

## APPENDIX 13.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING REPORT (HICKEY 2018)

**C O U R T N E Y • D E E R Y**  
ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE

**Archaeological Testing Report**

**Kilnahue**

**Gorey**

**County Wexford**

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**Excavation Licence Ref:** 18E0522

**ITM:** E713520 N659339

**Testing Report**

**to accompany an SHD Application**

**Site Director:** Steve Hickey

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On behalf of Gerard Gannon Properties.

March 2022





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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the results of a programme of archaeological testing that was undertaken by Steve Hickey of Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy Ltd on 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (Licence No. 18E0522). It was carried out as part of a Strategic Housing Development (SHD) application.

The proposed development site is located within open undulating fields in the townland of Kilnahue. The site is bounded to the south by the regional road R725 and some residential development, to the east by pasture fields behind residential and commercial development, to the north and northeast by a local road linking Ballyrahan and Gorey town, and to the west by open crop fields and beyond that some modern farmsteads and dwellings (Figures 1 and 2). The assessment comprised the excavation of 23 test trenches throughout the site with the assistance of a 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavator that was fitted with a smooth grading bucket.

Utilising the geophysical survey (Licence No. 18R0031) results the testing programme of 23 trenches was able to extensively cover the site as well as target the majority of archaeological anomalies. Testing uncovered a number of archaeological features in 5 of the 23 test trenches. These trenches; T2 (in field M1), T15, T17, T18 (all in field M3), and T20 (in field M4), are spread across the application area. Other than T15 which contained a concentration of features, the other 4 trenches contained a single isolated archaeological feature. There is a likelihood that additional archaeological features are present in the immediate proximity of these identified features.

It is recommended that the features uncovered in trenches T2, T15, T17, T18, and T20 be archaeologically excavated under licence to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in advance of development and preserved by record. One area measuring 20m x 20m (T18) and four areas measuring 10m x 10m each (T2, T15, T17, and T20) centred on the archaeological findings are recommended for excavation. As there remains a potential to find previously unknown archaeological deposits or features within the proposed development site it is recommended that following the commencement of scheduled works, all earthmoving groundworks should be archaeologically monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. General

A programme of archaeological testing was undertaken on the site of a proposed 15.3 hectare residential development in the townland of Kilnahue, Gorey, County Wexford. It was carried out as part of a Strategic Housing Development application.

The assessment was carried out by Steve Hickey on 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018, under licence number 18E0522. The assessment comprised the excavation of 23 test trenches throughout the site with the assistance of a 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavator that was fitted with a smooth grading bucket.

### 1.2. Site Location

The proposed development site is situated in townland of Kilnahue, in the parish of Kilnahue, in the barony of Gorey, County Wexford. It lies within open undulating fields and is bounded to the south by the regional road R725 and some residential development, to the east by pasture fields behind residential and commercial development, to the north and northeast by a local road linking Ballyrahan and Gorey town, and to the west by open crop fields and beyond that some modern farmsteads and dwellings (Figures 1 and 2).

The site is located on the eastern side of a hill, 120m above sea level at its summit. Below it, c.1.5km to its east, is the town of Gorey (at 100m above sea level), to the south is a small valley of open fields into which the land falls before it rises again in the townlands of Coolishal Upper, Moneylawn Upper and Killowen, a valley containing the tree-lined River Bann appears c.1.3km to the west, and nearby to the north the land rises up to a designed landscape in Creagh Upper before falling softly into Ballyrahan and the lower valley lands of Ballingarry Lower (c.100m above sea level). The most notable landscape features within the environs are hills, which appear to the southwest and northeast. The southwestern hill (at a distance of 1.2km) contains industrial buildings and is used as a quarry, the northeast hill (at a distance of 7.5km) is the cairn topped Tara Hill (253m). Clear views towards the Irish Sea (situated c.8km to the east) are afforded from the summit of the proposed site.

The proposed development is spread across four irregular shaped fields (two of pasture, two for crops), and includes an existing northeast/ southwest access road, which is heavily overgrown. The terrain on site is slightly undulating, bound by mature hedgerow and slopes steadily from the southeast to its summit in the northwest (the site is situated on the eastern side of a hill). A heavily overgrown area measuring c.1 acre is located in the northeastern corner of the site. A farm yard complex consisting of three upstanding structures is contained within this property plot, defined by tree lined rubble stone walls.

### 1.3. Recorded Archaeological Monuments

There are no recorded archaeological monuments situated within the proposed development (Table 1). There is however a 'delisted' holy well (RMP WX006-062) known as Toberchríost just outside the

development boundary (20m to the east). It had a pattern day on St John's Eve, the 28th June, until c. 1820. The recorded site lies within the garden of the neighbouring modern property to the east.

There is a number of recorded monuments in the wider landscape (Figure 5). These sites, along with stray finds and historical documentation, indicate prolonged habitation, which includes the presence of Bronze Age burials, Anglo-Norman activity, the development of the 17<sup>th</sup> century plantation town of Gorey and the history of the 1798 Rebellion. An examination of the majority of neighbouring monuments builds up an impression of a medieval landscape (Table 1). To the immediate east of the proposed development is a holy well (RMP WX006-062), approximately 600m to the northwest is a church site, a burial ground, a cross stone, a souterrain and a possible enclosure (RMPs WX006-061001, WX006-061002, RMP WX006-061003, RMP WX006-061004, and RMP WX006-060 respectively), whilst a little further to the northwest, at 1.15km, are three ringforts (RMP WX006-059001, RMP WX006-059002 and RMP WX006-085).

**Table 1. Recorded monuments within 1km**

RMP	Class	Distance	Description (From Michael Moore's RMP file notes)
WX006-060	Enclosure	600m to the NW of the boundary of the proposed development.	This is a circular overgrown area (diameter 8m) with some trees defined by a low earthen bank with an external stone facing. There is an entrance (width 1.5m) at S. Kilnahue church (WX007-061001) c. 100m to the southeast. It may be a landscape feature. ITM: E712810 N659854
WX006-061001	Church	600m to the NW of the boundary of the proposed development.	This is the parish church of Kilnahue within an oval graveyard defined by stone-revetted earthen bank. The overgrown remains of a stone building oriented east/ west (dimensions. 20m east/ west; 6.5m north/ south) but with no architectural features are at the centre of the graveyard. ITM: E712894 N659781
WX006-061002	Graveyard	600m to the NW of the boundary of the proposed development.	An oval graveyard (dimensions 50m east/ west; 44m north/ south) defined by a stone-revetted earthen bank. Remains of Church WX006-061001 are located at its centre. ITM: E712895 N659776
WX006-061003	Cross	600m to the NW of the boundary of the proposed development.	A cross-base, an irregularly-shaped, flat-topped stone (dimensions. 0.8m x 0.4m; height 0.4m) with a rectangular mortice (dimensions. 0.26m; x 0.1m; depth 0.1m) lying loose just north of the church (WX006-061001). ITM: E712894 N659781
WX006-061004	Souterrain	600m to the NW of the boundary of the proposed development.	The collapsed chamber of a souterrain with drystone walling is c. 10m outside the graveyard (WX006-061002) of Kilnahue parish church (WX006-061001) at north. Corbelling noted in an opening (diameter 1m). ITM: E712877 N659813
WX006-062	Ritual Site – Holy Well	20m to the E of the boundary of the proposed development.	Located in a natural hollow towards the bottom of a southeast facing slope, with a slight hill rising c. 400m to the SE. The holy well known as <i>Toberchrist</i> - Christ's Well - had a pattern on St. John's Eve, the 28th June, until c. 1820, according to John O'Donovan writing c. 1840 (O'Flanagan 1933, 13). This is a natural spring and the source of a stream that runs off to the south, but there is no evidence of veneration. ITM: E713744 N659462

RMP	Class	Distance	Description (From Michael Moore's RMP file notes)
WX006-090	Designed Landscape	150m to the north of the proposed development.	Located on the summit of Creagh Hill, which is a designed landscape. A small copse (diameter. c. 60m) is depicted on the 1839 and later eds of the OS 6-inch map. This is separated by a berm (Width c. 15m) from a surrounding field bank that connects to a north northeast/ south southwest passage spanning the hill. This in turn connects to a path between field banks (Width c. 20-30m) called 'The Sweep Walk' around the base of the hill. At the summit of the hill an arcing section (c. 80m) of the outer bank survives as a field bank (W c. 1m; H c. 1.5m) and hedge west southwest/ north northeast. ITM: E713646 N660104
WX006-093	Burnt Mound	220m to the west of the proposed development.	Situated towards the head of a southwest/ northeast valley. Archaeological testing (08E0415) uncovered two small areas of burnt mound material (diam. 0.6m; 1.2m) located 2m apart. (O'Hara 2008; 20011). ITM: E713955 N659393

There are no protected structures or NIAH sites within the proposed development. An examination of the built heritage features in the surrounding landscape was undertaken and none of the protected structures will be directly or indirectly impacted. There is a heavily overgrown rectangular property plot located in the easternmost area of the proposed site. Field inspection within this overgrowth area revealed an upstanding mid-19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular farm yard complex. The complex consists of three buildings; a three bay lobby entrance cottage, an adjacent unroofed outbuilding, and perpendicular to this, a long barn. All buildings are of stone rubble construction and include a number of surviving internal timber features and architectural detail. This complex is considered to be of local heritage interest.

## 2. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

'A proposed Strategic Housing Development consisting of the demolition of the dilapidated structures on site and the construction of 421 no. residential units comprising duplex units, apartment units, and houses, all with associated car parking; a creche facility with outdoor play areas, 2 no. retail units and 2 no. community rooms, all with associated car parking; a new vehicular access onto Carnew Road (R725) and associated road upgrade works, new vehicular accesses onto Kilnahue Lane (L10112) and associated road upgrade works; landscaping including neighbourhood park, pocket parks, a playground and multi-purpose sports court; boundary treatments; public lighting; and all associated engineering and site works necessary to facilitate the development including proposed upgrade works to existing engineering infrastructure on Carnew Road, Kilnahue Lane, Main Street and Esmonde Street'. (Figure 2).

## 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 3.1. Kilnahue Environs in Prehistory (2500BC – 500BC)

Kilnahue is an undeveloped townland consisting of open agricultural land and a small scattering of modern farmsteads and dwellings situated on the western periphery of Gorey town. Although the emergence of Gorey town is relatively late (it came to prominence in the early seventeenth century as a plantation

town), archaeological activity in the area demonstrates a settlement pattern that stretches back to at least the Bronze Age (c. 2500–500 BC).

The cist burial was the most common burial tradition in Early Bronze Age Ireland. In these burials, a crouched inhumation or cremation was placed, accompanied by a food vessel, in a single stone lined box. Cist burials are generally chance finds retrieved during land reclamation projects, quarrying or construction, and in north Wexford such burials are mainly concentrated above the 200ft contour.

Burials of this period include that from Gorey Corporation Lands (WX007-055) approximately 2km to the east of the proposed development, and that from Ballowen or Ramsfortpark, an area situated approximately 2km northeast of the proposed development, which were both found in gravel ridges. The Ballowen burial was discovered in 1868, and consisted of an Encrusted urn, a large, highly decorated vessel, which was inverted over the cremated remains of a single individual; the site is not precisely located. The Corporation Lands cemetery, found in 1989 by schoolboys digging in a quarry, also consisted of an Encrusted urn and a Vase urn (also a large, heavily decorated vessel, although with incised, rather than applied decoration), inverted over cremated bones (of both an adult male and adult female). Urns are often rather top-heavy, indicating they were made specifically to be inverted over cremations, and had little or no practical or domestic use.

There are also records of fragments of a vase food vessel that were found 'near Gorey' in 1887 (Ó Ríordáin and Waddell 1993). Cist burials could be covered with mounds of earth or cairns of stone, although in cases like the burials in Corporation Lands and Ballowen, natural 'monuments' such as gravel ridges performed the same function (after Moriarty, 2007).

The topographical files of the Irish Antiquities Division of the National Museum of Ireland record the discovery of sherds of a vase food vessel provenanced to within the environs of Corporation Lands/Gorey Town in 1887 (NMI 1909:32). The discovery consists of the sherds of a vase food vessel, with unique Irish herringbone design of the middle Bronze Age period 1,900BC- 900BC.

In 2008 an archaeological assessment was carried out on the site of a development at Gorey Hill, situated c.220m west of the boundary of the proposed site. Archaeological testing (under licence no. 08E0415) uncovered two small areas of burnt mound material (diameter. 0.6m and 1.2m) located 2m apart. (O'Hara, 2008). This excavation was recorded as an RMP (WX006-093). The findings are an indication of potential prehistoric activity (i.e. Bronze Age cooking sites). These sites consist of a circular or irregular mound of material consisting of burnt stones, ash and charcoal with no surface evidence of a trough or depression; and sometimes are referred to as fulacht fiadh's.

### **3.2. Early Medieval activity in the environs of Gorey (c.500AD – 1000AD)**

The origin of the name 'Kilnahue' is unclear, the name may derive from *Cill na hOighe* or the Church of the Virgin, due to its connection with the Assumption on the 15th of August. Writing in 1840 O'Donovan

wonders if the name derives from the “Church of St. Hugh or *Cill Naoimh Aodha*, but there is no tradition now in existence in the country to prove or disprove this conjecture”. Even by then “no part of the old church remains, but the graveyard is very extensive and old looking and there was a Pattern held there annually on the 15th of August until the year 1798, when it was abolished” (*Letters containing information relative to the antiquities of the county of Wexford collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1840*. Vol1 p.13).

Christianity was introduced into Ireland in the fifth century AD and brought with it not only writing and recorded history but also a range of new monuments. The best known native monument of this period is the ringfort—the classic Early Medieval (c.500–c.1100 AD) secular settlement type. Ringforts are among the commonest monuments in Ireland, although only around one hundred and fifty survive in County Wexford. They are round or oval enclosures defined by a bank and an external ditch, often situated on gentle hill slopes. Excavation suggests they were defended farmsteads that contained the dwelling house and outhouses of an extended family; some ringforts occasionally have evidence for small-scale industrial activity. Approximately 1.15km to the northwest of the proposed development is a cluster of three ringforts (RMP WX006-059001, RMP WX006-059002 and RMP WX006-085) spread over two pasture fields. These ringforts are not indicated on the first edition 6-inch OS map (1839), nor are they currently visible at ground level, they are however visible as cropmarks of circular enclosures on aerial photography.

Often the Irish word ‘*cill*’, meaning a church appears as a root word in townland names where early churches are known to have been founded, as in Kilnahue. A number of potentially medieval or possibly early medieval recorded monuments are located within the vicinity of the proposed site. To the immediate east of the proposed development is a holy well (RMP WX006-062), whilst approximately 600m to the northwest is a concentration of sites; a church site, a burial ground, a cross stone, a souterrain and a possible enclosure (RMPs WX006-061001, WX006-061002, RMP WX006-061003, RMP WX006-061004, and RMP WX006-060 respectively). The holy well site (RMP WX006-062), known as Toberchríost, is just outside the development boundary 20m to the east of the proposed development. These type of sites may have their origins in prehistory but are associated with devotions from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. The tradition of carrying out Stations of the Cross here ceased in 1820 (O’Donovan 1840).

The Kilnahue church site and graveyard are of an uncertain date. The church and graveyard site (Plate 2) are within a north-facing oval raised enclosure (RMP WX006-060), which is surrounded by an earthen bank, rivetted by a dry stone wall on its exterior face. The footprint of the church (RMP WX006-061001) remains but is hard to discern because it is so low and the site is grass covered. It is located on a slightly raised area (up to 1 m in height on its northern side) in the centre of the graveyard, the west gable is c.6.5m long while c.20m of the south wall is faintly discernible, the north wall is not as long and the east wall is not as visible. Where visible the walls are c.30cm to 50cm high above the interior. A graveyard survey in 2010 recorded that the graveyard contains 321 undated and unnamed stones (customarily taken from a nearby church ruin). There are 126 recorded engraved memorials of 18th and 19th century date.

The earliest headstone date is that of a member of the Heydon family in 1716 (although based on the headstone style and lettering it appears to have been erected in the 1740s following the interment of another family member) (Mullin, 2011). A feature of the interdenominational graveyard and gravestone is the work of sculptors Dennis Cullen and J. Byrne. Fitzpatrick notes that in 1850, during the Famine, the Reverend Mr. Robinson, curate of the Board of Guardians, informed the Board that in consequence of the great numbers of paupers being buried at 'Kilnahue Churchyard', which was very small, it would be inadvisable to continue burials there in the future. The Board resolved to use Clonattin Cemetery until they gained possession of a plot at the rear of the Gorey Workhouse.

A bullaun stone (RMP WX006-061003) is recorded as being on site, this stone was not seen during the site inspection (the RMP files debate its classification, with conflicting views on whether or not it is in fact a cross base). About 10m to the north of the enclosure in a field across the lane is a hole leading to a souterrain (RMP WX006-061004). The site was not entered but an RMP file site inspection in 1987 noted that dry stone walling, corbelling and roughly hewn voussoirs were visible. It appears the site was unearthed during ploughing operations in 1986, and had been filled in partly to prevent sheep from falling in. Most souterrains were built in the early medieval period by ringfort inhabitants (c. 500 - 1000 AD) as a defensive feature and/or for storage. This cluster of sites, both religious and habitational, is an indication of early medieval habitation and activity in the area, and evidence of the continuation of the religious tradition up to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **3.3. Medieval Period (c.1100 – 1600AD)**

North county Wexford would have been relatively inaccessible until the sixteenth century and the few Anglo-Norman settlements in the area suggest that the Anglo-Norman infiltration had not been strong (Loeber & Stouthamer-Loeber 1987), although the entire county was implicated in the early stages of Anglo-Norman activity in Ireland (Colfer 1987). The various elements of society that the Anglo-Normans introduced include boroughs, demesne manors and manorial villages. The introduction of continental monastic orders also followed, including a possible Augustinian friary in Coolgraney Demesne (WX003:011). The reform of the Irish church into a diocesan and parochial system, begun in the twelfth century, was greatly boosted by Anglo-Norman settlement in the thirteenth century (Moore 1996).

Following the Anglo-Norman invasion in 1169 Gorey was situated within the major Prendergast fief of Uí Mealla and Kynaloh, the largest fief in the county (Colfer 1987), and to which Pallis motte (WX002:019), west of Inch, must have been related. The fief passed to the Roches toward the end of the thirteenth century. As previously alluded to, Gorey may have been a possible borough on Prendergast fief, but would possibly never have been more than just a 'rural borough' with no locational or economic advantages. There is some evidence that there was an Anglo-Norman settlement dating to the thirteenth century - a reference in 1296 to the payment of 13s from 'the community of the town (ville) of Gory' (Hore 1900-11). Nothing further is known of this Anglo-Norman settlement, either way it would appear to have been an insecure outpost as the Kavanaghs and O'Morroughs were very powerful. As such, the survival of Gorey in the

modern landscape must be owed to the seventeenth century plantation. A borough at Courtown may simply have resulted from the need for a port and ready access to England by sea from the north of the county.

### **3.4. Post-Medieval Period (1600AD – 1800AD)**

#### *The Wexford Plantation*

The plantation of Wexford was the first colonial settlement undertaken by the Dublin government after the massive introduction of British settlers into Ulster at the beginning of the seventeenth century (Loeber & Stouthamer-Loeber 1987). It was initiated in order to settle the northern part of the county, which had never been fully penetrated following the Anglo-Norman conquest of the twelfth century, and amongst the native Irish, the McMurrough Kavanaghs, retained a strong presence. Large tracts of land, ranging from 1000 to 3000 acres, belonging to families of both old Gaelic and Anglo-Norman stock were confiscated, and colonial strong houses, subsequently destroyed in the rebellion of the 1640s, sprang up throughout the barony of Gorey. To shire the north of the county, a fort was built by 1610 as a garrison for troops five miles northeast of Gorey, called Fort Chichester (now named Fortchester). It was built to protect the county against raids from displaced natives, but had passed to private hands by 1618. Access to north Wexford from the Pale was through the pass at Fort Chichester.

In 1605, the district of Gorey became a barony. The Wexford Plantation was to have a plantation town and on the 10th of September 1611 King James I gave directions to that effect. The aim was to populate the north and east of Co. Wexford, similarly to the Northern Plantations. On the 7th of May 1613, 657 of the ancient proprietors of Gorey barony and those of Ballaghkeene and half the baronies of Scarrawalsh, 68,000 acres between the River Slaney and the sea were ruthlessly deprived of their estates. It received its first charter of incorporation in 1619 making it the borough and town of Newborough. According to this charter, it was to consist of a sovereign, twelve burgesses and free common, modelled on the town of Cavan (Hore 1900-11). As a result, a grant of the charter in 1619 was to Dr. Thomas Ram, Protestant Bishop of Ferns and Leighlin, responsible for the development of a town, initially called Newborough, and later Gorey. Gorey was laid out on a grid pattern of approximately fourteen acres. The Main Street runs east/ west through the centre; the original town area stretched from Pearse Street to Church Lane, north/ south, and The Avenue to Church Street, west/ east. In common with other plantation towns, Gorey was protected by a defensive network. From the few references to them, it is clear that they were earthen. Ram built an episcopal palace in Gorey town in the market place square in 1610 and moved his seat from Ferns to the new plantation town of Gorey in 1620. When he settled in Gorey it was a primitive location and centred around a Norman Castle on Wexford Street (Fitzpatrick, 1986).

Ram later moved to Ramsfort, another plantation site built by his son one mile north of Gorey. When the Bishop died in 1634 his body was buried in the chapel built by him in the town. Rebels burned the Bishop's Palace in 1641 when the town was sacked during the rebellion of that year (part of the Irish Confederate War or the Eleven Years War). Ramsfort was also burnt around this time. It probably stood on the site of

the present country house, which was built in 1751. A poll tax account of 1659 recorded that the barony of Gorey totalled 794 person, 107 of whom were English, 687 native Irish. Gorey town itself contained 89, 15 English, and 74 Irish (Loebur & Stouthamer-Loeber 1987).

The Ram family, with a modest estate around Gorey remained a prominent landed family into the nineteenth century. The history of Gorey is very much bound up with that of the Ram family. Three successive Ramsfort estate homes were constructed. The first was in the main street of Gorey where the AIB bank now stands; the second, some distance from the present house in the estate, was initially a dower house (i.e. a moderately large house available within an estate for use by the widow of the estate-owner) built for Colonel Abel Ram in 1758 to the design of George Semple. The property by 1758 appears to have consisted of 566 acres, of which 135 acres was let and 431 "dormant" (Rowe & Scalla 2004). It was at this time that extensive landscaping took place.

A surviving designed landscape (RMP WX006-090) is located 150m to the north of the proposed site (Plate 3). This recorded monument is a planned agricultural landscape that falls outside the Ramsfort and Creagh demesne boundary. Covering c.115acres it is located on the summit of Creagh Hill. A small copse (diameter. c. 60m) is depicted on the 1839 6-inch OS map as well as later editions of the OS map. This is separated by a berm (Wth c. 15m) from a surrounding field bank that connects to a north northeast/ south southwest passage spanning the hill. This in turn connects to a path between field banks (Wth c. 20-30m) called 'The Sweep Walk' around the base of the hill. At the summit of the hill an arcing section (c. 80m) of the outer bank survives as a field bank (Wth c. 1m; H c. 1.5m) and hedge west southwest/ north northeast (after RMP file field notes). No documentation could be found relating to this impressive landscaping feature. A map dating to 1778 (Plate 3) shows the 'sweepwalk', and Fitzpatrick refers to it as a course used by the Ram family for carriage driving (i.e. a form of competitive horse driving where a two or four wheeled carriage is pulled by a single, pair or four-in-hand team of horses) (ibid, p.139). It is thought to be associated with the Ramsfort estate. From the roads surrounding the feature this immense site would not strike the viewer as designed or landscaped. It is best appreciated in aerial photography. The land is purely used for agricultural purposes today.

The Ramsfort estate house was destroyed during the 1798 rebellion. Stephen Ram - Abel's son - claimed £5,101 for consequential losses. The present mansion, the third incarnation of Ramsfort, is at a distance of 1.5km to the northeast of the proposed site and was built to the design of Daniel Robertson early in the 1805. The owner up to 1870, Stephen Ram, was responsible for much of the landscaping, cutting a series of trenches towards a lake within the grounds, and making formal gardens with fountains and steps. The estate passed through a number of owners from 1870 onwards (Rowe & Scalla 2004).

#### **4. PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS / ASSESSMENTS**

A review of the archaeological excavations bulletin ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)) has revealed that two archaeological excavations have been carried out in the vicinity of the proposed development site. One was

in 2007, when monitoring works of a major drainage scheme was undertaken, the works passed through Kilnahue, no features of an archaeological significance were uncovered. The other was in 2008, in Gorey hill, when archaeological testing uncovered two small areas of burnt mound material, this site is now a recorded monument (WX006-093). Details of both excavations are outlined below.

Under licence number 07E0766 archaeological monitoring brief of ground investigations in advance of the Gorey main drainage scheme. These works were undertaken intermittently from 17 July to 13 September 2007 across thirteen townlands, passing through Kilnahue townland. Works consisted of the excavation of 25 slit-trenches, 25 trial pits and 3 boreholes to characterize the stratigraphy and locate services around the town. The exact location of this work has not been established. No archaeological remains were encountered during groundworks; however, it was stressed within the report that due to the limited nature of the current phase of works, the presence of archaeological features within the development impact area cannot be discounted (Shine, 2007).

Under licence number 08E0415 an archaeological assessment was carried out on the site of a development at Gorey Hill, Gorey. This site is 220m to the east of the boundary of the proposed development. A total of eleven test-trenches were excavated in the areas proposed for development. Two archaeological features (burnt-mound spreads) were discovered towards the western extent of the site during the assessment. No other archaeological remains were discovered (O'Hara, 2008). The burnt mounds are recorded as RMP WX006-093.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING

The archaeological test trenching was carried out by Steve Hickey of Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy over four dry days covering the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2018. A total of 23 test trenches were opened, which incorporated a total length of 1458m and covered an area of 2687m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 7). The test trenches were excavated with a Hitachi 130LCN 13-tonne tracked excavator that was fitted with a smooth grading bucket that was 1.85m in width. All the trenches were excavated to the surface of archaeological deposits, or the underlying subsoil, depending on which was encountered first. The locations of the test trenches were georeferenced with a survey grade global positioning system, with measured offsets recording the outlines of the uncovered features. The general stratigraphy that was observed throughout the application area (Plate 4) is summarised in Table 2.

**Table 2. Soil stratigraphy**

Context	Depth	Description
[C1]	0m–0.12m BGL (Below Ground Level)	Topsoil: A grass topped sod comprised of a light brown sandy clay. Infrequent modern pottery sherds.
[C3]	0.12m–0.30m BGL	Ploughsoil: A mid brown sandy clay, very infrequent clumps of charcoal.
[C2]	0.30m BGL	Natural boulder clay: A sandy clay which varies in colour from a light brown/grey to an orange/tan colour with an abundance of brittle shale appearing with occasional larger stone fragments (average size 16cm x 9cm x 7cm).

Utilising the geophysical survey results the testing programme of 23 trenches was able to extensively cover the site as well as target all notable potential archaeological anomalies (Figure 7).

Testing uncovered a number of archaeological / potential archaeological features in 5 of the 23 test trenches. These trenches; T2 (in field M1), T15, T17, and T18 (all in field M3), and T20 (in field M4), are not focused in one particular part of the site but spread across the application area. Other than T15 which contained a concentration of features, the other 4 trenches contained a single isolated archaeological feature.

The archaeological findings in T2 consisted of an oval pit <C6> (dimensions: 3m (NNE-SSW) x 1m (NW-SE) x 0.12m depth). This pit was filled by [C7], a friable sandy clay with inclusions of charcoal and burnt clay (Plate 7).

The archaeological findings in T15 (Plates 22 -25) consisted of a number of charcoal rich pits with evidence of burnt clay, linears, and irregularly shaped features (features <C27>, <C29>, <C31>, <C33>, and <C35>). The presence of a concentration of features such as these is consistent with kiln and drying activity.

Trench 17, 130m to the southeast contained pit <C14> (dimensions. 2m (N-S) x 0.4m (E-W) x 0.15m max depth), which was filled by [C15] a grey brown sandy clay with plenty of small stone and flecks of charcoal.

Testing works in Trench 18 uncovered an arc of 9 stakeholes <C17> (Plate 33), and <C18>, a larger stakehole 5m to the north.

The final trench to reveal any archaeological features was T20, which contained <C20> a NE-SW linear (dimensions 0.6m width, 1.4m length, depth 0.15m), and filled by a light brown sandy clay [C21]. This feature corresponds with a 7m E-W orientated linear picked up in the geophysical survey.

Along with these features of an archaeological nature a series of agricultural features of uncertain date such as land drains, field boundary and furrows were noted throughout the site, the locations and dimensions of these features were recorded. T21 and T21A revealed construction debris and rubble deposits under topsoil, these deposits resulted from the induction of material in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The findings from the various test trenches are summarised as follows in Table 3:

**Table 3. Findings from the test trenches (Figure 7)**

Field No	Test Trench	Dimensions	Findings
M1	T1 Plate 5	50m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.30m deep  No features of an archaeological interest.	A field boundary <C4> was uncovered 15m from the NNE end of the trench, <C4> is formed by two parallel linears, 4m from outer edge N liner to outer edge S linear, (N linear width 1m, S linear 1.4m, both depths 0.5m BGL) running in a NW-SE direction, filled by [C5] a sterile redeposited [C3]. Corresponds with geophysical survey.
M1	T2 Plate 6 & 7	48m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.30m deep.  <b>Archaeology present: Oval pit &lt;C6&gt;, fill [C7]</b>	Field boundary <C4> appears 3m from the N end of trench, total 3.5m from outer edges of parallel linears. Appearing 0.3m BGL and 22m from the N end of trench is <C6> an oval pit, 3m (NNE-SSW) x 1m (NW-SE) x 0.12m depth. An investigative slot trench (0.7m x 1m) was put through pit <C6>, it was filled by [C7] a mottled friable sandy clay, orange and black in colour, inclusions of shale shards, charcoal clumps and burnt clay. <C6> is cut into the brittle shale bedrock and runs SE into baulk. <C6> corresponds with geophysical survey anomaly 3. Between 3m- 9m from the S end of the trench are 3 ephemeral linears appearing 0.3m BGL, which tie in with the geophysics, and present as shallow depressions, width 0.15m x depth 0.06m. These linears tie in with the geophysical survey results. [C3] contains a greater frequency of small stones in this trench than others in the same field.
M1	T3 Plate 8	80m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.32m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.
M1	T4 Plate 9	80m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.3m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.

Field No	Test Trench	Dimensions	Findings
M1	T5 Plates 10	80m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.3m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.
M1	T6 Plate 11	80m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 0.36m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest. Natural [C2] is a friable sandy clay with noticeably fewer small stones in its N half.
M1	T7 Plate 12 & 13	80m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 0.35m deep.  No features of an archaeological interest.	A field boundary <C8> was uncovered 6m from the N end of the trench. <C8> is formed by two parallel linears, exactly like <C4> 130m to the N. Field boundary measures 5.4m in total from outer edge N liner to outer edge S linear, (both with widths 1.7m and depths 0.6m BGL) running in a NW-SE direction, very gradual sides, filled by [C9] a light brown sandy clay, one piece of animal butchered animal bone noted, lighter than [C3] above it (Plate 13). Corresponds with geophysical survey.
M1	T8 Plate 14	80m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 0.3m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.
M1	T9 Plate 15	80m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 0.32m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.
M2	T10 Plate 16	80m (NNE-SSW) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.32m deep.  No features of an archaeological interest.	10 regular WNW-ESE land drains were noted in the first 30m from the N end of the trench. Ties in with the green 'trend' on the geophysical survey. These drains appear at 30cm BGL, are 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep (max) and have a concave base. The drains are filled with a loose loamy sterile ploughsoil and are at intervals of 2.1m to 2.4m.
M2	T11 Plate 17	80m (NW-SE) x 1.85m (NE-SW) x 0.32m deep.  No features of an archaeological interest.	10.2 m from S of trench is the diagonal cut of land drain <C25>, orientated E-W, 3.2m length, 0.8m width and 0.1cm depth, gradual sides and concave base. Runs off into SW baulk at 15.3m from S of trench. Filled by [26] a mid brown sandy clay. Natural <C2> presents as an orange/rust coloured sandy clay with a large amount of small angular stone and shale.
M2	T12 Plate 18	80m (NW-SE) x 1.85m (NE-SW) x 0.38m deep.  No features of an archaeological interest.	Natural <C2> presents as an orange/rust coloured sandy clay with a large amount of small angular stone and brittle shards of shale, particularly at the NW end.
M3	T13 Plate 19	80m (WNW-ESE) x 1.85m (NNE-SSW) x 0.34m deep.	Potato field, recently picked. No features of an archaeological interest.
M3	T14 Plate 20	80m (WNW-ESE) x 1.85m (NNE-SSW) x 0.38m deep.	No features of an archaeological interest.

Field No	Test Trench	Dimensions	Findings
M3	T15 Plates 21 - 25	26m (E-W) x 1.85m (N-S) x 0.35m deep.  <b>Archaeology present</b>  Possible kiln and associated features.  White plastic laid over features prior to back filling.	5 archaeological features were noted in this trench. All features @ 30-35cm BGL.  Appearing 19m from the E end of the trench on the N side is an oval pit <C27>, measuring 1.5m (E-W) and 0.8m (N-S) not the complete width as <C27> runs into N baulk, depth 0.06m (max) where investigated. Filled by [C28] a light brown sandy clay with evidence of scorched clay and charcoal streaks.  Appearing between 13m and 15.2m from the E end of the trench and extending from the S baulk is an oblong curved feature <C29>. Dims 2.2m (E-W) and 0.6m (N-S) with a depth of 0.08m (max) where investigated. Filled by [C30] a loose mid brown sandy clay.  Appearing between 10.4m and 11.6m from the E end of the trench and extending N-S from the S baulk is an irregular shaped feature <C31>. Dims 1.9m (N-S) and 0.6m (E-W) Filled by [C32] a loose mottled brown sandy clay with charcoal clumps.  Appearing between 7.8m and 9m from the E end of the trench and extending from the S baulk is a linear <C33>. Dims 1.9m (N-S) and 0.6m (E-W). Filled by [C34] a loose black sandy clay.  Appearing from the base of the E end of the trench and extending for 7m is <35> an irregularly shaped feature and a smaller NW-SE linear running off it to the SE. Dims of 4.5m (NW-SE) and 1.1m (E-W). Filled by [C36] a loose mottled brown sandy clay with inclusions of burnt clay and charcoal lumps.  These features correspond with a series of irregular features noted as anomaly 8 in the geophysical survey.
M3	T16 Plate 26	18m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (N-S) x 0.30m deep  Some possible features indicated on the geophysical survey, however, no archaeology uncovered during testing.	Targeted test trench on geophysical anomaly 9. These features proved to be non-archaeological.  Appearing 7.5m from the SW end of the trench was [C19] an oval shaped feature extending from the N baulk. Dims. 2.1m (NE-SW) x 1.2m (NW-SE) x 0.08m depth (max). What was exposed was investigated and fully removed, this was a red brown sandy clay, sterile, no evidence of charcoal.  Geophysics indicates a second feature at the 10m mark from the S end, not visible during testing.
M3	T17 Plate 27 - 31	80m (N-S) x 1.85m (N-S) x 0.50m deep  Agricultural gullies, furrow and a field boundary.  <b>Archaeology present:</b> <b>Pit &lt;C14&gt;</b>	Appearing at a depth of 0.5m BGL between 4-7.5m from the S end of the trench is gully <C37>, this linear extends diagonally NW-SE from the E to W baulk. Dims. 4.5m (NW-SE) x 0.55m (NE-SW) x 0.1m depth (max).  Appearing at a depth of 0.5m BGL at 15m from the S end of the trench is a pit <C14>, it extends from the E baulk. Dims. 2m (N-S) x 0.4m (E-W) x 0.15m

Field No	Test Trench	Dimensions	Findings
			<p>depth (max). Filled by [C15] a grey brown sandy clay with plenty of small stone and flecks of charcoal.</p> <p>Appearing between 31-36m from the S end of the trench is field boundary &lt;C10&gt; and &lt;C12&gt;. This boundary consists of two linears 1.9m apart appearing at a depth of 0.5m BGL. Measures 3.6m from outer edge N linear to outer edge S linear, (N linear &lt;C12&gt; width 0.7m and 0.35m deep, S linear &lt;C10&gt; width 1m and 0.12m deep) running in a NE-SW direction. &lt;C10&gt; is filled by [C11] a sterile loose sandy clay, &lt;C12&gt; is filled by [C13] a sterile loose sandy clay with some roots at its base.</p> <p>NW-SW furrows noted at a depth of 0.3m at the N end of the trench, between 72-78m from the S end. Furrows [C16] measure 12cm wide, 0.04m depth and are 45-50cm apart.</p>
M3	T18 Plate 32 - 34	80m (NW-SE) x 1.85m (N-S) x 0.35m deep  <b>Archaeology present</b>	<p>Reappearance of field boundary &lt;C10&gt; and &lt;C12&gt; at 4-8m from S end of trench (also seen in Trench 17). NNW-SSW furrows &lt;C38&gt; noted at a depth of 0.3m between 46-52m from the S end of trench. Furrows measure 10-15cm wide and are 40-45cm apart.</p> <p>Appearing at 56m from the S end of trench at 35cm BGL are a series of 9 arcing stakeholes &lt;C18&gt;. The stakeholes range in size from 6-10cm diameter, and a sampled stakehole had a depth of 3cm. They are filled with [C39] a dark sandy charcoal filled clay.</p> <p>Another larger stakehole &lt;C17&gt; with a 10cm diameter appears at 61m from the S end of the trench, at 28cm below BGL. Filled with [C40] a dark sandy charcoal filled clay</p> <p>Plastic placed over stakeholes prior to backfilling.</p>
M3	T19 Plate 35	80m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 0.28m deep	<p>No features of an archaeological interest.</p> <p>[C3] shallower here, at 0.12-0.2m BGL, sherd of brown glazed post medieval ware noted.</p>
M4	T20 Plate 36 - 37	30m (NNW-SSE) x 1.85m (WNW-ESE) x 0.28m deep	<p>Appearing 7m from the S end of the trench at 40cm BGL is the terminal of a NE-SW linear &lt;C20&gt;. It appears out of the E side of the trench and measures 0.6m width, 1.4m length, and on investigation with small slot trench had a depth of 0.15m. Filled by a light brown sandy clay [C21]. Corresponds with a 7m E-W orientated linear picked up in the geophysical survey.</p> <p>At 13m from the S end of the trench is a diagonal land drain &lt;C22&gt; in a NE-SW orientation coming out of the E baulk. It runs into the W baulk at the 16m mark. The land drain measures 0.55 width, 2.8m length and 0.08m depth.</p> <p>A 0.2m wide stone filled gully appears at 19m from the S end of the trench and runs diagonally in a NE-SW orientation coming out of the E baulk. It runs into the W baulk at the 22m mark.</p>

Field No	Test Trench	Dimensions	Findings
M4	T21 Plate 38	28m (NE-SW) x 1.85m (NW-SE) x 1m deep (max)  No features of an archaeological interest.	The majority of the trench incorporated extensive deposits of modern debris (crushed mortar, some plastic and modern tiling noted), which were sealed by the ploughsoil [C3] and a thin covering of topsoil [C1]. Forms a T-shape with trench 21A.  No evidence of disturbance above ground.
M4	T21A	14m (NW-SE) x 1.85m (NE-SW) x 0.5m deep (max)  No features of an archaeological interest.	A second trench extending in a SE direction from the centre of trench 21, to verify the extent of the modern debris. Debris first seen 8m from the S end of trench.  No evidence of disturbance above ground.
M4	T22 Plate 39 - 40	30m (ENE-WSW) x 1.85m (NNW-SSE) x 0.5m deep (max)  No features of an archaeological interest.	Ploughsoil [C3] appears 22cm BGL with a depth of 20-25cm.  5 parallel NW-SE orientated linears <C23> uncovered in the N half of trench. All are land drains, and a uniform 0.55m width, concave based, 0.16m (max) depth, and appear 0.45m BGL. Regular intervals of 2.5-3m between the drains. Filled by [C24] a mid brown sandy clay.  Corresponds with trends noted in geophysical survey.
M3	T23 Plate 41	80m (NW-SE) x 1.85m (NE-SW) x 0.30m deep  No features of an archaeological interest.	Reappearance of field boundary formed by parallel linears <C10> and <C12> at 33m -37m from the S end (also seen in Trenches 17 and 18). Widths here are 0.8m for the southern <C10> and 1m for the northern <C12>, the linears are 2.3m apart.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

A testing programme consisting of 23 test trenches was established in conjunction with the results of a geophysical survey (Licence No: 18R0031) undertaken across the proposed development. The 23 test trenches provided a general understanding of the varying depths of natural subsoils, extant deposits and the presence of disturbed modern layers on site, and in the case of 5 the trenches uncovered archaeological features and deposits. These features indicate archaeological activity in the area of the proposed development and as such the potential to find further archaeological deposits or features within the proposed development site. It is recommended that following the commencement of scheduled works, all sub-surface groundworks should be archaeologically monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

The results of the geophysical survey highlighted “responses which are indicative of former cultivation, disused land divisions, and natural soil / geological variation. No definitive patterns of archaeological settlement, enclosure remains or concentrations of archaeological activity have been recorded” (Nichols,

p.5, 2018). As such the 23 test trenches were positioned to investigate a broad spread of the proposed development area and also to target the small number of anomalies, trends, and potential archaeological features identified in the geophysical survey interpretation (Figures 6 & 7). In some case the anomalies proved to be natural and non-archaeological in nature. Archaeological features appeared in 5 of the 23 test trenches: T2, T15, T16, T17, and T20. These trenches are spread across the proposed development area, being central (T15), to the north (T2), to the east (T20), and to the south (T17 and T18).

The archaeological assessment uncovered a total of 10 archaeological features (Table 3), 5 of which were concentrated in a single trench T15; which is located at the centre of the proposed development (Figure 7). The features uncovered within T15 may be evidence of kiln activity. Further archaeological findings in trenches T2, T17, T18, and T20 appeared as isolated features. A number of these features extended into the trench baulk and their full extent is not clear, the dimensions given below relate to what was exposed within the trench, with depths informed by slot trenches dug into the features by the testing archaeologist.

Trench T2 contained an oval pit <C6> (dimensions: 3m (NNE-SSW) x 1m (NW-SE) x 0.12m depth) with inclusions of charcoal and burnt clay (this feature extends into the baulk). Trench 17 contained pit <C14>, (dimensions. 2m (N-S) x 0.4m (E-W) x 0.15m max depth) containing small flecks of charcoal (this feature extends into the baulk). Testing works in Trench 18 uncovered an arc of 9 stakeholes <C17> (diameter 6-10cm), and <C18>, a larger stakehole 5m to the north. The arc of stakeholes <C17> extends into the baulk and there is a likelihood of further features. The final trench to reveal any archaeological features was T20, which contained <C20> a NE-SW linear. Dimensions 0.6m width, 1.4m length, this feature extends into the baulk and corresponds with a 7m E-W orientated feature identified on the geophysical survey. There is a likelihood that additional archaeological features are present in the immediate proximity of all of these identified features.

It is recommended that the features uncovered within T2, T15, T17, T18 and T20 be archaeologically excavated under licence to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in advance of development and preserved by record. One area measuring 20m x 20m (T18) and four areas measuring 10m x 10m each (T2, T15, T17, and T20), centred on the archaeological findings are recommended for excavation.

As there remains a potential to find previously unknown archaeological deposits or features within the proposed development site it is recommended that following the commencement of scheduled works, all earthmoving/groundworks should be archaeologically monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. This will involve the reduction of overburden to the level of natural subsoil where applicable throughout the site.

If further archaeological deposits or features are identified, then the archaeologist will advise Wexford County Council and the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the

Gaeltacht, and an appropriate response will be agreed. This may include a requirement for archaeological excavation, or preservation of the remains in situ.

**Please note that all recommendations are subject to approval by the Local Authority and the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.**

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- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP files) Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

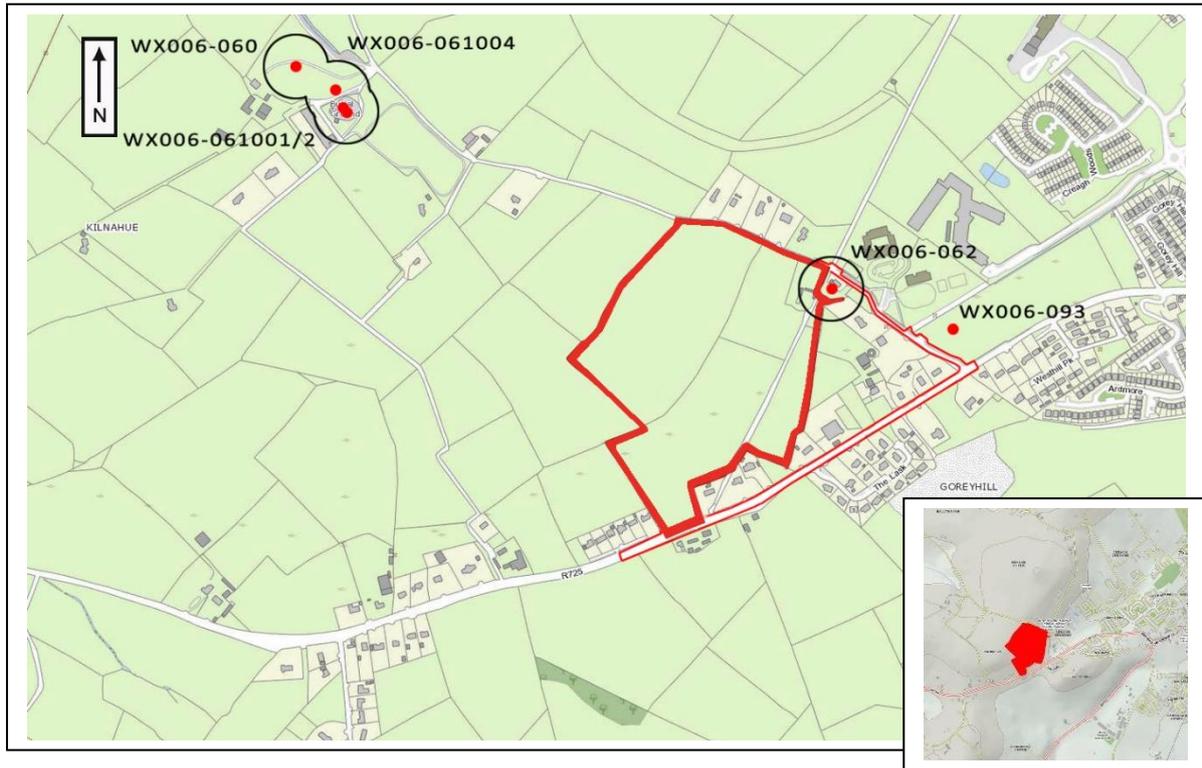
## WEB SOURCES

- The location of Recorded Monuments were examined on this website: [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)
- The Census of Ireland 1901/1911 was examined on this website : [www.census.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie)
- The Down Survey maps and terrier were viewed on this website: [www.downsurvey.tcd.ie](http://www.downsurvey.tcd.ie)
- Archaeological excavations were reviewed on this website: [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)
- Townland names and place-names were reviewed on this website: [www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie)
- Ordnance survey mapping and aerial photographs were browsed on this website: [www.osi.ie](http://www.osi.ie)

### APPENDIX 1. CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Trench	Description
[C1]	All	Topsoil: A grass topped sod comprised of a light brown sandy clay. Infrequent modern pottery sherds.
[C2]	All	Natural boulder clay: A light brown/grey sandy clay with an abundance of brittle shale appearing with occasional larger stone fragments (average size 16cm x 9cm x 7cm).
[C3]	All	Ploughsoil: A mid brown sandy clay, very infrequent clumps of charcoal.
<C4>	1, 2	Cut of field boundary formed by two parallel shallow ditches (1m to 1.4m in width, c 2m apart) running in a NW-SE direction, filled by [C5].
[C5]	1, 2	Fill of ditch <C4>. A mid brown sandy clay, redeposited [C3].
<C6>	2	Cut of an oval pit, 3m (NNE-SSW) x 1m (NW-SE) x 0.12m depth, filled by [C7].
[C7]	2	Fills oval pit <C6>. A mottled friable sandy clay, orange and black in colour, inclusions of shale shards, charcoal clumps and burnt clay.
<C8>	7	Cut of field boundary formed by two parallel linears, exactly like <C4> 130m to the N. Measures 5.4m in total from outer edge N linear to outer edge S linear, (both with widths 1.7m and depths 0.6m BGL) running in a NW-SE direction, very gradual sides, filled by [C9]. (Plate 13).
[C9]	7	Fill of field boundary <C8>. A light brown sandy clay, one piece of animal butchered animal bone noted, lighter than [C3] above it.
<C10>	16, 17, 18	Cut of field boundary formed by two linears, <C10> is the S linear, length 2.2m, width 1m and 0.12m deep, filled by [C11]. Parallel to <C12> 1.9m to the N.
[C11]	16, 17, 18	A sterile loose sandy clay, fills <C10>.
<C12>	16, 17, 18	Cut of field boundary formed by two linears, <C12> is the N linear, length 2.3m, width 0.7m and 0.35m deep, filled by [C14]. Parallel to <C10> 1.9m to the S.
<C13>	16, 17, 18	A sterile loose sandy clay with some roots at its base, fills <C12>.
<14>	17, 18	Cut of pit <C14>, it extends from the E baulk. Dims. 2m (N-S) x 0.4m (E-W) x 0.15m depth (max). Filled by [C15].
[C15]	17, 18	A grey brown sandy clay with plenty of small stone and flecks of charcoal, fills pit <C14>.
<C16>	18	Furrows, ephemeral, appearing for 5m between 46m and 51m from the SE end of T18. NNW-SSE orientation. Appearing 0.35m BGL c 0.4m apart and measure 0.15m width (max) x 0.6m depth. 4 furrows visible.
<C17>	18	Cut of a large stakehole with a 10cm diameter, appears at 61m from the S end of trench, c.5m to the N of stakeholes <C18>, at 28cm below BGL. Filled by [C40].
<C18>	18	Appearing at 56m from the S end of trench at 35cm BGL are a series of 9 arcing stakeholes <C18>. The stakeholes range in size from 6-10cm diameter, and a sampled stakehole had a depth of 3cm. They are filled with [C39] a dark sandy charcoal filled clay.
[C19]	23	[C19] is the fill of an oval shaped feature extending from the N baulk of test trench 16. Dims. 2.1m (NE-SW) x 1.2m (NW-SE) x 0.08m depth (max). A red brown sandy clay, sterile, no evidence of charcoal. Determined to be non-archaeological.
<C20>	20	Cut of a NE-SW linear <C20>., measures 0.6m width, 1.4m length, and on investigation with small slot trench had a depth of 0.15m. Filled by [C21].
[C21]	20	A light brown sandy clay, fills <C20>.
<C22>	20	Cut of a land drain <C22>, NE-SW orientated, coming out of the E baulk. It runs into the W baulk. The land drain measures 0.55 width, 2.8m length and 0.08m depth.

Context	Trench	Description
<C23>	22	5 parallel NW-SE orientated linears <C23> uncovered in the N half of trench. All are land drains, and a uniform 0.55m width, concave based, 0.16m (max) depth, and appear 0.45m BGL. Regular intervals of 2.5-3m between the drains. Filled by [C24].
[C24]	22	A mid brown sandy clay, fills <C23>.
<C25>	11	Cut of land drain <C25>, orientated E-W, 3.2m length, 0.8m width and 0.1m depth, gradual sides and concave base. Filled by [26].
[C26]	11	Fill of land drain <C25>. A mid brown loose sandy clay.
<C27>	15	Cut of an oval pit <C27>, measuring 1.5m (E-W) and 0.8m (N-S) not the complete width as <C27> runs into N baulk, depth 0.06m (max) where investigated. Filled by [C28].
[C28]	15	A light brown sandy clay with evidence of scorched clay and charcoal streaks, fill of <C27>.
<C29>	15	Cut of an oblong curved feature <C29>. Dims 2.2m (E-W) and 0.6m (N-S) with a depth of 0.08m (max) where investigated. Filled by [C30].
[C30]	15	A loose mid brown sandy clay, fill of <C29>.
<C31>	15	Cut of an irregularly shaped feature <C31>. Dims 1.9m (N-S) and 0.6m (E-W) Filled by [C32].
[C32]	15	A loose mottled brown sandy clay with charcoal clumps, fill of <C31>.
<C33>	15	Cut of linear <C33>. Dims 1.9m (N-S) and 0.6m (E-W). Filled by [C34].
[C34]	15	A loose black sandy clay, fill of <C33>.
<C35>	15	Cut of an irregularly shaped feature with a smaller NW-SE linear running off it to the SE. Dims of 4.5m (NW-SE) and 1.1m (E-W). Filled by [C36].
[C36]	15	A loose mottled brown sandy clay with inclusions of burnt clay and charcoal lumps.
<C37>	17	Cut of a gully which extends diagonally NW-SE from the E to W baulk. Dims. 4.5m (NW-SE) x 0.55m (NE-SW) x 0.1m depth (max).
<C38>	18	NNW-SSW furrows noted at a depth of 0.3m between 46-52m from the S end of trench. Furrows measure 10-15cm wide and are 40-45cm apart.
[C39]	18	General context number for the dark sandy charcoal filled clay which fills the 9 stakeholes of <C18>.
[C40]	18	A dark sandy charcoal filled clay, fills large stakehole <C17>.



**Figure 1 Proposed development site location**



**Figure 2 Proposed development layout**

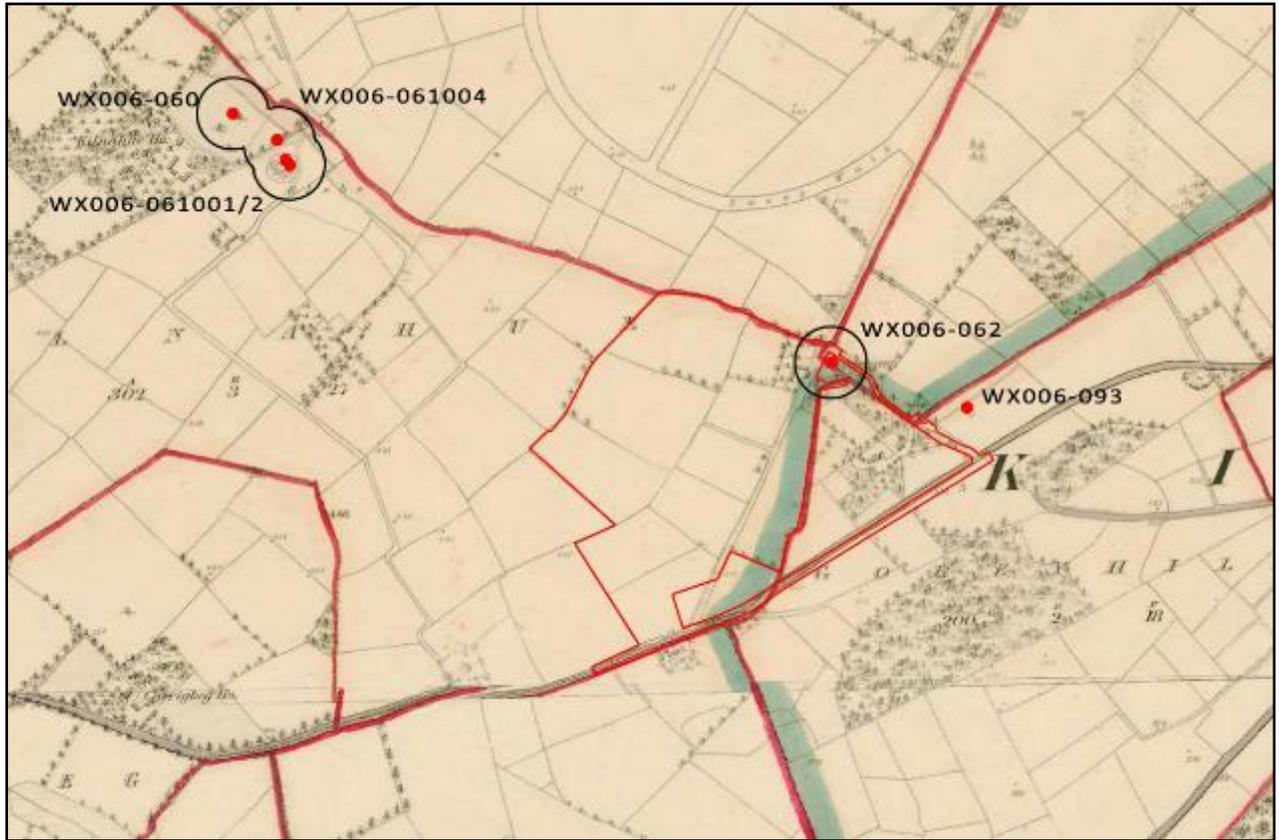


Figure 3 First Edition OS 6-inch Map, 1839.

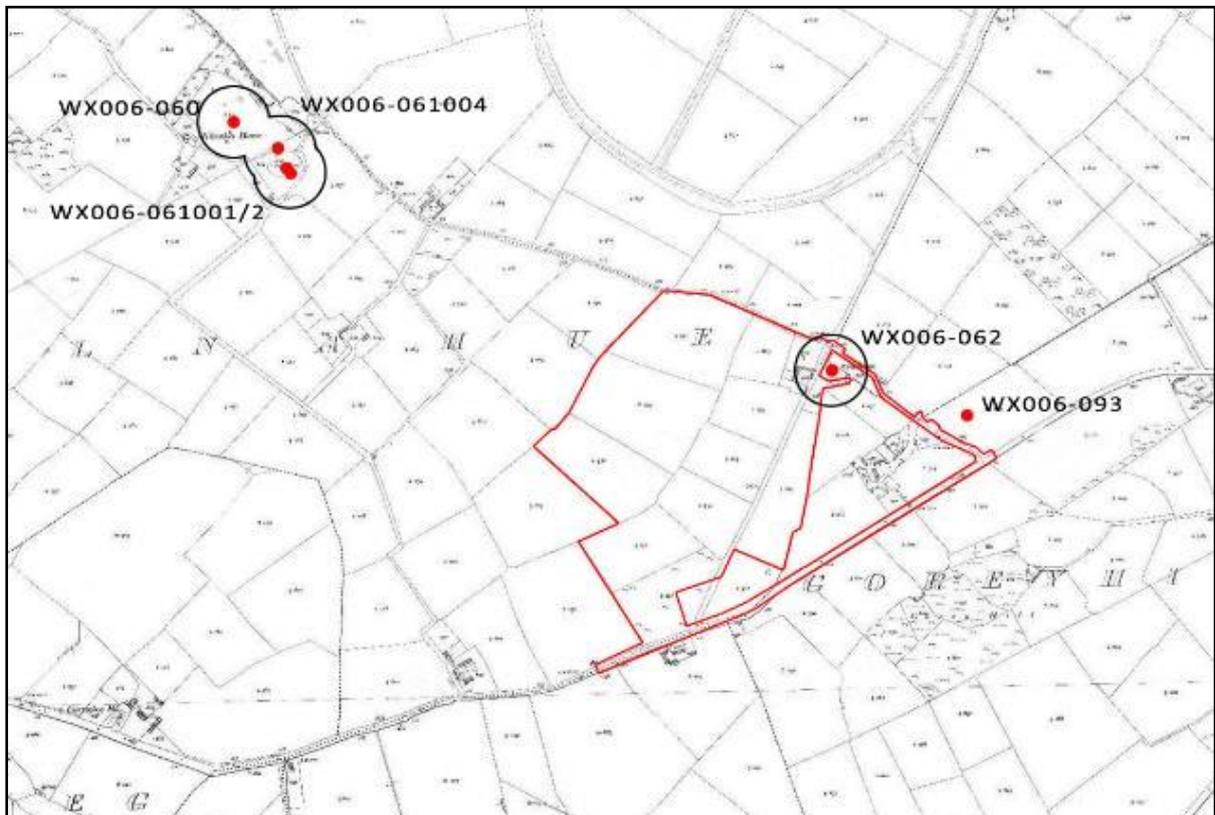


Figure 4 25-Inch OS map, 1897.

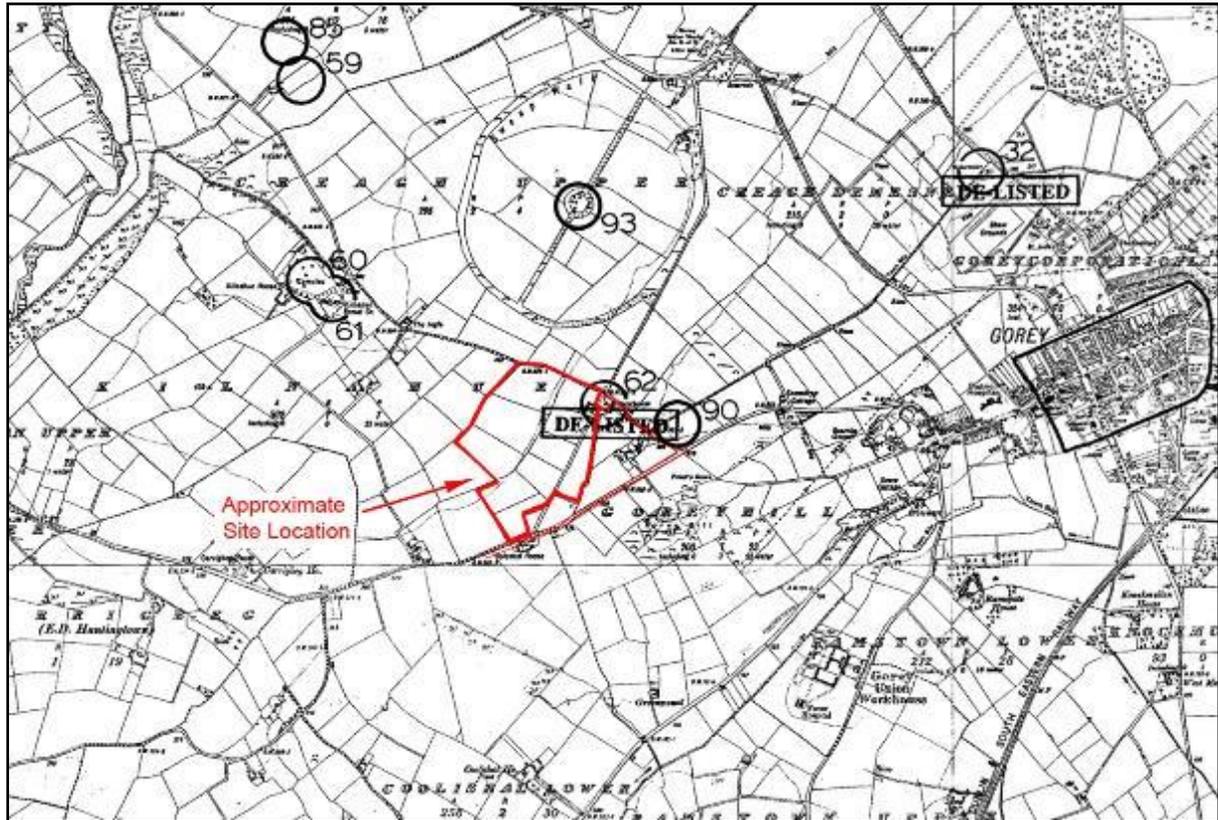
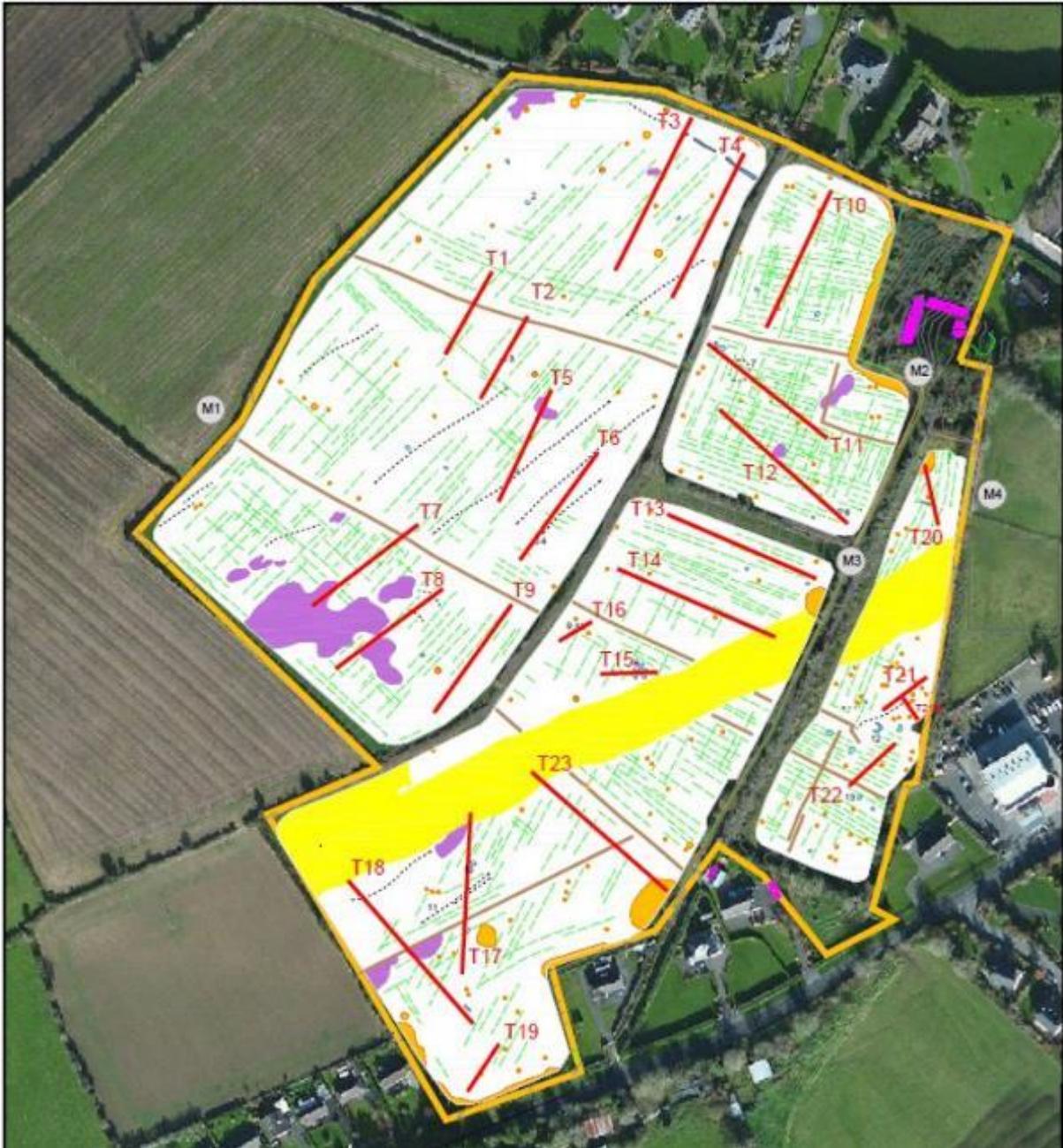


Figure 5 RMP Map showing Site Location.

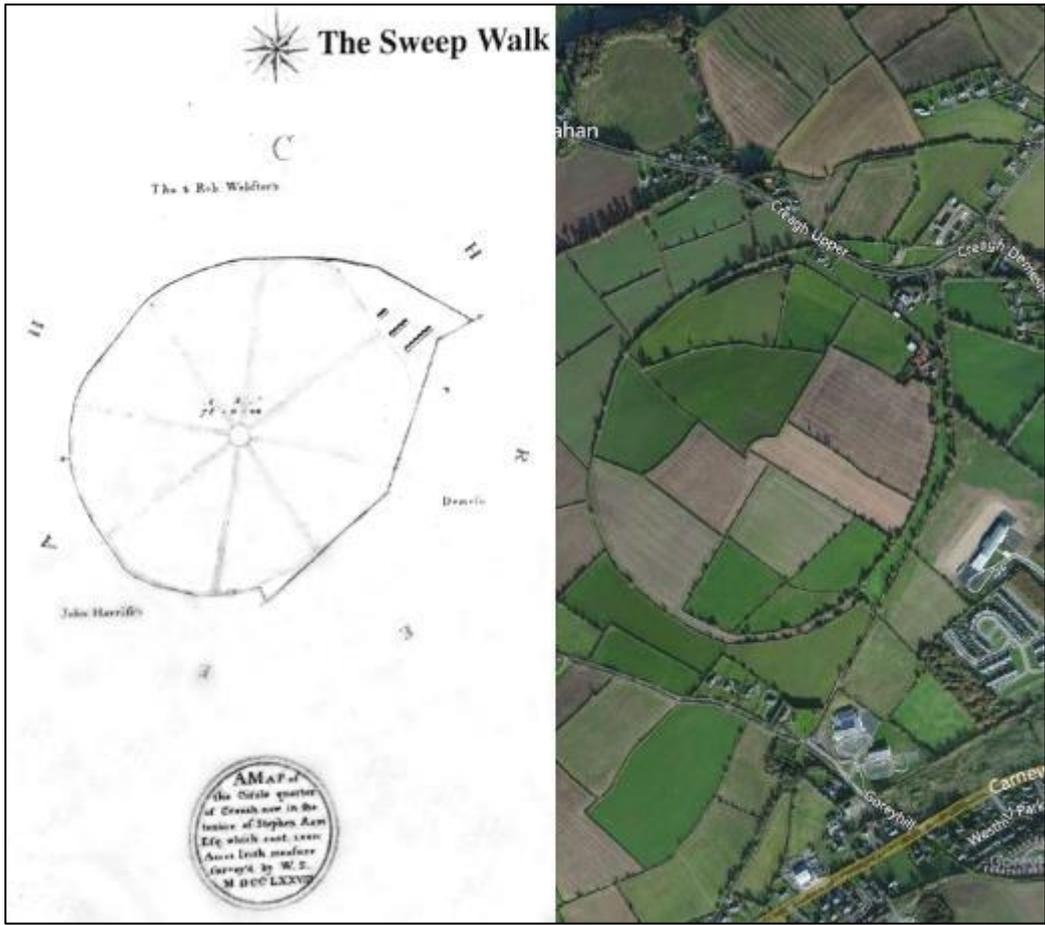


Figure 6 Geophysical Survey Interpretation Drawing.



*Figure 7 Geophysical Survey Interpretation Drawing with Test Trenches.*





**Plate 3. Map of Sweepwalk dated 1778 (RMP WX006-090) alongside Aerial ortho photograph (Bing) showing the landscape as it appears today.**



**Plate 4. Sample of general stratigraphy seen throughout site.**



Plate 5. Trench 1 with field boundary <C4>, facing south southwest.



Plate 6. Trench 2 facing southwest.



Plate 7. Trench 2 facing south southeast; slot through oval pit <C6> which runs into baulk.



Plate 8. Trench 3 facing south southwest.



**Plate 9. Trench 4 facing south southwest.**



**Plate 10. Trench 5 facing south southwest.**



**Plate 11. Trench 6 facing southwest.**



**Plate 12. Trench 7 facing north.**



Plate 13. Parallel linear forming a field boundary <C8>.



Plate 14. Trench 8 facing south.



Plate 15. Trench 9 facing southwest.



Plate 16. Trench 10 facing southwest.



**Plate 17. Trench 11, diagonal land drain <C25> visible, facing northwest.**



**Plate 18. Trench 12 facing northwest.**



**Plate 19. Trench 13 facing northwest.**



**Plate 20. Trench 14 facing northwest.**



Plate 21. Trench 15 facing northwest.



Plate 22. Trench 15 oval pit <C27> facing northwest.



Plate 23. Trench 15 oval pit <C29> facing west.



Plate 24. Trench 15 irregularly shaped feature <C31> facing west.



Plate 25. Trench 15 irregularly shaped feature <C29> facing east.



Plate 26. Trench 16 facing north east.



Plate 27. Trench 17 facing north.



Plate 28. Trench 17 <C37> facing northwest.



Plate 29. Trench 17 <C10> and <C12> facing north.



Plate 30. Trench 17 <C14> facing north east.



Plate 31. Trench 17 <C16> furrows facing north.



Plate 32. Trench 18 facing south.



Plate 33. Trench 18 C18 facing northwest.



Plate 34. Trench 18 <C38> furrows facing north.



**Plate 35. Trench 19 facing northeast.**



**Plate 36. Trench 20 facing north**



Plate 37. Trench 20 <C20> gully, facing northeast.



Plate 38. Trench 21 facing north northeast.



Plate 39. Trench 22 facing northeast.



Plate 40. Trench 22 land drains <C23>, facing northeast.



**Plate 41. Trench 23 facing south east.**

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Courtney Deery Heritage Consultancy

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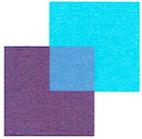
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**C O U R T N E Y • D E E R Y**  
ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE

## APPENDIX 13.6 (A) & (B) ARCHITECTURAL REPORT (A) AND RECORD OF STRUCTURE (B)



# MICHAEL CONNOLLY ARCHITECTS

Unit C4, Wicklow Enterprise Centre, Wicklow Town, County Wicklow.

● Tel: 0404 66575/66433 ● Mobile: 086 3817731

● Email: [info@connollyarchitects.ie](mailto:info@connollyarchitects.ie) ● Web: [www.connollyarchitects.ie](http://www.connollyarchitects.ie)

28<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Gerard Gannon Properties  
Kinvara House,  
52 Northumberland Road,  
Ballsbridge,  
Dublin 4

Dear Sirs,

**RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES AT KILNAHUE, GOREYHILL, GOREY**

We refer to the Archaeological, Architectural & Cultural Heritage Appraisal prepared by Courtney Deery for the above development site which identifies a number of existing overgrown structures which lie in the north-eastern part of the site.

The Heritage Report describes the structures as follows;

- *A heavily overgrown area measuring c.1 acre is located in the northeastern corner of the site. A vernacular farm yard complex consisting of three upstanding structures is contained within this property plot, defined by tree lined rubble stone walls. These structures were a farm yard complex and were depicted on the 1st edition 6-inch OS mapping (Fig. 4).*
- *The property is not a designated RPS site or NIAH site but would be considered to be of local cultural and technical heritage interest representing a classic vernacular farm complex.*
- *The complex comprises a 1.5 storey, three bay, single storey with loft, lobby entrance cottage. It has red brick window surrounds. The single pile cottage has three rooms, off the entrance lobby to the left is the kitchen, the largest room, and to the right is a parlour. There are a further two very small rooms off the kitchen to the left. The internal and external doors are still on site, the windows have been removed. Adjacent to the dwelling is the roofless ruin of an outbuilding filled with rubble and roof tiles. Perpendicular to the ruin is a long barn (stone rubble and mud construction) with a wooden subdivision some of the original unhewn roof timbers survive, it has a replacement corrugated iron roof.*

When we were advised of the identification of the ruins the following actions were taken;





- The overgrown area around the structures was cleared to allow for a more complete inspection of the structures
- A measured digital survey of the structures was carried out by Paul Corrigan and Associates Geo Surveyors which is attached herewith.
- A full photographic record of the structures was made.
- We visited the site on two occasions and consulted with Waterman Moylan Consulting Engineers

We are of the opinion that

1. The buildings are of a type commonly in existence in the general area of North Wexford. There are many existing examples in good condition which better represent this particular type of vernacular construction.
2. After clearance, much of the fabric remains partially overgrown and vegetation has become bound into the fabric of the buildings. We are advised that some of the elements may become structurally unstable once vegetation is removed.
3. The existing roofs are missing, and only partial remnants exist at the site
4. The particular dilapidated domestic features cited in the Heritage Report are by means unique and there is no particular cultural benefit in conserving or restoring them.
5. We are of the opinion that these ruined buildings are not of sufficient architectural or historical merit to recommend their retention.
6. Since the structures are not designated or listed for protection, and a full record of the structures has been made, we therefore recommend that the developer be allowed to demolish these ruins.

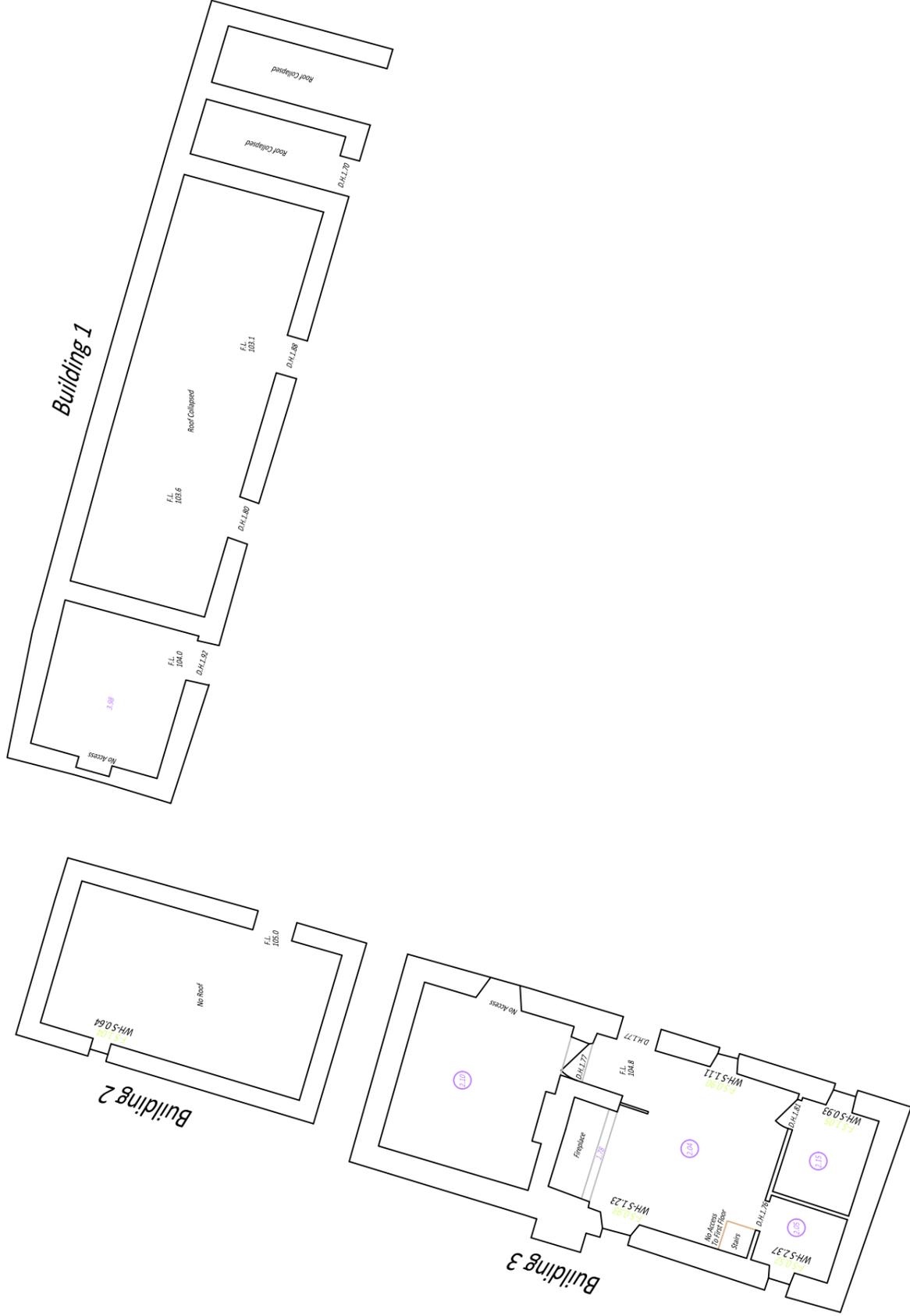
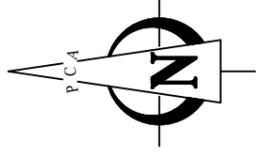
Yours Sincerely,



---

MICHAEL CONNOLLY FRIAI  
Architect Accredited in Conservation Grade 3

FLOOR PLAN



Notes :  
 This Survey was produced for original clients specification of time of instruction.  
 If this survey is to be used for any other purpose, or for purposes other than those originally considered,  
 further details or higher accuracies may be required - Please contact PCA  
 PCA take no responsibility for conditions made by third parties to survey.  
 Note : Accuracy of survey to plot scale

PAUL CORREGAN & ASSOCIATES  
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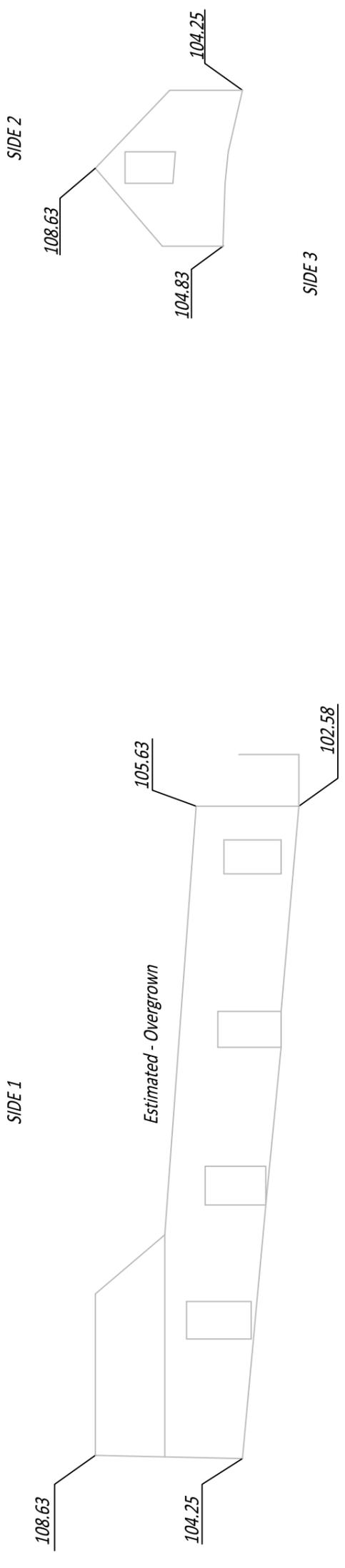


KILNAHUE GOREY  
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL

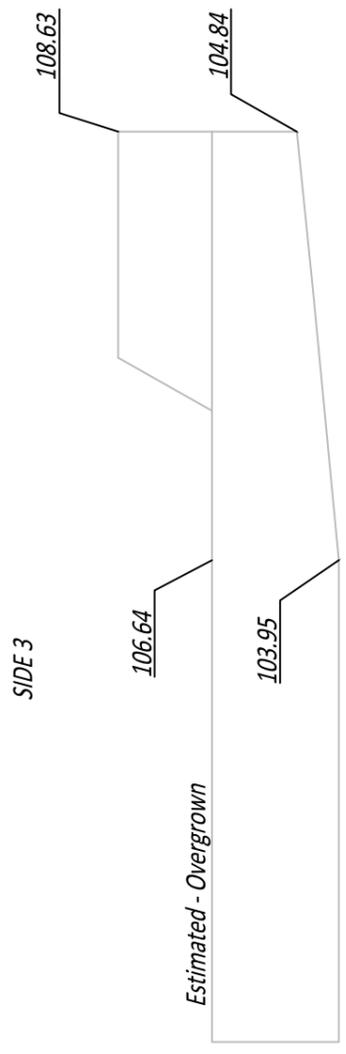
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Checked	Checked	PH

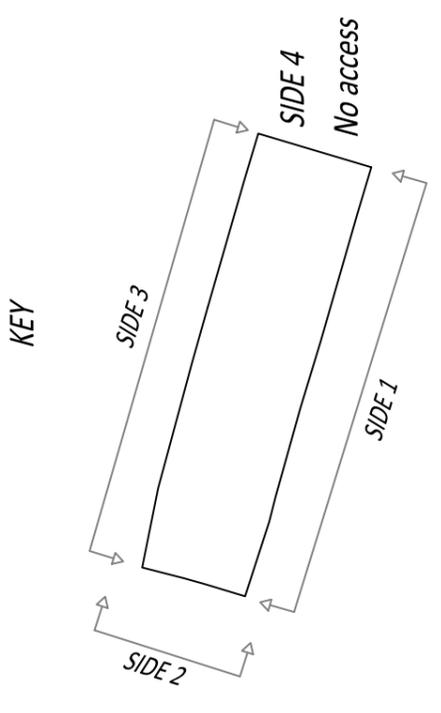
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A.O.D 100.00m

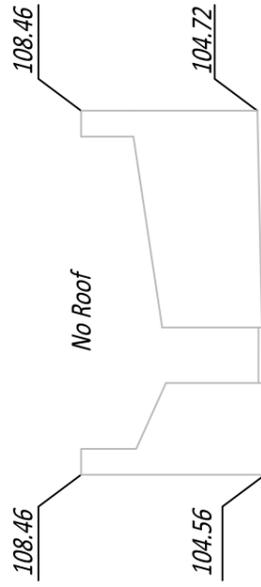


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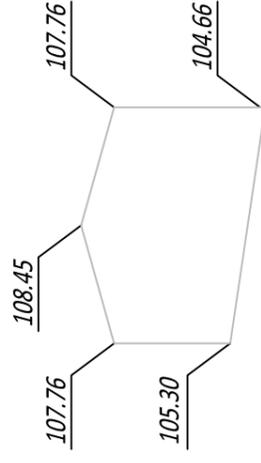
PAUL CORRIGAN & ASSOCIATES 111, The Crescent Road KILNAHUE, CO. WICK tel (+353) 0 21 36 5800 fax (+353) 0 21 36 3001 info@pca.ie	<b>KILNAHUE GOREY</b> ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL ELEVATIONS - BUILDING 1		Job No. 19/02/19
	Date 07/11/2019	Scale 1:500	Drawn JPS
Note Cell : 4/0 Level : 4/0 * Access not shown or shown to have no access or access to be confirmed by other means.	Checked		Date

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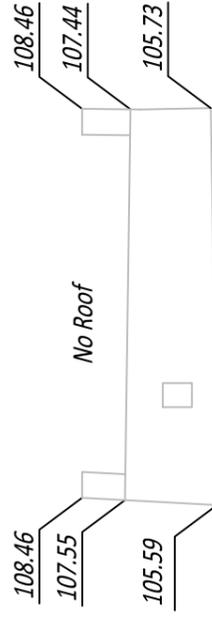


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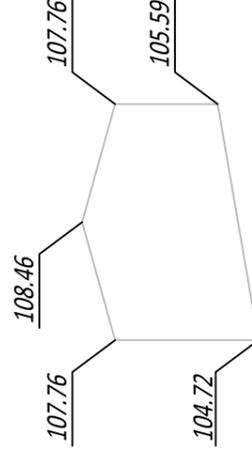


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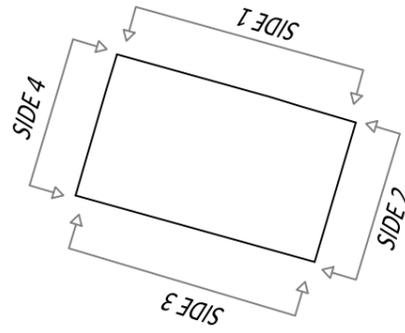


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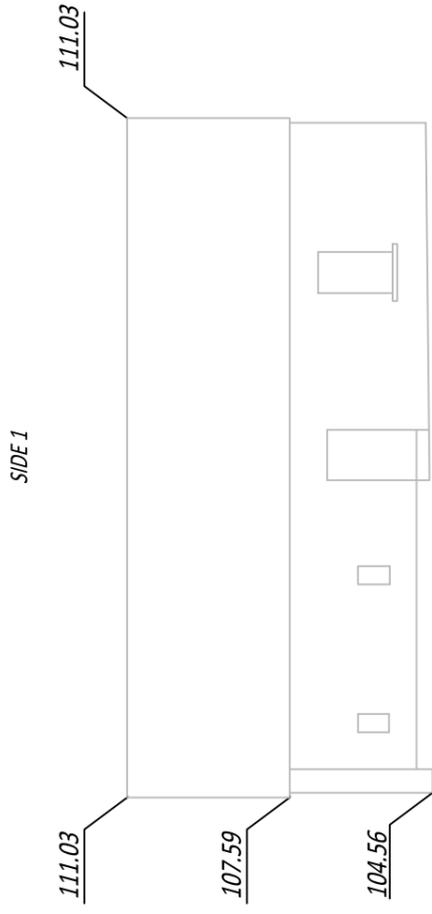
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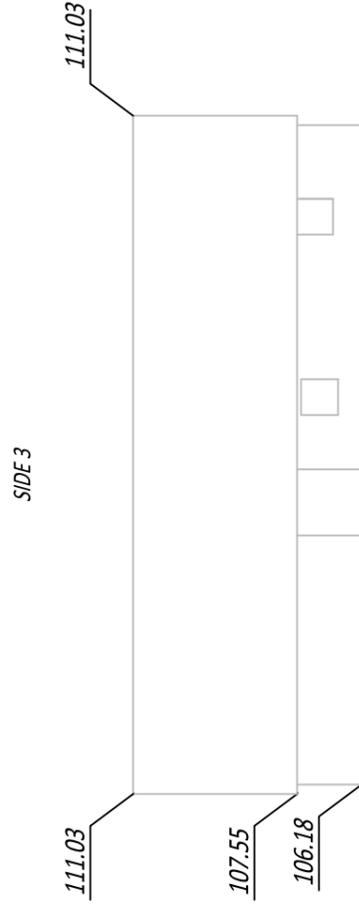
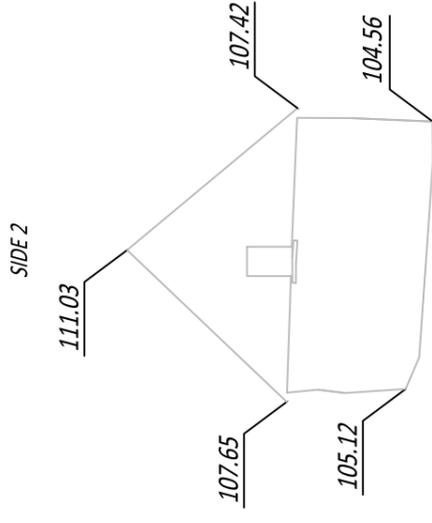
**KILNAHUE GOREY**  
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL  
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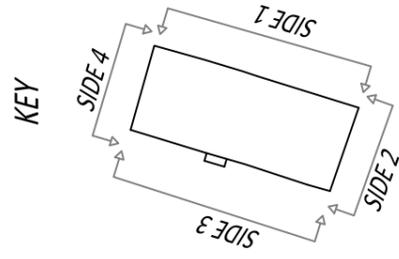
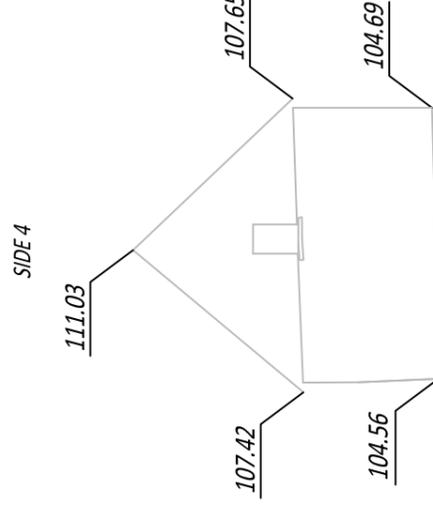
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A.O.D 103.00m



A.O.D 103.00m



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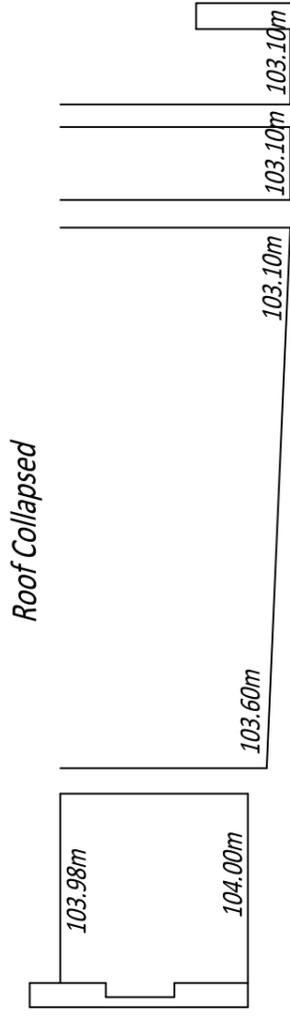
PAUL CORRIGAN & ASSOCIATES  
111 Green Road,  
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info@pca.ie

KILINAHUE GOREY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL  
ELEVATIONS - BUILDING 3

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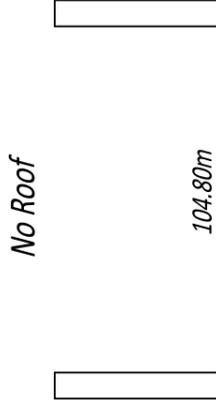
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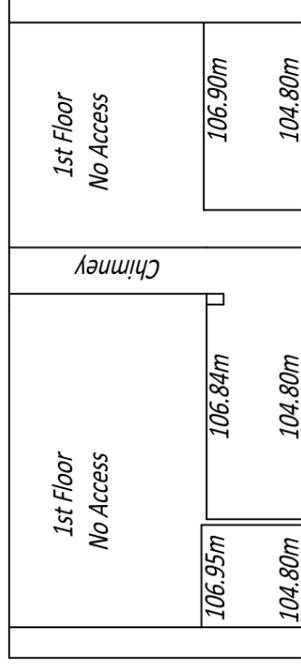
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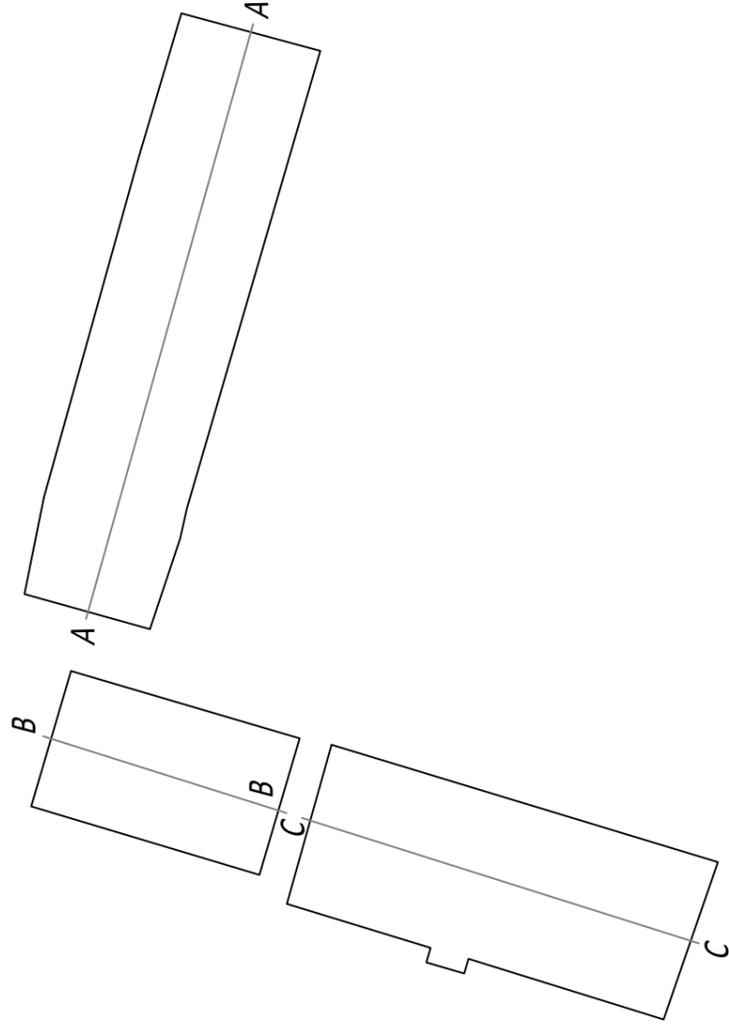
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LONG SECTION C - C



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## KEY



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 Surveyors, Dublin 18  
 100, Southfield, Dublin 18  
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 info@pca.ie

KILNAHUE GOREY  
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL

SECTIONS

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Scale	1:500MS
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Checked	PC

Connolly Architects RIAI

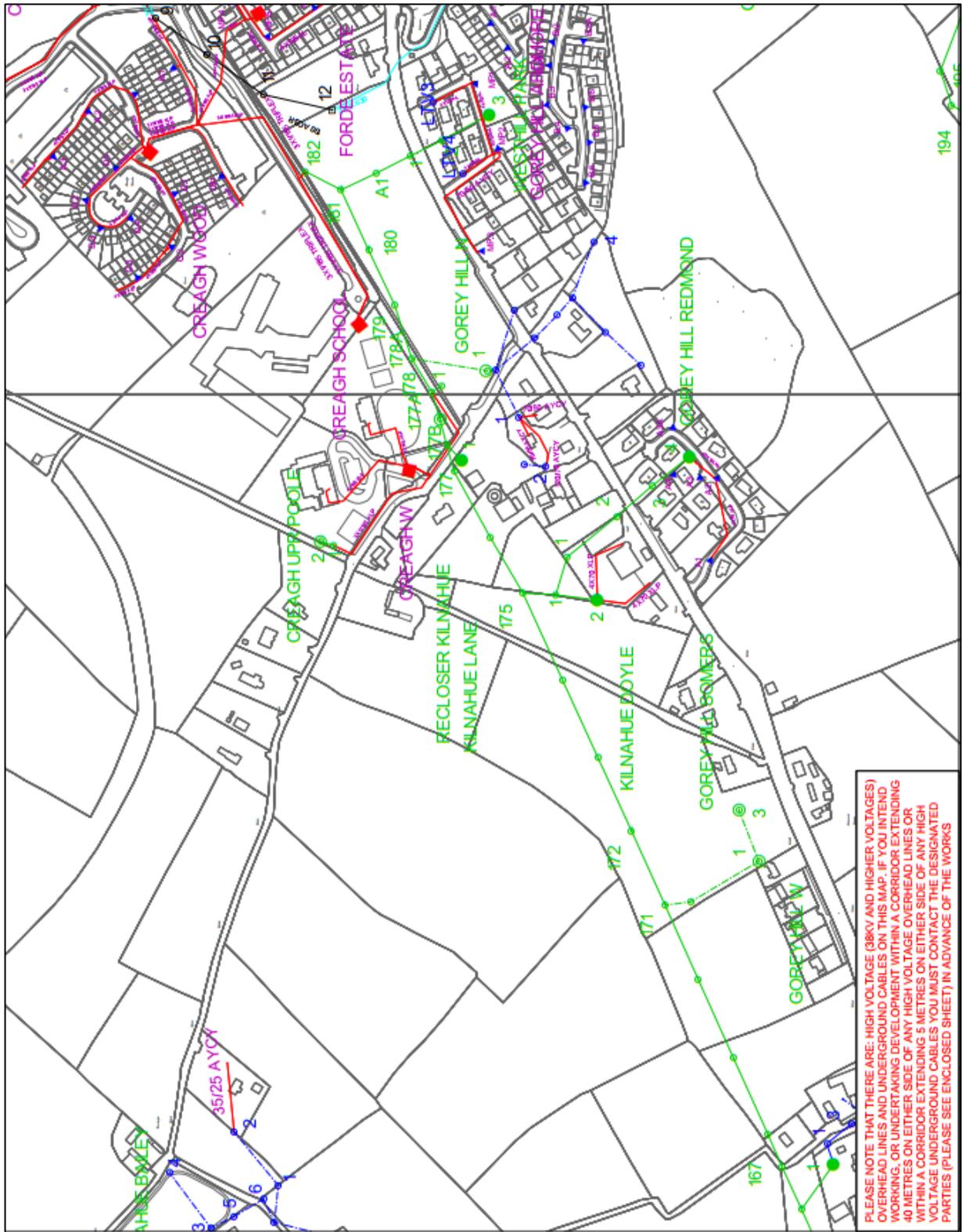
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PROJECT TITLE: SHD APPLICATION LANDS AT KILNAHUE, GOREY	
DRAWING TITLE: Derelict Building Survey	
DATE: Aug 2021	DRAWING NUMBER: 18-SHD-150
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
--info@connollyarchitects.ie -- 0863817731--	



# Derelict Building Survey

## APPENDIX 14.1 – ESB RECORD MAPS

ESB RECORD MAP 1

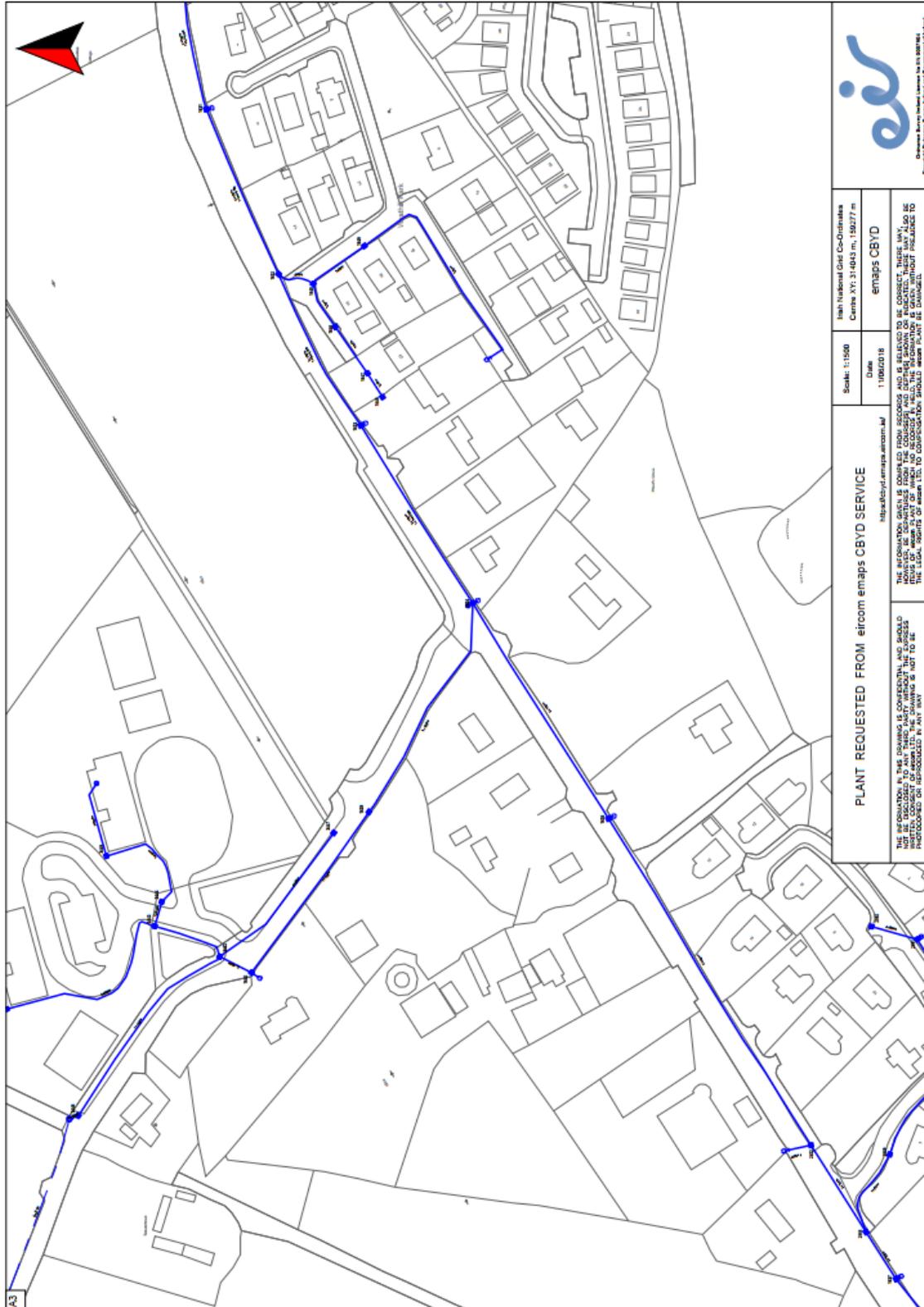


ESB RECORD MAP 2

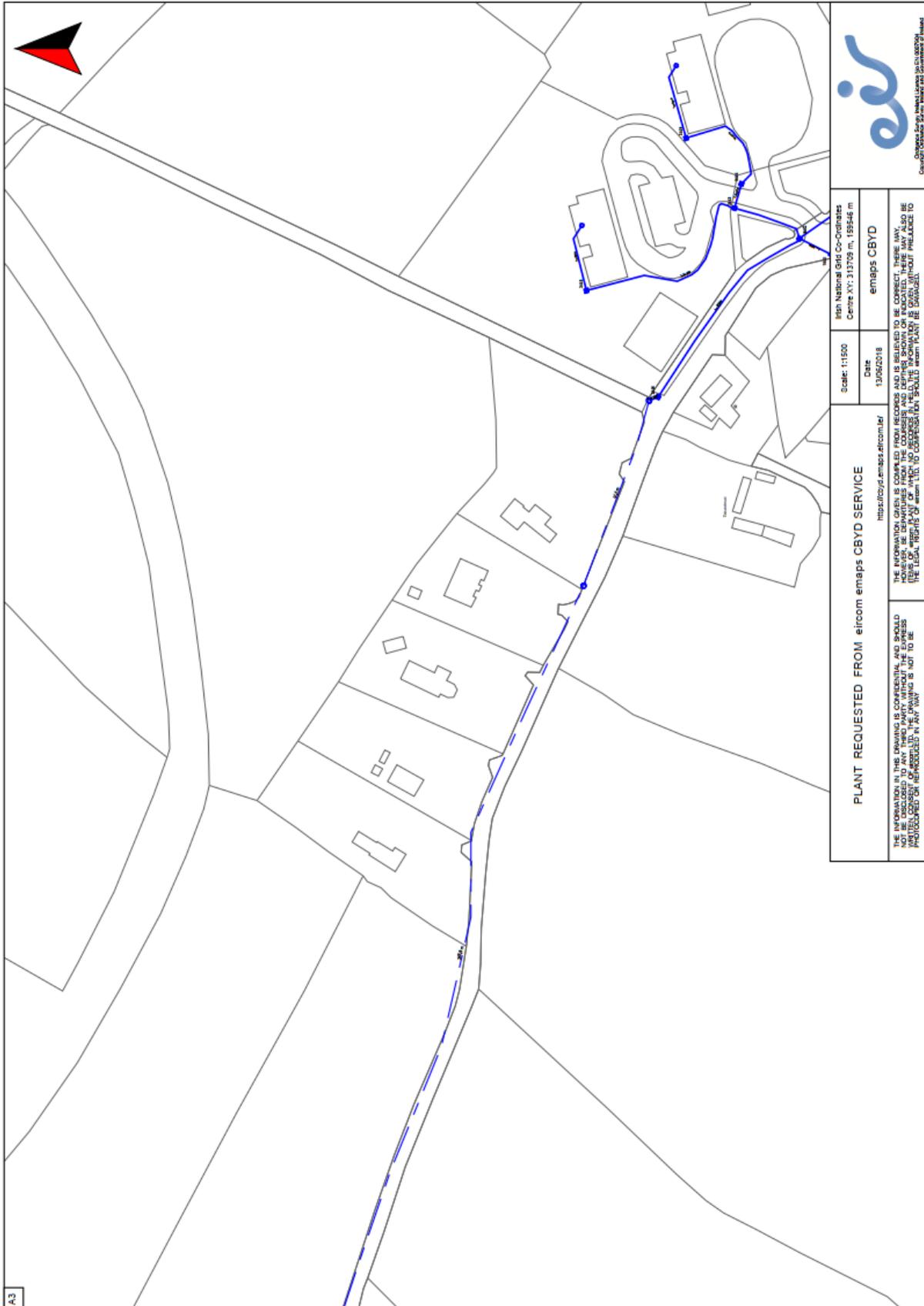


## APPENDIX 14.2 – EIR/VIRGIN MEDIA RECORDS MAPS

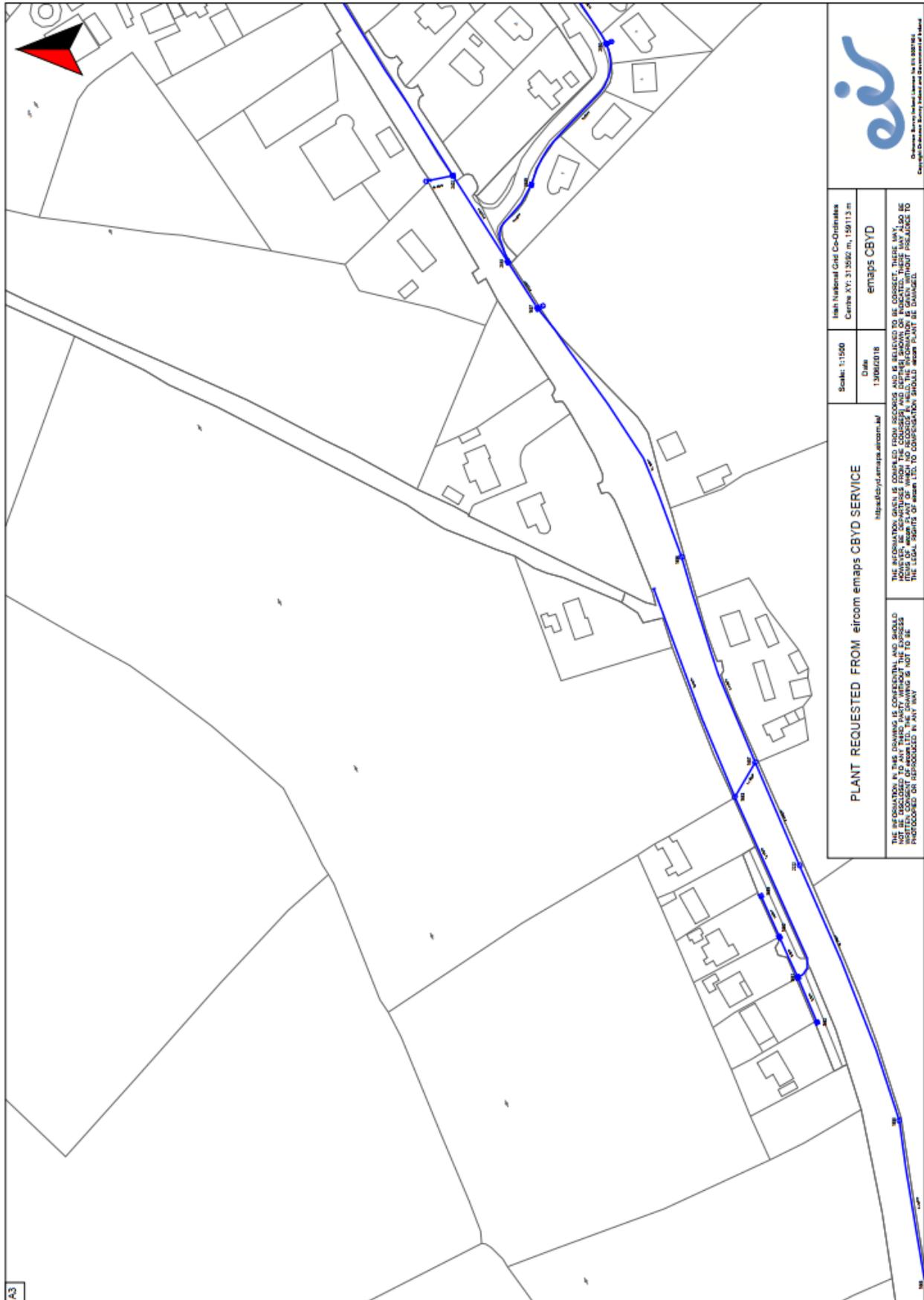
EIR MAP 1



EIR MAP 2



EIR MAP 3



Irish National Grid Co-ordinates  
Centre XY: 313582 m, 159113 m  
emaps CBYD

Scale: 1:1500  
Date: 13/06/2018

<http://maps.emaps.ie/room.html>  
**PLANT REQUESTED FROM eiroom emaps CBYD SERVICE**

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