

Castlepollard Quarry, Deerpark, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath

Castlepollard Quarry

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Section 12

Cultural Heritage

February 2022



Part of the Breedon Group

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Westmeath County Council Planning Authority - Inspection Purposes Only!

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12 CULTURAL HERITAGE

12.1 INTRODUCTION

Dr. Charles Mount was commissioned by J Sheils Planning & Environmental Ltd. on behalf of Lagan (Breedon Group) to prepare the cultural heritage section of an EIAR. The section assesses the impacts on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the application site and surrounding area of a proposed development at the quarry at Deerpark, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.

The proposed development will consist of the continued use and operation of the existing quarry (permitted under P.A. Ref. 01/525), including deepening of the quarry along with minor amendments to the permitted quarry layout comprising an extraction area of c. 4 ha within an overall application area of c. 11.4 ha. The development will include provision of new site infrastructure, including water management system, wheelwash and other ancillaries. The site location and study area are indicated in Figure 12.1.

12.2 SCOPE OF WORK / METHODOLOGY

This study which complies with the requirements of Directive EIA 2014/52/EU is an assessment of the known or potential cultural heritage resource within a specified area and includes the information that may reasonably be required for reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the project on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment. It consists of a collation of existing written and graphic information in order to identify the likely context, character, significance and sensitivity of the known or potential cultural heritage, archaeological and structural resource using an appropriate methodology (EPA 2002 and 2003).

The study involved detailed investigation of the archaeological and historical background of the development site, the landholding and the surrounding area extending 1 km from the development boundary (Refer Figure 12.1). This area was examined using information from the Record of Monuments and Places of County Westmeath, the Westmeath County Development Plan, lists of excavations and cartographic and documentary sources. A field inspection was carried out to identify and assess any known archaeological sites and previously unrecorded features and portable finds within the area of landholding.

An impact assessment and mitigation strategy have been prepared. An impact assessment is undertaken to outline potential adverse impacts that the proposed development may have on the cultural resource, while a mitigation strategy is designed to avoid, reduce or offset such adverse impacts.

The application site is in the townland of Deerpark Co. Westmeath, on Westmeath OS Six Inch sheet No. 7, immediately to the south-west of the R395 regional road and c. 2 km to the south-east of the town of Castlepollard. The proposed development will consist of the continued use and operation of the existing quarry (permitted under P.A. Ref. 01/525), including deepening of the quarry, along with minor amendments to the permitted quarry layout comprising an extraction area of c. 4 ha within an overall application area of c. 11.4 ha.

Extracts from the Record of Monuments and Places for County Westmeath are presented on a map of the local area around the site in Figure 12.1. RMP sites included on the Records of Monuments and Places statutory mapping are identified by black circles and polygons. The application area is outlined in red.

12.3 AUTHOR

The assessment was prepared by Dr. Charles Mount who is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and a member of the Discovery Programme and has more than thirty years of cultural heritage assessment experience. He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in archaeology as well as a professional diploma in EIA and SEA Management.

12.4 LIMITATIONS / DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

No difficulties were encountered during the desktop study, field inspection or in the preparation of this report.



12.5 REGULATORY BACKGROUND

The following paragraphs set out the regulatory background regarding cultural impact assessments in Ireland in general and the site-specific planning background relevant to this cultural impact assessment.

12.5.1 LEGISLATION

No specific Irish legislation exists governing cultural heritage assessments.

12.5.2 PLANNING POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

The Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027 is the statutory plan detailing the development objectives/policies of the local authority. The plan includes objectives and policies, relevant to this assessment, i.e., regarding cultural heritage.

12.5.3 CULTURAL HERITAGE

Chapter 14 of the County Development Plan sets out the policy objectives on cultural heritage within the county. The Council's Cultural Heritage policy objective are:

CPO 14.1 Improve accessibility to our cultural heritage and maximise its potential as a learning resource.

CPO 14.2 Promote the understanding of cultural heritage in terms of its inherent and unique character and to recognise what elements should be preserved, conserved or enhanced.

CPO 14.3 Support the implementation of objectives and actions of the Westmeath County Heritage Plan 2018-2023 and update during the lifetime of the Plan.

CPO 14.4 Support the growth of cultural tourism in the County, including the potential for niche heritage based tourism products by facilitating the development of heritage events, festivals and infrastructure in a sustainable manner.

12.5.3.1 Council's Archaeological Heritage Policy Objectives:

CPO 14.5 Seek to ensure the protection and sympathetic enhancement of archaeological heritage, and in this regard applications will be referred to the National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht for comment.

CPO 14.6 Seek to ensure the protection of archaeological sites and monuments and their settings and archaeological objects that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, in the ownership/guardianship of the State, or that are the subject of Preservation Orders or have been registered in the Register of Historic Monuments. Seek to ensure the protection and preservation of archaeological sites, which have been identified subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places.

CPO 14.7 Ensure that any development adjacent to an archaeological monument or site shall not be detrimental to the character of the archaeological site, or its setting and shall be sited

in a manner which minimises the impact on the monument and its setting. Development which is likely to detract from the setting of such a monument or site will not be permitted.

12.5.3.2 Fore Special Heritage Area Policy Objectives

CPO 14.16 Continue to protect and enhance the Fore Special Heritage Area in accordance with the Fore Special Heritage Management Study adopted in 2010, and any update made thereto.

CPO 14.17 Support the development of sustainable tourist initiatives in Fore subject to appropriate archaeological and ecological assessment.

CPO 14.18 Ensure that new development proposals which have the potential to impact on Archaeological Heritage must be accompanied by an Archaeological Assessment in accordance with requirements of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

CPO 14.19 Ensure that development proposals that would detrimentally impact upon the setting and interpretation of archaeological monuments, historic landscape or buildings of architectural value at Fore will not be permitted.

CPO 14.20 Protect and sustain the established appearance and character of views over the surrounding countryside at Fore, while facilitating the continued development of uses that sustain the activities that give rise to the appearance and character of the landscape.

12.5.3.3 Council's Architectural Heritage & Protected Structures Policy Objectives:

CPO 14.27 Protect and conserve buildings, structures and sites contained in the Record of Protected Structures and to encourage the sympathetic re-use and long-term viability of such structures without detracting from their special interest and character.

12.5.4 GUIDELINES

The report format and some of the descriptions of effects are based on the Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (Draft), published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May 2017.

12.6 METHODOLOGY

12.6.1 STUDY AREA

The overall study area extends 1 km from the application area in all directions and is shown in Figure 12.1.

12.6.2 BASELINE STUDY METHODOLOGY

Research has been undertaken in two phases. The first phase comprised a paper survey of all available archaeological, historical and cartographic sources. The second phase involved a field inspection and assessment of the proposed development area.

12.6.3 PAPER STUDY

This is a document search. The following sources were examined and a list of sites and areas of archaeological potential compiled:

- Record of Monuments and Places County Westmeath;
- The Sites and Monuments Record;
- Available aerial photography;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027; and
- The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

12.6.3.1 The Record of Monuments and Places

This was established under section 12 (1) of the 1994 National Monuments (Amendment) Act and provides that the Minister shall establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes there are monuments, such record to be comprised of a list of monuments and relevant places and a map or maps showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the State. The associated files contain information of documentary sources and field inspections where these have taken place. Several Recorded monuments were noted within the study area. All available information on these sites is provided in Appendix 12.

12.6.3.2 Cartographic Sources

This included seventeenth century mapping as well the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey six-inch maps and Documentary sources provide more general historical and archaeological background.

12.6.3.3 The County Development Plan

This notes structures listed for preservation.

12.6.4 FIELD INSPECTION

A field inspection was carried out on the 7th of May 2021 to determine the location, extent and ascertain the significance of any archaeological sites and to identify any previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds.

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12.7 RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT, HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

12.7.1 THE LANDSCAPE

The application site is located in north-east Co. Westmeath, in the townland of Deerpark, Co. Westmeath, on OS Six Inch sheet No. 7, immediately to the southwest of the R395 Regional road and c. 1.8 km to the southeast of the town of Castlepollard. The application area is sited in a roughly oval-shaped rocky ridge extending north-west to south-east surrounded by lower-lying ground. The soil of the application area is an Elton series fine loamy drift with limestones overlying drift with limestone (<http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/map.php>). This compares well with Renzina & Lithosols (BminSW) developed on till derived from cherts as well as subcropping bedrock, according to the Teagasc/EPA soil and subsoil maps (Refer to Section 6).

12.7.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following is a brief summation of the main types of sites and monuments that are known from the study area along with an outline of historical developments. The application site is situated in what is now the townland of Deerpark, but the Down Survey records that in the seventeenth century this was part of Bratty and Slewboy townlands (see Plate 12.8). It is now in the civil parish of Rathgarve but in the seventeenth century was part of the parish of St. Feighines, and barony of Fore.

12.7.2.1 The Prehistoric Period

There are no known archaeological sites or monuments in the application area or the study area dating from the prehistoric period and the nature of activity is unknown.

12.7.2.2 The Early Medieval Period

In the Early Medieval period (500 AD-1170 AD) the study area formed part of the *trícha cét* (a spatial unit of royal tenure) of Uí Beccon which was ruled by the Uí Áeda who were said to be descended from Clann Cholmáin (MacCotter 2008, 202). Classically settlement at this period is indicated by the presence of enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts, when enclosed with earthen banks; and cashels when enclosed by stone walls. There are several ringforts known from the study area in Benisonlodge townland (RMP WM007-033---- and WM007-034----) and Gillardstown townland (RMP WM007-036---- and WM007-036----). A large hilltop enclosure in Ballany townland (RMP WM007-035----) is associated with the ninth century Norwegian Chief Turgesius and probably also dates to the early medieval period.

12.7.2.3 The Later Medieval Period

Following the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in Ireland, in the year 1172 King Henry II granted the Kingdom of Meath to Hugh de Lacy to hold as King Murrugh O Melaghlin, King of Meath, had held it (Otway-Ruthven 1980, 52). In 1180 Hugh de Lacy seized control of the Fore (site of the monastery of St. Fechin) and the surrounding area. He retained Fore (in which the

application area is located) as a seignorial manor and a Motte and Bailey Castle was constructed at Fore in the twelfth century (RMP WM004-035014-) (Orpen 1911-20, Vol. 2, 81).

The process of sub-infeudation (granting of lands to sub-tenants under feudal tenure) is normally associated with the construction of timber castles, known as Motte and Baileys. These earthwork fortifications were used to house and defend the Norman lords and their retinues while they set about the process of pacifying and organizing their new fiefs. The Motte and Bailey for the Manor of Fore was located at Fore of the study area.

Manorialism describes the organisation of the feudal rural economy and society characterised by the vesting of legal and economic power in a Lord supported economically from his own direct landholding and from the obligatory contributions of a legally subject part of the peasant population under his jurisdiction. In Ireland the Lord's Manor House was sometimes enclosed by a rectangular moat and these sites are referred to as moated sites. They are a useful indicator of Anglo-Norman settlement. There are no Moated sites in the study area but there are two examples to the south in Milltown townland (WM007-055----) and Rahangan townland (WM008-053----) indicating Anglo-Norman activity in the area.

12.7.2.4 The Post-Medieval Period

The Down Survey records that in 1641 the application area (both Bratty and Slewboy townlands) was held by Richard Nugent 1st Earl of Westmeath but by 1670 had come into the hands of Thomas Piggott and Mathew Locke (<http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/>). By the eighteenth century it had come into the hands of William Pollard of Kinturk Demesne who had it surveyed as part of his estate in 1786 by J.B. Scale (see Plate 12.8). Griffith's Primary Valuation of Ireland records that in 1847-64 the application area (Deerpark townland) was held William Pollard Uргуart, who was an economist and M.P. for Westmeath 1852-71, and leased to Matthew Mulligan (<http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation>). The Pollard family retained Kinturk Demesne until 1934 when it was to the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

12.7.3 BUILDINGS

12.7.3.1 Protected Structures

The Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027 Record of Protected Structures was examined as part of the baseline study for this chapter of the EIAR. The review established that there are no Protected Structures situated within the application area. There are two structures located in the study area, Lough Park House and Gateway (see below).

12.7.3.1.1 RPS No. 007-059 Lough Park House, Lough Park townland

Detached five-bay two-storey house, built c. 1790 with single-storey flanking wings to either side (north and south) and projecting single-bay porch to the centre of the main façade (west). Pitched natural slate roof with limestone eaves cornice, cast-iron rainwater goods and with rendered chimneystacks to either end. Roughcast rendered walls. Square-headed window openings having six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows and cut stone sills. Moulded

limestone surrounds to windows having alternated triangular and segmental headed pediments to ground floor openings and moulded limestone arch.

12.7.3.1.2 RPS No. 007-060 Lough Park House Gateway, Lough Park townland

Entrance gates to Lough Park House, erected c. 1820, comprising two pairs of ashlar limestone gate posts (on hexagonal plan) joined by curved sections of rendered wall having cast-iron railings over. Cast-iron double gates to centre. Located to the west of Lough Park House.

The closest structure to the application area Lough Park House Gateway is located 0.8 km to the north-east. The gateway and Lough park House are therefore both considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

12.7.3.2 Non-designated Structures

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which is maintained by the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was examined as part of the baseline study on the 4th of May 20201. The review established that there are no additional structures included in the NIAH situated within the application area or the study area.

12.7.3.3 Field Inspection

Fieldwork was carried out on the 7th of May 2021 to identify any additional upstanding non-designated structures in the vicinity of the proposed extraction area. This involved assessing all upstanding structures that are marked on the 1914 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping either within or within 300 m of the application area (see Figure 12-1). There is one such structure located in this area (see below).

12.7.3.3.1 Structure 1 Cottage, Drumman Townland

Stone cottage with slate roof with shed to south-east with corrugated roof. Poorly preserved and mostly overgrown. No special architectural or heritage interest (see Plate 12.1).

12.7.4 ARCHAEOLOGY

12.7.4.1 Archaeological Assessment

12.7.4.1.1 Recorded Monuments

Examination of the Record of Monuments and Places for Co. Westmeath indicated that there are no Recorded Monuments located within the application area (see Figure 12-1 and Appendix 12.1). There are several Recorded Monuments in the study area outside the application area (see below).

The closest Recorded Monument to the application externally is WM007-035----a Hilltop enclosure in Ballany townland. It is described in the Record of Monuments as:

Monument marked on Ordnance Survey Fair Plan map as 'Rahindoon or Turgesius' Fort and on the revised 1875 map as 'Turgesius' Fort'. This hilltop enclosure was reputedly the ninth century residence of Turgesius or Turgéis, a Norwegian who was described in the year 843 as the 'lord of the foreigners' (AFM, 467).

Situated on top of a prominent hill at the W end of a high prominent natural ridge near the W side of Lough Lene located c. 800 m to NNE. The SW side of the hill is almost cliff-like as to steepness and the outer edge of the inner bank is near its upper edge. The other sides of the hill are gentler. Magnificent views for miles around.

Monument consists of a large slightly uneven enclosure (diam. 50 m N-S; c. 55 m WNW-ESE) rising slightly from the perimeter towards the centre, bounded by a massive earth and stone bank with a narrow steep-sided shallow flat-bottomed rock-cut fosse and remains of a counterscarp bank at its outer foot. The crest of the inner bank has several small modern disturbance gaps. The fosse is visible from S-E-N-NNW. Natural rock outcrop is visible in its outer face on the ESE from SE-S-W-N. The outer bank is visible from NNE-N-NW. The entrance is represented on the NNW by a wide gap (Wth 3 m) in the inner bank and a causeway (Wth 2.1 m; L 7.5 m) across the fosse. The interior slopes from E-W and shows extensive traces of disturbance. A shallow fosse-like depression runs from ENE - WSW through the interior and a second similar depression runs at right angles to it just W of centre. These are presumably the remains of old drains and the four quadrants thus created show traces of old cultivation ridges. Outside the perimeter of the monument on the SE are the remains of quarrying activity.

This monument is located 0.58 km to the south-east of the application area and is considered too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

The remaining Recorded Monuments in the study area located at further distances from the application area and are considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

12.7.4.1.2 Undesignated Monuments

Examination of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which is maintained by the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the 4th of May 2021 indicated that there are no SMR sites in the application area. There is one SMR in the study area outside the application area. WM007-134---- is an earthwork enclosure in Deerpark townland. It is described in the Record of Monuments as:

WM007-134---- Deerpark Earthwork

Semi-circular shaped earthwork (approx. dims. 33 m E-W) transected at S by Gillardstown townland boundary running E-W depicted on 1837 ed. OS 6-inch map, may be the remains of an archaeological monument. This earthwork is now located inside modern coniferous forestry plantation.

This monument is located 0.6 km to the south-east of the application area and is considered too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

12.7.4.1.3 Cartographic Sources

Examination of the 1654 Down Survey map of the barony of Fore indicates that the study area was located in what then was the townlands of Bratty and Slewboy (Plate 12.8). A map of the Kinturk Demesne Estate in the National Library of Ireland (MS 21 F. 48 / (008)) that includes the application area that was prepared in 1786 by J.B. Scale was examined (Plate 12.9). This detailed early topographical survey records no monuments in the application area. The Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition six-inch maps and the first edition 25-inch maps of the area were also examined. There is a lime kiln indicated on the 1st edition six-inch map and a 'Gravel Pit' indicated on first edition 25-inch map in the northern part of the application area. The kiln does not appear on the later editions. It is located in the extracted part of the application area and has been removed. The analysis did not indicate any other previously unrecorded archaeological or cultural heritage sites in the application area or vicinity.

12.7.4.1.4 Place Name Evidence

The place names were extracted from the cartography in order to facilitate the search for structures and monuments and small finds, to help identify any unrecorded monuments or structures, to search for any published papers and documents related to the study area and to assist in the study of the historical development of the area. The English translations of the townland names of the study presented above below are based on Logainm.ie. The placenames refer mainly to proprietors, topographical features, and landcover. Deerpark refers to a parkland area for hunting deer. There are no references to any other cultural heritage material.

Ballany	Marsh town
Benisonlodge or Bratty	House of the Benison family or
Deerpark	Parkland area for hunting deer
Drumman	Ridge or hill

Gillardstown	Land of the Gillard family
Kinturk Demesne	Boar's head estate
Loughanavagh or Newpark	Lake of elm trees or new field
Loughpark	Field of the lake
Slieveboy	Yellow moore
Teevrevagh	Grey hillside
Townparks	Fields of a town

12.7.4.1.5 Artifacts

Examination of a number of standard corpus studies was carried out including: Irish battle axes Simpson 1990; An analysis of Irish early Bronze Age hoards containing copper or bronze objects O'Flaherty 1995; Hoards of the Irish Later Bronze Age Eogan 1983; La Tène in Ireland Raftery 1984; The Funerary Bowls and Vases of the Irish Bronze Age Ó Riordáin and Waddell 1993; The axes of the Early Bronze Age in Ireland Harbison 1969 and The Bronze Age burials of Ireland Waddell 1990. No finds from the study area were noted.

12.7.4.1.6 Archaeological investigations in the study area

The existing development (Planning Reg. No. 01/525) was the subject of an Environmental Impact Report carried out in 2001 by Pat Byrne Consultants that included a cultural heritage assessment (Chapter 11). The assessment found no evidence of archaeological material within the application site. The excavations bulletin at excavations.ie which is supported by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was examined to identify any licensed archaeological investigations carried out in the application area or the study area. The analysis indicated that there have been no licensed archaeological investigations carried out in the application area or the study area.

12.7.4.1.7 Westmeath Development Plan 2014-20

No sites of archaeological importance, National Monuments, or protected structures listed in the Westmeath Development Plan 2021-2027 are located within the proposed development area.

12.7.4.1.8 Aerial Photographs

Examination of the Ordnance Survey 1995, 2000 and 2005 imagery as well as Google earth imagery from 2014, 2016 and 2020, Bing imagery from 2011 and Apple Maps imagery from 2017 did not indicate any additional archaeological or cultural heritage sites in the application area.

12.7.4.1.9 Field Assessment

A field inspection was carried out on 7th of May 2021 to identify any previously unknown archaeological or cultural heritage sites. See Plate 12.2 for the numbered fieldwork areas.

12.7.4.1.9.1 Area 1

This is the area of existing permitted rock extraction along with the processing area and entrance. There was no visible indication of any cultural heritage material (see Plate 12.3).

12.7.4.1.9.2 Area 2

This is a semi-circular shaped area of stored soil to the west of the extraction area that is now populated with deciduous trees (see Plate 12.4).

12.7.4.1.9.3 Area 3

This is an elongated area of steeply south-west-sloping ground in the south-east of the application area that is heavily overgrown and not accessible (see Plate 12.5).

12.7.4.1.9.4 Area 4

This is a broadly oval-shaped south-east sloping area that has been stripped of all topsoil down to the top of the rock. The soil has been stored in a grass-over bund that encloses the area (see Plate 12.6).

12.7.4.1.9.5 Area 5

This is an elongated area of very steep north-east-sloping ground in the north-east of the application area that is heavily overgrown and not accessible (see Plate 12.7).



12.8 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following Impact Assessment matrix (Refer Table 12-1) provides an indication of the significance of potential effects arising during the life cycle of the development not accounting for any mitigation measures.

Table 12-1 Cultural Heritage - Impact Matrix			
'Do Nothing' Impacts	X		
Factors	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
Direct Impacts	X	X	X
Indirect Impacts	X	X	X
Cumulative Impacts	X	X	X
Residual Impacts	X	X	X
'Worst Case' Impacts	X	X	X

None/imperceptible: X; Slight: ●; Moderate: ●; Significant/Very significant: ●.
 Refer to Appendix 3 for definition of Significance

12.8.1 DO NOTHING IMPACTS

If the proposed development were not to proceed there would be no negative impact on the cultural heritage.

12.8.2 DIRECT IMPACTS

There will be no direct impacts on any known items of archaeology, cultural heritage or buildings of heritage or special architectural interest in the application area or the vicinity.

12.8.3 INDIRECT IMPACTS

There will be no indirect impacts on any known items of archaeology, cultural heritage or buildings of heritage or special architectural interest in the application area or the vicinity.

12.8.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

There will be no cumulative impacts on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource.

12.8.5 TRANSBOUNDARY IMPACTS

In view of the location (c. 50 km from the border with N. Ireland), nature, size and scale of the proposed development, it is expected that the impacts of the development would not have any transboundary effects on cultural heritage.

12.8.6 RESIDUAL IMPACTS

As a result of the proposed mitigation and enhancement measures incorporated in the design, no significant, adverse residual impacts on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource are predicted during the operational phase.

It is considered that following full restoration and closure of the site that there will be no significant, long-term, adverse impacts in terms of cultural heritage. The restored quarry will provide a more manageable environment than is currently the case, but with a change in land-use from the original agricultural use to mineral extraction to ultimately a future beneficial use as a wildlife amenity.

12.8.7 WORST CASE IMPACT

In the worst case scenario, the development might disturb previously unknown deposits or artefacts without preservation by record taking place in areas 3 and 5.



12.9 MITIGATION MEASURES

12.9.1 DIRECT IMPACTS

No direct impacts warranting specific mitigation were identified during the course of the cultural heritage assessment. Due to the possibility of the survival of previously unknown sub-surface archaeological deposits or finds within the application area, in areas 3 and 5, all topsoil-stripping in this area should be monitored by a qualified archaeologist.

12.9.2 INDIRECT IMPACTS

No indirect impacts warranting specific mitigation were identified during the course of the cultural heritage assessment.

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12.11 FIGURES

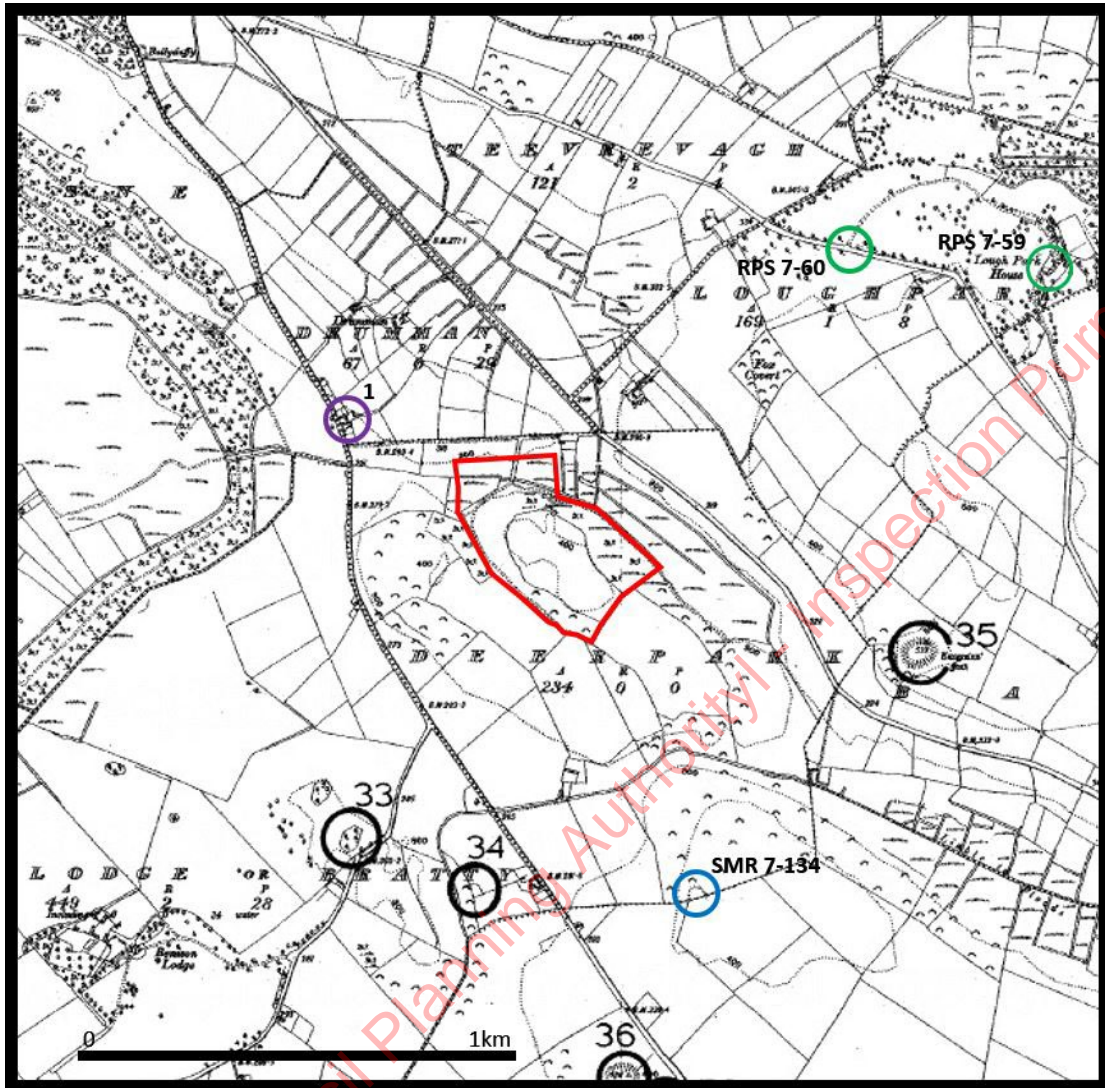


Figure 12.1 The study area indicated on the RMP Map of Westmeath Sheet No. 7.

The application area is indicated with the red line. The RMP sites are indicated with a black circles. The SMR with a blue circle, RPSs with green circles and the structures within 300 m of the application area with a purple circle.

12.12 PLATES



Plate 12.1 View of Structure 1 Looking Northeast.



Plate 12.2 The Numbered Fieldwork Areas Indicated on a 2016 Google Earth Aerial Image.



Plate 12.3 Panoramic View of Area 1 Looking South.



Plate 12.4 View of Area 2 Looking Northeast.



Plate 12.5 View of Area 3 Looking South.



Plate 12.6 View of Area 4 Looking Southeast.



Plate 12.7 View of Area 5 Looking East.

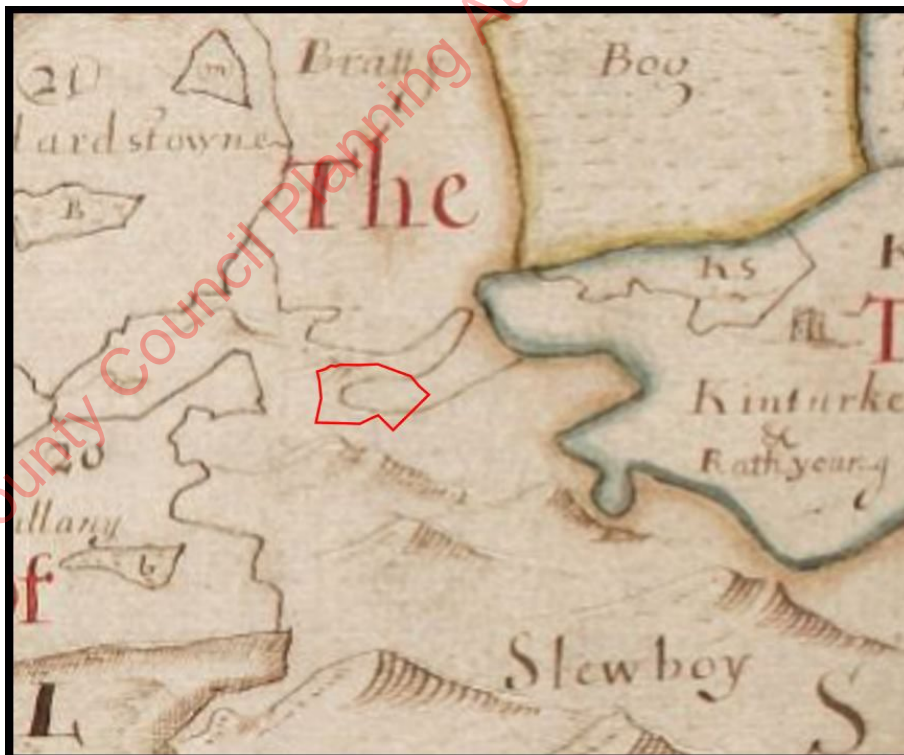


Plate 12.8 The Application Area (red line) Superimposed Approximately on the Down Survey 1654 Map of Barony of Fore.

Source <http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/>

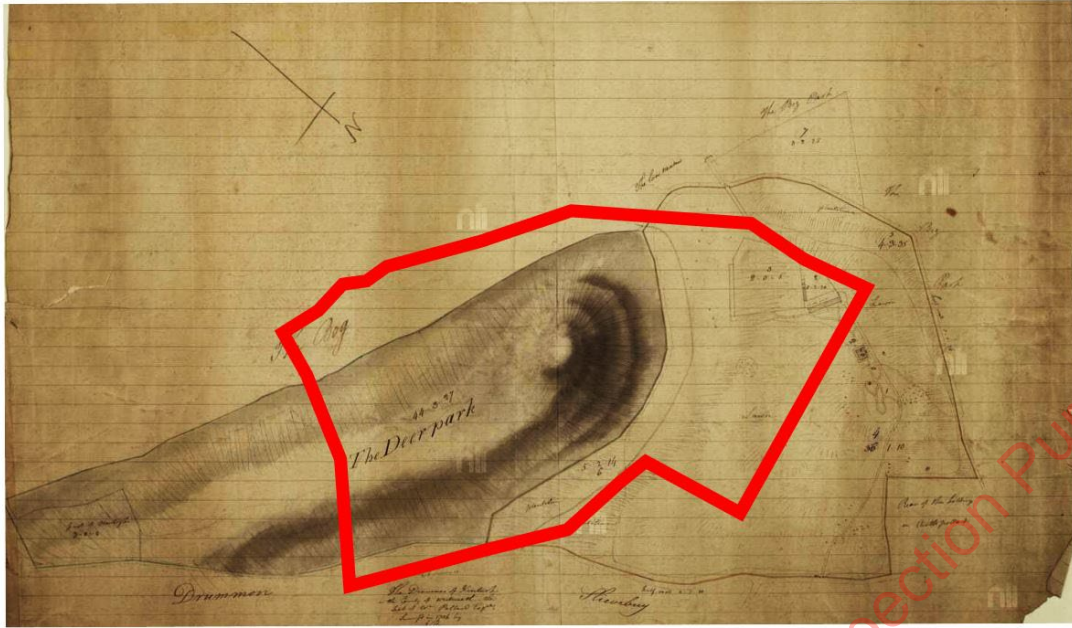


Plate 12.9 Map of the Demesne of Kinturk in the Barony of Fore and County of Westmeath the Seat of William Pollard.

Surveyed in 1786 by J.B. Scale 10 perches to an inch. NLI MS 21 F. 48 / (008). The application area is indicated by the red line.