

**OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 57 OF THE
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000, as amended.**

Works which would materially affect the character of the protected structure and, as a result, require planning permission:

Note this is a Partial S57 Declaration relating to: Installation of 6 KWP Photovoltaic Solar Panels to the South Facing Roof. Equivalent to 16 no. PV Panels of approximately 1.8m x 1.0m each. The Proposed Roof is slated in fibre cement slates (not natural slate). Any internal equipment wiring etc. will be face fixed as opposed to chased into walls for minimal disruption to the existing structure.

1. Any other works related to the protected structure and its curtilage which are not part of this Declaration.

Works which would not materially affect the character of the protected structure and as a result would not require planning permission:

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1. Installation of 6 KWP Photovoltaic Solar Panels to the South Facing Roof.

Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae
Charleville Road
Tullamore

Tel 05793 46800
Fax 05793 46868



Declaration

Declaration Type: **Partial Declaration**

Plan Type: **CDP 2021_2027**

In accordance with Section 57 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000

Number: **DEC/24/003**

Planning Authority

NIAH 14819126



This Declaration specifies what works would, or would not, in the opinion of the planning authority materially affect the character of the protected structure, or any element thereof, and, as a result, require planning permission. Under the Act, protection extends to the entire structure including its interior and the land lying within its curtilage. It also extends to any other structures lying within the curtilage of the protected structure, to their interiors and to all fixtures and features that form part of the interiors or exteriors of any of these structures. Where specified in the Record of Protected Structures, protection may also extend to any other feature within attendant grounds of the protected structure.

Nothing in this declaration exempts works that would nor otherwise be exempt from a requirement for planning permission. Changes of use or intensification of the current use may require planning permission. It in doubt, the owner/occupier should consult the planning authority for further advice before commencing any works.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Applicant Name | Board of Management | |
| Name of Building | Mercy Primary School | |
| Townland | Chapel Lane | |
| Address 2 | Birr | |
| Address 3 | Co. Offaly | |
| Date of Request | 20-Feb-24 | 14-May-24 |
| Previous Declaration | N/A | |

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Status | Occupier |
| Former Name | Mercy Convent School |
| OS Map Type | |
| Map Sheet | |
| National Grid co-ordi | |
| Date of Inspection | Thursday 7 March 2024 |
| Date of Declaration | Thursday 7 March 2024 |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Protection Status | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Record of Protected Structures | 53-230 |
| Architectural Conservation Area | NA |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Record of Monuments and Places | NA |
| Archaeological Potential | NA |
| Preservation Order or Temp PO | NA |

NIAH Description of Structure

Detached five-bay two-storey convent primary school, built in 1841, extended to the rear with seven-bay two-storey extension, which fronts onto the road. Later extended to the west with additional four-bay two-storey wing. Covered walkway, added c.1950, accessing bike shed to rear of yard. School is set within its own yard. Pitched roofs to original school and later extensions with cast-iron rainwater goods. Roughcast render to walls with smooth render to plinth. Replacement uPVC windows with stone sills. Plaque to wall reads: 'Mercy Primary School Established 1841'. Square-headed door opening to original school with replacement double timber and glass panelled door. Square-headed door opening to rear extension, opening onto street, with timber battened door flanked by fluted stone pilasters with console brackets, surmounted by stone cornice and overlight. Bicycle sheds and rendered former cottage with pitched tiled roof, now used as classroom and located to rear. Tooled stone plinth wall having cut stone piers with wheel guards and cast-iron railings to front of site. Appraisal: Sister Catherine McAuley of the Sisters of Mercy first opened the Mercy Convent in 1841. The original structure has been dramatically altered over the years to cater for an expanding population. Though greatly altered it retains some notable features such as the decorative pilastered door which opens from the large extension onto the road.

Composition:

Detached five-bay two-storey convent primary school, built in 1841, extended to the rear with seven-bay two-storey extension, which fronts onto the road. Later extended to the west with additional four-bay two-storey wing. Covered walkway, added c.1950, accessing bike shed to rear of yard. School is set within its own yard.

Roof:

Pitched roofs to original school and later extensions with cast-iron rainwater goods.

Walls:

Roughcast render to walls with smooth render to plinth.

Openings:

Replacement uPVC windows with stone sills. Square-headed door opening to original school with replacement double timber and glass panelled door. Square-headed door opening to rear extension, opening onto street, with timber battened door flanked by fluted stone pilasters with console brackets, surmounted by stone cornice and overlight.

Interior:

N/A

Furniture and Fittings:

N/A

Site:

Tooled stone plinth wall having cut stone piers with wheel guards and cast-iron railings to front of site.

Mapping References:

First Edition OSI 6": Evidence of smaller, early 'School House' on the site and wooden bridge to the rear over mill race, Rosse Cottage to the east and block or terrace to the west.

UCD Town Map 1879: Protected Building is evident here and noted as 'Convent School', L-shaped Rosse Cottage to east and terrace of houses to west.

OSI 25" School shown with small central porch to rear, Riverbank Cottage to east with extensions and residential terrace to west.

Current OSI: School shown with extensions to the rear and additional set back building to the east replacing former Rosse/Riverbank Cottage, residential terrace replaced with further school buildings.

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1. Installation of 6 KWP Photovoltaic Solar Panels to the South Facing Roof.

Special Remarks

Any further documentation attached

Inspector

Rachel Mc Kenna

Inspector Date

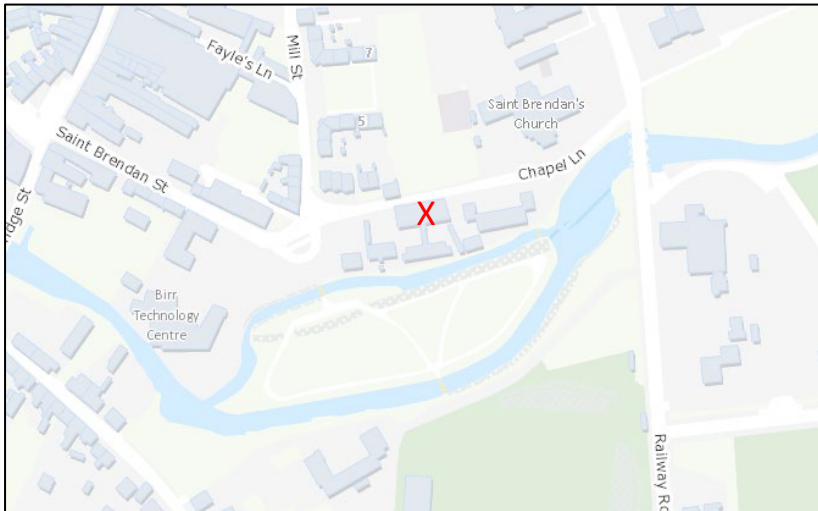
Thursday 7 March 2024

Rachel Mc Kenna

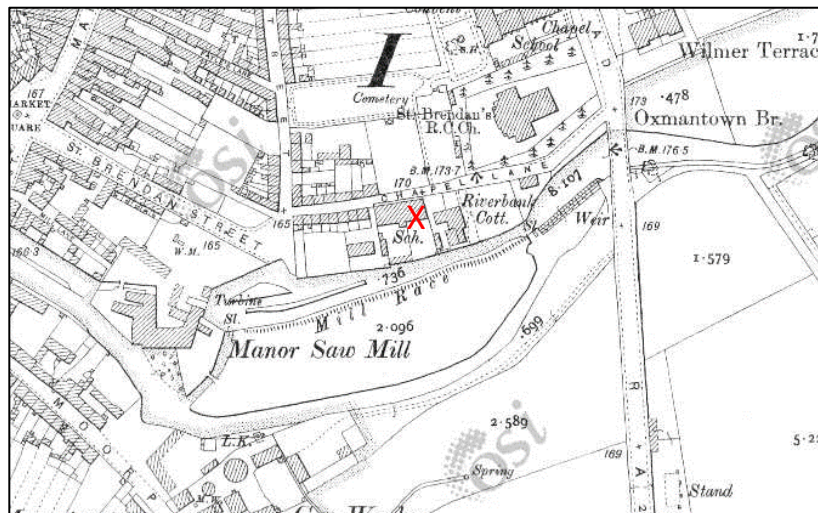
DEC57_2401 Mercy Primary School, Birr, Co. Offaly. NIAH No. 14819126 RPS No. 53-230

The Installation of 6 KWP Photovoltaic Solar Panels to the South Facing Roof. Equivalent to 16 no. PV Panels of approx 1.8m x 1.0m each. The Proposed Roof is slated in fibre cement slates as opposed to the original natural slate. Any internal equipment wiring etc. will be face fixed as opposed to chased into walls for minimal disruption to the existing structure.

1. Location and Historical OS Maps

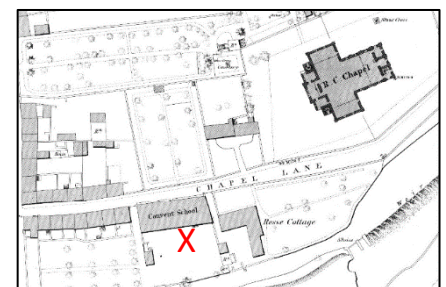


Site marked Red X



OSI 25"

Site marked Red X



UCD Town Map 1879



Historical 6" First Edition OS Map

(1829-1834)

Site marked Red X

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2. Photos - Images from Declaration request



View from Mill Island Park, showing proposed location of PV panels.
Panels shown nominally, not to scale.



Close-up of roof proposed for PV panel installation (to the right of the arch window) showing modern fibre cement slates.