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## INTRODUCTION

### Background

- 12.1 This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), commissioned by SLR Consulting Ireland on behalf of Kilsaran Concrete addresses the impacts on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the application site and the surrounding area at Ballinclare Quarry, near Kilbride, Co. Wicklow. The application site and study area are shown in Figure 12-1.
- 12.2 The proposed development at Ballinclare Quarry provides for the establishment and operation of a materials recovery / recycling facility and inert landfill facility on a site of 32.6 hectares and comprises three key elements
- a soil washing plant to win aggregate from imported soil and stone;
  - a construction and demolition (C&D) waste recycling facility to produce aggregate from construction and demolition waste (principally concrete); and
  - an inert engineered (i.e. lined) landfill to facilitate backfilling and restoration of the existing quarry void.
- 12.3 In essence, the development will provide for the importation, re-use, recovery and/or disposal of by-product materials and inert wastes generated by construction and development projects in Counties Wicklow, Dublin and Wexford as well as the backfilling and long-term restoration of the former quarry to native woodland habitat.
- 12.4 The proposed soil washing plant will be installed at the former concrete and asphalt production yard in the south-eastern corner of the quarry and will be capable of recovering sand and gravel aggregate from excess soil and stone (managed both as waste and non-waste by-product) imported from construction sites across the surrounding region.
- 12.5 The proposed construction and demolition (C&D) waste recovery facility will be established across the footprint of the existing paved area immediately to the west of the existing site access road. The principal wastes to be imported to the recovery facility and used to produce recycled aggregates will include concrete (ready-mixed, reinforced, blocks and/or pavement slabs), bricks and bituminous mixtures (hardened asphalt returns and road plannings). Most of these wastes will be sourced from off-site clearance and demolition projects across the surrounding region.
- 12.6 Any aggregates produced from waste materials at either the soil washing plant or the C&D waste recovery facility will be of construction grade and will comply with an engineering specification and the End of Waste criteria for recycled aggregates from construction and demolition waste which was recently published by the EPA.
- 12.7 It is proposed to backfill the existing quarry void to a final ground level of approximately 80mOD and to leave the upper rock face exposed for a height of up to 15m to facilitate continued nesting by peregrine falcons. Backfilling will be progressed by way of inert landfilling activity on an ongoing and progressive basis in discrete cells with an engineered (natural clay) liner at the base and sides. The final completed landform will substantially, though not entirely, re-establish the former landform that existed at the application site prior to commencement of historical quarrying activities.
- 12.8 As part of the proposed inert landfill development, suitable uncontaminated, undisturbed, natural soil by-product (i.e. non-waste) which conforms to an engineering specification will also be imported for re-use in the construction of the required basal and side liners.

- 12.9 Some uncontaminated topsoil waste and/or topsoil by-product will also be imported for use in the final restoration of the backfilled landform. Topsoil will be temporarily stockpiled at the inert landfill facility as required, pending its re-use as cover material.
- 12.10 The proposed development at Ballinclare Quarry will provide for the following:
- Installation and operation of a soil washing plant at the former concrete / asphalt yard to produce construction grade sand and gravel aggregate from imported excess soil and stone. The soil washing plant comprises a loading hopper, a number of soil screens in series with connecting conveyor systems, a primary wastewater treatment tank (thickener), a buffer tank holding sludge and recycled water, an elevated plate press and filter cake discharge area;
  - Construction of a close-sided industrial shed (portal frame structure with roof mounted solar panels) at the existing paved area to the west of the access road to house crushing and screening equipment and process / recycle inert C&D waste (principally solid / reinforced concrete, bricks, ceramics and solid bituminous waste mixtures);
  - Use of external paved and hardstanding areas surrounding the C&D waste processing shed for the external handling and storage of both unprocessed and processed C&D wastes;
  - Separation of any intermixed solid construction and demolition (C&D) wastes (principally metal, timber, PVC pipes and plastic) prior to its removal off-site to authorised waste disposal or recovery facilities;
  - Substantial backfilling of the existing quarry void to a maximum level of 80mOD through disposal of imported inert soil and stone waste and residual fines from the soil washing process and the use of non-waste soil by-product for engineering, capping and/or landscaping purposes
  - The progressive restoration of the completed landfill landform to long-term native woodland habitat;
  - Continued use of established site infrastructure and services including, site / weighbridge office, staff welfare facilities, surface water run-off and wastewater treatment systems, weighbridge, garage / workshop, wheelwash, hardstand areas, fuel and water storage tanks to service the proposed development;
  - Clearance of vegetation and felling of a number of mature trees to facilitate widening of the internal site access road and make provision for off-road queuing of inbound HGVs within the application site boundary;
  - Decommissioning of any remaining fixed plant and infrastructure associated with former rock extraction or concrete / asphalt production activities;
  - Off-site removal of any waste materials or bulky wastes associated with former quarrying or production activities;
  - Installation of a new weighbridge along the inbound lane of the quarry access road;
  - Installation of an additional wheelwash facility on the eastern side of the former concrete / asphalt yard;
  - Modification / upgrade of existing drainage channel along the site access road, Installation of silt trap and hydrocarbon interceptor to treat run-off and provision of additional pumping capacity to transfer run-off from existing surface water pond at site entrance to quarry sump
  - Installation of a silt trap and hydrocarbon interceptor at the proposed C&D waste recovery facility to treat run-off prior to being pumped to the soil wash plant or surface water ponds elsewhere on site.

- Installation of a sub-surface concrete wastewater holding tank;
- Construction and establishment of an on-site (passive) wetland treatment system and any associated drainage infrastructure to treat / polish water collected from the active backfilling / landfilling cells prior to its discharge off-site to the Ballinclare Stream;
- Re-use of an existing storage shed as a dedicated waste inspection and quarantine facility to inspect and store suspect waste consignments as required. Any waste which has been accepted at the facility and which is likely (on basis of visual inspection) or confirmed (on basis of compliance testing) to be non-compliant with waste acceptance criteria for the facility will be temporarily stored at this location pending results of further waste classification testing and a decision as to how and where they should ultimately be disposed of or recovered;
- Re-alignment, upgrading and ongoing maintenance of internal haul routes across the application site;
- Temporary stockpiling of topsoil pending re-use as cover material for final restoration of the inert landfill / backfilled quarry void;
- Implementation of a series of measures to enhance local biodiversity including the retention of habitats and features of biodiversity value (e.g. ponds, buildings), quarry face retention for nesting peregrine falcon, of an artificial sand martin colony, creation of roost space / deployment of bird boxes for bats, creation of habitat / erection of bird nest boxes for breeding / roosting birds and erection of fence along the site perimeter to include access points for mammals.
- Environmental monitoring of noise, dust, surface water and groundwater for the duration of the landfilling and restoration works and C&D waste recovery / recycling activities and for a short period thereafter;
- All ancillary site works, landscaping and perimeter fencing.

12.11 The overall area of lands in Kilsaran ownership is c.36 ha (89 acres), while the prospective planning application site covers approximately 32.6ha (78.3 acres). Permission for quarrying of rock at the quarry was previously granted under Planning Ref. 14/2118. The application site extends across all of the former quarry footprint and includes the former concrete / asphalt production area, a paved area to the west of the site access road, established site buildings and infrastructure and a network of settlement ponds in the south-western corner. It excludes a compound / yard area leased to Wicklow County Council in the north-western corner of the landholding. Permission for quarrying of rock at the quarry was previously granted under Planning Ref. 14/2118.

## Scope of Work / Methodology

12.12 This EIAR chapter is an assessment of the known or potential cultural heritage resource within a specified area around the application site and includes the information that may reasonably be required to reach a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the project on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment. The study complies with the requirements of Directive EIA 2014/52/EU and comprises 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, including architectural and archaeological aspects using an appropriate methodology (EPA 2002, 2003 and 2022).

12.13 The assessment consists of the following study stages:

- Baseline Studies; and,
- Assessment of the proposed development area.

12.14 The criteria and definitions for describing environmental effects set out below is drawn from the 2022 EPA Guidelines.

Quality of Effects	Positive A change which improves the quality of the environment.
	Neutral No effects or effects that are imperceptible, within normal bounds or variation or within the margin of forecasting error.
	Negative/adverse Effects A change which reduces the quality of the environment.
Significance of Effects	Imperceptible An effect capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.
	Not significant An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without noticeable consequences.
	Slight effects An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
	Moderate effects An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging trends.
	Significant effects An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	Very Significant effects An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters the majority of a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	Profound effects An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics
Describing Extent and Context of Effects	Extent Describe the size of the area, the number of sites, and the proportion of population affected by an effect.
	Context Describe whether the extent, duration, or frequency will conform or contrast with established (baseline) conditions.
Describing Probability of Effects	Likely effects The effects can reasonably be expected to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
	Unlikely effects The effects can reasonably be expected not to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
Describing Duration and Frequency of Effects	Momentary effects Effects lasting from seconds to minutes.
	Brief effects Effects lasting less than a day.

	Temporary effects Effects lasting less than a year.
	Short-term effects Effects lasting one to seven years.
	Medium-term effects Effects lasting seven to fifteen years.
	Long term-term effects Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years.
	Permanent effects Effects lasting over sixty years.
	Reversible effects Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration.
	Frequency of effects Describe how the effect will occur.
Describing Types of Effects	Indirect effects Impacts on the environment which are directly result of the project.
	Cumulative effects The addition of minor or significant effects, including effects of other projects, to create a larger more significant effect.
	'Do-Nothing Effects' The environment as it would be in the future should the project not go ahead.
	'Worst case' effects The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.
	Indeterminable effects When full consequences of change in the environment cannot be described.
	Irreversible effects When the character distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.
	Residual effects The degree of environmental change that will, occur after the proposed mitigation measures take effect.
	Synergistic effects Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents.

- 12.15 The study presented herein involved detailed investigation of the archaeological and historical background of the application site, the landholding and the surrounding area extending 1km from the proposed development boundary (refer to Figure 12-1). This area was examined using information from the Record of Monuments and Places of County Wicklow, the current Wicklow County Development Plan (2022-2028), lists of archaeological excavations and cartographic / documentary sources. A field assessment was carried out to identify and assess any known archaeological sites and previously unrecorded features and portable finds within the application site.



- 12.16 An impact assessment and mitigation strategy has been prepared. An impact assessment is undertaken to identify potential adverse impacts that the proposed development may have on the cultural resource, while a mitigation strategy is designed to avoid, reduce or offset any potential adverse impacts which may be identified.
- 12.17 The application site is located in the townlands of Carrigmore and Ballinclare, Co. Wicklow, on OS Six Inch Sheet Ref. Nos. 30 and 31, approximately 2 km to the north-west of the settlement of Kilbride and immediately west of the M11 motorway and former N11 National Primary Road (now R772 Regional Road).

### Consultations / Consultees

- 12.18 In the course of producing this assessment, informal consultations were carried out with the National Monuments Section (NMS) of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH).
- 12.19 Extracts from the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Wicklow are presented on a map of the local area around the application site in Figure 12-1. RMP sites included on the Records of Monuments and Places statutory mapping are identified by black circles. The application site is delineated by a red line.
- 12.20 As this development constitutes Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID), a formal consultation exercise was also undertaken with a number of prescribed bodies including An Chomhairle Éalaíon, Fáilte Éireann and The Heritage Council. Consultations were also held with nearby residents and members of the general public in August and September 2024. No specific concerns were identified by consultees or members of the public in respect of cultural heritage during the formal consultations process.

### Contributors / Author(s)

- 12.21 The assessment was prepared by Dr. Charles Mount who is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland 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.

### Limitations / Difficulties Encountered

- 12.22 No difficulties were encountered during the desktop study, field survey or in the preparation of this assessment / EIAR chapter.

## REGULATORY BACKGROUND

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

### Legislation

- 12.24 No specific Irish legislation exists governing cultural heritage assessment.

### Planning Policy and Development Control

- 12.25 The current Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 is the statutory plan detailing the development objectives / policies of the local planning authority. The plan includes objectives and policies, relevant to this assessment, i.e. regarding built heritage.

### Built Heritage

- 12.26 There are several objectives in respect of Built Heritage set out in Section 8.5 of the current development plan - these are reproduced below:



### Archaeology Objectives

CPO 8.1 To secure the preservation of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994, and of sites, features and objects of archaeological interest generally. In the development management process, there will be a presumption of favour of preservation in-situ or, as a minimum, preservation by record. In securing such preservation, the Planning Authority will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

CPO 8.2 No development in the vicinity of a feature included in the Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) or any other site of archaeological interest will be permitted which seriously detracts from the setting of the feature or which is seriously injurious to its cultural or educational value.

CPO 8.3 Any development that may, due to its size, location or nature, have implications for archaeological heritage (including both sites and areas of archaeological potential / significance as identified in Schedules 08.01 & 08.02 and Maps 8.01 & 8.02 of this plan) shall be subject to an archaeological assessment.

CPO 8.4 To require archaeological assessment for all developments with the potential to impact on the archaeological heritage of riverine, intertidal or sub tidal environments.

CPO 8.5 To facilitate new or improved public access to and erection of appropriate interpretive signage at National Monuments, archaeological sites, castles, sites of historic interest and archaeological landscapes in State or private ownership, as identified in Schedule 08.02 and Map 8.02 of this plan, in co-operation with landowners.

CPO 8.6 To protect the integrity of Baltinglass Hills archaeological landscape including identified monuments and their wider setting by resisting development that may adversely impact upon the significance and understanding of this important landscape.

CPO 8.7 To support the inscription of Glendalough to Ireland's tentative UNESCO World Heritage Site list and promote a conservation led approach to facilitating visitor access and enjoyment of this internationally significant landscape.

CPO 8.8 To protect and promote the characteristics of historic towns in County Wicklow identified as zones of archaeological potential in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), ensuring that cognisance is given in relevant development proposals to retaining existing street layout, historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these derive from medieval or earlier origins.

CPO 8.9 To protect and promote the conservation of historic burial grounds (those that are generally no longer in use but which may contain sites and features on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and/or RPS) and support greater public access to these where possible

### Architectural Heritage Objectives

CPO 8.10 To protect, conserve and manage the built heritage of Wicklow and to encourage sensitive and sustainable development to ensure its preservation for future generations.

CPO 8.11 To support the work of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) in collecting data relating to the architectural heritage, including the historic gardens and designed landscapes of the County, and in the making of this information widely accessible to the public and property owners.

CPO 8.12 To have regard to 'Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 2011) in the assessment of proposals affecting architectural heritage.

### **Record of Protected Structures Objectives**

CPO 8.13 To ensure the protection of all structures, items and features contained in the Record of Protected Structures.

CPO 8.14 To positively consider proposals to alter or change the use of protected structures so as to render them viable for modern use, subject to architectural heritage assessment and to demonstration by a suitably qualified Conservation Architect / or other relevant expertise that the structure, character, appearance and setting will not be adversely affected and suitable design, materials and construction methods will be utilised.

CPO 8.15 All development works on or at the sites of protected structures, including any site works necessary, shall be carried out using best heritage practice for the protection and preservation of those aspects or features of the structures / site that render it worthy of protection.

CPO 8.16 To support the re-introduction of traditional features on protected structures where there is evidence that such features (e.g. window styles, finishes etc) previously existed.

CPO 8.17 To strongly resist the demolition of protected structures or features of special interest unless it can be demonstrated that exceptional circumstances exist. All such cases will be subject to full heritage impact assessment and mitigation.

### **Other Structures & Vernacular Architecture Objectives**

CPO 8.18 To seek (through the development management process) the retention, conservation, appropriate repair and reuse of vernacular buildings and features such as traditional dwellings and outbuildings, historic shopfronts, thatched roofs and historic features such as stonewalls and milestones. The demolition of vernacular buildings will be discouraged.

CPO 8.19 Development proposals affecting vernacular buildings and structures will be required to submit a detailed, true measured survey, photographic records and written analysis as part of the planning application process.

CPO 8.20 Where an item or a structure (or any feature of a structure) is considered to be of heritage merit (where not identified in the RPS3), the Planning Authority reserves the right to refuse permission to remove or alter that structure / item, in the interests of the protection of the County's architectural heritage.

### **Architectural Conservation Area Objectives**

CPO 8.21 Within Architectural Conservation Areas, all those buildings, spaces, archaeological sites, trees, street furniture, views and other aspects of the environment which form an essential part of their character, as set out in their character appraisals, shall be considered for protection. The repair and refurbishment of existing buildings within the ACA will be favoured over demolition/new build in so far as practicable.

CPO 8.22 The design of any development in Architectural Conservation Areas, including any changes of use of an existing building, should preserve and / or enhance the character and appearance of the Architectural Conservation Area as a whole. Schemes for the conservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of Architectural Conservation Areas will be promoted. In consideration of applications for new buildings,

alterations and extensions affecting Architectural Conservation Areas, the following principles will apply:

- Proposals will only be considered where they positively enhance the character of the ACA.
- The siting of new buildings should, where appropriate retain the existing street building line.
- The mass of the new building should be in scale and harmony with the adjoining buildings, and the area as a whole, and the proportions of its parts should relate to each other, and to the adjoining buildings.
- Architectural details on buildings of high architectural value should be retained wherever possible. Original features, which are important to a building's character such as window type, materials, detailing, chimneys, entrances and boundary walls, both within and outside the architectural conservation area, should be retained

CPO 8.23 To consider the designation of further ACAs for towns and villages in County Wicklow, when preparing future local plans, and as deemed appropriate.

CPO 8.24 To establish, where it is considered appropriate, "Areas of Special Planning Control", if it is considered that all or part of an Architectural Conservation Area is of special importance to the civic life or the architectural, historical, cultural or social character of a town or village in which it is situated.

### Historical and Cultural Heritage Objectives

CPO 8.25 To protect and facilitate the conservation of structures, sites and objects which are part of the County's distinct local historical and cultural heritage, whether or not such structures, sites and objects are included on the RPS.

CPO 8.26 To facilitate access to and appreciation of areas of historical and cultural heritage, through the development of appropriate trails and heritage interpretation, in association with local stakeholders and site landowners, having regard to the public safety issues associated with such sites.

CPO 8.27 To facilitate future community initiatives to increase access to and appreciation of railway heritage, through preserving the routes of former lines free from development.

CPO 8.28 Any road or bridge improvement works along the Military Road shall be designed and constructed with due regard to the history and notable features of the road (in particular its original support structures, route and alignment), insofar as is possible and reasonable given the existing transport function of the road.

### Guidelines

- 12.27 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**, published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2022.

### Significant Risks

- 12.28 No known significant risks to human health or to the natural environment were identified in the preparation of this cultural heritage assessment.

## RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

### Study Area

- 12.29 The overall study area is that identified in Figure 12-1 of this assessment and extends for approximately 1km around the application site boundary.

## Baseline Study Methodology

- 12.30 The initial desk-based study is essentially 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 Wicklow
  - The Sites and Monuments Record
  - Available aerial photography
  - Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area
  - Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-28
  - The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

## The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)

- 12.31 The RMP 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 RMP files contain information of documentary sources, and records of field inspections where these have taken place.
- 12.32 Although the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 was signed into law by the President on October 13, 2023, the Act had not been fully commenced at the time this assessment was prepared. This assessment is therefore primarily based on the relevant provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014, which were still in force at the time the assessment was completed. Several recorded monuments were noted within the study area. Available information in respect of these sites is presented in Appendix 12-1 of this EIAR Chapter.

## Cartographic Sources

- 12.33 These sources include the 1st and 2nd Editions of the Ordnance Survey (OS) six-inch maps. Documentary sources provide more general historical and archaeological background.

## The Wicklow County Development Plan

- 12.34 The current Wicklow CDP identifies those structures which are listed for preservation.

## Field Inspection

- 12.35 A field inspection of the application site at Ballinclare Quarry was previously undertaken on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014 to determine the location and extent of, and to ascertain the significance of, any archaeological sites and to also identify any previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds. A follow-up visit was made on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024 for the purposes of this study / assessment.

# RECEIVING HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

## The Landscape

- 12.36 The application site is located in the townlands of Carrigmore and Ballinclare, Co. Wicklow, on OS Six Inch Sheets Nos. 30 and 31, about 2 km to the north-west of Kilbride and immediately west of the M11 motorway.
- 12.37 The proposed development would principally involve soil washing and C&D waste recovery activities and the associated backfilling and restoration of the existing quarry void

(through development and operation of a lined landfill for intake of inert soil and stone waste) across an application site extending to c.32.6ha.

## Historical and Archaeological Background

- 12.38 The following is a brief summation of the main types of sites and monuments that are known across County Wicklow, along with the historical development of the study area. It is intended as a guide to the types of sites and monuments that might be encountered within the study area.
- 12.39 The application site is situated in the townlands of Carrigmore and Ballinclare, the civil parish of Dunganstown and the barony of Arklow.

### The Prehistoric Period

- 12.40 There is limited evidence for prehistoric activity in the study area in the form of a burnt mound dating to the Bronze Age which was excavated along the route of the N11 Road Improvement Scheme (the present-day M11 motorway) in Ballinameesda townland (WI031-102) and another in Coolacork townland (SMR WI031-103-). Other features of possible prehistoric date are a burnt spread in Ballinclare townland (SMR WI031-108-), a pit in Breagura townland (E3244), and a burnt spread in Breagura townland (E3245).

### The Early Medieval Period

- 12.41 In the early medieval period the study area, which is in the parish of Dunganstown, formed part of the cantred of Wykinglow (MacCotter 2008, 171-2). From about the sixth century the area was occupied by the Uí Garrchon the principal sub-sept of the Dál Messin Corb.
- 12.42 Early medieval settlement is often indicated by enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts. There are ringforts known from the study area in Kilnamannagh More townland (RMP WI030-008) as well as Westaston Demesne (RMPWI030-016) and Ballinameesda Upper (RMP WI031-004 and RMP WI031-013). There is an enclosure in Kilnamannagh Beg (RMP WI031-003) indicating early medieval settlement in the study area (see Fig. 12-1).

### The Medieval Period

- 12.43 By the later medieval period the study area was under the control of the Uí Faelain sept. The parish of Dunganstown, which was part of the cantred of Wicklow, was granted about 1176 by Strongbow, Lord of Leinster, to Maurice Fitzgerald but there is no evidence of Anglo-Norman settlement in the study area (Mills and McEnery 1916, 145).
- 12.44 From 1272 the Wicklow region was disturbed by conflict between the O'Byrne and O'Toole septs and the Anglo-Normans. In 1274 and 1276 Anglo-Norman armies were defeated at Glenmalure to the west of the study area (Otway-Ruthven 1980, 202). There was further conflict in the fourteenth century. In 1315 the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles burned the town of Arklow to the south-east of the study area. Any Anglo-Norman influence in the study area had probably ceased by this period.
- 12.45 The process of sub-infeudation 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 is a raised earth mound, usually artificial and topped with a wooden or stone structure. There are no Mottes known from the study area or vicinity.
- 12.46 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 also 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 known from the study area. There is a moated site (RMP WI031-002002-) in Ballynagran townland to the north-west of the study area.

- 12.47 The fifteenth century was characterised by the decline of Anglo-Norman power in Ireland. Part of the response to this was the construction of masonry tower houses which sprang up after King Henry VI introduced a building subsidy of £10 in 1429 (Sweetman 1999, 137). There are no tower houses known from the study area. The remains of Macdermot's castle (RMP WI031-002001-), probably a tower house, are situated within the moated site in Ballynagran townland north-west of the study area.

### The Post-Medieval Period

- 12.48 The Down Survey records that in 1641 Carrigmore townland was held by Brian McPhelim Byrne but by 1670 had passed to Captain Hugh MacGill. Ballinclare townland was held by Hugh Montgomery Earl of Mount Alexander and he retained it in 1670 (downsurvey.tcd.ie). Griffith's valuation of Dunganstown parish indicates that by the mid-nineteenth century Ballinclare townland was held by Thomas Grant and Edward Keogh.

## BUILDINGS

### Protected Structures

- 12.49 The Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-28 was examined as part of the baseline study for this EIAR Chapter. The review established that there are no structures within the application site listed as Protected Structures. There are two structures situated within the study area however which are identified as Protected Structures (see Figure 12-1).

No.	30-18
NIAH No.	16403006
Structure type	Country House
Townland	Westaston Demesne
Designation	Protected Structure
Data source	Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None. This structure is situated 0.91km south-west of the application site and is considered too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed development.
Significance and quality of impact	None
Description	An important, late-17th Century house now in ruins. The façade is of five bays and two storey with a pedimented breakfront, advanced, two-bay wings. Bows were added to the wings in the early 19th Century. The walls are lime rendered with raised quoins and the roof, where it survives has a timber cornice with massive timber brackets and dormer windows.

No.	31-106
NIAH No.	-
Structure type	Country House
Townland	Coolacork
Designation	Protected Structure
Data source	Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None. This structure is situated 0.96km north-east of the application site and is considered too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed development.
Significance and quality of impact	None
Description	A late-18th Century, five-bay, two-storey house with lime-rendered walls, sash windows with Georgian panes and a round-headed doorcase with leaded fanlight. This house has been added to an earlier house at the rear.

### National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

- 12.50 The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which is maintained by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht was examined as part of the baseline study for this Chapter of the EIAR. There are no structures listed in the Inventory within the application site. There is one additional structure listed in the NIAH within the study (refer to Figure 12-1).

NIAH No.	16403005
Structure type	Gate Lodge
Townland	Coolacork
Designation	Westaston Demesne
Data source	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage
Perceived significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None. This structure is situated 1.3km south-west of the application site and is considered too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed development.
Significance and quality of impact	None
Description	Detached three-bay two-storey former gate lodge, built c.1840. The building is constructed in rubble fieldstone with brick block and start dressings. There is a lean-to addition to the rear (north) elevation. The replacement timber door is set within a flat-headed opening. Window openings are also flat-headed and have replacement multiple pane timber casement frames. The pitched roof has wide overhanging eaves. Chimneystacks are in ashlar granite with slightly corbelled caps and no pots. The house is set close to the roadside behind a rubble stone wall and a modest replacement gate.



## Non-Designated Structure Field Inspection

- 12.51 On the 11th of September 2014 fieldwork was carried out to identify any additional non-designated special architectural interest in the vicinity of the application site. This involved assessing all upstanding structures that are marked on the 1910 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping within 100m of the application site (refer to Figure 12-1). There are two upstanding structures in this area. The review concluded there are no buildings of special architectural interest within 300m of the application site (see below).

No.	1
Structure type	Farm cottage
Townland	Carrigmore
Designation	None
Data source	1910 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping
Perceived significance:	None
Type of impact:	None
Significance and quality of impact	None
Description	Six-bay single storey cottage with corrugated roof and single chimney. All original windows replaced with uPVC. Cottage and single outbuilding are visible on the OS 1st edition map.
Photos:	See Plate 12-1

No.	2
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Carrigmore
Designation	None
Data source	1910 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping
Perceived significance:	None
Type of impact:	None
Significance and quality of impact	None
Description	Four-bay single storey cottage with slate roof and concrete porch surround. Building is indicated on the OS 1st edition map.
Photos:	See Plate 12-2

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### Archaeological Assessment

#### National Monuments

- 12.52 Examination of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-28 indicates that there are no National Monuments or Major Sites of Archaeological Importance in Wicklow in State Ownership (O) or Guardianship (G), included in Schedule 10.02 present at the application

site or within the study area. There are no areas of archaeological potential and significance (as indicated in Schedule 10.01 of the CDP) within the study area.

### Recorded Monuments

- 12.53 Examination of the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for County Wicklow indicates that there are no Recorded Monuments situated within the application site.
- 12.54 Externally the closest Recorded Monument to the application site is a Church Site in Kilmanoge townland (WI030-014, see Figure 12-1 and Appendix 12-A). This site is described in the RMP as:
- WI030-014 Kilmanoge Church Site*
- Situated on a marked E/NE-facing slope overlooking a stream (125m to the SE). The area is now in tillage. There is no trace of the church dedicated to St Winnoc. Described in the OS Letters as a triangular enclosure (diam. 18.6m) with a well in NE angle, and part of a millstone or quern. This site has been levelled and there is no visible trace of the church at ground level.
- The site of the monument is located 0.175km west of the application site and is considered too far distant to be impacted by the proposed development.
- 12.55 The remaining Recorded Monuments in the study area are at a greater distance from the application site and are considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed development.

### Sites and Monuments Record

- 12.56 Examination of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) maintained by the Dept. of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019 indicated that there are no SMRs included within the application site.
- 12.57 There are six SMR sites included in the study area. The closest monument to the application site, the site of a burnt mound in Ballinameesda townland (WI031-102) was located 0.39km to the south-east of the application site, along the route of the N11 Road Improvement Scheme and is now paved over by the M11 motorway. This monument was preserved by record as part of the motorway project and no longer survives. The remaining monuments in the SMR are all considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed development.

### Cartographic Sources

- 12.58 The Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition 6-inch maps and the 1st edition 25-inch maps of the area were examined. The analysis did not indicate any additional archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material in the application area of vicinity.

### Place-Name Evidence

- 12.59 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 place names were input to the Placenames Database of Ireland at [www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) to establish their historical origin and/or significance

Ballard Upper	High town upper division
Ballinclare	Townland of the plain
Ballygannon Beg	Townland of O'Gownan
Ballinameesda Upper	Townland of the Missetts upper division
Ballinameesda Lower	Townland of the Missetts lower division

Breagura	False surety
Carrigmore	Great rock
Coolacork	Corner or angle of the oats
Kilmacurra East	Mac Curra's church east division
Kilmacurra West	Mac Curra's church west division
Kilmanoge	Winnoc's church
Kilnamannagh More	Wood of the monks large division
Kilnamannagh Beg	Wood of the monks small division
Westaston Demesne	The seat of Thomas Aston

- 12.60 Kilmacurra, Mac Curra's church, refers to a church site (RMP WI030-016---), that existed on the site of Westaston House to the south-west of the application site. Kilmanoge, Winnoc's church, refers to a church site (RMP WI030-014) to west of the application site. The remaining placenames all refer to natural topographical features and the names of landholders / proprietors.

### Archaeological Investigations

- 12.61 Examination of the Excavations Bulletin at [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) indicated that there have been three archaeological investigations carried out in the study area, details of which are presented in the paragraphs below.
- 12.62 Ballinclare, Co. Wicklow Burnt spread E4054  
Gill McLoughlin Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd  
A small burnt spread was excavated at Ballinclare, Co. Wicklow, from 23 to 27 November 2009 as part of the N11 Rathnew–Arklow Road Improvement Scheme. This site was located in an area that was previously inaccessible during the main bulk of excavations that were carried out on the scheme in 2006.  
The burnt spread was situated on the edge of a stream and adjacent to an area of outcropping bedrock. The spread measured 7.2m by 5.5m by 0.2m deep and consisted of charcoal-rich soil and a moderate quantity of heat-affected stone. There were no cut features associated with this spread.
- 12.63 Breagura Pit A022/058, E3244  
Ellen O'Carroll, Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd  
This excavation was undertaken on behalf of Wicklow County Council and the National Roads Authority in advance of the construction of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement Scheme.  
Excavations uncovered a single pit measuring 1.05m by 0.9m in diameter and 0.11m in depth. It had a single fill and there were no finds to suggest a date or function. A post-medieval field drain was excavated to the south-east of the pit.
- 12.64 Breagura Burnt-spread activity A022/059, E3245  
Goorik Dehaene Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd  
The site, in Breagura, c. 7.4km south-west of Wicklow town, comprised two pits and a truncated burnt spread. The archaeological investigation was undertaken in September 2006 on behalf of the National Roads Authority on the route of the N11 Rathnew to Arklow Road Improvement Scheme. The site, measuring 20m by 20m, was located in marshy ground at the base of a north-facing slope.  
The site comprised a burnt spread, a pit and a possible post-hole. The burnt spread comprised two small, shallow burnt spreads in the west of the site. The pit comprised an

irregular shallow cut with a single fill. The possible post-hole was in the centre of the site. An east–west-aligned field drain was located in the north of the site.

No artefacts were recovered.

- 12.65 A fourth excavation is noted in the Archaeological Survey database WI031-102 (see Appendix 12-B). These investigations uncovered a burnt spread, a pit, burnt spread activity and a burnt mound dating to the Bronze Age.

### County Development Plan

- 12.66 No sites of archaeological importance, National Monuments, or protected structures listed in the Wicklow Development Plan 2022-228 are located within the proposed development area.

### Aerial Photographs

- 12.67 Examination of the Ordnance Survey 1995, 1996-2000, 2001-2005, 2011-2013 and 2013-2018 imagery, as well as Google Earth imagery from 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 did not identify or indicate any additional potential cultural heritage sites or features within the application site.

### Other Sources

- 12.68 Several standard artefact corpus studies were also consulted, and no other artefacts were identified (Mount 1997, Harbison 1969, Simpson 1990, Eogan 1965, 1983, 2000, Kavanagh 1991, O'Flaherty 1995, Raftery 1984).

### Field Assessment

- 12.69 A field inspection of the application site was previously undertaken on 11th of September 2014 and again on 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. This involved an inspection of all the lands within the application site. The location of the fieldwork inspection areas referenced below are numbered on Plate 12-3.
- 12.70 Area 1 is the former extraction area and aggregate processing / production area from which all topsoil has been removed that is proposed to become inert landfill development. This area will also contain a proposed soil washing plant. There was no visible indication of any cultural heritage material at this location (Plates 12-4 and 12-5).
- 12.71 Area 2 is the site of the proposed construction and demolition (C&D) waste recovery facility will be established across an existing concrete paved area immediately west of the existing site access road. This area has already been developed and there was no visible indication of any cultural heritage material (Plate 12-6).
- 12.72 Area 3 is a trapezoidal-shaped field of poor-quality damp pasture where construction of an on-site (passive) wetland treatment system is proposed. There was no visible indication of any cultural heritage material at this location (Plate 12-7).
- 12.73 Area 4 is an area of overburden storage which has become overgrown. There was no visible indication of any cultural heritage material at this location (Plate 12-8).

## ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

### Direct Impacts

- 12.74 No direct impacts on cultural heritage or archaeology have been identified in the course of the assessment.

### Indirect Impacts

- 12.75 No indirect impacts on cultural heritage have been identified in the course of the assessment.

### Interactions with Other Impacts

- 12.76 No interaction with other impacts has been identified.

### Do Nothing Impacts

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

### Worst Case Impact

- 12.78 In worst case scenario, any soil-stripping within Area 3 where there is still unstripped topsoil may impact previously unknown archaeological deposits or artefacts without preservation by record taking place.

## RECOMMENDATIONS / PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

### Direct Impacts

- 12.79 Due to the possibility of the survival of previously unknown sub-surface archaeological deposits or finds within Area 3, any soil-stripping associated with future development in these areas should be archaeologically monitored at the outset of any planned future development works.

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## PLATES





**Plate 12-1: View of Structure 1 looking west**



**Plate 12-2: View of Structure 2 looking north**





**Plate 12-3: Application site (Red) and Numbered Fieldwork Areas**



**Plate 12-4: Panoramic view of Area 1 north looking northeast**



**Plate 12-5: Panoramic view of Area 1 south looking northwest**





**Plate 12-6: Panoramic view of Area 2 looking southwest**



**Plate 12-7: Panoramic view of Area 3 looking northwest**



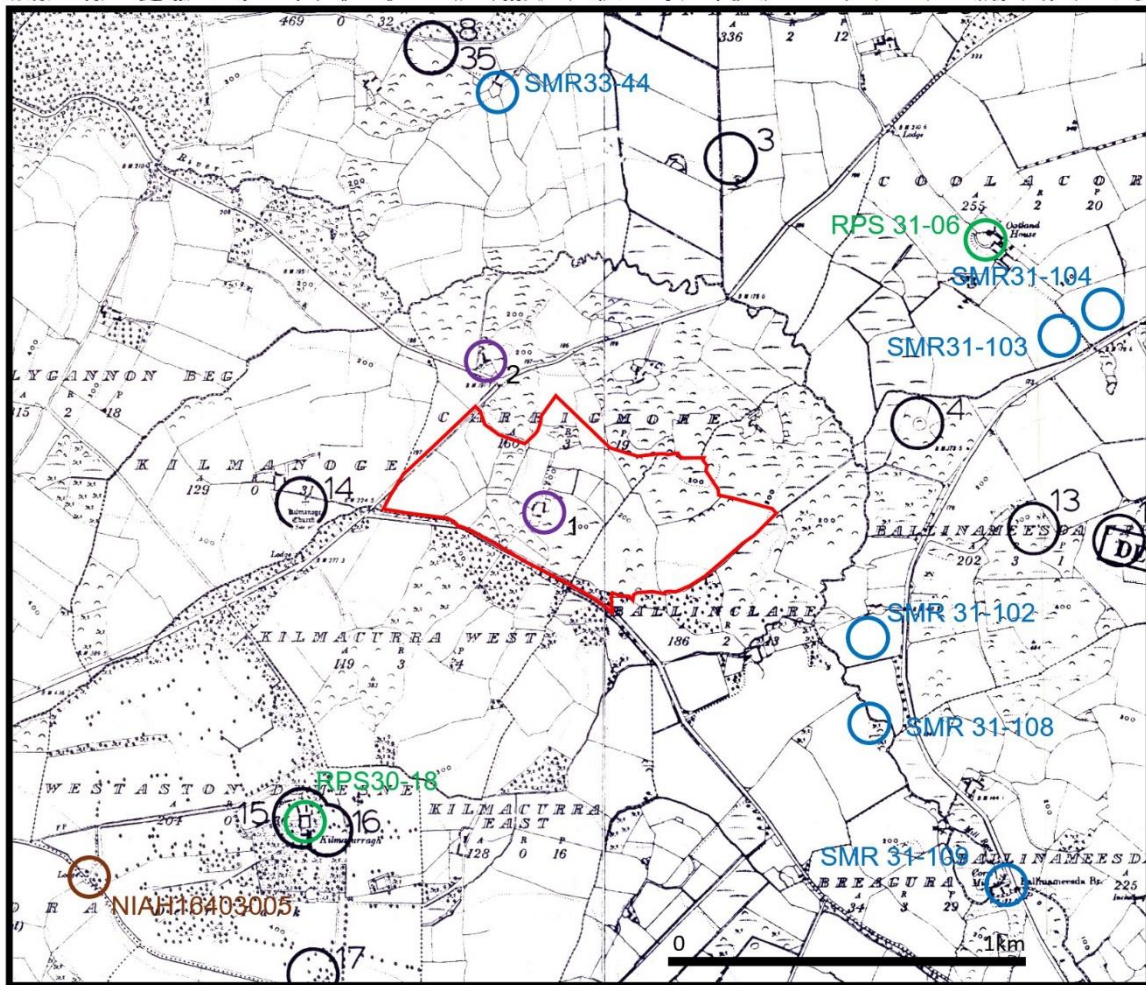
**Plate 12-8: View of Area 4 looking southwest**



## FIGURES



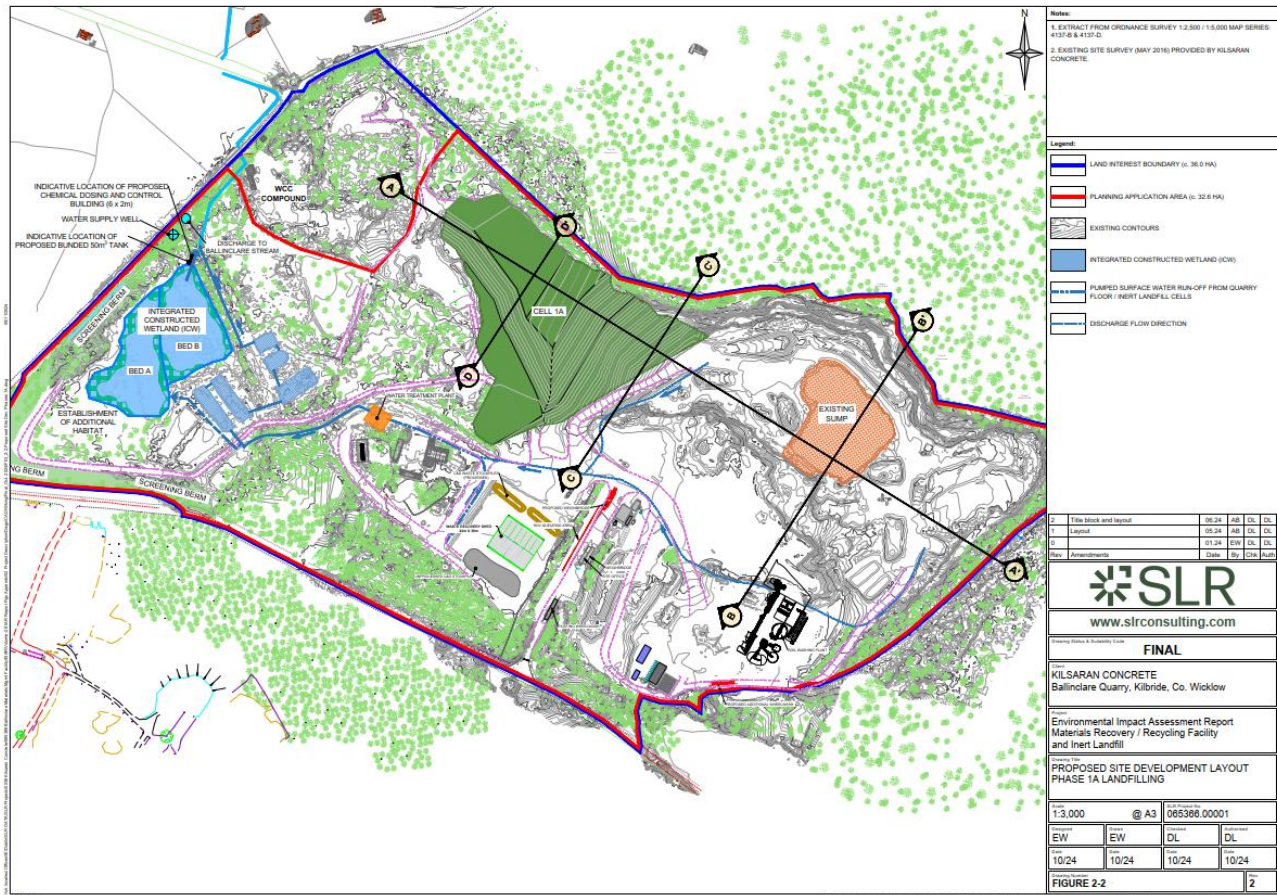




**Figure 12-1**  
The study area indicated on the Statutory RMP map for Co. Wicklow.

The application site is indicated with a red line. RMP sites are indicated with black circles. SMR sites with blue circles. Protected Structures with green circles, the NIAH structure with a brown circle and other structures with purple.





**Figure 12-2**  
**Proposed Development**



## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix 12-A**

#### **Sites in the Records of Monuments and Places (RMP)**

### **Appendix 12-B**

#### **Sites in the Site and Monuments Record (SMR)**





## APPENDIX 12-A

### SITES IN THE RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES

#### WI030-008 Kilnamannagh More Ringfort

Situated on a gentle S-facing slope overlooking and overlooked by steep slopes. Oval area (dims. 39m NE-SW; 29.5m NW-SE) bisected by a field bank and ditch extending NW-SE. The site is defined by a bank of earth and stone (Wth 3.4-6m; 0.6-1.4m) from SE-S-NW and by an abrupt scarp (H 0.8m) at the NE beyond the intersecting field boundary. In the interior, very close to the bank at W, there is a sunken rectangular hut foundation (dims. 7m x 4m) and there is a low earthen bank (L 12m) in the NE sector. There is a possible entrance (Wth 2.5m) at the SE. A disused trackway skirts the site along the NE perimeter. Said locally to be the site of a church (WI030-035---).

#### WI030-008001- Kilnamannagh More Hut

Located in the interior of ringfort (WI030-008----) very close to the bank at W, on a gentle S-facing slope overlooking and overlooked by steep slopes. A sunken rectangular hut foundation (dims. 7m x 4m; D 1-1.4m) with a low earthen bank on the SE side.

#### WI030-014 Kilmanoge Church Site

Situated on a marked E/NE-facing slope overlooking a stream (125m to the SE). The area is now in tillage. There is no trace of the church dedicated to St Winnoc. Described in the OS Letters as a triangular enclosure (diam. 18.6m) with a well in NE angle, and part of a millstone or quern.

#### WI030-015 Westaston Demesne House

Situated on a gentle E-facing slope in parkland. Two-storey five-bay house built in 1697 by Thomas Acton with additional wings added in 1848. It is now derelict, with most of its interior features removed.

#### WI030-016 Westaston Demesne Church and Graveyard Site

Situated on a gentle E-facing slope in parkland. A reference in the Crede Mihi to a rector at Kilmacurragh (in this townland) prior to 1275 would suggest an early church site. A circular enclosure labelled 'Site of Grave Yard' on the 1838 OS 6-inch map immediately to the east of Westaston House was levelled in 1836.

#### WI030-017 Westaston Demesne Ringfort

Situated on a marked N-facing slope in parkland. Circular enclosure (diam. 51m) defined at the N by a bank (Wth 5.5m; H 0.2m), at the E by a scarp (H 0.8m) and at the S by a collapsed bank (Wth 10m) and fosse (Wth 4.6m; D 0.3-0.4m). There is a possible entrance at the S (Wth c. 5m), but no visible internal features. A step at the N (downslope) fans outwards and could represent a ramp leading into the interior. A line of large trees was planted through the centre of the site (extending N-S).

#### WI030-035 Kilnamannagh More Church Site

Situated on a gentle S-facing slope. A ringfort (WI030-008----) here is said locally to be the site of a church. Not visible at ground level.

#### WI031-003 Kilnamannagh Beg Enclosure

Situated on a gentle S-facing slope in pasture. Rectangular area (dims. 72m E-W; 50m N-S) defined at the N by a low bank (Wth 13m; ext. H 0.5m) while another bank at the S abuts onto the edge of a large marl pit. On the 1838 OS 6-inch map the S half of the site is shown defined by the field boundary. Within the rectangular area there is an oval depression (diam. 46m E-W; D 1m).

**WI031-004 Ballinameesda Upper Ringfort**

Situated on level poorly drained ground in forestry. Oval area (dims. 37.6m NW-SE; 34.5m NE-SW) defined by an earthen bank (Wth 2.8-3.5m; int. H 0.5-0.8m) and external fosse (Wth 1.8-2.3m; D 0.8m). There is a gap in the bank (Wth 1.3m) at the NNE but no corresponding causeway. The only features in the slightly domed interior consist of rock outcrops.

**WI031-013 Ballinameesda Upper Ringfort**

Situated on a gentle NE-facing slope at the foot of a steep slope in forestry. Shown on 1838 OS 6-inch map as circular enclosure (diam. c. 30m). Poorly preserved arc of earth and stone bank along an old field boundary at the SW (L 7m; Wth 2m; H 0.5m) is all that remains.

## APPENDIX 12-B

### SITES IN THE SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

#### **WI030-044 Kilnamannagh More Ritual Site Holy Well**

Possible holy well described by Ronan (1928, 150) as at Kilmanoge (properly, Kill-na-mban-og), i.e., the Church of the Virgins (WI030-035----) is completely erased. And so also is the burying ground. But the triangular enclosure, about 60 yds. Each side, with old thorns and elders, has been always held in veneration and has never been cultivated. There is a neglected well near the N.E. angle, and the upper stone of a small broken quern lies nearby. A well indicated on the OS 25-inch map appears to be the neglected well mentioned by Ronan.

#### **WI031-014- Ballinameesda Upper Delisted**

This record was formerly classed as 'enclosure' the SMR (1986). When inspected by ASI in 1990 it was found to be a natural feature and was 'Delisted' from the RMP (1995).

#### **WI031-102- Ballinameesda Upper Burnt Mound**

This is the record for the burnt spread excavated by Yvonne Whitty (E3246) on the N11 road improvement scheme. No trough was associated with the spread of burnt material but a pit had been cut into its upper layers. Two radiocarbon dates from the burnt material dated the feature to the Early Bronze Age.

#### **WI031-103- Coolacork Burnt Mound**

This is the record for the burnt mound excavated by Yvonne Whitty (E3247) on the N11 road improvement scheme. There were three phases of activity on the site. The earliest comprised a stone working area and a wooden-lined trough. A radiocarbon date placed this phase of activity in the early Bronze Age. Twenty sherds of early Neolithic Carinated Bowl were recovered from the burnt material associated with this phase but these were regarded as having been disturbed from their original location. The second phase comprised a trough and associated burnt spread that cut through the earlier material and this in turn was cut by a third trough, representing the third phase of activity at the site.

#### **WI031-104- Coolacork Burnt Mound**

This is the record for the burnt mound excavated by Yvonne Whitty (E3248) on the N11 road improvement scheme. The burnt mound sealed a trough and two gullies and two pits that were related but not sealed by the burnt material. One retouched flint flake recovered from the feature dated it to the Bronze Age.

#### **WI031-108- Ballinclare Burnt Spread**

This is the record for a small spread of burnt mound material excavated by Gill McLoughlin (E4054) on the N11 road improvement scheme. The spread measured 9m x 5.2m and was 0.2m in depth. A radiocarbon date places the feature in the early Bronze Age.

#### **WI031-109- Ballinameesda Lower Fulacht Fia**

No information available in SMR file.