

## 14. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

### 14.1 Introduction

This archaeological assessment undertaken on lands in Capdoo Commons, Clane, Co. Kildare (ITM 687717, 728394, Appendix 14.A Figure 1) has been prepared by Archer Heritage Planning Ltd for Ardstone Homes. The desk based study and field survey was undertaken in January 2018 followed by a geophysical survey in March 2018 and a test-excavation in May 2018 by Liam Coen of Archer Heritage Planning Ltd. It aims to identify and describe known and potential archaeological and cultural heritage constraints within the site and offer recommendations for the mitigation of such impacts.

### 14.2 Assessment Methodology

#### 14.2.1 General

The Desktop study availed of the following sources:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)/ Sites and Monuments Record<sup>1</sup>
- Kildare County Council Register of Protected Structures
- Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland
- Aerial photography
- Historical maps
- Documentary research
- Relevant on-line databases (e.g. Excavation Bulletin; NRA Archaeological Database)
- Geophysical survey and test trenching results 2018.

#### 14.2.2 Field Inspection

The site was visited by Liam Coen of Archer Heritage Planning Ltd on 19th January 2018 in dry, sunny conditions (Appendix 14.A Plates 1–8). This field inspection took the form of a non-intrusive walkover survey, undertaken to assess land-use patterns, site topography, site access and the identification of sites of archaeological and cultural heritage interest.

The site is formed by 6 fields of various sizes in the townlands of Capdoo Commons and Clane see Appendix 14.A Figures 1 & 2. The northern boundary comprises house plots of one-off housing and gardens with an east/west running laneway. The eastern boundary comprises house plots and gardens with a gap in the central part comprising a vacant farmhouse and extensive outbuildings (part of the development site) leading to a north-east/south-west running roadway. The southern boundary backs onto Capdoo housing estate while the western boundary backs onto Mainham Wood and College Road East housing estates with smaller portions onto a private garden and the R407.

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<sup>1</sup> Archive Unit National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

The field to the north-west is of rough ground, contains a steep hill with the ruins of a modern shed on its height. There is some possible construction debris dumped there and some portions of the field appear to be maintained as garden spaces. The two large gently undulating fields that comprise the central, northern and north-eastern portion of the entire development site are in pasture. A portion of the line of the townland boundary between Clane and Capdoo Commons runs through the larger western field here. No features are visible on the ground to indicate its presence. The two fields to the south of the larger central field are also under pasture. The southernmost field of the entire development site is under conifer trees in its western section and contains three large modern sheds in its eastern part. The intervening field boundaries are comprised of thick mature hedgerows of brambles and small trees in the main.

There was no clear archaeological potential identified in the field survey.

### 14.2.3 Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey was undertaken across the site in order to identify sub-surface magnetic anomalies indicative of areas of archaeological potential with no surface expression (Target Archaeological Geophysics, Detection licence 18R0041).

No responses of definite archaeological character were recorded from survey within the site boundary in areas M1-M4. An archaeological origin for responses A-B & C-D to the E and W in M1, along with E to the S and F-G to the W in M4 should not be dismissed. These anomalies are mostly poorly defined and display no typical archaeological patterns. The potential that responses A-G derive from a combination of recent land use, modern ferrous and/or localized variations in soil/geology should not be dismissed, see Appendix 14.A, Figure 3.

Elsewhere, the results from survey highlight zones of interference caused by high voltage overhead power lines traversing the site, responses from former cultivation and disused boundaries and a former trackway.

### 14.2.4 Archaeological Test Excavation

The test-excavation was undertaken on 2nd-10th May 2018. Twenty one (21) trenches totalling 3,128 linear metres were excavated under archaeological supervision using a 16-ton tracked excavator with a 2m grading bucket. Trenches were located to assess the archaeological potential of the general area; some trenches were specifically located to investigate anomalies noted during geophysical survey. Excavation proceeded in level spits of 0.20m. Each trench was inspected for archaeological remains and all trenches were reinstated on completion see Appendix 14.A, Figure 3 and Plates 9-20.

#### 14.2.4.1 Results

The results are listed in Table 14.1 below. Topsoil was quite uniform; 0.20-0.30m in depth across the area, subsoil was compact mixed yellow and light brown boulder clay with extensive areas of grey sand and gravels. Numerous roughly parallel linear features were identified in the test-trenches. These were highlighted in the geophysical survey, orientated east/west and likely represent cultivation furrows. Their presence may be a factor for the lack of archaeological evidence, truncating previous activity. No evidence for the potential archaeological features indicated in the geophysical survey in Trenches 8 and 21 was identified. Some areas of the overall site were not available for testing for various reasons (afforestation, farm buildings, overhead

electricity wires, etc.). A range of post-medieval and modern pottery sherds and clay pipe fragments were present, both from the topsoil and within the fills of the furrows. Two sherds of possible glazed medieval pottery and a possible worked flint flake were identified from the topsoil.

**Table 14.1 Testing results**

Trench	Lx B x D	Orientation	Description
1	153m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	E/W	No archaeology found
2	217m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	E/W	No archaeology found
3	217m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	E/W	No archaeology found
4	198m x 2m x 0.4-0.65m	E/W	No archaeology found
5	203m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	E/W	No archaeology found
6	203m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	E/W	No archaeology found
7	206m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	E/W	No archaeology found
8	206m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	E/W	No archaeology found
9	68m x 2m x 0.5-0.75m	N/S	No archaeology found
10	64m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	N/S	No archaeology found
11	58m x 2m x 0.4-0.1.1m	N/S	No archaeology found
12	120m x 2m x 0.5-0.7m	N/S	No archaeology found
13	135m x 2m x 0.45-0.7m	N/S	No archaeology found
14	140m x 2m x 0.4-0.7m	N/S	No archaeology found
15	230m x 2m x 0.4-0.75m	N/S	No archaeology found
16	156m x 2m x 0.5-0.7m	N/S	No archaeology found
17	148m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	N/S	No archaeology found
18	148m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	N/S	No archaeology found
19	148m x 2m x 0.4-1m	N/S	No archaeology found
20	45m x 2m x 0.4-0.6m	N/S	No archaeology found
21	65m x 2m x 0.4-0.8m	N/S	No archaeology found

**No features of archaeological interest were identified.** Therefore there will be no archaeological impact from development across the site and no further archaeological mitigations are recommended.

#### 14.2.5 Legislative Background

Archaeological and cultural heritage protection in Ireland is provided by a number of international and national mechanisms. These include but are not limited to:

- National Monuments Acts 1930-2004;
- Architectural Heritage & Historic Properties Act. 1999.;
- Planning & Development Act. 2000, as amended;
- European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage. 1992.

The Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1999) outlines the State's general principles in relation to the management and protection of archaeological heritage. This document outlines that avoidance of developmental impacts on archaeological heritage and preservation in situ of

archaeological sites and monuments are always the preferred option. When a site, or part of a site, has to be removed due to development, then preservation by record must be undertaken, i.e. through excavation and recording.

#### 14.2.6 Kildare Development Plan 2017-2023

The Kildare Development Plan 2017-2023 (Volume 1, Chapter 12) sets out general policies and standards for development within the county. Kildare County Council recognises the value and significance of the county's archaeological heritage, and the importance of fostering a greater public appreciation of this heritage. Through strategies and objectives contained in this Development Plan, they seek *'to protect, conserve and manage the archaeological and architectural heritage of the county and to encourage sensitive sustainable development so as to ensure its survival and maintenance for future generations'*. The stated strategy for the archaeological heritage of the county is to *'protect and conserve the archaeological heritage of the county'*, and to *'secure the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest'*. The following is a selection of policy statements relating to the protection of the archaeological heritage contained in the County Development Plan:

AH 1: To manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of the county, avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest and secures the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest. The Council will favour preservation in – situ in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1999) or any superseding national policy.

AH 2: Having regard to the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), the Urban Archaeological Survey and archaeological sites identified subsequent to the publication of the RMP when assessing planning applications for development. No development shall be permitted in the vicinity of a recorded feature, where it detracts from the setting of the feature or which is injurious to its cultural or educational value.

AH 3: Secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest, included in the Record of Monuments and Places and their settings, in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHG (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

AH 4: To ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing and to ensure that such proposed developments are subject to an archaeological assessment. Such an assessment will seek to ensure that the development can be sited and designed in such a way as to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features and objects.



## 14.3 Receiving Environment

### 14.3.1 Site Description

This green-field site is located just to the north of Clane town off the R407 road to Kilcock (Capdoo Commons and Clane Townlands, Clane Barony, Clane Parish; OS Kildare sheet 14; ITM 687717, 728394; Appendix 14.A, Figures 1 & 2). The site comprises six fields, four of which are gently undulating pastureland; another contains a small hill with rough ground (location of 19th century disused quarry) while the southernmost contains recently planted trees and modern sheds. The River Liffey is less than 1 km to the south-east. The subject area contains no RMP sites though recent archaeological investigations located further to the south of the site in the town of Clane and the new residential areas south of the town (Abbeylands) have produced a range of archaeological evidence (see Table 14.2). The range includes Mesolithic activity in the form of a Bann flake discovered along the route of a gas pipeline to the south, Neolithic activity in the form of a disturbed cemetery, c. 200m to the west, Bronze Age activity in the form of a stray find, now housed in the National Museum, of a bronze dagger as well as copious medieval activity in the form of annalistic and other historic references and upstanding medieval structures associated with the military and ecclesiastical history of the town of Clane.

### 14.3.2 Brief Archaeological & Historical Background

Clane is a small village on the west bank of the River Liffey referred to in early texts as Cluain Damh 'meadow of the ox' or Cluain Ath 'meadow at the ford'. It is the ford over the Liffey at this location that made Clane an attractive settlement site, and the earliest permanent settlement here was an early medieval church reputedly founded by St. Ailbhe c. AD520, and whose first abbot was Sinchell (d. 549; Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 31). It is sporadically recorded in contemporary annals, for example the Annals of the Four Masters (AFM) record the site being pillaged in 1035 AD and the location of a synod in 1162 AD, called by Gelasius, the archbishop of Armagh. The convention of a synod suggests Clane was an important ecclesiastical settlement by the twelfth century (Bradley et al 1986).

#### 14.3.2.1 Prehistory

In addition to Neolithic pit burials (KD014:019; Ryan 1980) discovered north of the village, prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Clane is indicated by the discovery of a Bann flake during excavations of a gas pipeline and stray finds recorded by the National Museum of Ireland including a bronze dagger found "in a peat bog near Clane" which suggests Bronze Age activity in the area. In 1852, a bronze ring brooch with zoomorphic (animal representations) terminals and a long pin was recovered. The artefact was found to be in near perfect condition and may represent early medieval activity. Also from the vicinity of Clane and probably also of medieval origin, a well-preserved iron axehead of the 'bearded' type was recovered (NMI reg. 1975:248).

#### 14.3.2.2 Medieval period

After the Anglo-Norman invasion in 1169–70, the Barony of Oтын (now Clane) was granted to Adam de Hereford who granted it to his brother Richard. The motte (KD014-026004) was certainly built by the de Herefords in this period. In 1272, a Franciscan friary was established by Sir Gerald Fitzmaurice, which flourished until its dissolution of the mid-sixteenth century. In 1298, there are references to a court, provost and a community of Clane which suggests that it had the characteristics of a borough by the end of the thirteenth

century. There are records of the town being burned in 1310 and again in 1392, as a result of the village's vulnerable position on the interface between English Land or the Pale and the territories beyond, which were effectively under Gaelic control. There appears to be little more information relating to the village in the documents other than occasional references from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries which indicate that it maintained its borough status during this time (Bradley et al 1986; Lewis 1837). The territory of the borough was composed of three parts: (1) the township where each burgess owned a house and garden, known as a 'burgage plot'; (2) arable and meadow land divided by lot amongst the burgesses at certain times. These lots lay fallow between harvest and planting and were open to the cattle of the entire community during these times; (3) common land and wasteland used for pasture or woodcutting and which was never subdivided but open to the community as a whole. Six commons were located around Clane and the last of these was finally enclosed in the nineteenth century (Sherlock 1891-95).

The rampart of the Pale that exists in the vicinity of Clane and Kilcock defined the limit of the Pale between 1488 and 1515 and formed the western limit of English held land at that point. The rampart was constructed (though never fully completed) following an Act of Parliament in 1494. The rampart was to comprise "a double ditch of six feet high above ground on one side" and "every inhabitant, earth tiller, and occupier within the Pale was bound to assist in its construction, and was to be remitted one year's rent for his pains" (Devitt 1912-14). The ditch was defended by a chain of castles at Maynooth, Rathcoffey, Clongowes Wood, Blackhall, Naas which were the responsibility of the earl of Kildare (in Maynooth) to defend. A section of the Pale (KD014-008002-) survives in the townland to the north, Castlebrown or Clongowes, less than one kilometre distant.

#### 14.3.2.3 Post-medieval period

In its more recent history, Theobald Wolfe Tone, the leader of the 1798 Rebellion lived in Blackhall, between Clane and Sallins. Tones memorial is located in Bodenstown churchyard approximately 2km south-east of Clane. By 1831, Clane comprised more than two hundred "neatly built" houses and most of the parish of Clane was under tillage. The soil was fertile and agricultural practices had been improved. There were several good limestone quarries in the area and stone, lime and sand were transported to Dublin on the Grand Canal which was located nearby (Lewis 1837).

### 14.3.3 Record of Monuments & Places

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a statutory inventory of archaeological sites protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 (Section 12, 1994 Act), compiled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI). The inventory concentrates on pre-1700 AD sites and is based on a previous inventory known as the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which does not have legal protection or status (see [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)).

There are no recorded monuments located within the site itself and three in the immediate area (KD014-019 Burial 100m to the east, KD014-020 Well 300m to the south and KD014-008002- Linear Earthworks c. 200m to the north). There are a number of RMP sites in and around the town of Clane to the south of the subject site.

Table 14.2 Archaeological sites within 1000m of the proposed development

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM
KD014-011	Enclosure	Castlebrown or Clongowes	687372, 729178
Visible on aerial photographs (CUCAP ALV 10; GSI 394. 1965) as the cropmark of the E-half of a probably originally circular enclosure (est. max. diam. c. 30m). On level pasture at the foot of a steep slope which forms the S end of a N-S ridge, immediately E of the SE-flowing Gollymochy River. Not visible at ground level. c.600m away from subject site			
KD014-008002-	Linear Earthworks	Castlebrown or Clongowes	687693, 729205
<p>The area which would later be called 'The English Pale' (from the Latin 'palus'- a stake, and also the name of an earthen fortification at Calais in France) originated in the early 14thC when Norman settlers began withdrawing to lands in counties Dublin, Kildare, Louth and Meath and fortifying these areas against attack by the native Irish. By 1435, ongoing attacks, primarily aimed at cattle theft, prompted the concept of an additional, linear defensive feature, the boundaries of which were defined in a 1488 Act of Parliament as extending, 'from Merrion inclusive to the waters of the Dodder, by the new ditch to Saggard, Rathcoole, Kilheel (Kilteel), Rathmore and Ballymore (Eustace), thence to the county of Kildare into Ballycutlan (Coghlanstown), Harristown and Naas, and so thence to Clane, Kilboyne, and Kilcock'. In 1494 Parliament directed that, 'every inhabitant, earth tiller and occupier in said marches (borderlands), do build and make a double ditch six feet high above ground at one side or part which meareth next unto Irishmen between this and next Lammas (August 1st.), the said ditches to be kept up and repaired as long as they shall occupy said land.' However, Ellis points to a statute in Poyning's parliament in 1495 for 'ditches to be made aboute the Inglishe pale' as the first application of the term 'pale' to Ireland. The Pale contracted eastward in subsequent years and it is not certain if its original extent was ever completely ditched. By the seventeenth century The Pale had ceased to have any real political or defensive significance. Only a few, short sections have been positively identified in Co Kildare; in Kilteel Upper/Cupidstown near Rathmore (KD020-008001-/KD020-008002-) where archaeological excavation revealed a palisade trench along the top of the bank (O'Donnell 1987, 110), in Bishopsland just SW of Ballymore Eustace (KD029-039----), at Castlebrown or Clongowes (KD010-021----/KD014-008001- and KD014-008002-) and finally, the best preserved, semi-continuous portion which runs for c. 3365m through the townlands of Ballybrack, Ballyloughan, Clonduff, Clonfert South and Graiguepottle, c. 5km N of Clongowes (KD010-001----). Two well-preserved, although overgrown portions survive, one to the north and a second to the south of Clongoweswood College (KD014-045----). The northern portion (KD010-21----/KD014-8----) is a low, broad earthen bank (traceable L c. 550m; Wth 3-4m; H 0.75m) with a footpath on top and with ditches on either side (D 1-1.5m, but recut). The southern portion (KD014-008002-) has a similar morphology but slightly greater dimensions (traceable L c. 900m; av. Wth 5m; int H 0.6m; ext H 3m) and appears to terminate at its S end at the small, NW-flowing Gollymochy River. However, a slightly smaller, raised bank (dims. Wth 1.5-3m; H 0.2-0.6m) carries on from this point, curving SE, following the river bank (traceable L c. 200m), and may be part of the earthwork? In 1993, an archaeological watching brief (Licence No. 93E0057: www.excavations.ie) was maintained on the construction of a sewage pipeline which was run through an existing, modern breach in the boundary and a profile was also recorded 4m to the N of the breach at an area of least vegetal overgrowth. Natural ground level at this point rises from W to E. The Pale boundary here had a total width of 8.5m. The larger and deeper W fosse (recut as a modern drain) was 2m wide and tapered to a V-shaped profile. It was 1.18m deep, below ground level to the W. The flat-topped earthen bank was almost 2m wide and rose 2.2m above the bottom of the W fosse and 1.5m above ground level to the W. The E fosse was c. 2.5m wide with a rounded profile. It was 1.5m deep below the top of the bank and less than 1m below ground level to the E.</p>			

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM
No small finds were recovered. c.200m away from subject site			
KD014-026006-	Cross - Wayside cross	Clane	687407, 727237
Situated at the W side of the Newbridge road, SW of Clane village. The plain, rectangular, limestone base of a possible wayside cross (dims. L 0. 85m; Wth 0.65m; H 0.30m) has a roughly chamfered upper edge and contains an off-centred, rectangular mortise (dims. L 0.24m; Wth 0.20m; D 0.12m). (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 149). c.200m away from subject site			
KD014-026007-	Tomb - table tomb	Clane	687661, 727508
In a graveyard (KD014-026011-), built against a free-standing stone wall outside the E end of the former 'St. Michael's' parish church (KD014-026002-). The limestone table-tomb of William Wogan of Rathcoffey, d. 1616. (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 144-5). c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-019----	Burial	Clane	687383, 728257
A small Neolithic cemetery was discovered during bulldozing in 1971. It comprised; an oval pit containing the crouched inhumation of an eleven year old child and the inhumation of a fifteen year old youth accompanied by a lignite bracelet fragment and sherds of a round-bottomed decorated bowl; a pit containing the crouched inhumation of an adult male and the inhumation of an adult, disturbed before examination. A third burial was destroyed a year previously (Ryan 1979-80, 108-11). c.200m away from subject site			
KD014-020----	Well	Capdoo Commons	687875, 727911
Located on the roadside and named 'St. Brigid's' on the current (1939) ed. of the OS 6-inch map, but according to Jackson (1979-80, 148), the well was not associated with any pattern or tradition, and is overgrown and disused. A second, anonymous, source (JKAS 1899-1902, 269) records that an old man pointed out St Brigid's Well 'close to the spot where the ancient ford (KD014-055) crossed the Liffey'. c.300m away from subject site			
KD014-026001-	Historic town	Abbeyland, Blackhall Carrigeen, Clane, Moat Commons	687745, 727289
KD014-026002-	Church	Clane	687644, 727513
According to Bradley et al. (1986, vol. 2, 142-44), the former parish church of 'St Michael's' was originally held by the Knights Hospitallers and is first referred to in 1212. Described as a parish church in 1307, by 1615 the chancel was in ruins. Located in a graveyard (KD014-0026011-), this may also occupy the site of the Early Christian monastery 'Cluain Damh' (KD014-026017-). The structure on the site today comprises a possibly 17th century, rectangular, four-storied, battlemented, west-tower (ext. dims. L c. 5.5m NNE-SSW; Wth c. 4.5m) onto which an apsidal church (dims. L c. 26m ESE-WNW; Wth 10m) was built in the late-18th c. The remains were renovated in the 1980's to serve as a community hall. The tower is entered through a modern, pointed-arched doorway in the S wall, but the original, partly blocked, round-arched doorway survives in the W wall. New floors, at different levels to the original, were inserted and the interior was plastered. The tower's windows and battlements date to c. 1800. A 12th/13th century granite font (KD014-026010-) found in the wall of the tower was moved to the church of 'St Michael and All Angels' at Millicent, where its present location is designated KD014-053----. Access from the tower to the church is through a round-arched door. c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026003-	Bullaun stone	Clane	687661, 727363
A roughly dressed, rectangular limestone slab with a single, deep basin (diam. 0.32m; D. 0.35m), is now cemented on the top of a wall retaining the S bank of a small stream c. 120m to the S of the early monastic site (KD014-026017-). (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 149) c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026004-	Castle - motte	Carrigeen	687729, 727119

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM
KD014-026005-	Religious house - Franciscan friars	Abbeyland	687808, 727356
KD014-026010-	Font	Clane	687809, 727356
Found in the wall of the church tower (KD014-026002-) in Clane village, but moved to the church of 'St			

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM
Michael and All Angles', Millicent - see KD014-054---- (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 145). c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026009-	Ritual site - holy well	Carrigeen	687705, 727113
According to the OSL (Herity 2002, 42 (128)), 'This was formerly frequented as a holy well. Jackson (1978-80, 147) mentions a late 19th century reference that a procession and pattern were held at the well up to the late 1830's, but comments that, since Sunday was a day of devotion, patterns were not usually held at 'Sunday's' wells. The well lies in level pasture c. 3m to the W of Clane motte (KD014-026004-). It is enclosed in a concrete-roofed, rectangular structure (L 1.8m; Wth 0.8m; H 1m) of concrete blocks, open at the N end, from which a pipe draws water off for domestic use. This spring may once have fed the outer fosse of the adjoining motte? c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026011-	Graveyard	Clane	687645, 727499
Located on the highest ground in the centre of the present village of Clane and probably occupying the site of the Early Christian monastery of 'Cluain Damh' (KD014-026017-). A D-shaped area (diam. c. 50m E-W) with a straight W side (L c. 50m N-S), its curving form may reflect the line of an earlier, monastic enclosure. Contains St Micheal's parish church (KD014-026002-) and a 17th century Wogan tomb (KD014-026007-). (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 142-43) c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026012-	Graveyard	Abbeyland	687815, 727339
An almost square area (dims. L c. 60m N-S; Wth c. 60m E-W) located between the Early Christian monastic foundation of 'Cluain Damh' (KD014-026017-) c. 160m to the NNW and a motte (KD014-026004-) c. 180m to the SSW and containing 'Clane Abbey' (KD014-026005-), a 13th century Franciscan Friary. Burials are concentrated to the S of the friary ruins. c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026014-	Tomb - effigial	Abbeyland	687825, 727369
Lying on the ground against the N wall of the chancel of the friary church (KD014-026005-). A carved limestone fragment depicting a torso, but the upper chest and legs are missing. Traditionally identified with Gerald Fitzmaurice, Lord of Offaly, who is reputed to have founded the friary and who died in 1287. (Bradley et al. 1986, vol. 2, 148) c.500m away from subject site			
KD014-026017-	Ecclesiastical site	Clane	687645, 727500
The town of Clane (KD014-026001-) appears to have developed around the site of the Early Christian monastery of 'Cluain Damh', variously translated as the 'Meadow of the Ox' or 'Meadow of the Ford', founded by Ailbhe, and of which Sichell (died 549) was the first abbot (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 31). The monastery was plundered in 1035, but a synod was held there in 1162 (O'Donovan 1851, 777). There is no visible trace of the monastery, but the former 'St Michael's' parish church (KD014-026002-) may stand on its site, where the D-shape of the graveyard (KD014-026011-) may reflect an earlier, monastic enclosure line. A bullaun stone (KD014-026003-) lies c. 120m to the S and there is a Holy Well c. 370m also to the S. The base of a wayside cross (KD014-026006-) survives c. 340m to the SW. c.500m away from subject site			

### 14.3.4 Cartographic Sources

Analysis of historic mapping can show human impact on landscape over a prolonged period. Large collections of historical maps (pre- and early ordnance survey maps as well as estate or private maps) are held at the Glucksman map library, Trinity College and other sources (UCD library, Ordnance Survey Ireland, local libraries and published material). The development of the site and its vicinity recorded through the sixteenth to twentieth century cartography are described in Table 14.3 below and Appendix 14.A, Figure 5. The development of the local area was recorded in the cartographic research of the site and surrounding area.



No new archaeological features were recorded within the subject site.

**Table 14.3 Cartographic sources relating to the site**

Map	Date	Description
Down Survey	1655	The village of Clane is shown but no detail for the subject site is evident.
Taylor & Skinner Road Map	1777	The village of Clane is shown but no detail for the subject site is evident.
1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map	1839	The subject site is depicted as a number of fields straddling the townland boundary between Capdoo Commons and Clane. A cluster of buildings are shown along the road to the east of the site. There were no discernible archaeological features present.
2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map	1872	A quarry is shown in the NW corner of the site; fields are laid out in narrow east-west divisions to the south of the site.
3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Map	1908	No change in layout of subject site from the previous edition.

#### 14.3.5 Aerial photography

Aerial photography (or other forms of remote sensing) may reveal certain archaeological features or sites (earthworks, crop marks, soil marks) that for many reasons may not be appreciated at ground level. There are a number of available collections including the National Monuments Section, Geological Survey of Ireland (1970–73), Ordnance Survey of Ireland (1995, 2000, 2005), National Museum of Ireland (St Joseph CUCAP Collection) and Air Corps (1950's–1970's). Online orthostatic photographs of the site were examined (Ordnance Survey Ireland 1995, 2000 & 2005; Google Earth 2002-2017).

The 1995 Aerial Photograph shows the subject site before the housing to the immediate south (Capdoo Park) was built, the narrow east/west field divisions are shown and a laneway runs through the centre of the northern half of the site. The 2000 aerial shows the quarry in the NW corner of the site now grassed over. The 2005 Aerial shows the southern field being used for construction activity with most of this southern field appearing to be topsoil stripped. The latest Digital Globe shows Mainham Wood housing estate on the western edge of the site with the subject site largely unchanged see Appendix 14.A, Figure 6.

#### 14.3.6 Previous Archaeological Excavations

The Excavation Bulletin is a database of summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 to 2008. Reports on licensed archaeological works are also held by the Archive Unit of the National Monuments Section. The online Excavations Bulletin and excavation reports uploaded to the website of the Dublin County Archaeology Project were consulted in the preparation of this report. A small number of archaeological investigations have previously been undertaken in the wider Clane area. The combined results of these works indicate that the local area is of considerable archaeological potential. The significant archaeological remains uncovered during these investigations span the prehistoric, early medieval, late medieval and post-medieval periods. Relevant reports in the wider area are listed and summarised below in Table 14.4. Previous archaeological investigations with direct relevance to the subject site are described in greater detail in the following sections. There have been no archaeological investigations within the subject

site. Archaeological excavations have tended to focus on developments around monuments (the motte or friary) or in advance of residential developments in Abbeylands Td.

**Table 14.4 Previous archaeological excavations**

Licence	SMR No	OS Ref	Townland/ Street	Ex. Bull. Ref.	Authors
97E0345	KD014-026	N875277	Clane	1997:266 1998:303 1998:304	N. Brady M. Reid
At junction of Main St and Prosperous Road, three pits produced animal bone, medieval pottery and fragments of daub. Isolated artefacts were recovered from elsewhere in the trenches, including a Mesolithic Bann flake and part of a medieval window mullion identified in other parts of the town.					
97E0354	KD014-026	287685 227314	Clane	1997:267	C. Mullins
A mortared stone wall was identified that coincided with a wall which is depicted on the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps. Two sherds of medieval pottery were found in fill surrounding the wall.					
99E0386	KD014-026	287857 227464	Abbeylands	1999:366 2001:620	M. Byrne
A site included the remains of the Franciscan Friary. Geophysical investigation and testing confirmed the presence of walls north, south and southwest of the existing graveyard. A number of burials were revealed to the north, west and south of the existing graveyard. A possible souterrain was also identified. Artefacts recovered included medieval pottery, roof and floor tiles, all of which are probably related to the friary.					
03E1219	KD014-026	287812 228737	Abbeylands	2003:897 2004:0813	C. Hardy M. Seaver B. Ó'Ríordáin
Monitoring of topsoil-stripping and all ground disturbances One large piece of worked stone was possibly a mullion from the Franciscan friary. Two pieces of medieval pottery were recovered from plough furrows.					
03E0904	KD014-026	N878268	Moat Commons	2003:899	C. Duffy
Monitoring of groundworks, revealed a human burial immediately south of the motte. Two medieval pits were also recorded containing medieval pottery.					
03E1488	KD014-026	28765 22745	Prosperous Road	2003:900	M. Byrne
Testing at the junction of the Prosperous Road and Millicent Road, Clane. Approximately 115 sherds of pottery were recovered from topsoil, including medieval pottery.					
05E1177	KD014-020	ITM 687855, 728379	Capdoo Commons	2005:942 2006:742	C. Duffy
2005:942 The topsoil was stripped from a site where it is proposed to erect a housing development at Capdoo, Clane. The work was monitored. No material of an archaeological nature was revealed. 2006:742 Monitoring was conducted during topsoil-stripping in January on a site at Capdoo Commons, Clane. The site is in the same field as KD014-020, listed as St Brigid's Well. A buffer zone was kept around the RMP site. The monitor of the topsoil-stripping disclosed no material of an archaeological nature.					
08E0349 08E0831	KD014-026	28770 22760	Clane	2008:659 2008:660	M. Stephens A. Collins
Archaeological deposits exposed consisted of the remains of a surface, a wall and a series of peaty deposits, all assumed to be of medieval date on the basis of medieval pottery sherds recovered.					



### 14.3.7 Architectural Heritage

Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to safeguard architectural heritage in accordance with Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000. Under S.51 (1), a County Council must compile a Record of Protected Structures (RPS), which lists all structures that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. The protection, unless otherwise stated, includes the exterior and interior of the structure, lands lying within its curtilage (boundary), other structures and their interiors within the curtilage, plus all fixtures and fittings that form part of the interior or exterior of any of these structures. Buildings can be added to, or deleted from the RPS at any time, though generally this occurs when the county development plan is being reviewed. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) was established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999. Its purpose is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. It is intended to provide a basis for recommendations of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to Local Authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in Records of Protected Structures (RPS).

**The subject site contains no Protected Structures. The nearest protected structure is c.500m to the southwest within Clane Town. Located to the north of Main Street is an old outbuilding (Reg. No. 11808001) dating from 1860-1890. It is of Regional Importance.**

### 14.3.8 Toponyms

Research into a site or areas place name (or toponym) can provide information relating to an areas heritage or previous land use. Many townland names were anglicised by the time the Ordnance Survey (OS) began in the 1830s and when townland names were standardised in the Townland Index (1851).

Clane is a small village on the west bank of the River Liffey, said to take its name from Cluain 'meadow', although it has also been interpreted as Claonadh 'sloping place' in reference to the gently undulating landscape (Hamilton 1915–17). In early texts, it is referred to as Cluain Damh 'meadow of the ox' or Cluain Ath 'meadow at the ford'. It is the ford over the Liffey at this location that made Clane an attractive settlement site.

### 14.3.9 Topographic files

The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files is the national archive of all known antiquities recorded by the National Museum listed by county and townland/ street. These files relate primarily to artefacts but also include references to monuments and contain a unique archive of records of previous archaeological excavations. The results of a search of the Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland for Capdoo Commons, Loughbollard, Castlebrown or Clongowes did not yield any results for stray finds. In Clane townland itself there are six finds associated with burials uncovered in the 1970's (1971:928A, 928B, 929, 930 and 931) a more recent (2011:251) burial uncovered during the laying of foundations on Ballinagappa Road (west of the subject site) and a copper alloy spur recorded for Clane townland (E191:371).

#### 14.4 Characteristics of the Proposed Development

It is proposed to construct a residential development consisting of a total site area of 11.442ha incorporating 1.6 ha of open space and a new distributor road linking the Kilcock Road with Capdoo Park and onto the Dublin Road. The residential mix consists of a mix of 1, 2, 3 and 4 bed houses with a percentage of apartments and duplexes totalling 366 no. units on a site of approximately 11.4ha (area within Applicants ownership) see Appendix 14.A, Figure 4.

#### 14.5 Identification of Likely Significant Impacts on cultural heritage

This cultural heritage assessment has employed a variety of sources in conjunction with non-intrusive walkover survey to make a coherent assessment of the cultural heritage risk associated with the project. The following factors were identified in the course of desktop study, followed by walkover survey:

- There are no recorded monuments situated within the site boundary or in the immediate area.
- There are a number of archaeological monuments in the wider area, in particular a range of sites associated with the medieval settlement of Clane to the south.
- The site contains no protected structures.
- No potential archaeological features were recorded in historical maps of the subject site.
- No potential archaeological features were recorded in aerial photographs of the site.
- Numerous Archaeological Monitoring, Excavation and Testing works have been undertaken previously in and around the town of Clane revealing a range of archaeological evidence; however, the only other record of archaeological works in Capdoo Commons (Licence no. 05E1177) did not identify any evidence for archaeological activity.
- No responses of definite archaeological character were recorded from the geophysical survey within the site boundary.
- Numerous roughly parallel linear features were identified in the test-trenches. These were highlighted in the geophysical survey, orientated east/west and likely represent cultivation furrows. No evidence for the potential archaeological features indicated in the geophysical survey in Trenches 8 and 21 was identified. Large areas of the overall site were not available for testing. A range of post-medieval and modern pottery sherds and clay pipe fragments were present, both from the topsoil and within the fills of the furrows. Two sherds of possible glazed medieval pottery and a possible worked flint flake were identified from the topsoil.

**No features of archaeological or cultural heritage interest were identified. However the site is a large area on the edge of Clane and has the potential to contain previously unknown archaeology, it is recommended that topsoil stripping is monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.**

##### 14.5.1 Construction Phase

The greatest threat to unrecorded, buried archaeological sites/ features occur during the construction stage which includes all ground disturbance works undertaken at this stage (excavations and other groundworks including the provision of access roads and service trenches), movement of machines and storage of material in sensitive areas.

Extensive archaeological assessment comprising a geophysical survey (18R0041) and machine-assisted test-trenching was undertaken at this site. No features of archaeological interest were identified. However there is still the potential that there could be an archaeological impact during the construction phase.

#### **14.5.2 Operation Phase**

No features of archaeological interest were identified during the archaeological assessment. Therefore there should be no archaeological impact during the operation phase.

#### **14.6 Do Nothing Scenario**

No features of archaeological interest were identified during the archaeological assessment.

#### **14.7 Mitigation Measures**

This is a very large green field site within an area of low to moderate archaeological potential. No features of archaeological interest were identified, however the site is a large area on the edge of Clane and has the potential to contain previously unknown archaeology, topsoil stripping will be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

#### **14.8 Residual Impacts**

No features of archaeological interest were identified, therefore there will be no residual impacts on archaeological features or sites.

#### **14.9 Interactions Arising**

No interaction with potential features of archaeological interest were identified.

#### **14.10 Monitoring**

Extensive archaeological assessment comprising a geophysical survey (18R0041) and machine-assisted test-trenching was undertaken at this site. No features of archaeological interest were identified. However the site is a large area on the edge of Clane and has the potential to contain previously unknown archaeology, it is recommended that topsoil stripping is monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

## 14.11 References

Bradley, J., Halpin, A. & King, H.A. 1986. Urban Archaeological Survey, County Kildare. OPW. Unpublished.

Devitt, M. 1912–14. 'The Rampart of the Pale' in Journal of the Kildare Archaeological Society. Vol. VII.

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### 14.11.2 Web references

Online Excavations bulletin [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) [accessed 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 ]

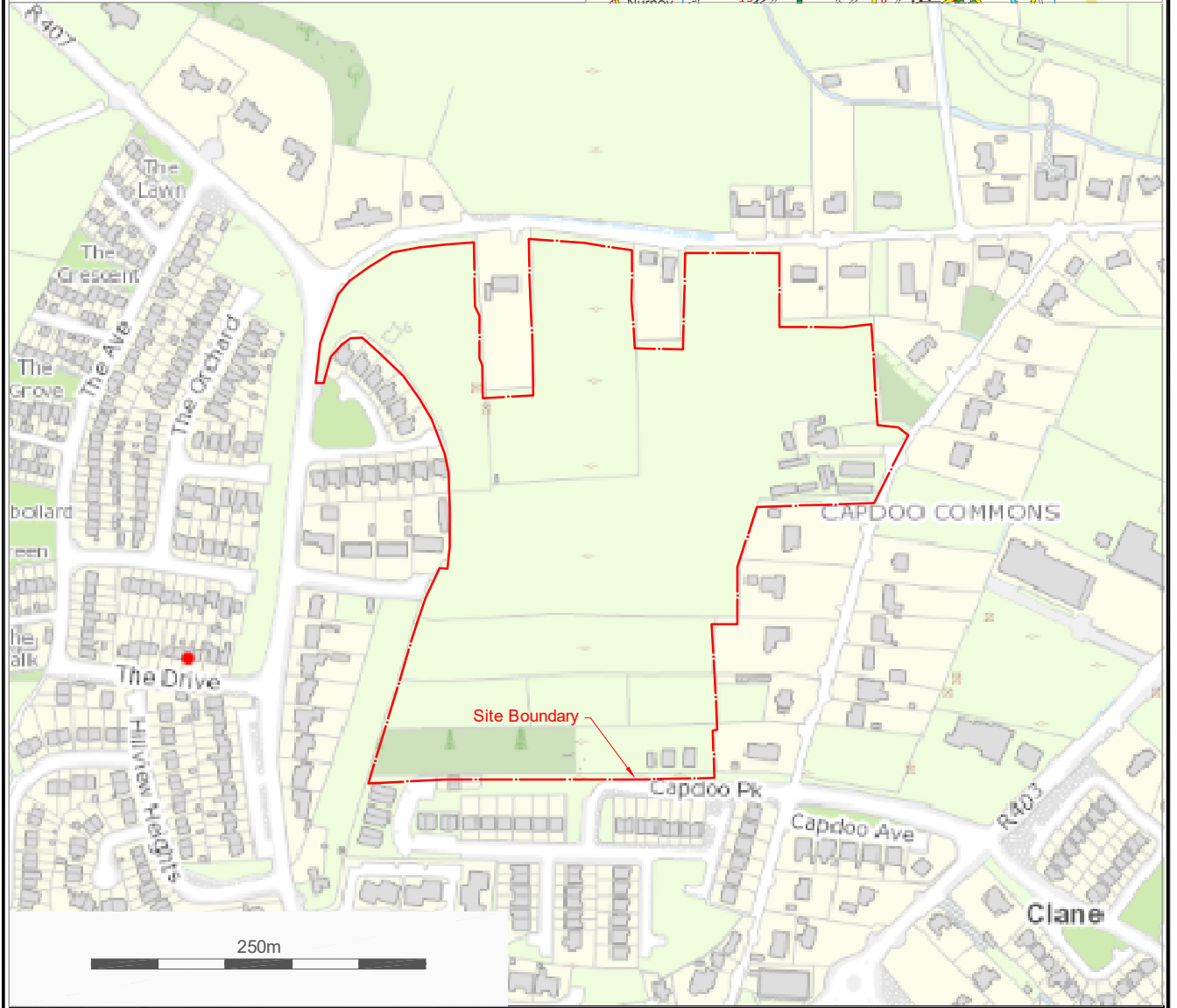
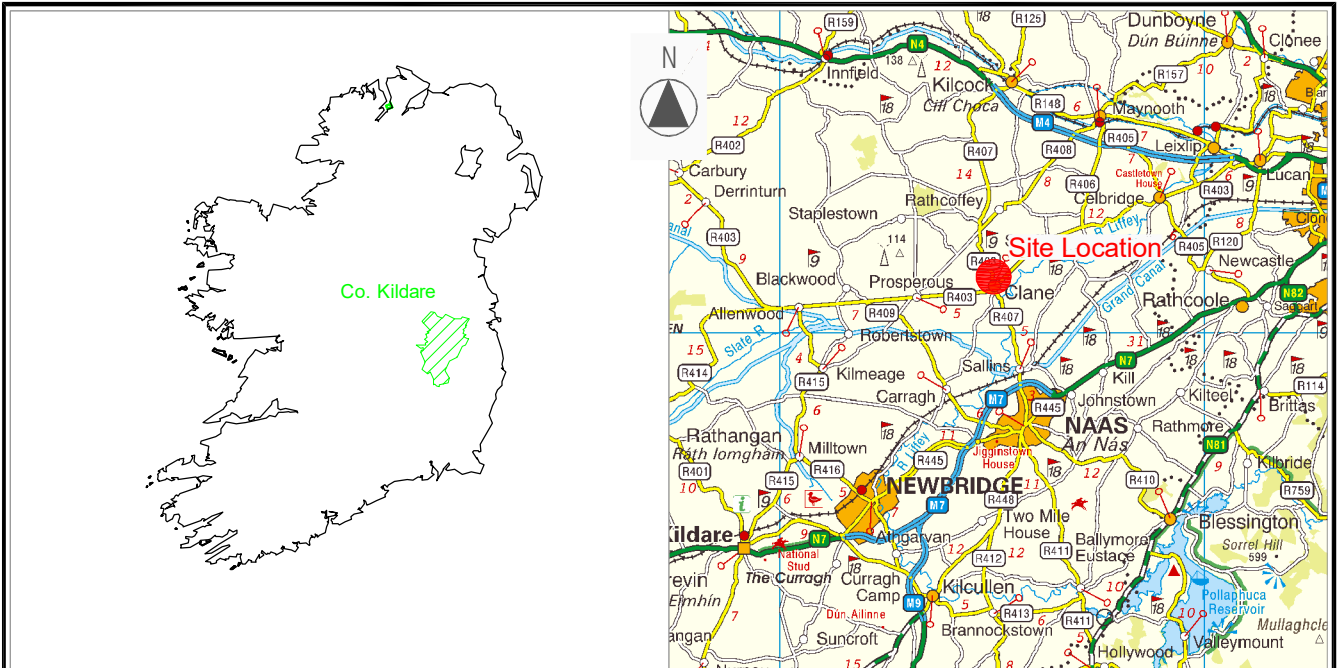
Online Archaeological Survey of Ireland [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie) [accessed 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 ]

OSI <http://map.geohive.ie/mapviewer.html> [accessed 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 ]

Kildare Development Plan <http://www.kildare.ie/countycouncil/Planning/developmentplans/KildareCountyDevelopmentPlan2017-2023/> [accessed 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 ]

## Appendix 14.A Figures and Plates

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Unit 8 Beat Centre  
 Stephenstown,  
 Balbriggan,  
 Co. Dublin

Capdoo Commons, Clane,  
 Co. Kildare.  
 Archaeological assessment

Client: Ardstone Homes

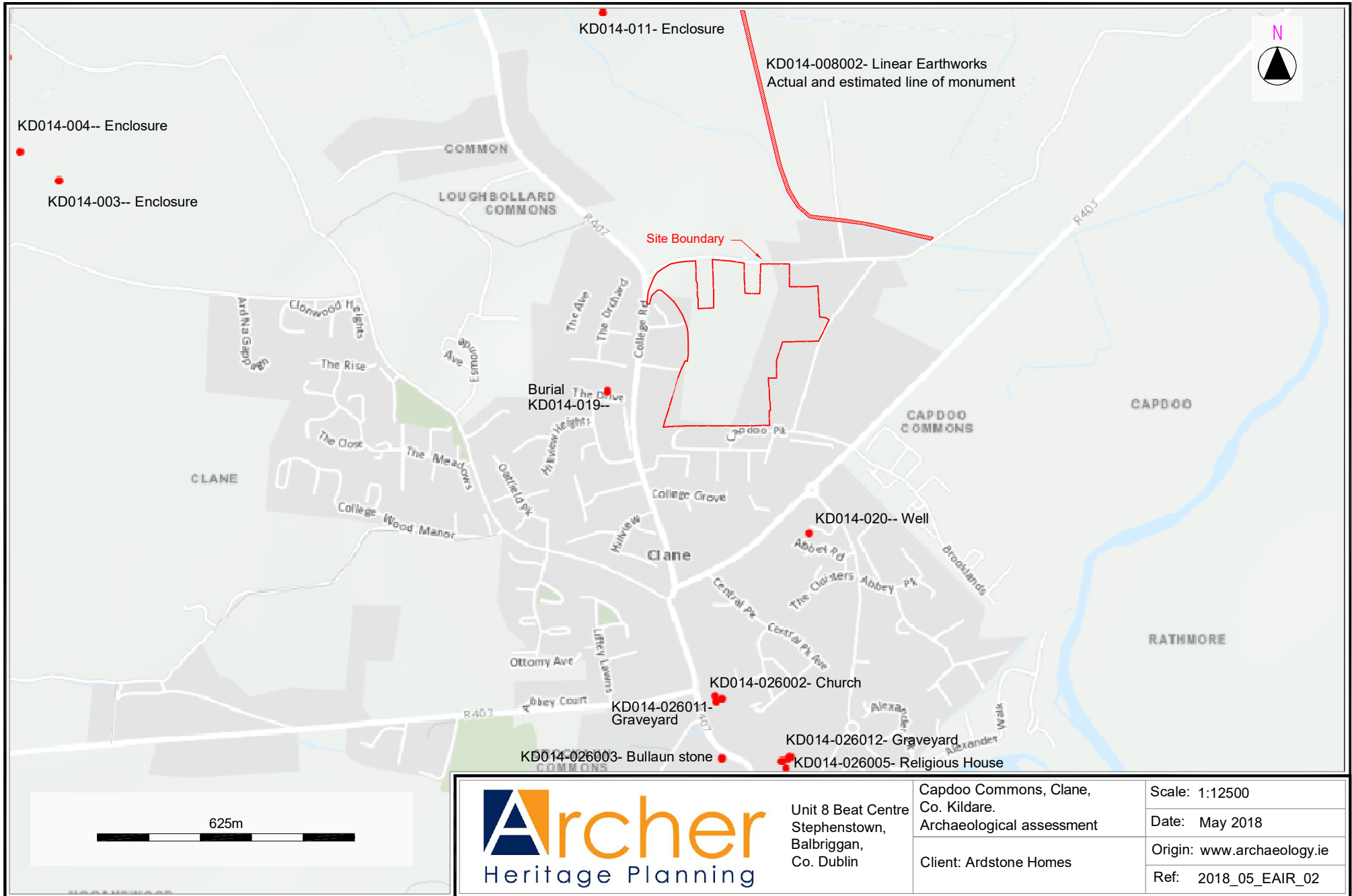
Scale: 1:5000 A4

Date: June 2018

Origin: www.archaeology.ie

Ref: 2018\_05\_EIAR\_01

Figure 1: Site Location



Unit 8 Beat Centre  
 Stephenstown,  
 Balbriggan,  
 Co. Dublin

Capdoo Commons, Clane,  
 Co. Kildare.  
 Archaeological assessment  
 Client: Ardstone Homes

Scale: 1:12500
Date: May 2018
Origin: www.archaeology.ie
Ref: 2018_05_EAIR_02

Figure 2: RMP sites



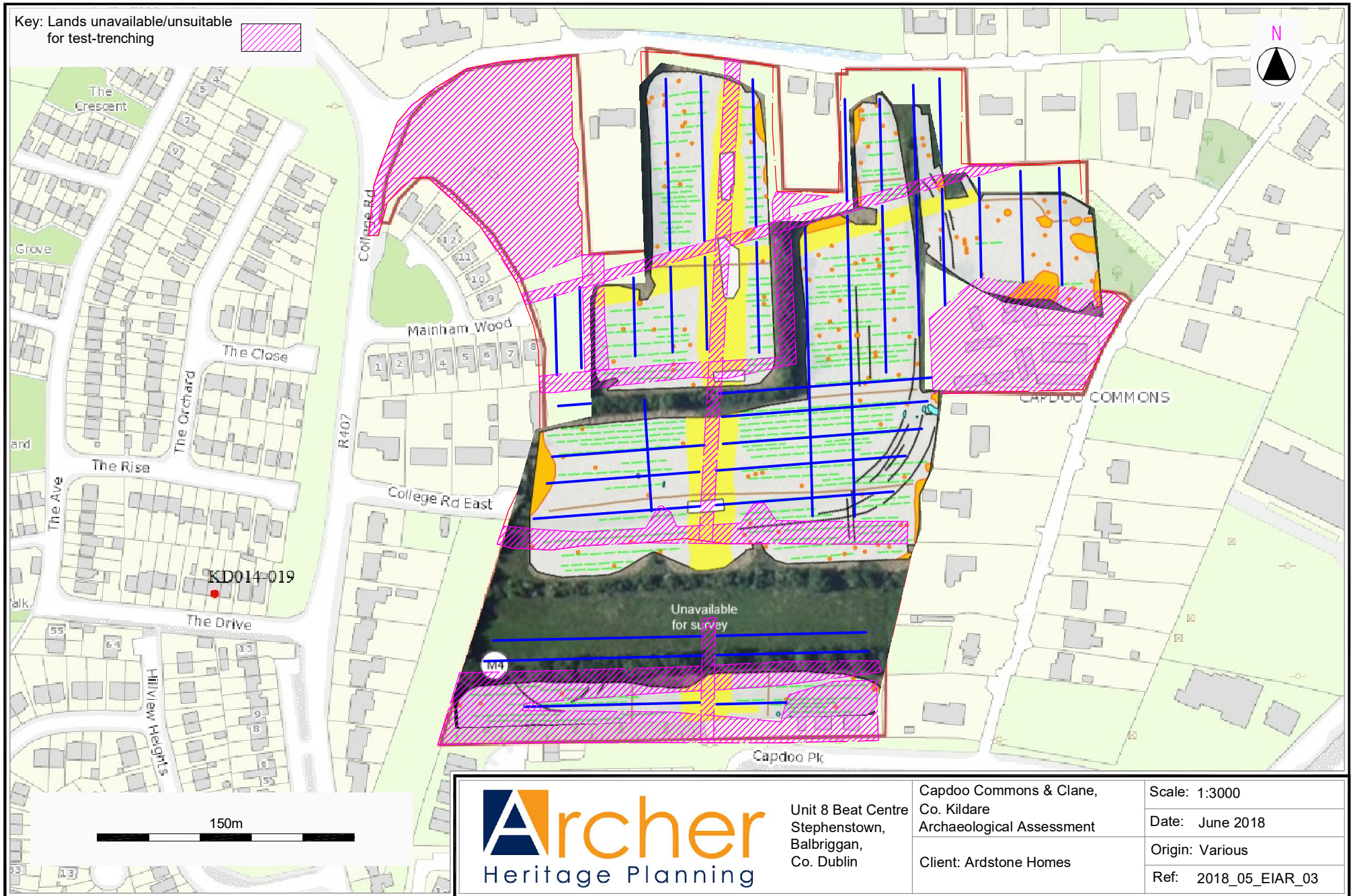
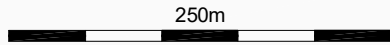
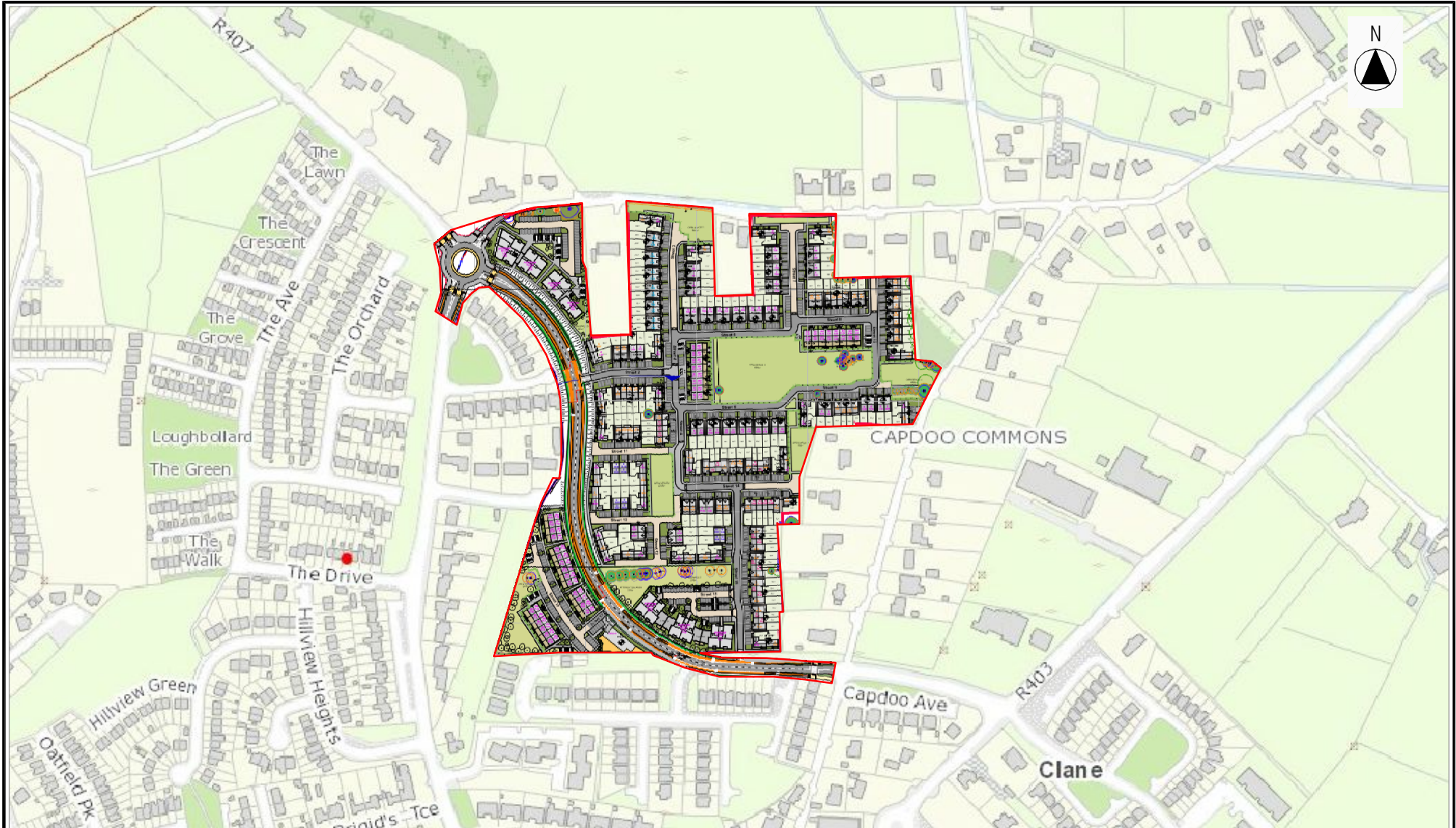


Figure 3: Test trench layout & geophysical survey data





Unit 8 Beat Centre  
 Stephenstown,  
 Balbriggan,  
 Co. Dublin

Capdoo Commons & Clane,  
 Co. Kildare  
 Archaeological Assessment

Client: Ardstone Homes

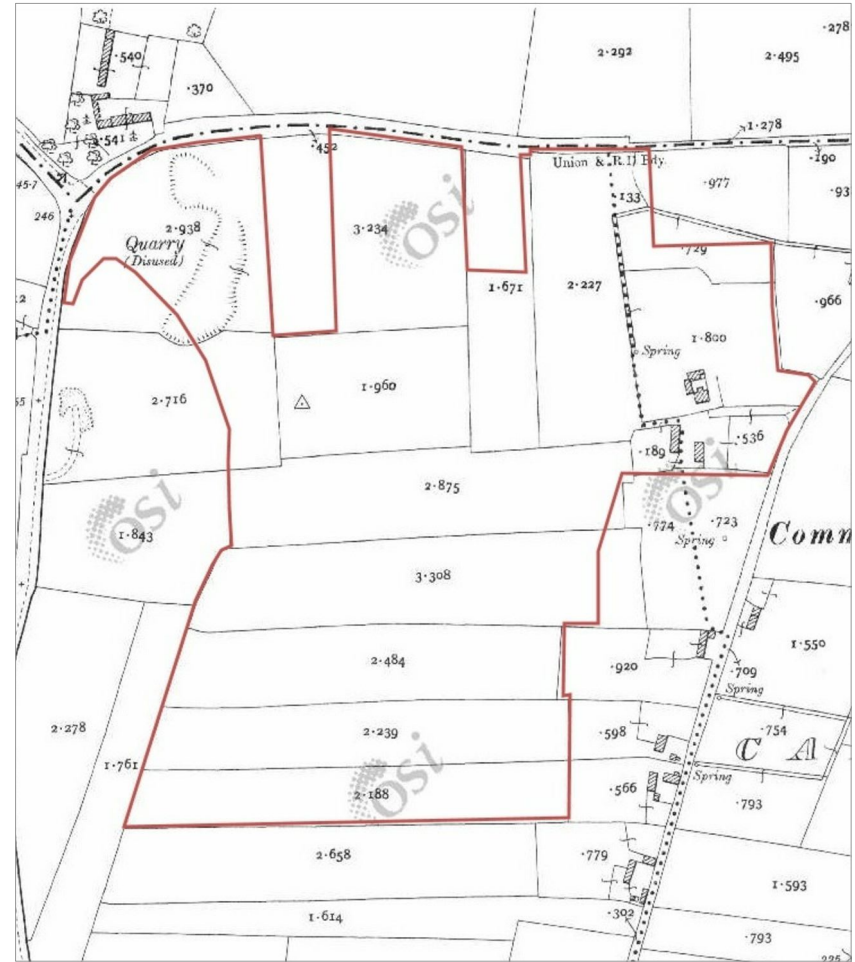
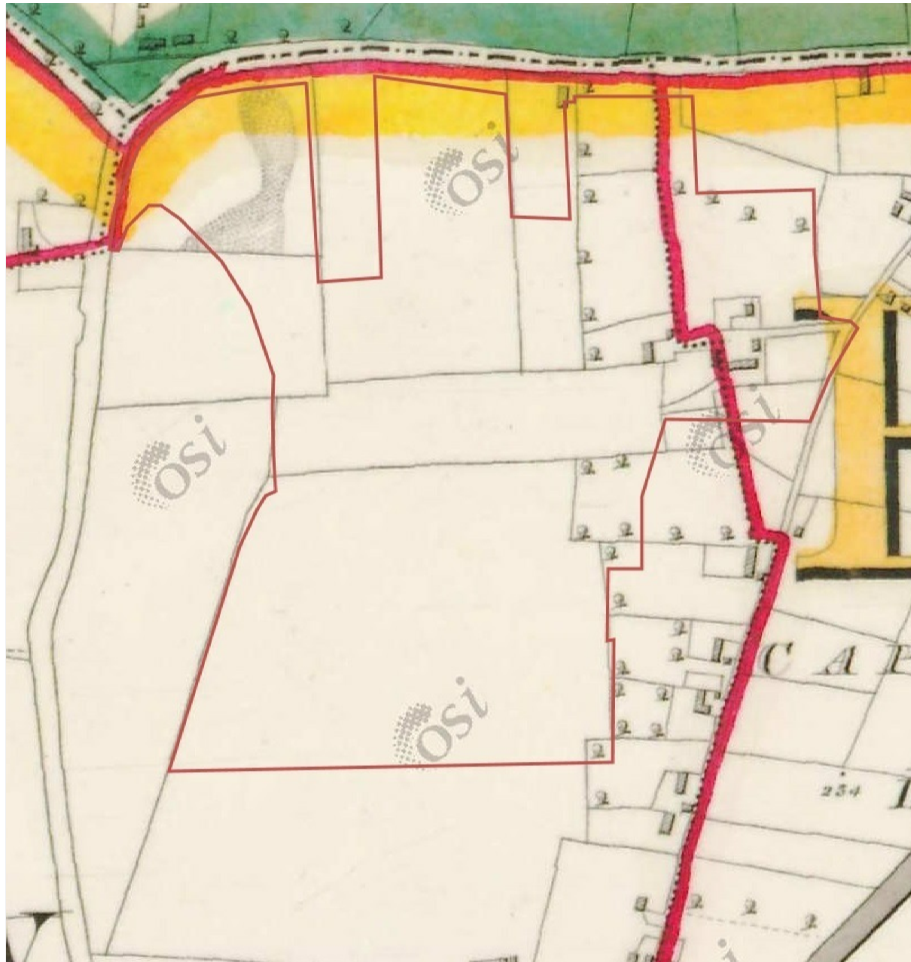
Scale: 1:5000

Date: March 2019

Origin: Client

Ref: 2018\_05\_EIAR\_04

Figure 4: Development Plan



(l) 1st edition 6" Ordnance Survey 1839  
 (r) 2nd edition 25" Ordnance Survey 1872



Unit 8 Beat Centre  
 Stephenstown,  
 Balbriggan,  
 Co. Dublin

Capdoo Commons & Clane,  
 Co. Kildare  
 Archaeological Assessment

Client: Ardstone Homes

Scale: Do not scale

Date: June 2018

Origin: OSI

Ref: 2018\_05\_EIAR\_05

Figure 5: Historical Mapping





(l) 1995 Aerial Photograph OSI

(r) 2016 Digital Globe Aerial Photograph OSI



Unit 8 Beat Centre  
Stephenstown,  
Balbriggan,  
Co. Dublin

Capdoo Commons & Clane,  
Co. Kildare  
Archaeological Assessment

Client: Ardstone Homes

Scale: Not to scale

Date: June 2018

Origin: OSI

Ref: 2018\_05\_EIAR\_06

Figure 6: Aerial photographs





Plate 1 Outbuildings, looking E



Plate 2 Central field, looking W



Plate 3 Central field, looking NE



Plate 4 Southern field, looking W with septic tank in foreground





Plate 5 Second southern field, looking W



Plate 6 Tree plantation in southernmost field



Plate 7 Ruins of shed in north-western field



Plate 8 Garden space in north-western field





Plate 9: Trench 1 looking E



Plate 10: Trench 2 looking E



Plate 11: Trench 5 looking W



Plate 12: Trench 6 looking E





Plate 13: Trench 8 looking W



Plate 14: Trench 9 looking S



Plate 15: Trench 12 looking S



Plate 16: Trench 14 looking S





Plate 17: Trench 16 looking N



Plate 18: Trench 18 looking S



Plate 19: Trench 20 looking N



Plate 20: Trench 21 looking N