REPORT ON

UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

OF PROPOSED OUTFALL DEVELOPMENT,

FETHARD ON SEA, CO. WEXFORD.

Geomara Ltd

Job Number: G15043

Licence Numbers: 15D0068, 15R0157

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 SCOPE OF WORKS 1
1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Purpose of the Assessment 1
2 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT 2
2.1 General Site Description 2
2.2 Proposed development 3
2.3 Geology & Soils 5
2.3.1 Potential for Submerged landscapes 5
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND 6
4. BASELINE DATA 8
4.1 Lewis Topographical Dictionary 8
4.2 Aerial Photographs 10
4.3 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the Area 11
4.4 Cartographic Sources 16
4.5 Recorded Monuments and Places 17
4.6 National Museum Files 18
4.7 National Shipwreck inventory 18
4.8 The Ports and Harbours Archive 18
5. UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT 19
5.1 Survey Aims and Methodology: 19
5.2 Underwater Survey 20
6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 23
6.1 Conclusion 23
6.2 Recommendations 24

TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Extract from Discovery Series Map No. 76 showing site location in red 2
Figure 2. Proposed Outfall Plan 4
Figure 3. Proposed Outfall Long Section 5
Figure 4. Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of Wexford, showing development area. 16
Figure 5. Second Edition Ordnance Survey, 1893 17
Figure 6. Extract from RMP WX050 showing development site in red 18
Figure 7. Indicative dive grid pattern 20

TABLE OF PLATES

Plate 1. Google Earth Image of Fethard and Proposed Development Area 11
Plate 2. Sand and gravel foreshore 22
Plate 3. Fine gravel, sand and kelp in nearshore bedrock area 22
Plate 4. Rippled sandy seafloor with kelp 23

Abbreviations

CAD Computer Aided Design

CET/CEST Central European Time/Central European Summer Time

CRP Common Reference Point

CVI Close Visual Inspection

DGPS Differentially Corrected Global Positioning System

DP Dynamic Positioning

DPR Daily Progress Report

DSP Digital Signal Processing

DXF Drawing Exchange Format

EGNOS European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service

EPOCH Enhanced Project and Offshore Cable History

GIS Geographical Information System

GPS Global Positioning System

GVI General Visual Inspection

HIRA Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

HSE Health Safety and Environment

HW High Water

IMCA International Maritime Contractors' Association

IMO International Maritime Organisation

ISO International Organisation of Standards

KP Kilometre Post

kt Knot

LAN Local Area Network

LAT Lowest Astronomical Tide

LOLER Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations

MWS Marine warranty surveyor

OOS Out of Service

POW Plan of Work

PVT Position Velocity Time

QA Quality Assurance

QC Quality Control

QHSE Quality Health Safety and Environmental

RC Route Clearance

RFQ Request for Quotation

RPL Route Position Listing

RS232 Recommended Standard 232

RTG Real Time Gypsy

SBAS Satellite Based Augmentation System

SOLAS Safety of Life at Sea

SOW Scope of Work

SWL Safe Working Load

TBA To be advised

UKOOA United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association

UTC Universal Time Coordinated

UTM Universal Transverse Mercator

WAAS Wide Area Augmentation System

WD Water Depth

WGS84 World Geodetic System 1984

Demobilisation: Removal of equipment, personnel and scrap from a Vessel

Downtime: Period when equipment is not operational, either due to malfunction or for other operational issues.

Mobilisation: All preparations before commencement of work including fit-out, production and approval of documentation, allocation of personnel and equipment, input of route data in computer, etc.

Weather: Prevailing seastate, current(s), swell and/or wind conditions.

1 SCOPE OF WORKS

1.1 Introduction

Geomara was commissioned by Mary Henry, Archaeological Services to carry out an underwater archaeological assessment of an outfall pipeline route associated with the Fethard on Sea, Main Drainage Scheme (see figure 1).

The assessment addresses the location, nature, character, condition and extent of any cultural heritage, which may be affected by the construction of the outfall pipeline.

This report details the results of the assessment which was carried out on the 29 August 2016 under dive licence 15D0068 and detection licence 15R0157. It details the proposed development, the existing environment at the site, the survey methodology and aims as well as the results of the survey and subsequent recommendations.

1.2 Purpose of the Assessment

The principle aim of assessment is to anticipate and avoid impacts on the archaeological resource. Archaeological assessment may be required as part of the planning process "in response to developments which may be located in the vicinity of archaeological monuments" (The Heritage Council, 2000).

Assessment has been described as "the overall process of assessing the impact of a development" (DAHGI, 1999). It can comprise of mitigatory measures including documentary research, examination of aerial photographs etc. and more intrusive measures including testing and/or full excavation.

The purpose of the assessment was to:

- To ascertain the character, condition and extent of any archaeological areas, features or objects likely to be affected by the proposed works, including any associated temporary works and to ascertain the potential impact of the works on archaeological remains outside the immediate area of the proposed works as these may be vulnerable to impacts arising from consequent changes in hydrology and sediment formation.
- To accurately locate these archaeological areas, features and objects and present the findings in map form.
- To describe same and discuss their likely provenance
- To ascertain the likely impact of the proposed works on these remains
- To recommend appropriate measures for the avoidance of these remains or, where this cannot be achieved, to recommend measures to mitigate the impact of the works
- To incorporate all the above in a report.

This was achieved through a combination of historical resource assessment and site survey. The historical resource assessment provided an archaeological and historical assessment to the site and described its setting. It also provided an indication of the likely discovery or recovery of cultural heritage material from the area.

The site survey investigated the proposed development area and its immediate surroundings for the presence of cultural heritage. It achieved this through a combination of direct diver visual survey and metal detection. The completion of the site survey augmented the findings of the historical resource assessment and allowed full assessment of the potential impact of the proposed development.

Figure 1. Extract from Discovery Series Map No. 76 showing site location in red

2 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT

2.1 General Site Description

Fethard on Sea is a small seaside town in southwest Wexford. The town is situated on the eastern side of the Hook Peninsula, immediately north of Baginbun head, the point of landing for the Norman forces in the 12th century. It was an area at Ingard Point that was the focus of the assessment (see figures 1, 2 & 3).

Ingard point is actually a peninsula. It is a small, easterly facing peninsula that shelters the town of Fethard from the prevailing winds and weather. Its exposed southern and eastern sides are defined by high cliffs of rock and clay. These cliffs travel in a westerly and then southerly direction from Ingard Point to the nearby Baginbun Head, this forming a small arching Bay. It is inside this Bay that the outfall has been proposed to be constructed. Within this Bay a number of geographical features can be seen. Along the southwestern side of the Bay, A pool called 'Lady Betty's Pool' is recorded, another topographical feature is Ingard Hole. This is a narrow inlet cut c. 50m into the rock face along the southern facing cliffs. A third feature of note are the rocks close to the tip of Ingard Point, these are named 'Green Stacks' obviously detailing how they area to be considered as a navigation hazard.

Ingard Point itself is clearly discernible as the most easterly point of the peninsula. It has a sharp point and a long rocky foreshore and provides protection for the northern side of the peninsula in all but westerly winds.

2.2 Proposed development

Byrne Looby, Consulting Engineers are proposing to locate an outfall pipe at Ramstown, Co. Wexford (See figures 2 & 3). The area influenced during the construction phase which consists of a temporary buffer zone to allow the contractor to carry out the works measures 326m in length and 50m in width. On completion of the construction phase of the development the permanent outfall pipe which measures 0.225m in width will extend to a distance of 294m from the shore, the first 50m of which are to be protected with a 4m wide concrete matt, a further 75m of 2m wide diffusers will be located at the end of the pipe. The total length of the development will be 294m. Outfall construction will start on the beach co-ordinates 680005.540E, 604369.319N (ITM), it will then travel across the beach before continuing subsea to the outfall termination point at co-ordinates 680254.272E, 604374.114N (ITM).

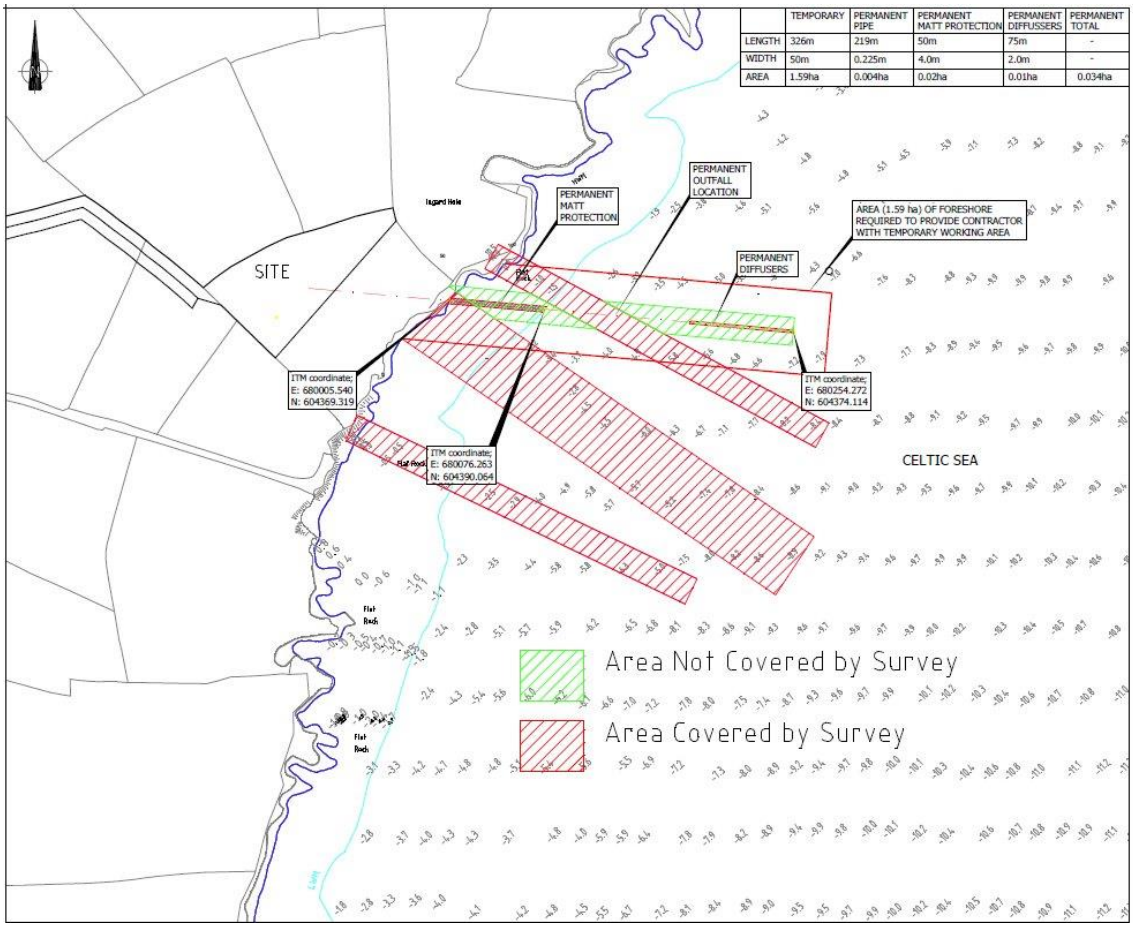

Figure 2. Proposed Outfall Plan

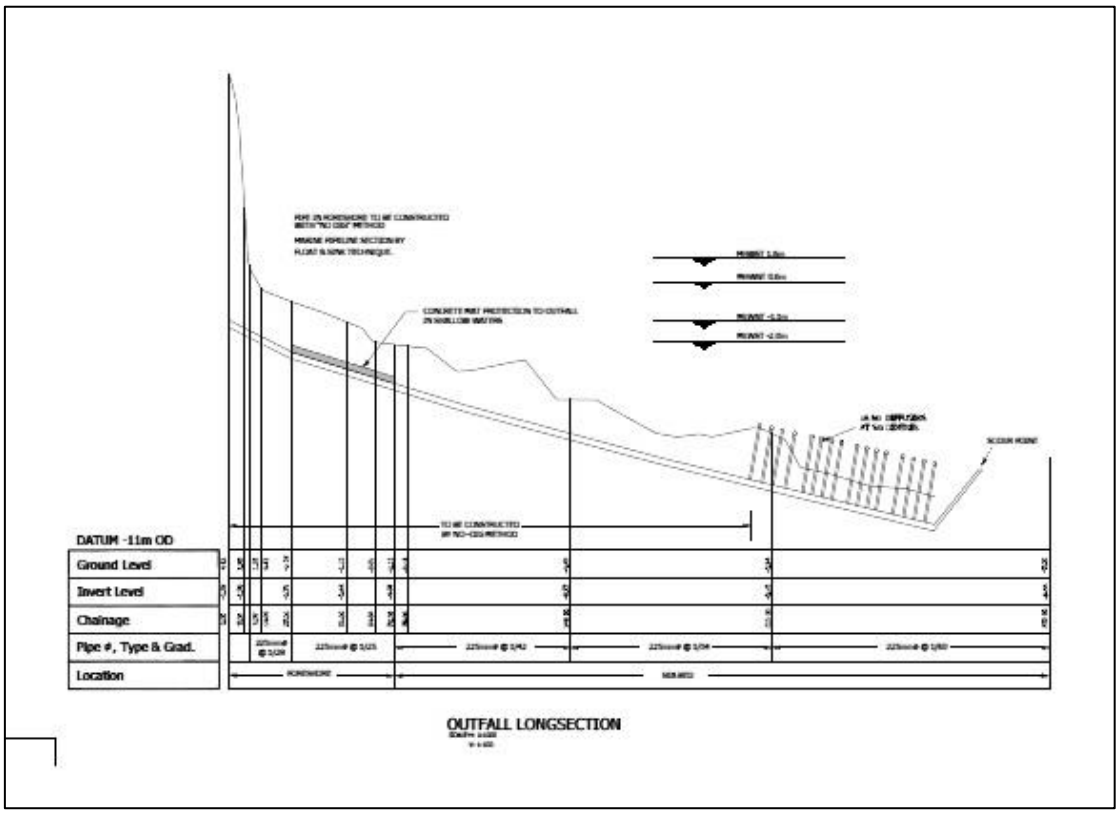

Figure 3. Proposed Outfall Long Section

2.3 Geology & Soils

Geologically, Fethard on Sea and Ingard Point comprise Palaeozoic Cambrian Sandstone and slate. These sedimentary rocks are believed to have been deposited on the continental shelf in the southeast.

The soil surrounding Fethard on Sea and Ingard Point comprises flat to low undulating lowland mainly composed of wet mineral and organic soils of 80% gleys and 20% grey brown podzolics. This material is till of Irish Sea origin with limestone and shale.

2.3.1 Potential for Submerged landscapes

Recent studies (Joint Irish Bathymetric Survey, 2008) identify and discuss in detail the changes in relative sea level believed to have occurred in this area of the Irish coast. As much ice covered the terrain during the Last Glacial Maximum (c. 22,000BP), the initial response as the ice retreated was for the terrain to experience a significant uplift, resulting in a sea level fall of around 20m below present. The majority of the study area, therefore, was exposed in this time, around 18,000BP. This was not to last, for as ice caps globally began to melt, the water held in them was released and sea level rose dramatically at around 8,000BP. Humans are only known to have arrived in Ireland relatively late by European standards due to the harsh climate, at around 9,000BP, thus giving a relatively small window of possibly only 1,000 years

when presently submerged areas of the study area may have experienced human contact as dry land. Colonisation of Ireland is believed to have occurred across the entire Irish Sea coast, so it is possible that settlers from Britain may have reached the study area well in advance of the dramatic later sea rise. Sea levels have in fact continued to rise by several metres after 8,000BP, falling and stabilising to present levels in the last few thousand years.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

O'Donovan, on behalf of the Ordnance Survey, undertook by far the most extensive early study of the county. Unfortunately when describing Co. Wexford, he notes "…it contains but little to interest the topographer or antiquarian", further adding "…Wexford is the most anglicised county in Ireland…and the Irish language has totally disappeared". This is reflected in the lack of information contained within his Ordnance Survey Letters (OSL), which are normally a good point of reference. There is mention of Fethard parish and a short comment on its antiquities in the OSL. Its name is derived from the Irish Fiodh Ard, which translates as "high wood". According to the OSL there are no remains of antiquity in the parish "…but two castles and an old monastic tower founded by the Anglo-Normans shortly after their arrival. The tower is still in good preservation, but all the monastery which is said to have been attached to it is destroyed. The other castle is in the townland of Dungulph. Strongbow's camp is still traceable and should be shown on the OS map as a curious monument of antiquity…".

Fethard-on-Sea is one of the earliest built towns in Co. Wexford. It had been granted to Henry de Marisco , who in turn granted the manor of Fethard to Christ Church, Canterbury and was noted in a grant made in circa 1200 by Christ Church of Canterbury to Richard de London "…that we have granted to Richard de London and to his heirs our town of Fytharid, with its lands and other appurtenances. To be hold by us, paying yearly four marks of silver at the two terms…so that he ought to make a castle in the same town for the defence of the same land. But we retain also to ourselves of the same town, with the chapels and all ecclesiastical benefices of the aforesaid town…we reserve to ourselves a fit place to hold our court on the north side of the church and sixty acres of land for our table, twenty on the south side of the church next to my domain of Mechenan…".

The Bishop of Ferns contested the grant of the manor to Christ Church, who claimed that some of the lands belonged to the diocese of Ferns. On his success in contesting the grant, the bishop then founded the town in order to provide a seaport for the produce of six Episcopal manors. The grant was settled upon the Bishop of Ferns sometime between 1228 and 1232. A town developed although there is no evidence to suggest it was ever walled. It contained a parish church, of possible Early Christian origin, a small motte, which marks the site of an early castle, and the fourteenth century stone castle, all of which survive today. An account from the manor confirmed a burgess rent of £6, indicating that it may have

been planned as the main Episcopal borough, which was probably due to its maritime location. Colfer suggests, given that 1s was the normal burgage rent, a figure of £6 would indicate that Fethard had a maximum of 120 burgesses which would suggest a burgess population of circa 600 people. He further notes income from mills were considerable, suggesting corn was a principal crop in the manor.

The town remained under the control of the Bishop of Ferns until Nicholas Loftus acquired the manor of Fethard in 1634. In 1613, while still under the bishop's control, it received a new charter constituting it as a free borough. The corporation comprised a provost, twelve burgessess and a commonalty. It was in a position to have a guild market; to send two members to parliament; hold a court on Thursdays, a free market on Wednesdays; and an annual fair on the 5th and 6th of August . In common with many other areas, following the Cromwellain confiscations in the mid seventeenth century, lands in and around Fethard were acquired by Protestant tenants. A survey at the time indicated the town was in ruins, with only eight thatched cabins surviving in High St. and Church St.

Regarding the parish church (Pl.1), it is set within a rectangular graveyard south of the stone castle. References to the church date from circa 1200; however, it has been claimed this church is the earliest place of worship in the county. It includes elements of an Early Christian foundation associated with the pre-Norman Episcopal manor. An early origin is suggested by its dedication to St. Mogue, who is synonymous with Aidan, first bishop of Ferns. It is now presently used by the Church of Ireland. The present structure incorporates some original fabric and earlier architectural fragments in the graveyard.

The other prominent medieval building in Fethard-on-Sea is the castle (Pl.2), located just off the main street. It has been suggested it was built by the Suttons of Ballykerogue in the mid fourteenth century. Other sources suggest it was built by the Bishop of Ferns in the fifteenth century. It comprises an L-shaped structure with a main hall and circular tower at its southwest corner and an independent wing to the north. Elements of the earlier structure – gatehouse with drawbridge recess- are incorporated into the building. The tower has been used as a belfry and a bottle dungeon at its base. There is a large fireplace on the first floor and a stone stairway to a higher level. The castle was occupied until the twentieth century. Nicholas Loftus gained control of the castle, having acquired the manor of Fethard in 1634 from the Bishop of Ferns in exchange for other lands. Loftus took up residence in Fethard, where he died in 1666. Fethard Castle was used by the Confederates as their headquarters during the 1640s. It was taken control of, after Loftus fled to England, by a group of rebels led by Dermot Mc Dowlin Kavanagh and held by a garrison commanded by Captain James Downes.

The motte, which is located behind the castle, may date to circa 1200, when Christ Church, Canterbury reserved the site to the north of the church as a suitable location to hold a court. This motte comprises a small, circular flat-topped mound. It measures 13m in diameter at its top and 25m at its base and ranges

in height from 1.4m to 2.2m. There are slight traces of a fosse, 6-11m wide, and an outer bank at its southeast side, 3m wide.

There is some confusion about the number of castles in Fethard-on-Sea. For instance, there are references to two castles in the Down Survey of the mid 1600s: one belonging to a Protestant; and the other to a Papist. In 1684, a Mr. Leigh makes references to the town: "a small straggling town, containing two or three small castles, a large parish church which is now unroofed, a stone house, a brick house built by Mr. Nicholas Loftus, father of Sir Nicholas who dwells in the stone castle, which was formerly the Bishop's residence and 30 or 40 cabins or thatched houses". A further survey in the mid 1600's recorded the town having two streets, seven proprietors, three thatched houses, five cabins and seven house-plots. In the 1771 survey it was remarked "…here [the town of Fethard] are two castles, one in good repair, a walled garden, two orchards and a turret…". However, the castles are not marked on the survey's map. It is also noted in the 1771 survey there was a pier and quay and the town had a king's barge, a surveyor and a boatman. It was further noted the Loftus family, who lived in the castle, had intended to utilise Fethard as a port, but this was made more difficult due to the presence of a sandbar at the mouth of the bay.

4. BASELINE DATA

4.1 Lewis Topographical Dictionary

Lewis' topographical dictionary describes Fethard as a small sea-port, post-town, and parish, in the barony of SHELBURNE, county of WEXFORD, and province of LEINSTER, 15 3/4 miles (S.) from New Ross, and 81 (S. W.) from Dublin, on the bay of Fethard; containing 2153 inhabitants, of which number, 320 are in the town. This place is supposed to have derived its ancient name, "Fiodh Ard," from the abundance of wood in the neighbourhood, though at present no part of the country is more destitute of timber. Robert Fitz-Stephen, on his first invasion of the country, landed his forces in a bay about a mile to the south of the town, since called Bagenbon bay, from the names of the ships Bag and Bon, both of which, immediately after his landing, he burnt in the presence of his men, telling them that they must either succeed in their enterprise or perish in the attempt. After the settlement of the English in Ireland, this place was given by Strongbow to Raymond le Gros, who had married his sister Basilia, and who is said to have erected a strong fortress here for the protection of his newly acquired territory. Basilia, with the concurrence of Fitz-Stephen, granted the church lands and tithes of the whole lordship to the abbey of St. Thomas near Dublin: and some of its earlier lords obtained for the inhabitants a charter of incorporation. The castle afterwards became the episcopal residence of the Bishops of Ferns, and here Alexander Devereux, the last abbot of Dunbrody, and the first Bishop of Ferns after the Reformation, died in 1556, and was buried in the church, in the aisle of which his tombstone still remains. In 1648, the manor of Ferns was exchanged by Bishop Andrews for value belonging to the Loftus family.

The town, which is neat and well built, consists principally of one wide street on the line of road from Ross to Bagenbon Head, and contains 50 houses, partly occupied by persons in the coast-guard department, of which a branch is constantly stationed here. Some trade is carried on in coal, timber, iron, and slates, and cattle and pigs are occasionally shipped from the port, for which its situation affords every facility. About 15 boats are employed in conveying limestone from the south-west side of the parish, near Loftus Hall, to this place, whence it is sent up the Scar river into the interior of the country. A considerable fishery of herrings, lobsters, and other fish of superior quality, especially plaice, is carried on off this coast. The harbour, which was constructed by Government in 1798, and is capable of receiving about four small sloops, is situated on the north side of Inguard Point. Between the pier heads are from 11 to 12 feet of water at high spring tides, and from 8 to 9 at ordinary neap tides. There is also a harbour for small craft at Slade, in the parish of Hook, between which and this place is Bagenbon bay, one of the best shipping stations on the coast, for vessels of any burden, both for its depth of water, and from its sheltered situation, from the west and north-west winds. Fairs for cattle are held on Jan. 31st, April 30th, July 28th, and Oct. 20th. The town was incorporated in 1613, by charter of Jas. I., by which the corporation was made to consist of a portreeve and 12 free burgesses, in whom was vested the right of nominating freemen to form a commonalty, and of returning two members to the Irish parliament. They had also the power of holding a court of record weekly, for the recovery of debts not exceeding five marks, with the privilege of a market and fair; but this corporation has long been extinct. The borough continued to send two members to the Irish parliament till the Union, when it was disfranchised, and the £15,000 awarded in compensation was paid to Charles, Marquess of Ely, and C. Tottenham, Esq.

The parish, which is the property of the Marquess of Ely, is on the western side of Fethard bay, and with the parishes of Hook and Templetown forms a peninsula which separates Waterford harbour from Ballyteigue Bay. It comprises 3775 statute acres, of which the greater portion is under tillage, and the remainder good meadow and pasture land: the soil is fertile and the system of agriculture improved; the chief manure is sea-sand and lime. On the shore is a species of hard red granite, which is used for millstones and other purposes; several unsuccessful attempts to procure coal and slate have been made. Fethard Castle, the property of the Marquess of Ely, and in the occupation of the Rev. A. Alcock, is pleasantly situated on the left of the road to New Ross; and Innyard, the seat of the Lynn family, is situated in tastefully disposed grounds. The Turret, a bathing lodge, formerly the property of Mrs. Savage, has been recently taken down. There are numerous comfortable farmhouses and bathing lodges in the parish, which is much frequented, for the benefit of sea-bathing. The sands are firm and smooth; the surrounding country is pleasant, and the air salubrious; and the neighbourhood abounds with objects of interest, among which are the remains of the abbeys of Dunbrody, Tintern, and Clonmines. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Ferns, and the corps of the prebend of Fethard in the cathedral of Ferns, in the patronage

of the Bishop: the tithes amount to £330. The glebe-house, a handsome building, was erected in 1830 by the Rev. C. W. Doyne, the present incumbent, at an expense of £1060, towards which the late Board of First Fruits contributed a gift of £277, and a loan of £461. The glebe comprised originally 1 3/4 Irish acres, to which 5 acres were added by purchase in 1834. The church, an ancient structure in a very dilapidated state, is about to be rebuilt. In the R. C. divisions the parish is part of the union or district of Hook; the chapel, on the lands of Dungulph, is a neat, cruciform edifice, recently built by subscription. About 70 children are taught in the public schools, which are supported by the Marquess and Marchioness of Ely; aided by an annual donation of £10 from the rector; there are also two private schools, in which are about 90 children, and a Sunday school supported by the rector. On the narrow promontory of Bagenbon Head are the remains of an encampment, said to have been formed by Fitz-Stephen on his landing; and at Fethard are the ruins of a castle, at one angle of which is a round tower in good preservation. Bagenbon Head projects considerably from the line of the coast; the land is high, and the shore bold; the water is deep, with a stiff clay bottom, covered with sand, extending nearly to the base of the cliffs. This bay has afforded refuge to many vessels in heavy gales, and the Milford packets have frequently put in and landed the mails, when it has been impracticable for them to reach Waterford; there is a Martello tower on the Head.

4.2 Aerial Photographs

Aerial photographs are an invaluable resource in archaeology for the recognition of new sites and the contributing to the understanding of known sites. Features can be recognised from the air as earthworks in relief or as vegetation marks where a buried feature such as a wall or ditch affects the growth of the surrounding flora. The Geological Survey of Ireland, based in Dublin, holds a comprehensive archive of high level vertical photographs available for consultation by the public and researchers but may not be copied. Aerial images are also available from the Marine Institute of Ireland National Coastline Survey.

Plate 1. Google Earth Image of Fethard and Proposed Development Area

This aerial photograph shows the location of proposed development site to the south of Fethard, on the exposed southern shore. The image also demonstrates how the southern side of the peninsula is significantly more exposed then the sheltered northern. Here, a steep cliff bounded rocky seashore is noted. This is a marked contrast to the low lying, well protected sandy northern side. This image details how the point is divided into linear agricultural plots, with a number of residential dwellings on located on the northern side of the point. It does not record the presence of any archaeological features in the area of the proposed development.

4.3 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the Area

The following section is a summary of previous archaeological fieldwork carried out in the town of Fethard on Sea and the adjacent Ingard Point for the period 1985 to present. All but one were located in the town of Fethard on Sea.

Wexford

1991:132

Grange (by Fethard Castle)

Test pits

S 781052

Test pits excavated produced nothing of archaeological significance.

Orla MB. Scully, c/o City Engineer's Dept., The Mall, Waterford.

Wexford

1996:402

Grange, Fethard on Sea

Early Christian/medieval

S790045

SMR 50:11

96E1 16

Testing was undertaken in advance of the proposed building of ten holiday cottages. All trenches but one were archaeologically sterile. One trench showed in section two cuts filled with shells. The middens contained a high frequency of cockle-shells, with some periwinkles and limpets. Also in this trench was a cut into the boulder clay to a max. depth of 1.05m, which at its widest point measured 5m. This possible ditch or pit (?) had at its base two sherds of unglazed cooking ware. Further monitoring was recommended.

Orla M.B. Scully, 16 Riverstown, Tramore, Co. Waterford.

Wexford

1998:667

FETHARD-ON-SEA

No archaeological significance

27937 10502

98E0393

An assessment was carried out at the football field in Fethard before the grant of planning permission for the erection of a residential dormer bungalow. Fethard-on-sea is on the eastern side of the Shelbourne Peninsula at the entrance to Bannow Bay, some 4km south of Duncannon. The placename is derived from Fiodh Ard, 'the high wood'. The Down Survey refers to the existence of two castles at Fethard, one of which can be identified as the existing structure, the other presumably being the episcopal castle first mentioned in a charter of c. 1200. An account of 1684 describes the town as having 'two or three small castles, a stone house, and also a brick house' (Hore, P.H. [1900-11] History of the town and county of Wexford, Vol. IV, 314).

Three trenches were opened by mechanical digger. All were identical in stratigraphy, consisting of topsoil over a light brown stony clay becoming more compact and stonier at a depth of 2.2m. There was no evidence of features/artefacts of an archaeological nature.

Helen Kehoe, 11 Norseman Place, Stoneybatter, Dublin 7.

Wexford

1999:879

GRANGE, FETHARD

Urban medieval

99E0092

Twenty-five test-trenches were excavated in Grange townland before a housing estate development, to comply with a planning condition. The southern section of the site is within the zone of archaeological potential for the historic town of Fethard.

No archaeological stratigraphy was recorded in any of the trenches, and no artefacts were recovered.

Jacinta Kiely, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Clover Hill, Mallow, Co. Cork.

Wexford

2002:1912

Sluice Lane, Fethard

Urban

27941 10505

02E0965

Testing of a site at Sluice Lane, Fethard, was undertaken on 3 July 2002. Three trenches were excavated, representing an area of 37m2. No features of a definite archaeological nature were revealed. A subsoil-cut feature in Trench 2 toward the north-eastern corner of the site may be of antiquity. It may also, however, belong to a phase of activity indicated by upstanding stone walls that bounded the site. It extended from 0.9m to 1.5m below present ground level. Its full width, which exceeded 1.7m north–south, could not be established in the confines of the trench. It appeared to run across the trench in a roughly east–west direction and may be the remains of a linear feature or large pit with a steeply sloping southern edge and relatively flat base. It contained two deposits. The upper fill was a light grey clay with infrequent inclusions of 19th- and early 20th-century material. The lower fill was a dark brown/black organic silt containing frequent inclusions of butchered bone and seashell.

Emmet Stafford, Stafford McLoughlin Archaeology, Unit 4, Enniscorthy Enterprise Centre, Milehouse Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Wexford

2004:1807

SLUICE LANE, FETHARD

Urban

27941 10505

02E0965 ext.

Testing of a site at Sluice Lane, Fethard, was undertaken in July 2002 (Excavations 2002, No. 1912). Three trenches were excavated throughout the areas to be affected by construction-related groundworks. No features or deposits of a definite archaeological nature were revealed. However, a subsoil cut feature, C7, located in Trench 2 towards the north-eastern corner of the site, was thought to be of possible archaeological significance.

Monitoring of the excavation of foundation trenches at the site was undertaken in 2004. The monitoring did not gain any further information on feature C7, nor were any further features of archaeological significance uncovered.

Emmet Stafford, Stafford McLoughlin Archaeology, Unit 4, Enniscorthy Enterprise Centre, Milehouse Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Wexford

2006:2107

Neville's Pub, Fethard-on-Sea

No archaeological significance

104600 279570

WX050–011

06E0412

Test excavation as part of an assessment took place at Neville's pub, Fethard-on-Sea, Co. Wexford, on 19 May 2006. Two 19th-century buildings were to be demolished to make way for a new development.

Four trenches were excavated in an open area of the site, which is in the zone of archaeological importance of the medieval village of Fethard-on-Sea. Nothing of archaeological significance was found. Topsoil cover was extremely thin (30–45mm) and consisted of loose fill with 19th- and 20th-century deposits. Any possible archaeology had been removed by the building of the 19th-century houses.

Niall Colfer, 9 Eglinton Court, Eglinton Road, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.

Wexford

2007:1966

Ingard Point

Underwater

105000 280100

07D36; 07R165

A programme of underwater assessments was carried out at the site of a number of proposed outfall pipelines associated with the Fethard-on-Sea regional water supply scheme. Desktop analysis of the historical, archaeological and cartographic sources relating to the proposed development recorded that the area has been the site of considerable human activity since earliest times. The assessment assessed the route of five pipeline trenches which extended into the sea from four different sites at Ingard Point

and one site along a small stream which travels easterly from Fethard Bridge to the sea close to Fethard Pier.

The intertidal zones surrounding the four saltwater sites comprised a sandy gravel back-beach area which led to a kelp-covered bare bedrock intertidal zone. This topographical landform continued beneath the Low Water, where a more dense coverage of sand was noted. The survey did not record the presence of any visible archaeological features or deposits, although there remained the possibility that submerged cultural heritage may be present in the area.

Eoghan Kieran, Geomara, Cois Cuain, Ballynamanagh, Clarinbridge, Co. Galway

4.4 Cartographic Sources

The following are extracts from historic maps depicting the proposed development area. Both show a rocky stoney foreshore with no recorded potential archaeological features present.

Figure 4. Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of Wexford, showing development area.

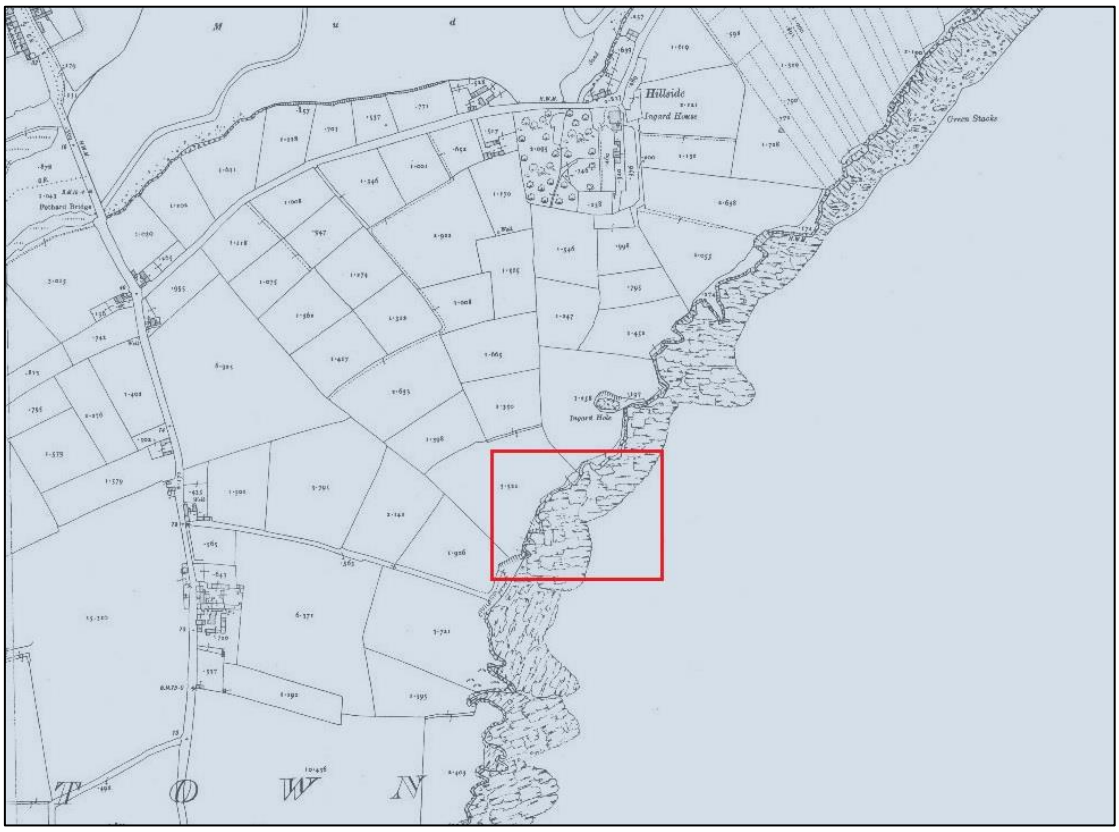

Figure 5. Second Edition Ordnance Survey, 1893

4.5 Recorded Monuments and Places

There are no Recorded Monuments or Places in the vicinity of the proposed development

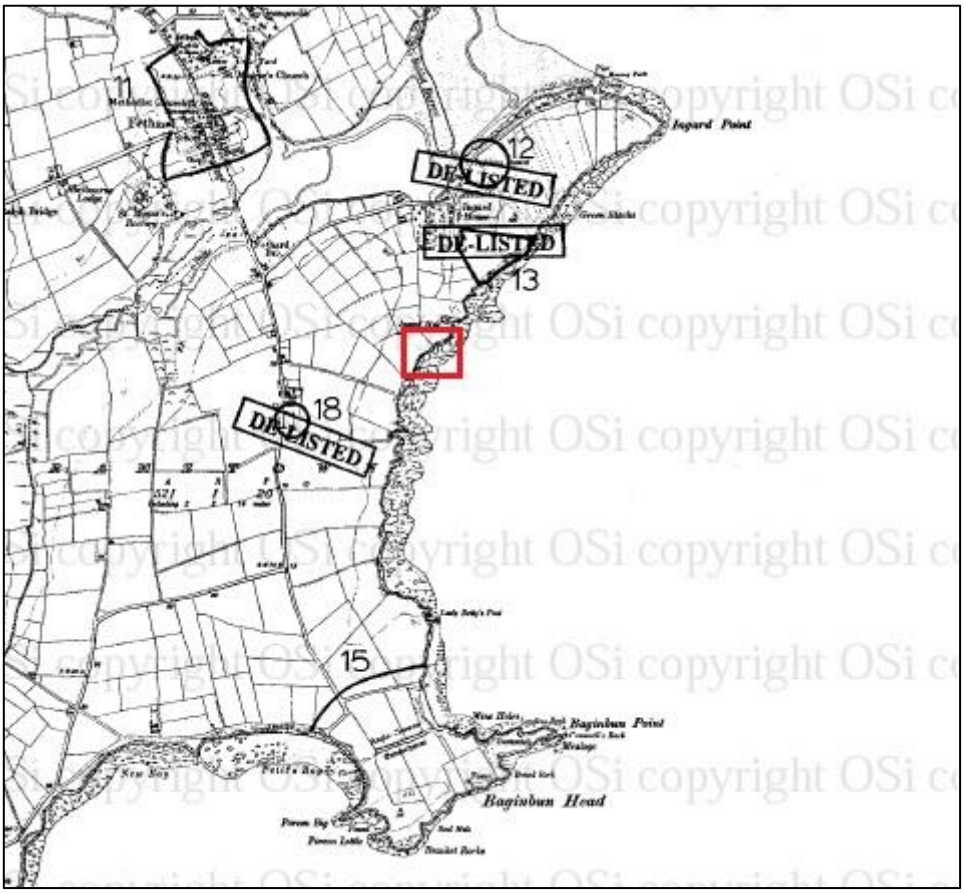

Figure 6. Extract from RMP WX050 showing development site in red

4.6 National Museum Files

There are no know records of any finds from this area.

4.7 National Shipwreck inventory

The Maritime Sites and Monuments Record (MSMR), is a database of all marine archaeological sites around the coast (including shipwrecks). The record includes data on historical wrecks contained in documentary sources such as Lloyd's List, Commons Sessions Papers and Historic Newspapers, Cartographic sources and other sources are also used.

The Maritime Sites and Monuments Record have no record of any shipwrecks for the area surrounding the proposed development location.

4.8 The Ports and Harbours Archive

Site Name Fethard

"Fethard pier, erected by the Board of Customs, is kept in repair for the use of the Coast Guard. It is dry at low water". First Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry into The State of the Irish Fisheries; with The Minutes of Evidence, and Appendix, p. 228. MDCCCXXXVI. His Majesty's Stationary Office, Dublin.

Site Name Fethard Pier

1849-83 "Memorial to repair the pier and to remove rocks at the entrance to the harbour, engineer's report, estimate for constructing a harbour, roadway and wharf, notice of intention to landlords and tenants to take away necessary materials for construction." No. of items - 9. Item No. -144. Reference No. – OPW8/ OPW Archives Piers and Harbours.

"This was a repair of a very old but a very useful little basin ". (p. 48). CSP 1852-53, Vol. XLI, Reports from Commissioners, Twentieth Report from the Board of Public Works, Ireland, Piers and Harbours, p. 47-51.

1872 – "Reclamation of salt marsh and new road."

Ref: 1727.2 Board of Trade, Black Series – Navigation.

5. UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

5.1 Survey Aims and Methodology:

The aim of the survey was to investigate the proposed development area for the presence of previously unrecorded archaeological materials or features. This involved terrestrial, intertidal and underwater survey. For the terrestrial survey, the results of the desktop study coupled with a visual survey formed the basis of the assessment. For the intertidal and underwater surveys, the results of the desktop assessment coupled with direct visual survey and metal detection formed the investigations.

For the underwater and intertidal surveys, a gridded transect investigation scheme was employed. It was based on parallel transects travelling parallel to the proposed outfall (see figure 7). It was based on 5m spaced parallel passages which ensured 100% coverage of the survey area.

The underwater site survey had two component parts; the first being the visual survey. This was a visual inspection of the survey area for upstanding and slightly submerged archaeological material. Any found is recorded and photographed. Capabilities were available for the surveying archaeologists to ascertain the substrate composition and summarily investigate any archaeological material found during the survey.

The second component was the metal detection survey. It was designed to record the location of any ferrous and non-ferrous material buried in the survey area. All metal detector contacts were recorded and geo-referenced using either a terrestrial based EDM or a differential GPS system. This facility allowed for the generation of a contact distribution pattern in tandem with the topographical survey and facilitates

relocation. With regard to the development, it was necessary to survey the immediate impact zone and the outlying area. In doing so, this ensured the protection of any nearby archaeological material from secondary impact.

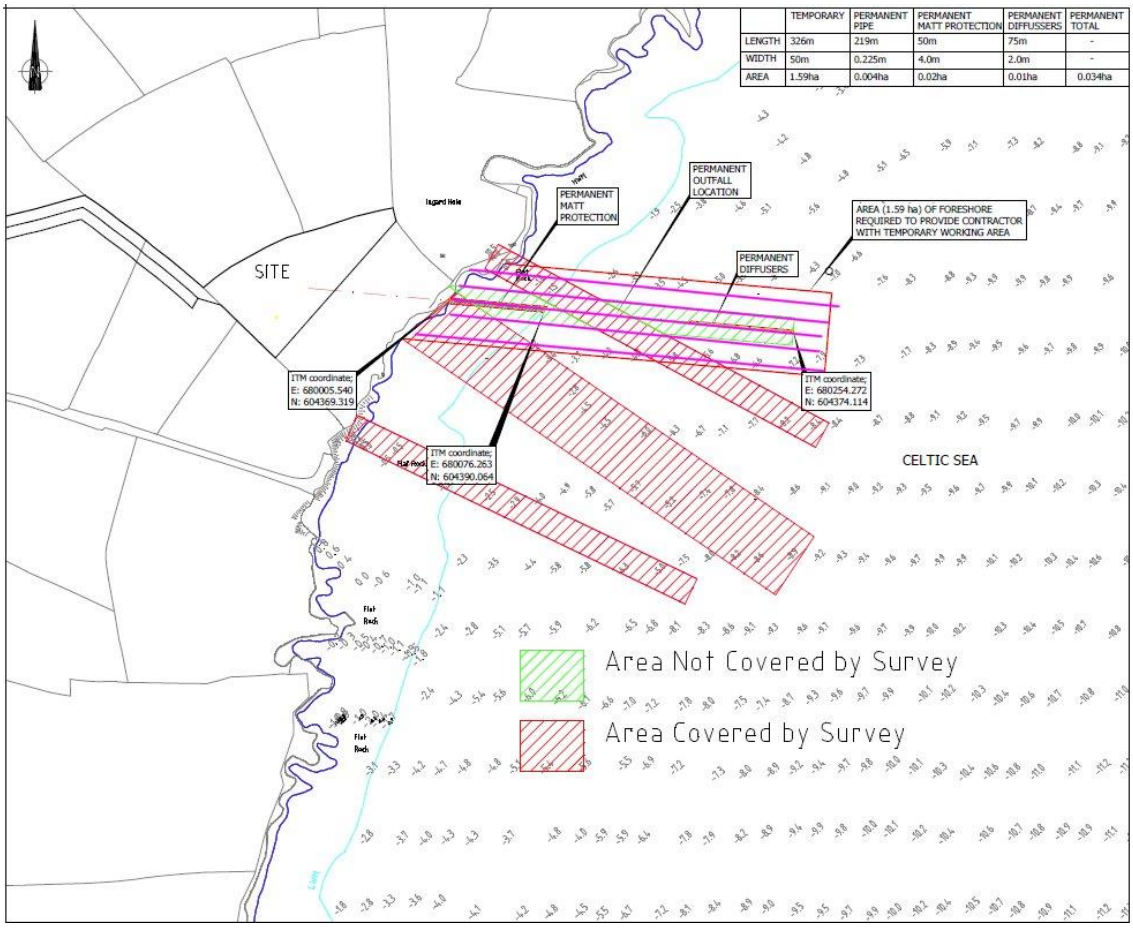

Figure 7. Indicative dive grid pattern

5.2 Underwater Survey

The assessment took place on 29 August 2016. The timing of the survey coincided with Spring Tide and as such the maximum amount of foreshore was exposed at Low Water. This afforded the surveying archaeologists the best opportunity to survey the foreshore zone for submerged archaeological remains. Conditions on the day of the survey were very good. There was very little wind and almost no surface disturbance to the survey area. Water depths on the outfall location varied, with a maximum water depth of 8.5m recorded on the southern end of the proposed Outfall. Current was negligible and with the exception of the nearshore area, visibility was in excess of 6 metres. A cover boat equipped with an Alpha flag and VHF radio was present throughout the survey to protect the divers. The surveying divers themselves wore full-face masks with through water communications; thus allowed the divers to relay

observations and finds to a surface assistant for recording. In addition to the communications, the divers were tethered to the surface by way of a lifeline. This ensured diver safety in the event of them becoming snagged or entangled in underwater obstacles.

The proposed outfall route travelled in a southeasterly direction from an area of sandy beach located between Ingard Hole and Lady Betty's Pool. The start of the outfall was situated at the base of a steep clay cliff which overlooks the sand and gravel back beach.

Below this, the lower foreshore is comprised of channelled bare bedrock which had frequent kelp inclusions, some cobbles and gravel. This channelled bedrock was present throughout the surrounding area and was a common feature in the region. There were no archaeological finds or features noted in this area.

The subtidal area to be impacted measured linear metres from the High Water Mark. This area was surveyed in two sections. The first section was 0-1m water depth, whereby the surveying diver was able to use a mask and snorkel to visually inspect and metal detect the seabed. The second section was surveyed using a diver as previously mentioned above.

Both survey techniques recorded that the proposed outfall route consisted primarily of gently sloping sand and gravel seabed with bedrock outcrops in the nearshore area (see plate 2). The bedrock outcrops were only noted in shallow areas, and these were continuations of the channelled bedrock features noted on the foreshore. These channelled bedrock areas had coverings of fine gravel, sand and kelp (see plate 3).

Deeper areas, further from the shore, consisted of uniform rippled sand, although, in the shallows, there was kelp coverage overlying the sand in certain locations (see plate 4). This rippled sand seabed form continued consistently throughout the remainder of the outfall route and its surroundings.

There were no archaeological features or deposits noted along the proposed outfall route.

Plate 2. Sand and gravel foreshore

Plate 3. Fine gravel, sand and kelp in nearshore bedrock area

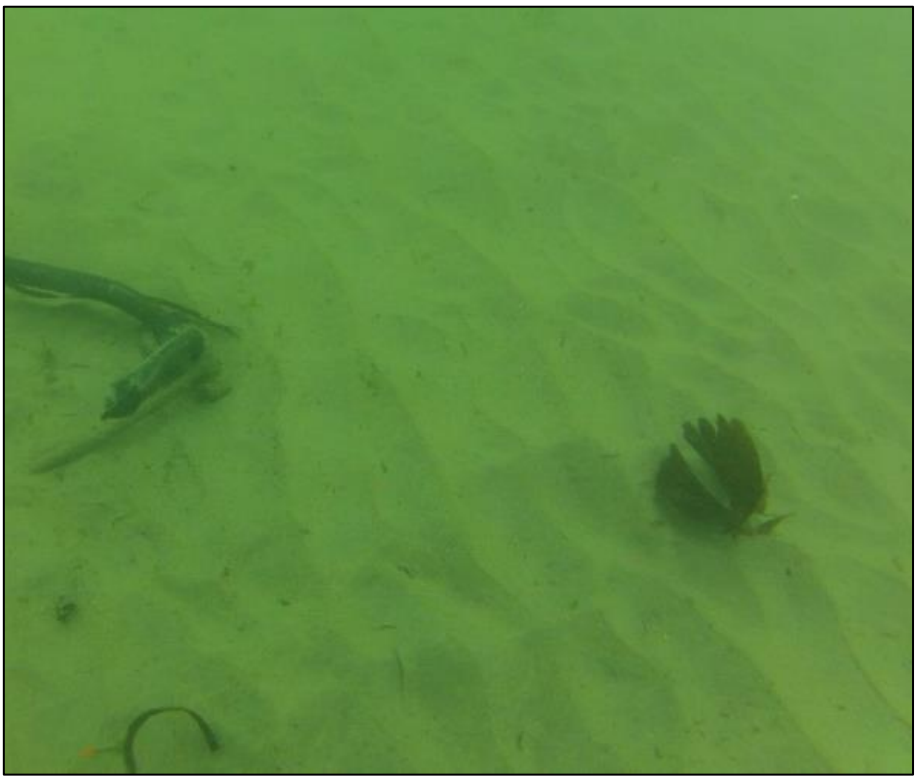

Plate 4. Rippled sandy seafloor with kelp

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Conclusion

Geomara was commissioned by Mary Henry, Archaeological Services to carry out an underwater archaeological assessment of an outfall pipeline route associated with the Fethard on Sea, Main Drainage Scheme (see figure 1).

The assessment addresses the location, nature, character, condition and extent of any cultural heritage, which may be affected by the construction of the outfall pipeline.

This report details the results of the assessment which was carried out on the 29 August 2016 under dive licence 15D0068 and detection licence 15R0157. It details the proposed development, the existing environment at the site, the survey methodology and aims as well as the results of the survey and subsequent recommendations.

The desktop assessment concluded that there were no know archaeological deposits, features or monuments, including shipwrecks, in the vicinity of the proposed outfall. Consequently, the potential for the diver survey to record archaeological material was considered to be low.

The diver survey recorded that the majority of the outfall route comprised rippled sand with occasional kelp strands. This bedform type was noted throughout the majority of the survey area except close to shore, where bedrock was evident.

There were no archaeological material, features or deposits noted during the diver survey.

6.2 Recommendations

Based on the combination of the desktop assessment and the site survey, it would appear that the development site is of low archaeological potential, whereby the likelihood of the project impacting archaeological remains is low.

Additionally, the dive and metal detection device survey noted that there were no archaeological materials or deposits at the proposed development site.

Consequently, it is recommended that the development proceed without further archaeological mitigation.

Please note that all recommendations above are subject to approval by the Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Please note that this report and accompanying recommendations are based on maps provided at the time of writing. Should changes be made, further assessment may be necessary.