

County LONGFORD



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POWER STATION

Lanesborough



Date Of Survey: 17th January 2004

Surveyors Name: Caroline O'Riordan
 Photographer: Caroline O'Riordan
 Field Controller: Judith Doherty
 O.S. Ref: 2417A + 2417C
 ESB Ref: LD-PG-2417/ A+2417/C

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)	



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Summary

Lanesborough is a milled peat power station located on the east bank of the River Shannon at the north side of Lough Ree. It was positioned at a natural crossing in the river where the Lanesborough bridge is located now. The border between Roscommon and Lanesborough runs across the bridge.

Description & Materials Background

The Lanesborough plant has a significant history with its origins stretching back to 1934 and the establishment of the Turf Development Board under the De Valera government of the day. During the Second World War, the State relied heavily on turf as a source of energy and on many local farmers who derived part of their living by cutting and supplying sod turf to ESB. At the end of the War, the Government decided to embark on a programme of expansion. In 1946 a new semi-state body, Bord na Móna, came into existence. It was given extensive powers to acquire and develop bogland for use as an indigenous fuel.

Generating Building

The Unit 1 generating main building is 1100m² (approx) in plan area and comprises a turbine hall with auxiliary bay and adjacent offices, switch and a boiler house with bunker bays. The structure is clad with metal cladding, glazed curtain walling and blockwork on the external elevations. Each unit consists of a large open volume of accommodation with the corners of the building glazed entirely. The side elevation consists of metal cladding with vertical strip curtain wall glazing.

Turbo-Alternator Units 1, 2 and 3

The station consists of three separate developments. Unit 1 had a capacity of 20MW. It was commissioned in 1958 and was fired by sod peat. This unit was decommissioned in 1982. Unit 2 has a capacity of 40MW. It was commissioned in 1966 and is fired by milled peat. Unit 3 has a capacity of 45MW electrical. It was commissioned in 1983 and is fired by milled peat. The three units are of steel structure and metal cladding, the pedestal to the turbo-alternator is constructed in reinforced concrete.



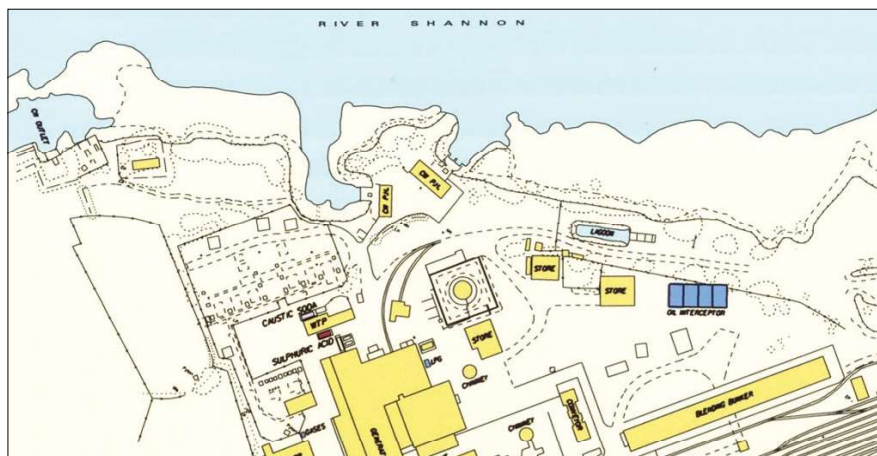
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1. View of Generating Station with River Shannon in Foreground. 2. View of Chimney Towers in Foreground. 3. View of Units 1,2,3 of Generating Building. 4. View of Main Façade to Generating Building.

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Main Generating Hall/Auxiliary Bay

This is a steel-framed, pale grey, metal clad structure with narrow vertical strip curtain wall glazing at intervals. To the front elevation, at the uppermost part of the building, is a horizontal band of glazing capped with a metal parapet. The generating hall is 16.5m high while the auxiliary bay is 18.5m in height. Both have a combined plan area of 490m² approx. The east end of the turbine hall opens into Unit 2. There is a large gantry crane at high level in the turbine hall. An annexe in the northwest end of the hall is currently used as a scaffold store. The ground floor consists of a concrete slab with several trenches with steel covers. These trenches provide for cooling water conveyance and pipe and cable services to the now decommissioned plant.

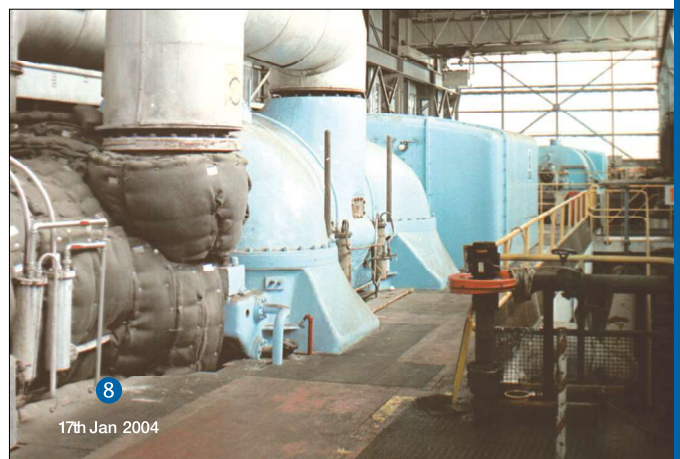
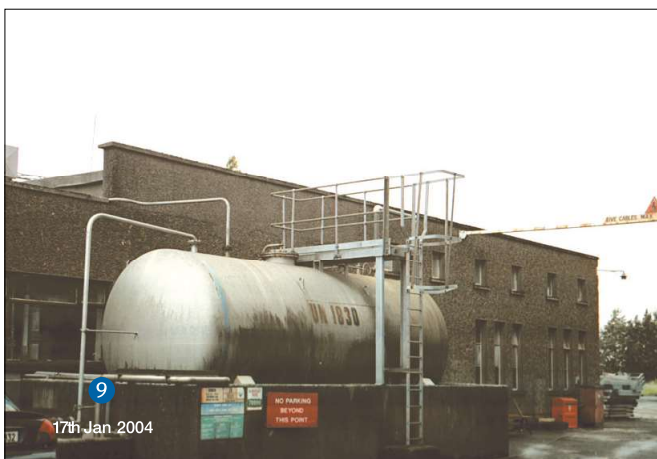
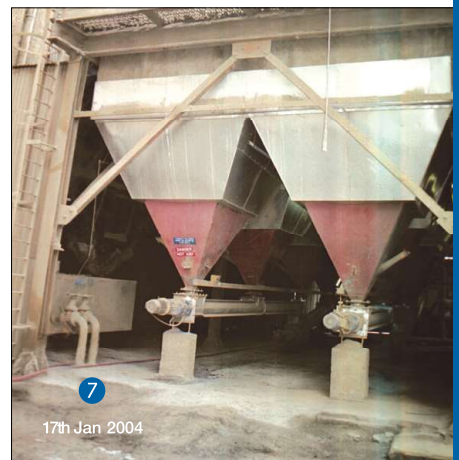
Boiler House/Bunker Bay

The external walls to the boiler house are of concrete block with a dry dash finish and curtain wall glazing above to a height of 27m. This curtain wall system is broken up with horizontal steel bands externally. The roof is a flat metal roofing system with safety rails surrounding the roof perimeter.

The combined floor plan area of the boiler house and the bunker bay is 450m² approx. The boiler house roof is at a height of 27m and the operating floor is at 5.5m. Three access and circulation floor levels above the operating floor are in open grid flooring. Stairways are constructed in structural steelwork framing and open grid tread panels provide access up through the boiler house and access to the bunker bay top deck level.

Administration Building

The administration building was built in 1957 and extended along with Units 2 and Unit 3. The administration building is of concrete structure with concrete and glazed infill panels. The main entrance is located in one of five glazed and panelled bays. It is positioned between blockwork fins with a canopy overhanging the timber double doors and glazing above and to each side of the entrance doors. There are timber panels to either bay adjacent to the entrance bay and the remaining end bays are glazed throughout. The surrounding masonry structure consists of concrete block with a dry dash finish. Smaller windows are located in line with the



5. Main Office/Administration Annexee. 6. Main Entrance into Office Annexee. 7. Ash Removal Plant. 8. Main Turbine Hall. 9. Water Treatment Plant.

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bays below. This is a flat roofed structure and adjoins the main generating building.

Offices/Workshops/Switch Bay.

The offices/workshops/switch bay block is annexed on the south side of the turbine hall and consists of a two-storey steel-framed construction incorporating concrete masonry block walls with steel framed windows. This block is 160m² in plan area and 9m in height.

Control Room

The control room is situated on the second floor of the Administration Building and houses the control/communications facility.

The internal area has a suspended ceiling with recessed lighting and an open area for the control equipment.

Blending Bunker

The blending bunker was constructed in the early 1980s and is very similar to the blending bunkers in Shannonbridge, Ferbane and Rhode.

The fuel handling system comprises peat wagon tippers and conveyors. There are also oil tanks for storage of auxiliary fuel and a water treatment plant for processing water prior to its storage and use in the boilers.

Canteen & Mechanical Workshop

The canteen and mechanical workshop was constructed in the 1980's and is of concrete blockwork construction with re-constituted masonry block finish. The existing windows are of steel. Some have been replaced with PVC units.

It is a flat roofed building in keeping with the administration building and workshop. It is a single storey building with narrow vertical windows to the canteen. The roof level of the adjoining workshop is higher than the canteen due to the roller shutter door located at the front elevation for vehicular access.

Store

There is a small store located to the rear of the site. It is a square masonry structure with a flat roof and dry dash finish and clerestory steel-framed glazing.

Current & Future Development

The existing milled peat power station in Lanesborough, Co. Longford, will soon be replaced by a new state-of-the-art peat station currently under construction nearby.

The production of electricity at the existing station ceased on 31st March 2004. The plant has been undergoing decommissioning since April 2004. The



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10. View of Peat Wagons and Conveyors. 11. View of Blending Bunker. 12. Peat Wagon Tippler. 13. Canteen and Workshops. 14. Interior of Control Room.

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Lanesborough
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station is due to formally close in February 2005. The station buildings are scheduled for demolition. This should commence during 2005.

Special Interest - Social

About 20 Bord Na Móna houses were constructed by ESB outside Lanesborough. ESB had a pitch & putt course which gave access not only to ESB staff but also to the public. A 'Hot Water Stretch' was created from the cooling water outlet for the station. This has provided a popular fishing area for the town.

The 'Hot Water Stretch' is famous for bream, tench, roach, pike, perch and eels. The bank between the power station and bridge has been revamped to facilitate the fisherman, and now has 60 fishing stands at the bridge, with 4 stands for the disabled.

Lanesborough Station also contributes to the local economy with the purchasing of materials in Ireland where possible.

Special Interest - Historical

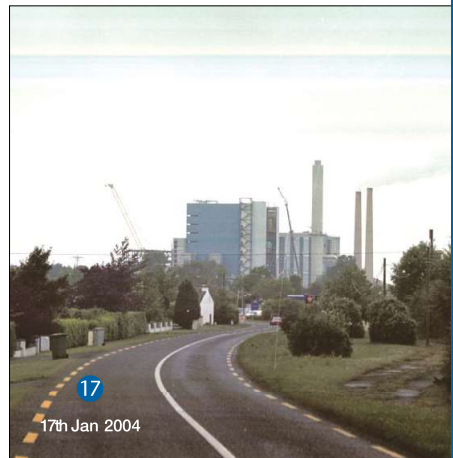
Béal Atha Liag, the ancient name of Lanesborough, says much about the origins of this town. Translated the name means the 'mouth of the ford of the flagstones'. Here the River Shannon is

faced with a ridge of limestone rock where it enters Lough Ree. The resultant ford provided the first crossing point on the river north of Athlone and thereby occasioned the first settlement of people here. Lanesborough is in a pivoted position located on the River Shannon at the northern entrance to Lough Ree. The town of Lanesborough is called after the family name Lane who owned large tracts of land in the vicinity. Sir George Lane, whose lands of Ballyleague and others in the county of Longford, were created into the manor of Lanesborough by a charter of Charles II. The river divides Lanesborough from Ballyleague which is located in Co. Roscommon. The first bridge across the river was made from wattles. In the year 1706, a stone bridge was built from the stones taken from Geoffrey Meare's Norman castle which stood where the present car park is situated. The existing bridge was built in 1847 and was updated in 1970. Lanesborough today has blossomed into a thriving town with many facilities for visitors and locals alike. It has long been recognised as one of the foremost angling centres in Ireland.



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15. New Peat Station Under Construction. 16. Bronze Image of Power Station. 17. View from Longford Road of Existing Generation Station with New Station in Foreground. 18. Cooling Water Pump House. 19. Existing Chimneys.

ESB RETAIL SUPERSTORE

Unit 2, Longford Retail Park.
Longford



Date Of Survey: 9th July 2003

Surveyors Name: Caroline O'Riordan
 Photographer: Caroline O'Riordan
 Field Controller: Judith Doherty
 O.S. Ref: 2295/17 ESB Ref: LD-SS-2295/17

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local	<input type="checkbox"/>
District	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>
National	<input type="checkbox"/>
International	<input type="checkbox"/>

Categories of Special Interest:

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Scientific (SC)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social (SO)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical (T)	<input type="checkbox"/>



9th July 2003

Summary

The property is a retail unit in a larger commercial building in Longford Retail Park. The park is located in the centre of Longford town and was built in 2001.

Description & Materials

The property comprises an open-plan ground floor display/retail space with ancillary accommodation, toilets, tearoom, store and offices located to the rear of the unit.

The shopfront consists of bays of floor to ceiling glazing alternating between panels of stretcher course buff coloured brickwork. The first floor elevational treatment consists of metal cladding panels surrounding aluminium framed windows and glazed cladding panels.

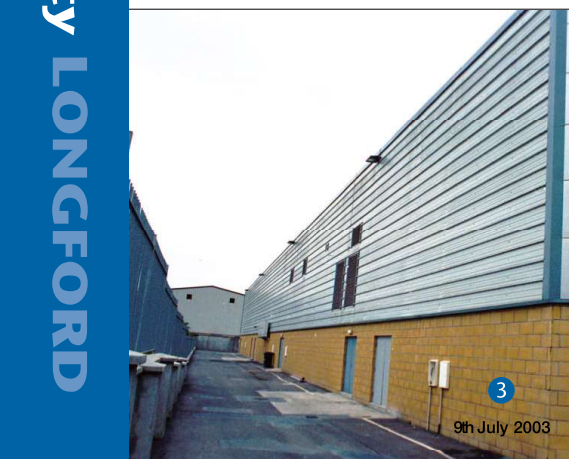
The ground floor is finished in a yellow brick with a steel framed glazed portico to the front over the footpath. The property is clad to the rear with horizontal profiled metal cladding, over ground floor stretcher course blockwork.

The property faces onto a car park and is adjoined on either side by retail units. The adjacent properties have raised parapeted bays at first floor level highlighting their entrances. The glazed roof canopy is supported on a light steel frame and serves to unify the entrance façade and provides shelter along the front of the building.

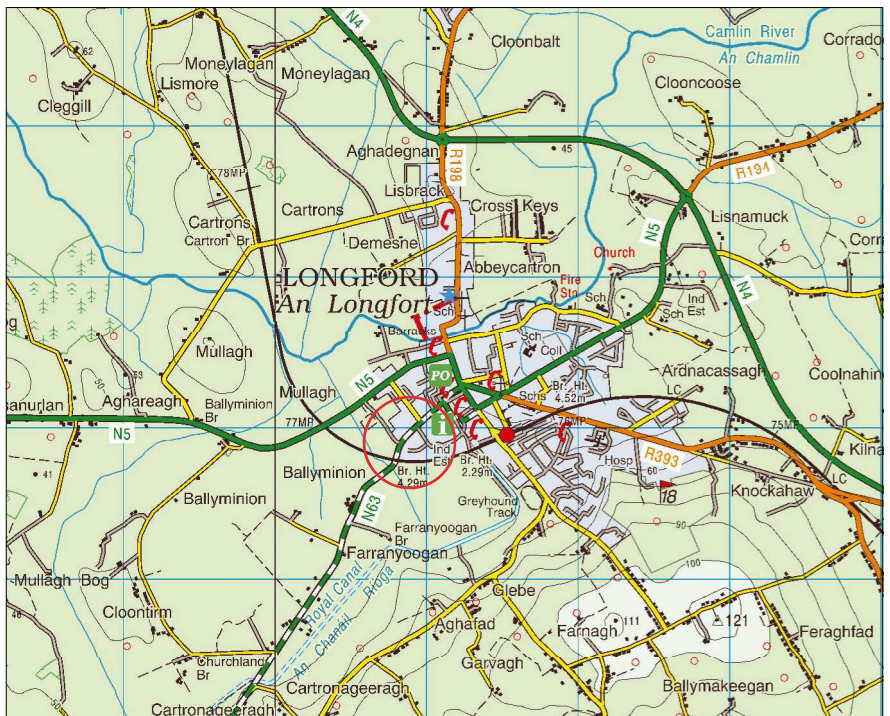
The rear of the property is accessed from a service lane.



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1. View of Front Elevation 2. View of Shop Interior 3. View of Side Elevation



Surveyors Name: Caroline O’Riordan
 Photographer: Caroline O’Riordan
 Field Controller: Judith Doherty
 O.S. Ref: 2295/12 ESB Ref: LD-N-2295/12

Architectural Heritage Evaluation:

Record Only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local	<input type="checkbox"/>
District	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Social (SO)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical (T)	<input type="checkbox"/>

ESB DEPOT

Richmond Street,
Longford

Date Of Survey: 9th July 2003



Summary

The property is a detached single storey depot building comprising two bays of pitched roofs on an L-shaped floor plan. The building is located at the front of a deep site with an external storage area at the rear.

The property is situated alongside industrial and commercial buildings with housing adjoining the rear boundary. It faces north onto Richmond Street in Longford town.

This property was purchased in 1975 by ESB and was refurbished in 2002.

Description & Materials

This single storey building comprises a former showroom, offices, storage rooms, canteen, toilets and telecommunications room, all contained under two pitched roofed bays. The gross floor area of the building is 583.6m². The treatment of the interior consists of plastered ceilings and vinyl onto concrete floors. Structurally the building comprises a cast in-situ concrete floor slab with concrete blockwork and piers supporting pitched steel trusses. The steel trussed roof supports two pitched roofs over two adjoining bays of the building.

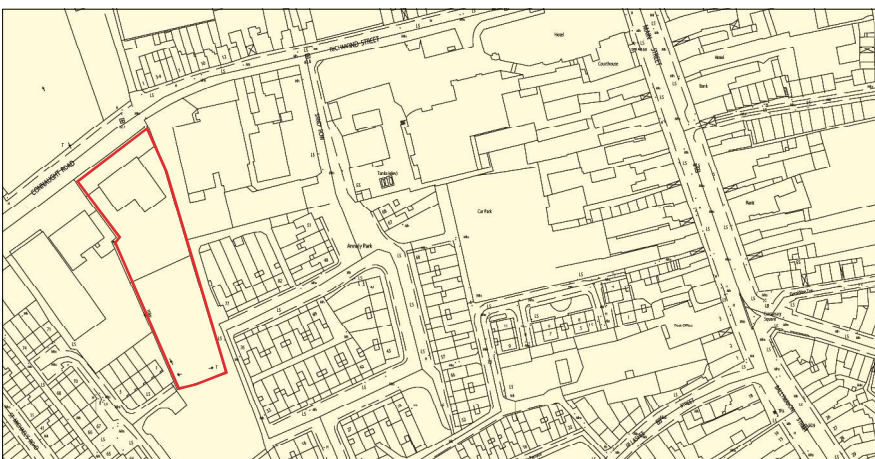
The front elevation comprises rough dash rendered blockwork and smooth plaster bands with a high parapet concealing the gables of the pitched roofs. There is floor to ceiling glazing to the showroom framed in aluminium. A steel mesh has been added to many of the rear windows for security purposes.

The roofs are covered by corrugated sheeting.

The site is enclosed to the front by a 0.8m high blockwork wall and 2.2m high palisade fencing and chain link fencing to the rear. The site also contains overhead power lines, petrol pumps and a radio mast. Car parking is provided to the front, and the rear yard is accessed via metal palisade gates. A pole storage area is located to the rear of the site which is surrounded by trees and shrubs.

The property prior to purchase by ESB was formerly a garage.

The total area of the site is 0.54ha (1.34acres).



1. View of Front and Side Elevation 2. View of Front Elevation 3. View of Rear Elevation