AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMAPCT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED MAIN DRAINAGE SCHEME, FETHARD-ON-SEA, CO. WEXFORD.

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1.1 Introduction

This report is an Archaeological Impact Assessment of a proposed Main Drainage Scheme at Fethard-on-Sea, Co. Wexford. PH McCarthy, Consulting Engineers on behalf of Wexford County Council, commissioned the report. Wexford County Council proposes to provide a drainage network for the town of Fethard-on-Sea including sewers, pumping station and a wastewater treatment works (WwTW). Four locations (Site A, B, C or D) are presently being considered for the WwTW.

1.2 Method

The Archaeological Impact Assessment comprised a fieldwalking survey, landscape evaluation and desk-based study.

Fieldwalking entailed an examination of the proposed route and the surrounding area by two archaeologists for known and potential archaeological sites, features and anomalies on the surface. This was to gain an overall understanding of the terrain, archaeological environment, land-use and topographical patterns.

The desk study entailed an examination of documentary and cartographic sources. Sources examined were as follows:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Wexford.
- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for County Wexford.
- Examination of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland, County Wexford Inventory.
- Ordnance Survey series of published maps.
- Soil Maps (*An Foras Talúntais).*
- Documentary Sources. Primary and Secondary Sources.
- Local and National Archaeological Journals.
- Reports on archaeological excavations/investigations undertaken in the study area.

1.3 Siting and Topography.

This scheme will be located in and around the small town of Fethard-on-Sea. The town is a coastal resort located *circa* 25km south of New Ross, situated on the terminus of the R734 regional road. It is located on the west side of Fethard Bay with Bannow Bay to the northeast.

The scheme will extend through the town of Fethard-on-Sea with the likely location for the WwTW having a coastal setting on the outskirts of the town (*Fig.5B*). Four sites (A, B, C & D) are presently being considered for the WwTW. The pumping stations will also be sited on the outskirts of the town (*Fig.5B*). Five locations are being considered for the outfall; four of which have a coastal setting. There will be *circa* 4km of roads to be sewered, or re-lined with new sewer runs and just under 0.5km of sewers under site access roads (*Figs.5A&5B*).

The scheme will extend through three townlands: the northeastern part of the scheme will extend through Grange townland; much of the central part will extend through Fethard townland; whilst its south and eastern section will be located in Ramstown townland. All of these townlands are in the parish of Fethard and within the barony of Shelburne.

This proposed sewerage scheme will extend through a low-lying coastal expanse in and around the town of Fethard-on-Sea and will extend along tarred road surfaces, including a section along the main throughfare in the town of Fethard-on-Sea. Short sections of the section will extend through fields/estuarine strip, to link up with the possible locations for WwTW.

The area of the scheme comprises a flat, open coastal belt overlooking Fethard Bay. Soils consist gleys and grey brown podzolics with the underlying geology comprising drift of predominantly shale and sandstone composition. Drainage is somewhat inadequate and the soils can be heavy in texture.

1.4 Historical and Archaeological 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)[1], 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"[2]. 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...*"[3].

Fethard-on-Sea is one of the earliest built towns in Co. Wexford. It had been granted to Henry de Marisco[4], 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...* "[5].

[1] Rev. M. O'Flanagan. Ordnance Survey Letters Containing Information Relative to the Antiquities of Co. Wexford Collected in 1840. 1933.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] *Ibid.*
[4] P.H. Hore. History of the Town and County of Wexford. 1904.
[5] *Ibid.*

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[6]. The grant was settled upon the Bishop of Ferns sometime between 1228 and 1232[7]. 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[8]. 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[9].

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[10]. 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.[11].

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

[6] B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula. 2004.
[7] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of Co. Wexford. 1996.
[8] B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula. 2004.
[9] *Ibid.*
[10] *Ibid.*
[11] *Ibid.*

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[12]. It is now presently used by the Church of Ireland. The present structure incorporates some original fabric and earlier architectural fragments in the graveyard[13].

Pl. 1 View of Parish Church (Now C of Irl.).

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[14]. Other sources suggest it was built by the Bishop of Ferns in the fifteenth century[15]. 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

[12] *Ibid.*
[13] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford. 1996.
[14] P. H. Hore. History of the Town and County of Wexford. 1904.
[15] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford. 1996.

a higher level[16]. 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[17]. 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[18].

Pl. 2 View of Castle.

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[19]. 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[20].

[16] B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula. 2004.
[17] *Ibid.*
[18] *Ibid.*
[19] B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula. 2004.
[20] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford. 1996.

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[21]. 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*" [22]. A further survey in the mid 1600s recorded the town having two streets, seven proprietors, three thatched houses, five cabins and seven house-plots[23]. 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...*"[24]. 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[25].

The proposed scheme will extend through, or relatively close to, a number of monuments recorded in the RMP for County Wexford (*Fig.1*). Monuments within 1km of the scheme include the following:

RMP No.	Townland	Parish	N.G.R.	Classification
Wx050-004	Connagh	Fethard	27827/10554	Enclosure Site

Description:

Marked on both the 1st (1839) and 2nd (1925) edition OS maps, this site was removed in *circa* 1980. Traces of the monument are apparent on an aerial photograph where it is visible as a D-shaped cropmark enclosure measuring 40m (N/S) x 35m (E/W). There is no surface trace of this monument[26].

[21] R.C. Simington. The Civil Survey, 1654-56. 1953.
[22] P.H. Hore. History of the Town and County of Wexford. 1904 & B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula. 2004.
[23] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of Co. Wexford. 1996.
[24] P.H. Hore. History of the Town and County of Wexford. 1904.
[25] B. Colfer. The Hook Peninsula 2004.
[26] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford. 1996.

This site is *circa* 875m away from the nearest point on the proposed scheme.

RMP No.	Townland	Parish	N.G.R.	Classification
Wx050-010	Ralph	Fethard	27856/10533	Ringfort

Description:

This ringfort is marked on both the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps. Set in dense scrub, the monument comprises a circular area with a diameter of *circa* 35m. It is defined by an earthen bank with a width of 4-5m, an internal height of 800mm and a maximum height of 2.3m. A fosse, 2.4m wide, is apparent around its external perimeter. There is no trace of an entrance[27].

This site is *circa* 600m away from the nearest point on the proposed scheme.

RMP No.	Townland	Parish	N.G.R.	Classification
Wx050-011	Fethard & Grange	Fethard	27937/10502	Town

Description:

A historic town founded in the early thirteenth century. Formerly it had two castles, one still surviving, a church (site) and a motte (possible) adjacent to the church site and the surviving ruined castle[28]. A section of the scheme measuring *circa* 470m in length will extend through the historical town of Fethard-on-Sea.

RMP No.	Townland	Parish	N.G.R.	Classification
Wx050-01501	Ramstown	Fethard	2803310317	Promontory Fort

Description:

Marked as *Dundonnell* on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps, this site comprises a sea promontory fort set in pasture land on Baginbun Head. It measures 170m (E/W) x 14m (N/S) at its east side to 59m (N/S) at its west side. It is defended along its

[27] *Ibid.*
[28] M. Moore (ed.). Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford. 1996.

western side by an earthen bank, 53m long, 4m wide, an internal height of 1.7m and an external height of 1.4m. Its outer fosse has a width of 3-4m and an outer bank measures 91m long, 10-12m wide and 1.6m high. An entrance is apparent through its outer and inner banks and a causeway, 3m wide, over the fosse. Within the interior of the site there is a raised rectangular area measuring 6.4m x 4.7m and 300mm high. This may be a hut site[29].

This site is *circa* 300m south of the nearest point on the proposed scheme.

RMP No.	Townland	Parish	N.G.R.	Classification
Wx050-01502	Ramstown	Fethard	28000/10316	Linear Earthwork

Description:

Marked as an Anglo-Norman Entrenchment on the 2nd edition OS map, this site may be a ringwork (possible) within the confines of the above described promontory fort. It is known Raymond le Gros camped at Baginbun Head in 1170 and may have erected the fortifications which extend east/west across the headland enclosing *circa* 22 acres. The site comprises an earthen bank, *circa* 230m long, 5m wide and an internal height of 1.6m and an external height of 2.2m. There are traces of a slight fosse, 5m wide, separating it from an outer bank which is 6m wide and 2.2m high. There is an entrance both at its east and west ends.

This site is *circa* 550m south of the nearest point on the proposed scheme.

In addition there are three sites marked on the SMR map for Co. Wexford along or close to the scheme, which have been de-listed (*Fig.1*). These include Wx050-012, Wx050-013 and Wx050-018.

[29] *Ibid.*

1.5 Field Inspection

An archaeologist and heritage conservationist inspected the proposed route and sites during July 2007. Both ground conditions and visibility were poor due to a sustained period of persistent rain and inshore fog. For ease of dissemination, the findings of the walkover survey will be presented in four distinct sections (1,2,3&4 [*Figs.5A&5B*]). Section 1 encompasses the southern portion of the scheme extending to the north and Fethard Bridge, whilst also taking in WwTW Sites A&B. Section 2 covers the eastern arm of the scheme extending to Fethard Quay and takes in WwTW Site option C; Section 3 covers the route from the bridge through the medieval town and includes the access route and location of WwTW Site D; with Section 4 pertaining to the far northern extent of the scheme on the present outskirts of the town.

1.5.1 Section 1 (*Figs.5A&5B*)

Topographically this part of the scheme is within an area of relatively flat land and mainly located within a road. Initially on a west-east alignment, this section commences on a side road (*Pl.3*), which extends to a T-junction. On its northern flank is a row of modern houses set within well maintained gardens, whilst the southern side comprises mainly fields, although new developments are interspersed along the roadside. None of the houses appear to date earlier than the mid twentieth century. Telegraph poles are present alternating on either side of the road. Field boundaries are formed with natural hedgerows and occasional trees set atop earthen banks <1m high. Where the fields are present, they consist a mixture of pasture and tillage. There is very little evidence of scarring on the road reflecting previous service works.

Pl.3. Looking East of Western Arm; Section 1.

At the T-junction, the route extends northwards along the road. The western roadside is flanked by new houses in large plots, with a tarmacced strip along their fronts. A wide grass verge borders the eastern side of the road with an earth-banked field boundary topped with a natural hedgerow further to the east. These fields comprise a mixture of tillage and pasture and are predominantly rectangular, on a west-east alignment. There is some evidence of a service trench cut on the western side of the road, although it is possible it is the result of wear and tear.

Pl.4. Looking North; Southern Extent of Section 1.

As the scheme extends north it passes a very new housing estate on its western side. Further north ribbon development continues, extending to the front of the GAA grounds, whilst a farm complex comprising a stone built house set within large grounds is located on the western side. Beyond the farm, a boreen extends on an east-west alignment on both sides of the road.

The western arm of the boreen is over grown and leads to fields. Its eastern arm (*Pl.5*) is set slightly back from the road, extends alongside a new property, and facilitates access to the proposed location of WwTW Sites A&B. A new hedge of ornamental conifers demarks the boundary at the southeastern end, whilst at the northeast is a capped breezeblock wall. The remaining comprises natural overgrown shrubbery. Most of the actual track is grass-covered, although bare areas made by tyre tracks suggest it is still in relatively consistent use. WwTW Sites A&B (*Pls.6&7*) are located in large irregular tillage fields. There are no distinct anomalies visible, although at the time of the walkover these fields were under almost mature crops. It was noticeable that some of the earlier field boundaries have been taken out.

Pl.5. Looking East along Boreen; Section 1.

Pl.6. Looking at WwTW Site A; Section 1.

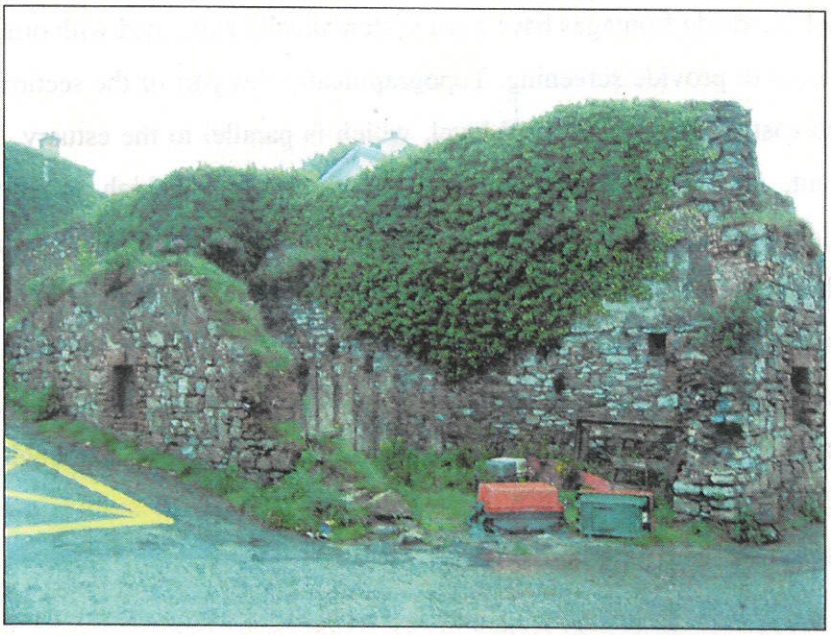
Pl.7. Looking West at WwTW Site B; Section 1.

From the Fethard Quay road to the bridge the land naturally drops fairly steeply and consists sporadic modern housing to the west of the route, with a large irregular field to the east. The new lifeboat station is also located on the western side of the road, with good views over the channel.

1.5.2 Section 2 (*Fig.5B*)

Starting at the quay to the east of the town, this section terminates at the road junction just south of the bridge.

Fethard Quay presently comprises a concrete harbour protected by a stone and concrete wall and breakwater. Although almost certainly of antiquity, no features or components appeared to be earlier than the late eighteenth century. The skeleton of a ruined building (*Pl.8*) is present adjacent to the quayside, which has been incorporated into a substantial boundary wall associated with a 3-storey nineteenth century structure to the west. This ruined shell reflects a number of renovation phases, the last of which included the addition of factory made bricks around the windows. It is alongside this building that this section of the scheme begins, climbing steeply to an east-west aligned road.



Pl.8. Ruined Building at Fethard Quay; Section 2.

Pl.9 Eastern Portion of Section 2.

As the scheme extends along the road westwards (*Pl.9*) it passes a number of one-off developments, ranging in construction date from the nineteenth century to very modern. Their roadside frontages have been systematically cultivated with ornamental shrubs and trees to provide screening. Topographically this part of the section slopes from west to east, with only the road level, which is parallel to the estuary. Fields, where present, are of relatively poor quality and contain a high proportion of scrubland plants such as gorse, dandelions and mare's tail. An old lifeboat station is on the southern side of the road. It was built to commemorate the sacrifice of nine lifeboat men who died in February 1914. Approximately 100m to the west of the lifeboat house and overlooking a bridge is Ingard House, a two-storey, renovated, nineteenth century house with outbuildings to its rear. This looks as though it was originally a large farmhouse; whilst on the opposite side of the road is a cottage, which may also be of antiquity.

On the southwestern side of the bridge is Ingard pool (*Pl.10*), comprising a non-descript circular area of rush-bordered water.

Pl.10. Looking West at Ingard Pool; Section 2.

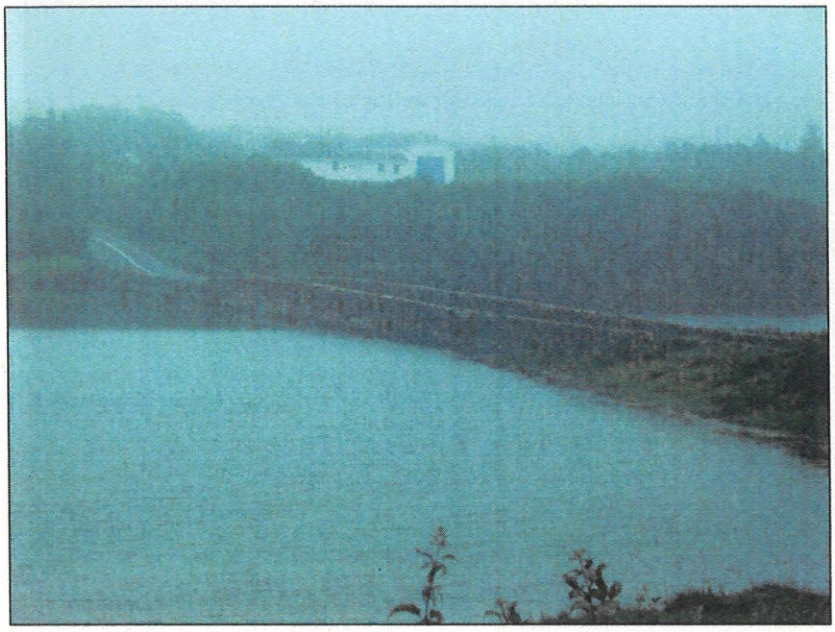
Extending westwards from the northwestern side of the bridge to the coastline is the proposed location of WwTW Site C. This land is overgrown, marginal and predominantly marshy land (*Pls.11&12*), although it rises to a slightly drier area as it gets in close proximity to the coast. Apart from field boundaries, no man made features were identified within this section, however, there is slight evidence of an east-west depression extending through this area, which may be a subterranean channel that could have silted up. If this were the case, it means the land to the south would have been an island (at least twice a day due to tidal action). This would have appealed to earlier settlers as both a natural land division and defensive feature.

Pl.12. Looking Southeast at Possible Channel; WwTW Site C.

Pl.11. Looking West across WwTW Site C; Section 2.

The western portion of this scheme continues within the road. Sporadic one-off houses are present on both sides, whilst the bordering fields consist a mixture of tillage and pasture. Boundaries comprise earth banks topped with natural hedgerows and occasional barbed wire; whilst all entrances are five-bar metal gates. No distinct archaeological features or anomalies were identified within this part of the scheme.

Dividing Section 1 from Section 3 is Fethard Bridge (*Pl.13*). This stone-built causeway appears to be of post medieval date at the earliest. However, it is possible it is located at a fording point; or has replaced an earlier bridge.



Pl.13. Looking Southwest at Fethard Bridge.

1.5.3 Section 3 (*Fig.5B*)

Initially rising steeply south-north from the bridge, this section extends through the site of the medieval town itself; whilst an arm extends through a sloping field of pasture on a curvilinear alignment east from the near the bridge; traverses a tidal in-let; and terminates on an elevated spur in a tillage field at the site of a proposed pumping station. A second arm extends to the west parallel to the riverside and WwTW Site D.

The pasture field of the eastern arm (*Pl.14*) is bordered on its southern side by a link fence anchored with concrete posts. This field is relatively featureless, with a few undulations in its northern portion. Distinct ridges are visible on the south-facing slope suggesting hillwash is in continual progress. A vertical extension north is to commence just west of centre of the curvilinear section and will cut up the slope

through the ridges. At the time of inspection, the field to the east of the inlet was under crop <1m high. No anomalies of features were identified at this location.

Pl.14. Looking Southwest across Eastern Arm; Section 3.

Pl.15. Looking West along Western Arm; Section 3.

Located in very poor, low-lying marshy land, the western arm (*Pl.15*) extends to a WwTW Site D on an elevated site with extensive views over the river. This area is totally weed choked and looks very susceptible to both tidal and seasonal flooding.

To the north of the western arm a new housing estate has recently been constructed; whilst on the eastern side of the road the field described above. This part of the scheme, as it extends to the north, is relatively steep (*Pl.16*).

Pl.16 Looking North from Bridge; Section 3.

Flanking the eastern side of the road on the crest of the hill is a farm complex contained behind a substantial stone wall. Access could not be gained into this site, but it is possible it may originally have been a nineteenth century fort overlooking the river and guarding the bridge.

Within the actual town, two and three-storey buildings flank the road (*Pls.17&18*). Window types are manifold ranging from traditional wooden sash, to PVC double-glazed, wooden double-glazed and dormer. Where shops are present, their fronts offer a mixture of rare nineteenth but predominantly twentieth century styles with pilasters, hand painted signs and fascias. In fact, there is no visible evidence of medieval buildings apart from the castle and a few features within the church, with the vast majority of the town reflecting Victorian and modern architecture.

Pl.17. Looking South along Main St.; Section 3.

Pl.18. Looking North along Main St.; Section 3

A four-square, two-storey ruined building is located to the northwest of the town centre, comprising three bays on each floor and square headed opes (*Pl.19*). Its corners comprise high quality ashlars, with the main building built with medium to large blocks of dressed and semi dressed stone. Stone cills are present on all windows; as are the well made stone flat arches above. Isolated and neglected within its own fenced, overgrown, weed and rubbish-infested plot, this structure is by far the

most impressive within the town, apart from the church and castle. One area of renovation is apparent within the front façade where a two-course flat brick arch has been built above the front door. It was not possible to gain access to this building, which is contained behind a metal link fence. However, no medieval fabric or features could be discerned from the road.

Pl.19. Derelict House, Main St.; Section 3.

1.5.4 Section 4 (*Fig.5B*)

This section is located to the north of the medieval town and outside the zone of archaeological potential. The majority of this section initially traverses modern housing on its southern and western sides, which dissipates the further north the scheme extends. A caravan park is located to the northern side of the scheme. The road appears to be of some antiquity and is flanked by mature trees and shrubs offering a semi rural environment (*Pl.20*). However, a few, sporadic new-build houses and bungalows have been constructed in the very recent past. The site of the pumping station is in the corner of a large fallow field, however the actual station site is on a concreted area (*Pl.21*), which has been previously stripped. Nothing of archaeological potential was identified in this section.

Pl.20. Northern Extent of Road; Section 4.

Pl.21. Looking North at Pumping Station Site; Section 4.

1.6 Archaeological Impact Assessment

It is proposed to undertake extensive ground works to facilitate a Main Drainage Scheme in and around the medieval village of Fethard-on-Sea. Very large sections of the scheme will extend along existing roads. However, parts of the scheme will extend across open fields, including the final location for the WwTW. One of the pumping stations, within Section 4, will be sited within an area previously disturbed. Both a green field and road section will extend within a recorded monument (WX050-011), namely the historic town of Fethard-on-Sea. A road section of the scheme measuring *circa* 300m in length will extend through the historical town of Fethard-on-Sea. Significantly a section – 150m length - of this part of the scheme will not extend by the castle, the motte or the church, which are the earliest surviving extant remains within the town. Furthermore a 170m green field section will extend through the southeastern part of the zone of archaeological potential for the town.

Ground works for the scheme will directly impact on the historic town of Fethard-on-Sea. Four locations are being considered for the WwTW all of which are presently within fields under dense vegetation/crops. Although there are no known/recorded monuments within these proposed locations, it was not possible to conclusively establish the presence of surface anomalies due to the high vegetation cover. At least one of these areas will be heavily impacted upon.

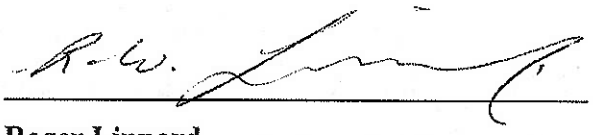
1.7 Mitigation Measures

- The green belt facility within the historical town of Fethard-on-Sea (Wx050-011) should be geophysically surveyed.

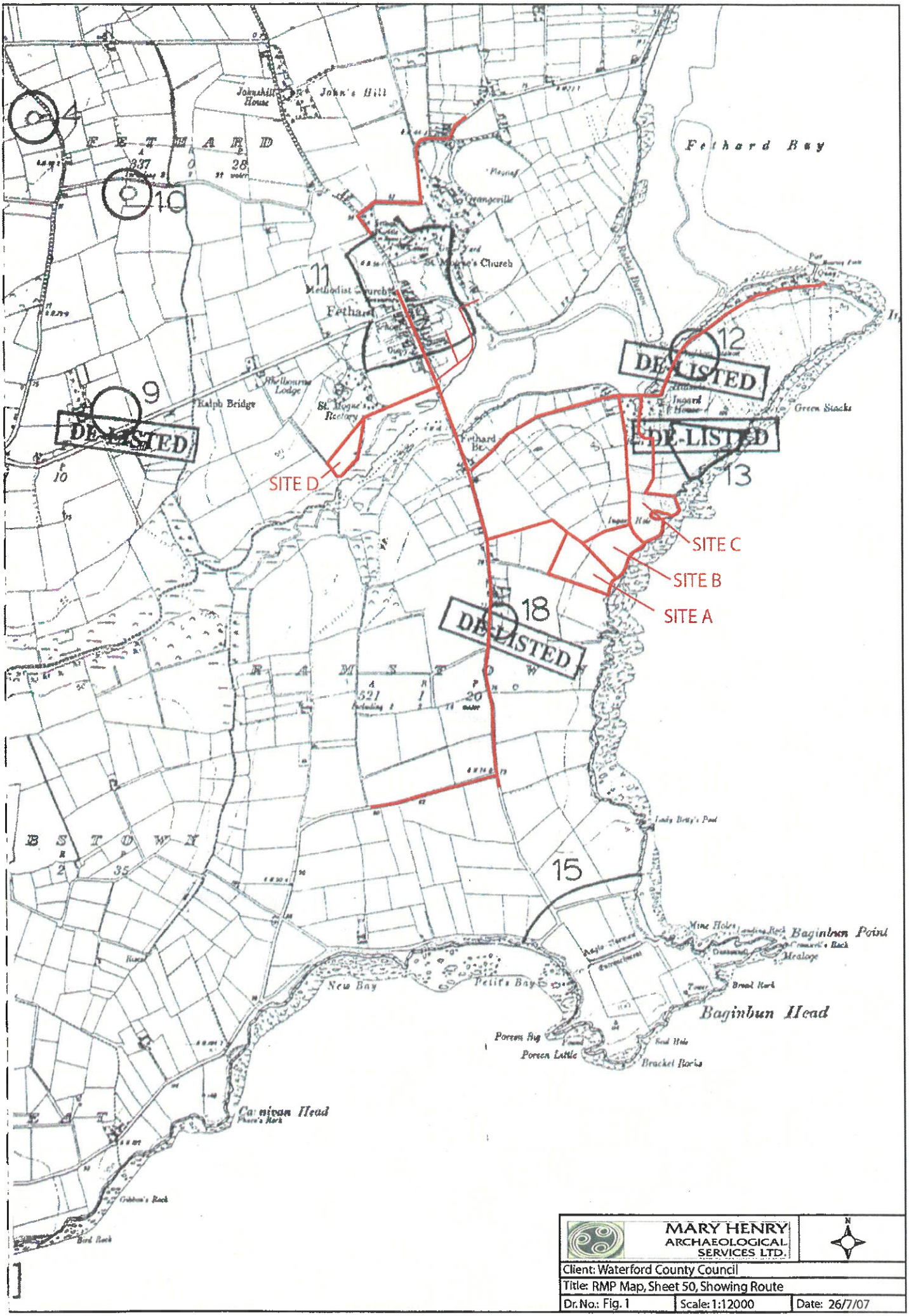
- The road section of ground works within the historical town of Fethard-on-Sea (Wx050-011) should be archaeologically tested.

- The finalised site for the WwTW should be geophysically surveyed.

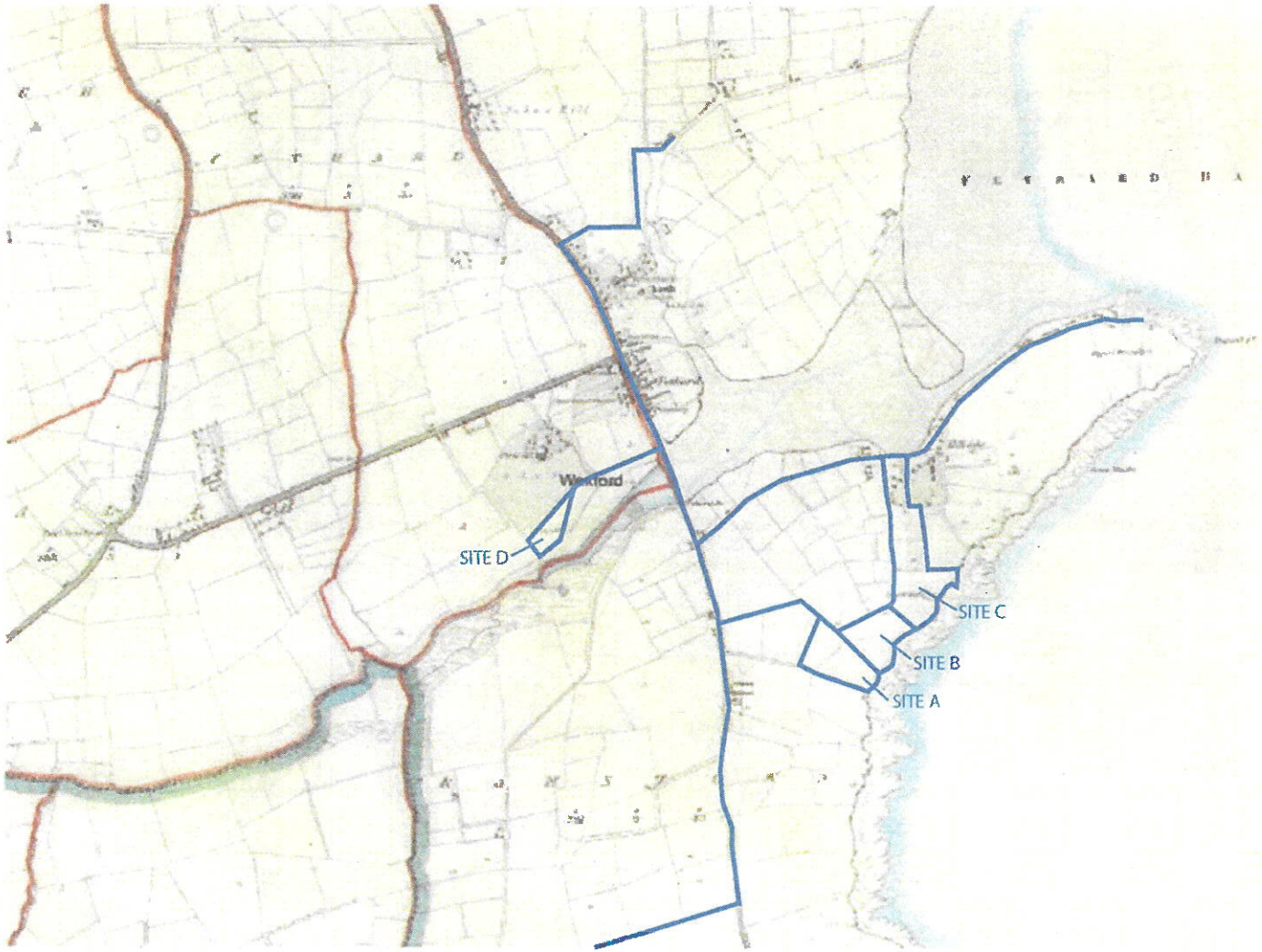
- All works within Section 1, apart from the southwestern arm; as well as Sections 2 and 3 should be monitored by an archaeologist.



Roger Linnard.
Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd.
27th July 2007.



MARY HENRY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD.		N
Client: Waterford County Council		
Title: RMP Map, Sheet 50, Showing Route		
Dr.No.: Fig. 1	Scale: 1:12000	Date: 26/7/07



MARY HENRY
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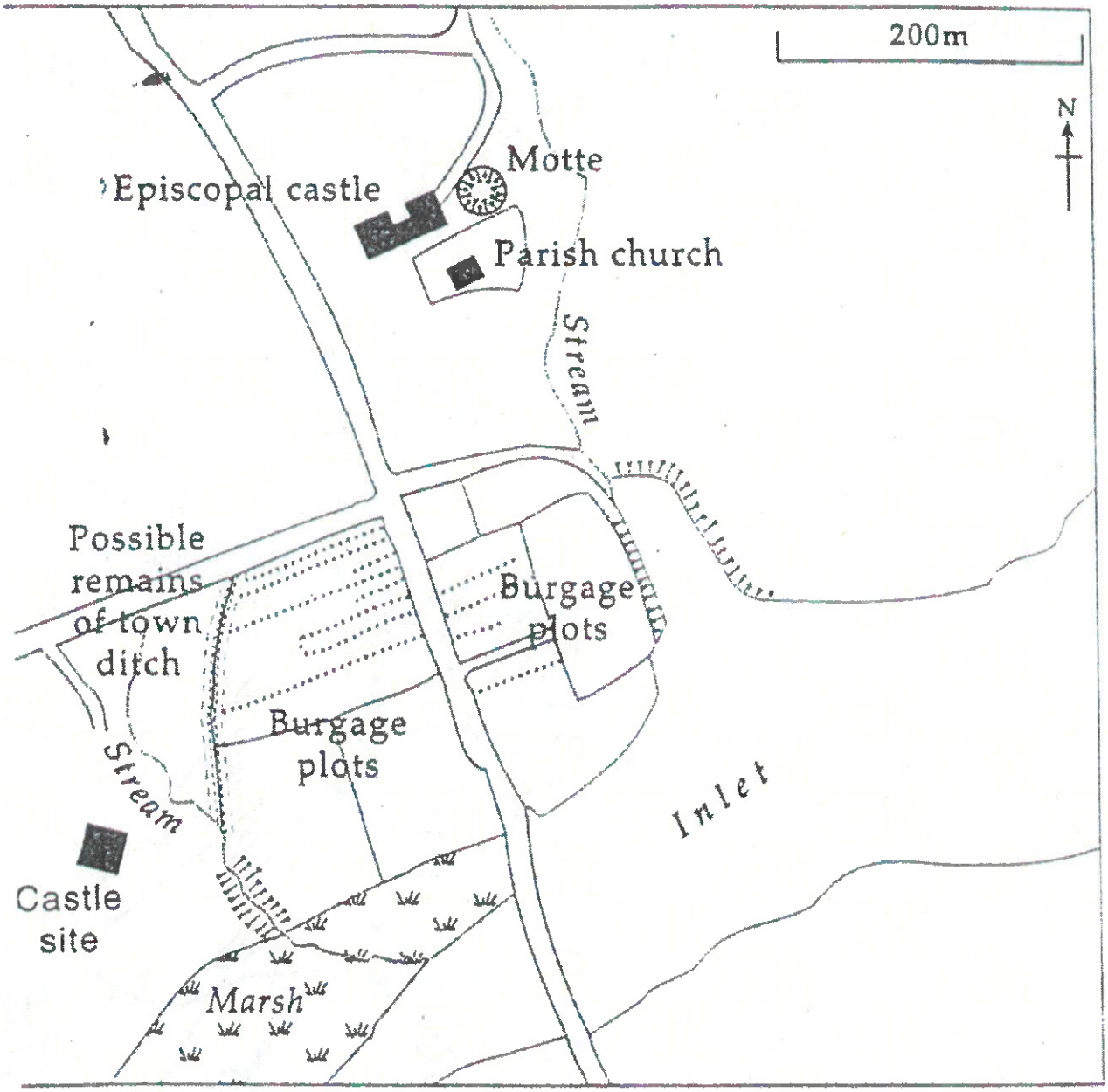
Client: Waterford County Council

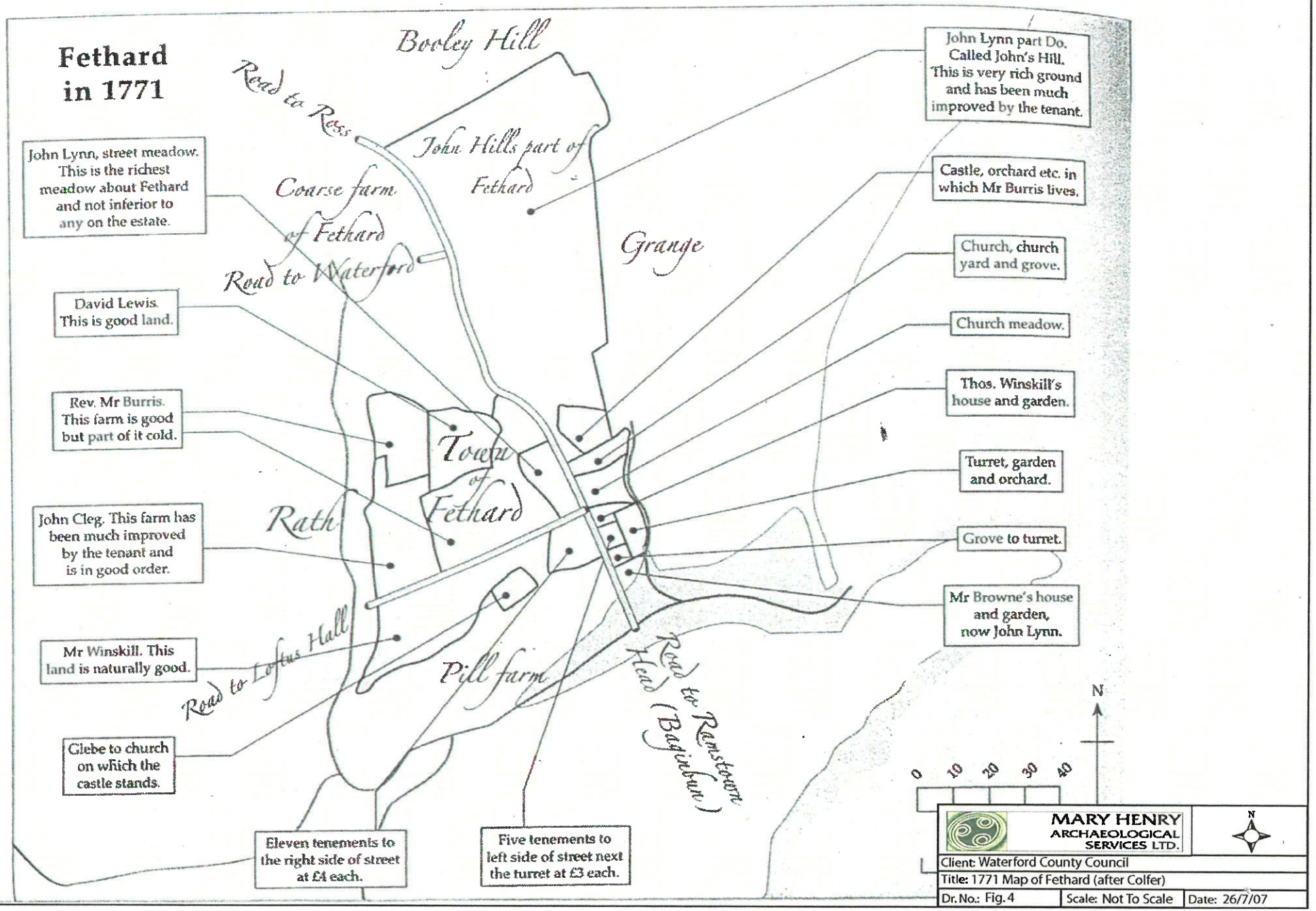
Title: First Edition OS Map Showing Route

Dr. No.: Fig. 2	Scale: Not To Scale	Date: 26/7/07



MARY HENRY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD.

Client: Waterford County Council		
Title: Plan of Fethard Showing Medieval Features (after Colfer)		
Dr. No.: Fig. 3	Scale: Not To Scale	Date: 26/7/07


Fethard in 1771
Booley Hill
Road to Ross
John Hills part of Fethard
Coarse farm of Fethard
Road to Waterford
Grange
John Lynn, street meadow. This is the richest meadow about Fethard and not inferior to any on the estate.
David Lewis. This is good land.
Rev. Mr Burris. This farm is good but part of it cold.
John Cleg. This farm has been much improved by the tenant and is in good order.
Mr Winskill. This land is naturally good.
Road to Loftus Hall
Glebe to church on which the castle stands.
Town of Fethard
Rath
Pill farm
Road to Ramstown Head (Baginbun)
Eleven tenements to the right side of street at £4 each.
Five tenements to left side of street next the turret at £3 each.
John Lynn part Do. Called John's Hill. This is very rich ground and has been much improved by the tenant.
Castle, orchard etc. in which Mr Burris lives.
Church, church yard and grove.
Church meadow.
Thos. Winskill's house and garden.
Turret, garden and orchard.
Grove to turret.
Mr Browne's house and garden, now John Lynn.
N
0 10 20 30 40
MARY HENRY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD.
Client: Waterford County Council
Title: 1771 Map of Fethard (after Colfer)
Dr. No.: Fig. 4
Scale: Not To Scale
Date: 26/7/07