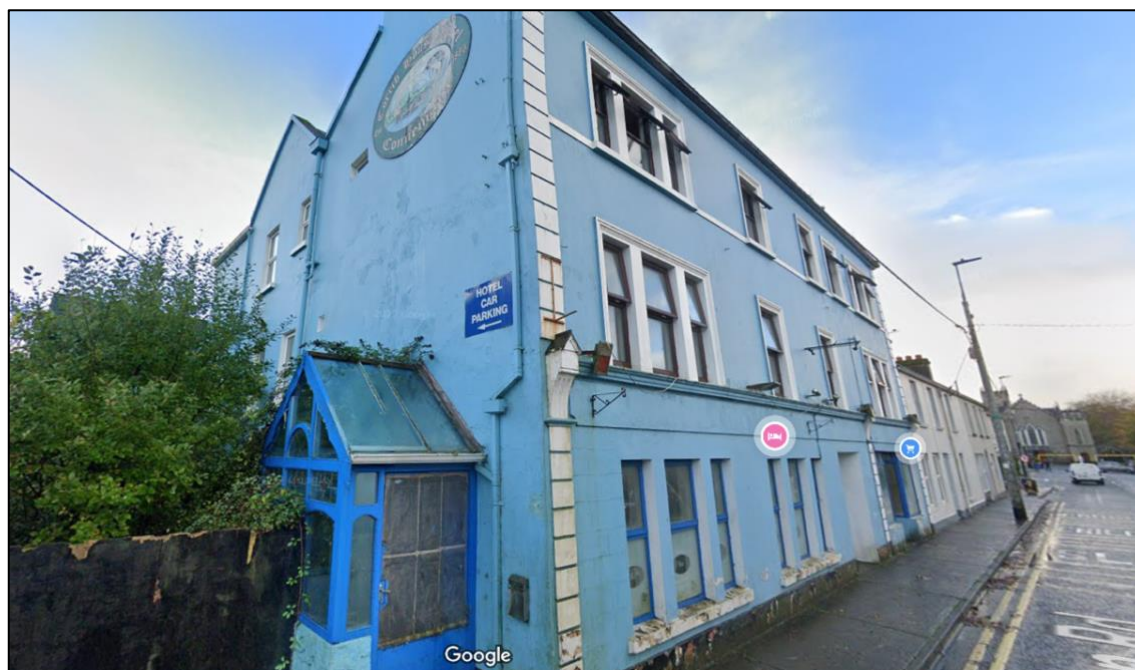


Plate 21: Former hotel on Bridge Street (CH42), facing southwest (© Google Street View 2024).

Appendix 1: Cultural Heritage Inventory

Asset Ref.	CH01
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Ritual site – holy well (St Michael’s Well)
Legal Status	Recorded Monument
Reference No.	GA054-015----
Importance	Medium
Townland	Clare
Coordinates (ITM)	511639, 742778
Description	To north of the Owenriff River on western outskirts of Oughterard. According to O’Flaherty, this well ‘was discovered by revelation about the year 1654’ (Hardiman 1846, 53). It consists of a natural spring, dry at the time of visit, delimited by a D-shaped drystone wall (3.2m by 2m) opening towards NNE. There is a modern alcove on NNW side but the whole structure is now dilapidated and overgrown (O’Flanagan 1927a, Vol. 3, 143a, 143g; Kelly 1897, 379; Killanin 1947, 124).
Source	Historic Environment Viewer. Available at: https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/ [Accessed: 19.08.24].

Asset Ref.	CH02
Category	Archaeological Heritage and Built Heritage
Site Type	Church (Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception)
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the Sites and Monuments Record and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	RPS 670; SMR GA054-007----; NIAH 30326011
Importance	High
Townlands	Canrawer East
Coordinates (ITM)	511750, 742710
Description	Freestanding gable-fronted cruciform Roman Catholic Church, dated 1829, comprising two-bay nave possibly original single-bay, shallow chancel to north end of building. Single-bay transepts, western having three-stage tower to west and later lower sacristy addition to west again with half-hexagonal north half, and eastern transept having two-stage towers to corners. Chapel to south side of west transept, single-bay addition to south side of nave, and recent porch addition to south end of east wall of nave. Flat roofs to south additions, pitched slate roofs elsewhere with moulded limestone eaves course, limestone copings, kneelers and cross finials to gables. Coursed dressed crenellated limestone parapets to towers having pointed finials to corners. Roughcast rendered walls with rendered eaves course and limestone string courses separating stages of towers. Decoratively carved crenellated limestone parapet to chapel. Moulded limestone eaves course to south addition to nave. Date-plaque to north side of west tower. Pointed-arch window openings, having rendered limestone block-and-start surrounds to north elevation and to south side of west transept, and limestone sills. Limestone hood-mouldings throughout, except for towers. Triple-light window to chancel flanked by double-light windows, and triple-light to east elevation, all with limestone tracery, single-light elsewhere. All windows have lead-lined stained-glass windows except for chapel which has plain

	<p>glass. Tudor-arch doorways to east elevation and to east side of chapel, all with timber battened doors. Main entrance set into coursed cut limestone porch having crenellated parapet, flared plinth with moulded string course supporting pilasters to front corners and to Tudor-arch door opening, all pilasters having capitals. Timber battened double-leaf door with decorative strap hinges. Stoups between pilasters. Trussed queen-post roof to interior of nave and transepts, having decorative detailing. Marble reredos to chancel. Painted rendered arches to chancel and to nave side of transepts. Altar, pulpit and baptismal font with marble tiled floor to altar area within ballustrated marble enclosure. Timber pews to nave and transepts with carved timber balcony to south-west transept. Rendered boundary wall to south. East elevation flanked by rock-faced crenellated archways, Tudor-arch to northern vehicular way and pointed-arch to southern pedestrian way. Burials in areas between porch and corner towers, fronted by cut limestone plinth walls with decorative cast-iron railings. Church probably originally entered through west tower.</p>
Appraisal	<p>This attractive structure is a fine example of early nineteenth-century church design which saw a move away from the plain and modest style of earlier churches to larger, more ornate structures. Strategically placed detail seen in features such as the porch, doorway, window openings, plinths, quoins and bellcote creates a visual contrast with the simple form and plan of the building. The evolution of the plan is interesting and the church provides a key focal point for the town, close to the bridge.</p>
Source	<p>National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Building Survey. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].</p>

Asset Ref.	CH03
Category	Archaeological Heritage and Built Heritage
Site Type	Church (Kilcummin Church of Ireland Church)
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the Sites and Monuments Record and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	RPS 666; SMR GA054-032----; NIAH 30326013
Importance	High
Townlands	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512030, 742763
Description	<p>Freestanding Church of Ireland Church, built 1808, comprising original Board of First Fruits two-bay nave and three-stage tower to west, and later chancel, vestry and transepts of 1852. Recent lean-to boiler house addition to south transept. Pitched slate roofs having stone copings to gables, cast-iron rainwater goods, decorative ridge tiles to later part of building, with rendered crenellations to limestone parapet of tower. Rendered walls to original building with tooled limestone string courses separating stages of tower. Clock face with tooled limestone label-moulding to north side of second stage. Later part of building has exposed rubble limestone walls built to courses, with rubble stone buttresses to corners having tooled limestone capping and quoins, tooled limestone string course to lower gables of transepts doubling as label-moulding. Pointed-arch window openings with tooled and chamfered limestone block-and-start surrounds and sills with lead-lined stained-glass windows, double-light to nave and west sides of transepts, traceried four-light to transept gables and traceried five-light to chancel east window. Double-light latticed stained-glass window to east elevation of vestry and replacement timber windows to south. Pointed-arch openings to top stage of tower with timber louvres, trefoil-headed opening to west elevation of bottom stage having replacement window. Pointed-arch door openings to tower and gable of north transept with tooled limestone block-and-</p>

	start surrounds, replacement single- and double-leaf doors, with limestone steps. Tooled and cut limestone doorway to vestry, with tooled threshold and steps and replacement timber door. Painted rendered roof to interior of nave with trussed timber arch-braced king-post roof to transepts. Rendered chancel arch, timber altar and carved timber pulpit. Timber pews to nave and transepts, and timber and metal organ and marble wall plaques. Church located towards west end of small graveyard within crenellated rubble stone enclosing wall with tooled limestone gate piers and decorative cast-iron gates.
Appraisal	With its striking bell tower, this fine Gothic-style church is an attractive part of Oughterard's architectural heritage. It is located in a picturesque graveyard. The church has many interesting features such as the crow-stepped parapet to the bell tower, the finely detailed limestone tracery of the pointed stained-glass windows and the shouldered vestry doorway. The good quality stonework to the exterior is complemented by the arched roof structure, elaborate pulpit and organ. The crenellated stone boundary wall with cast-iron gates on fine ashlar limestone piers attractively complete the setting.
Source	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Building Survey. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].

Asset Ref.	CH04
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Town
Legal Status	Listed in the Sites and Monuments Record
Reference No.	GA054-005----
Importance	Medium
Townland	Canrawer East; Canrawer West; Cregg, Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512072, 742814
Description	<p>Oughterard (<i>Uachtar Ard</i>) is a small town on the banks of the Owenriff River close to the western shore of Lough Corrib in Connemara, County Galway. It is located 26 km northwest of Galway on the N59 road. In 1849, Oughterard Poor Law Union was established to combat the devastating poverty and hunger in the district. A new workhouse was subsequently opened to the south of the town. Most of the lots around Main Street were developed during the early nineteenth century. Many of the buildings would have been either one or two storey, thatched cottages built alongside the Galway to Clifden Road. Some of these thatches still remain. Others have had their roof finish replaced with slate but otherwise retain their walls and window openings. Development along Camp Street to the new army barracks took place at a slower pace to that of Main Street before 1840, but it is evident from the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map that an urban area (The Square) had already taken form by that time.</p> <p>In 1862, the Midland Great Western Railway from Galway to Clifden opened, with Oughterard Station opening in 1895. The railway station was located in the southern outskirts of Oughterard, directly adjacent to the workhouse.</p>

Asset Ref.	CH05
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Ritual site - holy well (Tobernadannia)

Legal Status	Recorded Monument
Reference No.	GA054-031----
Importance	Medium
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512165, 742973
Description	Between Main St, Oughterard, to S and Owenriff River to N. This well was indicated on the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map, but was evidently gone by time of the second-edition map of 1899, when the words 'Site of' were appended. No visible surface trace survives.

Asset Ref.	CH06
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	House - 18th/19th century
Legal Status	Listed in the Sites and Monuments Record
Reference No.	GA054-016----
Importance	Medium
Townlands	Clare
Coordinates (ITM)	511457, 742721
Description	A structure depicted on the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map; no longer extant.

Asset Ref.	CH07
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	House - vernacular house
Legal Status	Listed in the Sites and Monuments Record
Reference No.	GA054-026----
Importance	Medium
Townland	Cregg (Moycullen By.)
Coordinates (ITM)	512105, 742434
Description	A structure depicted on the Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map; no longer extant.

Asset Ref.	CH08
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Area of Archaeological Potential: Owenriff River
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Canrawer East; Canrawer West; Carrowmanagh; Clare; Fough West

Coordinates (ITM)	511838, 742773
Description	Area of Archaeological Potential comprising the Owenriff River, which also defines the boundaries between the townlands of Carrowmanagh and Fough West, Carrowmanagh and Canrawer West, Carrowmanagh and Canrawer East, and Clare and Canrawer East.

Asset Ref.	CH09
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Clachan (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Cregg
Coordinates (ITM)	512008, 742344
Description	Clachan shown on Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map, where 42 structures are depicted. The last-edition six-inch maps show 28 structures in this area, with the Union Workhouse to the west. Structures are no longer extant and the area has been redeveloped.

Asset Ref.	CH10
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Limekiln (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Cregg (Moycullen By.)
Coordinates (ITM)	511889, 742360
Description	Site of a limekiln labelled on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map. No longer extant.

Asset Ref.	CH11
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Oughterard Courthouse (now Oughterard Library)
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	RPS 667; NIAH 30326012
Importance	High
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	511935, 742749
Description (RPS)	Detached seven-bay double height courthouse with part basement and recessed entrance bays at both ends, designed by William Caldbeck, c1840. The exterior is rendered, ruled and lined and has limestone dressings including strings, pedimented doorcases and entablatures to upper floor window opes. Eaves course altered. The interior altered, c1960. Set behind cast iron railing on plinth.

Description (NIAH)	Detached five-bay two-storey courthouse, built 1835; now in use as library. Having recessed single-bay flat-roof porches to ends and slightly advanced end bays. Hipped slate roof, red brick chimneystack with render coping, cast-iron rainwater goods with tooled limestone corbels to frieze with render course below. Tooled limestone cornice above render frieze to porches. Rendered walls, with tooled channelled limestone to ground floor of end bays. Tooled limestone sill course to first floor, wrapping around end walls of main block. Square-headed openings to first floor front and rear, having carved limestone surrounds to front with frieze and cornice, and six-over-nine pane timber sliding sash windows. Camber-headed openings to ground floor of end bays with tooled limestone sills, recessed limestone reveals and voussoirs and eight-over-eight pane timber sliding sash windows. Recessed blind square-headed openings to middle bays of ground floor flanking window with limestone sill and fixed four-pane timber window. Square-headed window openings to rear of porches having tooled limestone sills and four-over-four pane timber sliding sash windows. Blind round-headed opening to east side of porch having tooled limestone sill. Round-headed opening to west porch having spoked fanlight over sill course. Blocked square-headed half-basement window opening to west porch having tooled limestone surround. Square-headed door openings to front of porches having tooled limestone surrounds comprising pilasters and frieze, with scroll brackets supporting pediment, and having replacement timber panelled door with side panel and overlight to east porch and timber panelled double-leaf door to west porch with flagstone approach. Forecourt to front with coursed rubble plinth wall and dressed coursed limestone piers with pyramidal caps, and decorative cast-iron railings and gates.
Appraisal	This former courthouse, in the style of William Caldbeck, is a good example of a smaller urban courthouse. The fine moulded detailing, such as the classical surrounds at its front window openings, the pedimented doorcases and the retention of its varied timber sash windows, makes it a well-preserved landmark building. This is reinforced by its setting, with its attractive boundary wall, railings and gates.
Source	Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028. Available at: https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/adopted-galway-county-development-plan-2022-2028/chapter/appendix-6-record-protected-structures [Accessed: 20.08.24]. NIAH. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].

Asset Ref.	CH12
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Oughterard National school
Legal Status	Protected Structure
Reference No.	RPS 669
Importance	High
Townland	Canrawer East
Coordinates (ITM)	511779, 742704
Description	Detached seven-bay two-storey national school with hipped roof, gabled breakfront and rendered facade, dated 1888. Windows refitted. Set within church grounds, no longer in use as school.
Source	Galway County Development Plan: Available at: https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/adopted-galway-county-development-plan-2022-2028/chapter/appendix-6-record-protected-structures

	plan-2022-2028/chapter/appendix-6-record-protected-structures [Accessed: 20.08.24].
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Asset Ref.	CH13
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House (Wellpark House)
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	3752; 30326007
Importance	High
Townland	Clare
Coordinates (ITM)	511601, 742708
Description (NIAH)	Detached three-bay two-storey house built 1870, with recent two-storey gabled addition to rear. Pitched artificial slate roof with lined-and-ruled rendered chimneystacks, projecting roughcast rendered eaves, and replacement aluminium rainwater goods. Smooth rendered walls except for end bays of front elevation, front elevation also having vertical render plat bands to ends and flanking middle bay, chamfered limestone plinth, and limestone sill course to first floor. Square-headed window openings, front elevation having timber sliding sash windows, tripartite one-over-one pane to ground floor with limestone sills, and six-over-six pane to first floor, all with raised render surrounds. Replacement uPVC windows to gables and to rear extension, with raised render surrounds and concrete sills. Segmental-headed door opening to front with timber panelled door having sidelights with panelled stall risers and spoked fanlight. Two-storey rubble limestone outbuilding to north-east with pitched slate roof with chimneystack. Rubble limestone boundary wall to road with wrought-iron double-leaf gates to cut limestone piers from public road.
Appraisal (NIAH)	This pleasant house is simply articulated by vertical plat bands to a well-balanced front elevation. The building is enhanced by the retention of original sash windows to the front and the imposing doorcase. The house and outbuildings are attractively sited in mature grounds.
Source	NIAH. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].

Asset Ref.	CH14
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Bridge
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	3753; 30326008
Importance	High
Townland	Canrawer East; Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511804, 742752
Description (NIAH)	Triple-span rubble limestone road bridge, dated 1820. Segmental arches with tooled voussoirs with raised keystones. Gunnelled soffits with rendered plinths for arch springing. Tooled V-cutwaters to river piers with pyramidal caps, on rendered bases. Roughly coursed hammer-dressed stonework to parapets with crenellated copings.

Appraisal (NIAH)	This fine stone bridge is a significant and picturesque landmark on the River Owenriff. The fine cutwaters and arch voussoirs display good masonry, serving to illustrate the high quality of construction that allows the bridge to continue to fulfil its original function in the twenty-first century.
Source	NIAH. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].

Asset Ref.	CH15
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Water pump
Legal Status	Protected Structure; listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	3755; 30326019
Importance	High
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511776, 742769
Description (NIAH)	Free-standing cast-iron water hydrant, installed 1860, having moulded base, fluted shaft, moulded neck and domed cap with moulding and fluting, with acorn finial. Plain cast spout, moulded knob-handle, and with bucket stand to base. Sited adjacent to front boundary wall of house.
Appraisal (NIAH)	This intact cast-iron water hydrant makes an important contribution to the streetscape. The fluted casting provides artistic detail, further enlivened by the acorn finial. It is now rare to find such a good example in our townscapes.
Source	NIAH. Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/ [Accessed: 18.09.24].

Asset Ref.	CH16
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Oughterard Architectural Conservation Area
Legal Status	Architectural Conservation Area
Importance	High
Townland	Canrawer East; Canrawer West; Clare; Carrowmanagh; Cregg, Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	511997, 742813
Description	<p>Claremount (or Clareville) on the west of the river was the home of the Martin family who acquired immense lands following the Cromwellian upheavals. Road improvements between Galway and Clifden in the 1820s, directed by the famous Alexander Nimmo, included a triple arch masonry stone bridge over the Owenriff River. It would appear that most of the lots around Main Street were developed during this period. Main Street continues west from the square; Kilcummin Church of Ireland church was built along its length on the south side, in 1808, with the courthouse nearby, built 1840. The vista to the west along the street was closed in 1829 with the erection of the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The school in its foreground dates from 1888.</p> <p>The railway station, built in 1862, failed to attract significant development towards it, situated as it was to the southwest of the town. Adjacent to it was the large area occupied by the Union Workhouse. The further extension to Clifden did not occur until 1895. While parts of the original Station building and platform structure still</p>

	remain, the Galway/Clifden line fell into gradual disuse after the closing of the line in the 1930s. The town retains many significant buildings which reflect the circumstances and the period in which they were built, whilst others, such as the workhouse, have disappeared. Other important buildings such as the railway station have been adapted to other uses. Oughterard's location as a gateway to tourist-based enterprises, dating from the mid-nineteenth century, is reflected in the survival of significant three storey buildings, with rendered exterior decoration. Terraces of two storey houses (some with basement) reflect a coherent approach to development in the mid to late nineteenth century along the north side of Main Street. Interspersed amongst these are single storey houses.
Source:	Galway County Development Plan: Available at: https://consult.galway.ie/en/consultation/adopted-galway-county-development-plan-2022-2028/chapter/appendix-7-architectural-conservation-areas [Accessed: 20.08.2024].

Asset Ref.	CH17
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Reference No.	30326010
Importance	Medium
Townland	Canrawer East
Coordinates (ITM)	511615, 742611
Description (NIAH)	Detached three-bay two-storey house, built 1840, with two-storey extension to middle of rear and recent box-bay window to east gable. Hipped slate roof with roughcast rendered chimneystacks, projecting rendered eaves and replacement uPVC rainwater goods. Flat roof to extension. Roughcast rendered walls with rendered plinth. Square-headed window openings having timber sliding sash windows, eight-over-eight pane to front elevation, and mainly two-over-two pane and some replacement timber casement windows to rear, all having limestone or concrete sills. Elliptical-headed door opening to front, having replacement timber panelled door flanked by six-pane sidelights and timber panelled stall risers, with spoked fanlight, and block-and-start render surround. Recent limestone and concrete steps. Square-headed door openings with timber panelled double-leaf doors to west gable. Avenue to southwest and decorative wrought-iron double-leaf gates on rubble limestone pillars with and rubble limestone boundary walls.
Appraisal (NIAH)	The form of this attractive former farmhouse is typical of mid-nineteenth-century middle-sized rural houses. The house retains many original features including the wide fanlight doorway and varied timber sash windows. Its prominent siting, in its own grounds, enhances the building.
Reference	NIAH Available at: https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/ [Accessed: 20.08.24].

Asset Ref.	CH18
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Salmon weir (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated

Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511758, 742773
Description	Salmon weir indicated on Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map.

Asset Ref.	CH19
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Salmon weir (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511936, 742891
Description	Salmon weir indicated on Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map.

Asset Ref.	CH20
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Salmon weir (site of)
Legal Status	Low
Importance	Unknown
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	512042, 742972
Description	Salmon weir indicated on Ordnance Survey first-edition six-inch map.

Asset Ref.	CH21
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	OS benchmark (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Canrawer East
Coordinates (ITM)	511809, 742751
Description	Ordnance Survey benchmark depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map.

Asset Ref.	CH22
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	OS benchmark (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low

Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512041, 742767
Description	Ordnance Survey benchmark depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map.

Asset Ref.	CH23
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	OS benchmark (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Townland	Cregg
Importance	Low
Coordinates (ITM)	512389, 742836
Description	Ordnance Survey benchmark depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map.

Asset Ref.	CH24
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	OS benchmark (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	512217, 743171
Description	Ordnance Survey benchmark depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map.

Asset Ref.	CH25
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	OS benchmark (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511688, 743184
Description	Ordnance Survey benchmark depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map.

Asset Ref.	CH26
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Bridge
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh, Fough West

Coordinates (ITM)	512224, 743171
Description	Bridge depicted on Ordnance Survey six-inch Cassini map; extant and inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH27
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Oughterard Union Workhouse (site of)
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Cregg
Coordinates (ITM)	511858, 742309
Description	Oughterard Union Workhouse, which was constructed between 1848 and 1850; the Workhouse was opened in 1852 at a cost of £7,000. It was built to house a maximum capacity of 600 inmates, but the highest population recorded was 286 inmates in 1853. The workhouse was burned in 1922 by anti-treaty forces. The site is now occupied by a housing estate.

Asset Ref.	CH28
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511883, 742821
Description	Nineteenth-century house shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps on Western Way High Road to the northwest of the river. The structure, which was inspected during the Walkover Survey, is bounded by well-crafted preserved railings and a gate upon carved ashlar bases.

Asset Ref.	CH29
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511844, 742813
Description	Well-built house with ashlar quoins, fronted by old ironwork fencing and rendered footings; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH30
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Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511838, 742795
Description	Two-storey house shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps with modern extension; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH31
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Outbuildings
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511814, 742784
Description	Group of outbuildings inspected during Walkover Survey, possibly related to river activities such as fishing.

Asset Ref.	CH32
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511814, 742784
Description	A former public house depicted on historical Ordnance Survey maps and inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH33
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Stone landing platform and steps
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511827, 742775

Description	Stone landing platform and steps leading from Western Way High Road to Owenriff River; inspected during Walkover Survey.
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Asset Ref.	CH34
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Boundary wall
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Carrowmanagh
Coordinates (ITM)	511819, 742766
Description	Riverside boundary wall depicted on historical Ordnance Survey maps; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH35
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Canrawer West
Coordinates (ITM)	511872, 742762
Description	Twentieth-century house inspected during Walkover Survey that was in use as a shop in the 1920s. Now derelict and proposed for demolition.

Asset Ref.	CH36
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Canrawer West
Coordinates (ITM)	511902, 742768
Description	One-storey residential building depicted on Ordnance Survey Cassini map; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH37
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low

Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	511919, 742775
Description	Two-story urban vernacular townhouse dating from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. The structure, which is depicted on historical Ordnance Survey maps, was inspected during the Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH38
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	511993, 742790
Description	Two-storey nineteenth-century house shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH39
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512043, 742804
Description	Single-storey vernacular structure shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH40
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Sheds
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512060, 742811
Description	Group of sheds depicted on Ordnance Survey Cassini map; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH41
Category	Built Heritage

Site Type	House
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Fough West
Coordinates (ITM)	512093, 742817
Description	Former public house dating to the nineteenth-century shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH42
Category	Built Heritage
Site Type	Hotel
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Canrawer West
Coordinates (ITM)	511914, 742752
Description	Former hotel dating to the nineteenth-century shown on historical Ordnance Survey maps; inspected during Walkover Survey.

Asset Ref.	CH43
Category	Archaeological Heritage
Site Type	Area of Archaeological Potential: Station Road
Legal Status	Undesignated
Importance	Low
Townland	Cregg
Coordinates (ITM)	511749, 742524
Description	Area of Archaeological Potential comprising a greenfield area to the east of Station Road. Historic Ordnance Survey depicts this area as grazing associated with a nearby clachan settlement (CH09).

Appendix 2: Potential Notification, Licence and Consent Requirements⁴⁵

Cultural Heritage Asset	Potential Notification, Licence & Consent Requirements	Programming Requirement
Works at or in relation to a Recorded Monument or Registered Monument	Notification to the Minister under Section 12(3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 (Recorded Monument) and Section 5(8) of National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987 (Register of Historic Monuments). Section 26 Archaeological Licence. Where relevant Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence. Where relevant Section 2 Detection Device Licence (for Metal Detection or Geophysical Surveys).	Notification form must be completed and submitted to the National Monuments Service at least 2 months before any work is carried out at a Recorded Monument (listed on the RMP) or Registered Monument (listed on the RHM). Allow minimum 4 weeks for processing and issue of Section 26 Archaeological Licence, and where relevant for Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence and Section 2 Detection Device Licence.
Works at or in proximity to a National Monument	Section 14 Ministerial Consent.	Allow minimum 6 weeks for processing and issue of Consent in advance of development.
Asset listed in the SMR	Section 26 Archaeological Licence. Where relevant Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence. Where relevant Section 2 Detection Device Licence (for Metal Detection or Geophysical Surveys).	Allow minimum 4 weeks for processing and issue of Section 26 Archaeological Licence, and where relevant for Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence and Section 2 Detection Device Licence.
Protected Structure	May be subject to Section 14 Ministerial Consent (where/if also considered a national monument in the ownership/guardianship of the local authority) or Section 26 Archaeological Licence. May be subject to Section 5 Exempted Development Declaration or planning permission. May be subject to Section 57 Declaration.	Allow minimum 6 weeks for processing and issue of Consent in advance of development; allow minimum 4 weeks for processing and issue of Section 26 Archaeological Licence. Allow sufficient time for reporting and preparation of information to support Section 5 and/or Section 57 application detail.
Asset listed on the NIAH Building Survey	May be subject to Section 14 Ministerial Consent or Section 26 Archaeological Licence (where/if also considered a national monument in the ownership/guardianship of the local authority or where also included/protected on a statutory list).	Allow minimum 6 weeks for processing and issue of Consent in advance of development (if required); allow minimum 4 weeks for processing and issue of Section 26 Archaeological Licence.
Undesignated Cultural Heritage Asset	May be subject to Section 26 Archaeological Licence. May be subject to Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence. May be subject to Section 2 Detection Device Licence (for Metal Detection or Geophysical Surveys).	Allow minimum 4 weeks for processing and issue of Section 26 Archaeological Licence, Section 3 Underwater Dive/Survey Licence and Section 2 Detection Device Licence.

⁴⁵ This licencing regime will change when the relevant provisions of the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 (the Act) are fully commenced.