

15 ARCHAEOLOGY, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

15.1 Introduction

The development involves taking up to 75,000m³ of peat from the onshore pipeline development and depositing it within the existing Srahmore Peat Deposition site. The development consists of utilising remaining void space within the permitted activity boundary of the Srahmore Peat Deposition Site to accommodate up to 75,000m³ of peat from the onshore pipeline construction.

This study was carried out as part of an EIA, in order to address in advance any archaeological issues that may arise in the course of the development.

This section has been prepared taking account of the original Archaeological field survey work conducted by ADS Ltd. in 2003 and site specific monitoring undertaken by ADS Ltd. in 2004 and 2005. The peat deposition is to be undertaken within the activity boundary of the previous investigation and therefore this Archaeological information remains relevant and valid.

15.2 Methodology

This assessment involved detailed investigation of the archaeological, architectural and historical background of the peat deposition site including the immediate surrounding area to a distance of 5km from the site boundary. The assessment of the archaeological heritage was based on a desktop study of published and unpublished documentary and cartographic sources. This included the following:

- A review of the schedule of buildings and items of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest that are listed for protection in the study area from Mayo County Council source;
- A review of Mayo County Development Plan 2008 -2014;
- Field Survey;
- Journal & documentary research;
- Cartographic research;
- Aerial photographic research;
- Search of Records of Monuments and Places (RMP); and
- Search of Topographic Files, Irish Antiquities Division, National Museum of Ireland (NMI).

Consultation

As part of the compilation of this project consultation took place with the Development Applications Section - The Heritage and Planning Division, DoEHLG. To date no response has been received.

15.3 Existing Environment

The development involves taking up to 75,000m³ of peat from the onshore pipeline development and depositing it within the existing Srahmore Peat Deposition site. The existing Srahmore peat deposition site is located in Bord na Móna industrial peatland in the townland of Srahmore (An Srath Mór) immediately northwest of the small town of Bangor (Baingear), County Mayo (I gContae Maigh Eo). The Srahmore Peat Deposition site forms part of the Bangor Bogs which are part of the Bord na Móna group of bogs known as the Oweninny Group.

15.3.1 National Monuments

An archaeological monument may be a 'National Monument' if it is the care or ownership of the Minister or a Local Authority or is the subject of a preservation order. A list of National Monuments is available on the www.archaeology.ie website. This data set, assessed for County Mayo along with the Mayo County Development Plan 2008-2014, was used to ensure that all potential National Monuments in the vicinity of the site were recorded. There are no National Monuments within 5km of the existing peat deposition site.

15.3.2 Architectural Heritage

The Record of Protected Structures (RPS) for County Mayo was reviewed. There are no RPS sites within the existing peat deposition site or within 5km of the site boundary listed in the RPS for County Mayo. There are no survey results for County Mayo in the Buildings of Ireland; National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) database.

15.3.3 Field Survey

Field Inspection

A field inspection survey seeks to verify the location and extent of known cultural heritage sites and to record the location and extent of any newly identified features. A field inspection should also endeavour to identify any areas of archaeological potential with no above ground visibility (e.g. wetland areas, river crossings, areas between concentrations of upstanding features) and architectural features that are not recorded in the RPS or National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) but add to the distinctiveness of a region. The Srahmore Peat Deposition site forms part of the Bangor Bogs which are part of the Bord na Móna group of bogs known as the Oweninny Group. The 2003 Peatland Survey was carried out in the Oweninny Group by ADS Ltd in August and September 2003. ADS Ltd also undertook specific monitoring at the Srahmore peat deposition site from 14th December 2004 to 12th March 2005. The peat deposition is to be undertaken within the activity boundary of the previous investigation and therefore this Archaeological information remains relevant and valid.

Field Survey October 2003

The site of the development was systematically fieldwalked in October 2003 by Archaeologists Jane Whitaker, Daire Leahy and Giles Dawkes of Ads Ltd. Both of the bog areas (Area 5 & 6) were systematically fieldwalked at this time. Each drain was walked starting in the northwestern extent of Area 6. When the development area was extended Area 7 was walked in December 2003 by Archaeologists Daire Leahy and Mark Morahan, ADS Ltd. This area was included as a flood plain should exceptional rainfall levels occur.

The drains provide regular section faces through the bog to facilitate archaeological inspection. During fieldwalking the drain faces and field surfaces are investigated for archaeological remains. The anaerobic conditions in wetland environments favour the preservation of organic materials such as wood, leather, textiles and even human bodies. The 2003 Peatland Survey was carried out in the Oweninny Group by ADS Ltd., in August and September 2003. The Bord na Móna bogs around both Béal Átha Liag (Bellacorick) and Baingear (Bangor) were all systematically fieldwalked and no sites or finds of archaeological interest were recorded during the course of this work (Whitaker, forthcoming).

Area 6 is accessible along its southern boundary from the Geesala road. The drains run in an east-northeast/west-southwest direction in this area. Nothing of archaeological importance was recorded in this Area 6.

Area 5 is accessible from the Belmullet road and the drains run in a northeast/southwest direction. Nothing of archaeological importance was recorded in this area.

Area 7 was accessed from the rail line that runs along the western extent of Area 6. Nothing of archaeological importance was recorded in this area

There is an area of reclaimed bogland to the southeast of Area 5 and to the east of Area 6 between the Geesala and Belmullet roads which will not be affected during the course of the development.

Field Monitoring 2004 and 2005

Monitoring of groundworks associated with the initial stage of this development was completed from December 2004 to March 2005. This monitoring work consisted of excavations of five settlement ponds, access roads, administrative area, peat reception area and three major drains. Nothing of archaeological interest was noted in this area during these excavations, in addition no deposits or objects were found during any of the drainage works. Refer to Appendix 15.1 for the Monitoring Report.

In conclusion, there was nothing of archaeological significance identified during either the field walk survey or during monitoring at the peat deposition site.

Documentary research did not reveal any recorded monuments on or in the immediate vicinity of the site however the archaeological and historical background for the area shows that there are a number of recorded monuments surrounding the Bangor bogs, 18 of which are within a 5km range of the existing peat deposition site (Refer to Table 15.1).

15.3.4 Journal & documentary research

Various published sources, including local and national journals, were consulted for reference to the townlands of An Srath Mór (Srahmore), Áit an Bhaile (Attavally) and Baingear (Bangor). In addition various archaeological artefact corpora were also consulted.

15.3.5 General Historical Background

The site of the existing Peat Deposition Site is located on the outskirts of the town of Baingear (Bangor) in the Barony of Iorras (Erris), I gContae County Maigh Eo (Mayo).

Erris

The word Iorras has been variously interpreted throughout history as meaning “a borderland, a headland or promontory, a peninsula”. The name appears as “Irrus Domnann” (Iorras of the people called Domnann) in a great many Irish sources. Perhaps the most notable in an 11th Century manuscript known as “Lebor na Huidre” (the Book of the dun Cow). Erris was dominated by various families throughout the Medieval Period, principally the O’Dowds until after the Norman invasion when the Barretts and Burkes, both Norman families established themselves as Barons of Erris. In the late 16th Century, Mayo as a County became established and ten “Baronies” were created to act as administrative centres for the then ruling English. Erris (then known as Invermore) came under the governorship of Sir Henry Sidney who appointed Sherrifs and Officials. They in turn introduced landlords who were allowed to take estates under grants from the English Crown. The Plantation of the 17th century brought new families to Erris and the local people were banished from place to place.

Bangor

Bangor Erris gets its name from the Gaelic *Beann Chor*, which means *Ridge of Mountain Peaks*. The original name for the townland was *Doire Choineadaigh* (The Wood of the Kennedys) a name found in maps from 1724 to 1829. John O Donovan in the Ordnance Survey name books also called the place *Coineadach*. James Mc Parlan in his survey of the locality called the place Cahel and stated that fairs were held there regularly. Locally the place was known as *Aonach Cathail* (Cathal’s Fair) because a wealthy buyer of that name attended fairs here. The name Bangor (*Beann Chor*) was given to the town by Major Dennis Bingham who established the town there.

Baingear (Bangor) is a village, in the parish of Kiltane, barony of Iorras (Erris), I gContae Maigh Eo (County of Mayo) and province of Connaught, 10 miles (E.S.E.) from Béal an Mhuirthead (Belmullet); the population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the road from Castlebar to Belmullet, and contains two comfortable inns. Fairs are held on the 20th of Jan., Feb., March, and April, May 10th, June 11th, July 20th, Aug. 11th, Sept. 8th, Oct. 16th, Nov. 16th, and Dec. 11th; and here is a station of the constabulary police. (Lewis, Topographical Survey, 1837).

Baingear (Bangor) was a good site for a town. It was at the crossroads of two old roads, which were in use from the mid eighteenth century. One of these was from Carne to Castlebar, the other from An tInbhear (Inver) to Baile U Fhiacháin. Both these roads were repaired by order of the County assizes in 1793. The townland was also sheltered from the north winds and situated on the banks of the Owenmore River.

In 1823 Major Bingham was granted a patent to hold fairs in the town. By the 1830's the place was described as a little town with 'two comfortable inns.' The fairs were held on the 20th January, February, March and April, the 10th May, the 11th June, the 20th July, the 11th of August, the 8th, September, 8th October, 16th November and 11th December.

There is evidence that the place was inhabited several thousand years ago - a megalithic Court Tomb (MA026-04) is situated close to the village of Baingear (Bangor) located approximately 0.95km from the existing peat deposition site boundary. The monument stands in a sloping pasture field on a fertile ridge between Carrafull Hill and the Owenmore River. This archaeological monument is very ruined and consists of several set stones and some prostrate ones incorporated in a roughly oval shaped mound, about one metre high.

A way marked walking route called the Bangor Trail starts in the village of Bangor and follows a route over the Nephin Beg mountain range to Newport. This route was originally a cattle drover's trail. It is difficult to put a definite date on how long this route has been in existence but it has attracted the interest of travellers for many centuries. Dr. Pococke visited it in 1752, Caesar Otway in 1837 and Robert Lloyd Praeger early in the 20th century.

15.3.6 Records of Monuments and Places (RMP)

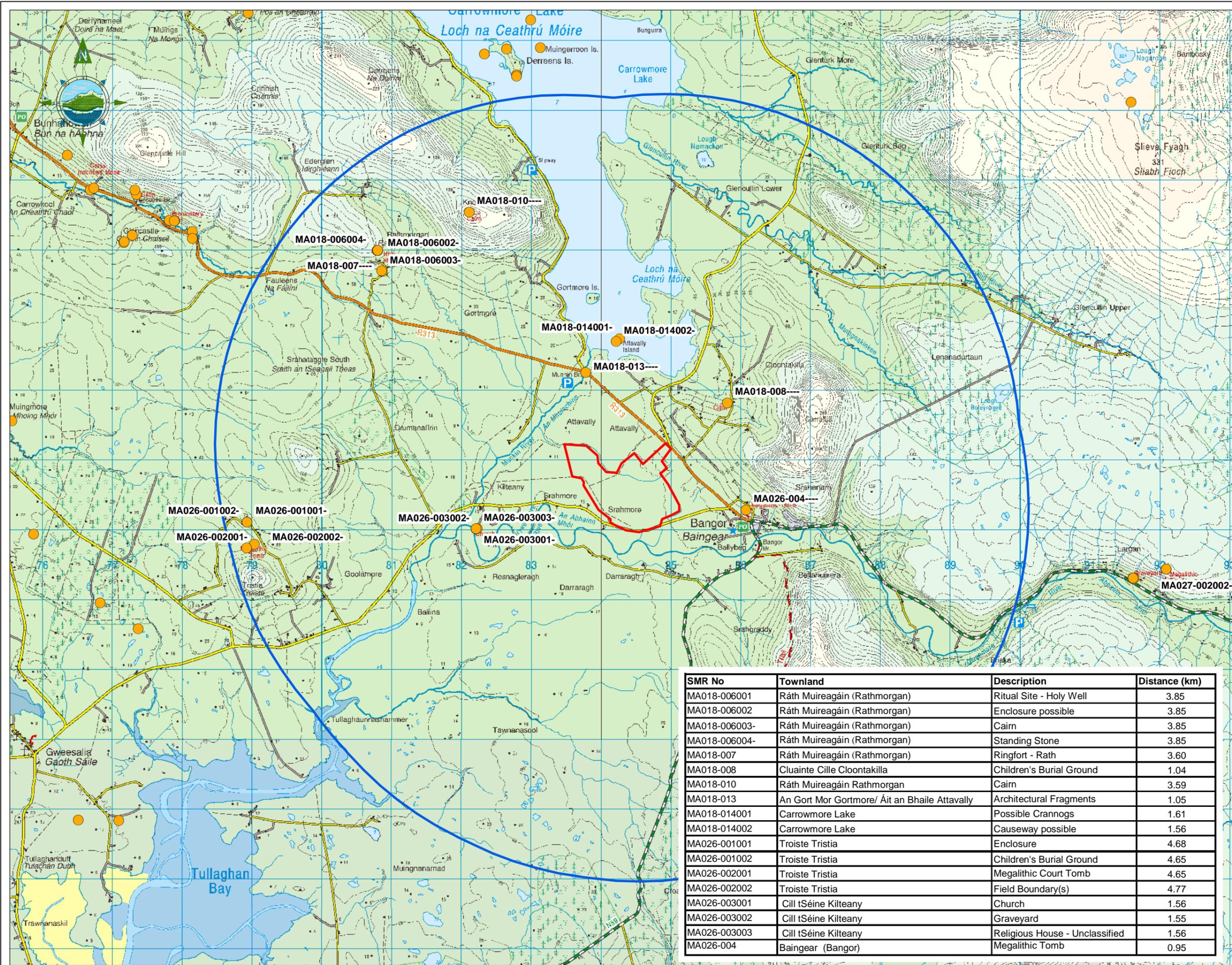
The RMP is a database recording all archaeological sites in Ireland known to the National Monuments Service established under Section 12 of the 1994 National Monuments (Amendment) Act. It is based on Ordnance Survey 6" sheets, which indicate the location of each monument or place of archaeological interest. For each, a file contains further documentary and photographic data or information relating to an archaeological event such as a site visit, survey or excavation. These are housed in the National Monuments Services in Dublin. The record is constantly updated and focuses on monuments that pre-date 1700.

The following RMP's in the surrounding townlands are included to highlight the type of sites, which survive in the general area. It should be stressed that none of these monuments are directly affected by this development. Refer to Table 15.1 below and Figure 15.1 for details of archaeological monuments located in close proximity to the existing peat deposition site.

Table 15.1: Archaeological Monuments in Vicinity of the Peat Deposition Site

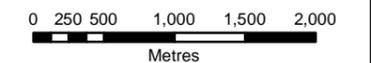
RMP No	Townland	Description	Distance from Site (km)
MA018-006001	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Ritual Site - Holy Well	3.85
MA018-006002	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Enclosure possible	3.85
MA018-006003	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Cairn	3.85
MA018-006004	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Standing Stone	3.85
MA018-007	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Ringfort - Rath	3.60
MA018-008	Cluainte Cille (Cloontakilla)	Children's Burial Ground	1.04
MA018-010	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Cairn	3.59
MA018-013	An Gort Mor (Gortmore)/ Áit an Bhaile (Attavally)	Architectural Fragments	1.05
MA018-014001	Carrowmore Lake	Possible Crannogs	1.61
MA018-014002	Carrowmore Lake	Causeway possible	1.56
MA026-001002	Troiste (Tristia)	Children's Burial Ground	4.65
MA026-002001	Troiste (Tristia)	Megalithic Court Tomb	4.65
MA026-002002	Troiste (Tristia)	Field Boundary(s)	4.77
MA026-003001	Cill tSéine (Kilteany)	Church	1.56
MA026-003002	Cill tSéine (Kilteany)	Graveyard	1.55
MA026-003003	Cill tSéine (Kilteany)	Religious House - Unclassified	1.56
MA026-004	Baingear (Bangor)	Megalithic Tomb	0.95
MA026-001001	Troiste Tristia	Enclosure	4.68

No RMP sites are located within the peat deposition site. The nearest recorded monument to the existing peat deposition site is a “Megalithic Tomb” (ME026-004) which is located approximately 0.95km (950m) from the existing peat deposition site boundary in the townland of Baingear (Bangor). Refer to Appendix 15.2 for further details on RMP sites in the vicinity of the site.



Legend

- Site Boundary
- 5km Buffer
- RMP Sites



- NOTES**
1. FIGURED DIMENSIONS ONLY TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS DRAWING
 2. ALL DRAWINGS TO BE CHECKED BY THE CONTRACTOR ON SITE
 3. ENGINEER TO BE INFORMED OF ANY DISCREPANCIES BEFORE ANY WORK COMMENCES
 4. ALL LEVELS RELATE TO ORDNANCE SURVEY DATUM AT MALIN HEAD

Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd.
F	14.05.10	ISSUED FOR RE-SUBMISSION	A.G.	S.F.

Applicant: Shell E&P Ireland Limited
Corrib House, 52 Leeson Street Lower,
Dublin 2, Republic of Ireland

Operator: **BORD NA MÓNA**

Project: **CORRIB ONSHORE PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT**

Aspect: **SRAHMORE PEAT DEPOSITION SITE**

Title: **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

Scale @ A3: **1:50,000**

Prepared by: A.Gruschka Checked: S.Finlay Date: May 2010

Project Director: S.Finlay

TOBIN
Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd.
Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie

SMR No	Townland	Description	Distance (km)
MA018-006001	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Ritual Site - Holy Well	3.85
MA018-006002	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Enclosure possible	3.85
MA018-006003-	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Cairn	3.85
MA018-006004-	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Standing Stone	3.85
MA018-007	Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan)	Ringfort - Rath	3.60
MA018-008	Cluainte Cille Cloontakilla	Children's Burial Ground	1.04
MA018-010	Ráth Muireagáin Rathmorgan	Cairn	3.59
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MA026-001001	Troiste Tristia	Enclosure	4.68
MA026-001002	Troiste Tristia	Children's Burial Ground	4.65
MA026-002001	Troiste Tristia	Megalithic Court Tomb	4.65
MA026-002002	Troiste Tristia	Field Boundary(s)	4.77
MA026-003001	Cill tSéine Kilteany	Church	1.56
MA026-003002	Cill tSéine Kilteany	Graveyard	1.55
MA026-003003	Cill tSéine Kilteany	Religious House - Unclassified	1.56
MA026-004	Baingear (Bangor)	Megalithic Tomb	0.95

The archaeological sites in the development area represent both prehistoric and historic remains with a large number of crannogs recorded particularly on Carrowmore Lake. An unclassified megalithic tomb (MA-26004) is recorded in the townland of Baingear (Bangor). To the northeast of the development area, in the townland of Cluainte Cille (Cloonakilta), a children's burial ground (MA-18008) is recorded. It is situated on top of a hillock and consists of a low mound of earth and stones with four graves to the east, northeast and southeast of the mound. Architectural fragments (MA-18013) consisting of dressed stones are recorded in the townland of An Gort Mor (Gortmore)/ Áit an Bhaile (Attavally) and may originally have formed part of the church in the townland of Dereens Island in Carrowmore Lake where ecclesiastical remains are recorded. The remains consist of the ruins of an old church and the ruins of seven stone and mortar dwellings.

There are also several recorded archaeological sites in the landscape surrounding the Bord na Móna Bangor bogs. Carrowmore Lake is the largest lake in this barony and covers 1000ha in area. Twenty-seven sites (MA-18014) in the lake are listed as possible crannogs in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). A complex of four monuments (MA-18006) is recorded to the north of the bogs, in the townland of Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan), on the east southeast slope of a steep hill. The complex consists of a holy well, a cairn, an enclosure (possible) and a standing stone all within close proximity of one another. In the same townland, east-northeast of the complex, a cairn (MA018-010) is recorded unfortunately no further information is available about this site. Also in the Ráth Muireagáin (Rathmorgan) townland, to the south of the above complex, a rath or enclosure (MA-18007) is recorded. This site is situated on the south slope of a steep hill and consists of a raised circular area approximately 29m in diameter defined by a low irregular scarp.

In the townland of Troiste (Tristia) a burial ground (MA-2600101) and a cist (MA-2600102) are recorded. The burial ground is situated on a southwest facing slope and is ill defined on the ground. In the northeast of the burial ground is a possible cist burial consisting of large boulder split into two portions resting on smaller stones. Also in the Townland of Troiste (Tristia), a Megalithic court tomb (MA-26-00201) and pre- bog walls (MA-26-00202) have been recorded, unfortunately no further information is available about these sites. In the townland of Cill tSéine (Kilteany) a church (MA-2600301), graveyard (MA2600302) and an abbey (MA-2600303) are recorded. The church is in ruins as is the abbey and no information is available about the graveyard.

15.3.7 Cartographic Evidence

Analysis of historic mapping shows how the landscape has changed over time and may indicate how some landscape features have been created, altered or removed over a period of time. For this study the 1st (1839), 2nd (1900) and 3rd (1921) edition 6 inch mapping was reviewed.

1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1838, 6 Inch Scale

No archaeological features can be observed on the development site or in the immediate area. There are very few field boundaries in the surrounding area at this time. The site is entirely located in bogland. The stream that runs into the Munhin River and intersects the site is indicated as is a small lake or turlough. There are no buildings on or immediately adjacent to the peat deposition site.

2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1900, 6 Inch Scale

The peat deposition site remains as mapped in 1838 with the exception of several field boundaries to the northeast of the site being marked. A new road is also located branching off the existing R313 road to the northeast. Several scattered dwellings are mapped throughout the general area particularly in Bangor located to the southeast of the site.

3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1915/16, 6 Inch Scale

The development site had not altered within 22 years, with the field boundaries and nearby buildings largely unchanged apart from further subdivisions and dwellings. Nothing of archaeological or historical significance is evident on the site or in the immediate vicinity.

15.3.8 Aerial photographic research

Aerial photographs of the study area were reviewed however nothing of archaeological interest was noted on these photographs.

15.3.9 The National Museum of Ireland Topographic files

The following archaeological artefacts are included to highlight the type of archaeological activity in the area and the importance of archaeological monitoring as stray finds are frequently found in the course of monitoring of groundworks. The discovery of artifacts can be an important indicator of past levels of activity in an area and therefore a useful guide to the archaeological potential of a site. The National Museum in Dublin houses a national archive of antiquities cataloguing artifacts, which were found and reported between 1928 and c. 1995.

Topographical files for County Mayo were searched for references to An Srath Mór (Srahmore), Áit an Bhaile (Attavally), Cluainté Cille (Cloontakilla) and Baingear (Bangor) townlands. Two finds were recorded from Áit an Bhaile (Attavally) townland namely a “plough share or ard” and a “chert scraper” (Refer to Appendix 15.3). A further find was recorded from Baingear (Bangor) townland namely “two wooden vessels”.

The plough share or ard from Áit an Bhaile (Attavally) and the wooden vessels from Baingear (Bangor) are all recorded as having been recovered from bogs but none state that they were retrieved from Bord na Móna holdings.

Further details on these topographical finds are presented in Appendix 15.3.

15.3.10 Irish Excavations Database

Irish Excavations Database

The Excavations Bulletin, published each year, and its online database contains summary accounts of all the excavations carried out in Ireland – North and South – from 1970 to 2005 (currently the latest edition). It has been compiled from the published Excavations Bulletins from those years, with a similar format. The number of excavations carried out annually in Ireland has increased enormously during this period. To illustrate, Excavations 1970 has 41 reports, while Excavations 2005 contains over 1700. The database gives access to almost 15,000 report summaries and can be browsed or searched over the internet using multiple fields, including Year, County, Site Type, Grid Reference, Licence No., Sites and Monuments Record No. and Author.

A search of the Irish excavations database highlights that the following archaeological work has been undertaken within the peat deposition site and surrounding area.

- **2003:1296**
OWENINNY 2
(Attavally/Croaghaun/Darraragh/Drumanaffrin/Kilteany/Muingmore/Rosnagleragh/Srahmore/Srahtaggle South/Tawnasool/Tullaghaunashammer)
Peatland Survey. (03E1320)

The Oweninny 2 bogs are part of the Bord na Móna Oweninny group of production bogs in north Mayo. Oweninny 2 is located at the western extent of the Oweninny group, west and north-west of the town of Iorras-Baingear (Bangor Erris). The bogs are located north of the Bangor to Ballycroy road and south of the Bangor to Belmullet road. The Bangor to Gweesala road divides the bogs almost centrally. They were surveyed on behalf of Dúchas as part of the Peatland Survey 2003. The entire production area was field-walked and one possible archaeological feature was recorded in the townland of Drumanaffrin. This feature may be the remains of a mass path constructed of irregularly sized stones and measures a maximum of 1m in width. It is 0.2m from the present ground line and was traced for a surviving length of 65m. The area in which this site was recorded reputedly contained a penal mass rock.

(Jane Whitaker, ADS Ltd, Windsor House, 11 Fairview Strand, Dublin 3).

- **2004:1155**
OWENINNY BOGS, SRAHMORE/ATTAVALLY
Monitoring. (04E1660)

Monitoring took place of groundworks associated with a development in the Bord na Mona (BnM) bog at An Srath Mór (Srahmore) and Áit an Bhaile (Attavally), I gContae Maigh Eo (County Mayo). The development concerned the preparation of part of the BnM Bangor

bogs to receive 400,000 cubic metres of peat excavated from the Enterprise Energy Ireland site in Béal an Átha Buí (Bellanaboy), I gContae Maigh Eo (County Mayo). Groundworks involved the construction of an access roadway and concrete reception area, as well as silt ponds and associated drainageworks. Monitoring commenced in December 2004. Nothing of archeological interest was found.

(Sinclair Turrell, Archaeological Development Services Ltd, Windsor House, 11 Fairview Strand, Fairview, Dublin 3).

This monitoring is discussed above in section 15.3.3 (Field Monitoring 2004 and 2005) of this report.

- *2005:1135*
OWENINNY BOGS, SRAHMORE/ATTAVALLY
No archaeological significance. (04E1660)

Monitoring took place of groundworks associated with a development in the Bord na Móna bog at An Srath Mór (Srahmore) and Áit an Bhaile (Attavally) townlands, I gContae Maigh Eo (County Mayo). The development concerned the deposition of 400,000 cubic metres of peat excavated from the Enterprise Energy Ireland site in Béal an Átha Buí (Bellanaboy), I gContae Maigh Eo (County Mayo) and involved the construction of an access roadway, administrative and reception areas, as well as surface water settlement ponds and associated drainage works. Nothing of archaeological interest was found during the course of monitoring, which took place from 14 December 2004 to 12 March 2005.

(Sinclair Turrell, ADS Ltd, Windsor House, 11 Fairview Strand, Fairview, Dublin 3).

This monitoring is discussed above in section 15.3.3 (Field Monitoring 2004 and 2005) of this report.

15.4 Characteristics of the Development

The development consists of utilising remaining void space within the permitted activity boundary of the Srahmore Peat Deposition site to accommodate up to 75,000m³ of peat from the onshore pipeline construction.

15.5 Potential Impact of the Development

This study has shown that there are no recorded monuments on or in the immediate vicinity of the site. The nearest recorded monument is located approximately 950m from the site boundary of the existing peat deposition site. There are no protected buildings or architectural significance that will be directly impacted by the peat deposition works.

Historical research has shown that the general area has seen constant human activity since at least prehistoric times in the surrounding landscape evidenced by megalithic tombs (Bangor,

and Tristia), crannogs (Carrowmore Lake) and the finds of the chert scraper (Attavally) and wooden objects (Bangor and Attavally). More recent archaeological sites are evidenced by ecclesiastical remains (Attavally, Dereens Island, Rathmorgan and Kilteany) and the children's burial ground (Tristia).

Although the scale of the development and the level of ground disturbance will be relatively minor as this is an existing peat deposition site, the presence of the archaeological sites mentioned above and the recovery of some stray finds from the surrounding area shows the potential for previously unrecorded sites and/or artefacts being revealed during groundworks.

15.6 Do Nothing Scenario

If this development does not take place any previously unrecorded archaeological sites or artefacts are likely to remain undiscovered and undisturbed.

15.7 Mitigation Measures

The nature of the mitigation measures should be determined by the extent to which any uncovered archaeological features survive and should have a bearing on the subsequent requirement of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Under the terms of the National Monuments Act (1930 & amendments) should any archaeological discoveries be made during operations, it is the responsibility of the finder to immediately report their discovery to the Duty Officer of the National Museum of Ireland. Any archaeological discoveries should also be reported to the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG). All recommendations herein are subject to discussion with, and approval of, the relevant heritage authorities, namely the DoEHLG and the National Museum of Ireland. Refer to Appendix 15.4 for details of relevant Archaeology Legislation.

15.8 Predicted impact of the development

15.8.1 Predicted impact of operation

Because of the detailed and intensive nature of the fieldwalking carried out by ADS Ltd in 2003, 2004 and 2005 it is predicted that the development will not have a significant archaeological impact during its continued operation and use. It is possible however that some stray finds may be uncovered during this work. The spreading of the imported peat is unlikely to impact on any un-recorded archaeological features or artefacts. The imported peat will provide extra cover for any potential archaeological material as well as guaranteeing long-term preservation in situ.

15.9 Monitoring

It is proposed that a suitably qualified archaeologist monitor any new excavation on site.