ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
OF THE PROPOSED GROUP SEWERAGE SCHEME
BETWEEN HARTLEY AND CARTOWN
COUNTY LEITRIM

Through Time Ltd.
Professional Archaeological Services
Old Church Street, Athenry, Co. Galway
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December 2017

Through Time Ltd.
Professional Archaeological Services
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Archaeological Assessment of the Hartley/Cartown GSS, County Leitrim.

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Client: Hartley Cartown Sewerage Scheme Company Ltd.

Statutory Bodies: National Monuments, Department of
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II  ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS USED IN TEXT

**Barony, Parish, Townland** These terms refer to land divisions in Ireland. The barony is the largest land division in a county, which is formed from a number of parishes. These parishes are in turn made up of several townlands, which are the smallest land division in the country. The origins of these divisions are believed to be in the Early Medieval/Christian period (AD500-AD1000), or may date earlier in the Iron Age (500BC-AD500).

**First Edition** This relates to editions of the OS 6 inch maps for County Leitrim. The first edition map completed for the area dates to the early 1840s and this is referred to in the text as the ‘first edition’.

**LE** - This number is the number of the site on the SMR map (see below). It begins with the county code, here LE for Leitrim, the 6-inch sheet number, followed by the number of the archaeological site.

**m** Metres, all dimensions are given in metres or part of a metre.

**OS** Ordnance Survey

**RMP** Record of Monuments and Places. A record on which all known archaeological sites are marked and listed in an accompanying inventory. This resource is based on all publicly available material and cartographic sources and is read in conjunction with constraint maps.

**Sheet** This relates to the 6 inch map for County Leitrim which are divided into sheets. This project is concerned with sheet number 27.
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Introduction

The following report was compiled by the writer at the request of Hartley Cartown Group Sewerage Scheme Ltd. It concerns the proposed group sewerage scheme in the area of Hartley and Cartown in County Leitrim. The development will include the construction of three pumping stations as well as the development of a gravity sewer and rising main network. The scheme, apart from the development of pumping stations, is concentrated along the local road network and covers a total length of c. 3.5km. This archaeological assessment was undertaken to assess the impact of the proposed development on the surrounding archaeological and cultural heritage landscape.

1.2 Background

This report presents the results of an archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact assessment for a proposed sewer scheme in Hartley-Cartown, County Leitrim.

The purpose of the report is to assess the potential impacts of the proposed development on the surrounding archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage landscape. The assessment is based on a desktop study of the cultural heritage and archaeological data and field walking over the proposed route. The proposed sewer run along local roads to the north of Carrick on Shannon town in County Leitrim. The development will involve the construction of three Pumping Stations along the route. All of the pumping stations will be constructed adjacent to the existing road and will occupy sites not greater than 15m x 15m. This report combines desk based research and a field walking survey to identify areas of archaeological, architectural and/or cultural significance likely to be impacted by the proposed development. An assessment of the impacts is included and mitigation measures recommended where appropriate. For the purpose of this report the proposed route through Hartley, running along the road, is referred to as the western road while the Cartown route is referred to as the eastern road.
Archaeological Assessment of the Hartley/Cartown GSS, County Leitrim.

Fig. 1: General site location

Fig. 2: Details of the proposed scheme.
2. RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Archaeological monuments are protected through national and international policy designed to secure the protection of the cultural heritage resource. This is facilitated in accordance with the provisions of the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention), which was ratified by Ireland in 1997.

The National Monuments Act 1930 to 2004 and relevant provisions of the National Cultural Institutions Act 1997 are the primary means of ensuring the satisfactory protection of archaeological remains, which includes all man-made structures of whatever form or date except buildings habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes. A National Monument is described as:

“a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto” (National Monuments Act 1930 Section 2).

A number of mechanisms under the National Monuments Act are applied to secure the protection of archaeological monuments. These include the Register of Historic Monuments, the Record of Monuments and Places and the placing of Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders on endangered sites.

The minister may acquire National Monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The State or the Local Authority may assume guardianship of any National Monument (other than dwellings). The owners of National Monuments may also appoint the Minister or the local Authority of that monument if the State or Local Authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the State, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

Section 5 of the 1987 Act requires the Minister to establish and maintain a Register of Historic Monuments. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the Register are afforded statuary protection under the 1987 Act. Any interference with sites recorded on the Register is illegal without the permission of the Minister. Two months notice in writing is required prior to any work being undertaken on or in the vicinity of a Registered Monument. The Register also includes sites under preservation orders and temporary preservation orders with the written consent, and at the discretion of the Minister.

Section 12 (1) of the 1994 Act requires the Minister to establish and maintain a Record of Monuments and Places where the Minister believes that such monuments exist. The Record comprises a list of monuments and relevant places and a map/s showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. All sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places receive statuary protection under the National Monuments Act 1994.
Section 12(3) of the 1994 Act provides that:

"Where the owner or occupier (other than the Minister) of a monument or place included in the Record, or any other person, proposed to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such a monument or place, he or she shall give notice to the Minister to carry out work and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence the works until two months after the giving of notice".

The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act 1999 and the Planning and Development Act of 2000 are the main built heritage legislation. The Architectural Heritage Act requires the Minister to establish a survey to identify, record and assess the architectural heritage of the country. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) records all built heritage structures within specific counties in Ireland. The document is used to advise local Authorities on the register of a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) as required by the Planning and Development Act, 2000.

The Act of 2000 requires Local Authorities to establish a Record of Protected Structures to be included in the County Development Plan (CDP). Buildings recorded in the RPS can include Recorded Monuments, structures listed in the NIAH or buildings deemed to be of architectural, archaeological or artistic importance by the Minister. Once listed in the RPS the sites/areas receive statuary protection from injury or demolition under the 2000 Act. Damage to or demolition of a site registered in the RPS is an offence. The detail of the list varies from County to County. If the Local Authority considers a building to be in need of a repair it can order conservation and/or restoration works. The owner or developer must make a written application/request to the local Authority to carry out any works on a protected Structure and its environs.

Fieldwork for the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) for county Leitrim was undertaken in 2003. Where an NIAH survey has been carried out, those structures which have been attributed a rating value of international, national or regional importance in the inventory are recommended by the Minister of the CHG to the relevant planning authority for inclusion on the RPS. In accordance with Section 53 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, if a planning authority, after considering a recommendation made to it under this section, decides not to comply with the recommendation, it shall inform the Minister in writing of the reason for its decision. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage records nothing in the area of the development.

Leitrim County Development Plan (2015-2021)

Leitrim County Council has written policies on the preservation of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage remains in relation to permitted development. These relate to archaeological features and objects, built structures, views and scenic routes.
3. METHODOLOGY

This involved an examination of the archaeological and historical context of the area in general and specifically the route of the proposed sewer and pumping stations. The archaeological assessment is divided into two separate phases. Phase I involved a paper survey of archaeological, historical and cartographic sources. Phase II involved a walkover survey and field inspection of the area of the proposed development.

An impact assessment and mitigation strategy has been prepared to highlight potential adverse impacts that the proposed route may have on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource. The mitigation strategy is designed to avoid, reduce or offset any adverse impacts.

4. DESK STUDY

The following sources were examined as part of the archaeological assessment:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Leitrim;
- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for County Leitrim;
- The Archaeological Inventory for County Leitrim;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021;
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage;
- First edition ordnance survey maps;
- Second edition ordnance survey maps;
- Third edition ordnance survey maps;
- Aerial photography;
- Excavation bulletins.

Record of Monuments and Places

All known archaeological monuments are indicated on 6 inch ordnance survey maps and are listed in this record. The RMP and the SMR are not complete records as newly discovered sites may not appear. In conjunction with the RMP and SMR the electronic database of recorded monuments the files of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland were consulted. The following descriptions detail the recorded archaeological monuments in proximity to the proposed development as indicated on the accompanying maps (Figs. 3-5).
**LE027-100**

**Type:** Ringfort - rath  
**Townland:** Hartley  
**Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP:** Yes  
**Description:** Located on top of a low drumlin. This is a grass-covered circular area (int. diam. 26.5m N-S; 25.5m E-W) defined by an earthen bank (Wth 3.3m; int. H 0.2m; ext. H 1.4m generally to 1.75m at SW) and a fosse represented by an external band of rushes (Wth 2-3m). The original entrance is not identified.

**LE027-099**

**Type:** Ringfort - rath  
**Townland:** Hartley  
**Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP:** Yes  
**Description:** On the S-facing slope of a low drumlin and c. 400m NE of a SW-NE extension of Lough Edin. This is a grass and rush-covered D-shaped area (int. dims 30m N-S; 25m E-W) defined by an overgrown earthen bank which is best preserved at S (Wth 5.3m; int. H 0.45m; ext. H 1.25m) and an external fosse (at S: Wth 2.9m; D 0.25m). The original entrance is not identified, but the perimeter is truncated at NW by a NE-SW field bank.

**LE027-098**

**Type:** Ringfort - rath  
**Townland:** Hartley  
**Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP:** Yes  
**Description:** Located on the SW-facing slope of a low drumlin and c. 300m from the shore of a NE-SW extension of Lough Edin. This is a grass and rush-covered subcircular area (int. dims 29m N-S; 25.5m E-W) defined by an overgrown earthen bank (Wth 3.5m; int. H 0.35m; ext. H 1.1m) which is reduced to a scarp.
(H 0.6m) SE-S, and an external fosse (Wth 2.1m; D 0.35m) E-W-N. The original entrance is not identified. Archaeological testing (02E0483) c. 110m to the NW failed to produce any related material (Read 2004).

LE027-101
Type: Ringfort - rath
Townland: Cartown
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
Description: Situated in a low-lying position c. 30m from a SE-NW section of a small S-N stream. This monument is visible as a D-shaped feature on aerial photographs (OSAP: 4/1043-4). It is a grass-covered D-shaped area (int. dims 33m E-W; 27m N-S) defined by an earthen bank (Wth 4-5m; int. H 0.15m; ext. H 0.6m generally to 1.1m at S) and a slight external fosse (Wth 2.1-2.5m; max. D 0.5m). There is a straight side at W and the straight S side is formed by an old E-W stream bed. The original entrance is not identified.

LE027-143
Type: Ringfort - rath
Townland: Cartown
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
Description: Located in improved pasture, towards the bottom of a S-facing slope, but it is surrounded by higher ground within 300-600m. It was first identified by Susan Curran as part of an M.A. thesis with University College Dublin using a LiDAR survey dataset commissioned by Leitrim County Council and the National Roads Authority. This is a D-shaped area (dims 20m E-W; 9m N-S) defined by a slight earthen bank (at NE: Wth of base 5.1m; Wth of top 2m; int. H 0.25; ext. H 0.4m) and outer fosse (at NE: Wth of top 7.3m; Wth of base 3m; D 0.25m) WSW-N-ENE. The monument is truncated by an ENE-WSW drain and field bank with hedge at S, and there is no evidence of the monument beyond this boundary. There is no evidence of an original entrance.

LE027-070
Type: Enclosure
Townland: Caldragh
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
Description: Located on a gentle W-facing slope. It is visible as a large circular feature on aerial photographs (OSAP: 4/1044-5). This is a grass-covered circular platform (diam. 84m N-S; 80m E-W) defined by an earthen bank (Wth 2.8m; int. H 0.4m; ext. H 0.8m) with some bushes and a slight fosse (Wth 3m) at S, and by a scarp (H 0.5-1m) elsewhere. It is bisected by an old E-W trackway towards the perimeter at S. Archaeological testing (05E0711) just to the SE produced no related material (Henry 2008).
Table 1: Details of recorded monuments in proximity to the proposed route pipeline and pumping stations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cartown</td>
<td>Ringfort</td>
<td>LE027:101</td>
<td>127m/80m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartown</td>
<td>Ringfort</td>
<td>LE027:143</td>
<td>190m/145m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartley</td>
<td>Ringfort</td>
<td>LE027:098</td>
<td>70m/30m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartley</td>
<td>Ringfort</td>
<td>LE027:099</td>
<td>130m/85m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartley</td>
<td>Ringfort</td>
<td>LE027:100</td>
<td>144m/110m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are six recorded monuments located within 200m of the proposed sewer network and pumping station locations. Five of the monuments recorded in proximity to the development are ringforts while the sixth is an enclosure. The table above details the monuments and the distances they are located in relation to the development. A ringfort (027:098) in Hartley townland is the closest recorded monument to the proposed scheme. It is located c. 70m east of the proposed gravity sewer and within 30m of the zone of archaeological significance surrounding the monument.

Topographical Files of The National Museum of Ireland
This is the archive of all known finds recorded by the National Museum. The archive primarily relates to artefacts but also includes references to monuments and previous excavations. The find spots of artefacts are important contributors to the knowledge of the archaeological landscape. Location information relating to finds is an important indicator of human activity. Topographical files examined for the townlands impacted by the various route sections revealed nothing of archaeological significance.

Aerial Photography
The Ordnance survey of Ireland aerial photographs (www.osi.ie) were consulted to identify any archaeological features in the landscape which may not have been previously recorded. There was no evidence of additional archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage features recorded on the aerial photographs within the area of the proposed routes travelling adjacent to the road or in green field sites.
Leitrim County Development Plan
The County Development plan (2015-2021) was consulted for the schedule of buildings (Record of Protected Structures) and items of cultural, historical or archaeological interest that may be affected by the proposed development. There are no Protected Structures in the area of the proposed development.

National Monuments in State care
The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government maintains a database on a county basis of National Monuments in State Care. The term National Monument is defined in Section 2 of the National Monuments Act (1930) as a monument or the remains of a monument...
“The preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto”.
The list contains no monuments in the area of the proposed development.

National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
The NIAH maintains a non-statutory register of buildings and structures recorded on a county basis. There are no buildings/structures recorded along the route of the proposed scheme, in the areas of the proposed pumping stations or in the immediate vicinity. One structure (Reg. 30931001)- a 19th century house, is located c. 120m south of the proposed route in Cloonsheebane townland.

The NIAH also maintains a non-statutory register of historic gardens and designed landscapes also recorded on a county basis. There are no gardens or designed landscapes on their records from the area of the proposed development.

Previous Archaeological Work in the Area
A search through the archive of archaeological excavations (excavations.ie)
found archaeological work had previously been undertaken in the vicinity of the enclosure - LE027-070 and the ringfort - LE027-098. Archaeological testing undertaken by Mary Henry to the south-east of the enclosure (05E0711) uncovered nothing of archaeological significance. Archaeological testing was undertaken by Martin Read (02E0483) c. 110m north-west of the ringfort. Nothing of archaeological significance was encountered in the course of testing.

**Cartographic Analysis**

Consultation of the Ordnance Survey Maps dating from 1838-1842 to the present day facilitated a further assessment of the Archaeological and Architectural Heritage of the development site. The first edition map shows the roadway at Hartley (western road of scheme) terminating at Hartley House and landscaped gardens, on the east bank of the river Shannon. The third edition map shows the road being extended to the east and north of the gardens. The modern road runs immediately east of the former gardens and continues in a northern direction with the river Shannon to the west. No features of archaeological significance are indicated on the ordnance survey maps in the areas of the proposed pumping stations 2 and 3, located along the western road.

The eastern road of the proposed scheme is indicated on both the first and third edition ordnance survey maps where it leads to Leitrim village. The proposed pumping station No. 3 is located on the east side of this road, in the townland of Cloonsheereevagh. Nothing of archaeological significance is indicated in this area on any of the maps.
5. GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE

Leitrim County is an elongated area extending 75 kilometers from the sea at Donegal Bay to the margins of the central Longford Plain. The county of Leitrim forms the western boundary of the ancient Kingdom of Breifne which existed for over a thousand years. Breifne was regarded as part of Connacht in its early years as its early rulers-The Ui Briuin originated in the Plain of Magh Ai in Roscommon. The family/tribe moved to the Leitrim-Cavan area in the 8th century. From the mid 10th century they adopted the patronymic Ruairc and provided four Kings of Connacht to the mid 12th century (Mac an Ghalloglaigh, 1988). South Leitrim eventually became part of Longford in the 12th century. The redrawing of the boundaries continued through to the 17th century when the baronies of Tullyshaw and Tullyhunco were assigned to County Cavan which was consigned to Ulster.

Leitrim county has a rich archaeological heritage as represented by the variety and number of monuments that date from the prehistoric period onwards. Neolithic activity in the county is evident in the fine collection of megalithic tombs. The river Shannon lies to the west of the proposed route as it travels from Leitrim village to Carrick on Shannon. The importance of the river to humans from prehistoric times right through to the modern era can be seen in the range of monuments and artefacts associated with this important landscape feature.

Five ringforts and one enclosure are recorded in the vicinity of the proposed development. The construction of ringforts in Ireland dates from the early Christian/medieval period (c. 500 AD to 1170 AD) and possibly continued up to the seventeenth century. Rath is the term applied to those ringforts of earthen construction, while cashel refers to those constructed from stone. A ringfort generally consists of a circular, subcircular, oval or D-shaped area, enclosed by one or more banks of earth or stone, or a combination of both. Earthen ringforts usually have an external fosse surrounding the bank, and a causewayed entrance giving access to the interior. The bank is generally built by piling up inside the fosse, the material obtained by digging the latter. The function of ringforts was generally as enclosed homesteads, with the defences protecting the houses and outbuildings in the interior, but they may also have been used for social gatherings.

One enclosure (LE027:070) is located c. 140m from the proposed development. Enclosures are usually distinguished on the basis of their anomalous characteristics, such as their large or small size, or lack of entrance features, which sets the apart from ringforts or other classifiable enclosures. The term usually refers to a site that consists of an enclosing bank surrounding a circular or sub-circular area, and with no apparent entrance, but a number of these ‘enclosures’ may prove to be raths or cashels. Due to the lack of diagnostic remains it is difficult to suggest a period of construction or use for the
monuments. Occasionally, the enclosures are surrounded by a ring of trees. The function of these sites is indeterminable from visual inspection alone (i.e. without excavation) due to the lack of identifiable features. Sites which are now destroyed but which have been detected on aerial photographs, marked on various Ordnance Survey maps or locally described as circular or sub-circular areas defined by banks and/or fosses are usually categorised as enclosures.

The area of the proposed scheme is associated with the St. George family that came to Carrick on Shannon in the 17th century and descendants of which built Hatley Manor, in Carrick on Shannon, in the 19th century. The Landed Estates Database records the following in regard to the family of St. George in Carrick on Shannon. "Richard St George, a member of a Cambridgeshire family, came to Ireland in the 17th century and was appointed Governor of the town of Athlone. His grandson Richard St George of Carrick on Shannon, county Leitrim, had 2 natural children, Richard St George founder of the Hatley Manor, county Leitrim branch of the family and Mary St George, who married James Mansergh and they were the parents of Colonel Richard Mansergh St George of Headford, county Galway. Members of the family served as High Sheriffs of Leitrim in the eighteenth century. Charles Manners St. George and his Swedish wife Christina were the owners of the St.George estate in Leitrim in the mid-19th century. Petronella Halberg, niece of Christina St George, married Charles Whyte of Newtown Manor and the Whytes inherited Hatley Manor and much of the St George property. The representative of Mrs. St. George are listed as the owners of over 1600 acres in 1876. The family also held lands in counties Offaly, Roscommon, Tipperary (629 acres in the parish of Donaghmore, barony of Iffa and Offa East) and Waterford where Christina St George is recorded as the owner of over 1000 acres. Over 300 acres of Sir John St. George's estate in the latter county was offered for sale in the Landed Estates Court in June 1878. Sir Richard St. George of Tully is recorded as a member of the Grand Panel of county Roscommon in 1828. In 1852 the Roscommon portion of the estate in the barony of Moycarn was offered for sale in the Encumbered Estates court. This was the property of Richard Bligh St. George and Thomas Baldwin St. George. However, it appears not to have all been sold as Kate St.George was a principal lessor in the parish of Moore, barony of Moycarn, at the time of Griffith's Valuation. Her property was sublet from the Bishop of Meath. In the 1870s she is recorded as owning over 1700 acres in county Roscommon and was resident at Cheltenham, England."

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

A field inspection of the proposed development site was undertaken in December 2017. This allowed the opportunity of first hand observation of the terrain, which can often result in the discovery of hitherto unrecorded sites and finds. The works will involve the sewer network and the construction of three pumping stations. None of these works will impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage features. A total of six archaeological monuments are recorded within 200m of the proposed development with the closest monument - A ringfort (027:098) in Hartley townland is located c. 70m east of the proposed gravity
All of the sites of the proposed pumping stations were visited as part of the archaeological assessment. All three are located in marginal land adjacent to the road. Nothing of archaeological significance was visible above ground at any of the proposed pumping station locations.
Plate 4: Location of proposed pumping station No. 1

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report was undertaken as an archaeological and cultural heritage impact assessment associated with the proposed sewerage scheme in Hartley and Cartown in county Leitrim. The assessment included both desk based research and on site field walking to identify areas of archaeological/cultural heritage potential.

The proposed sewer network and construction of three pumping stations will not impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage features. The proposed sewer networks are located along the existing road network. One monument – a ringfort (027:098) in Hartley townland is located c. 70m east of the proposed gravity sewer and 30m outside the zone of archaeological significance surrounding the monument. It is proposed that all ground disturbance in this area is monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Ground disturbance at the proposed pumping station green field sites should also be archaeologically monitored on a full time basis. Elsewhere on the scheme, attendance on a part-time basis should ensure that any stratigraphical layers of archaeological potential are recorded and monitored.

PLEASE NOTE...

Any recommendations contained in this report are subject to the ratification of the National Monuments, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.