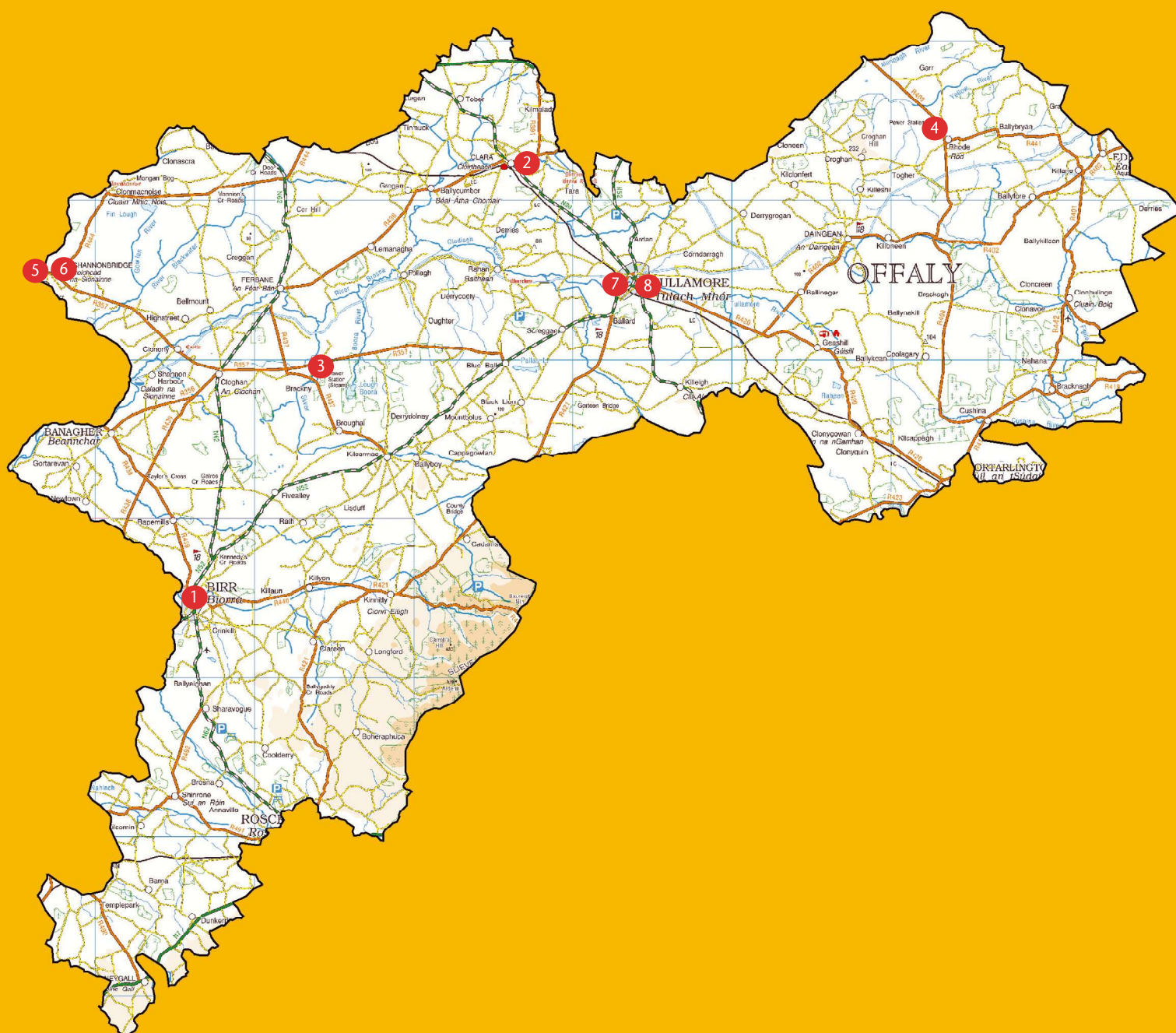


County OFFALY



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ESB DEPOT & OFFICE

Bridge Street, Birr



Date Of Survey: 16th December 2003

Surveyors Name: Des Clarke
Photographer: Des Clarke
Field Controller: Judith Doherty
O.S. Ref: 3817/03 ESB Ref: OY-N-3817/03

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only	✓
Local	
District	
Regional	
National	
International	

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)	
Architectural (A)	
Artistic (AR)	
Cultural (C)	
Historical (H)	
Scientific (SC)	
Social (SO)	
Technical (T)	



16th Dec 2003



16th Dec 2003



16th Dec 2003



16th Dec 2003

Summary

The property comprises a depot and showroom building at the front, a detached store building, and a mono-pitched store space opening onto a rear yard occupying a site beside Market Square near the commercial centre of Birr.

The site was purchased in separate lots in 1956 and 1984. The building was built in 1993.

Description & Materials

Depot & Showroom Building

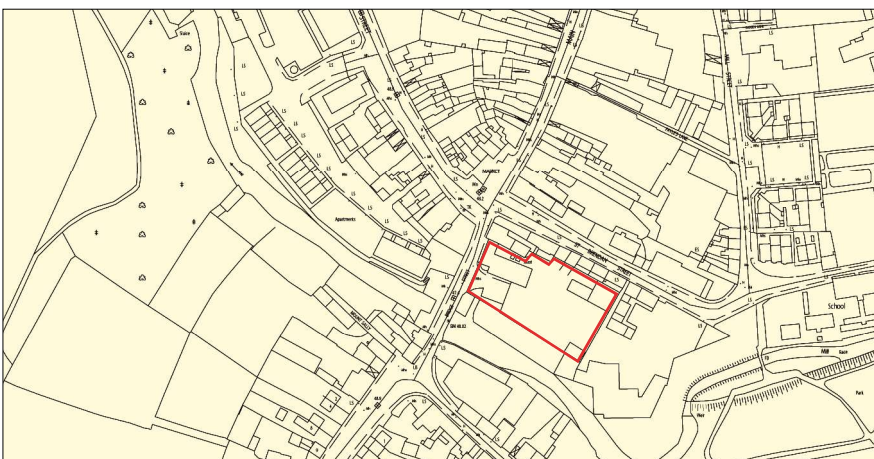
The depot and showroom building comprises a canteen, lockers, offices, toilets, shop and stores. It has an L-shape plan and comprises pitched roofed blocks with the showroom towards the front of the site facing onto Bridge Street. The adjoining depot block is wider in plan and extends into the enclosed yard to the rear. The gross floor area of the depot building is 307.18m². Structurally the building comprises blockwork cavity wall construction supporting prefabricated roof trusses.

The external finishes combine textured render panels and smooth render bands. Windows are single glazed and timber framed. The roof is finished in navy fibre cement slates.

Store Building

The store building comprises concrete block cavity wall construction supporting prefabricated steel roof trusses and has a gross floor area is 75.91m². There are roller shutter doors which are electrically operated. A telecommunications mast is located behind the depot building. There is a customer parking area in front of the gate to depot yard and additional storage space consisting of a mono-pitched structure adjoining a three-storey property off St. Brendan Street.

The total area of the site is 0.2909ha (0.72 acres)



1. View of Front Elevation. 2. View of Side Elevation. 3. View of Rear Elevation. 4. Store Building.



1
16th Dec 2003

Surveyors Name: Peter Carroll
 Photographer: Peter Carroll
 Field Controller: Judith Doherty
 O.S. Ref: 3241/D ESB Ref: OY-N-3241/D

**Architectural
Heritage Evaluation:**

Record Only	☒
Local	☐
District	☐
Regional	☐
National	☐
International	☐

**Categories
of Special Interest:**

Archaeological (AG)	☐
Architectural (A)	☒
Artistic (AR)	☐
Cultural (C)	☐
Historical (H)	☐
Scientific (SC)	☐
Social (SO)	☐
Technical (T)	☐

ESB SUBSTATION

Clara

Date Of Survey: 16th December 2003



Summary

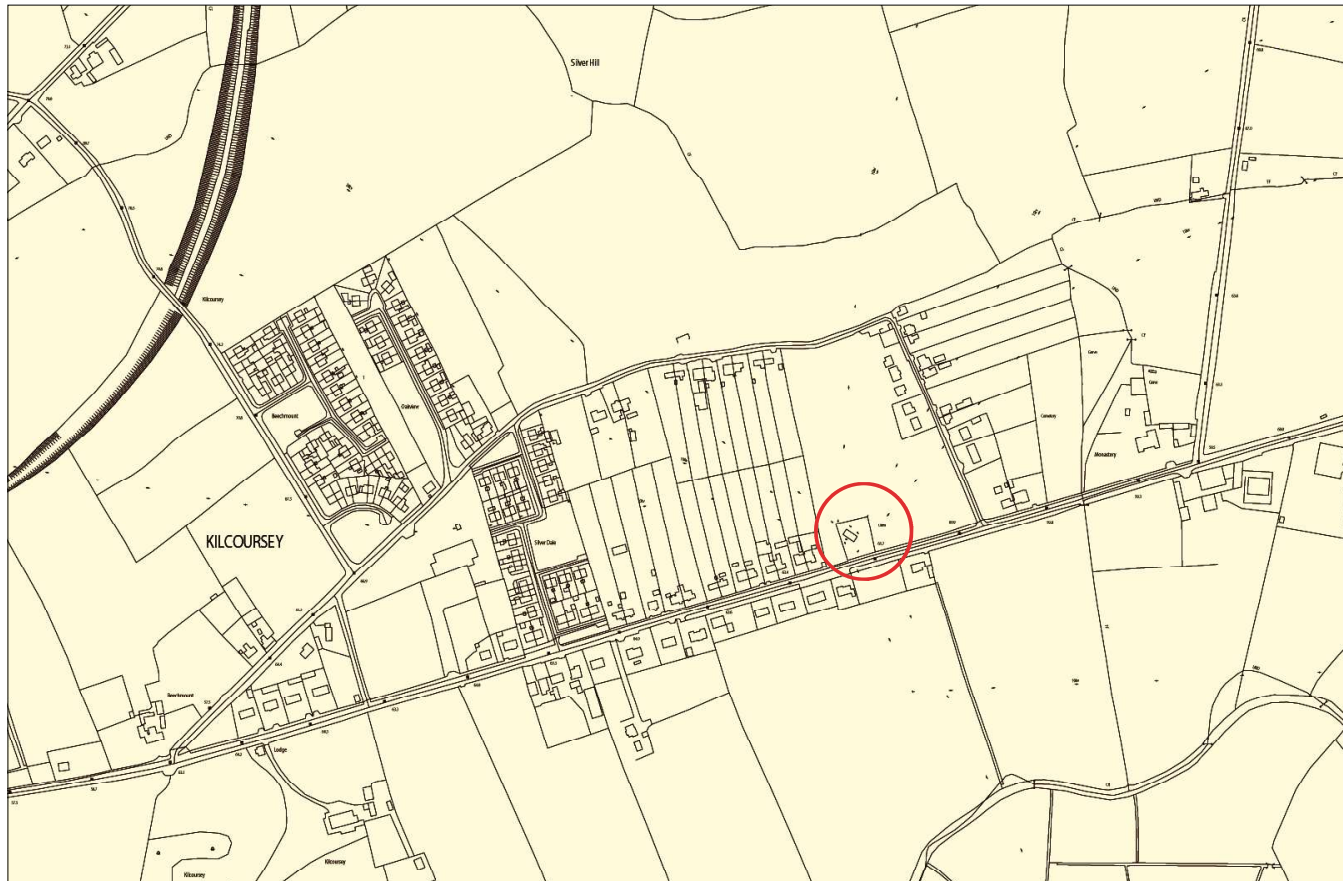
An original Siemens 38kV substation building it comprises a detached single storey pitched roof building of rectangular plan finished in painted render. The façades are expressed as a series of multi-bay panels of differing proportions. The large order composition is articulated by deep render bands and pilasters capped with a strong entablature and pediment to the gable, all of which echo a 'stripped classicism' temple aesthetic. This 'standardised' substation design was developed by Siemens and used widely throughout Ireland.

Special Interest - Architectural

This is one of many Siemens designed substations throughout Ireland. The design is simple and classical in composition. The stations are very distinctive and resemble small temples in appearance. Some have been restored externally using distinctive colours for their primary elements. They have remained largely unchanged externally since their original construction. The first station was built at Ardnacrusha c 1929.



2
16th Dec 2003



1. View of Side Elevation. 2. View of Front Elevation.

POWER STATION

Ferbane



Date Of Survey: 15th May 2001

Surveyors Name: Judith Doherty
Photographer: Judith Doherty
Field Controller: Peter Carroll
O.S. Ref: 23-5 1/ 23-9, 1909 ESB Ref: OY-PG- 23-5 1/ 23-9,1909

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only
Local
District
Regional
National
International

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)
Architectural (A)
Artistic (AR)
Cultural (C)
Historical (H)
Scientific (SC)
Social (SO)
Technical (T)



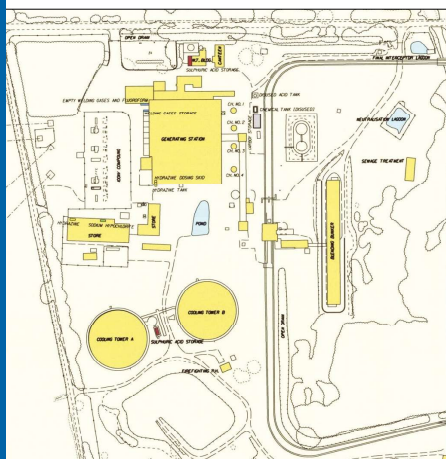
15th May 2001



15th May 2001



15th May 2001



Summary

Ferbane Power Station was a peat-fired generating station located on a flat rural site on the outskirts of the village of Ferbane, approximately 20km from the town of Tullamore in Co. Offaly.

In May 1953 ESB commenced construction of Ferbane Power Station on a site of 48 acres on the left bank of the Silver River at the centre of Boora Bog in Co. Offaly. The first generator went into service in March 1957. When a second development was completed in February 1964 the plant comprised four units with a combined capacity of 90MW and 180 staff were employed to operate and maintain the plant.

Following the plant's closure in March 2000, the demolition of the first cooling tower was completed on March 26th 1999. The demolition of the station commenced in November 2001 and the demolition of the second cooling tower was completed on February 23rd 2002.

Description & Materials

The site was dominated by the presence of the station building and three tall chimneys, with the control building and offices in the immediate foreground. There were 3 steel chimneys for first development and 1 reinforced (brick lined) concrete chimney for second development. The large station building housed the following functions: the generating hall, the boiler house and the engine room.

Generating Hall

The main walls to the generating hall, boiler house, bunker bay and engine room consisted of a patent glazed window system with slim sections containing obscure glass, and corrugated cladding sheets with the corrugations running vertically. The lower portion of the walls consisted of precast concrete block walls with external red/brown pebble dash render finish externally and

painted finish internally.

The roofs to the generating hall, boiler house and engine room were all flat and consisted of patent metal deck roofing sheets with patent glazed lanterns and ventilators where appropriate.

Office Block & Control Room

The office building consisted of a three-storey asymmetrically composed building with a central main entrance. This space featured a main stairway as a central feature which accessed all three levels of office space and the working floors of the adjacent station.

The walls to the control building and office block consisted of precast concrete wall construction with red/brown pebble dash render finish externally and smooth rendered painted finish internally, and a painted grey plinth generally. Parapet copings to the edge of the roof were of in-situ concrete with asphalt upstands. Windows consisted of patent glazed units generally with precast concrete window cills and patent smooth 3/4" render reveals to the window openings.

Canteen & Stores

The walls to the canteen and stores consisted of precast concrete wall construction with red/brown pebble dash render finish externally, and smooth rendered painted finish internally, with a painted grey plinth generally. It had a flat concrete roof and the windows consisted of patent glazed units generally with precast concrete window cills.

Fuel Handling & Storage

The milled peat was delivered in wagons each holding about 6 tonnes. These wagons were uncoupled from wagon loco and pushed onto an automatic tipping device by electrically operated 'pushers' on tippler inlet and outlet and known as 'pulling-in' and 'pulling-out' devices. From the tipplers the milled peat was fed

1. View of Station from Ash Pond. 2. Chimneys and Enclosed Peat Conveyer. 3. Administration Block and Main Entrance.

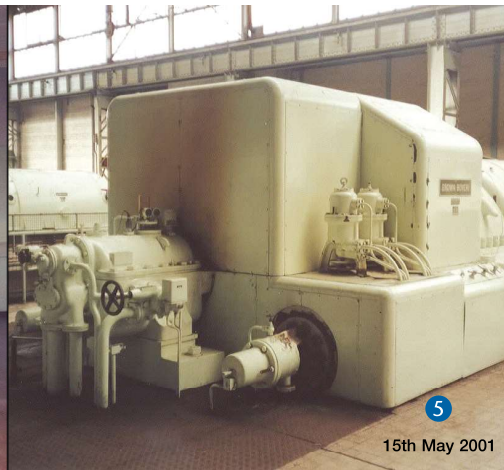
POWER STATION

Ferbane

Date Of Survey: 15th May 2001



4
15th May 2001



5
15th May 2001

directly by belt conveyors to the bunkers or to an adjacent stock pile.

A special 'tippler' unit turned each wagon upside down individually. This transferred the peat from the wagon to an underground conveyor belt, which was transported from low level to high level entry into the boiler house via an enclosed conveyor housing ramp and tower.

Boiler House

Following the second development in 1964 there were four boilers each being connected directly by steam main to a turbine. Each boiler was supplied with fuel from a bunker by four scraper conveyors which feed it to the four pulverising mills. These mills had dual role of drying (using recirculated gas from the furnace) and pulverising the fuel into a very fine powder for better combustion.

Turbine House Plant

After second development there were four steam turbine. The first three were each rated at 20MW and each coupled to a generator rated 25,000kVA; unit 4 was rated at 30MW coupled to a generator rated 35,000kVA. The turbines were complete with the standard condensing and feed water heating plant from which the condensed steam is returned to the boilers.

Cooling Towers

The local River Silver could not supply a sufficient quantity of water for cooling purposes. It was necessary, therefore, to construct two towers to cool the condenser circulating water. Each tower was of reinforced concrete shell construction. They were a reinforced concrete hyperbolic type, standing 80m high and 59m in diameter at the base.

Original designs for the station included three cooling towers, however only two were ever built.

Adjacent to the station building were the bunker bay, a canteen, an assortment of smaller buildings, ash ponds, and the Bord na Móna railway which brought in milled peat from the bog.

Other Features

Walther & CIE, Babcock Werke & Vereinigte Kesselwerke metal nameplates in bunker/boiler areas and Brown Boveri and Parsons metal nameplates in the engine/turbines room.

Milled Peat

Boora Bog was developed by Bord na Móna to produce milled peat and deliver it to the station over a narrow gauge railway network. This was mainly done in 5-tonne wagon loads and 14 wagons to a rake, although some milled peat was delivered by road.

Transmission

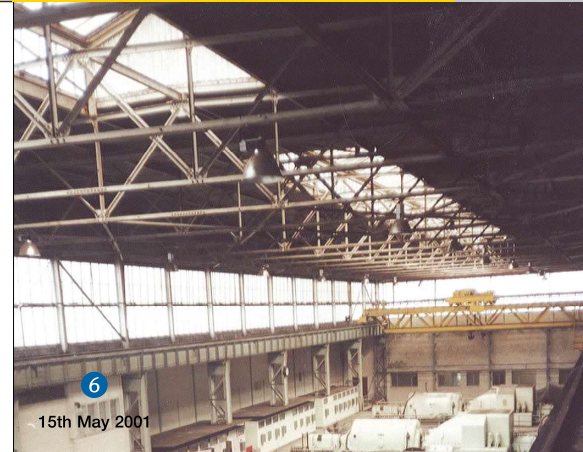
In a typical year the station burned 650,000 tonnes of milled peat to produce 400 million units of electricity. Electricity was generated and stepped up by transformers to 110kV for transmission to Shannonbridge, Portlaoise and Thurles to join the National Grid.

Special Interest - Historical

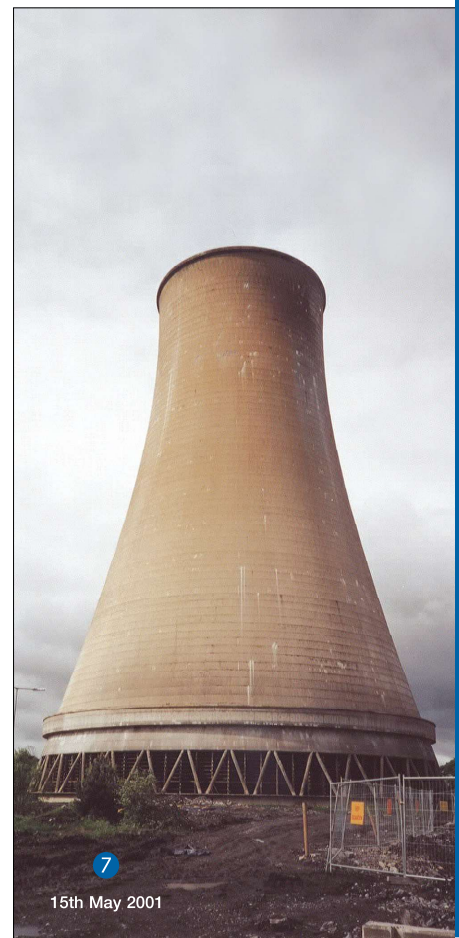
The Ferbane Generating Station pioneered the utilisation of milled peat in Ireland. At the time of erection, it was the biggest peat burning power station in the world outside of the USSR. Following the success of Ferbane, four further stations were built in the Midlands.

Special Interest - Social

The station encouraged a new local economy and community with the influx of new workers and their families. This established a series of new housing developments for the area.



6
15th May 2001



7
15th May 2001

4. Control Room. 5. Parsons Turbine. 6. The Engine/Generating Hall. 7. Cooling Tower.

POWER STATION

Rhode

ESB

Date Of Survey: 14th May 2001

Surveyors Name: Judith Doherty
Photographer: Judith Doherty
Field Controller: Peter Carroll
O.S. Ref: 11-1 / 4-13, 1910 ESB Ref: OY-PG-11-1 / 4-13, 1910

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only
Local
District
Regional
National
International

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)
Architectural (A)
Artistic (AR) ✓
Cultural (C)
Historical (H)
Scientific (SC)
Social (SO) ✓
Technical (T)



14th May 2001



14th May 2001

Summary

Rhode was a peat-fired generating station located on a flat rural site on the edge of the village of Rhode approximately 10km from Edenderry in Co. Offaly.

The ESB commissioned Rhode Station in 1956 and it comprised of two separate developments: 'A' station in 1960 and 'B' station in 1963. 'A' station consisted of two 20,000kW Boiler-Turbine units, and 'B' station consisted of one 40,000kW unit.

The demolition of this station commenced in February 2004 and is due to be completed by December 2004.

Description & Materials

The site was dominated by the presence of the two massive concrete cooling towers. Adjacent were the main building with three tall chimneys, a switching station, an assortment of smaller buildings, ash ponds, and the Bord na Móna railway line bringing in milled peat from the bog.

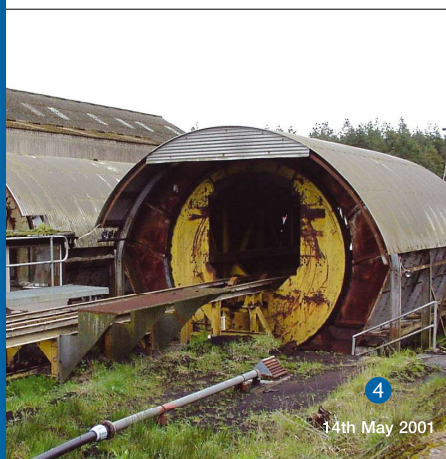
Generating Hall

The boiler house was twelve storeys in height while the generating hall was six storeys. The main walls to the generating hall, boiler house, bunker bay and engine room consisted of a patent glazed window system with slim sections containing obscure glass and vertically laid corrugated cladding sheets, both fixed to steel cladding rails which in turn were fixed to the steel frame of the building. The lower portion of the walls consisted of precast concrete block walls with external coloured red/brown pebble dash render finish externally and painted finish internally.

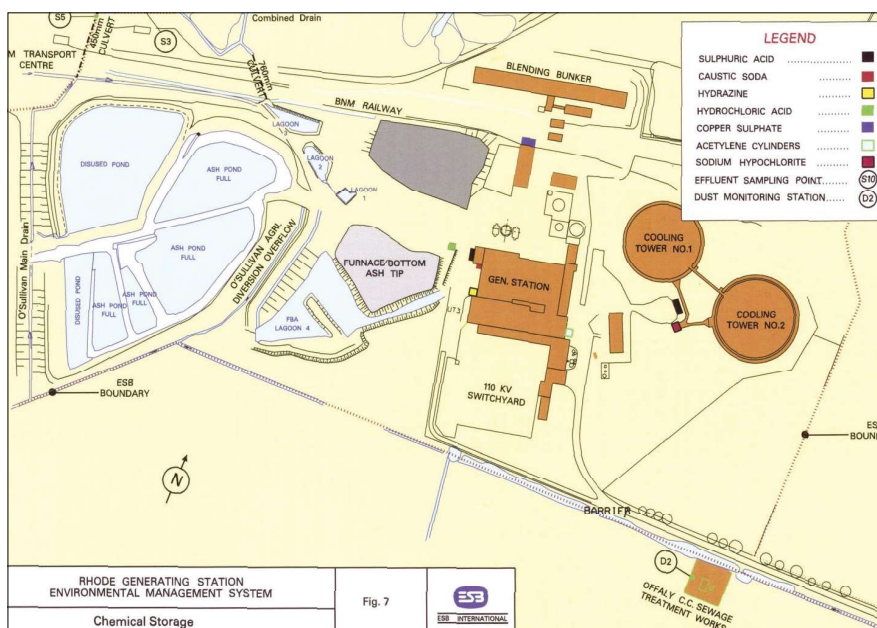
The roofs to the generating hall, boiler house, bunker bay and engine room, were all low pitch roofs consisting of patent metal deck roofing sheets with patent glazed lanterns, and ventilators where appropriate.



14th May 2001



14th May 2001



POWER STATION

Rhode

Date Of Survey: 14th May 2001



14th May 2001

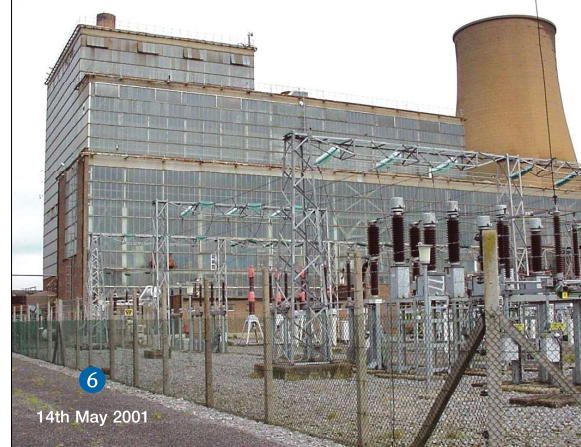
Switch Annexe, Office Block, Stores and Control Building

These buildings were generally three-storey flat roof buildings, rectangular in plan. The walls to the switch annexe, office block, stores & control building consisted of precast concrete wall construction with red/brown pebble dash render finish externally and smooth rendered painted finish internally. There was a rustic/red colour brick plinth generally. The roofs to the switch annexe, office block, stores and control building were all flat, which consisted of two coats of asphalt on a lightweight concrete screed laid to falls on a ribbed concrete slab roof structure.

diameter at the base.

Special Interest - Social

The Station encouraged a new local economy and community with the influx of new workers and their families. This established a series of new housing developments for the area.



14th May 2001

Fuel Handling

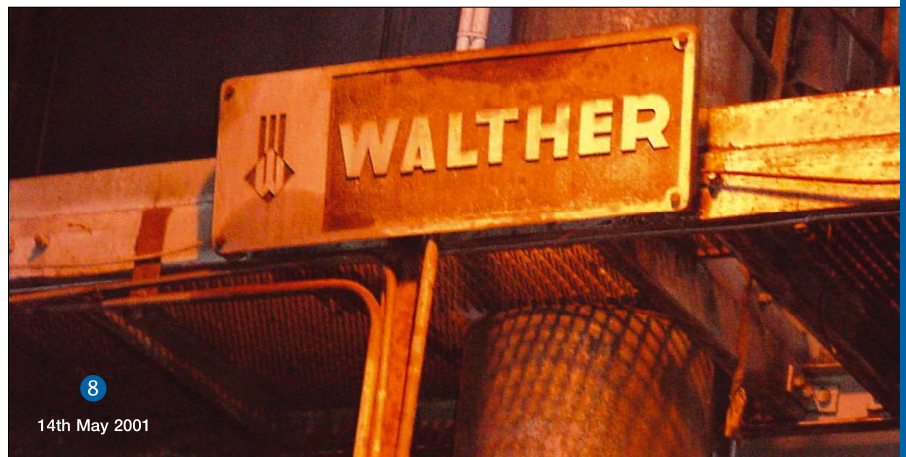
The station made use of the 12,000 acres of bog in north Co. Offaly. Peat was delivered to the station by Bord na Móna narrow gauge railway. Wagons, each containing 5 tonnes of peat, were emptied automatically into the tippler and the peat travelled on a conveyor belt to the bunkers at a rate of 2,000 tonnes per day. An automatic weighing system measured tonnage. The total bunker capacity was 1,000 tonnes, and about 580,000 tonnes of peat were used each year, when fully operational.



14th May 2001

Cooling Towers

An outstanding feature of the landscape was the two cooling towers. Since there was no large natural supply of water nearby, it was necessary to use a re-circulating system for cooling water to cool the condensers. Two cooling towers reduced the temperature of the water so that the same water could be used over again. 60,000 gallons of water flowed through the towers per minute in order to condense the steam passing through the turbines. The towers were a reinforced hyperbolic type and stood 82m high and 60m in



14th May 2001

5. Cooling Towers. 6. 110kV Compound. 7. Generating Hall. 8. Walther Nameplate.

DALTON HERITAGE CENTRE

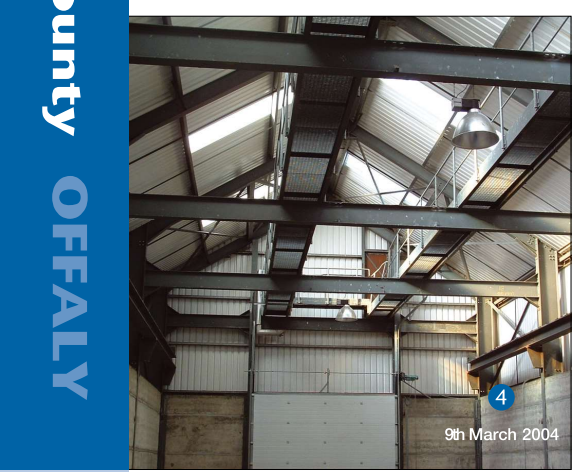
Shannonbridge Power Station,
Shannonbridge



Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004

Surveyors Name: Judith Doherty
 Photographer: Judith Doherty
 Field Controller: Peter Carroll
 O.S. Ref: 3425/A ESB Ref: OY-CC-3425/A

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:		Categories of Special Interest:	
Record Only		Archaeological (AG)	
Local		Architectural (A)	
District	✓	Artistic (AR)	
Regional		Cultural (C)	✓
National		Historical (H)	✓
International		Scientific (SC)	
		Social (SO)	
		Technical (T)	✓

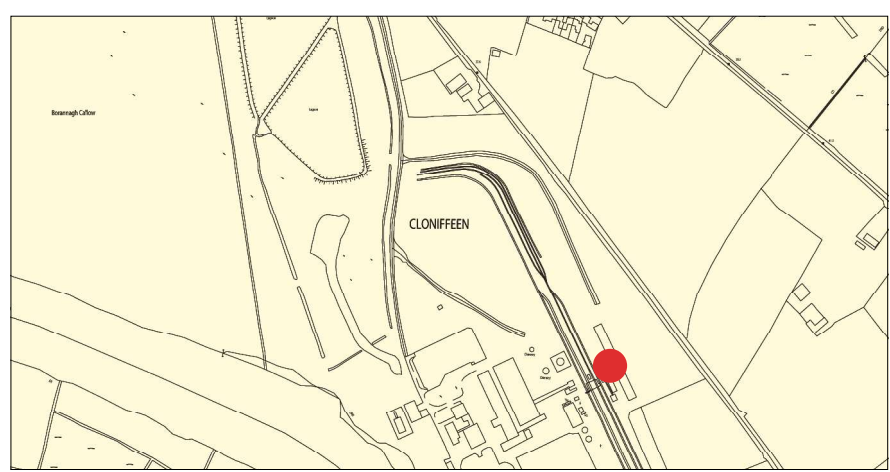


Summary
 The Dalton Centre is a heritage centre. It was created by converting the dis-used blending bunker at the now closed peat fuelled power station at Shannonbridge. The Centre was opened in January 2003.
 The Centre is located on the banks of the River Shannon, 25km south of Athlone.

Dedication of the Dalton Centre
 As part of ESB's 75th anniversary celebrations, Minister Dermot Ahern, TD, Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources officially dedicated the 'ESB Dalton Centre' in Shannonbridge, Co. Offaly to the memory of the late Ted Dalton. Ted Dalton worked in ESB as Managing Director, Irish Electricity, and was a leading figure in the development of the company.
 The Dalton Centre will initially be used as ESB's Industrial Storage & Restoration Centre to house a collection of the most important industrial artefacts used by ESB since its foundation in 1927. It will in time become a visitor centre open to the public when the new West Offaly power station is commissioned in 2005.

The Dalton Centre complements ESB's existing archive facilities currently located in Harold's Cross, Dublin, and 'Number Twenty Nine' a Georgian House in Lower Fitzwilliam Street, which depicts an exhibition of home life in Dublin for the period 1790 - 1820, presented jointly by ESB and the National Museum of Ireland.

Description & Materials
 The blending bunker is a large, single storey, open-plan industrial building situated to the far side of the railway tracks within the site. It consists of a steel frame with precast concrete cladding slabs at lower level and profiled metal vertical cladding at high level. There are three roller shutter doors to access the building and a profiled metal pitched roof with roof lighting to facilitate natural lighting of the internal space.
 The intended original use of the blending bunker was to process the peat. However, the building was not used for its intended purpose as boiler technology improved and it was no longer necessary for the peat to be processed in this way.

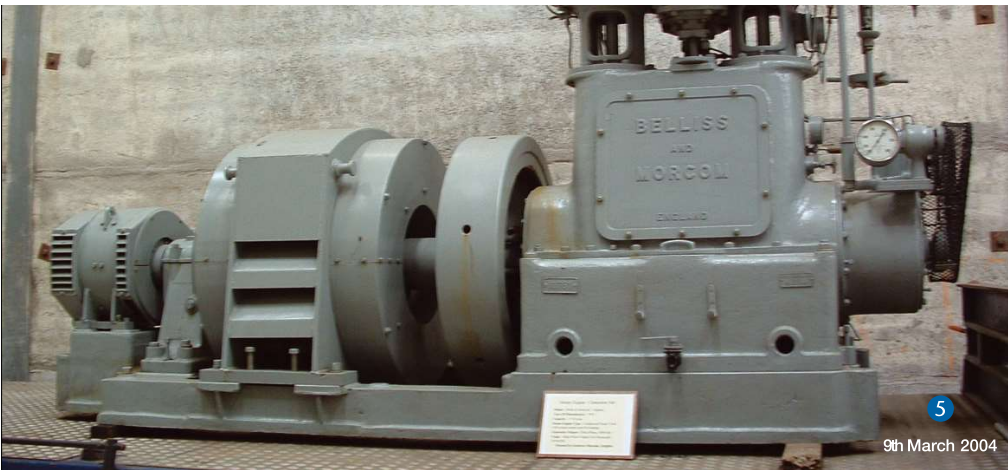


1. Side and Front view of Dalton Centre. 2. Internal View of End Bay. 3. Interior of Centre. 4. Steel Roof Structure and Gantries.

DALTON HERITAGE CENTRE

Shannonbridge Power Station,
Shannonbridge

Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004



5

9th March 2004



6

9th March 2004



7

9th March 2004



8

9th March 2004

Contents

Among the items which will be on display when the Dalton Centre opens to the public in 2005 are:

- Boiler feed pumps, used to fill the boilers in generating stations
- A mill shaft, used to mill peat for burning in generating station
- A steam feed pump, used to feed steam through the turbines
- Control and instrumentation equipment
- Safety equipment, used by ESB staff over the years
- Turbine blades - blades from turbine fans which generate electricity
- Transmission and distribution equipment
- Various trucks and transport equipment
- Transformers used on electricity lines to bring power to homes
- Overhead lines and underground cables
- Telecommunications equipment

Special Interest - Cultural/Technical

The building is used to house artefacts from old power stations, metres and domestic appliances, distribution equipment from ESB networks business, telecommunications equipment, transport equipment and other items of industrial plant which will contribute to facilitating an understanding by future generations of the history of electricity in Ireland.

It has been envisaged that in time the heritage centre will become an important national and indeed international resource for those interested in industrial heritage.

Dermot Ahern T.D., Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources has, at the 75th Anniversary, stated that ESB were to be commended for taking the initiative of establishing the Dalton

Centre. "This new facility will make a very significant contribution to safeguarding our commercial, social and cultural heritage by helping to explain the history of electricity and its importance to community life in Ireland. The industrial artefacts collected will provide a means of not only explaining the history of technology but will allow future generations appreciate how society itself has changed over time. This Centre will also demonstrate ESB's proud tradition of customer service over the seventy five years since its establishment."

The establishment of the Dalton Centre signifies ESB's recognition of the importance of recording and safeguarding industrial heritage not only of the company but of the country as a whole.

Special Interest - Historical

Four important monasteries or religious settlements dating back to the 5th Century are to be found in the area. The best known of these are Clonmacnoise founded by St. Ciaran and Clonfert founded by St. Brendan the Navigator.

Close by, the sixteen-arch bridge on the River Shannon was built c.1700. In 1845 a cast-iron swivel bridge to facilitate sailing craft was added and the new fixed span was built in 1983.

There is a large military fort close by which was constructed c1810 to rebel potential invasions by the French army landing in Galway Bay.

POWER STATION

Shannonbridge



Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004

Surveyors Name: Judith Doherty
Photographer: Judith Doherty
Field Controller: Peter Carroll
O.S. Ref: 3425/A ESB Ref: OY-N-3425/A

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only

Local

District

Regional

National

International

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)

Architectural (A)

Artistic (AR)

Cultural (C)

Historical (H)

Scientific (SC)

Social (SO)

Technical (T)



1

9th March 2004

Summary

Shannonbridge is a milled peat power station and consists of three separate developments, Units 1, 2 and 3. It is situated on the banks of the River Shannon, 25km south of Athlone and close to the point where the River Suck joins the Shannon. It was the last of the Midland peat stations to go into commission.

Unit 1 was constructed in 1961 and commissioned in April 1965. It was fired by milled peat and produced 40MW of electricity. Unit 2 'B' was constructed in 1973 and commissioned in September 1976. It was fired by milled peat producing 40MW of electricity. Unit 3 'C' was commissioned in 1982. It was fired by milled peat and produced a further 45MW. The Power Station stopped producing electricity on 1st March 2004 and is due to close on 30th April 2005.

Description & Materials

The station was run on a unit system, the turbine and boiler being operated by one man from the unit panel. It was the first station in Ireland to be operated on this principle.

Generating Plant

The generating plant has three units for producing electricity, each with its own boiler turbine and generator. Unit 1 has a 40MW turbine (1965), Unit 2 has 40MW capacity (1976) and Unit 3 45MW (1982) using steam from the boiler. The generating hall consists of a steel framed building with cladding panels and infill glazing panels. The main walls to the generating hall consist of patent glazed windows with slim sections containing obscure glass and corrugated cladding sheets. The ground storey portion of the walls consists of a brown brickwork external skin. The generating hall has a flat metal deck roof with patent glazed lanterns and ventilators attached.

The engine room is a large, dramatic and spacious functional area which is brightly lit by the natural lighting.

Administration Building

This building is clad with vertical profiled metal sheeting alongside vertical glazed windows. Additional horizontal glazing lights the individual rooms at upper level.



2

9th March 2004



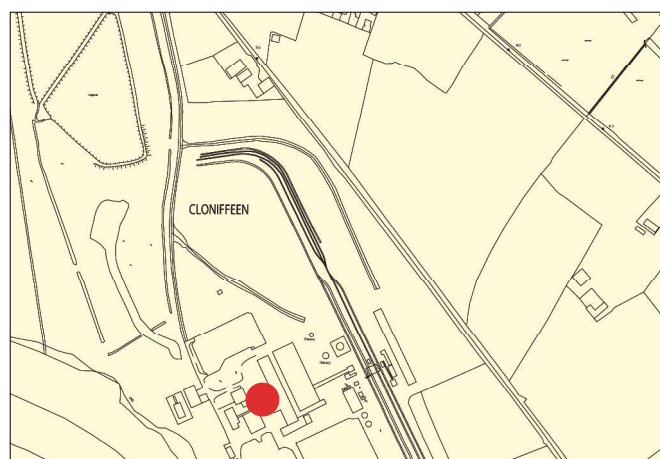
3

9th March 2004



4

9th March 2004





POWER STATION

Shannonbridge

Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004



Control Building/Office Building

This consists of steel frame construction with a two-tone brown textured concrete blockwork external skin. Windows to the control building consist of patent glazed units with concrete cills; doors generally are hardwood and vertically sheeted. The large doors to the control building consist of 'Bolton' steel industrial doors.

Canteen & Mechanical Workshop

This is a part single and part two-storey building situated between the main generating hall and the pumphouse/River Shannon. It consists of precast concrete blockwork with reconstituted stone blockwork finish externally and smooth rendered painted finish internally and high level metal cladding with clerestory patent glazed windows.

Stores & Outbuildings

The walls to the stores and outbuildings are of various construction including precast concrete wall construction with, and some without, a red/brown pebble dash render finish. Others are of the same construction as the generating hall with the two-tone blockwork cladding a steel frame. There are examples of ribbon

glazing to some of the outbuildings.

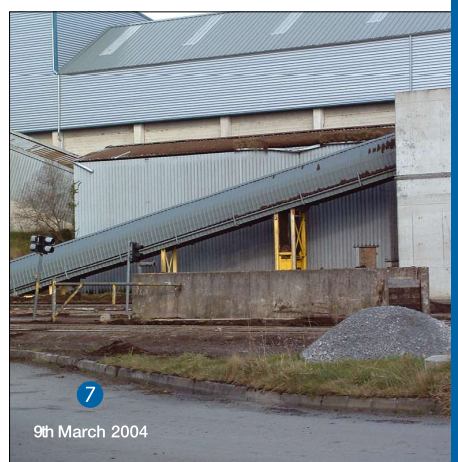
Fuel

The fuel burned in the boilers was peat and was harvested by Bord na Móna on 8000 acres of bogland. When in full operation, 45% of the fuel came from the Blackwater Bogs east of the River Shannon, and 55% from Garryhinch Bogs located west of the Shannon. The peat was delivered to the station by a diesel wagon train. Each wagon held approximately 5-tonnes. The peat was emptied by a tippler and was conveyed to the station and storage bunkers by conveyor belts.

Bord na Móna has the largest narrow gauge rail system in Europe. Bridges across the Shannon and Suck are used for transport of peat from the western area of the bog. One of the main rail lines is on the dry bed of the old canal between Shannon Harbour and Ballinasloe.

Fuel Handling Plants

Two fuel handling plants from Pohlig, Cologne were commissioned in 1965 and in 1983. The specialist peat boilers were manufactured in Germany with



5. View of River Shannon, Bridge and Water Outlet Channels. 6. Peat Conveyor, Tippler and Water Treatment Building. 7. Railway Track, Conveyors and Blending Bunker. 8. Interior of Control Room. 9. Boiler Equipment.

POWER STATION

Shannonbridge
(continued)

ESB

Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004



the turbines manufactured in England by Parsons.

Boilers

The boilers supplied steam to turbines which drove generators producing electricity at 10.5kV.

When in peak operation the station used approximately 1,000,000 tonnes of milled peat annually. Boilers one and two were manufactured by Walter. Boiler three was a VKW design. The fuel was conveyed from the tippler to the mills. There were four mills in total; however, three were sufficient for full load operation. There were four oil burners which were used for starting the boiler and four draught fans.

Condenser

The steam was condensed at a rate of 170t/h and returned to the boiler. 28,000 gallons of water, from the River Shannon, were circulated through the condenser per minute to condense the steam from the turbine.

Turbines 1,2 and 3.

The turbo-alternators were manufactured by C.A. Parsons in England and operated at 10.5kV. Turbines 1 and 2 were of the impulse/reaction type and comprised a single flow high pressure turbine and a double flow low pressure turbine coupled together in-line and was capable of 40MWs output. Turbine 3 was capable of 44.5MW continuous output.

Blending Bunker

The blending bunker was a large, single storey, open-plan industrial building situated to the far side of the railway tracks within the site. It consisted of a steel frame with precast concrete cladding slabs at lower level and profiled metal vertical cladding at high level. There were three roller shutter doors

to access the building and a profiled metal pitched roof with rooflighting to facilitate natural lighting of the internal space.

The intended original use of the blending bunker was to process the peat; however the building was not used for its intended purpose as boiler technology improved, and it was no longer necessary for the peat to be processed in this way.

The building has recently been converted for use as the 'Dalton Heritage Centre'.

Future Development

There is currently a West Offaly Power Plant under construction by Foster Wheeler contractors, an American company with a Finnish subsidiary. It is designed and constructed to replace the closed Shannonbridge Peat Station and is due to generate electricity commercially in January 2005.

Special Interest - Social

During its operation 180 people were employed at any one time in the operation and maintenance of the station.

Special Interest - Historical

Shannonbridge is situated on the Esker Riada and, along with Athlone, was a main fording point on the River Shannon. The sand hills were used as the main traffic route from Tara to Galway Bay, which was known as the *Slí Mór*, or Great Highway. In the 19th Century Shannonbridge was one of the main staging posts of the Bianconi Coach Service, Edenderry and Tuam were the others.

The area around Shannonbridge has a rich heritage and the remains of a stockaded fishing village dating back to

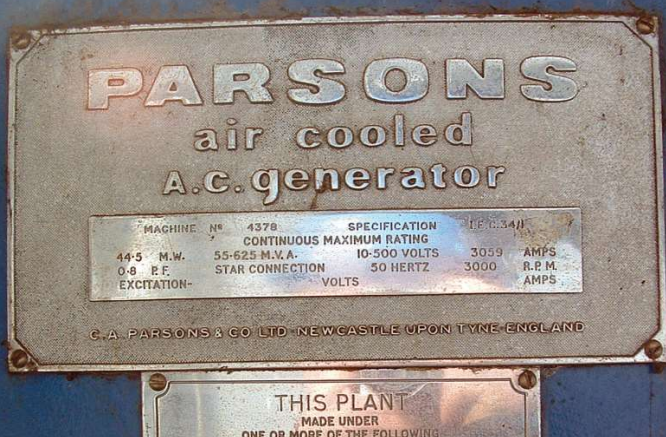


10. Draught Fans. 11. Parsons Turbine. 12. Parsons Turbine. 13. The Railway Tippler.

POWER STATION

Shannonbridge
(continued)

Date Of Survey: 9th March 2004



14

9th March 2004

900 BC are to be found at the nearby Finn Lake. The surrounding bog has yielded important discoveries including a dug-out boat, beads from the Baltic region, stone head axes, antlers and timber roadways.

Four important monasteries or religious settlements dating back to the 5th Century are to be found in the area. The best known of these is Clonmacnoise founded by St. Ciaran, and Clonfert founded by St. Brendan the Navigator.

The sixteen-arch bridge on the River Shannon was built c.1700. In 1845 a cast-iron swivel bridge to facilitate sailing craft was added and the new fixed span bridge was built in 1983.

On the opposite side of the river in Co. Roscommon is a large early 19th Century fort. There is also a small two-storey bridgekeeper's house built by Thomas Omer in the second half of the 18th Century.

Special Interest - Technical

Shannonbridge was the first station to be operated on the unit principle. It was also the first station to be connected to the 220kV transmission system.

Special Interest –

Scientific/Environmental

Large specimen fish breed in the waters flowing from the station. Due to the river floods, the callows alongside the river are not fertilised and produce a host of wild flowers and grasses. The late cutting of the callow meadows provides a home for the visiting corncrake. Shannonbridge peat fired station has achieved a ISO EN 14001 environmental standard.



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9th March 2004



16

9th March 2004



18

9th March 2004



17

9th March 2004

17. View of Existing Station and West Offaly Power Station Under Construction. 18. View from River of West Offaly Power Station Under Construction.

ESB RETAIL SHOP

Offaly Street, Tullamore



Date Of Survey: 15th December 2003

Surveyors Name: Des Clarke
Photographer: Des Clarke
Field Controller: Judith Doherty
O.S. Ref: 3434/1 ESB Ref: OY-N-3434/1

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only	✓
Local	
District	
Regional	
National	
International	

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)	
Architectural (A)	
Artistic (AR)	
Cultural (C)	
Historical (H)	
Scientific (SC)	
Social (SO)	
Technical (T)	



Summary

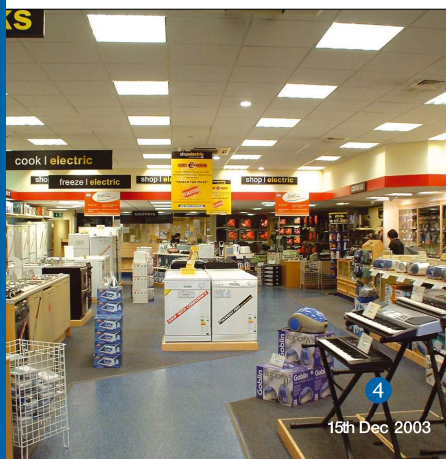
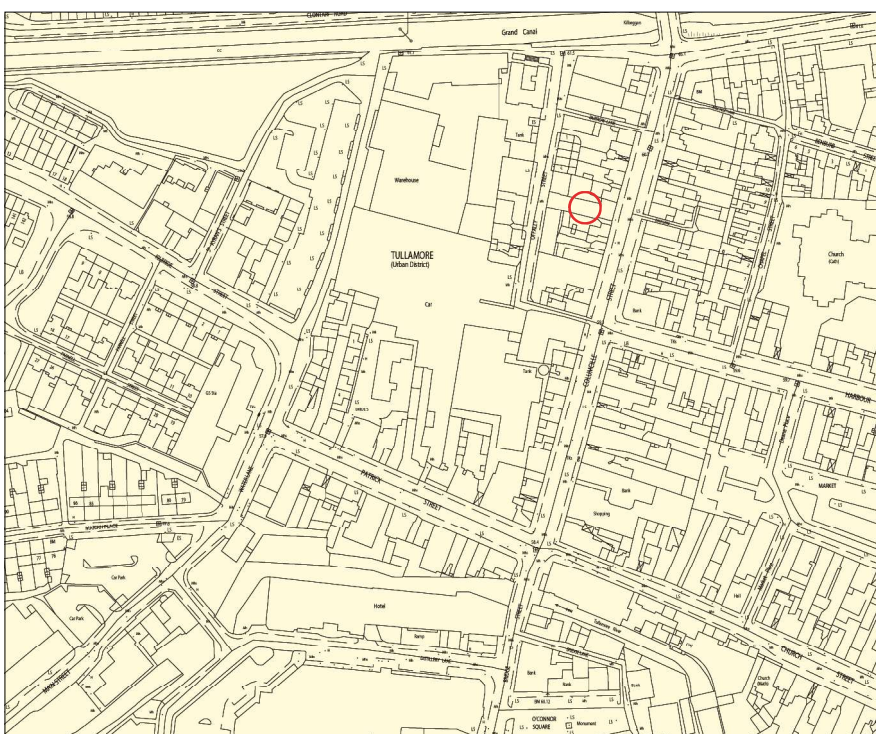
The property is an ESB retail building located in a commercial terrace of buildings on Offaly Street. The building stretches the depth of the block between Offaly Street and Colmcille Road on the ground floor and incorporates a single storey building to the front and a three-storey traditional pitched roof four-bay retail unit to the rear. The entrance to the shop is from Offaly Street and the property was opened in October 2001.

and pediment over the main entrance. The rear of the unit comprises the ground floor of a three-storey four-bay vernacular style retail unit with a pitched roof.

The showroom is open-plan with the cash desk located to the rear next to the fire exit. The cast in-situ concrete floor slab is covered with linoleum and carpeting, and a suspended ceiling is applied throughout the ground floor. The front part of the building is a more recent structure and the entrance is located centrally on plan creating a symmetrical elevation. The external treatment comprises three bays of floor to ceiling glazing set in timber frames surrounded by painted and nap plaster rendered blockwork.

Description & Materials

The first and second floors are used for offices and storage. The rear building is in a vernacular retail style consisting of a traditional shop front plastered and painted. The front elevation appears as a single storey three-bay terraced retail premises with a symmetrical elevation



1. Front Elevation. 2. View of Offaly Street. 3. View from Colmcille Road. 4. Interior of Showroom.



Surveyors Name: Des Clarke
 Photographer: Des Clarke
 Field Controller: Judith Doherty
 O.S. Ref: 3434/8 ESB Ref: OY-ECB-3434/8

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only	
Local	✓
District	
Regional	
National	
International	

Categories of Special Interest:

Archaeological (AG)	
Architectural (A)	
Artistic (AR)	
Cultural (C)	
Historical (H)	
Scientific (SC)	
Social (SO)	
Technical (T)	

ESB DEPOT

Rahan Road, Tullamore

Date Of Survey: 11th December 2003



Summary

The property is a detached single storey pitched roofed building on a rectangular plan in an industrial park just outside the town. The site was purchased in 1996 and the depot built in 1998. The present use of the entire property is as a depot and offices.

Description & Materials

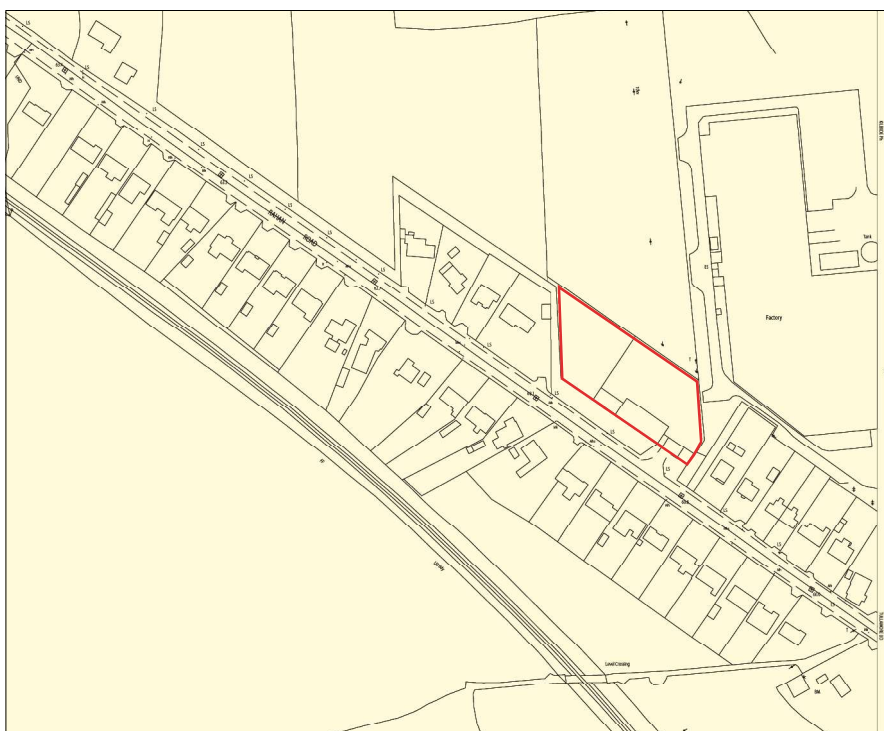
The building comprises a store, locker room, drying room, workroom, tele-communications room, supervisor's room, briefing room, canteen, toilets and shower rooms on a rectangular plan with the store on the end, and a roof spanning perpendicularly to the roof of the main building.

Structurally the building is composed of cavity wall construction supporting prefabricated timber trusses and power

floated concrete slab. The gross floor area of the building is 307m². The external treatment consists of nap plaster render with smooth plaster panels surrounding PVC windows.

The depot building is located towards the front of the site facing southwest and the yard to the rear is enclosed by a 2.4m high concrete block wall rendered in sand/cement nap finish. On the site there is also a truck enclosure and a palisade steel fence encloses the external storage facility to the rear.

The total area of the site is 0.56ha (1.46 acres).



1. Front Elevation. 2. Rear Elevation. 3. Front and Side Elevation. 4. Front and Side Elevation.