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12 CULTURAL HERITAGE

12.1 Introduction

This Chapter of the EIAR, commissioned by MOR Environmental on behalf of Plazamont, assesses the potential effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the Site, and the surrounding area, of a proposal to extend an existing quarry in the townlands of Ballyburn Upper, Gorteenvacan and Knockbane, County Kildare.

The Site will cover an area of ca. 39ha. within an overall landholding of 108 hectares (including the extant permission). Planning permission is being sought for 15 years. The activity of importing inert soil and stone waste will require a waste permit.

12.2 Methodology

This study complies with the requirements of Directive EIA 2014/52/EU. The chapter 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, including architectural and archaeological aspects using an appropriate methodology [1] [2] [3]. It consists of the following study stages:

- Baseline Studies; and,
- Assessment of the Site.

The criteria and definitions for describing effects set out below is drawn from the 2022 EPA Guidelines [3], refer to Section 1.10.1 for more information.

12.2.1 Baseline Study

The baseline study research has been undertaken in two phases, the paper study phase and subsequently the field inspection phase.

12.2.1.1 Paper Study

The first phase comprised a paper survey of all available archaeological, historical and cartographic sources. This involved the following:

- a collation of existing written and graphical information to identify the likely context, character, significance and sensitivity of the known or potential cultural heritage, archaeological and architectural resource using appropriate methodology;
- a detailed investigation of the archaeological, architectural and historical background of the Site, the landholding and the surrounding area extending 1km from the development boundary (Fig. 12-1). Note the area in which the haul route, processing area and soil importation area is located has already been assessed under planning reference 05/2091 and ABP PL 09.220222. This area was examined using information from the:
 - Record of Monuments and Places ('RMP') of Counties Kildare and Carlow
 - The Sites and Monuments Record;
 - The Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2039;
 - The Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2038;
 - The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage;

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- Aerial imagery;
 - Excavation reports;
 - Cartographic; and,
 - Documentary sources.
- The Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 is the statutory plan detailing the development objectives/policies of the relevant local authority. The plan includes objectives and policies relevant to this assessment, i.e. regarding cultural heritage [4];
 - The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage ('NIAH') is a state initiative under the administration of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999. The purpose of the NIAH is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. NIAH surveys provide the basis for the recommendations of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to the planning authorities for the inclusion of structures in their Record of Protected Structures ('RPS');
 - The Record of Monuments and Places was established under section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 and provides that the Minister shall establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes there are monuments, such record to be comprised of a list of monuments and relevant places and a map or maps showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the State. The associated files contain information of documentary sources and field inspections where these have taken place. 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 was still in force at the time the assessment was completed;
 - The Sites and Monuments Record - is maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and contains information on Recorded Monuments and additional unprotected sites that have been identified since the Record of Monuments was issued;
 - Aerial photographs – record crop marks, soil marks and earthworks that may not have been previously detected;
 - Cartographic Sources - this includes seventeenth-century mapping as well as the 1st and 3rd editions of the Ordnance Survey six-inch maps; and,
 - Documentary Sources – provide more general historical and archaeological background.

The second phase involved a field inspection and assessment of the Site.

Field inspection

- A field inspection was carried out on 21st September 2023 to identify and assess any known archaeological and architectural sites and previously unrecorded features and portable finds within the Site.

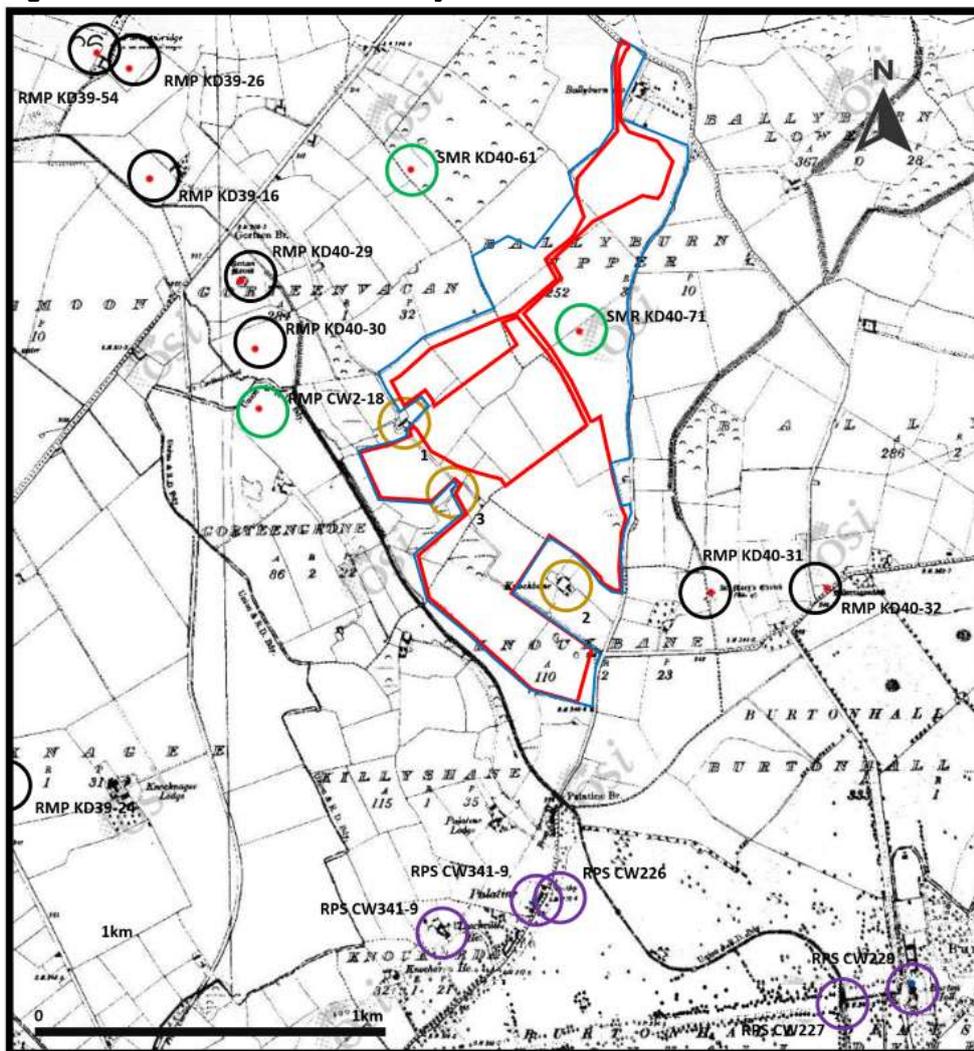
12.2.2 Assessment of the Proposed Development

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

Extracts from the Record of Monuments and Places for County Kildare are presented on a map of the local area around the site in Figure 12-1. RMP sites included on the Records of Monuments and Places statutory mapping are identified by black circles. The Site is shown with a red line.

The assessment study area superimposed on the SMR map for Counties Kildare and Carlow. The Site and haul route boundary are outlined by the red and pink lines and the existing permitted quarry in blue. The Sites outlined in pink have already been assessed under 05/2091 and ABP PL 09.220222. The proposed extraction area is indicated by the black line. RMPs are indicated with black circles, SMRs with green circles, RPS with purple circles, and unlisted buildings in the vicinity of the Site with brown circles.

Figure 12-1: The assessment study area



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12.2.3 Guidelines

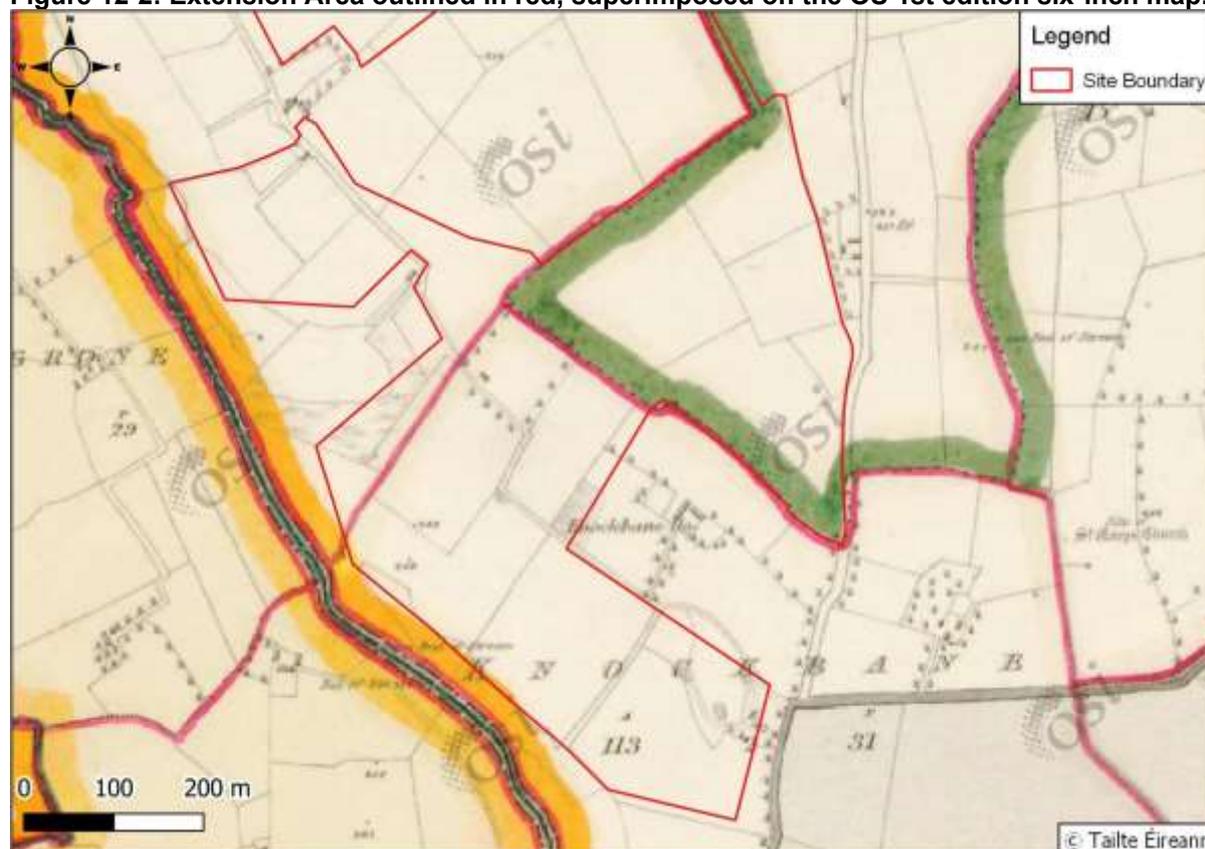
The report format and some of the descriptions of effects are based on the Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Report, published by the Environmental Protection Agency ('EPA') in 2022.

12.3 Receiving Environment

12.3.1 The Landscape

The Site is located in the townlands of Ballyburn Upper, Gorteenvacan, and Knockbane, Co. Kildare, on OS Six Inch sheet No. 40, ca. 3.7km to the south-west of the town of Castledermot and 0.43km west of the R448 road. The local soil is an Elton series fine loamy drift with limestones overlying drift with limestones [1]. The extension lands are currently in use for pastoral and tillage agriculture. See Figure 12-2, 12-3 and 12-4 below.

Figure 12-2: Extension Area outlined in red, superimposed on the OS 1st edition six-inch map.



1 <http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/map/php> Irish Soils Information System (URL accessed 17-8-2023).

Figure 12-3: Extension Area outlined in red, superimposed on the OS 1st edition twenty five inch map.

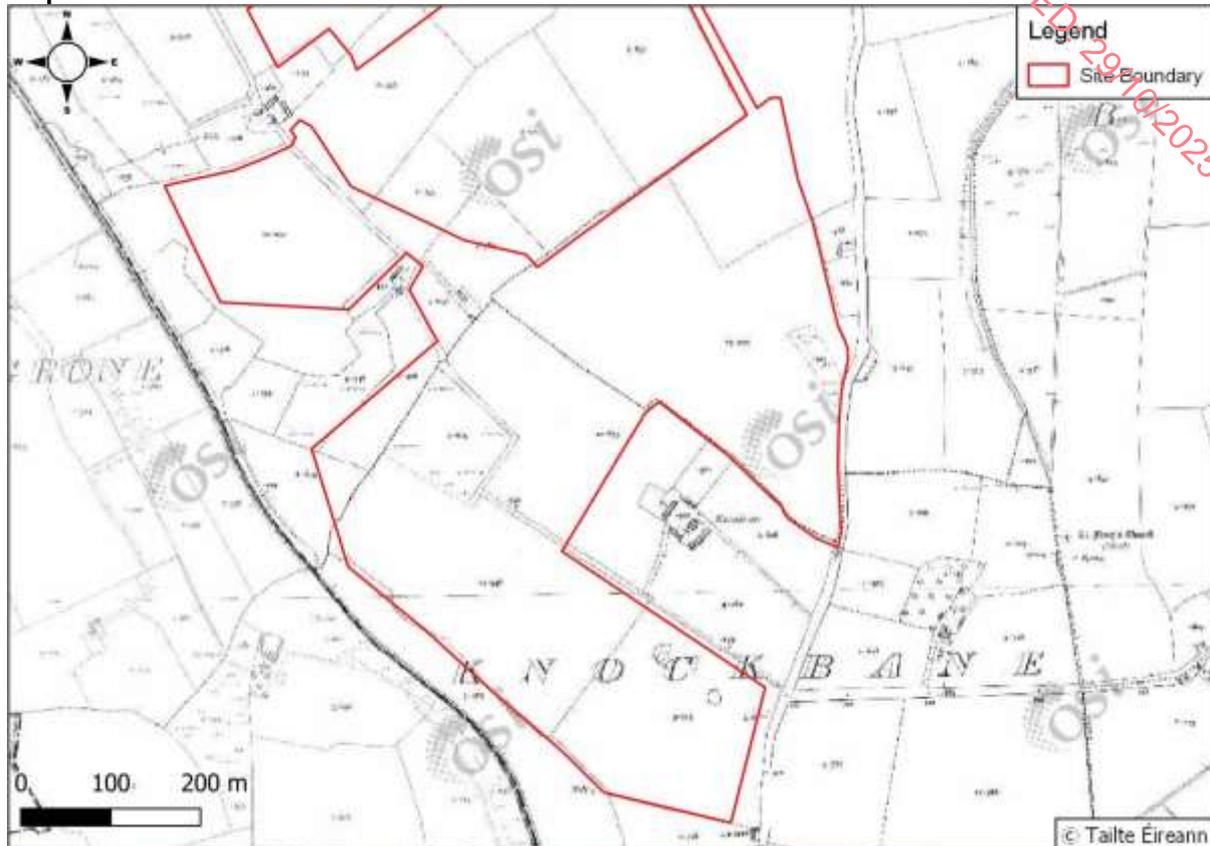


Figure 12-4: Extension area outlined in red, superimposed on LiDAR taken in 2011 (OPW_2579). Contains Irish Public Sector Data (Geological Survey Ireland & the Office of Public Works) licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) license.



12.3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

The following is a summary of the archaeological and historical development of the study area and the main types of sites, monuments and structures that are known from the surrounding area. The purpose of this approach is to place the types of sites, monuments and structures in the study area in a cultural and chronological context to assist the assessment. The Site is situated in the townlands of Ballyburn Upper, Gorteenvacan, and Knockbane, County Kildare, in the civil parishes of Castledermot and Killelan and the barony of Kilkea and Moone (Note the original spellings of placenames recorded in source material are retained in the text).

12.3.2.1 The Prehistoric Period

There is prehistoric archaeological material known in the vicinity of the Site including a Bronze Age cist burial in Gorteenvacan townland (RMP KD039-026---), a Late Bronze Age house (09E0128) and pits, post-holes, ditches and a spread (20E0185) in Ballyburn Upper and six Fulacht fia in Ballyburn Lower (A021/006-8, E002563, E002565-6) that indicate prehistoric activity in the study area.

12.3.2.2 The Early Medieval Period

In the Early Medieval period the study area was situated in the kingdom of Iarthar Liphí, later known as Uí Muiredaig, which was ruled by the Uí Muiredaig sept [5]. Classically settlement at this period is indicated by the presence of enclosed farmsteads known as ringforts, when enclosed with earthen banks, and cashels when enclosed by stone walls. A large bivallate ringfort with a souterrain and burials was excavated in the existing pit in 2013 (13E045) just to the north of the Site.

12.3.2.3 The Medieval Period

On the death of Diarmait Mac Murchade in 1171 his son-in-law Richard fitz Gilbert de Clare claimed the Lordship of Leinster. By the time of his death in 1176, when the Lordship of 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. The Uí Muireadhaigh lands in the Barony of Kilkea had been granted to Walter de Ridelisford and that sept pushed eastward into the Glen of Imail.

In 1189 King Henry II gave Isabel de Clare, daughter and heiress of the deceased Lord of Leinster, to William Marshal in marriage along with Leinster and other lands. With the death of the last surviving son of William and Isabel Marshall, Anselm, in 1245 the Lordship of Leinster came into the hands of King Henry III. Leinster was partitioned between Anselm's five sisters and Kildare came to Sibilla and her husband, William Ferrars. It passed through their daughter, Agnes Ferrars, to her husband William de Vescy and to their son William de Vescy, who in 1297 surrendered Kildare to King Edward I, and it became a Royal County. In 1316, following the Scottish invasion of Ireland by Robert Bruce, John fitz Thomas, the Geraldine Baron of Offaly, was made Earl of Kildare. The following year the Liberty of Kildare was given to his son Thomas fitz John, the second Earl. The Gerladines held the Earldom of Kildare until Thomas FitzGerald, 10th Earl of Kildare, forfeited the title in 1537 and Kildare once again became a Royal County.

Kilkea along with Norragh and Reban, Kilcullen and southern part of South Naas was the territory of the Uí Muireadhaigh (O Murethi) named after the King of Leinster who died in 975. They took the surname O'Toole from Tuathal, King of Leinster, who died in 926 [6]. The current barony of Kilkea and Moone was in the Medieval period three baronies: Kilkea, Moone and Dunlost. The Barony of Kilkea including the manors of Kilkea and Tristledermot (Castledermot) and Imail in the modern barony of Upper Talbotstown was granted by Strongbow to Sir Walter de Ridelisford, Baron of Bray, before 1176. de Ridelisford drove the Uí Muireadhaigh into Imail (Ibid. 67). However, the O'Tuathail continued to claim the barony, and the Annals note that in 1259 Felim O'Tuathail, Lord of Sil-Muireadhaigh Omurethi, died. (Annals of the Four Masters 1259.15). In 1388 John Roe O'Tuathail, Lord of the Hy-Muireadhaigh, was killed (Annals of the Four Masters 1388.3) and in 1404 Felim, the son of Hugh O'Tuathail, Lord of the Hy-Muireadhaigh, died. (Annals of the Four Masters 1404.15).

The process of sub-infeudation is normally associated with the construction of timber castles, known as Motte and Baileys. These earthwork fortifications were used to house and defend the Norman lords and their retinues while they set about the process of pacifying and organizing their new fiefs. The closest motte castle to the study area is situated in the centre of the barony ca. 6.5km to the north-west at de Ridelisford's administrative centre at Kilkea Demesne.

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 authority. In Ireland the Lord's manor house was also sometimes enclosed by a rectangular moat and these sites are referred to as moated sites. They are a useful indicator of Anglo-Norman settlement. The closest possible moated site to the Proposed Development is the rectangular cropmark site in Gorteenvacan townland (KD 40-030---), close to the ford of the River Gorteen. This was probably the Manor of the Lord who received the study area as a fief from the de Ridelisfords.

Walter de Ridelisford died in 1226 and the barony passed to his son Walter de Ridelisford II who died before 1276 without a male heir. The barony passed to his daughter Emmeline de Ridelisford who married Stephen Longespee. The barony was passed to their two daughters Eleanora and Emmeline Longespee. Emmeline's first husband was Maurice Fitzgerald, 3rd baron Offaly, and Eleanora married Robert de Marisco. After the death of de Marisco the Barony was shared between Christiana de Marisco and Emmeline Longespee from 1246.

In 1281 Christiana de Marisco agreed to trade her share to King Edward I in return for English lands. The King gave Christiana's share of the barony to his Queen Eleanor, but on her death returned the lands to Christian de Marisco. On her death the barony passed to Emmeline Longespee. On Eleanor's death in 1291 the barony was taken back into the King's hands. In 1305 Edward I granted Christiana de Marisco's part of the barony to John Wogan, The Justiciary of Ireland [7]. In 1305 Emmeline Longespee also granted her share of the barony to John Wogan [7].

On the death of John Wogan in 1311 the barony was passed to his son John Wogan. On his death in 1328 Kilkea barony passed to his son Thomas Wogan, in 1358 to his son John Wogan, in 1370 to David Wogan and in 1417 to John Wogan. John Wogan died in 1421 and Kilkea passed to his brother Thomas Wogan. In 1427 Castledermot was taken and burned by Gerald Kavanagh McMurrough and Thomas Wogan was captured. After payment of a ransom he was released in 1428 (Close Roll, 6 Henry VI, n.34, Tresham, p246b). Thomas Wogan died in 1435 and as his son Nicholas was a minor the barony was taken into the King's hands [Pat Roll, 13 Henry VI m53, imperfectly calendared in Tresham, p257b].

12.3.2.4 The Later Medieval Period

The fifteenth century was characterised by the decline of Anglo-Norman power in Ireland which had been ebbing since the early fourteenth century. 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 [8]. However, about 1443 Castledermot was taken by Donnchadh mac Art MacMurrough-Kavanagh and destroyed and the whole barony was overrun [9]. Kilkea remained under the control of MacMurrough-Kavanagh until Gearóid Mor Fitzgerald, 8th Earl of Kildare, reconquered the Barony between 1478 and 1483. Therefore no tower houses were constructed in the study area until the tower at Gorteenvacan was built by Richard Eustace of Ballybyrne (Ballyburn) as part of his rental agreement with Patrick Fitzgerald in 1600. He had to build a tower on Gorteen mound with one storey above the vault, a slate roof, battlements and a stone perimeter with a strong oak gate [10].

In 1483 the Irish Parliament, meeting at Limerick, granted the Earl of Kildare all the lands between Calverstown and Leighlinbridge which were not re-occupied by their original owners within 6 years [9]. This allowed the Earl to acquire title to much of the land in the study area. In 1485 the Earl received a grant of labour for the building of a castle at Castledermot and the town was also rebuilt [11]. In the Earl of Kildare's Rental Book of 1518 Ballybirm (Ballyburn), Knocknecrow (Knocknagee) and Davidistown (Davidstown) and Bealaghmone (Bellaghmoon) were all the property of the Earl and rented to his agent Conour OGeran [12].

12.3.2.5 The Post-Medieval Period

In the sixteenth century the Tudors adopted a much more interventionist policy in Ireland and sought to impose the protestant reformation on the one hand and new legislation and institutions on the other. This policy provoked the revolt of Thomas FitzGerald the 10th Earl of Kildare in 1534 which was put down the following year and resulted in his execution and the forfeiture of the earldom in 1537. Royal ecclesiastical supremacy was enacted by the Dublin Parliament of 1536-37, leading to the dissolution of the monasteries throughout Kildare and Leinster by 1541. In that year the Irish Parliament also recognized Henry VIII as king of Ireland.

The confiscation of monastic property, as the lands of absentee owners and the rebels in Co. Kildare, met most of the costs of the expanded administration.

During the revolt of Thomas FitzGerald, the 10th Earl of Kildare, Castledermot was taken in 1534 by the earl of Ormond and he was made Constable of the castle in 1540. In the subsequent Crown survey of 1541, which recorded land ownership before the FitzGerald forfeiture, Richard Walle was the tenant of Frumpalston, Galfridu Walle was the tenant of Knockbon, Henry Wale was the tent of Gurtyneovokan and the Earl of Kildare was the owner of Villa de Byrnston (Ballyburn), Villata de Ballaghmoney (Bellaghmoon), Villata de Davydyston (Davidstown) and Villata de Knocknekrey (Knocknagee) [12]. In 1554 Gerald the 11th earl of Kildare was restored to his title and lands by Queen Elizabeth [9].

Tickell (1960) noted that in 1590 Ballyburn was rented by James Eustace of Grangemore who was followed by his son Richard. FitzGerald [13] noted that in and before 1600 Patrick Fitzgerald of Damastown, Co. Dublin held the neighbouring lands of Gorteenvacan from the Earl of Kildare. In 1600 he sublet Gorteenvacan to Richard Eustace of Ballybyrne, son of James third son of John Eustace of Castlemartin. In 1608 Thomas Fitzgerald granted Richard Eustace a further 31 year lease. Richard died in 1637 and his youngest son Maurice held Gorteenvacan in 1641. On the expiration of Richard Fitzgerald's lease in 1652 Gorteenvacan was rented to the Archbolds of Timolin.

In the Civil Survey of 1654-5, the Earl of Kildare was noted as owning most of the Barony of Kilkea in 1641, over 9000 profitable acres. This included Ballyburn, Bellaghmoon, Davidstown, Gorteenvacan (which was on a long rental) and Knocknagee. The remaining lands were held by his cousins James Fitzgerald of Lackagh, Pierce Fitzgerald of Ballysonnan, the FitzGerald of Little Birton, Nicholas Fitzgerald of Mullamast, and Thomas Fitzgerald of Belan. The lands held by the Eustaces: Sir Maurice Eustace, The Eustaces of Moone, and Walter Eustace of Ballecollan, as well as Christopher Archboulde, the Walles, Sir Andrew Aylmer of Donadea, Walter Barrowes, Walter Peppard of Kilkea, and Nicholas Whyte [14].

During the war of the Three Kingdoms the Earl of Kildare acted as Governor of Kildare and thus retained his lands at the Cromwellian settlement. The Book of Survey and Distribution c.1678 [13] indicates some changes in landholding in the area, Gorteenvacan changed from being occupied exclusively by Christopher Archboulde to being shared between him and Sr. Charles Wheeler and William Archboulde and Prumplestown, owned by Garret Wall, was noted as never seized. The Earl of Kildare appears to have retained ownership of Ballyburn and his other lands.

By 1859 Griffiths valuation indicates that the Earl of 660Kildare, Duke of Leinster since 1766, had sold all of his lands in the area, retaining only Bolton in Killelan parish. The landholding of the study area was now extremely broad.

12.3.3 Kildare County Development Plan 2023-29

Chapter 11 of the Kildare Co. Development Plan 2023-29 sets out the policies and objectives on built and cultural heritage within the County. There are several policies, objectives and actions outlined in Chapter 11 of the plan in respect of built and cultural heritage which state:

Archaeological Heritage

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 ('RMP') or newly discovered archaeological sites and/or subsurface and underwater archaeological remains.*

AH O2 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.

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.

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.

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.

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. • any subsurface archaeological features including those underwater, that may be discovered during the course of infrastructural/development works in the operational area of the Plan. Preservation relates to archaeological sites or objects and their settings.

AH O7 Contribute towards the protection and preservation of the archaeological value of underwater or archaeological sites associated with rivers and associated features.

AH O8 Protect historic burial grounds that are recorded monuments and encourage their maintenance in accordance with best conservation principles in co-operation with the Historic Monuments Advisory Committee and the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Development may be restricted or conditions requiring substantial excavation may be imposed in and adjacent to former burial grounds.

AH O9 Promote and support in partnership with the National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the concept of Archaeological Landscapes where areas contain several Recorded Monuments.

AH O10 Require that all development proposals for industrial buildings and sites identified in Kildare Industrial Archaeology Survey 2007 or otherwise identified as being of industrial archaeological importance be accompanied by an industrial archaeology assessment of the surrounding environment. New development should be designed in sympathy with and to protect existing features and structures.

AH A2 Where possible, facilitate and enhance public access to and understanding of the archaeological heritage and disseminate archaeological information and advice to prospective developers and the general public.

AH A3 Identify appropriate archaeological sites in the Plan area to which public access could be provided and work to secure public access, where appropriate, in consultation with the landowners.

AH A4 Support and encourage the provision of signage in Irish and English to publicly accessible recorded monuments.

AH A5 Support the implementation of the recommendations of the Curragh Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan, when, prepared, in association with relevant stakeholders, within the lifetime of this Development Plan.

AH A6 Encourage and promote the appropriate management and enhancement of archaeological heritage, to include community initiatives.

Walled Towns

AH P3 Support the protection and conservation of the medieval fabric and form of walled towns in the county.

AH O11 Avoid disturbance, removal and alteration of the line of identified town walls as detailed in Conservation Management and Interpretation Plans or the potential line of the town walls as identified in the Urban Archaeological Survey.

AH O12 Retain, where possible and practical, the existing street layout, historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these derive from medieval or earlier origins.

AH O13 Support and maintain the membership of Kildare, Naas, Athy and Castledermot in the Walled Towns Network.

AH O14 Support the inclusion of walled towns in County Kildare in the Historic Towns Initiative piloted by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

AH O15 Seek the preparation and implementation of heritage led regeneration plans for the historic core of towns in Co Kildare.

AH A7 Prepare a Conservation and Management Plan for Naas Town Walls and other defences categorised as 'National Monuments' (rather than 'Recorded Monuments') under the National Walled Towns Policy, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht 2008.

AH A8 Continue to develop the programme of survey and maintenance of Council-owned monuments and structures of historic interest through the Historic Monuments Advisory Committee and with the support of the National Monuments Section of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

World Heritage

AH P4 Recognise and respect potential World Heritage Sites in Kildare on the UNESCO Tentative List – Ireland.

AH O16 Support the State in the nomination process of Dun Ailinne to World Heritage status as part of an assemblage of Royal and Monastic Sites in co-operation with the relevant Local Authorities.

AH O17 Protect and enhance the setting of Dun Ailinne and support managed limited public access to the site. Only sensitive development that does not undermine the archaeological and cultural significance of the site will be permitted.

AH O18 Protect and sustain the established appearance and character of views associated with Dun Ailinne. Require any development proposals within/around Dun Ailinne to demonstrate that no adverse effects will occur on the established appearance or character of Dun Ailinne as viewed from either the Protected Panoramic Views or from surrounding public roads.

Features of Historical Interest

AH P5 Secure the identification, protection and conservation of historic items and features of interest throughout the county including street furniture, surface finishes, roadside installations, items of industrial heritage, riverine heritage, and other stand-alone features of interest (items not listed on the RMP or RPS).

AH O19 Ensure that development within the county including Council development retains, refurbishes and incorporates features of historical interest, as deemed appropriate in each instance.

AH A9 Develop a database of features of historical interest including street furniture, surface finishes, roadside installations, items of industrial heritage, riverine heritage, and other stand-alone features of interest (items not listed on the RMP or RPS) within villages and towns in County Kildare and ensure they are included in relevant Local Area Plans.

Architectural Heritage

Protected Structures

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.

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.

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.

AH O22 Refuse planning permission for the demolition of any protected structure unless the Council is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist. The demolition of a protected structure with the retention of its façade will likewise not generally be permitted.

AH O23 Require an Architectural Heritage Assessment Report, as described in Appendix B of the Architectural Heritage Protection, Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2011, to accompany all applications with potential for visual or physical impacts on a Protected Structure, its curtilage, demesne and setting. This report should be prepared by a person with conservation expertise that is appropriate to the significance of the historic building or site and the complexity of the proposed works.

AH O24 Safeguard the amenities of Castletown House including the main avenue, Donaghcumper, St Wolstans and the River Liffey environs as shown on Map V1 - 11.14. - Safeguard the amenities of The Wonderful Barn including the adjacent buildings.

AH O25 Maintain the views from Castletown House to the River Liffey and to protect the integrity of the designed landscape at Castletown Demesne, including the pathways, avenues, and the following views:

- Axial views between Castletown House and the Conolly Folly, Obelisk;
- Views between Castletown House and the Wonderful Barn including the trees and natural growth areas within same;
- Views from the House to the river and across the back parterre;
- Views across the river and to the linked demesnes of Donaghcumper and St. Wolstans; and,
- Views from the main avenue to, and across, the river towards Castletown, and up and down the river to Celbridge and New Bridges. Ensuring development does not inappropriately encroach on same.

AH O26 Require that planning applications in proximity to ‘Views to be Preserved’ are accompanied by a Visual Impact Assessment.

AH O27 Maintain the views to and from Carton House and protect the character of the historic designed landscape within Carton Demesne, as outlined in Map V1 - 11.13.

AH O28 Support the re-development of Clongowes Wood College to ensure the continued and enhanced educational use of this protected structure. 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 complex including the structures, demesne and/or attendant grounds.

AH O29 Preserve and protect the historic, architectural, and military heritage of The Curragh Camp. Ensure that proposed development within the curtilage and/or attendant grounds demonstrates that it is part of an overall strategy to protect the heritage significance of the entire Curragh Camp.

AH O30 Ensure that, in the event of planning permission being granted for development within the curtilage and attendant grounds of a protected structure, a sustainable use and appropriate maintenance plan is in place for the structure and any associated buildings or structures of

heritage interest. The proposed works to the protected structure should occur in the first phase of the development to prevent endangerment, abandonment and dereliction of the structure.

AH O31 Protect the designed landscapes associated with protected structures and retain important elements of the built heritage including historic gardens, stone walls, pathways, and avenues within the curtilage and attendant grounds of protected structures.

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.

AH O33 Promote best practice and the use of skilled specialist practitioners in the conservation of, and any works to, protected structures. Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment reports should make reference to the DHLGH Advice Series on how best to repair and maintain historic buildings. The AHIA report should summarise the principal impacts on the character and special interest of the structure or site and describe how it is proposed to minimise these impacts. It may also describe how the works have been designed or specified to have regard to the character of the architectural heritage.

AH O34 Encourage high quality design in relation to planning applications that are made for the construction of extensions or new buildings affecting protected structures or older buildings of architectural merit not included in the RPS. The Council will have regard for the visual impacts on the setting and character of protected structures and/or buildings of architectural merit not included on the RPS, when considering applications on neighbouring sites.

AH O35 Favourably consider the change of use of any structure included on the Record of Protected Structures, where such a change of use does not adversely impact on its intrinsic character or special interest and where such a use may otherwise not conform to the zoning matrix associated with any Local Area Plan.

AH O36 Actively encourage uses that are compatible with the character of protected structures. In certain cases, the Planning Authority may relax site restrictions / development standards in order to secure the preservation and restoration of a protected structure or building of architectural merit that is not included on the RPS.

AH O37 Promote the use of energy upgrade materials and technologies that follow good conservation practice and are compatible with the character and vapour permeable construction of traditionally built structures.

AH O38 Support appropriate and sensitive thermal upgrade of protected structures and other heritage buildings. These works shall be undertaken with the necessary planning permission / statutory declarations with the advice of Kildare County Council's Architectural Conservation Officer.

AH O39 Promote the maintenance and appropriate re-use of buildings of architectural, cultural, historic and aesthetic merit which make a positive contribution to the character, appearance and quality of the streetscape or landscape and the sustainable development of the county. Any works associated with the re-use of such buildings should be carried out in accordance with best conservation practice.

AH O40 Encourage appropriate change of use and reuse of industrial buildings of heritage interest, provided such a change does not seriously impact on the intrinsic character of the structure and that all works are carried out in accordance with best conservation practice.

AH O41 Promote the retention of original or early building fabric including timber sash windows, stonework, brickwork, joinery, render and slate. Likewise, the Council will encourage the re-instatement of historically correct traditional features.

AH O42 Retain where practicable a protected structure which has been damaged by fire, and to retain those elements of that structure that have survived (either in whole or in part) and that contribute to its special interest.

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.

AH O44 Co-operate with Waterways Ireland in the management, maintenance and enhancement of the Royal Canal and Grand Canal and associated structures/features. Such projects shall be subject to an AA Screening Report, and where applicable, Stage 2 AA. They shall have a regard for any hydrological connection shared with a European Site and their qualifying interest species. The project shall account for any potential likely significant effects and provide mitigation and monitoring where appropriate.

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

AH A10 Review and amend on an ongoing basis the Record of Protected Structures and make additions, deletions and corrections as appropriate over the period of this Plan.

AH A11 Prepare a Buildings at Risk Register to prevent the endangerment of Protected Structures, historic or vernacular buildings.

AH A12 Carry out an audit and assess the condition of all protected structures within the Council's ownership and devise a management plan including a range of proposed uses for these structures, which may include community uses.

AH A13 Carry out field surveys of industrial heritage in the county and make recommendations for its protection.

AH A14 Carry out an audit of all historic rail and road bridges and disused railway lines in Kildare and liaise with Iarnród Éireann and Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the management, maintenance and enhancement of same.

AH A15 Carry out a pilot study on the sympathetic re-use of a Protected Structure/ or groups of buildings in an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) to address high quality residential reuse in historic urban cores of towns and villages.

Country Houses and Demesnes

AH P7 Promote appreciation of the landscape and historical importance of traditional and historic gardens, demesnes and parks within County Kildare and particularly where they constitute an important and intrinsic value to the setting of a protected structure.

AH P8 Preserve and protect the historic gardens and designed landscapes identified in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage Survey of Historic Gardens and Designed

AH O46 Encourage conservation, renewal and improvement which enhances the character and the setting of parks, gardens, and demesnes of historic interest within the county.

AH O47 Assess the demesnes and historic designed landscapes within Kildare and promote the conservation of their essential character, both built and natural, while allowing for appropriate re-use.

AH O48 Co-operate with owners in the protection, promotion and enhancement of heritage gardens and parks in the county, to support public awareness, enjoyment of and access to these sites and to seek the co-operation and assistance of other interested parties, including Government Departments and state agencies, in this regard.

AH O49 Preserve, protect and where necessary encourage the use of heritage/traditional varieties of plants and trees that form part of the local/ regional biodiversity resource and that contribute to local identity.

AH O50 Require where appropriate that an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment report is prepared in accordance with DHLGH Guidelines and conservation best practice to inform visual or physical impacts of a proposed development on a demesne, designed landscape, or park, that is associated with a protected structure or located within an Architectural Conservation Area.

AH O51 Require that planning applications take into consideration the impacts of the development on their landscapes and demonstrate that the development proposal has been designed to take account of the heritage resource of the landscape.

AH O52 Designate and protect historic landscape areas including demesnes and ensure that new development enhances the special character and visual setting of these historic landscapes and to prevent development that would have a negative impact on the character of the lands within these historic landscape areas.

AH A16 Designate Architectural Conservation Areas, through the local area plan process, and where considered appropriate, to preserve the character of a historic designed landscape.

AH A17 Carry out a pilot study to protect and enhance the amenity value of significant demesnes in the county, in cooperation with the property owners.

AH A18 Review and update Map V1 - 11.13, with respect to the extent of existing woodland within the Demesne Walls of Carton Demesne, during the life of the Plan.

Built Vernacular Heritage

AH P9 Promote the protection, retention, appreciation and appropriate revitalisation of the built vernacular heritage of the county.

AH O53 Ensure that an assessment of the existing buildings on-site is undertaken through an analysis of historic maps and an appraisal of the historic fabric and features. Development proposals should retain and incorporate existing buildings of merit and any elements that contribute to their distinctive character.

AH O54 Have regard to guidance in the DHLGH Guidelines and conservation best practice in assessing proposed interventions to vernacular structures, traditional farmhouses, their curtilage, out buildings and settings.

AH O55 Resist the demolition of built vernacular heritage, in particular thatched cottages and farmhouses, and to encourage their sensitive reuse having regard to the intrinsic character of the structure and the potential to prolong the life cycle of the embodied carbon contained within the structure.

AH O56 Require that a sustainable use and appropriate maintenance plan is in place for earlier dwellings of heritage interest on farms or rural sites, where planning permission is sought for a new dwelling.

AH O57 Require the submission of a written report from a suitably qualified professional where it is proposed to redevelop a derelict property or one that has been unoccupied for a long period of time. The report must demonstrate that any proposal will not structurally compromise the subject building and shall outline the measures to be taken in order to protect the building from collapse, both prior to and during construction works.

AH O58 Have regard to guidance in *The Thatched Houses of Kildare 2005* and *Reusing Farm Buildings, A Kildare Perspective 2007* published by Kildare County Council and *A Living Tradition – A Strategy to Enhance the Understanding, Minding and Handling of our Built Heritage (2021)* published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in assessing planning applications relating to vernacular buildings, thatched cottages, and traditional farm buildings.

AH O59 Respect the setting, form, scale and materials of existing vernacular structures and to only permit changes to these structures where they are sympathetic to their special features and character.

AH O60 Preserve the character, including original building features or materials should be retained such as windows, doors, roof coverings and setting (e.g. gates, gate piers, boundary treatments, courtyards etc) of vernacular buildings, where deemed appropriate by the planning authority. Proposals for extensions to historic or vernacular buildings should not erode the setting and design qualities of the original structure and should be in proportion or subservient to the existing building.

AH O61 Require the use of appropriate materials and methods when undertaking repairs to the historic fabric.

AH O62 Protect (through the use of ACAs, the RPS and in the normal course of development management) vernacular buildings where they contribute to the character of areas and/or where they are rare examples of a structure type.

AH O63 Ensure that new buildings adjacent to vernacular structures and extensions to vernacular buildings are of an appropriate design and do not detract from the character of these structures.

AH O64 Seek the repair and retention of traditional timber and/or rendered shop fronts and pub fronts, including those that may not be protected structures.

AH A19 Identify and retain good examples of historic street furniture in situ e.g. cast-iron post-boxes, water pumps, signage, street lighting, kerbing and traditional road and street surface coverings.

AH A20 Develop and publish guidelines on the conservation and appropriate re-use of Local Authority cottages and similar vernacular structures.

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Architectural Conservation Areas

AH O65 Ensure that any development, modifications, alterations, or extensions within an ACA are sited and designed appropriately and are not detrimental to the character of the structure or to its setting or the general character of the ACA and are in keeping with any Architectural Conservation Area Statement of Character Guidance Documents prepared for the relevant ACA.

AH O66 Ensure that all planning applications for new developments within or immediately contiguous to an ACA include an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment and Design Rationale addressing design considerations such as urban structure and grain, density and mix, scale, height, materials, landscape, views and landmarks and historic development.

AH A21 Investigate the designation of further ACAs at appropriate locations throughout the county including The Curragh Camp, Johnstown, Ballymore Eustace, Kilcullen, Brannockstown, Rathmore, Clane, Newbridge and Castledermot.

AH A22 (a) Prepare “Guidelines for the Management and Development of ACAs” identified in this plan. (b) Carry out a pilot study on developing a pro-active and dynamic framework for ACAs for the physical and economic enhancement of the built heritage character of a town/village.

AH A23 Have regard to DHLGH Guidelines and conservation best practice in assessing the character and significance of a historic town or urban area and the formulation of an ACA or in assessing development proposals relating to an ACA.

AH A24 Require where appropriate that an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment report is prepared in accordance with DHLGH Guidelines and conservation best practice to inform the visual or physical impacts of a proposed development on an ACA.

AH A25 Prepare a character statement appraisal and area specific policy for each ACA within the county and to preserve, protect and enhance the character of these areas.

12.3.4 Buildings

Designated structures

The Record of Protected Structures (‘RPS’) in the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029 and the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 were reviewed as part of the baseline study for this EIAR chapter [4] [15]. The review established that there are no structures within the Site. There are thirteen structures in the study area listed in the Record of Protected Structures (see Table 12-1 below).

The closest RPS externally to the Site is a water pump (RPS CW226) that is located ca.0.5km south of the Site. This and the remaining structures listed in the RPS are considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Development.

Table 12-1: Structures in the vicinity of the Site.

No. CW226	Water Pump
Structure type	Water pump
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None

Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	A late-nineteenth century hand pump set in a walled recess.
Plate	-
No. CW227	Bridge
Structure type	Bridge
Townland	Burton Hall Demesne
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	On the former avenue up to Burton Hall is a tall bridge over a stream. It is a single, round-headed arch of ashlar stone with raised voussoirs which rise from moulded base-moulds. The arch appears to date from the mid-18th century or earlier. The parapet wall and terminating piers appear to date from the early 19th century.
Plate	-
No. CW229	House
Structure type	Bridge
Townland	Burton Hall Demesne
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	The present house is a wing of the original Burton Hall which fell into decay in the late 19th century and was demolished sometime around 1900. The surviving wing is a three-bay, single-storey building over a high basement and dates from circa 1730. It is built of granite ashlar with limestone raised coigns, base-mould, block and start dressings to the tall windows and a heavy cornice. The slated roof is hipped at the North end. The South end was linked to the original house. A further range was added behind the original wing and has simple details.
Plate	-
No. CW341	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW342	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane

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Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW343	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW344	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW345	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.

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Plate	-
No. CW346	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW347	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW348	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW349	Cottage
Structure type	Cottage
Townland	Killyshane
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None

Description	One of row of eight, three-bay, single-storey, semi-detached cottages dated 1866 and built of coursed rubble granite. One pair has doorcases at the front while the other three pairs have entrances at the rear. There have been various minor alterations to these cottages with changes in glazing but they are essentially unaltered.
Plate	-
No. CW357	House
Structure type	House
Townland	Knockarda
Designation	RPS
Data source	Carlow Co. Development Plan 2022-28
Perceived Significance:	Regional
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	A three-bay, two-storey house of circa 1840 with smooth-rendered walls. There is a tetrastyle porch which has a shallow half octagon of Doric columns with marginal glazing, a mono-pitched roof with wide eaves. The porch is probably original and an interesting design solution. The sash windows have six panes in each sash and the slated, low-pitched, hipped roof has wide eaves with brackets and a pair of stacks.
Plate	-

Structures National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage ('NIAH') which is maintained by the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was examined as part of the baseline study for this section of the EIAR on the 22nd of August 2023². The review established that there are no additional structures within the Site or the study listed in the NIAH.

Field inspection

On the 19th of September 2023 fieldwork was carried out to identify any additional unlisted upstanding structures in the vicinity of the Site. This involved assessing all upstanding structures that are marked on the 1909 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping within 100m of the Site (see Table 12-3 and Fig. 12-1). There are three of these structures in this area (see below). None of these structures are of special architectural interest.

2 <http://webgis.archaeology.ie/historicenvironment/> Historic Environment Viewer of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. (URL accessed 22-8-2023)

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Figure 12-5: Extension Area.

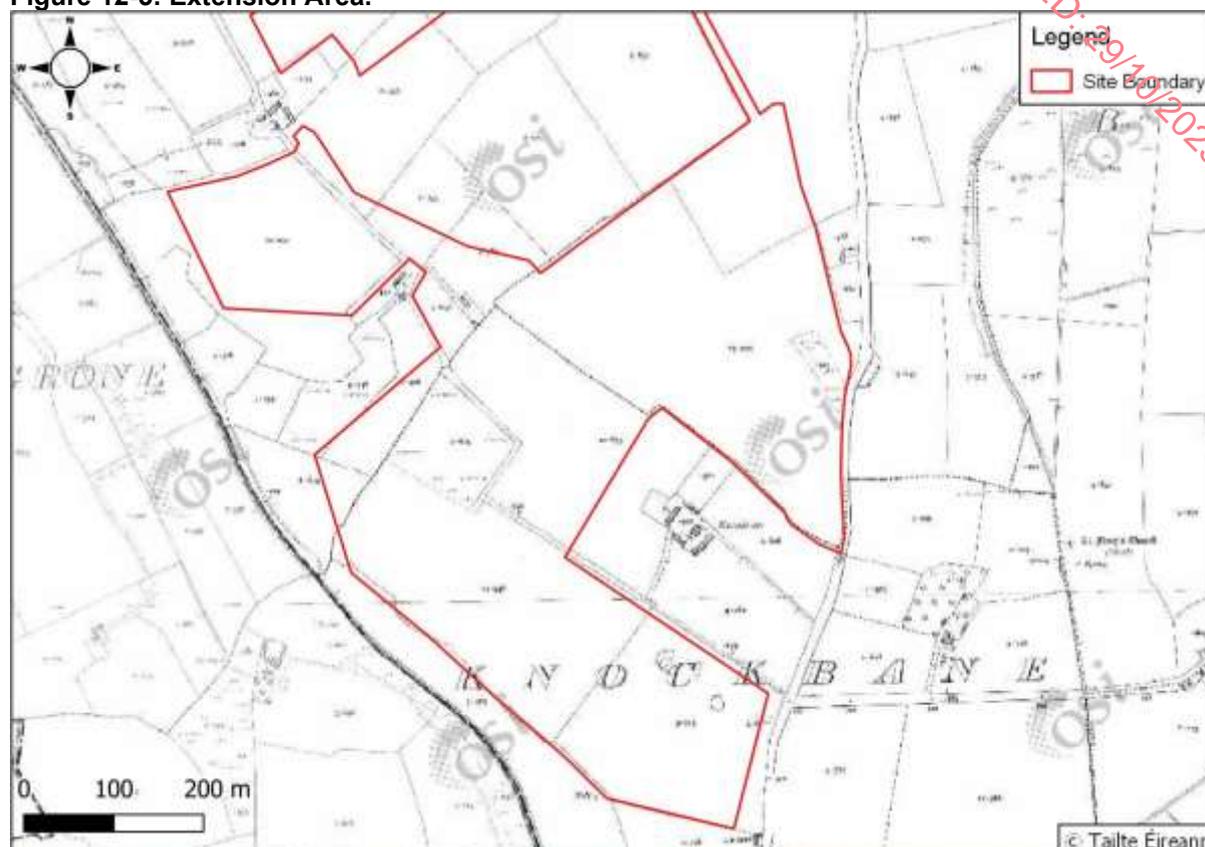


Table 12-2: Structures in the vicinity of the Site.

No. 1	House
Structure type	House
Townland	Gorteenvacan
Designation	None
Data source	1909 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey map
Perceived Significance:	None
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	Ruined single-storey house with corrugated roof. Interior overgrown. Part of an overgrown, ruined farmyard. No special architectural interest.
Plate	Plate 12-1

No. 2	House
Structure type	House
Townland	Knockbane
Designation	None
Data source	1909 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey map
Perceived Significance:	None
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None

No. 2	House
Description	Three-bay two-storey house with slate roof and front porch extension. No special architectural interest.
Plate	Plate 12-2

No. 3	Shed
Structure type	Shed
Townland	Knockbane
Designation	None
Data source	1909 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey map
Perceived Significance:	None
Type of impact:	None
Significance & quality of impact	None
Description	Ruined and overgrown single-storey shed with low lintelled doorway and no windows. Roof collapsed. No special architectural interest.
Plate	Plate 12-3

Plate 12-1: Structure 1 looking southwest



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Plate 12-2: Structure 2 looking northeast



Plate 12-3: View of structure 3 looking southeast



12.4 Archaeological Assessment

12.4.1 Recorded Monuments

Examination of the Record of Monuments and Places for Counties Kildare and Carlow indicated that there are no Recorded Monuments located in the Site (see Fig. 12-1). 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.

The closest Recorded Monument externally to the Site is that of a church KD040-031---- (see Appendix 12-1). This is described in the Record of Monuments as:

KD040-031---- Ballyhade Church

The site was already marked as 'site of' on the 1837 OS 6-inch map. Situated in a shallow valley. No visible surface traces.

The site of this monument is located c.240m east of the Site. The monument is no longer upstanding and will not be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Development.

The next closest Recorded Monument externally to the Site is the cropmark of a possible Moated site KD040-030---- (see Appendix 12-1). This is described in the Record of Monuments as:

KD040-030---- Gorteenvacan Moated site

Aerial photograph (CUCAP AYL 48) shows a cropmark of the S, W and N sides of a large rectangular enclosure consisting of an earthen bank with an external fosse (dims. of interior, c 100m x c 50m). Cropmarks of the bank and fosse are visible at ground level. Also visible on a 1990 G. Barrett aerial photo (GB90.CL.33) Situated in undulating pasture land, with a ridge which is possibly natural, closing off the site at the E. A possible castle site lies to the N..

The site of this monument is located c.300m north-west of the Site. The monument is no longer upstanding and will not be directly or indirectly impacted by the Proposed Development.

The remaining Recorded Monuments listed in the study area are all considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

12.4.2 The Sites and Monuments Record

Examination of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which is maintained by the Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the 21st of August 2023 indicated that there are no SMRs in the Site. The closest SMR externally to the Site is KD040-071---- (see Appendix 12-2). This SMR is described in the SMR as:

KD040-071---- Ballyburn Upper Field system

Cropmark of two rectangular shaped enclosures (approx. diam. 30m) with a linear ditch running along W side visible on Google earth aerial imagery.

Note that this possible field system is located within the permitted area of the existing quarry area and is considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by this proposal.

The remaining SMRs listed in the study area is considered to be too far distant to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposal.

3 <http://webgis.archaeology.ie/historicenvironment/> Historic Environment Viewer of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. (URL accessed 21-8-2023)

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12.4.3 Cartographic Sources

The Ordnance Survey 1st and 3rd edition six-inch maps and the first edition twenty-five-inch maps of the area were examined (see Figs 12-2 and 12-3). There are several sand and gravel pits and two lime kilns indicated on the OS 1st edition map in field 3 near the road (see Plate 12-5 below for area numbers). There is also a lime kiln visible on the 1st edition twenty-five inch map in the same location. The lime kilns are no longer visible at ground level. There is a small structure visible in the south-west part of area 10 and another in the northern corner of area 8 on the 1st edition six-inch map that are not visible at ground level.

12.4.4 Place name evidence

The place names were extracted from the cartography in order to facilitate the search for structures and monuments and small finds, to help identify any unrecorded monuments or structures, to search for any published papers and documents related to the study area and to assist in the study of the historical development of the area. The place names were looked up in the Placenames Database of Ireland at Logainm.ie⁴ (see Table 12-2). The placenames refer primarily to propitiators, topographical features and landcover. Burton Hall was originally Baile na Coille, town of the church wood which may refer to St. Mary's Church (RMP KD040-031----) which is nearby in Ballyhade townland. There is no church associated with Killyshane townland.

Table 12-3: Townland names in the study area

Townland name	Translation
Ballaghmoon	Mughain's road or pass
Ballyburn Upper / Lower	Uí Bhroin's town
Ballyhade	Aide's town or Hade's town'
Ballyvergal	O'Morgal's town'
Burton Hall/Demesne	Originally Baile na Coille, town of the church wood
Gorteengrone	Dark little garden
Gorteenvacan	Little field of the parsnips
Killyshane	John's Church'
Knockarda	High hills
Knockbane	White hill
Knocknagee	Hill of the wind

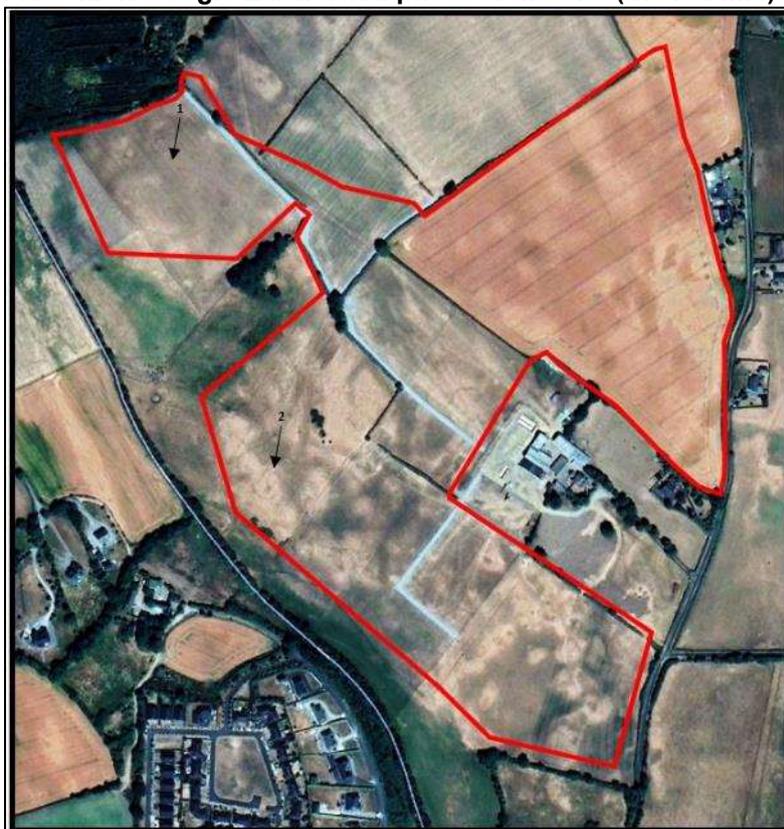
12.4.5 Aerial imagery

Online Ordnance Survey aerial photography taken in 1995, 1999-2000 and 2004-2005, 2005-2006 and 2013-2014, Google Earth imagery from 2005, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, and Microsoft Bing imagery from 2011 were reviewed (see Plates 12-4 and 12-5). On the July 2018 Google Earth image there is a dark oval grass mark measuring ca. 128m east-west by 78m north-south visible in area 8 (indicated as No.1 on Plate 12-4). This could potentially be the remains of an oval enclosure or relict field system. There is no visible indication of the possible site at ground level (see Plate 12-14). There is

4 www.logainm.ie - The Placenames Database of Ireland, developed by Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge (Dublin City University) and The Placenames Branch (Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht). (URL accessed: 17-8-2023).

also a dark circular grass mark ca. 31m in diameter indicated on the same image in the southern part of area 7, that is also visible on a 1995 OS orthophoto (indicated as No. 2 on Plate 1-4). This could potentially be the remains of a circular enclosure. There is no visible indication of the possible site at ground level (see Plate 12-13). OPW LiDAR of the area was also reviewed but indicated nothing of potential archaeological significance (see Figure 12-4).

Plate 12-4: Google Earth aerial photo of the Site (the red line) taken in July 2018



12.4.6 Stray finds

Examination of the topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland for the townlands in the study area revealed two artefacts from the study (see Table 12-3). A number of standard artefact corpus studies were also consulted and no other artefacts were identified [16] [17] [18] [19] [20].

Table 12-4: Stray Finds from the study area

Townland	Description
Ballyhade	Saddle quern, oval with concave upper surface, made from fine grained foliated granite with a percentage of amethystine quartz. Found on the surface of a field during ploughing in 1964. NMI 1966:118
Gorteenvacan	Four handled bronze mortar, seventeenth century in date. Found on the surface of plough soil in 1979.

12.4.7 Archaeological investigations

Examination of the Excavations Bulletin at Excavations.ie⁵ indicated that there have been several licensed excavations carried out in the study area. Five of these excavations were

⁵ <https://excavations.ie/> - Database of Irish Excavation Reports (URL accessed 23-08-2023).

carried out in the existing permitted quarry (08E0634, 09E0128, 09E0193, 13E045 and 20E0185) and identified extensive prehistoric and Early Medieval archaeological remains. The summaries below are from the Excavations Bulletin.

12.4.7.1 Ballyburn Lower A021/006 Fulacht fiadh

This site was identified during archaeological testing of Area 1 of Archaeological Services Contract 3, N9/N10 Kilcullen–Waterford scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown (A021/001). Area 1 ran from Prumplestown Lower to Russellstown townlands. Test-trenches totalling c. 19,000 linear metres were excavated within Area 1 and nine areas of archaeological significance were identified (Sites 1–10; A021/006–015, this volume, Nos 729–31, 733, 738–41 and 785–6).

Two spreads of burnt-mound material were identified in the southwest corner of Field 5, truncated by a number of field drains. One spread was 15m in length by 13m and was identified in Trenches 9, 12 and 11. The other spread was located 10m to the east and recorded in Trenches 7 and 12. A 4m by 4m area was visible, but the exact dimensions could not be ascertained as the burnt-mound material continued beyond the limit of the CPO. A small test-pit excavated to ascertain the depth of the upcast material identified the presence of a potential wood-lined trough at a depth of 0.7m below the burnt-mound material.

12.4.7.2 Ballyburn Lower A021/007 Fulacht fiadh

This site was identified during testing of Area 1 of Archaeological Services Contract 3, N9/N10 Kilcullen–Waterford scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown (A021/001). Area 1 ran from Prumplestown Lower to Russellstown townlands. Test-trenches totalling c. 19,000 linear metres were excavated within Area 1 and nine areas of archaeological significance were identified (Sites 1–10; A021/006–015, this volume, Nos 729–31, 733, 738–41 and 785–6).

A single spread of burnt-mound material measuring 9m in length, 6.5m in width and 0.15m deep was located within Trenches 3 and 5. Two grey circular pits were located within Trench 5, north of the fulacht fiadh, adjacent to this burnt mound. One was circular in plan and measured 1.15m in diameter and 0.62m in depth. It had an irregular break of slope and a concave base. A further pit was identified adjacent to the east but was not investigated.

12.4.7.3 Ballyburn Lower A021/008 Fulacht fiadh

This site was identified during testing of Area 1 of Archaeological Services Contract 3, N9/N10 Kilcullen–Waterford scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown (A021/001). Area 1 ran from Prumplestown Lower to Russellstown townlands. Test-trenches totalling c. 19,000 linear metres were excavated within Area 1 and nine areas of archaeological significance were identified (Sites 1–10; A021/006–015, this volume, Nos 729–31, 733, 738–41 and 785–6).

A single burnt-mound spread with visible dimensions of c. 10m by 6m and a depth of around 0.2m was identified in Trenches 1 and 19. Additional burnt-mound material was located in Trench 18, although this did not extend in a continuous unbroken layer and may have been a result of plough erosion or a discrete spread.

12.4.7.4 Ballyburn Lower E002563 Fulacht fiadh

The site, a substantial subcircular burnt mound measuring 15m long (east–west) and 9m wide, was excavated as part of the N9/N10 Kilcullen to Waterford scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown. The mound comprised heat-shattered sandstone and charcoal to a depth of c. 0.5m. A circular stone-filled trough was revealed beneath the mound; no lining was present. A small amount of disarticulated animal bone and cut timber were found in various locations under the mound, which was truncated by a modern field boundary on its southern edge. No finds were recovered from this excavation.

12.4.7.5 Ballyburn Lower E002565 Fulacht fiadh

A shallow, irregular-shaped mound of charcoal and heat-shattered limestone and sandstone measuring 11m long (north–south) and 4.5m wide was excavated as part of the N9/N10 Kilcullen to Waterford road scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown. A sub-oval trough measuring 2.5m long (east–west) and 1.2m wide was found c. 2m to the north of the mound, adjacent to a small running stream. The trough had timber rails running lengthwise, at the exact level of the groundwater in the area and showed evidence of expert construction in the placement of the rails and strengthening of the sides to create a suitable and convenient working space. To the west of the trough, a total of 144 stake-holes were clustered in a tight group, running approximately in a north-south orientation, possibly creating a windbreak or storage racks. From the amount and placement of stake-holes, it is possible that this trough was seasonally or repeatedly used. A circular pit measuring 2.2m in diameter was located c. 1.5m to the east of the trough, containing heat-shattered stone and charcoal, and evidence of recutting. No finds were recovered from this excavation.

12.4.7.6 Ballyburn Lower E002566 Fulacht fiadh

The site was excavated as part of the N9/N10 Kilcullen to Waterford scheme: Kilcullen to Powerstown. A large circular pit measuring 5.5m in diameter, cut to below groundwater level and with 76 stake-holes located at the water level mark in a double row formation around the pit, was excavated. These stake-holes possibly formed a light structure over the ‘pond’ and heat-affected stones were found in the base of the feature, suggesting that the water was heated within a protective covering, with access at the north-east side. Two knapping stones and a possible whetstone were recovered from the fills. A 3m-diameter pit abutted the pond, containing a substantial amount of random brushwood and organic material, with a sloping drainage channel attached on the northern side. A small burnt spread of charcoal and heat-shattered stone was located nearby and was much truncated by two modern field boundaries and a hardcore-filled drain. A separate possible structure, aligned around a possibly rectangular pit, was also disturbed by these modern features. It is thought that the burnt mound was originally quite substantial, but subsequent agricultural activity has eradicated the majority of the material. A number of other features in the area suggest that tree clearance was practised on the site before the described activity took place.

12.4.7.7 Ballyburn Upper 08E0634 Prehistoric pits; adjacent to the possible ringfort

Testing (Phase 1) was undertaken at the site of a new quarry in Ballyburn Upper, Co. Kildare, on behalf of the Irish Concrete Federation and Dan Morrissey (IRL) Ltd. The development is situated 3km southwest of Castledermot, 0.5km east of the main Castledermot to Carlow road and 1km south of the new N9/N10 Carlow bypass. The development site is currently being used for tillage agriculture and consists of a field c. 200 acres in size.

Based on the results of a geophysical survey carried out by Earthsound, seven separate areas containing 25 linear trenches were excavated. Archaeological features were uncovered in Areas 1, 3, 5, and 8 (Area 7 was not tested). The geophysical survey also detected a probable bi- or trivalent enclosure, probably a ringfort, in Area 9 to the south of the areas tested in this phase. It is intended to test Area 9 as part of Phase 2 works.

Area 1 was close to the northern limit of the site and revealed a possible kiln and associated charcoal-production pit. Several pits, post- and stake-holes with no discernible pattern were also uncovered. The kiln appeared figure-of-eight in plan with fire-reddened clay at the eastern end. Interpretation of this feature as a kiln was not entirely certain. Although it was figure-of-eight in plan with relatively intense fire reddening at one end, it was quite small and shallow, at 1.9m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.1m in depth. If there was a superstructure it had been

removed due to deep ploughing. The associated charcoal-production pit was located 1.6m to the south of the probable kiln. It measures 1.35m in length, 0.4m in width and 0.1m in depth. Its entire base and sides were fire-reddened, and it contained ca. 80% charcoal below a deposit of clayey silt. The remaining features in Area 1 were possible pits, post- and stake-holes. No coherent pattern was discernible and fills of these features did not provide any finds or recognisable environmental material (prior to specialist analysis) to identify the purpose of these features.

Area 3 revealed two small pits, one of which measured 0.62m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.22m in depth and produced a sherd of probable (Bronze Age) prehistoric pottery.

Area 5 was clearly the location of significant archaeological activity with numerous features uncovered in several trenches. These included a group of five medium-sized circular pits, one of which was 0.67m in diameter and 0.51m in depth and contained burnt and unburnt bone and much charcoal. Two probable charcoal-production pits, two clusters of post- and stake-holes with no coherent pattern, deposits of charcoal-rich silty clay with much animal bone and several linear features were also located here.

Area 8 contained three linear features. One of these appeared to be a possible foundation trench with vertical sides and a flat base and measured 0.2m in width and 0.22m in depth. The second was possibly a drainage feature. The third corresponded with the location of a field boundary as depicted on the first-edition OS map.

Except for the possible prehistoric pits in Area 3, this site appears to contain significant archaeological remains associated with the enclosure or ringfort.

12.4.7.8 Ballyburn Upper 09E0128 Bronze Age structure, early medieval pits, charcoal-production pits and deposits

Excavations were carried out on behalf of the Irish Concrete Federation and Dan Morrissey (IRL) Ltd at Ballyburn Upper, Co. Kildare, between 22 March and 17 April 2009. The works were undertaken on foot of the results of a geophysical survey and subsequent testing in December 2008, in advance of a new quarry development (Excavations 2008, No. 649, 08E0634). Four areas (Areas A–D) were stripped of topsoil and resolved.

Area A was located close to the north-western corner of the development and measured 75m north-south by 50m. This area produced seven charcoal-production pits, three of which were radiocarbon-dated to the early medieval period, plus a pit and post-hole. Area B was located 96m south of Area A and measured 50m east-west by 50m. This area produced nothing of archaeological interest. Area C was located 380m south of Area B, measured 75m north-south by 50m and revealed a circular arrangement of post-holes and post-pits with numerous internal stake-holes, two pits and a deposit. Radiocarbon dates showed that this structure dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age while one of the postholes contained a spindle whirl. Three pits were located within 2m of this structure, with two containing Middle Bronze Age pottery. A pit providing a date in the early medieval period was located 5m south-east of the structure. Area D was located ca. 180m northeast of Area C and measured 80m northwest/southeast by 80m. This area revealed 61 pits, three post-holes, four spreads, four field boundaries, two linear features, three tree boles and one (recorded) plough furrow and contained the majority of archaeological features and artefacts on this site. A pit located towards the eastern end of the area contained 40–50% of a bucket-shaped vessel of Middle Bronze Age date. A line of three stake-holes immediately to its west may have been related. Although no coherent pattern or alignment of features (mainly pits) was apparent, the remaining features in Area D were grouped into a further ten groups of features through proximity. Many of these features revealed a rich assemblage of animal bone, grain and metal waste dating to the early medieval period. Also retrieved were a strap-end that was

zoomorphic in design and a hybrid of Irish and Anglo-Saxon influences, a ringed pin, a buckle fragment, a bone pin, a corroded flanged object, possibly a wool-combing carpentry or leather-working tool, a weaving tool and four whittle-tanged knives.

This activity may be related to two enclosures uncovered through geophysical survey and subsequent non-invasive testing 200m to the south of Area D under licence 09E0193.

12.4.7.9 Ballyburn Upper 09E0193 Two enclosures, numerous associated features and deposits plus a possible structure

Non-invasive testing was conducted in April 2009 on behalf of Dan Morrissey (Ireland) Ltd and the Irish Concrete Federation as part of Phase 2 works for a new quarry site in Ballyburn Upper, Co. Kildare.

A geophysical survey revealed the presence of two circular enclosures on the summit and easterly slope of a low hill with commanding views of the surrounding countryside. A rectangular enclosure or possible field system was also suggested by the geophysical survey to the northwest of the enclosures. The first enclosure had two concentric ditches with a probable internal bank immediately inside the inner ditch. No bank was detected for the other ditch. The inner ditch enclosed a space 40m in diameter, while the outer ditch enclosed a space 85m in diameter. The inner ditch was 6m wide, while the outer ditch was 3.5–4m wide. A deposit of heat-shattered stones in a matrix of charcoal-rich sandy silt c. 12m in diameter was uncovered in the interior of the inner enclosure, while numerous pits and probable post-holes were also recorded. The second enclosure was located 5–10m northwest of the first. It enclosed a space 46m in diameter with a ditch 2m in width. Only two possible features (probable pits) were found in or near this enclosure. Two trenches to the south of these enclosures revealed two pits and a linear feature, while the second revealed a curvilinear alignment of four probable post-holes with a firespot (potentially a hearth) inside this curve and may represent a structure.

These enclosures appeared to represent ringforts and may be related to the early medieval activity to their north recorded under excavation licence 09E0128.

Ballyburn Upper 13E045 Medieval bivallate enclosure with souterrain, burials excavations were carried out on behalf of Dan Morrissey (IRL) Ltd at Ballyburn Upper, Co. Kildare from 2 April to 19 June 2013. The works were undertaken in advance of a new quarry development. These works represent the third phase of archaeological excavation at the site.

An initial geophysical investigation of this site was carried out by Earthsound Archaeological Geophysics in April 2008 using magnetic gradiometry. This work identified a number of potential archaeological features. Subsequent work at the site consisted of an archaeological assessment, including text excavation, undertaken from 1-4 December 2008 under excavation licence 08E0634.

A second phase of excavation undertaken by Nial O'Neill of Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd and took place from 22nd March to 17th April 2009 under excavation licence 09E0128. Excavation took place in four distinct areas (Areas A-D). This work uncovered numerous pits and other associated features dating primarily from the early medieval period and associated with industrial activity. One pit returned a radiocarbon date from the late Bronze Age.

The current phase of works represents the third and most extensive phase of archaeological work at the site. This phase focused on features identified from a geophysical survey and interpreted as being a multivallate enclosure, with a possible second enclosure a short

distance to the west. Horizontal extents of these features were assessed during phase one, however vertical stratigraphy was not assessed as per the terms of the excavation licence.

Subsequent excavation of these features revealed a bivallate enclosure with substantial ditches with extensive evidence for human habitation in the interior including an earth-cut souterrain. Evidence for industrial activity was also uncovered between the two enclosing ditches. The potential second enclosure identified by the geophysical survey and subsequent assessment proved to be a single shallow, curvilinear ditch which is presumed to be contemporary with the bivallate enclosure.

During the excavation, an extensive array of early medieval artefacts, including whittle-tanged knives, copper alloy pins, one ringed pin, bone pins, bone comb fragments, lignite bracelet fragments, a single blue glass bead, and ground-stone objects, were recovered.

The disarticulated remains of an adult male (including elements of the skull and long bones) were excavated from the inner ditch in the vicinity of the entrance on the eastern side. The disarticulated remains of two juveniles were uncovered in close proximity to one another within the inner ditch fill on the south-western side. Within the interior of the enclosure a single articulated male skeleton was uncovered. This inhumation was interred in a flexed position.

A considerable assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the ditch fills and also the fills of other cut features throughout the site. Metallurgical debris was also found on the site indicating that metalworking was taking place.

12.4.7.10 Ballyburn Upper 20E0185 Prehistoric

A programme of archaeological monitoring was undertaken during February 2020 to assess the archaeological potential of an area subject to topsoil stripping within Ballyburn Pit, in Ballyburn Upper townland, Co. Kildare. A number of features with archaeological potential were identified, and isolated from activities at the quarry.

Full excavation was carried out between 29th July and 17th August 2020. The excavation uncovered what appears to be prehistoric activity, comprising pits, post-holes, ditches, and a spread, with later plough furrows and modern or non-archaeological features.

The excavation area consisted of isolated features as well as clusters of varying form and complexity, with discernible stratigraphy within the clusters but no apparent stratigraphic relationship across the site. The earliest features consisted of pits and post-holes, cut and re-cut into the natural subsoil, a very light pale brown sandy clay below topsoil and an orange-brown sandy clay subsoil. Subsoil was present across much of the excavated area, particularly visible to the northeast half. Many of the fills of the early features produced evidence of burning and some potential lithics. In places, these features were cut by agricultural furrows and other later features. Some features were identified as modern due to their form and the nature of their fills, rather than any stratigraphic relationship.

Burton hall Demesne 07E0800 No archaeological significance

A pre-development test excavation was undertaken at Burton Hall Demesne close to the old gate lodge. A total of three test trenches were excavated to a depth of 0.25–0.3m, exposing orange/brown natural clays. No features of archaeological significance were identified.

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12.4.8 Field Inspection

A field inspection was carried out on 21st September 2023. This involved the visual inspection of all the lands in the Site (see Figure 12-1 and Plate 12-5). Note the area in which the haul route is located has already been assessed under ABP PL 09.220222.

Plate 12-5 Google earth aerial photo of the Site (indicated with the red line) taken in July 2021 with the fieldwork areas numbered. Fences enclosing fields are indicated by the dashed black lines.



Area 1

Rectilinear-shaped field of southwest sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences (see Plate 12-6). There is no visible indication of any ground-level archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material.

Plate 12-6: Panoramic view of area 1 looking east



Area 2

Pentagonal-shaped field of south sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow. (see Plate 12-7). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-7: View of area 1 looking north



Area 3

Rectilinear-shaped field of undulating pasture enclosed by hedgerow and wire fences (see Plate 12-8). The lime kilns indicated on the OS 1st edition map and the 1st edition twenty-five-inch map near the road are not visible at ground level. There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-8: Panoramic view of area 3 looking south



Area 4

Eastern part of a field of south-west sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-9). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

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Plate 12-9: View of area 4 looking south



Area 5

Rectilinear-shaped field of south-west sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-10). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-10: Panoramic view of area 5 looking west



Area 6

Rectilinear shaped field of west sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-11). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-11: Panoramic view of area 6 looking east



Area 7

Most of a field of steeply undulating pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-12). The location of aerial photograph site No. 2 is in this field but there is nothing visible at ground level (see plate 12-13). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-12: Panoramic view of area 7 looking southeast



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Plate 12-13: View of the location of AP site 2 looking northwest



Area 8

Part of a field of undulating pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow. The location of aerial photograph site No. 1 is in this field but there is nothing visible at ground level (see Plate 12-14). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-14: Panoramic view of area 8 looking northwest with the location of AP site 1 in the foreground



Area 9

Part of a field of flat pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-15). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-15: View of area 9 looking southeast



Area 10

Rectilinear-shaped field of north-west sloping pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-16). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

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Plate 12-16: Panoramic view of area 10 looking northwest



Area 11

Rectilinear-shaped field of undulating pasture enclosed by wire fences and hedgerow (see Plate 12-17). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

Plate 12-17: Panoramic view of area 11 looking west



Area 12

Large triangular field of east-sloping tillage enclosed by hedgerow (see Plate 12-18). There is no visible indication of any archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage material at ground level.

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Plate 12-18: Panoramic view of area 12 looking northwest



12.4.9 Geophysical Survey

A magnetometry survey was conducted by AMS in March-April 2025 (NMS Licence No. 25R0125) on 29ha. There were 44 anomalies identified and numbered in the report (see table 12.4 below). The most significant anomalies identified were potential enclosing elements such as 8-1, 8-2, 10-1, 12-1, 12-2, and 12-3. Field 8 in particular revealed a number of curvilinear and rectilinear anomalies that may suggest an enclosure or large settlement area. Similarly, Field 12 contained what may be a bivallate enclosure defined by two concentric subcircular anomalies (12-1 and 12-2) along with several other subcircular anomalies of potential significance. Additionally, weakly magnetic curvilinear and subcircular anomalies (e.g. 1-1, 6-2, and 12-5) may represent possible ditch features or enclosing elements. See Appendix 12-3 for the full report.

Table 12-5: Summary of geophysical anomalies identified at Ballyburn

No.	Description	Interpretation	Significance	Impact	Recommendation
1-1	Curvilinear area of enhancement (66m length)	Possible enclosing element; weak signal suggests unclear origin (archaeological or natural)	Potential	High	Test
1-2	Weakly magnetic linear feature (22m length)	Possible pre-OS map field boundary or drainage system	Low	High	Test
2-1	Curvilinear anomaly	Possible enclosing element; weak signal indicates possible archaeological or natural origin	Potential	High	Test
2-2	Strongly magnetic responses	Possible burning, pit features, or occupational disturbance	Potential	High	Test
3-1	Highly magnetic AoE	Corresponds with historical infilled quarry	Low	High	Don't test
3-2	Large subcircular AoE (49m x 37m)	Possible large enclosure; weak signal may indicate natural origin	Potential	High	Test
3-3	Large anomaly within 3-2	Possible in-situ burning or pit feature; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
5-1	Curvilinear AoE (81m long)	Possible enclosure, field system or drainage ditch	Potential	High	Test
5-2	Small curvilinear anomaly	Possible enclosing element or ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
5-3	Curvilinear, continues to SE limit	Possible connection to 5-1	Potential	High	Test
6-1	Negative annular anomaly	Possible enclosure; visible in 1995 aerial photography	Potential	High	Test
6-2	Curvilinear AoE	Possible ditch or enclosure; weak signal may be natural	Potential	High	Test

6-3	Curvilinear AoE	Possibly part of same enclosure as 6-4	Potential	High	Test
6-4	Curvilinear AoE	Possibly part of same enclosure as 6-3	Potential	High	Test
7-1	Strong curvilinear anomaly	Possible enclosure; visible in aerial imagery	Potential	High	Test
7-2	Contained feature within 7-1	Possible in-situ burning or large pit	Potential	High	Test
7-3	Curvilinear AoE	Possible ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
7-4	Strong curvilinear anomaly	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
7-5	Curvilinear AoE	Possible enclosing element; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
8-1	Strong curvilinear anomaly	Possible enclosing ditch	Potential	High	Test
8-2	Strong curvilinear anomaly	Related to 8-1, same ditch system	Potential	High	Test
8-3	Rectilinear anomaly	Possible annex or enclosure	Potential	High	Test
8-4	Subcircular anomaly	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
8-5	Subcircular anomaly	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
8-6	Circular AoE (10m diameter)	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
8-7	Curvilinear AoE	Possible internal division/enclosure	Potential	High	Test
8-8	Curvilinear AoE	Possible outer ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
8-9	Curvilinear AoE	Possible outer ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
8-10	Curvilinear AoE	Possible outer ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
9-1	AoE over magnetic responses	Former structure/trackway from OS maps	Potential	High	Test
10-1	Strong curvilinear anomaly (75m long)	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
10-2	Weak curvilinear AoE	Possible enclosure or natural	Potential	High	Test
11-1	Large curvilinear AoE (114m long)	Possible archaeological or geological feature	Potential	High	Test
12-1	Annular anomaly (37m x 28m)	Possible enclosure (outer ring)	Potential	High	Test
12-2	Annular anomaly (21m x 18m)	Possible enclosure (inner ring); bivallate structure	Potential	High	Test
12-3	Subcircular anomaly	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
12-4	Subcircular AoE	Possible enclosure or occupational activity	Potential	High	Test
12-5	Subcircular AoE	Possible enclosure or natural	Potential	High	Test
12-6	Subcircular anomaly	Possible enclosure	Potential	High	Test
12-7	Rectilinear AoE	Possible pre-OS field or enclosure	Potential	High	Test
12-8	Rectilinear AoE	Possible pre-OS field or enclosure	Potential	High	Test
12-9	Subcircular AoE	Possible enclosure or natural	Potential	High	Test
12-10	Curvilinear AoE	Possible ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test
12-11	Curvilinear AoE	Possible ditch; weak signal	Potential	High	Test

12.4.10 Archaeological Excavation

Archaeological testing at the proposed Ballyburn Upper Quarry Extension, Co. Kildare (Licence 25E0681), was carried out by Rubicon Archaeology Ltd in August–September 2025. The objective was to test the archaeological significance of 44 potential anomalies identified in the application area. Seventy test trenches were excavated across 12 fields to investigate these, but almost all anomalies proved to be geological or agricultural in origin. Only one minor archaeological feature, a small charcoal-filled pit in Trench 39 (Field 8), was uncovered, corresponding to a geophysical hotspot but with no associated artefacts or structural remains. No protected or recorded monuments lie within the site, though earlier excavations nearby

revealed prehistoric and early medieval settlement. The investigation concluded that the development area has a low archaeological potential and no further mitigation is recommended beyond standard monitoring during future groundworks. See Appendix 12-4 for the full report.

12.5 Characteristics and Potential Impacts of the Proposed Development

12.5.1 Construction and Operational Stage

12.5.1.1 Direct Impacts

There will be a direct impact on only one small charcoal-filled pit in Trench 39 which was identified during archaeological testing. There will be no direct impact on any other items of archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage in the application area or the vicinity during the construction and operational phase of the proposal.

12.5.1.2 Indirect Impacts

There will be no indirect impacts on any known items of archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage in the Site or the vicinity during the construction and operational phase of the proposal.

12.5.1.3 Interaction with other Impacts

No interaction with other impacts has been identified.

12.5.1.4 Do nothing Impact

If the Proposed Development were not to proceed, there would be no negative impact on archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage.

12.5.1.5 Worst Case Impact

No worst-case scenario has been identified.

12.5.1.6 Cumulative Impact

No effects arising in respect of existing developments has been found that would impact on archaeology, cultural heritage or buildings of heritage interest in the Site.

12.5.1.7 Major Accidents

No impacts on any known items of archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage in the Site or the vicinity arising from unplanned events associated with the proposal have been identified by the assessment.

12.5.2 Closure Stage

12.5.2.1 Direct Impacts

There will be no direct impacts on any known items of archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage in the Site or the vicinity during the closure phase of the proposal.

12.5.2.2 Indirect Impacts

There will be no indirect impacts on any known items of archaeology, buildings of heritage interest, or cultural heritage in the Site or the vicinity during the closure phase of the proposal.

12.5.2.3 Interaction with other Impacts

No interaction with other impacts has been identified.

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12.5.2.4 Do nothing Impact

If the Proposed Development were not to proceed, there would be no negative impact on the cultural heritage.

12.5.2.5 Worst case Impact

No worst-case scenario has been identified at the closure stage.

12.5.2.6 Residual Impacts

After the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented, there will be no residual impacts on cultural heritage present within the Site or the vicinity.

12.6 Proposed Mitigation Measures and/or Factors

There will be a direct impact on one small charcoal-filled pit in Trench 39, which was identified during archaeological testing. This feature should be preserved by record under licence from the National Monument Service. No other mitigation is recommended.

12.7 Cumulative and In-combination Effects

No projects in the vicinity of the Site were identified that have the potential to lead to cumulative effects with the Proposed Development on any known items of archaeology, buildings of architectural heritage significance, or cultural heritage. As such, no cumulative effects will arise.

12.8 Interaction with other Environmental Attributes

Chapter 5 – Population and Human Health: An assessment of the cultural heritage effects of the Proposed Development was carried out in this Chapter. After the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented there will be no residual effects on any known items of archaeology, buildings of architectural heritage significance, or cultural heritage. As such, there will be no diminution in the quality of life for the local population in this regard.

12.9 Residual Effects

After the proposed mitigation measures have been implemented, there will be no residual effects on cultural heritage present within the Site or the vicinity.

12.10 Monitoring

No additional monitoring, other than that required for mitigation, will be required.

12.11 Reinstatement

See section 12.5.2 above.

12.12 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered during the desktop study, field survey or in preparing this report.

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REFERENCES

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ATTACHMENTS

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APPENDIX 12

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APPENDIX 12-1

Appendix 12.1

Recorded Monuments in the Study Area

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KD039-016001- Gorteenvacan Enclosure

Aerial photograph (CUCAP AYL 46) shows faint cropmarks of circular enclosure (est max diam. c. 40m), described in 1955 as platform ringfort defined by earth and stone bank with entrance at W. Situated in complex of sub-rectangular enclosures defined by fosses, probably fields (see field system No. KD039-016001-).

KD039-016002- Gorteenvacan Field system

See KD039-016001-. Irregular system of fields showing as cropmarks of fosses on aerial photograph (CUCAP AYL 46). Ringfort/enclosure (KD039-016001) incorporated in system.

KD039-024--- Knocknagee Enclosure

Marked on the 1837 OS 6-inch map as a large oval enclosure (max dims c. 70m N-S x c. 50m E-W). No visible surface traces. Probably a ringfort site.

KD039-026--- Gorteenvacan Cist

Cist containing cremated bone, a vase food vessel and another vessel opened in the 1890's. A second vessel, possibly an urn, was destroyed by finders searching for gold.

KD040-029---- Gorteenvacan Castle - unclassified

According to a lease of 1608 Richard Eustace was required to 'build the said castle of Gurtinavackan substantially with lime and stoane, a story height above the vault, with a battlement, and a slate roof ... and make a stoane walle round about the towne and make a strong gate of oak timber and boords' (FitzGerald 1915-17, 161). It is shown on the 1907 OS 6-inch map as a circular mound, where the castle was built. There is a cropmark of a rectangular enclosure, probably a moated site, in an adjacent field to the S (KD040-030----).

KD040-029001- Gorteenvacan Mound

This site may represent the site of Gorteenvacan Castle (KD040-029----). Visible as a distinct cropmark of a mound surrounded by a narrow fosse on aerial photograph (CUCAP BGH 44). No visible surface traces.

KD040-030----- Gorteenvacan Moated site

Aerial photograph (CUCAP AYL 48) shows a cropmark of the S, W and N sides of a large rectangular enclosure consisting of an earthen bank with an external fosse (dims. of interior, c 100m x c 50m). Cropmarks of the bank and fosse are visible at ground level. Also visible on a 1990 G. Barrett aerial photo (GB90.CL.33) Situated in undulating pasture land, with a ridge which is possibly natural, closing off the site at the E. A possible castle site (No. KD040-029-- --) lies to the N.

KD040-031----- Ballyhade Church

The site was already marked as 'site of' on the 1837 OS 6-inch map. Situated in a shallow valley. No visible surface traces.

KD040-032----- Ballyhade Burial ground

A small, low, approximately circular mound (max. diam. 13.3m; H. 0.5m) at end of low ridge. It is enclosed by a low granite wall with traces of a fosse. There are a number of granite gravestones, two of which have dates, the earlier being 1791. No visible trace of any structure.

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APPENDIX 12-2

Appendix 12.2

Sites in the Sites and Monuments Record in the Study area

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KD039-054---- Prumplestown Upper Barrow – unclassified

Cropmark of circular-shaped area (approx. diam. 8m) in centre of a larger enclosure (approx. diam. 20m) visible on Google earth aerial imagery. See attached image taken from Google Earth aerial photographs taken

KD040-061----- Gorteenvacan Enclosure

Aerial photograph (GB96.FZ.37) shows cropmark of a circular enclosure defined by a fosse and with an entrance facing south-east.

KD040-071----- Ballyburn Upper Field system

Cropmark of two rectangular shaped enclosures (approx. diam. 30m) with a linear ditch running along W side visible on Google earth aerial imagery taken 14/07/2018.

CW002-018----- Gorteengrone Enclosure

Aerial photograph (GB90.BU.15, 13 July 1990) shows cropmark of a curvilinear enclosure defined by a fosse. A rectangular enclosure (KD040-030----) is located c. 160m to the N.