

C O U R T N E Y • D E E R Y
ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE

Lucan Public Realm Proposed Enhancement

The Demesne and Riverside

Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

Part 8 Submission

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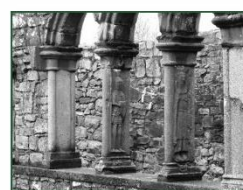
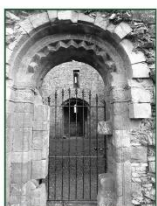
On behalf of

dhbarchitects

for

South Dublin County Council

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. General

This archaeological impact assessment report assesses the archaeological potential and significance of proposed works to well used public realm sites in the environs of Lucan Village, County Dublin (Figure 1). It is proposed to upgrade, redesign and repurpose the Demesne Park and Riverside Park (Liffey Promenade):



Figure 1 Approximate location of the Demesne and Riverside Public Realm improvement works

- **Demesne Park**

The Demesne Park public realm area comprises the existing carpark and pedestrian entrance into the Lucan Demesne Park. The car park stretches from its connection with the footpath (from Lucan) at its eastern end to the Demesne Park access gates at the western end. It is bound by the N4 slip road and its junction with the Lucan Road to the south and by the Demesne Park boundary wall to the north. To the north is the sloping woodland and river valley of the River Liffey.

- **Riverside (Liffey Promenade)**

The Riverside (Liffey Promenade) public realm area includes Lucan Bridge to the east to the steps and landing at the end of Watery Lane on the western end, and from the Liffey edge to the site boundary on the southern side, including the access route to the river edge from the rear of the Mall properties. It includes a related but separate area at the junction of Watery Lane and the Mall/Main Street.

The aim of the report is to establish as far as the records allow the archaeological potential of the study area and to highlight if there are any archaeological implications for the proposed public realm works and in turn to suggest a mitigation strategy to minimise the impact on potential archaeological heritage within the public realm areas.

The report will accompany the Part 8 application prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. It has been carried out by Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd on behalf of dhbarchitects for South Dublin County Council.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

The impact assessment is based on a desk study, comprising an examination of published and unpublished documentary and cartographic material, supported by a field survey.

2.1. Desk-Based Study

In order to understand the character of the public realm sites an archaeological and historical background was compiled and all designated archaeological and cultural heritage sites and monuments located within c. 100m of the proposed public realm areas were assessed. This served to establish the existing archaeological environment, and to provide an understanding of the archaeological constraints for the proposed improvement works. The material sources consulted as part of the desk study are as follows:

- National Monuments, Preservation Orders, Register of Historic Monuments lists for County Dublin, sourced from the Department Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH);
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), DHLGH;
- The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland (NMI);
- Documentary sources (see references section at the end of the report);
- Cartographic sources, including Down Survey barony and parish maps (c. 1656), Rocque's map of County Dublin (1760), Taylor's map of the environs of Dublin (1816), Duncan (1821) Ordnance Survey mapping 1843, 1906-9, 1935-38);
- Excavations Bulletins and Excavations Database (1970-2018), Dublin Excavations GIS project;
- South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022.
- Aerial imagery (OSi 1995, 2000, 2005, 2011, 2013 & Google Earth 2018).

Lucan contains an Architectural Conservation Area, numerous Record of Protected Structures sites and National Inventory of Architectural Heritage sites, these are examined as part of a separate built heritage report carried out by dhbarchitects.

2.2. Field Survey

A field inspection was carried out in relation to the proposed scheme on the 13th of April 2021, with the project design team at which time recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity were visited to assess their current condition and setting.

2.3. Archaeology Objectives in the Development Plan (South Dublin County Council 2016-2022)

The current South Dublin County Development Plan (2016-2022) contains policies which are intended to ensure the protection of this heritage. It should be noted that archaeological sites and archaeological zones of interest are identified by a recorded monument reference number on the land use zoning maps.

HCL1 Objective 1: To protect, conserve and enhance natural, built and cultural heritage features and restrict development that would have a significant negative impact on these assets.

HCL2 Objective 1: To favour the preservation in-situ of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHGI (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

HCL2 Objective 2: To ensure that development is designed to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features and objects.

HCL2 Objective 3: To protect and enhance sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and ensure that development in the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Area of Archaeological Potential does not detract from the setting of the site, monument, feature or object and is sited and designed appropriately.

HCL2 Objective 4: To protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites including associated features and any discovered battlefield sites of significant archaeological potential within the County.

HCL2 Objective 5: To protect historical burial grounds within South Dublin County and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles.

In addition, within the Heritage, Conservation and Landscapes (HCL) Policy No 6 it is the objective of the Council to secure the identification, protection and conservation of historic items and features of interest throughout the County including street furniture, surface finishes, roadside installations, items of industrial heritage and other stand alone features of interest.

HCL 6 Objective 1: To ensure that development within the County including Council development seeks to retain, refurbish and incorporate historic items and features of interest.

HCL 6 Objective 2: To protect, preserve and maintain industrial heritage features including weirs, millraces, and mills along the River Dodder and River Liffey.

A Village Design Statement has been developed for Lucan 2007 and is a tool to guide development in the Village.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1. Archaeological Background

3.1.1. Introduction

The archaeological background draws from archaeological research and assessments previously carried out by Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy and describes human activity and settlement in Lucan from the Prehistoric Period onwards.

3.1.2. Prehistoric Period

Lucan, located on the banks of the River Liffey and at the junction of the river Griffeen is within an archaeologically rich landscape where settlement activity is known to have occurred from Neolithic times (c. 4000–2300 BC), with early settlers attracted to the River Liffey valley, with all its natural resources and advantages. The finds of polished stone axeheads in Yellow Walls (NMI Reg. No. 1975:90) and Kellystown (NMI 1979:104), northeast of Lucan, together with flint scrapers and worked flint flakes from nearby Broomfield (NMI Reg. Nos 1966:4 & 1968:151-71) all point to possible tool use in the general area at least as early as the Neolithic (Courtney 1998).

Subsequent Bronze Age (c. 2300 to c. 500 BC) activity in Lucan is suggested by finds including a bronze stick-pin, a bronze latched-brooch and a bronze ring-pin (NMI 1960:5, 1992:264). Evidence of Bronze Age occupation in the surrounding landscape is indicated by the presence of a mound and reported finds of human skeletal material of uncertain date from the nearby townland of Astagob (RMP Ref: DU017-007). Further prehistoric activity is indicated by three conjoined barrows (earthen burial mounds) in the townland of Kellystown, and a habitation site in the townland of Diswellstown, 4km northeast of Lucan (RMP Ref: DU017-010). There are ring-ditches recorded in Lucan Demesne (DU017-094) and in Laraghcon (RMP Ref: DU017-096), the function of these monuments is unknown, they may be the remains of ploughed out barrow, which is part of the Bronze/Iron Age burial tradition (c. 2400 BC - AD 400).

3.1.3. Early Medieval Period (400-1000AD)

This period saw the development of a mixed-farming economy managed by kings, nobles and free farmers. Additional improvements in agriculture from the 5th century AD resulted in a further wave of settlement expansion and population increase in rural Ireland, leading to the construction of the modern landscape's

most common archaeological site: the ringfort, or its Irish equivalent, the rath. Ringforts are circular enclosures, essentially habitation sites or farmsteads. They were not simple isolated homesteads, however, and should be considered within their contemporary settlement landscape, which would have consisted of unenclosed settlements, farms and fields, route ways and natural resources (Stout 1997).

Despite being the numerous archaeological site type in Ireland, there are only two ringforts recorded within the study area, neither of which is upstanding. One is located on the south side of Lucan village (RMP Ref: DU017-021001). It is located on a prominent natural rise south of the town. The site also contains a souterrain (RMP Ref: DU017-021002), an underground stone walled passage with several walled chambers. The souterrain was found in 1740 on what was described in contemporary accounts as 'Fort Hill' which also describes artefacts found in its chambers comprising '*curious relics of antiquity ... consisting of celts, piece of bone curiously inscribed and sculptured, military weapons of copper or bronze and various others of more recent date*', D'Alton adds that a spur was also among the finds which might possibly suggest that the feature was an Anglo – Norman ringwork (Bradley 1987). The second ringfort site was identified as a cropmark in Coldblow townland northwest of the town (RMP Ref: DU017-086). This is typical of the general paucity in the county and is undoubtedly the result of intensive agricultural practices, with ploughing removing surface traces of the monuments.

The nearest early ecclesiastical site to Lucan is a church site at Clonsilla (RMP Ref: DU013-017), although a holy well site (RMP Ref: DU017-017) of unknown date (Sunday Well), is situated on the north bank of the Liffey at Barnhill Cross Road. No visible above ground trace remains of the site. Holy wells such as these can be indicators of early ecclesiastical sites, though there is no other evidence for a site in this location.

3.1.4. Medieval Period (1000-1690AD)

Borough of Lucan

The medieval manorial borough of Lucan is believed to have been established a short time after the Anglo-Norman invasion of 1169 and is one of the few medieval boroughs in the county which was not founded by the archbishops of Dublin. The street-plan of the borough was essentially linear and consisted of one principal street, Main Street - modern Main Street is on the site of its medieval predecessor. The burgage plots stretched from the street back to the river and a complementary pattern existed on the south side of the street. A watermill is frequently mentioned in association with the manor of Lucan but the manorial mill seems to have been located at Luttrellstown rather than at Lucan (Bradley 1987).

As the centre of a manor, Lucan would have had a castle, presumably located somewhere in the vicinity of the present Lucan House. It was probably erected soon after the Anglo-Norman conquest of 1169–70 when the lands of Lucan came into the possession of Alard Fitzwilliam. Sometime before 1204, they were granted by Fitzwilliam to Warrisius de Pech, who appears to have been a native of Hampshire and whose

descendants held the lands of Lucan for more than a century (Bradley & King 1988, 251). The confirmation of this grant by King John is the first historical reference to Lucan.

By the second half of the thirteenth century, Lucan possessed a manorial residence with a large curtilage including a garden, a mill, and a dovecote. Around the manor, a town of considerable size had grown up and before 1327, Robert de Nottingham, mayor of Dublin and one of its wealthiest citizens, was in possession of the Lucan estate. He died in that year and was succeeded at Lucan by his son William (Ball 1906). A tower house is recorded by the RMP (Ref: DU017-019001) within the demesne of Lucan House; this is a residential tower attached to the medieval parish church, which Bradley notes is often mistaken for Lucan Castle (the site of which is unknown, though as mentioned above it is suggested that it was located on the site of present Lucan House). The old St Mary's parish church (RMP Ref: DU017-019002), which was connected to Lucan Castle by a door, was in existence by c. 1219 when it was granted to the Augustinian priory of St Catherine founded by Warisius de Pech, to the west of Lucan (see below) (Ball 1906, Gwynn & Hadcock, 1970). In 1237, after St Catherine's was united with St Thomas' Dublin, the advowson passed to that abbey and after the Dissolution it was bought up by Sir William Sarsfield. The church was kept in good repair until the end of the 16th century but by 1630 the chancel was ruinous (Ball 1906, *Figure 2*).



Figure 2 *Lucan Church and Tower House (ball, 1904) From F. Elrington Ball (1906) History of the County of Dublin, Part IV, Sketch of the ruins of the castle and church*

The church, graveyard and castle, which are in ruins are located in a mature wooded area within Lucan Demesne to the rear of structures fronting the Main Street (Figure 3). There is no public view into the castle.

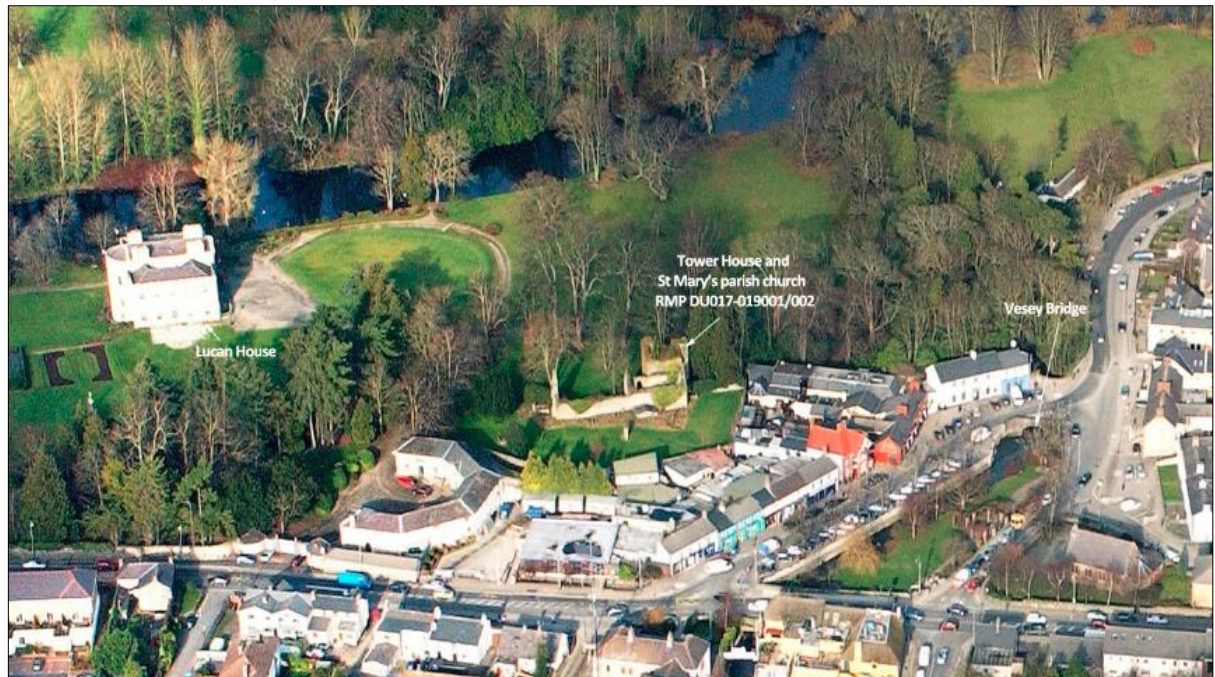


Figure 3 Aerial View of Lucan House (middle left), the ruins of the Tower House and St Marys parish church (centre). (Source South Dublin Co Co. Ref: 5255 Gerry O'Leary Collection 2004)

The site of a second castle (RMP Ref: DU017-018) is marked on the historic OS maps on the north bank of the Liffey, a short distance west/northwest of Lucan Bridge. The site lies within the Hills Industrial Estate on the Lower Lucan Road, with no visible trace above ground. The 1937 edition OS 6-inch map shows 'Castle (site of)' on the north bank of the River Liffey at a site which is occupied by a Woollen Mill. This location differs from that shown on the earlier 1837 OS 6-inch map. It is shown on the north side of the road where there is a steep scarp today (Figure 4). There is no visible trace of the castle today.

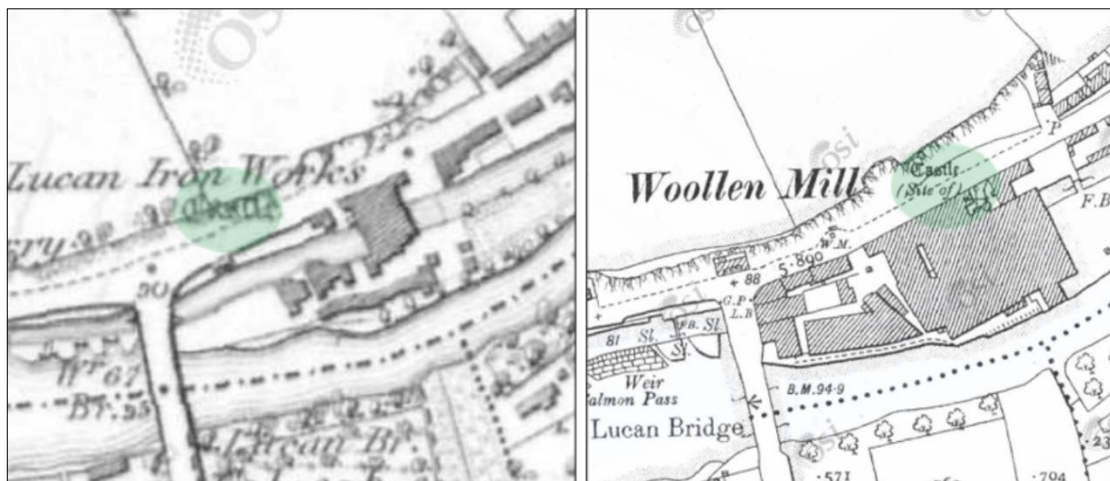


Figure 4 Castle site RMP Ref: DU017-018 indicated on the 1837 OS 6-inch map and the 1937 edition OS 6-inch map

Manor of Lucan

By the second half of the 13th century, Lucan possessed a manorial residence with a large curtilage including a garden, a mill, and a dovecote. Around the manor, a town of considerable size had grown up and before 1327, Robert de Nottingham, mayor of Dublin and one of its wealthiest citizens, was in possession of the Lucan estate. He died in that year and was succeeded at Lucan by his son William (Ball 1906).

During the reign of Richard II (1377–99), Lucan was held by the Rokeby family (Lewis 1837). The estate later came into the possession of the FitzGerald family who continued to hold it until the 16th century. At the time of the dissolution of monasteries around 1540, St Mary's Abbey in the city owned two houses and a dovecote at Lucan, and the Minor Canons and Choristers of St Patrick's Cathedral owned a house and some land there (adding the townland name 'Pettycanon' to that of Lucan). St Wolstan's Priory owned a holding in Lucan as well as the lands of Backweston and Cooldrinagh. After the attainder of Gerald, the tenth earl of Kildare, for high treason, the manor of Lucan was confiscated by the Crown and in 1554 was leased to the Clerk of the Check of the Army, Matthew King. The grant was subject to the condition that he inhabited the castle himself or installed men in it who would use the English tongue and dress and who would avoid all communication with the Irish (Ball 1906).

A few years later, the castle and estate of Lucan came into the possession of Sir William Sarsfield of Dublin who was a favourite of the Lord Lieutenant, Sir Henry Sidney, and a direct ancestor of the famous general of James II, Patrick Sarsfield, earl of Lucan. During his career, William Sarsfield served as alderman and mayor of Dublin Corporation and sheriff of the county and was appointed to command forces raised in the Newcastle barony. When the Confederate army and the Gaelic army under Owen Roe O'Neill advanced on Lucan and Newcastle during the war of 1641–53, William Sarsfield 'preserved his loyalty unblemished'. Because of this, the Sarsfields, like their neighbours the Luttrells, were compelled to hand over their estate to a nominee of the Commonwealth. Lucan, therefore, became the property of Sir Theophilus Jones, an officer who had distinguished himself in his service for Parliament during the war in Ireland. Jones made Lucan Castle his chief residence and ruled as owner over Sarsfield's estate. His possessions in the village of Lucan included a corn mill and some twenty thatched houses and cabins. At this time, the lands of Laraghcon contained a house occupied by one Samuel Lucas and two cottages (Ball 1906).

William Sarsfield died in 1654 having never regained the Lucan estate. Soon after the Restoration, however, his cousin and heir, Patrick Sarsfield, petitioned King Charles II to grant the estate to him. This the king was anxious to do due to the loyalty shown by William but the commissioners appointed under the Act of Settlement decided that the estate could not be restored to Patrick Sarsfield on account of his complicity in the rebellion of 1641. This could not apply, however, to his son, who had not been born at the time, and the commissioners thereby ordered that the estate be given up to him. Sir Theophilus Jones, of course, was unwilling to part with the properties and Charles II was anxious to compensate him with an equal or greater estate elsewhere. It was not until the time of the more famous Patrick Sarsfield, therefore, that the family

finally recovered most of their lost estates. This Patrick Sarsfield did not, however, reside in Lucan to any great extent and after the surrender of Limerick in 1691 he joined James II in France. He was subsequently killed at the Battle of Landen in 1693, leaving a son, on whose death in 1719, the title became extinct (Ball 1906; Joyce 1912).

3.1.5. Lucan Bridges from the Medieval period to the present day

The bridges at Lucan have been described as '*a never ending object of anxiety*' and were more than once rebuilt on new sites during the 18th century (Ball 1906). There has been a bridge over the River Liffey at Lucan since medieval times and over the centuries there appears to have been at least five bridges, which gradually migrated downstream to the eventual site of the existing Lucan Bridge. The first known reference to a bridge is in 1456 in the Statute Rolls under Henry VI which prescribed that '*two towers with two gates be made, one upon the bridge of Kilmainham, another upon the bridge of Lucan*' (O'Keefe et al. 2016).

The Down Survey parish map of c. 1656 is the first depiction of a bridge at Lucan (Figure 5), it shows a triple arched bridge spanning the river, though it is not possible to be certain, this bridge might be the medieval bridge RMP Ref: DU017-016, as it appears to be quite close to Lucan House. There is however another recorded site of a medieval bridge located further upstream at the site of the existing bridge (DU017-019006).

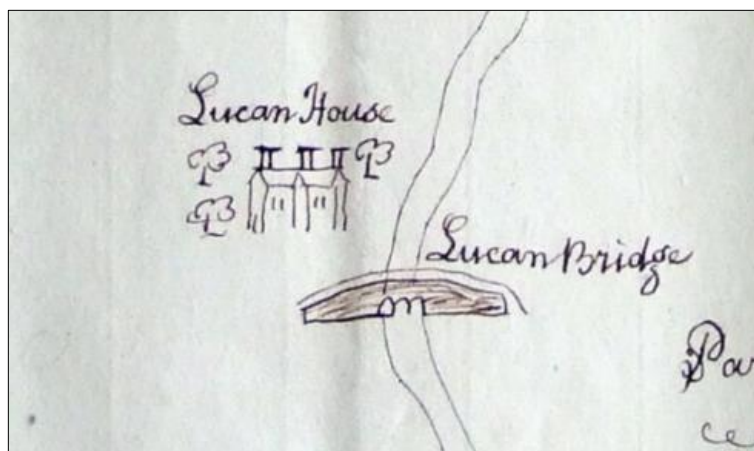


Figure 5 Down survey map of Lucan parish c. 1656, showing Lucan House and Bridge

The bridge crossing RMP Ref: DU017-016 is shown on Rocque's 1760 Map (Figure 6). It spans the Liffey at the eastern end of an island within the river, carrying a road from the Main Street. The road curves around the eastern edge of Lucan Demesne, running along the western banks of the River Griffeen and crosses the bridge to Coldblow on the northern side of the river. The bridge has three cutwaters on the downstream side and one large one on the upstream side along with indications of what may have been a millrace on the northern bank of the river (Duffy 1998).



Figure 6 Rocque's map of County Dublin, 1760

Remnants of this bridge are referred to in the first edition Ordnance Survey maps (1836–37) as 'Piers of Old Br.' and 'Arch' (Figure 7).



Figure 7 First edition Ordnance Survey map (1836–37) and the revised OS edition shows some possible surviving piers and a new foot bridge upstream of it.

A single, pointed, segmental arch is all that survives of this medieval bridge. It is built of coursed limestone blocks. A cutwater is present on the upstream side (RMP files) The northern end forms a pillar for a later ornamental gate which connects the bridge with a second bridge. It originally spanned the Liffey at a point on its course where there is an island.

Just 12 years after Rocque's map, Bernard Scalé's map of the Manor of Lucan in 1772 shows a new-found bridge slightly downstream of the bridge on Rocque's map, now east of the Griffeen/ Liffey confluence. The road through Lucan Demesne was removed (Figure 8), in its place, the main road through the village was routed to run east of the Griffeen River and a new bridge carried the road across the river to 'Groomerstown'.



Figure 8 1772 Map of Manor of Lucan by Bernard Scalé

The map also shows two bridge crossings of the River Griffeen. The northern bridge may be Vesey Bridge, which is slightly earlier than the map depiction, the southern bridge is likely to have been replaced in the 19th century when the Griffeen River was canalised.

Another bridge, 'Coldblow Bridge', was located further downstream again from the bridge depicted by Scalé. It was constructed in c. 1765, after Rocque's depiction but does not appear on Scalé's 1772 map, though it was still in use by the time Taylor did his survey in 1816 (Figure 9). The road alignment was shifted eastward creating Watery Lane. These changes allowed for the Griffeen River and lands associated with the 'Longwalk' to be subsumed into Lucan Demesne. A new bridge, the current Lucan Bridge, which was constructed in 1814 is also shown on this map, the road network associated with it is not shown indicating that it was probably still under construction at the time of the survey.



Figure 9 Taylor's map of the Environs of Dublin, 1816

The surviving remnants of the bridge (NIAH Ref 11201145) are referred to in the first edition Ordnance Survey maps (1836–37) as 'Piers of Br.' (Figure 10).



Figure 10 First edition OS Map 1836-37 and a view of the surviving spring arch of the 'Coldblow Bridge'.

Lucan Bridge is indicated on Duncan's map of 1821 along with its approach road, none of the other former bridges are indicated (Figure 11). The new parkland added to the eastern extent of Lucan Demesne is shown as a wooded area.

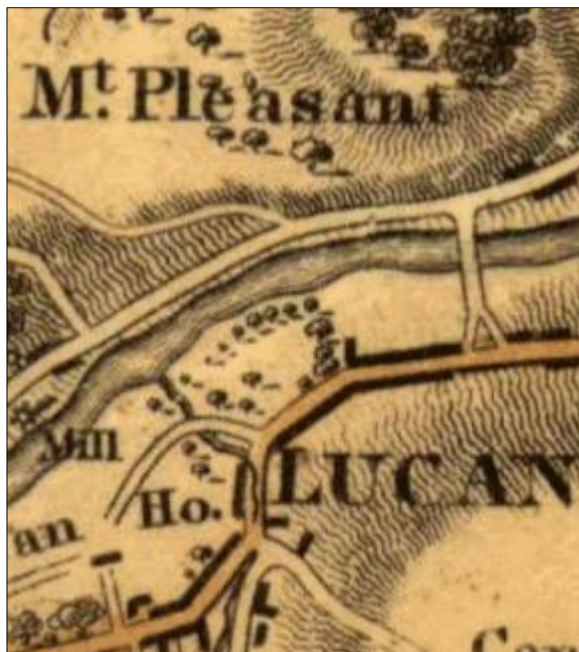


Figure 11 Duncan's map of 1821 showing the 'new' bridge crossing

It is suggested that Lucan Bridge was constructed on the site of an earlier bridge (RMP Ref: DU017-019006) that served the medieval borough.

Upstream from all the bridge sites there is a single-span iron footbridge over river dating to c. 1930 connecting Lucan Demesne to an island site in the River Liffey (NIAH 11201149). It comprises metal structure a with riveted girder framework, lattice bracing, and timber planked walkway). There are limestone coursed rubble piers to either end.

3.1.6. Post-Medieval / Early Modern Period

During the reign of William III, William Fanshawe, a Protestant, claimed the Lucan estate on behalf of his stepdaughter, Charlotte Sarsfield. Through her marriage, the Lucan estate passed to the Vesey's who built Lucan House c. 1770 (Ball 1906; Joyce 1912).

Lucan Spa

In the late 18th and 19th centuries, Lucan was a popular tourist draw, especially for the wealthier classes of Dublin. The Lucan Spa Hotel had established itself as a health resort, first opening in 1758, following the discovery of an iron spa nearby, at Chapel Hill. The spa was on the lands of Agmondisham Vesey, who built a wall around it to protect it from the Liffey flowing immediately nearby. Because of the health-giving and invigorating character of the waters, which contained carbonate of lime and sulphurated nitrogen gas, the hotel became a favourite attraction for the middle classes of Dublin and beyond (Walsh 2015). A mid-18th century bath-house is recorded as a chapel in the RMP (Ref: DU017-020) and stands within the woodland of Lucan Demesne and screened from public view by the demesne wall.

In 1795 the Old Lucan Spa Hotel (now the Lucan County Bar) was built, incorporating a ballroom. Lucan flourished as a consequence and a ballroom built nearby testified to the popularity of the spa, leading to dancing and associated merriment. The popularity was such that an attractive terrace of houses ('The Crescent') was built c. 1790 nearby to accommodate those not availing of the hotel itself. The town underwent further development in 1815 and the population grew to 1,229 by 1837. At that time there were 187 houses in the town. The surrounding lands were fertile and 'in a high state of cultivation' (Lewis, 1837). A number of medium to large size country houses were established by this time in the vicinity of Lucan. By the mid-19th century, however, the spa at Lucan had been upstaged by other spas located nearer to Dublin, and the hotel closed its doors to the fashionable taking the waters. The first edition OS six-inch map (1843) names the former hotel as a 'School Ho. for Clergymens Sons'.

Frances Gerard in 1898 described Lucan village as follows:

"Situated in a thickly wooded valley, lying at the foot of the sloping hills above the Liffey, it is a miniature bit of Switzerland—peaceful, serene, tender, and here in the last century came men of note and women of fashion to repair exhausted nature by draughts from the famous spa..."

(Gerard 1898).

Lucan (and more so the neighbouring townland of Esker) was a centre of the linen, cotton, corn and flour milling industry in the 18th century. Lucan and Esker between them had six mills which used, as their energy source, the River Liffey and its tributary the Griffeen, respectively. The only mill surviving, however, is Shackleton's mill c. 1.2km northeast along the river. It ceased milling operations in 1999 having been in continuous use since 1859.

4. CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

4.1.1. Down Survey Barony and Parish Maps, c. 1656¹

The village of Lucan and Lucan Bridge is clearly marked on the barony and parish maps, spanning the River Liffey (Figure 12). On the south side of the river, Lucan House is shown and named, along with a church and a small number of structures along either side of the street, representing the village.



Figure 12 Down survey map of the barony of Newcastle c. 1656, showing Lucan village

The 'highway from Dublin to Lucan' is indicated running southeast to northwest through the town and along the south bank of the river. This is the ancient, tSlighe Mhór or Great Road. The bridge provides a connection to the 'high way to Mannoth [Maynooth] from Dublin', which is indicated along the north side of the river, running parallel to it. A substantial house is also depicted on the north side of the Liffey in St Catherine's Park ('St Katherins').

4.1.2. Rocque's map of County Dublin, 1760

John Rocque, on his 1760 map of County Dublin (Figure 13), shows the general landscape as being clear of trees, enclosed into a regular field system dedicated to both pasture and arable. The village is named and is shown located at the junction of the Griffeen River and the River Liffey.

¹ <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/down-survey-maps.php#bm=Newcastle&c=Dublin&p=Adery+and+Lucan>

The Liffey Promenade site is to the rear of properties along the Mall. There are two bridges crossing the Griffeen River within the town. The church (DU017-019) in the village is labelled, Lucan House is indicated but is not named.

Lucan Demesne is depicted, with woodland extending westwards from the house, between the roadway and the river. The estate widens out in the bend of the river, where lines of trees define an entrance avenue to the parkland and courtyard buildings (a more direct entrance for the house is located in the village), and another leading east to the river and through the woodland to the house. The Demesne Park area is located in the woodland that stretches between Lucan Demesne and Lucan House. There is a watercourse at the eastern end of the site, it is culverted beneath a road (Dublin Road), this is likely to be associated with a mill race and mill which is shown on later maps (see below). The recorded chapel (DU017-020), an 18th century bath house, is also depicted in the woodland as a small square structure. 'The Spa Well' indicated on the map is a reference to the well, which was a popular tourist destination at the time.

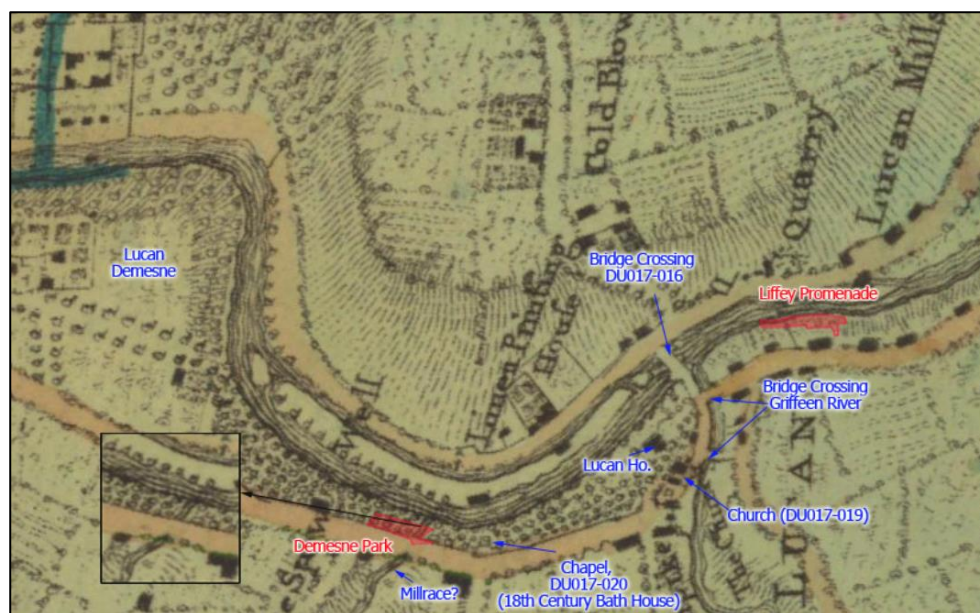


Figure 13 Rocque's map of County Dublin, 1760, showing Lucan Demesne and approximate Public Realm site locations

4.1.3. Manor of Lucan in 1772 by Bernard Scalé

On Scalé's Map the area of the Liffey Promenade site was named the 'Longwalk'. It comprised properties subdivided into linear north-south plots to the river which are likely to be along the line of the original medieval burgages. The weir is shown and is associated with an Iron Mills on the northern side of the river. The present Lucan Bridge crosses on the western side of the iron mills and mill race, and the ill-fated 'Coldblow' Bridge at the western end of the weir has yet to be constructed.



Figure 14 1772 Map of the Manor of Lucan in 1772 by Bernard Scalé

On Scalé's Map of Lucan Demesne (Figure 15) the demesne wall is clearly demarcated, and parkland is shown extending along the Liffey River valley, it has winding paths through the forested area adjacent to the river, including the Bath house. A bridge over a small tributary (Tobermacclug) issuing into the Liffey is shown in the area to the north of the Demesne Park site, this bridge is still present (see field inspection below).



Figure 15 Map of Lucan Demesne in 1772 by Bernard Scale, the location of the bridge.

4.1.4. Taylor's map of the Environs of Dublin (1816)

Taylor's map is less detailed than Rocque's, and the Scalé is skewed, rendering an accurate overlay of the proposed public realm sites difficult, it does provide some new information. Lucan village is considerably more developed by this time with structures dotted around the village centre and on the approach roads into it, a result of its popularity as a spa destination (the Spa Well and hotel are marked beyond the village

to the west). Lucan Demesne remains as depicted on Rocque's map. The topographical setting of the town is expressed in more detail on this map, the foothills of Primrose Hill, the Hill of Lucan and the steep river valley of the River Liffey is indicated in the shading. Tobermacclug Stream at the eastern end of the Demesne Park site is shown.

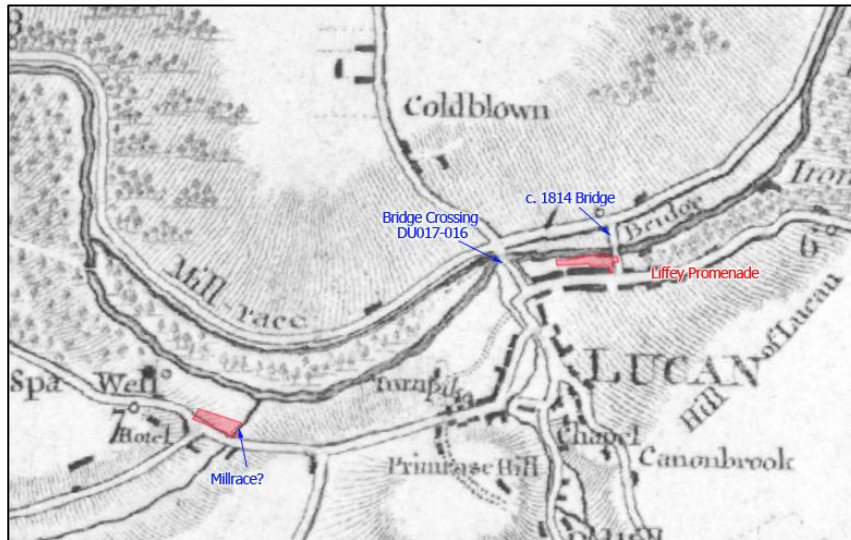


Figure 16 Taylor's map of the Environs of Dublin, 1816, showing Lucan village and approximate Public Realm site locations

4.1.5. Duncan's 1821 map

Just five years after Taylor, Duncan's Map shows similar details. The old bridge crossing (DU017-016) has been removed and the eastern extent of Lucan Demesne now incorporates more lands to the east of the Griffeen River. The map does not give any further details on the public realm site locations.

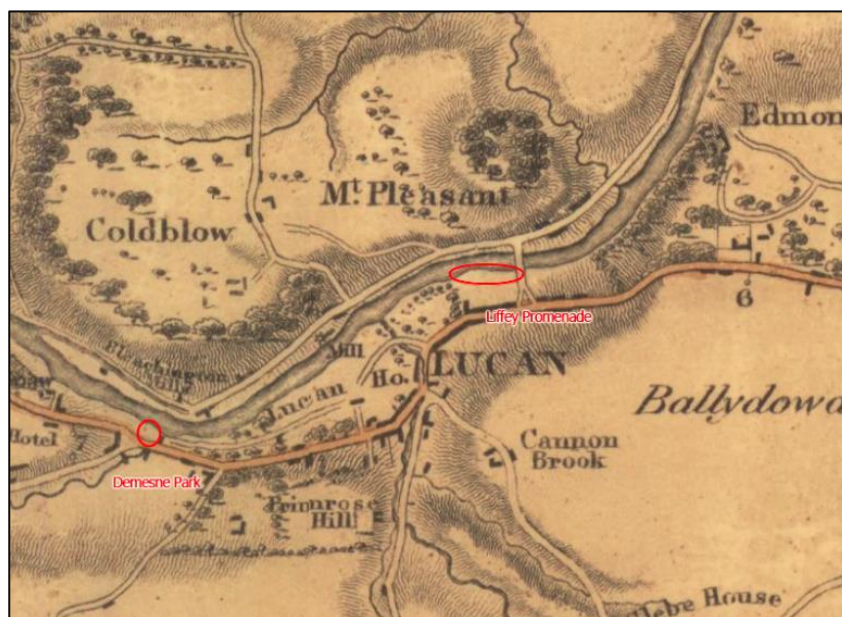


Figure 17 Duncan's 1821 Map of County Dublin

4.2. Ordnance Survey mapping

4.2.1. First edition Ordnance Survey (OS) six-inch map, 1843

The first edition OS six-inch map represents the earliest accurate and detailed cartographic source for the study area. It shows a landscape that had remained predominantly rural, with the principal settlement focus at Lucan (Figure 18). On the western side of the village, the church and tower are depicted set within a curvilinear graveyard at the edge of Lucan House demesne, immediately east of the driveway leading to Lucan House. The demesne woodland extends westwards in a narrow band between the river and the road to Leixlip. The designed landscape of the demesne is shown in greater detail on this map, with footpaths winding through the trees and northwards along the river, following its banks (these paths are still in use today in the public park).

The Demesne Park site is part of the former road alignment that ran south of the pleasure grounds associated with Lucan House comprising a wooded area interwoven with paths. There is a structure shown at the water's edge at Liffey Promenade site, but otherwise is mostly underwater.

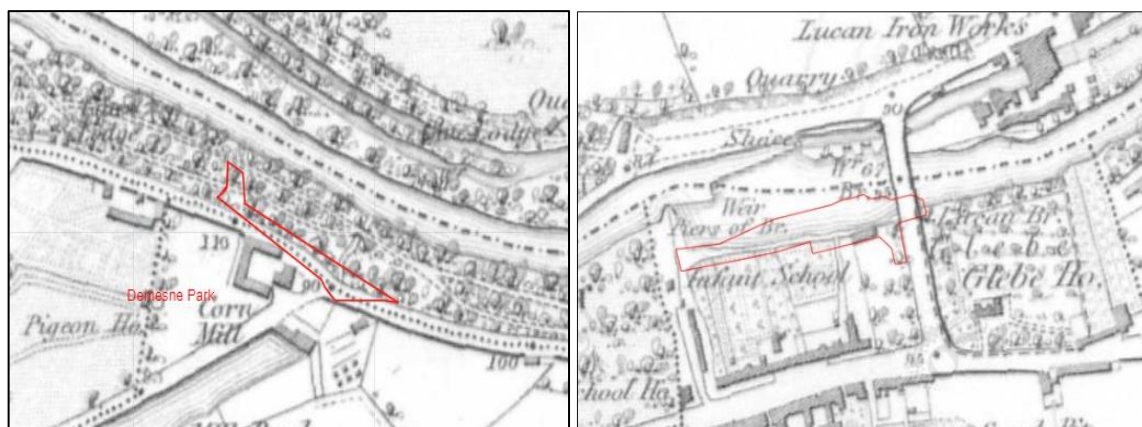


Figure 18 Extracts from the first edition 6 inch OS map showing the Public Realm sites

One major change in the general landscape was the development of the new Lucan Road, a bypass around the town built in 1837. Prior to this there were two Dublin Roads, one north of the Liffey and the other down the present Chapel Hill and through the Village.

4.2.2. Revised edition OS 25-inch map (1907-09)

By the time of the 1907-09 25-inch OS map (

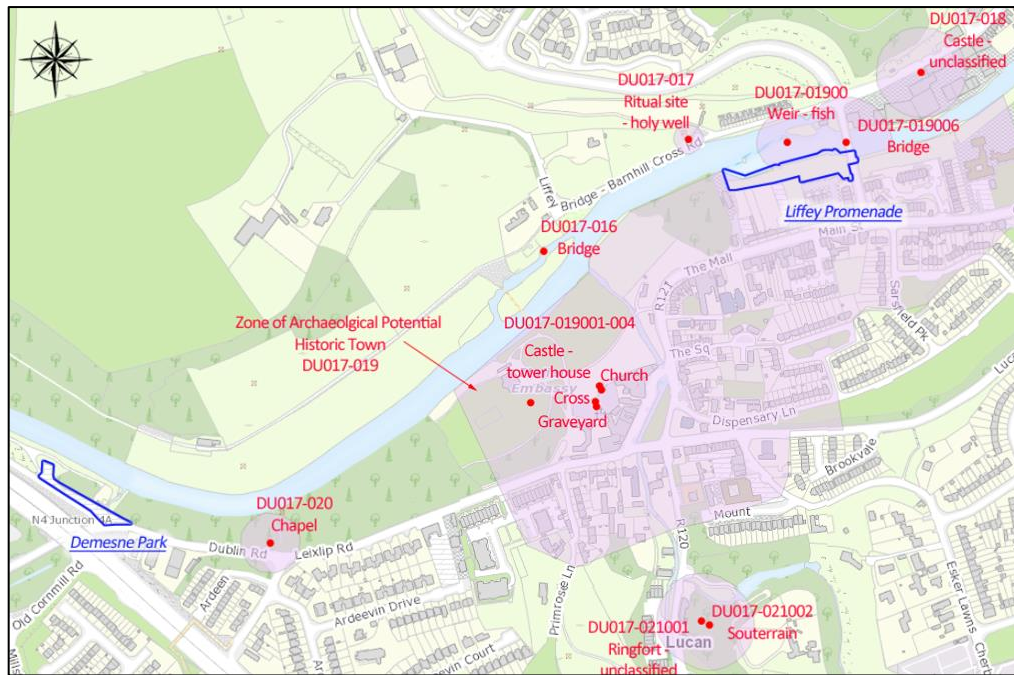


Figure 20), in the general environs of Lucan the major changes to the town include a new larger Spa Hotel, with a Spa Restaurant to the northwest and Spa House at the river bank, accessed via an underpass to the demesne grounds. The bath house at the recorded chapel site is clearly depicted as a rectangular structure on an embankment in 1907-09 (it is named ‘Oratory’ on the revised six-inch edition of 1935-38). The area of the Demesne Park site remained unchanged. The structure previously depicted at the Liffey Promenade site is no longer present.

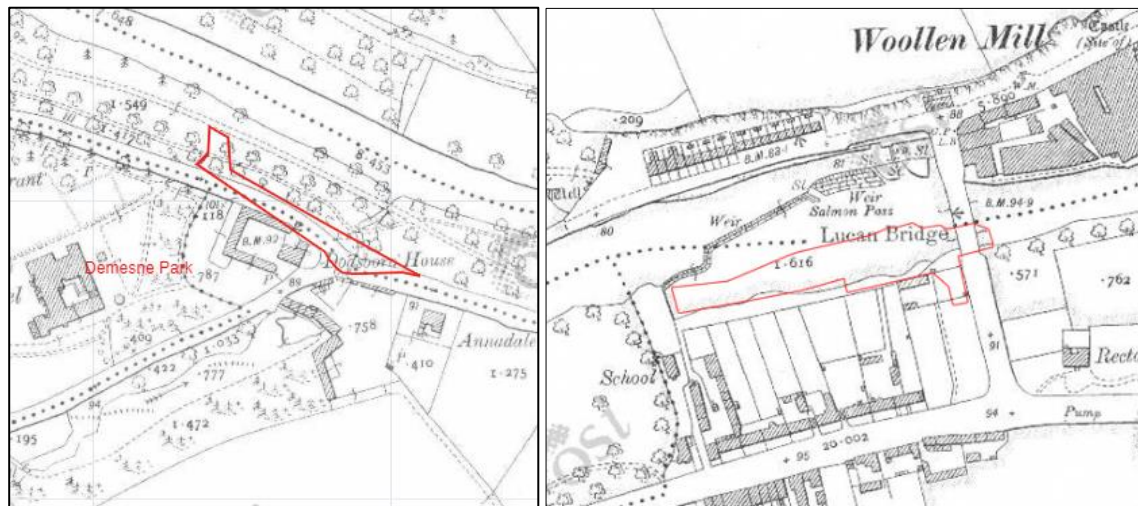


Figure 19 Extract from the Revised edition six-inch OS map, 1935-38, showing ‘Oratory’

There are no significant changes elsewhere in the study area, either on this edition OS map or on the revised edition OS six-inch map of 1935-38.

5. RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS

5.1. National Monuments

There are no national monuments within or in the vicinity of the public realm study areas.

5.2. Recorded Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR sites)

5.2.1. Historic Town, Zone of Archaeological Potential, DU017-019

The Liffey Promenade is located within the zone of archaeological potential (ZAP) in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for the Historic Town of Lucan (DU017-019) (

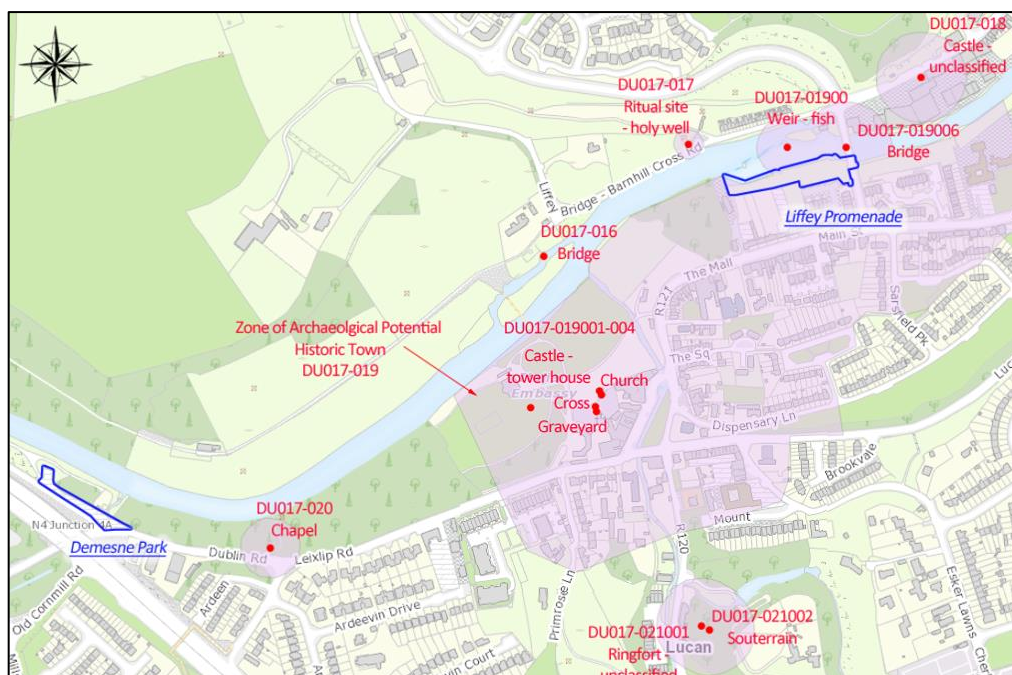


Figure 20), a medieval manorial borough that was first documented in 1315. The street plan of the borough was essentially linear and consisted of one principal street. The burgage plots stretched from the street back to the river and the OS 6-inch maps show a complementary pattern on the south side of the street (Bradley, J. & King, H. 1988, 215-59).

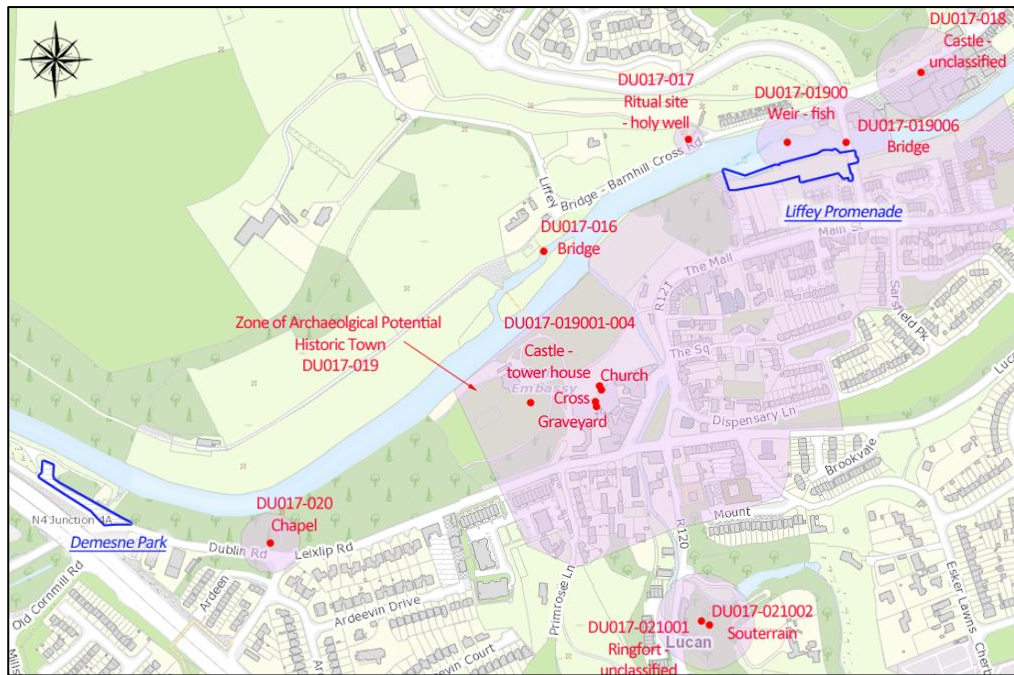


Figure 20 The ZAP, RMP site location and Public Realm sites

ZAP's can be defined as areas within the urban and rural landscape that possess the potential to contain archaeological remains due to the settlement history of a place and or to the presence of topographical features such as rivers, lakes and high, defensible ground. They indicate areas of significant archaeological potential. Any earthmoving works within the ZAP has the potential to reveal archaeological sites, soils, finds or features that may be associated with the development of the town from the medieval period to the present day.

5.2.2. RMP sites in the vicinity of the Public Realm Study Areas

In addition are several Individual recorded sites within the ZAP. The following provides a list of sites in the vicinity of each of the public realm sites under study (

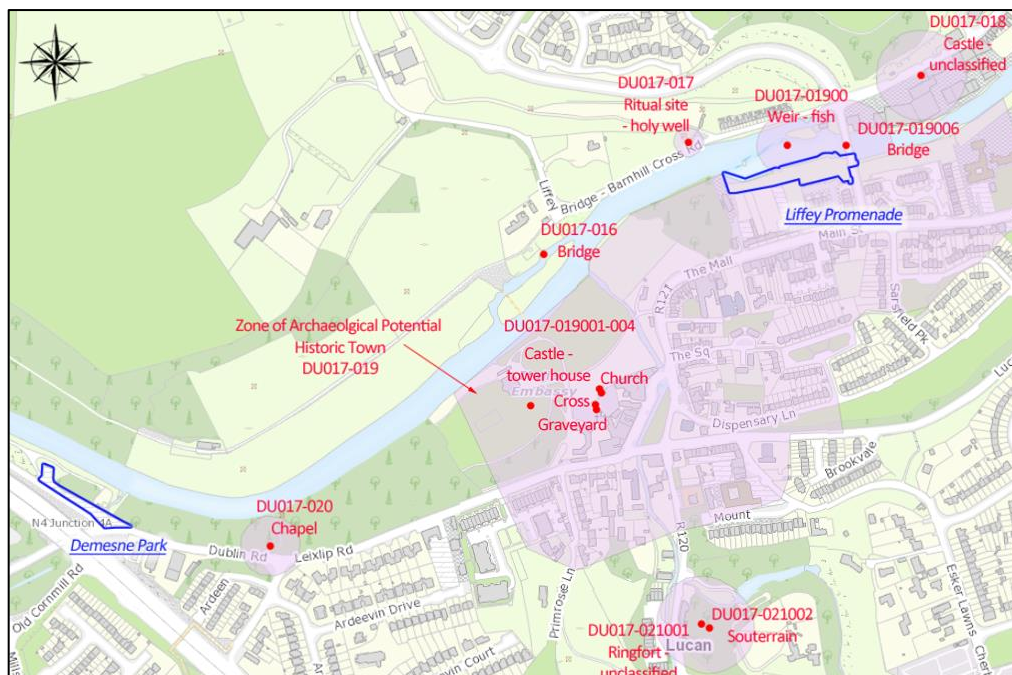


Figure 20).

(a) Demesne Park

There is one RMP site within 250m of the Demesne Park, it is located in the forested parkland area associated with Lucan House (now the Italian Embassy).

RMP	DU017-20	Site type Oratory
Townland	Lucan Demesne	NGR E 702661, N735011
Distance	210m east	
Description	The site of the chapel is occupied by an 18th century bath house and was known as St John's Oratory (Healy, 1974, 22, cited in RMP file). According to the entry in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, tradition holds that the bath house was an oratory dedicated to St John of Jerusalem though no obvious earlier fabric is extant. The entry also notes that the cold bath, which fills naturally, is supposedly supplied with water from a holy well (NIAH Ref. 11204015; www.buildingsofireland.ie). Its remains stand within the woodland of Lucan Demesne, screened from Dublin Road by the demesne wall. Compiled by: Geraldine Stout.	

(b) Liffey Promenade

As mentioned above, Liffey Riverside Promenade is located within the ZAP for Lucan, there are however no individual recorded monuments within the area of the site. There are four recorded sites within 250m of the site as follows:

RMP	DU017-019005	Site type Weir – fish
Townland	Laraghcon and Pettycannon	ITM E 703346, N 735541
Distance	25m north of the proposed site running horizontal to the river	
Description	According to Went (1954, 53-4) there are records of a fishery at Lucan since the late Thirteenth and Fourteenth centuries. The method of fishing used were 'engines and nets' which indicates the construction of weirs and use of drift netting. There is a weir west of Lucan bridge, marked 'weir, Salmon Pass' which is likely to be the site of this fishery. This has been used since the 1950's for angling.	

RMP	DU017-019006-	Site type	Bridge
Townland	Laraghcon and Pettycannon	ITM	E 703425, N 735541
Distance 0m east of the proposed site			
Description Lucan bridge which spans the river Liffey was built in 1814 on an earlier site. The first known reference to a bridge is in 1456 in the Statute Rolls under 34 Henry VI which prescribed that <i>'two towers with two gates be made, one upon the bridge of Kilmainham, another upon the bridge of Lucan'</i> , (O'Keefe, P. & Simington, T (1991, 104, 270-274). Not visible at ground level. Compiled by: Geraldine Stout			

RMP	DU017-017	Site type	Holy well (site of)
Townland	Laraghcon	ITM	E 703215, N 735546
Distance 80m northwest on the northern banks of the river			
Description This site is marked on the first and third edition Ordnance Survey maps and is known as 'Sunday Well' on the 1937 edition. Formerly located at the entrance into Hillsboro (Ó Danachair 1958, 82). Sunday well site now a gated entrance to a wood lined avenue west of a row of Victorian cottages. Not visible at ground level. Compiled by: Geraldine Stout			

RMP	DU017-018	Site type	Castle (site of)
Townland	Laraghcon	ITM	E 703524, N 735634
Distance 150m northwest of the site on the northern banks of the river Liffey			
Description This site is marked on the first and third edition Ordnance Survey maps. The 1937 Ordnance Survey edition shows 'Castle (Site of)' on the northern bank of the river Liffey at a site which is occupied by a woollen mill. This location differs from that shown on the first edition O.S. where it is indicated on the northern side of the road with a steep scarp present. The later six-inch edition marks the site in the area of the present woollen mills on the northern bank of the River Liffey. Not visible at ground level. Compiled by: Geraldine Stout			

5.3. Previous Archaeological investigations

General

Archaeological assessments to date within the village of Lucan have not yet provided any additional information that has increased our understanding of the development of Lucan. Test excavations were carried out in the vicinity of the 19th century St Andrew's Church (Licence No. 96E089; Excavations Bulletin Ref. 1996:133) and at several sites along Main Street (Licence Nos 96E194, 95E0057, 96E066, 02E1714, 05E1395, 16E0351; Excavations Bulletin Refs 1995:105, 1996:131, 2006:670, 2016:437) but nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered at these locations. Monitoring of works on the corner of Main Street and The Square (Higgins 1998, unlicensed) and an assessment at Old Leixlip Road found no archaeological deposits, features or artefacts (Licence No. 98E0149; Excavations Bulletin Ref. 1998:212). Further works were carried out along Main Street in 2011 as part of the Dublin Region Watermain Rehabilitation Project, in which archaeological monitoring of open-cut trenching uncovered nothing of archaeological interest (Licence No. 10E419ext; Excavations Bulletin Ref. 2011:178).

- **Excavations in the vicinity of vicinity of Demesne Park**

Archaeological monitoring was carried out at to the north of the Demesne Park site at its eastern end (06E0289, McLoughlin 2006). An initial plan to insert a surface water pipe in the bed of the Tobermaclugg Stream was revised in order to protect a stone bridge associated with a pathway along the south bank of

the River Liffey. The area monitored on this occasion was c. 30m in length from the point where the Tobermaclugg Stream exited an existing culvert under the N4 roadway until it entered the River Liffey. After exiting the culvert, the new pipe was set in the streambed for c. 10m and then parallel to the stream for c. 20m in order to avoid the stone bridge. Nothing of archaeological significance was identified during monitoring of ground disturbance in relation to this section of the pipeline (Figure 21).

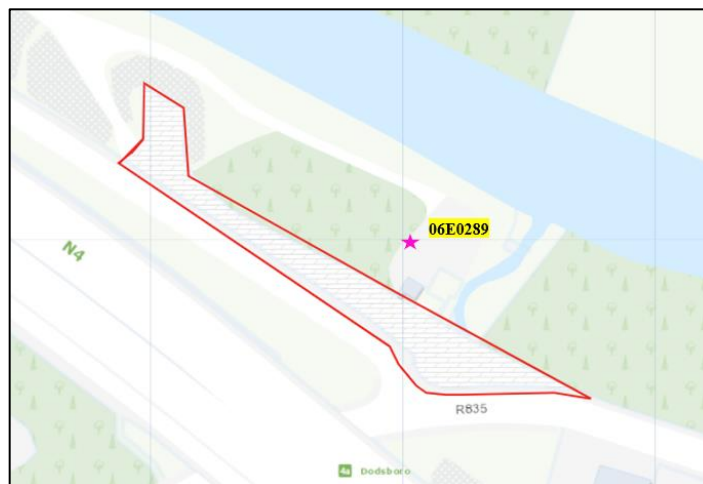


Figure 21 Excavations in the vicinity of Demesne Park site

- **Excavations in the vicinity of Liffey Promenade**

No archaeological investigations were carried out in the area of the Liffey Promenade Site. Archaeological investigations of the plots of land fronting Main Street at the rear of 10 Main Street (Licence Ref: 98E0416, Byrne 1998), at no 4 The Mall (Licence Ref: 03E0241, McCabe 2003) and at the Old Cinema Site (95E0057, Swan 1995) did not reveal any features, structures or finds of archaeological interest (Figure 22). Two cobbled surfaces, separated by a layer of silty sand, were uncovered to the rear of 10 Main Street (Licence No. 98E0416; Excavations Bulletin Ref. 1998:210). The remains of 19th century tenements were revealed at 1 Main Street (Licence No. 04E0254; Excavations Bulletin Ref.2004:0615). Both cobbled surfaces were clearly associated with the existing premises and no archaeological features, structures or finds were revealed.



Figure 22 Excavations in proximity to the Liffey Promenade Site

5.4. Topographical finds from the National Museum of Ireland (NMI)

The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland were searched for the following townlands of Cooldrinagh, Coldblow, Laraghcon and Lucan and Pettycannon. There are several Stray finds that were provenance to Lucan, the stray finds are discussed in the archaeological background in Section 3.1 above. It is not possible to establish a date for the stone ball or motif piece, however the stone bottles are likely to be post medieval in date.

NMI Register No	Simple Name	Component	Townland	Find Place
1873:34	Coin- of Henry VI	Gold	N/a	Allenwood, Lucan
1942:738	Ball	Stone	Lucan	-
1960:575	Brooch	Copper alloy	Lucan Demesne	Bed of River Liffey
2758:Wk256	Bottle	Stone	Lucan	-
2759:Wk257	Bottle	Stone	Lucan	-
E92:264	Pin	Copper alloy	Lucan	Unknown
P1310	Motif piece	Bone	Lucan	Near Lucan
P1310.1	Bottle	Stone	Lucan	-
P1310.2	Bottle	Stone	Lucan	-
2011:363	Ringed pin	Bronze	Laraghcon	Beet field

5.5. Place-Name Evidence

Townland names are a valuable source of information, on topography, land ownership and land use, as well as on the history of an area, its archaeological monuments and folklore. While most place names were anglicised or translated relatively accurately, some were corrupted virtually beyond recognition. Townland names can incorporate Irish names, preserving a reference to native Gaelic land-ownership, or contain English language personal or family names, indicating the Anglo-Norman and/or later English settlement of the area.

The name Lucan derives from the Gaelic *Leamhcán*, meaning either ‘place of elms’ (Joyce 1995) or ‘land abounding in marsh mallows’ (OS Name Books), and Lucan was apparently the first place that elms were encountered when traveling inland from the Liffey (Joyce, *ibid.*). In the Placename records it shows that Lucan has been mentioned since the 1200’s, ‘*ecclesia de de Lyuechcan*’ is mentioned in the Crede Mihi in c.1179-1275, *Lyuechan* is mentioned in 1280, there are many other documents and inquiries dating to the 16th and 17th century mentioning the placename (logainm.ie).

The second part of the townland name, Pettycanon, can be traced to a deed of 1751 of lands here to the Petty Canons and Choristers of St Patrick’s Cathedral.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INSPECTION

6.1. Liffey Promenade

The Liffey Promenade is a well-used public amenity that has been developed in recent times. The original river banks on both sides have been significantly altered to the west of Lucan Bridge. On the south bank is the Riverside Promenade Park, with a broad concrete path and steps down to the river, lined by a strip of level grass at the base of the steep valley side (Plate 1). On the north side are the late 19th century sluice and waterworks, while the associated mass concrete weir extends across the river itself (Plate 1). The site of the recorded fish weir (DU017-019005) lies at the eastern end of the 19th century weir. The weir at Lucan is upstream from the bridge and its date is uncertain. The first-edition Ordnance Survey map shows the weir serving an iron works to the east of Lucan Bridge. The weir and mill do not appear on Rocque’s map of 1760 or Taylor’s of 1816, though this cannot be taken as evidence of their absence on those dates.



Plate 1 View from Lucan Bridge of the Liffey Promenade and diagonal weir across the river and Salmon Steps

Lucan Bridge is a single-span masonry-arch bridge (Plate 2), it has a millrace arch to north of main bridge. It is constructed with cut limestone and the parapet comprises a balustrade with cast-iron balusters. It has a

graceful arch and is the longest single-span masonry-arch bridge in Ireland. The bridge is an RMP site DU017-019006- as it may be on the site of an earlier bridge, there are no upstanding remains of this.

Running parallel to the river bank is a linear revetment comprising large boulders at the western end of the promenade (CH1, Plate 2). The age of this is unknown, the boulders do appear to be quite embedded. Elsewhere there is rubble stone and earth forming the river bank and beneath the Lucan Bridge



Plate 2 View of Lucan bridge in the background and the possible revetment (CH1)

Remnants of the former property boundary walls (CH2) bound the park to the south, these are most likely property boundaries associated with the lands shown on the 18th century cartographic sources. The surviving stretch of wall comprises a roughly coursed rubble stone wall of limestone measuring c. 1.2m high with concrete capping, some redbrick can also be seen in its fabric.



Plate 3 Former property boundary wall (CH2)

At the western end of the park the spring of the southernmost arch of a former road bridge dating to c.1765, survives on the south bank of the Liffey (Plate 4, NIAH Ref Reg. No.11201145) and is surmounted by steel railings.



Plate 4 *View of the remnants of the former bridge*

North of the river is a turbine house (Plate 5); it is sited on an island site to the west of Lucan Bridge, it dates from the early twentieth century. It comprises a single story structure with a slated roof, cast-iron lattice windows and sand-and-cement render. There is a steep metal stairway providing access to the gate house with a metal gate (Plate 6).



Plate 5 *Turbine House and mill race*
Plate 6 *Stairs leading to the turbine house*

6.2. Demesne Park

The Demesne Park Entrance Area is an existing carparking area that lies between the N4 slip road and its junction with the Lucan Road to the south side and the existing Demesne Park boundary. To the north is woodland park and the River Liffey valley. The former demesne wall (CH3) of Lucan Demesne defines the site along its southern boundary outside of which is a public carpark, the wall has been breached and

replaced in sections and has been repaired in recent times (Plate 7). Other than the wall there are no other features of cultural heritage merit within this area.



Plate 7 **Boundary wall (CH3)**

At the westernmost end of the site there is a single arch stone bridge (CH4) (Plate 8 to Plate 11). The single carriage bridge measures 2m wide. It crosses a Tobermaclugg Stream that is culverted beneath the Dublin Road, this has been indicated as a possible mill race in the historic OS mapping. The bridge is associated with the scenic paths that ran through the former demesne riverside forest. The key stone of the arch comprise quarry-faced blocks which is reminiscent of the entrance gates into Lucan Demesne. It is considered to be a feature of cultural heritage interest.



Plate 8 **Bridge (CH4)**



Plate 9 **Upstream side of the bridge**



Plate 10 Downstream side of the bridge
Plate 11 Detail of the quarry-faced keystones

Across from the stepped entrance into the park there are irregularly laid stone steps (CH6) providing access to the river. This is likely to be associated with the former demesne and is of cultural heritage merit.



Plate 12 Steps to the river (CH5)

6.3. Summary of the field inspection

No upstanding archaeological features were identified during the field survey within each public amenity area. The field inspection identified remnants of the past (CH1-CH5), none of these features have protected status but are considered to be of local historical interest.

Table 1 List of Cultural Heritage features

Reference	Location	Site
CH1	Riverside Promenade	River revetment
CH2	Riverside Promenade	Property boundary wall
CH3	Liffey Valley Lucan Demesne	Lucan Demesne Boundary wall
CH4	Liffey Valley Lucan Demesne	Footbridge
CH5	Liffey Valley Lucan Demesne	Steps to the river

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACTS

7.1. Introduction

The proposed public realm improvement work details and its associated drawings and design rationale accompany the Part 8 application documentation. A review of the plans and particulars and the nature and location of the archaeological heritage potential outlined above, have established the potential impact of the proposed public realm works on the archaeological environment.

7.1.1. Demesne Park Entrance

There are no recorded archaeological monuments in the vicinity of the Demesne Park site. The closest registered monument is an oratory (DU017-020), an 18th-century bathhouse; the proposed public realm improvement works will not impact this. The proposed improvement of the Demesne Park site focuses on the 'upper level' of the existing car park only, and as such, the river valley and river, which are of inherent archaeological potential, will not be subject to development impact. In addition, the cultural heritage features identified in the valley (C4; footbridge and CH5; steps) will not be impacted by the public realm proposals. Given the site's current use, cartographic sources, result of archaeological monitoring carried out in the area, and the nature of the RMP sites in the vicinity of the site, it is suggested that the archaeological potential of the Demesne Park carpark area is low.

The public realm improvement proposals include removing the existing tarmac surface and providing paving and gravel surfaces with seating and soft landscaping. The proposal includes removing modern stretch of blockwork along the line of the former demesne boundary to provide access to the park and allow for a formal entrance portal (Figure 23). This stretch of wall is not of historical and architectural merit. A circular paved area (diam. 17.5m approx.) with a low circular concrete wall and seat is proposed at the eastern end of the site above the Tobarmaclugg Bridge (CH4, footbridge associated with Lucan Demesne) and the water treatment plant within the woodland park area. A painted steel railing the same height as the existing demesne wall will be erected and will provide passive security for the people using this area of park amenity (Figure 23).

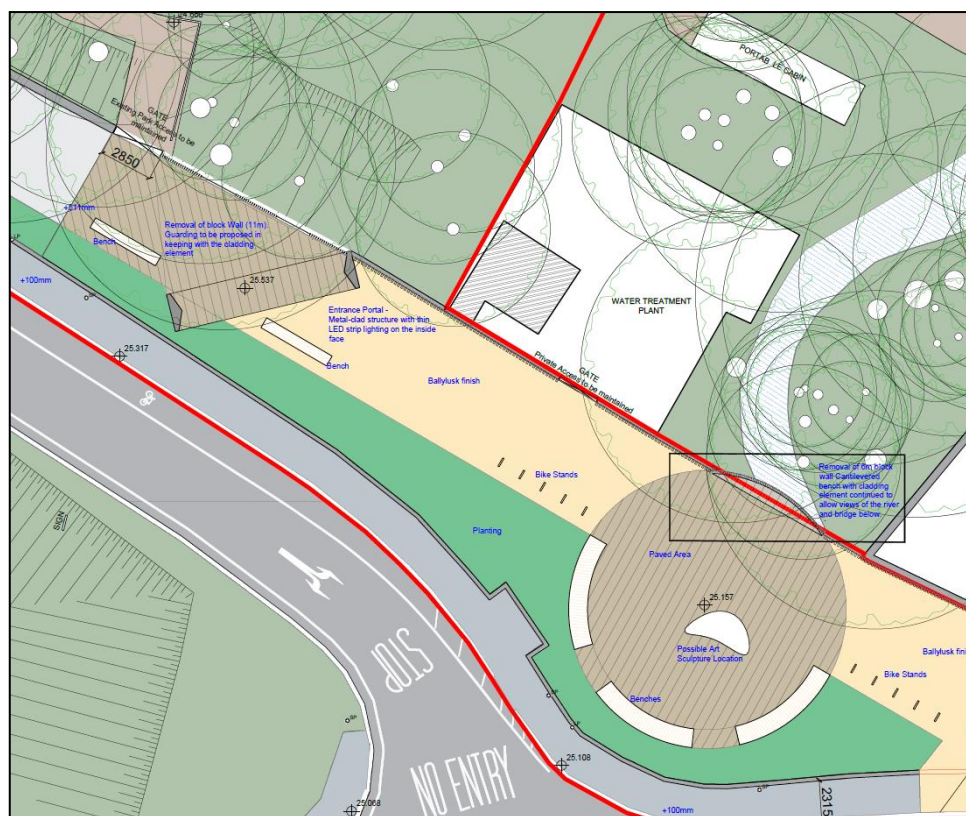


Figure 23 Extract of the Public Realm Proposals for Demesne Park (see Part 8 application drawing for details) showing the entrance portal and circular paved entrance area with a view towards Tobermaclugg stream and footbridge

7.1.2. Liffey Promenade

The Liffey Promenade is within the designated zone of potential (ZAP) of the historic town of Lucan (RMP Ref. DU017-019/001-006). It lies in proximity to Lucan Bridge which is on the site of an earlier medieval bridge (RMP Ref: DU017-019006). There has been a bridge over the River Liffey at Lucan since medieval times and over the centuries there appears to have been at least five. The earliest seems to have been close to Lucan House, the remnants of which survive on the northern side of the river (RMP DU017-016). Bounding the park to the west is the southernmost spring arch of the penultimate 18th century bridge (NIAH 11201145). The site of a 13/14th century fish weir (DU017-019005) is located c. 60m west of Lucan Bridge. It is likely, that the large-scale works undertaken in the 19th century for the large weir and sluice, and for the construction of the present Lucan Bridge, caused significant disturbance. In addition, southern river banks have been significantly altered by the landscaping of the park. North of the river is the site of a holy well (DU017-017), and the site of a castle (DU017-018) upon which later iron mills were developed. A former river revetment (CH1) of unknown date comprising large boulders in a linear alignment define the river in places on the southern bank. It runs parallel to and approximately 2m back from the recently constructed promenade step. Former stone property walls (CH2) also survive to the south. It was recommended that these are retained within the design proposal as they are a record of the past and provide a historic dimension to the site.

The improvement works proposed at the Liffey Promenade are minor and relate to the provision of additional landscaping and planting (Figure 24). There are no changes proposed to the existing promenade pathway and river edge steps and therefore will be no impact on the recorded archaeological features within the river or on its northern banks or on the cultural heritage features identified (CH1 and CH2).

The level of disturbance within area as a result of the development of the existing promenade has greatly reduced, if not entirely negated, any potential that previously unknown archaeological features or deposits may survive intact within the site. Considering the 'light touch' nature of the improvements proposed and the fact that this area was previously developed and landscaped in the recent past, the potential to reveal in-situ archaeological sites, soils or features is considered to be negligible.



Figure 24 Extract showing the Liffey Promenade proposals

A new external stairway from the Lucan Bridge to the river level is however proposed, the works for this stairway and for the Watery Lane junction have already been approved under a previous Part 8 and do not form part of this assessment. The works associated with this development however will have a significant potential to reveal remnants or the reuse of previous bridge structures.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1. Demesne Park Entrance Proposals

For the reasons outlined above the archaeological potential of the existing car park area is considered to be low. No further archaeological work is considered necessary in this area, as no significant archaeological impacts are envisioned. However, it should be noted that no construction activity or earthmoving works should be carried out in the woodland park area to the north of the park, should such activity be required it must be monitored by an archaeologist under licence.

8.2. Liffey Promenade

Most of the changes proposed at the Liffey Promenade relate to improved planting and landscaping. The landscaping works is not anticipated to reveal any in-situ archaeological remains, no archaeological input is considered necessary.

It is recommended that the permitted construction external stairway from the Lucan Bridge (DU017-019006) to the river level and the proposals for the Watery Lane junction (SDCC, Part 8, 2015) is monitored by an archaeologist under licence to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), as features associated with an earlier bridge structure may be exposed.

8.3. General

All archaeological investigations, monitoring or excavation must be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Section of the DHLGH.

Any recommendations made in this report are subject to approval from the National Monuments Section of the DHLGH and the local planning authority who may make additional recommendations.

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