

10. Cultural Heritage

10.1. Introduction

This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been prepared to accompany a 37L Application for restoration of a disused quarry to agricultural use through import of clean soil and stone (referred to herein as the 'Proposed Project'). The lands on which the Proposed Project is located (referred to as the 'Application Site' or 'Site') are at the townlands of Coolsickin or Quinsborough¹, near the town of Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. The Application Site is located within the administrative boundary of Kildare County Council, (KCC).

This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been prepared to assess the potential significant effects on the cultural, archaeological and architectural heritage resource, which may occur as a result of the Proposed Project activities.

The Site is located in the townland of Coolsickin or Quinsborough, which is situated approximately 2.7 km north of Monasterevin and approximately 9 km southwest of Kildare Town. The north of the Site comprises a disused quarry and associated working areas and stockpiles that resulted from historical extraction activities between the years 2000-2006. The south of the Site includes an extant private access road and agricultural lands given over to tillage.

The assessment was prepared by Dr. Vidhu Gandhi who has twenty years of cultural heritage assessment experience. She holds a BArch degree, a Masters degree in Sustainable Development and a Ph.D. specialising in cultural heritage and planning.

10.2. Technical Scope

The technical scope of this assessment is to consider the potential impacts and effects on cultural heritage that could result because of the proposed quarry restoration activities that would be undertaken at the Site. This assessment considers the potential sources of change resulting from Proposed Project activities detailed in the project description (Chapter 2 of this EIAR).

The impact assessment considers direct impacts of restoration activities upon heritage assets, and also considers cumulative and combined effects. Informed by the results of the impact assessment, appropriate and proportionate mitigation measures are proposed, with residual effects subsequently assessed.

For the purposes of the assessment, heritage assets include physical features either created by, or that have undergone modification from human activity, as well as placenames, historical events, language, memories and other intangible cultural

¹ Also known as 'Coolsickin–Quinsborough'

considerations. For the purposes of this study the various types of heritage asset are divided into archaeological heritage, architectural heritage, and cultural heritage, encompassing objects of beauty, cultural, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value.

10.3. Geographical and Temporal Scope

The geographical study area for the assessment covers the EIA boundary (identified in Figure 10-1) and with a study area of 1 km around the EIA boundary. In the context of this EIAR, the EIA boundary contains the Application Site. The Application Site comprises lands which form the historical quarry area and associated working areas, and the access/private access road and proposed location of temporary facilities.

The study area of 1km from the quarry was chosen to capture sufficient baseline data to robustly assess direct impacts from changes within the setting of known heritage assets. It also establishes the local archaeological and historical context, providing an understanding of the historical development of the quarry and the surrounding landscape.



Figure 10-1 - EIA Study Area and Heritage Assets

The temporal scope of this assessment covers the construction phase (comprising enabling works and infilling works) and the restoration phase. The combined duration of these phases is predicted to 13 years. Detailed description of the Proposed project phasing is presented in Section 2.7. of Chapter 2 (Project Description).

10.4. Project Description Summary

The Proposed Project consists of the restoration of lands through the import of approximately 720,000 tonnes clean soil and stone as by-product (non-waste) from development sites to infill a disused historical quarry and raise ground levels to tie in with ground levels of surrounding land.

Restoration of the lands will be to agricultural grassland, an artificial waterbody, and a hedgerow habitat with the lands returned to their pre-extraction agricultural use.

The proposed duration of infilling is 10 years depending on market conditions for the anticipated acceptance of clean soil and stone, and a further 3 years for the completion of final restoration activities.

The Application Site is located in the townland of Coolsickin or Quinsborough, Co Kildare. The Application Site is accessed by a privately-owned access road connecting to a local road (L7049).

The following temporary facilities will be installed and maintained during the life of the Proposed Project:

- office and fully serviced welfare facilities;
- weighbridge and associated portacabin;
- closed-system wheel wash;
- 6 no. parking bays;
- 2 no. waste inspection bays and 1 no. bunded waste quarantine area;
- hardstanding area (vehicle movement and storage); and,
- surface water drainage infrastructure from hard standing and discharge to ground, including 2 no. interceptors and 2 no. soakaways.
- security features, including security gates and fencing.
- Power supply. It is intended that approval will be sought for a connection to the ESB Network for the office and fully serviced welfare facilities. Diesel generators will be used to power mobile lighting, if required.

The Proposed Project site entrance and private access road will be upgraded and realigned. These will be retained following to completion of the Proposed Project.

A full project description is provided in Chapter 2 of this EIAR.

10.5. Policy and Legislation Context

10.5.1. Legislation

The following national legislation and regulations are in place for the protection and recording of cultural heritage:

- Planning and Development Act 2000;
- National Monuments Act, 1930–2004;
- Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023;
- The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act, 1999;
- Heritage Act 1995;
- National Cultural Institutions Act 1997;
- National Monuments (Exhibition of Record of Monuments) Regulations 1994; and,
- The Kildare County Development Plan 2023–2029.

10.5.2. Relevant Policies and Plans

The County Kildare Development Plan 2023–2029 (KCC CDP) 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., with regard to cultural heritage.

The KCC CDP aims to protect, conserve and manage the archaeological and architectural heritage of the county and to encourage sensitive sustainable development so as to ensure its survival and maintenance for future generations.

10.5.2.1. Cultural Heritage

Chapter 11 of the KCC CDP sets out the policies on cultural heritage within the county. The Council recognises the importance of identifying, valuing and safeguarding the archaeological and architectural heritage of Kildare.

The following policies are relevant to the assessment:

Archaeology Resource

The following policy, objectives, and actions are set out in Section 11.10 of the KCC CDP:

Policy AH P2 Protect and enhance archaeological sites, monuments and where appropriate and following detailed assessment, their setting, including those that are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places or newly discovered archaeological sites and/or subsurface and underwater archaeological remains.

Objective AH 02 Manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of County Kildare, avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest and secures the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest, including underwater cultural heritage. The Council will favour preservation in – situ in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principles for the Protection

of Archaeological Heritage (1999) and the Council will seek and have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Objective AH O3 In co-operation with the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage require archaeological impact assessment, surveys, test excavation and/or monitoring and/or underwater archaeological impact assessments for planning applications in areas of archaeological importance and where a development proposal is likely to impact upon in-situ archaeological monuments, their setting and archaeological deposits, based on recommendations of a suitably qualified archaeologist and the Council will seek and have regard to the advice and recommendations of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Objective AH O4 Ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing and to ensure that such proposed developments are subject to an archaeological assessment prepared by a suitably qualified archaeologist. Such an assessment will seek to ensure that the development can be sited and designed in such a way as to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant interest including previously unknown sites, features, objects and areas of underwater archaeological heritage.

Objective AH O5 Require the preservation of the context, amenity, visual integrity and connection of the setting of archaeological monuments. As a general principle, views to and from archaeological monuments shall not be obscured by inappropriate development. Where appropriate, archaeological visual impact assessments will be required to demonstrate the continued preservation of an archaeological monument's siting and context.

Objective AH O6 Secure the preservation in-situ or by record of:

- the archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places as established under section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994
- any sites and features of historical and archaeological interest including underwater cultural heritage and protected wrecks

10.5.2.2. Architectural Heritage

The following policy, objectives and actions are set out in Section 11.15 of the KCC CDP:

Policy AH P6 Protect, conserve and manage the archaeological and architectural heritage of the county and to encourage sensitive sustainable development in order to ensure its survival, protection and maintenance for future generations.

Objective AH O20 Conserve and protect buildings, structures and sites contained on the Record of Protected Structures of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest.

Objective AH O21 Protect the curtilage of protected structures or proposed protected structures and to refuse planning permission for inappropriate development that would adversely impact on the setting, curtilage, or attendant grounds of a protected structure, cause loss of or damage to the special character of the protected structure and/or any structures of architectural heritage value within its curtilage. Any proposed development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds must demonstrate that it is part of an overall strategy for the future conservation of the entire built heritage complex and contributes positively to that aim.

Objective AH O32 Ensure that new development will not adversely impact on the setting of a protected structure or obscure established views of its principal elevations.

Objective AH O43 Ensure that national guidelines and the principles of conservation best practice are followed in assessing the significance of a Protected Structure and in considering the impact of proposed development on the character and special interest of the structure, its curtilage, demesne and setting.

Objective AH O45 Support the implementation of the National Policy on Architecture, 'Places for People' prepared by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

10.5.3. Relevant Guidance

The assessment has been produced in accordance with the following professional standards and guidance:

- ClfA 2020, Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment;
- ClfA 2020, Standards and Guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment;
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999, Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage;
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2022, Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports;
- National Roads Authority (NRA) (no publication date), Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes; and,
- National Roads Authority (NRA) (no publication date), Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes.

10.5.4. Information Sources

The area was examined using information from:

- Relevant Kildare County Development Plans 1999 and 2005-2011;
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the tentative list of candidate sites;
- National Monuments in State Care, a list available by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;

- Potential National Monuments in the ownership of a Local Authority, derived from religious sites in the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD);
- Sites subject to Preservation Orders, a list available from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Walled towns, information derived from <https://irishwalledtownsnetwork.ie>;
- Register of Historic Monuments (RHM);
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP);
- Sites and Monuments Record Zones of Notification www.archaeology.ie;
- Architectural Conservation Areas, information from the KCC CDP;
- Protected Structures from the KCC CDP;
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) from www.buildingsofireland.ie;
- Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens from the NIAH Garden Survey;
- Database of Irish Excavation Reports from www.excavations.ie;
- Cartographic sources including 1st edition OS 6 Inch maps (1826–1841), 2nd edition OS 25-inch maps (1841-1952), and 3rd edition OS 6-inch maps (1916–1926);
- Aerial photographs; and
- Documentary sources.

10.6. Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

Cultural significance lies in the importance of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This may be archaeological, architectural, cultural, artistic, historic, traditional, aesthetic, scientific or social. The determination of a heritage assets cultural significance, or value, is based on legal status and/or professional judgement.

This assessment has been produced in accordance with national and local legislation and policy, as well as best practice guidance. The impact assessment methodology aligns with EPA guidelines (EPA, 2022) and has been adapted from the advice provided by the National Roads Authority (NRA), in their Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes and Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes. These guidelines can be equally applied to other development schemes.

The assessment has been completed using a phased qualitative assessment methodology, as outlined here:

- Cultural heritage assets with the potential to be affected by the Proposed Project are identified and ascribed a cultural significance value;
- The ‘magnitude’ of any effects resulting from the Proposed Project upon the identified receptors are established, ranging from ‘no change’ to ‘major’ (assuming no mitigation is in place);
- A comparison of the magnitude of effect and receptor cultural significance is used to calculate the significance of effect;
- Where relevant, the mitigation strategy used is described, with the significance of effect re-calculated (assuming that mitigation is in place) to ascertain the residual effects.

Effects relating to cultural heritage are considered here to be those that result in an immediate, physical impact to an asset, such as ground disturbance, as well as impacts through changes within the setting of a heritage asset.

Table 10-1 identifies factors which are appropriate to consider during the assessment of heritage assets, with the adoption of five ratings for cultural significance: very high, high, medium, low, and negligible.

Table 10-1 - Criteria for Assessing the Cultural Significance of Heritage Assets

Value	Example
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites); and National Monuments of acknowledged international importance.
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Monuments that are in the ownership or guardianship of the State, or in the ownership of a local authority; Heritage assets that are listed within the RMP and are the subject of Preservation Orders; Heritage assets that are listed within the RMP and are deemed to be of national importance; Protected Structures; Architectural Conservation Areas containing nationally important buildings/structures; Historic Parks and Designed Landscapes within the NIAH Garden Survey deemed to be of national importance; and Walled towns.
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage assets that are listed within the RMP and are deemed to be of regional importance; Structures that are contained within the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) and are deemed to be of regional importance; Architectural Conservation Areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character; Historic Parks and Designed Landscapes within the NIAH Garden Survey deemed to be of regional importance; and Newly identified heritage assets that are deemed to be of regional importance.
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage assets that are listed within the RMP that have been compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations; Heritage assets that are listed within the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and are deemed to be of local importance; Structures that are contained within the NIAH and are deemed to be of local importance;

Value	Example
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Parks and Designed Landscapes within the NIAH Garden Survey deemed to be of local importance; and Newly identified heritage assets that are deemed to be of local importance.
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage assets (RMP, SMR or newly identified) with very little or no surviving archaeological interest; Artefact find spots (where the artefacts are no longer in situ and where their provenance is uncertain); and Poorly preserved examples of particular types of minor historic landscape features (e.g. quarries and gravel pits, agricultural features, etc).

The criteria for assessing the magnitude of impact from the proposed works on heritage assets is shown in **Table 10-2**.

Table 10-2 - Criteria for Assessing the Magnitude of Impact on Heritage Assets

Magnitude	Adverse	Beneficial
Major	<p>Loss of most or all key archaeological materials or key historic building elements such that the significance of the heritage asset is totally altered.</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to setting such as extreme visual effects, gross change of noise or change to sound quality, or fundamental changes to use or access.</p>	<p>Preservation of a heritage asset in situ where it would otherwise be completely or almost lost.</p> <p>Changes that appreciably enhance the cultural significance of a heritage asset and how it is understood, appreciated, and experienced.</p>
Moderate	<p>Changes to many key archaeological materials or key historic building elements, such that the significance of the heritage asset is clearly modified.</p> <p>Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the heritage asset such as visual change to many key aspects or views, noticeable differences in noise or sound quality, or considerable changes to use or access.</p>	<p>Changes to important elements of a heritage asset's fabric or setting, resulting in its cultural significance being preserved (where this would otherwise be lost) or restored.</p> <p>Changes that improve the way in which the heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.</p>
Minor	<p>Changes to key archaeological materials or key historic building elements, such that the significance</p>	<p>Changes that result in elements of a heritage asset's fabric or setting</p>

Magnitude	Adverse	Beneficial
	<p>of the heritage asset is slightly altered.</p> <p>Slight changes to setting such as slight visual changes to few key aspects or views, limited changes to noise levels or sound quality, or slight changes to use or access.</p>	<p>detracting from its cultural significance being removed.</p> <p>Changes that result in a slight improvement in the way a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.</p>
Negligible	<p>Changes to archaeological materials or historic buildings elements such that alterations to the significance of the heritage asset are very minor.</p> <p>Very minor changes to setting such as virtually unchanged visual effects, very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality, or very slight changes to use or access.</p>	<p>Very minor changes that result in elements of a heritage asset's fabric or setting detracting from its cultural significance being removed.</p> <p>Very minor changes that result in a slight improvement in the way a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.</p>
No Change	Changes to fabric or setting that leave significance unchanged.	

The terms shown in the matrix below have been used to define the significance of the effects identified and apply to both beneficial and adverse effects.

For the purpose of this assessment, significance of effects of Moderate or greater are potentially significant and are highlighted in bold in **Table 10-3**.

Table 10-3 - Significance of Effect

Cultural Significance	Magnitude of Impact					
		Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	No Change
	Very High	Very Large	Large or Very Large	Moderate or Large	Slight	Neutral
	High	Large or Very Large	Moderate or Large	Moderate or Slight	Slight	Neutral
	Medium	Moderate or Large	Moderate	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral
	Low	Slight or Moderate	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral
	Negligible	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral	Neutral

10.7. Baseline Conditions

10.7.1. Introduction

The archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage assets that lie within the quarry and the 1 km study area are detailed in Table 10-4 below and are shown in Figure 10-1. Each entry in the inventory has a heritage asset (HA) reference number which is used to identify it within the assessment and on Figure 10-1.

10.7.2. Information Sources

The area was examined using information from:

- Relevant Kildare County Development Plans 1999 and 2005-2011;
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the tentative list of candidate sites;
- National Monuments in State Care, a list available by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Potential National Monuments in the ownership of a Local Authority, derived from religious sites in the Archaeological Survey Database (ASD);
- Sites subject to Preservation Orders, a list available from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;
- Walled towns, information derived from <https://irishwalledtownsnetwork.ie>;
- Register of Historic Monuments (RHM);
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP);
- Sites and Monuments Record Zones of Notification www.archaeology.ie;
- Architectural Conservation Areas, information from the KCC CDP;
- Protected Structures from the KCC CDP;

- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) from www.buildingsofireland.ie;
- Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens from the NIAH Garden Survey;
- Database of Irish Excavation Reports from www.excavations.ie;
- Cartographic sources including 1st edition OS 6 Inch maps (1826–1841), 2nd edition OS 25-inch maps (1841-1952), and 3rd edition OS 6-inch maps (1916–1926);
- Aerial photographs; and
- Documentary sources.

10.7.3. Cultural Heritage Background

10.7.3.1. Geology

The underlying geological formations comprise a bedrock geology of Allenwood Formation, which is described as consisting of pale-grey generally massive shelf limestones and their dolomitised equivalents. The Allenwood Formation is Carboniferous in age. The superficial geological deposits underlying the Site are composed of gravels derived from Limestones and till derived from Limestones.

10.7.3.2. Walkover Survey

Site visits were conducted by WSP representatives during 2024 to inspect the Site and record general Site observations. These were not specific to cultural heritage as the Site has been quarried and there was no potential for observations related to unknown heritage assets.

10.7.3.3. Previous Assessments

Historical land use of the Application Site was considered in the Section 261A Quarry Assessment (KCC 2012) using a desktop assessment of historical maps and aerial images. However, KCC records do not indicate if a site-specific archaeology, architecture and cultural heritage assessment has been carried out for the Application.

10.7.3.4. Archaeological Investigations

Examination of the excavations i.e. database of Irish excavation reports indicated that there have been no licensed or unrecorded archaeological investigations carried out in the study area.

10.7.4. Baseline Summary and Inventory of Heritage Assets

There are no known heritage assets within the Site extents. There are 11 heritage assets within the 1km study area, consisting of:

- four archaeological heritage assets listed in the RMP;
- six architectural heritage assets listed within the NIAH; and
- one newly identified non-designated heritage asset.

Table 10-4 provides details of the heritage assets that form the baseline for the assessment.

Table 10-4 - Inventory of Heritage Assets

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
HA1	RMP: KD021-016	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Recorded Monument	Enclosure: Situated in grassland, Quinsborough House 160m to the west, and townland boundary with Coolatogher 130m to east. Cropmark of a circular-shaped area (approx. diam. 45m) defined by a single ditch are visible on ESRI aerial imagery. No surface remains visible.
HA2	RMP: LA005-003	Inchacooly	Recorded Monument	Mound: Roughly oval flat-topped mound (max. dims. c. 42m north-south, c. 28m East-West, max. H c. 3.5m) situated in low lying area on west bank of the Black River. Parts of north and west sides quarried away. Defined by shallow fosse (Wth c. 2.5m, D 0.5m) on all but the river side, and a slight external bank from southeast- south southwest.
HA3	NIAH: 11902105: Small Wonder	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	House: Detached three-bay single-storey lobby entry thatched house with dormer attic, extant 1837, on a rectangular plan. A house identified as an important component of the vernacular heritage of County Kildare by such attributes as the alignment perpendicular to the road; the compact rectilinear lobby entry plan form; the construction in unrefined local fieldstone displaying a feint battered silhouette; the disproportionate bias of solid to void in the massing; and the high-pitched roof showing an oat straw thatch finish. Having been

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				well maintained, the form and massing survive intact together with substantial quantities of the original or replicated fabric, thus upholding the character or integrity of a house forming part of a self-contained group alongside an opposing house (see 11902106) with the resulting ensemble making a pleasing visual statement in a rural street scene.
HA4	NIAH: 11902106: Canal Cottage	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	<p>House: Detached four-bay single-storey direct entry thatched house, extant 1837, on a rectangular plan with single-bay single-storey projecting windbreak.</p> <p>A house identified as an integral component of the vernacular heritage of County Kildare by such attributes as the rectilinear direct entry plan form; the construction in unrefined local fieldstone displaying a pronounced battered silhouette; the disproportionate bias of solid to void in the massing; and the high-pitched roof showing an oat straw thatch finish. Having been well maintained, the form and massing survive intact together with quantities of the original fabric: however, the introduction of replacement fittings to most of the openings has not had a beneficial impact on the character or integrity of a house forming part of a self-contained group alongside an opposing house (see 11902105) with the resulting ensemble making a</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				pleasing visual statement in a rural street scene.
HA5	NIAH: 11902104: Macartney's Bridge and Locks	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 13/11/2002	<p>Bridge and Locks: Single-arch dressed stone hump back road bridge over canal, dated 1784, with dressed stone voussoirs, keystone and coping to parapet wall. Canal lock, c.1785, to north comprising sections of stone ashlar retaining walls with stone bollards and timber lock gates over incorporating integral pedestrian footbridge.</p> <p>Macartneys Bridge (and Lock) is a fine stone bridge that forms an imposing feature on the Grand Canal (Athy Branch) and is one of a group of bridges on the section of that canal that passes through County Kildare. The construction of the arch that has retained its original shape is of technical and engineering merit. The bridge (and sections of canal retaining walls) exhibits good quality stone masonry and fine, crisp joints. The bridge and lock group is of considerable historical and social significance as a reminder of the canal network development in Ireland, which brought about many technical advances and encouraged the development of commercial activity in the late eighteenth century.</p>
HA6	11902103: Ballykelly Malthouse	Millfarm (Monasterevin Ed)	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	<p>Mill (water): Detached eight-bay seven-storey double-pile rubble stone mill, dated 1801, with four-bay seven-storey side elevation to north having four-bay three-storey lean-to projecting bay.</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				Ballykelly Malthouse, a large complex in good condition, retains much of its original appearance and character and is a good example of an early nineteenth-century industrial building in the region. The primary elevations, composed of a massive wall masses pierced with small openings, reveal the utilitarian nature of the building that was required to be cool and damp proof. The mill is of considerable historical and social importance as the focal point for local agricultural activities and a centre of employment in the past, and the building continues this function at present. The evidence of a former mill race to the site is of technical interest. The mill is a prominent landmark from the roadside nearby and dominates its surroundings. Original materials remain in situ, including the traditional stone construction and timber sash fenestration to the range to south.
HA7	11902102	Ballykelly, Kildare	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	<p>Farm house: Detached six-bay single-storey lobby entry thatched farmhouse, extant 1837, on a T-shaped plan; two-bay (single-bay deep) single-storey lean-to return (east). Now disused.</p> <p>A farmhouse identified as an important component of the vernacular heritage of County Kildare by such attributes as the alignment perpendicular to the road; the lobby entry plan form;</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				the construction in unrefined local fieldstone displaying a feint battered silhouette; the disproportionate bias of solid to void in the massing; and the high pitched roof showing an oat straw thatch finish: meanwhile, aspects of the composition clearly illustrate the continued linear development of the farmhouse in the later nineteenth century. A period of unoccupancy notwithstanding, the form and massing survive intact together with substantial quantities of the original fabric, both to the exterior and to the interior, thus upholding the character or integrity of the composition. Furthermore, adjacent limewashed outbuildings (----) continue to contribute positively to the group and setting values of a self-contained ensemble making a pleasing visual statement in a rural street scene.
HA8	NIAH: 11902114	Ballykelly, Kildare	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 05/02/2003	<p>Water pump: Freestanding cast-iron water hydrant, c.1880, comprising fluted shaft with lion mask spout and moulded necking having handle with ball finial. Now disused with capping now missing. Set back from line of road on gravel verge.</p> <p>This water hydrant is of some historical and technical interest, dating to a period before mains water supply when a communal source of clean drinking water was deemed sufficient. The survival of the water hydrant in its original location is of</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				importance - elsewhere removed and re-instated as ornamental features, the example at Hybla or Ballyneage survives as a reminder of early cast-iron. The water hydrant is attractively sited just off the line of the road and is of artistic importance, having been conceived as an aesthetic, as well as functional, piece.
HA9	RMP: KD021-011	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Recorded Monument	Enclosure: Visible on an aerial photograph (GSI N 414-5) as the cropmark of a small, circular enclosure. In open, level, well-drained, improved pasture. The cropmark was not visible at ground level in 1986 (SMR file).
HA10	RMP: KD021-003	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Recorded Monument	Enclosure: Visible on a 1971 aerial photograph (CUCAP BGH 71) as the cropmark of a small circular enclosure, apparently defined by a fosse. In open, level, well-drained, improved pastureland. No visible surface trace survived in 1986 (SMR file).
HA11	N/A	The Barrow Way	Non-designated Asset	<p>The Barrow Way is a tow path along the River Barrow. It is a popular walking route and is also used by cyclists.</p> <p>The route is 120km long. It starts in Robertstown, Co. Kildare following the Barrow Line to Athy where it joins the River Barrow tow path and goes all the way to St. Mullins in south Carlow. The Barrow Way passes through the towns of Rathangan, Monasterevin, Athy, Carlow, Leighlinbridge, Muine Bheag, Goresbridge, Borris and</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				Graiguenamanagh. Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland

10.7.5. Development of Application Site from 7000 BC to 2025

The following is a brief summation of the archaeological and historical development of the study area and the main types of heritage assets that are known from the surrounding landscape. The EIAR study area is situated in the Barony of West Offaly and the parish of Lackagh.

10.7.5.1. Prehistoric Period (7000 BC – AD 500)

The study area and the wider landscape appear to have been used for burials during prehistory. There are mounds at Inchacooly (HA2 – RMP LA005-003) which fall within the study area, and at Mountrice (RMP KD021-007), which may be remains of prehistoric burial monuments. There are two other burials known from the wider area, in Mountrice (RMP KD021-005----) and a possible barrow at Inchacooly (RMP LA005-002). The presence of funerary activity in the area suggests that the Site may have been part of a ritual landscape rather than a settlement location during this period.

10.7.5.2. Early Medieval Period (AD 500 – 1100)

In the early medieval period (500 AD-1170 AD) the study area formed part of the Kingdom of Leinster which was ruled by 68 Kings from various inter-related families from the fifth century AD, commencing with Bressal Belach (died c.436 AD) and ceasing with Diarmait Mac Murchade who died in 1171. Settlement in the early medieval period is typically indicated by the presence of enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts, which in the wider context have been identified in Mullaghroe Upper (RMP KD021-004) and Inchacooly (RMP LA005-009) townlands. Enclosures such as those within the study area at Coolsickin (HA10 – RMP KD021-003; HA10 – RMP KD021-011; and HA1 – RMP KD021-016), and others at Mullaghroe Upper (RMP KD021-013) and Mountrice (RMP KD021-012), may be indications of early medieval settlement in the study area. The presence of an early ecclesiastical asset (RMP KD021-001005), and early ecclesiastical enclosure (RMP KD021-001002) at Clogheen demonstrates that settlement and religion were closely bound during this period.

10.7.5.3. Medieval Period (AD 1100 – 1600)

Diarmaid Mac Murchadha, King of Leinster, killed the King of Ui-Faelain in 1141 and relations between Ui-Faelain and Murchadha were uneasy throughout the period. In 1166 the Ui-Faelain supported the High-King Ruaidhri OConchobhair's invasion of Ui Cheinnselaig and forced Murchadha to flee to Britain later in the year. He returned the following year aided by Norman mercenaries and retook Ui Cheinnselaig and the town of Wexford. In 1169 he invaded Ossory and overran the Ui-Faelain lordship. On the death of Diarmaid Mac Murchadha in 1171 his son-in-law Richard fitz Gilbert de Clare claimed the

Lordship of Leinster and this was confirmed to him by King Henry II the same year. By the time of his death in 1176, when Leinster passed to King Henry II, the process of sub-infeudation (the granting of lands by lords to their dependents, to be held by feudal tenure) was well under way in much of Leinster. The Ui Faeláin lands in the study area were granted to Maurice FitzGerald who established the manor of Rathmore with its caput and motte and bailey castle to the north of the study area (Otway Ruthven, 1980; MacCotter 2008).

The study area may have formed part of this estate during this period or may have been agricultural or wild land outside the estate. No heritage assets from this period are located within the Site or the study area. In 1185 John, Lord of Ireland, confirmed the grant of the manor of Rathmore to Maurice FitzGerald (MacNiocaill, 1964). In 1293 Rathmore passed to John FitzThomas who subsequently became the Earl of Kildare (MacNiocaill, 1964). The Earl's of Kildare held Rathmore until the rebellion of Silken Thomas in 1534.

10.7.5.4. Post-medieval Period (AD 1600 – 1800)

Following the Kildare rebellion of 1534, the FitzGerald lands were confiscated by the Royal Government and in 1541 King Henry VIII leased Rathmore, and the other possessions of the Earl of Kildare to Walter Trott (Tudor Fiants Henry VIII No. 184, 1541). The lands changed hands numerous times throughout this period. The study area benefited from the construction and operation of the of the Grand Canal which commenced in 1756, and which helped support and sustain urban and industrial growth in eighteenth century Kildare. The majority of the development in the study area is from the 18th and 19th centuries, with architectural heritage assets within the study area at Coolsickin evidencing activities associated with the Grand Canal, namely the Macartneys Bridge (and Lock) (HA5 - 11902104). Ecclesiastical activity in the wider landscape is evidenced by the possible remains of a church at Clogheen (RMP KD021-001003) and the existing, in use graveyard (RMP KD021-001004).

10.7.5.5. Modern Period (AD 1800 – Present Day)

The predominately agrarian emphasis of the study area and its surroundings continued on into the 19th and 20th centuries, with notable changes in land ownership with the Land Acts that allowed tenant farmers to own land. Architectural heritage assets in the study area at Coolsickin or Quinsborough (HA3 -11902105, HA4 – 11902106), at Millfarm (HA6 - 11902103), and at Ballykelly (HA7- 11902102, and HA8 - 11902114) from the early to mid-19th century present a context that is largely rural, agricultural, and partly industrial in nature. All structures marked on the 1910 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping within 300m of the application area were checked for potential field assessment. There are no such structures located in this area (see Figure 10-1).

10.7.6. Archaeological Potential

All Proposed Project works are carried out on lands that have been disturbed by human activities i.e. historical extraction and associated activities (2000-2006), and agriculture

(tillage). Therefore, there is considered to be no potential for sub-surface archaeological remains within the Site. Accordingly, any archaeological potential arising from chance finds have been scoped out of this assessment.

10.8. Do Nothing Scenario

In the scenario where there are no works or change of use proposed for the Site, it is unlikely that the baseline conditions of the Site will change.

10.9. Selection of Sensitive Receptors

There are no heritage assets within the Site. The sensitive receptors in relation to the Proposed Project are those that have the potential to be impacted through changes within their setting. All of the heritage assets within the study area have been assessed as potential sensitive receptors.

10.10. Characteristics of the Proposed Project

The Proposed Project is described in Chapter 2 (Project Description). Characteristics of the Proposed Project relevant to this assessment include:

- Construction phase: Enabling works and installation of Proposed Project facilities and upgrade of site access and internal private access road;
- Construction phase: the infilling of an existing 2.3 ha extent quarry void space and immediately surrounding lands by infilling with clean soils and stones; and,
- Restoration phase: landscaping works required as part of the final restoration plan for the Site as final grounds are achieved.
- Potential Effects: There are no known heritage assets within the Site that will be effected by the Proposed Project activities whether directly or indirectly.

10.10.1. Archaeological Heritage Assessment

The archaeological heritage assets within the study area are located at a distance of 170 m to 965 m from the Site and are separated from the Site by a section of The Barrow Way that runs along the northern edge of the Site. The proposed restoration works would have no direct impacts on these heritage assets owing to their distance from the Site, and to the fact that The Barrow Way separates the Site from these assets, screening any views of the activities and resulting restoration. Therefore, for heritage assets HA1, HA2, HA9, and HA10 the restoration works proposed within the Site will result in No Change to the heritage assets, providing a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.2. Architectural Heritage Assessment

The heritage assets within the study area are located at a distance ranging from 60m to 940m from the edge of the Site. The embankments around the former quarry effectively cut off views to it from the surrounding area, ensuring that there are no direct views into the Site. Furthermore, as the quarry has not been in operation since 2006, and the quarry void

is currently filled with water, it contributes to and helps retain the overall rural setting of the heritage assets and their surroundings. The proposed works will help reestablish the rural and agricultural setting of the Site, through raising ground levels at the disused quarry lands and restoring the area to similar levels estimated to have been present on the Site prior to quarry development.

10.10.2.1. HA3 11902105: Small Wonder: Coolsickin or Quinsborough; HA4 11902106: Canal Cottage: Coolsickin or Quinsborough

HA3 and HA4 are located approximately 60m and 80m respectively to the south-west of the Site and are separated by The Barrow Way. As the Site will be restored to a predominately rural and agricultural setting similar to that which existed prior to the quarry development, it will allow for the overall settings and views to and from both houses, which form a self-contained group, to benefit from removal of the quarry. This would be a Negligible beneficial impact to heritage assets of low cultural significance, resulting in a Neutral significance of effect on the heritage assets.

10.10.2.2. HA5 11902104: Macartney's Bridge and Locks: Coolsickin or Quinsborough

The asset is located approximately 115m to the south of the Site. As the Site will be restored to a predominately rural and agricultural setting, similar to that which existed prior to the quarry development, it will allow for the setting and views to and from the Macartneys Bridge (and Lock) to benefit from the removal of the quarry. This would be a Negligible beneficial impact to a heritage asset of low cultural significance, resulting in a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.2.3. HA6 11902103: Ballykelly Malthouse Millfarm (Monasterevin Ed)

The asset is located approximately 510 m to the south of the Site. The distance from the Site, and the limited change in the views from the Mill would result in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the heritage asset, providing a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.2.4. HA7 11902102: Farmhouse Ballykelly, Kildare

The asset is located approximately 565 m to the south-east of the Site. The distance from the Site, and the fact that the Site will be restored to a predominately rural and agricultural setting similar to that which existed prior to the quarry development, will allow for the settings and views to and from the farmhouse to remained unimpacted, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact, providing a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.2.5. HA8 11902114: Water Pump Ballykelly, Kildare

The asset is a small-scale feature and is located approximately 940 m to the south-east of the Site. The distance from the Site, and the fact that the Site will be restored to a to a predominately rural and agricultural setting similar to that which existed prior to the quarry development, will allow for the settings, and overall aesthetic of the water pump to remain

unimpacted, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact, providing a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.2.6. HA11 Non-designated heritage: The Barrow Way

The Barrow Way borders the northern edge of the Site. The restoration works proposed are contained within the Site, thereby resulting in no physical impacts to the heritage asset. As the proposed works to the Site will allow for the lands to be restored to a predominately rural and agricultural setting similar to that which existed prior to the quarry development, the views and settings of The Barrow Way will benefit from removal of the quarry. It is noted that the existing treeline and scrub located along the north/northwest Application Site boundary (which will be retained as part of the Proposed Project) limits views from the Barrow Way into the Application Site. The magnitude of impact would be Negligible beneficial, to a heritage asset of low cultural significance, resulting in a Neutral significance of effect.

10.10.3. Interaction with Other Effects

No interaction with other effects have been identified.

10.10.4. Do Nothing Effects

If the Proposed Project were not to proceed there would be no negative effect relating to cultural heritage.

10.11. Mitigation Measures and Monitoring

There are predicted to be no adverse direct impacts effects on archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage as a result of the Proposed Project.

No monitoring is proposed, noting that the potential for chance finds has been scoped out of this assessment on the basis of extensive human disturbance having taken place on lands on proposed working areas within the Application Site (i.e. extraction activities from 2000-2006 and agriculture (tillage)).

10.12. Residual Effects

No residual effects have been identified.

10.13. Cumulative Effects

The application is not considered to have any cumulative effects relating to archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage assets.

10.14. Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered in the compilation of this assessment.

10.15. References

- DAHGI 1995. Recorded Monuments Protected under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994. County Wicklow.
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- Heritage Council 1999. The role of the Heritage Council in the Planning Process. Kilkenny.
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