Archaeological Risk Protocol

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What is Archaeological Risk?

The risk of encountering previously unidentified archaeologically significant remains during the construction phase of a project.
Why Manage Archaeological Risk?

The unexpected discovery of archaeological remains during a project’s construction phase impacts negatively on:

- programme
- budget
Why Manage Archaeological Risk?

And has the potential to lead to:

- negative publicity & protest
- regulatory involvement
Why Manage Archaeological Risk?

- It also has the potential to create uncertainty and erode trust among project partners, statutory bodies, funding agencies, contractors and the public.
- This can have consequential implications for future projects.
Why Manage Archaeological Risk?

- This principle applies regardless of the scale of the scheme
- The impact of a significant archaeological discovery on a minor or safety scheme can be disproportionate
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

- In-house professional expertise
- ‘Cradle to grave’ approach
- Standardised processes
- Risk protocol
- Close working relationship with the design team
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

- On-going liaison with statutory authorities
- Public dissemination of the results of archaeological work
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

In-house expertise

- The NRA Archaeology Section currently has 13 full-time staff based in Dublin and NRDOs.
- Generally NRA Archaeologists are assigned to projects based on their NRDO location. However, the section does advise on projects where there is no locally-based NRA Archaeologist.
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

‘Cradle to Grave’ approach

• Archaeological implications of / for scheme assessed from preliminary design onwards
• Common approach adopted regardless of scale of project
• Cost-effective assessment methodologies deployed where appropriate e.g. geophysics
Archaeological Assessment
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

Standardised Processes

• Suite of standardised contract documents developed in accordance with the CWMF
• Archaeology fully integrated into NRA-PMG
• Archaeological risk addressed in the standard forms of construction contract currently in use i.e. PPP, D & B
How Does the NRA Manage Archaeological Risk?

Risk protocol

- *Dealing with Archaeological Risk at Construction Stage*
- Developed in the context of the NRA funded Minor & Safety Improvement Schemes
- Schemes procured using i.e. PW-CF3 & PW-CF5 or constructed by direct labour
Dealing with Archaeological Risk at Construction Stage -
NRA funded Minor & Safety Improvement Schemes

1. Introduction
   This document provides an internal protocol for dealing with archaeological risk on minor and safety
   improvement schemes, the construction of which is tendered and addresses the matter of how to deal
   with archaeological risk at construction stage on such schemes.

2. Background
   Under IPRP and D&B contracts there is an established mechanism for addressing any archaeological
   risk at Construction Stage that may remain following any Advance Works Archaeological Contracts.
   This involves transfer of risk to the Contractor and the process of dealing with archaeological discovery
   during construction is well laid out in the tender and contract process.
   Under current forms of contract for minor schemes there is no established detailed process for dealing
   with any residual archaeological risk at Construction Stage (other than its classification as a Delay
   and/or Compensation Event). This document addresses this.

3. Basic Principles on dealing with Archaeology on Minor & Safety Improvement Schemes
   1. All designs should be assessed at the earliest possible stage by NRA archaeologists so as to
calculate the level of archaeological risk and appropriate mitigation strategies required. If any.
   This should be carried out as part of the business appraisal process.
   2. Risk is deemed to warrant it, in order to remove any risk to Construction Contracts in terms
   of delay and cost, it should always be the intention to carry out Advance Works archaeological
   mitigation before construction contracts go to tender/commence on the ground.
   3. In all instances, Archaeological Requirements should be detailed in an Appendix to the
   construction tender documents (see example Appendix B).
   4. The risk of dealing with archaeology encountered at construction stage is to be met by
   the Contractor, through either a Scheduled Delay and/or Compensation Event who must engage
   an Archaeologist to carry out any required archaeological mitigation.
   5. The Project Archaeologist shall be the NRA Archaeologist (see Definitions in Appendix B to this
   document).
   6. In all instances, irrespective of level of Advance Works Archaeological Contract, an
   Appendix of Archaeological Requirements must be included in the construction tender documents
to detail what happens in the event of discovery of archaeology (see Appendix B).

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1. Where schemes are being constructed by Direct Labour, archaeological requirements shall apply to
   consultation with NRA archaeologists, as per the latest guidelines (Appendix C).
2. PW-CFS - Public Works Contract for Civil Engineering Works designed by the Employer. PW-CFS - Contract for
   Minor Building & Civil Engineering Works designed by the Employer.
3. Some schemes may require Advance Works Archaeological Investigation due to risk potential for discovery.
   NRA Archaeologists shall be notified.
4. As of 2011, archaeology is classified as a Delay event only on PW-CFS contracts and not as a Delay & a
   Compensation Event on PW-CFS contracts.
Risk Protocol

• To remove/reduce risk to construction contracts in terms of delay and cost, commission archaeological mitigation before construction contracts go to tender/commence on the ground
• Archaeological requirements must be detailed in an Appendix to the construction tender documents
The risk of dealing with archaeology at construction stage is transferred to the **Contractor** (scheduled delay and/or compensation event)

Where necessary the Contractor should be required to engage a **Contractor’s Archaeologist**

The **Project Archaeologist** shall be the NRA Archaeologist
## Residual Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All lands assessed and mitigation complete</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lands assessed &amp; mitigation on-going</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client unable to assess all the lands, transfer to contractor</td>
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Communicating information

Public dissemination

• The NRA has an excellent record in disseminating the results of the archaeological work we commission
• This meets our statutory obligations; there are also good ‘corporate’ reasons
• Safety & minor schemes are no different
Communicating information

New Discoveries near Killoflynn, Co. Kerry

Patricia Long

Introduction

A proposed realignment of the N69 Tralee to Listowel road between the townlands of Rae and Tullig to the south-east of Killoflynn village (Figure 1) required that the area be examined for archaeological remains. Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd carried out archaeological test trenching of the route in two stages between August and October 2011, on behalf of Kerry County Council and the National Roads Authority. During these investigations, three small archaeological sites were identified and fully excavated in October 2011. Though not substantial in size, these sites provided interesting results and shed new light on Early Bronze Age and medieval activity in the vicinity of Killoflynn.

Prior to the investigations for the N69 realignment, the known archaeology in the immediate vicinity of Killoflynn was concentrated on the north side of the river Brick. Prehistoric occupation of the landscape...
Conclusions

- The NRA’s Archaeological Risk Protocol sets out a simple process & methodology for assessing & mitigating archaeological risk in the context of safety and minor projects.
- Its successful implementation is based on partnership between NRA Archaeologists, design engineers and local authorities.
Some Archaeological Do’s & Don’ts

- Don’t be afraid of it ...
- Don’t ignore it ...
- Do make contact with the NRA Archaeology Section
- Don’t leave it to the last minute ...
Thank you for your attention and safe journey home.

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