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## ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE

### Author

- 14.1 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.

### Introduction

- 14.2 This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared on behalf of Mortimer Quarries has been undertaken to assess the significant effects, if any, on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage which can reasonably be expected to occur because of the proposal.

### Proposed Development

- 14.3 The proposed development being applied for under this current planning application will consist of:

- Continued use of the existing quarry (granted under Planning Ref. File No.: 06/2275 and ABP Ref.: PL07.222783), including drilling, blasting, crushing, processing, and stockpiling of materials within a total site area of 15.09 hectares to the permitted depth of 33m OD.
- Continued use of existing permitted structures and facilities, including:
  - Weighbridge and wheelwash with side and overhead spray bars.
  - Office and staff facilities building and carpark provision (Ref. 17512).
  - Asphalt plant (Ref. 15104), concrete batching plant (Ref. 20419), maintenance shed (Ref. 141295), aggregate shed, ESB substation (Ref. 191964), crushing and screening plant, and stock bays (Ref. 062275 & 21442).
  - Associated site infrastructure.
- Construction of a new quarry storage yard (c. 1.09 Ha.) to the east of the existing quarry.
- Relocation of the existing permitted sheds (Plan Ref File No. 21442) to an area beside the proposed storage yard area.
- Importation of soil and stone (both waste and non-waste) for site restoration purposes and selected construction and demolition waste for recycling to preserve natural aggregate resources, subject to the necessary authorisations.
- The proposed development will facilitate the continued operation and restoration of the site, with the operational life of the quarry ceasing upon resource exhaustion, followed by restoration to agricultural and natural uses using imported material.

- 14.4 The proposed development is within an overall application area of c. 16.3 hectares and is for a total period of 35 years (comprising an operational period of 33 years followed by 2 years for completion of restoration). The application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

### Methodology

- 14.5 The application area is in the townland of Cartron, Co. Galway. A wide variety of paper, cartographic, photographic and archival sources were consulted. All the lands of the application area were visually inspected.

- 14.6 An impact assessment and mitigation strategy has been prepared. The assessment has been undertaken to assess the significant effects, if any, on the archaeology, cultural heritage and architecture which can reasonably be expected to occur because of the proposal to extend quarrying to the application area, while a mitigation strategy has been designed to remedy any significant adverse effects on cultural heritage.
- 14.7 This study which complies with the requirements of Directive EIA 2014/52/EU is an assessment of the known or potential cultural heritage resource within a specified area and includes the information that may reasonably be required for reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the project on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment. It consists of a collation of existing written and graphic information in order to identify the likely context, character, significance and sensitivity of the known or potential cultural heritage, archaeological and structural resource using an appropriate methodology (EPA 2002, 2003 and 2022). The criteria and definitions for describing effects set out below is drawn from the 2022 EPA Guidelines.

Quality of Effects	<b>Positive: A change which improves the quality of the environment.</b>
	<b>Neutral:</b> No effects or effects that are imperceptible, within normal bounds or variation or within the margin of forecasting error.
	<b>Negative/adverse Effects:</b> A change that reduces the quality of the environment.
Significance of effects	<b>Imperceptible:</b> An effect capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.
	<b>Not significant:</b> An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without noticeable consequences.
	<b>Slight effects:</b> An effect that causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
	<b>Moderate effects:</b> An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging trends.
	<b>Significant effects:</b> An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	<b>Very Significant effects:</b> An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters the majority of a sensitive aspect of the environment.
	<b>Profound effects:</b> An effect that obliterates sensitive characteristics
Describing the extent & context of effects	<b>Extent:</b> Describe the size of the area, the number of sites, and the proportion of population affected by an effect.
	<b>Context:</b> Describe whether the extent, duration, or frequency will conform or contrast with established (baseline) conditions.
Describing the Probability of effects	<b>Likely effects:</b> The effects can reasonably be expected to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
	<b>Unlikely effects:</b> The effects can reasonably be expected not to occur because of the planned project if all mitigation measures are properly implemented.
Describing the duration & frequency of effects	<b>Momentary effects:</b> Effects lasting from seconds to minutes.
	<b>Brief effects:</b> Effects lasting less than a day.
	<b>Temporary effects:</b> Effects lasting less than a year.
	<b>Short-term effects:</b> Effects lasting one to seven years.
	<b>Medium-term effects:</b> Effects lasting seven to fifteen years.
	<b>Long-term effects:</b> Effects lasting fifteen to sixty years.
	<b>Permanent effects:</b> Effects lasting over sixty years.
	<b>Reversible effects:</b> Effects that can be undone, for example through remediation or restoration.
Describing the types of effects	<b>Frequency of effects:</b> Describe how the effect will occur.
	<b>Indirect effects:</b> Impacts on the environment which are not a direct result of the project.
	<b>Cumulative effects:</b> The addition of minor or significant effects, including effects of other projects, to create a larger more significant effect.
	<b>'Do-Nothing Effects':</b> The environment as it would be in the future should the project not be carried out.
	<b>'Worst case' effects:</b> The effects arising from a project in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.



	<b>Indeterminable effects:</b> When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described.
	<b>Irreversible effects:</b> When the character distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.
	<b>Residual effects:</b> The degree of environmental change that will, occur after the proposed mitigation measures take effect.
	<b>Synergistic effects:</b> Where the resultant effect is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents.

**Table 14.1 Criteria and definitions for describing effects**

14.8 The study involved the detailed investigation of the cultural heritage including the archaeological, architectural and historical background of the application area and the surrounding area up to 1km from the development. The study area is indicated on Fig 14.1. This area was examined using information from the:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) of County Galway;
- The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- The Galway County Development Plan 2022-28 including the Record of Protected Structures;
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavation and assessment reports;
- Cartographic and
- Documentary sources.

14.9 A field assessment was carried out on the 14th of November 2024 to identify and assess any known archaeological sites and structures and previously unrecorded features, possible finds and structures within the application area.

14.10 Note, although the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 was signed into law by the President on October 13, 2023, the part of the act superseding the Record of Monuments with the Register of Monuments had not been commenced at the time this assessment was prepared. This assessment uses the Record of Monuments and Places, which were still in force at the time the assessment was completed.

## Assessment of Baseline Conditions

### The Landscape

14.11 The application area is situated in the townland of Cartron, southwest of the village of Belclare, County Galway, c.7.2km southwest of the center of the town of Tuam, and c.0.6km south of the R333 road. It is situated in north-sloping greenfield pastureland and the soils of the area are a Faoldroim series fine loamy drift with limestone overlying drift with limestones (<http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/map.php>).

### Archaeological and historical development of the study area

14.12 The following is a summary of the archaeological and historical development of the study area and the main types of sites and monuments that are known from the surrounding landscape. The information is drawn from the assessment. It is intended to indicate the types of sites and monuments known to be present in the study area as well as the pattern of landholding and to place this material in its cultural heritage context. The application area is situated in the

townland of Cartron, the civil parish of Belclare and the barony of Clare. Note the spellings of place names varied throughout history, the historical spellings are used here.

#### *Prehistoric Period*

- 14.13 There are several prehistoric cairns (GA042-064---, GA042-06402-, GA042-06404-, GA043-03301-) and a hillfort (GA043-03306-) known from the study area indicating prehistoric activity and settlement.

#### *Early medieval period*

- 14.14 In the early historic period the principle dynastic family of the area was the Uí Briúin Seola (O'Flaherty) of southwest Connacht. The O'Flaherty, descendants of Flaithbheartach, were chiefs of this sept which was situated east of Lough Corrib. The O'Flaherty's were a sub-kingdom under the Ua Conchobair kings of Connacht. The territory of Muintir Murchadha under the O'Flaherty King of the U'Briuin Seola was composed of the parishes of Kilkilvery, Killursa, Cargin, Killeany, Kilcoona, Belclare, Donaghpatrick and Killower (Knox 1900-1, 175). Classically settlement at this period is indicated by the presence of enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts when they are enclosed by an earthen bank and cashels when they are enclosed by a stone wall. There are several ringforts (GA043-032---; GA043-10501-- ; GA043-10502-- ; GA043-106---- and GA043-107---- ) and cashels (GA043-03302-, GA043-12901-) known from the study area.

#### *Later medieval period*

- 14.15 In 1228 Richard de Burgo was granted 25 of the 30 cantreds of Connaught in fee by King Henry III. Following his conquest of Connaught in 1236 De Burgo granted the manor of Admekin (Headford) to Walter de Ridelisford. Knox (1900-1, 75) noted that the manor was composed of the parishes of Kilkilvry, Killursa, Cargin, Killeany, most of Kilcoona and part of Belclare. The study area would either have formed part of the manor of Headford or would have been just on its edge. When Walter de Ridelisford died in 1240 the manor passed through his daughter to his granddaughter Christina de Marisco. She, like her grandfather, was an absentee lord and she eventually traded her Irish lands to King Edward I in 1280 in return for English manors, but the King returned her lands to her in 1291. Christiana died in 1299 and the manor passed back to the King.
- 14.16 The process of Norman infeudation is normally associated with the construction of earth and timber castles, known as mottes. The motte is a raised earth mound, usually artificial and topped with a wooden or stone structure. There are just six motte castles in Co. Galway (Sweetman, 1999, Fig. 9). The closest to the study area is at Oldcastle (GA096-144---) to the east of Galway City.
- 14.17 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 manor houses were sometimes enclosed by rectangular moats and are referred to as moated sites. They are a useful indicator of Anglo-Norman settlement. There are a number of moated sites in Co. Galway, but no moated sites in the study area. The closest example is in Lisdonagh townland (GA042-174---) on the eastern shore of Lough Hacket.
- 14.18 Richard de Burgo's descendants were Lords of Connaught and Earls of Ulster until the murder of William de Burgo the 3rd earl of Ulster in 1333. He died without male heir and under English Law the earldom passed to the dead Earl's daughter. However William de Burgo, son of Richard de Burgo 2nd Earl of Ulster, took possession of the de Burgo lands in Galway, disregarding the

rights of the daughter of the dead Earl, he became the ancestor of the Earls of Clanricarde (Otway-Ruthven, 1968, 255). By 1334 William de Burgo appears to have acquired part of the manor of Headford which was shared with the MacRedmond Bourkes and the Hackets who are first recorded in the area after 1305 (Knox 1900-1a, 128).

- 14.19 The fifteenth century is 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 over 200 tower houses in Co. Galway (Sweetman 1999, 163). The example in the study area is Castlehacket, (GA042-085). Nolan (1900) notes that the castle was built by the Hacket family and came into the possession of Ullig McReamon Burke. There may also have been a castle, now just rubble, in a cashel in Tobermina townland (GA043-129002-).

#### *The post-medieval period*

- 14.20 In 1543 Ulick de Burgh (Burgo) was made Earl of Clanricarde by Henry VIII. At this period the Clanricard territories included the barony of Clare as well as Loughrea, Leitrim, Kiltartan, Dunkellin and Athenry. In 1570 Galway was shired as a county and brought under Royal administration. In 1574 the principal chieftains of Clare barony were John Burke, Fitzthomas, MacHugh and MacCreamon. Knox (1900, 128) noted that in 1585 the Barony of Clare was controlled by MacRedmond and MacThomas of Ballinderry. Nolan (1900) notes that in 1585 Castlehacket was controlled by Ullig MacReamon Burke.
- 14.21 The Cromwellian Act of Settlement of 1652 and the policy of land confiscation and transplantation was carried out with the aid of the Civil Survey of 1654-5. Unfortunately, the Civil Survey for Galway does not survive but the Books of Survey and Distribution do. They were compiled by the English government at the end of the 17th century to establish a reliable record of landowners in Ireland for the purpose of imposing the Quit Rent. All the Castlehacket property was confiscated from the Bourkes and handed over to the Kirwans from Galway City. Griffiths Primary valuation of Property in Ireland (1847-64) records that in the mid-nineteenth century the application area was held by Denis Kirwan, the land agent for the Castlehacket estate in the second half of the 19th century. (<https://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation>).

#### *Buildings*

##### *Designated structures*

- 14.22 The Galway County Development Plan 2022-28 and the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) was examined as part of the baseline study for this section of the EIAR. The review established that there are no buildings situated within the application area or the study area listed as Protected Structures.

##### *National Inventory of Architectural Heritage*

- 14.23 The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) which is maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was examined as part of the baseline study for this section of the EIAR. The review established that there are no structures listed in the NIAH situated within the application area or the study area.

#### *Field inspection*

- 14.24 On the 14th of November 2024 fieldwork was carried out to identify any additional non-designated structures of heritage interest in the vicinity of the application area. This involved

assessing all upstanding structures that are marked on the 1930 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping within 300m of the application area (see Fig. 14.1). There are no such structures.

## Archaeological Assessment

### Recorded Monuments

14.25 The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Co. Galway which was established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 was examined as part of the assessment (DAHGI 1997). Note that in accordance with the Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill 2023 the RMP will be replaced by the Register of Monuments, but the RMP was still legally in force when this assessment was prepared. There are no Recorded Monuments located within the application area (see Fig. 14.1 and Appendix 14.1). Outside the application area the closest Recorded Monument is a cashel and castle – unclassified in Tobermina townland. These monuments are described as:

#### GA043-12901- Tobermina Cashel

*This site was marked as site of Cashlann Feecul on the Ordnance Survey six inch map. The site is situated in dense woodland and has had a group water scheme water tank built on its western side. On a hilltop in grassland. Poorly preserved much-overgrown oval cashel (N-S c. 46.7m) defined by a drystone wall best preserved at NE. Some 25m from the enclosing element are the remains of a second cashel-like wall, enclosing an oval area, suggesting an outer defence. There is a second outer arcing line of wall at SW that may have been associated with the monument. It is best preserved at NW and NE and is disturbed elsewhere by farm buildings. An uncertain castle (GA043-129002-) lies within the interior.*

#### GA043-12902- Tobermina Castle - unclassified

*In the north-west [part of a cashel (GA043-12901) are the remains of a rectangular structure measuring 28m x 5m internally and defined by a drystone wall 1.1m thick and surviving up to 4m high.*

14.26 These monuments are located in woodland and are partly overgrown (See Plates 14.2 and 14.3). The visual amenity of the monument is protected by the woodland situated between it and the quarry. The remaining Recorded Monuments in the study area are considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly effected by the proposal.

### Sites and Monuments Record

14.27 Examination of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which is maintained by the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 10th of March 2025 indicated that there are no SMRs included within the application area (see Fig. 14.1 and Appendix 14.3). There is one SMR situated in the wider area outside the application area GA042-221---. This is a summer house located in dense woodland c.0.5km west of the application area and is considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly effected by the proposal.



*Cartographic Sources*

14.28 The Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> edition six-inch maps and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition twenty five-inch map of the study area were examined. This analysis did not indicate any previously unrecorded archaeological sites or monuments in the application area or vicinity.

*Place Name Evidence*

14.29 The place names were extracted from the cartography in order to facilitate the search for structures and monuments and small finds, to help identify any unrecorded monuments or structures, to search for any published papers and documents related to the study area and to assist in the study of the historical development of the area. The English translations of the townland names of the study presented below are based on the Placenames Database of Ireland. Caltragh refers to a stone cairn (GA042-064002), Tobermina is a well-marked on the Ordnance Survey maps but there is no stone fort known in Carheens townland. The analysis did not indicate any additional cultural heritage material in the application area.

Townland name	English translation
Ballaghaun	white or grassy way
Ballydotia west	No translation available
Caltragh	burial ground
Carheens	little stone fort
Carronwtemple	church quarterland
Carrowbeg South	Little quarter
Cartron	quarterland
Castlehacket Demesne	demesne lands of the castle of the Hacket family
Knockacarrigeen	Little rocky hill
Pollaturk or Newgarden	pool of the pig
Tobermina	Moyny's well

**Table 14.2 Placenames**

*Aerial Photographs*

14.30 Examination of the Ordnance Survey 1995, 1996-2000 and 2001-2005, 2006-12, 2011-13 and 2013-18 imagery as well as Google Earth imagery from 2010, 2014, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 and Bing maps imagery from 2011 did not indicate any additional cultural heritage or archaeological sites in the application area (see Plate 14.1).

*Other sources*

14.31 Examination of the topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland for the townlands in the study area and several of standard artefact corpus studies were also consulted and no other artefacts were identified (Harbison 1969, Simpson 1990, Eogan 1965, 1983, 2000, Kavanagh 1991, O'Flaherty 1995, Raftery 1984).

- 14.32 Examinations of the Excavations Bulletin [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) indicated that there has been one licensed archaeological investigation carried out in the study area that investigated a cashel RMP GA043-03302-.
- 14.33 Carrowntemple Children's burial ground and Ringfort – Rath Licence number: 94E0179
- 14.34 On 5 November 1995, the excavation of a hilltop enclosure commenced on Knockacarrigeen Hill, Tuam, Co. Galway, as part of an agreed programme of work with Galway County Council, who provided the funding. The project was of 16 weeks' duration and was undertaken by the writer on behalf of the Archaeological Services Unit, UCG. The excavation was part of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme which involved the installation of a pipeline running from the shores of Lough Corrib to the town of Tuam and the construction of two reservoir sites, one located on Knockacarrigeen Hill itself and the other located on the south flank of the hill. Pre-development trenching of the areas to be affected by the lower reservoir was carried out in October 1995, yielding no archaeological material.
- 14.35 The site on Knockacarrigeen Hill was discovered by the Galway Archaeological Survey during aerial reconnaissance in 1987. The area surrounding the hill and the hill itself are rich in important archaeological sites, known since the beginning of this century. There is at least one cairn located on Knockacarrigeen Hill, adjacent to the remains of a probable early historic cashel. The OS map shows three other probable ringforts on Knockacarrigeen, two of which were levelled. The surviving ringfort (SMR 43:32) is situated on the north slope of the hill and is marked as a Children's Burial Ground.
- 14.36 The enclosure under investigation on Knockacarrigeen Hill lay just above the 300' contour and was subcircular in shape, enclosing an area of approx. 160m in diameter. The enclosing element consisted of a totally collapsed dry-stone wall, between 6m and 7m wide. Prior to excavation, it appeared as a pile of small stones with no inner or outer facing stones in evidence. It was best preserved from south to west, where it reached a max. height of 1m. The enclosing element ran beneath a modern field wall (the townland boundary wall) from north to east, and from north-west to north a scarp (height 2m), the face of which was composed of rock outcrop, formed the enclosing element. There were no visible remains of an entrance or fosse. For the most part, the interior of the site was very overgrown with hazel scrub, furze and brambles. There were some subsurface, stone-built features visible after brush clearance, mainly consisting of random low stone walls and a stone enclosure at the north-west end of the site.
- 14.37 The excavation concentrated initially on two main areas within the site, that of the small stone enclosure and the rampart surrounding the south side of the hill. The stone enclosure consisted of an elongated area delimited by a roughly oval stone wall which measured c. 15m in length and 7.5m in width. The wall survived to a height of 0.2–0.3m and measured c. 1m to 1.5m in width. It was of drystone construction using rough unhewn stones. There were patches of burning associated with the enclosure, though they were not very extensive and there were no finds, except for a small fragment of animal bone which was recovered from under the west wall of the enclosure.
- 14.38 An area measuring c. 25m east-west and c. 10m north-south was excavated through the rampart wall. The stratigraphy of the rampart consisted of a patchy sod which overlay a layer of small stones. This came down onto the core of the rampart, which consisted of large stones that appeared to slightly radiate outwards on the north and the south sides from a central spine. The large stones consisted of an irregular arrangement of blocks interspersed with small stones. The rampart in this area excavated survives to a height of 0.45m.

14.39 There were several stone features examined within the overall enclosure. They were for the most part field clearance lines, though of indeterminable date. In all there were no finds to suggest a function for either the enclosure or the stone oval enclosure. There was evidence of burning, though, and dates are expected from the C14 results.

#### *Field Inspection*

14.40 A field inspection was carried out on the 14th of November 2024. This involved an inspection of all the lands of the application area. The existing quarry that has been completely soil stripped and excavated down into geological layers. There is no visual indication of an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level (see Plates 14.1).

### Effect of the Development

#### Direct Effects

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

#### Indirect Effects

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

#### Interaction with other effects

14.43 No interaction with other effects has been identified in the course of the assessment.

#### Do-nothing effect

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

#### Cumulative effects

14.45 No cumulative effects on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource were identified by the assessment.

#### Unplanned Events

14.46 No unplanned events associated with the proposal that have the potential to effect archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage have been identified.

#### Worst case scenario

14.47 No worst case scenario has been identified.

## Mitigation Measures

14.48 No impacts have been identified and no mitigation is required.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

14.49 There are no items of cultural heritage, monuments or buildings of heritage interest known within the application area. There will be no direct or indirect effects on any known items of archaeology, cultural heritage or buildings of heritage interest in the application area or the vicinity. No impacts on cultural heritage, monuments or buildings of heritage interest have been identified and no mitigation is required.



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## Figures

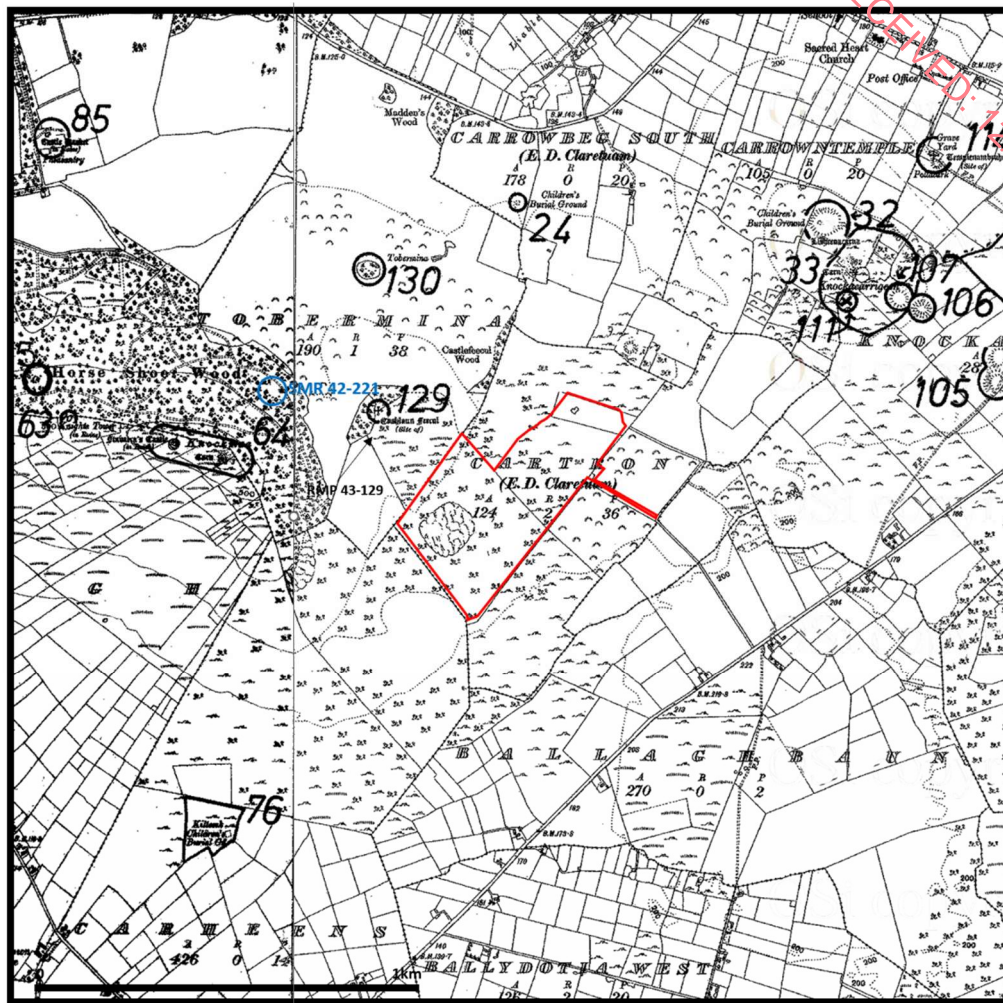


Figure 14.1. The assessment study area superimposed on the Record of Monuments for Co. Galway map. The application area is outlined with a red line. The Recorded Monuments are indicated with black circles and the Monuments in the SMR is indicated with a blue circles.



## Plates



Plate 14.1. The application area superimposed on a Google earth orthophoto taken in 2021.



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Plate 14.2 Oblique drone view of the cashel RMP 42-129--- looking south.



Plate 14.3 Oblique drone view of the cashel RMP 42-129--- looking southeast to the application area showing woodland between the quarry and the cashel.





Plate 14.4 Oblique drone view of the application area looking southeast.

## Appendix 14.1 Recorded Monuments in the study area

### GA042-063---Caltragh Designed landscape - folly

On upper W-facing slopes of Knockmaa, 285m WNW of a cairn (GA042-064----). A partially collapsed drystone-built structure, roughly U-shaped in plan and open towards W (N wall: L 13.7m, E wall: L 14m: S wall: L 9m). The double-faced walls appear to vary in thickness but are best preserved at S where they are up to 2.2m in height. The internal plan is completely obscured by collapsed stone. Another folly crowns the cairn to ESE.

### GA042-064---Caltragh Cairn - unclassified

On the summit of Knockmaa, c. 130m WNW of the largest cairn (GA042-064002-). What survives is a large amorphous mass of stone crowned by 'Finvarra's Castle', an early 19th-C folly (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 127-8). The latter consists of a square drystone structure surrounded at a lower level by two concentric circular drystone walls (overall D c. 29.75m). A series of steps at NE, five of which survive, give access to the top of the much-collapsed central structure. The surrounding walls, c. 3m apart, are extant from ESE through S to WNW; elsewhere there is total collapse. A folly (GA042-063----) lies 285m to WNW.

### GA042-064001- Caltragh Designed landscape - folly

On the summit of Knockmaa, c. 130m WNW of the largest cairn (GA042-064002-). What survives is a large amorphous mass of stone (GA042-064----) crowned by 'Finvarra's Castle', an early 19th-C folly (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 127-8). The latter consists of a square drystone structure surrounded at a lower level by two concentric circular drystone walls (overall D c. 29.75m). A series of steps at NE, five of which survive, give access to the top of the much-collapsed central structure. The surrounding walls, c. 3m apart, are extant from ESE through S to WNW; elsewhere there is total collapse. A folly. On a revisit in February 2015 it was noted that the outer encircling wall of the folly had collapsed from SE to SW and the resulting collapse had spread 3-4m downslope of the cairn. .

### GA042-06402- Caltragh Cairn - unclassified

On the summit of Knockmaa, a prominent hilltop to SW of Tuam. A very large well-preserved subcircular cairn (E-W 22.2m, N-S 20.5m, H c. 5m) with a trigonometrical station on its flat summit. This is the largest and most prominent of a group of four cairns on the hilltop (see GA042-064003-, GA042-064---- and GA042-064004-): the others stand c. 70m to WSW, c.130m to WNW and c. 230m to W respectively. There are also cairns on the summits of the adjoining hills to E and W (GA043-033001-, GA042-093----, GA042-150----). .

### GA042-06404- Caltragh Cairn - unclassified

On the summit of Knockmaa, c. 230m W of the largest cairn (GA042-064002-). A very low but well-defined circular platform of loose limestone boulders (D 14.8m) up to c. 1m in height. Its surface is flat but there are faint traces of a stony bank around the perimeter. (CUCAP ATF 28).

### GA042-06405- Caltragh Cross

Near the summit of Knockmaa, c. 18m to the SE of Finvarra's Castle (GA042-064001-). This is a tall plain 20th-century limestone cross inserted into a rectangular limestone plinth. It is dedicated to the

memory of Denis Kirwan Bernard (1882-1956). The immediate vicinity of the cross is heavily overgrown with scrub, thorn and briars.

#### GA042-076---- CARHEENS Children's burial ground

Some 9m E of a large enclosure (GA042-076001-). A subrectangular area (N-S 13.8m, E-W 13.1m) defined by a low wall within which a number of set stones indicate graves. Some houses (GA042-076003-) lies close by to SW.

#### GA042-076001- CARHEENS Enclosure

In level scrubland near the base of Knockmaa. A poorly preserved oval enclosure (E-W 70m, N-S 36m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall (Wth 2.2-3m) from SW through N to SE: no trace survives elsewhere. The interior is subdivided by a number of internal walls, and particularly by a curving wall to E of centre. A rectilinear annexe (NE-SW 19m, N-S 5m) abuts the monument at SE and low walls radiate from it at WNW and N. A number of houses (GA042-076004-) are associated and a CBG (GA042-076----) lies 9m to E. Possibly of post-medieval date.

#### GA042-076001-7- CARHEENS House - indeterminate date

Associated with a large enclosure (GA042-076001-). A total of five houses were identified in and around the enclosure as follows: (a) close to the centre, a rectangular area (N-S; L 7.5m, Wth 3.5m) defined by a collapsed wall; (b) immediately to SE, a rectangular depression (N-S; L 5.9m, Wth 1.8m) defined by the foundations of a wall; (c) on the line of the enclosure wall at S, a rectangular area (NE-SW; L c. 8.6m, Wth 4.3m) defined by grassed-over rubble; (d) to NE of the enclosure, a partially sunken house, subcircular in plan (N-S; L 7.3, Wth 6.4m), defined by a bank revetted internally with a gap (Wth 1m) at E; (e) to SE of it, a poorly preserved rectangular house (N-S; L 5m, Wth 1.8m) defined by a low grassed-over stone wall.

#### GA042-085---Castlehacket Castle - hall-house

In low-lying grassland overlooked by Knockmaa to the S. This castle was recorded in 1585 when it was in the possession of 'Ullig McReamon Burke' (Nolan 1901, 118) and it remained occupied until 1703 (ibid., 1901b, 30-31). Salter (1993, 28) suggests that it dates to the 13th century and that it originally was a hall-house, which was subsequently modified when the upper two storeys were added in the late 16th century. The following details from an inspection in March 1984 (SMR file) indicate that the castle is rectangular in plan (ext. dims. 14.8m E-W, 11.3m N-S) with a base-batter and is constructed of mortared stone. It is four storeys high with a gabled attic. The SE corner is destroyed. On inspection ivy covered most of the W wall and some of the S wall. Access was gained through a robbed-out doorway in the W wall on the ground floor. This floor was subdivided into two vaulted chambers and the cross-wall carrying the vaults was a later insertion associated with the remodelling; it blocked an original loop at the W end (Salter ibid.). None of the other floors, which were wooden, survived but corbels indicated their positions; those which supported the 2nd floor were ornately carved in a style typical of the late 16th-century Gaelic revival decoration. A staircase in the NW corner of the N chamber connected the first two floors. It was unclear how the upper floors were accessed but it may have been from a staircase that was located in the destroyed SE section. Fireplaces were evident in the N wall on the 1st and 3rd floors and in the W gable on the 2nd and 3rd floors, and the attic. The W gable rose inside the parapet and was crowned with a rectangular chimney stack. The chimney stack on the N wall rose directly from the parapet. Bartizans occurred on the NE and SW corners of the tower, and the corbels which supported another one on the NW corner also survived. Drip-stones were visible on the N and S walls at the base of the parapet. Apart from one slit window in the W gable, all the others dated to the remodelling and consisted of rectangular robbed-out mullioned windows, some with traces of hood-mouldings. A projecting latrine was visible on the N wall at 1st-floor level. A diagonal line on the external E wall-face indicated that a two-storey gabled structure had been built against this wall. To accommodate it, most of the base-batter was removed

from the wall. No visible surface trace of the building survived or, likewise, of the bawn wall referred to by Nolan (ibid.). On a revisit in June 2021, it was noted that the castle walls are now so densely overgrown with ivy, that apart from the doorway, some window openings and the chimney stacks, few of the features noted above can be seen. A number of trees are growing on top of the ground-floor vaults. .

GA042-085001- Castlehacket Bawn

See GA042-085--- above.

GA042-085002- Castlehacket Well

No information in RMP file.

GA042-225---Castlehacket Designed landscape - summer house

The RMP file for this site is missing.

GA043-024---Carrowbeg South Children's Burial Ground

On a NW-facing slope in farmland. A trapezoidal-shaped area (E-W c. 12m, N-S c. 7m) defined by a degraded scarp. No grave-markers are visible, and much of SE corner of the monument has been obscured by field clearance. It is traditionally known as a CBG.

GA043-032---Carrowntemple Ringfort

On higher E-facing slope of a platform between Knockmaa Hill to W and Knockacarrigeen Hill (see GA043-033002-) to SE, overlooking a turlough and the Clare River to N. A large subcircular rath (NE-SW 67m, WNW-ESE 63m), in fair condition, defined by a bank and external fosse cut by a field wall at N and S. Sections of the fosse have been quarried out. A gap (Wth 2.6m) at E could be original. There is a CBG (GA043-032001-) within W sector of the interior.

GA043-03201-Carrowntemple Children's Burial Ground

Within a ringfort (GA043-032----). Small subrectangular mound (NW-SE c. 9m, NE-SW c. 6.5m), in fair condition, which is occupied by only a handful of randomly placed set stones indicating grave-markers.

GA043-03301-Carrowntemple Cairn - unclassified

In NW quadrant of a hilltop enclosure (GA043-033006-) on the summit of Knockacarrigeen, a large hill to E of Knockmaa (GA042-064002-). A very poorly preserved oval cairn (NE-SW 21m, NW-SE 16m, H c. 1.5m) much disturbed and interrupted by the walls of a later ringfort (GA043-033002-) which lies immediately ESE. Two small cairns to NE are possibly derived from field clearance, though aerial photography (ASGAP 384:40; 385:6) suggests that they may occupy the site of a second, robbed cairn.

GA043-03302-Carrowntemple Cashel

In N sector of a hilltop enclosure (GA043-033006-) and immediately ESE of a cairn (GA043-033001-). Poorly preserved subcircular cashel (NE-SW c. 37m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall, overlain from SE through W to NE by a later field wall. Within the interior are two possible house foundations: (a - GA043-033003-) to N of centre, a rectangular area of collapsed stone (E-W; L 10m, Wth 7m); (b - GA043-033004-) in SE quadrant, an L-shaped line of grassed-over stone.

GA043-03303-Pollaturk or Newgarden House - indeterminate date

In N sector of a hilltop enclosure (GA043-033006-) and immediately ESE of a cairn (GA043-033001-). Poorly preserved subcircular cashel (NE-SW c. 37m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall, overlain from SE through W to NE by a later field wall. Within the interior are two possible house foundations: (a -



GA043-033003-) to N of centre, a rectangular area of collapsed stone (E-W; L 10m, Wth 7m); (b - GA043-033004-) in SE quadrant, an L-shaped line of grassed-over stone.

GA043-033004-Pollaturk or Newgarden House - indeterminate date

In N sector of a hilltop enclosure (GA043-033006-) and immediately ESE of a cairn (GA043-033001-). Poorly preserved subcircular cashel (NE-SW c. 37m) defined by a collapsed drystone wall, overlain from SE through W to NE by a later field wall. Within the interior are two possible house foundations: (a - GA043-033003-) to N of centre, a rectangular area of collapsed stone (E-W; L 10m, Wth 7m); (b - GA043-033004-) in SE quadrant, an L-shaped line of grassed-over stone.

GA043-033005-Carrowntemple cairn – unclassified

No information in file.

GA043-033006-Carrowntemple Hillfort

Encircling the summit of Knockacarrigeen, a prominent hill to ENE of Knockmaa (see GA042-064002-). Discovered during aerial reconnaissance in December 1987 (ASGAP 384:40; 385:6), it consists of the poorly preserved remains of a large partially overgrown subcircular enclosure (NE-SW 165m, NW-SE c. 130m). It is defined by a rock scarp (H 2m max.) from NW through N to NE and elsewhere by the remains of a collapsed stone wall. This is best preserved from SSE through S to SW (Wth 6m, H 0.7m ext.) but is difficult to trace from NE to SSE due to poor preservation and overgrowth. The interior is cut by five modern walls, all but one of them radiating from a ringfort (GA043-033002-) in N sector. There is also a cairn (GA043-033001-) on the hill summit in NW quadrant, and the foundations of rectangular house (NE-SW; L 12.5m, Wth 5m) in SW quadrant. An enclosure (GA043-107----) is also associated.

GA043-10501-- Knockacarrigeen Ringfort – rath

On a pronounced SE-facing slope in grassland. Poorly preserved overgrown subcircular rath (N-S c. 40m, E-W c. 30m) defined by a bank from N through E to W, and elsewhere by a scarp. An enclosure (GA043-105002-) lies immediately to S and a ringfort (GA043-104----) c. 120m to SSE.

GA043-10502-- Knockacarrigeen Ringfort – rath

On a SE-facing slope in grassland. Marked on 3rd ed. of OS 6-inch map (1947) as a circular enclosure (D c. 40m). No visible surface trace survives. Two ringforts (GA043-104----, GA043-105001-) are visible to SE and N respectively.

GA043-106---- Knockacarrigeen Ringfort – rath

On E slopes of Knockacarrigeen in farmland. Marked on OS 6-inch maps as a circular enclosure (D c. 45m). No visible surface trace survives. Another enclosure (GA043-107----) lies 25m to NW.

GA043-107---- Knockacarrigeen Ringfort – rath

On upper SE-facing slopes of Knockacarrigeen. Marked on OS 6-inch maps as a circular enclosure (D c. 45m) but no visible surface trace survives. It lay on or immediately outside the line of the enclosing wall of a large hilltop enclosure (GA043-033006-). Another enclosure (GA043-106----) lies 25m to SE.

GA043-111---Knockacarrigeen House - indeterminate date

On S flank of a hill in scrubland. Faint traces of the foundations of a subrectangular house (NE-SW; L 12.5m, Wth 5m) are visible.

GA043-114001-, GA043-114002-, CARROWNTemple, POLLATURK or NEWGARDEN Church

On a terrace on N slopes of Knockacarrigeen; it stands within a small rectilinear graveyard (GA043-114002-) close to td. boundary with Carrowntemple. Noting the latter name, and the site name, the

OS Letters (O'Flanagan 1927, Vol. 1, 126) suggest that there was 'an old church' here which 'probably occupied the spot on which the present R.C. chapel stands'. The visible remains are those of this now ruined rectangular church (E-W; L 20m, Wth 7.8m) which has a separate sacristy at E end. The flat-headed doorway, surmounted by a false arch, is at W end of N wall. There are three pointed windows in N wall, a similar window in S wall and an alcove centrally placed in W gable. Four corbels visible in side-walls at W end of the church indicate the former presence of a loft here. A cross crowns E gable. On the line of W wall a foundation course runs northwards for c. 3m. Well-cut stones are visible at ground level but do not rise above the surface. It is possible that they are related to the earlier church noted in the OS Letters. A sink hole (GA043-114004-), named 'Pollaturk', lies immediately S of the graveyard.

GA043-114004-, POLLATURK or NEWGARDEN Redundant record

This is a sink hole. It is not an archaeological monument.

GA043-12901-Tobermina Cashel

This site was marked as site of *Cashlann Feecul* on the Ordnance Survey six inch map. The site is situated in dense woodland and has had a group water scheme water tank built on its western side. On a hilltop in grassland. Poorly preserved much-overgrown oval cashel (N-S c. 46.7m) defined by a drystone wall best preserved at NE. Some 25m from the enclosing element are the remains of a second cashel-like wall, enclosing an oval area, suggesting an outer defence. There is a second outer arcing line of wall at SW that may have been associated with the monument. It is best preserved at NW and NE and is disturbed elsewhere by farm buildings. An uncertain castle (GA043-129002-) lies within the interior.

GA043-12902-Tobermina Castle - unclassified

In the north-west [part of a cashel (GA043-12901)] are the remains of a rectangular structure measuring 28m x 5m internally and defined by a drystone wall 1.1m thick and surviving up to 4m high.

GA043-130----Tobermina Designed landscape - tree-ring

This non-antiquity is a tree-ring enclosed by an earthen bank.

## Appendix 14.2 Sites in the study area in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)

GA042-225---Castlehacket Designed landscape - summer house

No information in file.