

Appendix A.13.6

Detailed Field Inspection Results

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Detailed Field Inspection Results

The Figures references below are included in Volume 3 of this updated EIAR. The Plates referenced below are included in Appendix A.13.7 in Volume 4 of this updated EIAR.

Figure 13.1.01

The proposed N6 GCRR commences just to the south of the Coast Road (R336) to the west of Bearna Village in the townland of An Baile Nua. It then travels north into the townland Na Foráí Maola Thiar (Plate 13.1). The townland boundary between An Baile Nua and Na Foráí Maola Thiar is formed by the existing road (R336) (TB 1). The proposed N6 GCRR runs north across a landscape of heavily overgrown irregular shaped fields (Plate 13.2). The ground surface is uneven with large areas of sub-cropping granite visible in places. Much of this area was inaccessible due to thick bramble and gorse.

The site of structures visible within modern and historic mapping (CH 1) were not accessed on site but were not observed above the level of the vegetation (Plate 13.3). At CH 2 buildings are marked on the first edition OS mapping within the boundary of the proposed N6 GCRR but no upstanding remains were noted (CH 2). These structures are likely to represent the remains of clachán type settlements and associated field systems dating to the 19th century.

CH 3 is located c.145m to the east of the proposed N6 GCRR. This consists of a small single-storey cottage marked on the 1895-1900 25" OS map. The structure possesses a pitched roof with replacement tiles and is rendered. The door and window opes have been blocked. It appears that renovation work may have been planned on the structure, which has since ceased.

At Ch. 5+000 of the proposed N6 GCRR a sub-circular enclosure was noted (CH 4/AH 1). This consists a sub-circular traditional dry stone walled enclosure with several further boundary walls radiating in various directions from it (Plate 13.4). Following initial identification as an archaeological monument, it has been downgraded by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland and is now listed as a redundant record. Several similar small rectangular enclosures about this central enclosure. All of the boundary walls are of un-coursed traditional dry-stone construction and are composed of local granite rocks (Plate 13.5). A traditional dry stone walled trackway skirts the north-western side of the enclosure (Plate 13.6). This enclosure and field system are visible on the 1895-1900 25-inch mapping but not on the first edition OS mapping. What appears to be a structure built over a spring/well was observed built into the southern wall of the enclosure (Plate 13.7). The ground surface within the enclosure was lower than the surrounding area.

CH 4 is located c.55m east-southeast of an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP 1), which is centred on a stream that also forms TB 2. This area has been identified as an area of potential due to the presence of the small watercourse marked as Sruthán na Libeirtí on the 1895-1900 OS mapping. The boundary separates Na Foráí Maola Thiar and Cnoc na Gréine and is also a parish boundary (Plate 13.8). A small tributary stream enters Sruthán na Libeirtí running southwest across property plot reference 117 at ITM 521332 723199 (Plate 13.9). No obvious features of archaeological potential were noted within this area.

As the proposed N6 GCRR runs to the north, pasture gives way to unimproved marginal land and modern residential garden plots. Permission to access plot reference 121 was refused. At Ch. 1+080 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses TB 3, which separates Na Foráí Maola Thiar and Na Foráí Maola Thoir. This is formed by a local road (Plate 13.10).

Figure 13.1.02

The proposed N6 GCRR turns northeast and crosses more marginal ground, which undulates slightly and contains frequent rock outcropping. At Ch. 1+510 it crosses TB 4, which separates the townlands of Na Forái Maola Thoir and Troscaigh Thiar (Plate 13.11). This is formed by a local road, which is marked on the historic mapping.

A single-storey vernacular cottage (CH 7), re-roofed in corrugated iron and re-purposed as an outbuilding is located to the immediate west of the proposed local road realignment (Plate 13.12). Further north another vernacular structure is located to the immediate north of the local road realignment (CH 6). This is a single storey with dormer level cottage. It retains its original pitched slate roof with orange clay ridge tiles and is rendered. It has a width of four bays with replacement window and door fittings and is currently inhabited. Both buildings are recorded on historic maps.

The proposed N6 GCRR continues east-northeast from here traversing a patchwork of irregularly shaped enclosed fields, many of which are overgrown with gorse with areas of boggy ground in places. Inspection of this area revealed granite bedrock in places suggesting that this is exhausted bog that has been denuded by generations of small scale, local peat extraction. A well-preserved traditional dry stone walled laneway is crossed by the proposed N6 GCRR at Ch. 1+945 (property plot reference 168) (Plate 13.13). This is recorded on historic maps (CH 8). CH 9 (the possible site of a famine bridge recorded from public consultations) was not accessed during the field inspection being in private land outside of the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR.

CH 10 is the site of a probable post medieval sheep fold, which is marked within the historic mapping within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR. However, field inspection revealed no upstanding remains at this location (Plate 13.14).

The proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary between Troscaigh Thiar and Troscaigh Thoir (TB 5) at Ch. 2+400. The boundary is marked by a hedgerow and a barbed wire fence (Plate 13.15) to the northwest before it turns south to follow along a minor local road.

CH 13, a vernacular cottage and associated farm buildings, are located to the immediate east of the local road, TB 5 and the proposed N6 GCRR (Plate 13.16). CH 11, a 19th century cottage which has been re-roofed in tile and is currently inhabited, is located adjacent to the proposed realignment of the local road in Troscaigh Thiar (Plate 13.17). This house is visible on the 25-inch OS mapping. A ruined cottage/farm building further west of the local road is clearly visible in the historic mapping and aerial photographs as a ruin (CH 12) but was not accessible during the field inspection.

Figure 13.1.03

The proposed N6 GCRR crosses several more fields of marginal scrubby pasture, before crossing a small section of the former location of a townland boundary between Troscaigh Thoir and An Chloch Scoilte (TB 6) (Plate 13.18). This is marked on the first edition OS mapping but was realigned by the time of the 1895-1900 OS mapping. A section of the former townland boundary follows a running watercourse, which is annotated as 'Trusky Stream' on the 25-inch OS mapping. This stream has also been classed as AAP 2. A mound of material was identified immediately to the east of the stream although given the abrupt change in the watercourse at this point, the mound may be the result of natural deposition (Plate 13.19).

CH 14 to 17 represent vernacular structures all of which are located outside of the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR, but within the receiving environment. CH 14 consists of a single-storey cottage with dormer level and additional single-storey extension to the north, both of which are now in use as farm buildings. The pitched roofs have been replaced within corrugated iron and a

number of the window and door apertures have been blocked. However, the structures are rendered and painted and survive in good condition. The buildings are marked on the 1895-1900 25" OS map.

CH 15 consists of the ruins of a vernacular structure marked on the first edition OS map. However, the site is within private lands and was not accessed during the field inspection.

CH 16 is formed by the ruinous remains of the post medieval settlement of An Chloch Scoilte. The first edition OS map (1841) shows 18 structures in this area. By the time of the 1895-1900 25" OS map only six structures remain with a further two shown in ruins. Today four ruined structures survive along with one cottage that is still inhabited. Three of the single-storey cottages possess upstanding walls and gables but have lost their roofs. One of the cottages only has barely upstanding walls. The surviving cottage is set back from the local road and appears to be in good condition but was not accessed during the field inspection.

CH 17 consists of a renovated single-storey vernacular cottage that is present on the 1895-1900 25" OS map. It has a replacement slate roof and replacement window and door fittings. It has been extended to the north. The structure is rendered and well maintained within a garden defined by traditional dry-stone walling.

At Ch. 2+975 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses TB 7, which is the townland boundary between Troscaigh Thoir and An Chloch Scoilte (Plate 13.20). This boundary survives in the landscape as a traditional dry-stone granite built wall which is heavily overgrown with gorse and bramble. No indication of an associated ditch was observed and granite bedrock was visible in places. Similarly, the adjoining townland boundary between Troscaigh Thoir and Ballard West is marked with a traditional dry stone granite wall though this boundary is less overgrown (Plate 13.21).

At Ch. 3+260 a small vernacular cottage is located within the proposed N6 GCRR at Ballard West (CH 18) (Plate 13.22). This building is not visible on the first edition OS mapping but appears on the 25" OS mapping. The structure is currently inhabited and consists of a single-storey cottage with dormer level. The building has a replacement pitched slate roof with recently rendered walls and replacement window and door fittings.

To the south of CH 18, the proposed N6 GCRR crosses TB 8, which separates Ballard West, Ballard East and An Chloch Scoilte. The section between Ballard West and An Chloch Scoilte is formed by a local road, but the boundary between Ballard West and Ballard East is no longer upstanding within the landscape (Plate 13.23). The proposed N6 GCRR then travels northeast over more marginal ground before crossing TB 9. This boundary survives as a traditional dry stone granite wall overgrown with bramble and gorse (Plate 13.24).

To the northeast, within property plot reference 208, some areas of standing water were observed. It was unclear at the time of the inspection whether these represented small watercourses or bog holes.

The proposed N6 GCRR then traverses a number of long east-west running fields, which primarily consist of boggy ground. The ground level drops significantly approaching the watercourse annotated as Bearna Stream on the 25-inch OS mapping. Bearna Stream forms the townland boundary between Na hAille and An Cheapach (TB 10). The stream itself has been identified as AAP 3 (Plate 13.25). Two short, machine straightened tributaries feed into Bearna Stream from the west. These are marked on the historic mapping but have been heavily impacted upon by re-excavation (Plate 13.26).

On the eastern side of the Bearna Stream, the ground level climbs steadily towards the Cappagh Road and crosses better quality pasture. A series of linear cultivation ridges, or 'Lazy Beds' were identified in property plot reference 213 (Plate 13.27). These represent post medieval farming techniques and are not deemed to be of significance.

Figure 13.1.04

At Ch. 4+400 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the Cappagh Road. A number of vernacular buildings survive within the receiving environment in proximity to the proposed N6 GCRR. CH 19 consists of the ruins of vernacular structures marked within the historic mapping. This site was observed from the local road as it is outside of the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR. No obvious upstanding remains were observed. CH 20, to the southwest of the Cappagh Road and immediate south of the proposed N6 GCRR comprises a number of stone-built sheds and outbuildings surrounding a farmyard. These buildings are still in use (Plate 13.28) and are visible on the 25inch OS mapping. To the east of the Cappagh Road and the proposed N6 GCRR, several stone built buildings are visible, although very overgrown and ruinous (Plate 13.29). The buildings are visible in ruin on the 25inch OS mapping (CH 22).

The site of structures shown on the 25inch OS mapping was also inspected to the immediate north of the proposed N6 GCRR at Ch. 4+520 (CH 21). The remains consist of denuded ivy-covered walls within an area of woodland (Plate 13.30). Due to the rampant overgrowth was not possible to ascertain whether these walls relate to ruined structures or relict field plots.

At Ch. 4+575 a well-built, two-storey vernacular farmhouse and farmyard was inspected, which are located to the immediate south of the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 23). This structure is now derelict (Plate 13.31). The farmhouse is marked on the 25inch OS mapping.

The proposed N6 GCRR continues in a north-easterly direction across marginal and boggy pasture. At Ch. 4+700 it crosses TB 11, which is the townland boundary between An Cheapach and Ballynahown East. This is delineated by a walled laneway of well-constructed drystone walling composed of granite rocks (Plates 13.32 and 13.33). To the northeast of this boundary the ground slopes down towards a tributary of the Bearna Stream (Plate 13.34). The proposed N6 GCRR will cross the stream between Ch. 4+800 and Ch. 5+150. The watercourse has been designated an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP 4).

A large area of ground along the eastern bank of the watercourse has been subjected to significant disturbance, which is likely to be related to the recent housing developments to the northeast. A machine-straightened channel runs through this area and feeds into the Bearna Stream tributary (Plate 13.35).

To the north of this straightened channel, an area of marginal ground extends northeast. A linear arrangement of upright stones was observed here (ITM 525004 725293). These were interspersed with piles of smaller stones and represent the beginnings of a stone field boundary that was never completed (Plate 13.36).

To the northeast, the ground along this watercourse is steeply sloping and very overgrown with bramble and gorse. A relict field system of traditional dry-stone walls with at least one stone lined laneway survives beneath the dense undergrowth. A portion of TB 12 follows the stream (AAP 4). The undergrowth was too dense to allow identification of the remainder of TB 12 between Ballynahown East and Keeraun (Plate 13.37).

To the southeast of AAP 4, the ruinous remains of a structure marked within the historic mapping is present outside of the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 24). However, this was not accessed during the field inspection as it was located within private lands.

Towards the Ballyburke Road, a farmyard and associated stone built sheds and outhouses was inspected (CH 25), which is located to the north of the proposed N6 GCRR (Plate 13.38). This farmyard is visible on the historic OS mapping and, also possesses a single-storey vernacular cottage, which is maintained in excellent condition and still inhabited. It possesses a pitched, replacement slate roof with three chimney stacks and replacement window and door fittings. A hipped porch has been added to the main elevation and the structure is rendered.

Figure 13.1.05

At Ch. 5+600 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the Ballymoneen Road, where some vernacular heritage survives within the surrounding area. A derelict vernacular cottage (CH 26) is located immediately to the east of the Ballymoneen Road and within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR (Plate 13.39). This structure is visible on the 25inch OS mapping but has been extended numerous times with concrete structures to the north.

Further north on the Ballymoneen Road, a small, single-storey vernacular cottage was recorded (CH 27). This structure is visible on the 25inch OS mapping and has seen recent renovation (Plate 13.40). The structure now possessed a replacement pitched slate roof and has been re-rendered. It has replacement door and window fittings and appears to be inhabited.

The townland boundary between Keeraun and Ballyburke (TB 13) runs to the rear of CH 26. The boundary survives as a denuded traditional dry-stone wall which gives way to an overgrown hedgerow as the boundary progresses east (Plate 13.41).

Further northeast, the ground is very boggy and overgrown, giving way to undulating grass pasture. The townland boundary between Ballyburke and Mincloon (TB 14) survives as a well-built traditional dry stone granite wall with no suggestion of a ditch on either side (Plate 13.42).

To the north of TB 14, a thatched vernacular cottage is located, which is a protected structure (BH 1). The building appears to be well maintained and is located within a modern farmyard. The cottage consists of a single-storey structure with overhead dormer level. The pitched thatched roof is in good condition. A second protected structure (BH 2) is located along Ragoon Road (Plate 13.43) to the immediate southwest of the footprint of the proposed N6GCRR. This well maintained, thatched vernacular cottage has an unusually sloping western gable and is currently inhabited.

To the northwest of TB 14, a hollow trackway lined along the southern side with a revetment of traditional dry-stone walling was observed (CH 71) (Plate 13.44). This trackway is depicted on the 25inch OS mapping but is not shown on the first edition OS mapping. It appears to have been cut through an area of higher ground.

Further to the northwest and within the receiving environment of the proposed N6 GCRR is CH 28. This site consists of a small vernacular complex including a cottage and several outbuildings none of which are in use. The cottage is single storey with a replacement corrugated roof. It is of random rubble construction and has been painted in the past but not rendered. The outbuildings also possess corrugated roofs and the largest of them has been rendered in cement.

At Ch. 6+275 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the Ragoon Road. The site of a vernacular building is shown fronting onto the road within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR on the first edition OS mapping. However, there is no trace of a building at this location today (CH 29).

At Ch. 6+450 a farmhouse and associated outbuildings are located to the immediate east and west of the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 30) (Plate 13.45). Two buildings likely to represent the current farmhouse and outbuilding are visible on the 25-inch OS mapping at this location. A small stone-built shed in a field to the east of the Clybaun Road does not appear on the historic mapping and is likely early 20th century in date (CH 32) (Plate 13.46).

To the southeast of CH 30 and 32 is CH 31, which is located to the southeast of the proposed N6 GCRR. The historic mapping shows structures at this location, which today survive as two single-storey stone built outbuildings with replacement corrugated roofs.

The route of the proposed N6 GCRR continues in a north-easterly direction across undulating improved pasture subdivided with low traditional dry-stone walls. At Ch. 6+775 the proposed N6

GCRR crosses TB 15, which divides Mincloon and Ragoon. This boundary is marked by a well-built traditional granite dry stone wall with no associated ditch was visible (Plate 13.47).

Further northeast within a hollow between hillocks, a low boggy, waterlogged area was observed. This area is defined on the eastern side by a traditional dry-stone wall and to the north by a mature tree line (Plate 13.48). This is the purported location of a Bullaun Stone (AH 2). This stone was not identified during the site inspection and its condition in the SMR file is listed as 'non-extant'. It remains possible that the Bullaun Stone is located within the field wall, which was overgrown at the time of the inspection (Plate 13.49). A stream runs through the centre of this boggy hollow (Plate 13.50). This area has been designated as AAP 5.

A well-defined traditional dry stone walled laneway survives to the northeast on the far side of a steep hillock at Ch. 7+000 (Plate 13.51) (CH 33). This is associated with the site of a cluster of small structures visible on the first edition OS mapping, which are located outside the landtake of the proposed N6 GCRR to the southeast.

Figure 13.1.06

At Ch. 6+975 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the Letteragh Road. To the immediate northeast of the proposed N6 GCRR an overgrown water course, running through a small boggy valley was noted (AAP 6). A water course is marked at this location on the historic maps. To the west of the watercourse two structures are shown on the first edition OS mapping (CH 34). Whilst loose stone was noted in this area, no obvious upstanding remains associated with the structure were noted. The site is located within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR.

A two-storey farmhouse with associated buildings (CH 35) is located to the northeast of the Letteragh Road (Plate 13.52) and to the south of the main path of the proposed N6 GCRR. A structure is visible at this location on the first edition mapping. It also appears with a larger footprint on the 25-inch OS mapping where it is annotated as Leitriff House. The house was only visible from the public road and is in good condition. It consists of a two-storey structure, with the westerly elevation being four bays in width. The structure is rendered and painted with a pitched slate roof and chimney stacks at each gable end. It possesses wooden 2-over-2 sash windows, which appear to be replacements. There is a four-bay return to the north of the structure.

The undulating landscape of greenfield pasture continues northeast of the Letteragh Road. The underlying impermeable granite has resulted in areas of standing water and Blanket bog in low lying areas. Immediately to the east of the Letteragh Road, an area of standing water was observed (Plate 13.53). This may be the result of the existing road embankment immediately to the west impeding drainage.

At Ch. 7+370 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the site of the townland boundary between Ragoon and Letteragh (TB 16). A large portion of this boundary is no longer upstanding, although a section within the southern part of the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR is formed by an overgrown traditional dry-stone wall.

At Ch. 7+420 the proposed N6 GCRR then crosses a trackway that is flanked by well-preserved traditional dry-stone walls (CH 36). A portion of the trackway is shown on the first edition OS mapping and with its total extent shown on the 1895- 1900 25inch OS mapping.

The townland boundary between Letteragh and Barnacranny (TB 17) is demarcated with by a traditional dry stone granite wall with the slight suggestion of a ditch along its western side (Plate 13.54). This is crossed at Ch. 7+530. To the east of the townland boundary some improved but water-logged pasture was noted. A small stream runs through this area, which has been recorded as AAP 7 (Plate 13.55).

Further to the northeast, a modern dwelling is located adjacent to the townland boundary between Barnacranny and Dangan Upper (TB 18). This boundary is marked by a traditional dry stone granite wall which has been pointed in places (Plate 13.56). A straightened stream runs alongside this boundary.

The second townland boundary between Barnacranny and Dangan Upper (TB 19) was not inspected as it is located within land to which access was denied. The townland boundary between Dangan Upper and Dangan Lower (TB 20) runs along the current N59/Moycullen Road (Plate 13.57).

An even, neatly stacked cairn of stones has been recorded in a small field near an area named Knocknabrona on the first edition OS mapping (Plate 13.58).

This cairn is located in the centre of a small field of pasture which large stones forming a plinth at the base upon which a heap of stone had been placed. A second similar cairn is located c. 10m to the north, partially built into an existing field wall (Plate 13.59) (CH 37). The cairns, both of which are within CH 37, are located within the footprint of the N59 Link Road South Ch.1+150.

Between Ch. 0+500 and Ch. 0+850 of the N59 Link Road North to the N59, an area of marginal boggy land was noted with occasional out cropping (AAP 8). The landscape undulates slightly (Plate 13.60). At Ch. 0+550 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary between Barnacranny and Ballagh (TB 21). The boundary is formed by a traditional dry-stone wall with a narrow ditch running along its eastern side (Plate 13.61). The proposed N59 Link Road North then crosses into improved pasture.

A Ch. 0+125 DL 5 is located c.100m to the southeast of the proposed N59 Link Road North and c.295m northwest of the proposed N6 GCRR. The former demesne has lost its character and is now traversed by an access road. The main building, which is marked as Lake View on the first edition OS mapping, is still present within the landscape, although has been subject to extensive renovation. The house consists of a two storey, three bay, slate roofed building (CH 39) (Plate 13.62).

At Ch. 0+050 a small thatched vernacular cottage (BH 4) is located by the roadside in Barnacranny (Plate 13.63). The site is located c. 265m northwest of the proposed N6 GCRR and is listed as a protected structure. The thatched roof is still present, although the building is not inhabited. It now occupies the front garden of a modern residential structure. The building is visible on the first edition OS mapping.

The Galway City Development Plan lists an entrance at the location of BH 3 within the RPS. This is the entrance to Chestnut Lane, which is marked within the historic mapping as a small lane leading to agricultural lands. Whilst the site has been included within the updated EIAR, no sign of a historic entrance was identified at this location.

The site of a probable prehistoric barrow (AH 11) described as an overgrown steep sided mound adjacent to the N59 Moycullen Road is located at Ch. 8+730. The site is currently overgrown within a greenfield area. To the south of the N59 Moycullen Road the site of a well is recorded to the rear of a modern house (AH 10). This well is also located within a former designed landscape, which was associated with Ashley Park (DL 6). Today the house is still present (CH 40) but the demesne landscape has been completely covered by modern development. The house itself is a single-storey structure with a hipped, slate roof in good condition (Plate 13.64).

Between Ch. 8+500 and Ch. 8+750 the proposed N6 GCRR passes through the site of a number of residential plots, which contain large modern residences. At Ch. 8+725 the proposed N6 GCRR enters what was a demesne landscape associated with Dangan House and Dangan Cottage (DL 7). A small stone-built structure in ruinous state is located at Ch. 8+725 at the edge of a small

area of woodland (CH 42) (Plate 13.65). This structure consists of two standing walls that had been incorporated into a field boundary. The structure consists of limestone rubble-built walls with dressed quoins and is visible on the 25-inch OS mapping.

At Ch. 8+800 the proposed N6 GCRR passes to the immediate north of a sports pitch (associated with the UoG recreational facilities at Dangan Lower) and also the site of Dangan Cottage, which is marked on the first edition OS mapping (CH 43). No upstanding remains associated with the site of the house were noted during the inspection. The site is located to the immediate southeast of the proposed N6 GCRR.

Figure 13.1.07

Approximately 215m southeast of the proposed N6 GCRR Mary Ville house, which is marked on the 25inch OS mapping (1895-1900), is still extant (CH 41), although now overlooks an athletics track to the northeast. The house has been recently renovated and appears to be in use as a campus building. The main single-storey facade faces to the northeast (Plate 13.66), although the southern portion of the structure possesses a basement level, with modified outbuildings to the rear.

At Ch. 9+150 the proposed N6 GCRR passes to the immediate south of AH 12, which is the site of Dangan House (nunnery). The site of the house is landscaped today and there are no upstanding remains (Plate 13.67). The site of one of the outbuildings is located just outside the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR at Ch. 9+070 (CH 44). The surrounding area has lost much of its demesne character due to the redevelopment of the landscape as a sports campus. However, several belts of trees survive and have been incorporated into the sports campus landscape.

To the south of the proposed N6 GCRR, a circular enclosure marked at the convergence of four field walls, planted with conifers on the first edition OS mapping was visited (AH 14). Nothing was visible on inspection with the exception of some piles of limestone rubble possibly arising from former field walls visible on the first edition mapping (Plate 13.68). It is possible that this feature, which is listed as a ‘designed landscape feature’ was directly associated with the demesne. Dangan House (CH 67), which is clearly marked on the 25inch OS mapping edition is located to the south of AH 14. Dangan House itself consists of a two-storey, three bay structure with a hipped slate roof with a two-storey three bay return to the rear. The building is rendered and painted and is in good condition. It possesses replacement window fittings, but the main entrance porch retains its wooden door. The door-case is of dressed stone with flanking narrow opes with dressed stone surrounds. The single-storey porch is further defined with dressed quoin stones. The associated walled garden and stone outbuildings are currently in use as a garden centre.

Just prior to crossing the River Corrib, the proposed N6 GCRR passes to the north of a recorded summer house designated as BH 9 and also as AH 15. This ‘summerhouse’ was constructed to resemble an early Christian oratory (Plate 13.69) and includes two large dressed stone corbels that project from either side of the doorway. These may have come from Menlo Castle and are thought to be 17th century in date.

The crossing of the River Corrib and its immediate environs has been identified as an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP 9). The townland boundary between Dangan Lower and Mionlach is located at the centre of the river (Plate 13.70) (TB 22) and is also a parish boundary. An inlet along the eastern bank of the river was also identified (CH 45). The inlet is sub-rectangular in plan and is not marked on the first edition OS mapping. It is likely to represent a small boat inlet as the bank of the river has clearly been remodelled between the time of the first edition and later 25-inch OS mapping (Plate 13.71). It resembles in shape and orientation the ‘quay’ annotated further upstream alongside Menlo Castle on the 25-inch OS mapping and is likely to be associated with Menlo Castle. The site is located immediately adjacent to the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR.

The eastern side of the River Corrib at this location comprises a large area of former demesne land surrounding Menlo Castle (DL 8). The castle (AH 16/BH 10) is located c.140m northwest of the proposed river crossing (Plate 13.72). The castle is in ruins and was previously covered with ivy growth. During inspections in 2024, the ivy had been removed from the structure. The demesne associated with the principal structure survives relatively intact, although it has been subject to division due to the establishment of strip fields. Areas of original mature tree planting survives but is denuded when compared to the historic mapping coverage of the site. The northern part of the demesne has been impacted upon by the construction of modern houses. The remainder of the landscape consists of scrubby pasture for the most part. The entrance avenue to the castle survives, as does the enclosing element to the garden area located to the immediate north of the castle. To the west and east of the castle, two areas are to be subject to habitat enhancement as a mitigation measure for bat populations that inhabit the ruins of the castle.

At Ch. 9+600 the proposed N6 GCRR passes to the immediate northwest of the site of a possible enclosure (CH 46), with a diameter of c. 20m, but no surface expression was identified (Plate 13.73). The site is shown as a discrete circular area within the 2009 Google Earth aerial photography.

The proposed N6 GCRR continues in a north-easterly direction across waterlogged pasture and trees. At Ch. 9+785 the proposed N6 GCRR crossed a well-constructed stretch of traditional dry stone walled trackway (CH 72) (Plate 13.74). The track is marked on the 25-inch OS mapping and also forms the edge of the demesne boundary to Menlo Castle (DL 8).

CH 47 (Possible vernacular animal shelter) and CH 48 (Possible consumption wall) are located to the northwest of the proposed N6 GCRR. The sites were not inspected due to their location outside of the footprint of the proposed. However, the sites were previously identified during the environmental studies for the 2006 Galway City Outer Bypass (GCOB).

At Ch. 9+825 the location of a possible Megalithic Tomb has been recorded within the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 49). This was identified during the 2006 field inspections for the 2006 GCOB EIS. The area was very overgrown with a dense cover of ivy and bramble beneath a canopy of hazel. The frequent occurrence of outcropping limestone and large slabs of limestone made confirmation of the true nature of the possible monument problematic. Heavily overgrown stone features (Plate 13.75) were identified in the area (plot reference 564) and these may correspond to the 'uprights and capstone' reported in the 2006 GCOB EIS.

Further northeast on an expanse of exposed limestone pavement (plot reference 570), a modern cairn of stones was observed on a highpoint overlooking an undulating landscape to the east (Plate 13.76). The cairn is located outside of the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR.

The location of a previously identified circular feature of possible archaeological potential (CH 50) was inaccessible due to dense vegetation (Plate 13.77). This was identified during the 2006 field inspections associated with the 2006 GCOB project.

Figure 13.1.08

At Ch. 10+480 the proposed N6 GCRR includes a small Boulder (CH 51) that was identified during the 2006 GCOB EIS. However, the item was not located during these field inspections as access was not granted. This was also the case for the site of three vernacular buildings at Ch. 10+575 (CH 52). These appear to no longer be extant, but the site is partially located within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR. At Ch. 10+700 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary between Mionlach and Ballindooley (TB 23). This is formed by a traditional dry-stone wall, which is heavily overgrown with brambles in places (Plate 13.78). No sign of an accompanying ditch was observed.

Between Ch. 10+700 and Ch. 11+300 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses a mixture of improved pasture and scrubby ground. The surrounding area is characterised by areas of exposed limestone paving. Between Ch. 11+300 and Ch. 11700 the proposed N6 GCRR passes through a quarry. The sites of a ringfort and enclosure (AH 18 and AH 19) have been quarried away, as have any other cultural heritage remains within the quarry (Plate 13.79), including the townland and parish boundaries that separated Coolagh, Ballindooley and An Caisleán Gearr (TB 24). Between Ch. 11+700 and Ch. 12+100 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses improved pasture and some scrubby ground before crossing a small road. A number of modern properties front onto the roadway within the landtake of the proposed N6 GCRR.

From Ch. 11+550 to Ch. 12+200 the footprint of the N6 GCRR includes a portion of TB 25, which separates An Caisleán Gearr from Ballindooley. The townland boundary between Ballindooley and An Caisleán Gearr is marked by a traditional dry-stone wall and hedgerow (Plate 13.80).

Figure 13.1.09

Immediately southeast of TB 25, the proposed N6 GCRR traverses the marshy fringes of *Lough an Dúlaigh* (Lake of Sorrow), which is a small lake to the north. Two potential crannog sites are known along the northern and eastern fringes of the lake (GA082-025 and GA082-105). A third suspected crannog has been shown to be a natural area of sub-cropping rock (AH 21). This area of wetland possesses archaeological potential and has been designated as AAP 10 (Plate 13.81). The proposed N6 GCRR then travels east over some marginal and improved pasture. Several of these fields were not inspected as access was not approved.

At Ch. 12+875 a small vernacular thatched cottage (BH 12) (Plate 13.82) is included in the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR. This structure is well maintained with relatively fresh thatch in place and consists of a single-storey cottage, which is included within the Register of Protected Structures. The cottage is located on the northern fringes of An Caisleán Gearr Village. The historic mapping shows this as a large village although many of the vernacular structures have been lost.

At Ch. 12+975 the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR will include a portion of a dramatic oval hollow (AH 24). This hollow measures c.60m northeast-southwest by c.50m northwest-southeast and is densely vegetated with hazel, hawthorn and bramble along its sloping sides. The base of the hollow is flat and is covered in bog and sedge grass (Plate 13.83). This depression is annotated as *Poilinnapreaghaun* on the 25-inch OS mapping. This presumably derives from the Irish *Poilín na Préachán* (the little hole of the crows). The site is now listed as a redundant record. The base of this hollow has been identified as an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP 11).

To the east of An Caisleán Gearr Village, the proposed road development passes to the northeast of a cluster of small outbuilding visible on the first edition OS mapping (CH 53). These buildings are very ruinous surviving in places to only several courses high (Plate 13.84).

The proposed N6 GCRR then crosses a number of fields of improved pasture, before passing to the south of a small, well-built vernacular cottage with a slate roof (CH 54). This structure is visible on the 25-inch OS mapping.

Figure 13.1.10

At Ch. 13+900 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary between An Caisleán Gearr and Parkmore (TB 26), which follows along the route of the Tuam Road in this area (Plate 13.85). A small modern cemetery to the west of the Tuam Road, and southwest of the proposed N6 GCRR, is recorded as a former Children's Burial Ground (AH 26). No surface trace of the Children's Burial Ground is now visible (Plate 13.86).

A spur of the proposed N6 GCRR intersects the townland boundary between Parkmore and Pollkeen to the north and forms the boundary between Cappanabornia and Parkmore (TB 28). This boundary also follows the Tuam Road at this location (Plate 13.87). A short section of the townland boundary between Cappanabornia and An Caisleán Gearr is also located within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR at Ch. 13+850 (TB 27). This boundary is formed by an overgrown hedgerow, although a portion is now formed by a modern residential garden boundary.

On the eastern side of the Tuam Road at Ch. 13+900 the site of two vernacular buildings that are marked on the 25-inch OS mapping is located within the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 55). No surface trace of these structures remains.

Further to the north, the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland and parish boundary that separates Parkmore from Pollkeen (TB 29). This boundary is formed by a low traditional dry-stone wall, which is flanked by overgrowth. It is located to the immediate southwest of a modern industrial estate (Plate 13.88). CH 56 is also located within this area and consists of the site of vernacular structures located to the immediate east of the N83 Tuam Road at Ch. 14+100. No upstanding remains were noted during the field inspection.

At Ch. 13+950 the proposed N6 GCRR includes a portion of a hachured feature, which is marked on the 25-inch OS mapping. These types of features sometimes represent archaeological enclosures or earthworks when depicted in such a manner within the historic mapping. As such the site was originally identified as an archaeological monument (AH 27) but will be removed from the SMR record as the site contains the remains of a 20th century quarry (Plate 13.89).

The proposed N6 GCRR crosses a number of fields of improved pasture although no specific areas of archaeological potential were noted. At Ch. 14+300 the proposed N6 GCRR passes through grounds now associated with Galway Racecourse and the Project includes the proposed temporary and permanent stables at Galway Racecourse. At Ch. 14+700 the N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary between Parkmore and Ballybrit (TB 30). This boundary is no longer upstanding longer upstanding and no trace of the line of the boundary was identified in the field of pasture. The proposed N6 GCRR then passes through a built-up complex associated with Galway Racecourse, before passing c.40m to the northeast of a recorded cashel (AH 29/BH 17). This is also believed to be the site of a souterrain and a Children's Burial Ground. Today the graveyard at the centre of the site is surrounding by a circular traditional dry-stone wall, which may reflect the position of the recorded cashel (Plate 13.90).

To the west of Galway Racecourse, at approximate Ch. 14+000 local tradition records the presence of a mass path, which is partially located within the proposed N6 GCRR (CH 57). The proposed N6 GCRR appears to follow a modern road that accesses two residential properties, before turning into a grassy path that is flanked by two drystone walls (Plate 13.91). The path travels northeast before turning southeast and then northeast again before it disappears. The path is shown on the 25-inch OS mapping, but only the first section is shown on the first edition OS mapping. Previously the path headed north after the first section. However, both branches have been highlighted within Figure 13.1.10.

Figure 13.1.11

The townland and parish boundary between Ballybrit and Doughiska (TB 31) is no longer extant where it is crossed by the proposed N6 GCRR. The proposed N6 GCRR continues in a southeasterly direction across an area that has been heavily developed. At Ch. 15+850 the proposed N6 GCRR will impact upon the site of a building marked on the first edition OS mapping and the site of two buildings marked on the 25-inch OS mapping (CH 58). One of the buildings is marked as

Briarhill School on the 25-inch OS mapping. Today some piles of rubble are present on the site, but no upstanding remains were noted during the inspection (Plate 13.92).

Approximately 150m northeast of the proposed N6 GCRR, a single-storey rubble-built outbuilding was noted along with a two-storey vernacular house (CH 59). The outbuilding is shown on the 25-inch OS mapping whereas the house is early 20th century in date, being present on the third edition OS mapping.

The townland and parish boundary between Doughiska and Coolagh (TB 32) runs through the footprint of the proposed N6 GCRR for a distance of c.1.4km. This is marked by a traditional dry-stone wall for the most part with no visible trace of an associated ditch or bank (Plate 13.93).

The area contained within the proposed N6 GCRR is bordered to the southwest and southeast by the existing N6 infrastructure. For the most part the landscape consists of fields of pasture that varies in quality. Areas of scrub are present, including some limestone pavement. These conceal relic field boundaries in places (Plate 13.94).

Local tradition records that a Mass Rock may be present in the fields to the southwest of Coolagh, although no specific location was given during the public consultations. No obvious mass rocks were identified within the landtake of the proposed N6 GCRR. Significant field clearance has taken place within this area and this activity may have resulted in the removal of the rock.

A number of vernacular structures are present within the village of Coolagh to the northeast of the proposed N6 GCRR. CH 60 consists of a vernacular farmstead, which is marked on the first edition OS mapping and the 25-inch edition. There are a number of modern structures now included within the farmyard. However, a two-storey farmhouse is still present, along with several single-storey outbuildings. To the northeast of CH 60 a renovated single-storey vernacular cottage is present along with a single-storey stone outbuilding with a replacement corrugated roof (CH 61). In the eastern part of Coolagh Village several more vernacular buildings are present (CH 62). This consist of a two-storey house, two single-storey cottages and several stone built outbuildings. All remain in reasonable condition and have been subject to elements of renovation.

Figure 13.1.12

At Ch. 0+125, the land falls sharply in a north-easterly direction towards the N59 Moycullen Road and River Corrib. Prior to the fall in the ground, a rectangular raised area of c.20m x 20m was noted during the inspection (CH 38). This raised area is defined by low banks with underlying stone visible in places (Plate 13.95). To the north, the bank may cover a former revetment of stone (Plate 13.96). The location of this feature commands views across Lough Corrib to the north and west (Plate 13.97). The shape of this possible enclosure corresponds to a rectangular field visible on the first edition OS mapping, however, the raised nature of the interior of the enclosure and the revetment-type northern wall may indicate that this feature is of archaeological interest.

The mid-19th century St. James' Church lies to the southeast of the proposed N59 Link Road North (BH 7) and fronts onto the N59 Moycullen Road (Plate 13.98). To the northeast of St. James' Church and the N59 Moycullen Road, in Bushypark, a tall, two storey, five bay house annotated as Bushypark House on the first edition OS mapping is present (Plate 13.99) (BH 5). The house is shown on the first edition mapping with a substantial northern annex. The building retains much of its original character but this annex does not survive. Well-built stone barns and sheds survive to the rear of the house (Plate 13.100). The surrounding demesne land (DL 4) retains some of the original treelines and small areas of redbrick wall. A curving section of redbrick wall to the front of the house survives. This adjoins the western gable of the house and appears to relate to an enclosure visible in front of the house on the 25-inch OS mapping (Plate 13.101). The stone-built

demesne wall separates the demesne from the N59 Moycullen Road. However, the entrance into the demesne appears to have been replaced.

A drainage pipeline will pass through the demesne associated with Bushypark House (DL 4) in a north-easterly direction. A potential mass rock is located c. 30m west-northwest of the pipeline wayleave (CH 69). It is situated beneath a mature tree within the demesne and information provided by the land owner indicates that it may have once been used as a mass rock (Plate 13.102). The stone appears to represent a glacial erratic due to its large size. A short section of masonry wall is also located adjacent to the tree and rock, although it is not clear as to what this may relate to.

As the pipeline travels in a north-easterly direction it passes to the immediate east of the remains of a walled garden (Plate 13.102). The garden is formed by a low stone wall of roughly coursed masonry that is overgrown with vegetation in places. The pipeline then travels around two modern residential houses before running down slope through undulating and overgrown pasture (Plate 13.104). It crosses the location of a small lake, or pond, which is marked on the first edition OS map as 'Loughaunnafraska'. Today, a slight indication of the former lake is visible on the ground as sunken, waterlogged area. This has been designated as AAP 12 (Plate 13.105)

The pipeline crosses the bed of a disused railway bed just before terminating and the feature has a slight surface expression at this location (CH 68) (Plate 13.106). To the immediate east of where the pipeline will cross the railway, a stone built, square-headed culvert was noted (CH 70), which was heavily overgrown at the time of the inspection (Plate 13.107). This culvert carries the railway bed over a small stream and is formed by dressed masonry blocks and a roughly dressed slab. A small, ruined building concealed by vegetation is located on the northern side of the N59 Moycullen Road (CH 63) on the very edge of the proposed N6 GCRR. This structure is heavily overgrown, and the structural elements are obscured (Plate 13.108). The structure appears on the 25-inch OS mapping.

The N59 Moycullen Road follows townland boundaries that separates Kentfield and Ballagh and Bushypark and Ballagh (TB 20) (Plate 13.109). The road has been subject to some widening since the publication of the 25-inch OS mapping.

Figure 13.1.13

This figure covers the N59 Link Road South that forms part of the proposed N6 GCRR. At Ch. 1+620 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses the townland boundary that separates Rahoon and Letteragh (TB 33). The boundary is formed by a low traditional dry-stone wall. As the proposed N59 Link Road South travels in a southerly direction it crosses an area of disturbed ground for c. 290m. The disturbance may be related to the construction of residential houses to the east. The historic mapping shows a small water course within the landscape but this is no longer extant within the landscape.

From Ch. 1+620 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses undulating pasture, interspersed with scrub (Plate 13.110). This section of the N59 Link Road South is parallel to an existing distribution road. At Ch. 2+220 the proposed N6 GCRR crosses a further distribution road and then crosses another area of disturbed scrub land before tying into the existing road network.

In the wider vicinity several vernacular structures are located within the receiving environment (CH 64/65). CH 64 is located to the southeast of the proposed N6 GCRR and consists of a vernacular cottage. The cottage is a single-storey structure with a width of four bays. The main southeast facing elevation is rendered. To the rear of the structure, there are a number of vernacular outbuildings. The cottage is shown on the 25-inch OS map edition.

Further to the east a number of derelict vernacular structures are present, which are marked on the 25-inch OS mapping (CH 65). One ruinous stone-built structure fronts onto a small road, with modified vernacular outbuildings to the south.

CH 66 consist of a small, two storey vernacular house set back from the existing road and located to the west of the southern section of the proposed N59 Link Road South. It has a width of three bays, is rendered and has a pitched slate roof. The window fittings are replacements and a small single-storey entrance porch has been added to the entrance.

Figure 13.1.14

This figure covers a small section of the proposed N6 GCRR to the south of Galway Racecourse. The landscape is highly developed and formerly included the demesne associated with Ballybrit House (DL 9) and former potential monuments (AH 30 and 31). Nothing remains of these features within the landscape.

Figure 13.1.15

Figure 13.1.15 shows the eastern most portion of the Project, where it joins the existing N6. No Cultural Heritage features are present in this area.

2024 Inspections

In 2024 the landscape containing the proposed N6 GCRR was revisited. This confirmed that overall, the landscape remains relatively unchanged with the exception of more residential development to the west of Galway City. AH 42 comprises the site of a ‘structure’ added to the RMP as a potential site in 2022. Plate 13.111 shows the site, which occupies a small rise in a very marginal landscape. The site was very overgrown at the time of the inspection but is described in detail in Appendix A.13.1. Plate 13.112 shows the site in more detail (taken during a visit by Martin Jones, TII Archaeologist).

Table 1 Land parcels that were not directly accessed during the site inspection

Landowner Ref.:	Townland:	Description:	Reasons For In- accessibility:
Figure 13.1.01			
7859	Na Forái Maola Thiar	Irregular shaped fields with granite stone boundaries	Completely overgrown with bramble and gorse
7824	Na Forái Maola Thiar	Irregular shaped fields with granite stone boundaries	Completely overgrown with bramble and gorse
7877	Na Forái Maola Thiar	Irregular shaped fields with granite stone boundaries	Completely overgrown with bramble and gorse
7865	Na Forái Maola Thiar	Irregular shaped fields with granite stone boundaries	Completely overgrown with bramble and gorse
7328	Na Forái Maola Thiar	Landscaped garden plot	Access denied
Figure 13.1.06			
7434	Dangan Upper	Enclosed pasture	Access denied
7576	Dangan Upper	Small enclosed fields and garden plots	Access denied
7631	Dangan Upper	Enclosed pasture	Access denied
7550	Dangan Lower	Garden	Access denied

Landowner Ref.:	Townland:	Description:	Reasons For In- accessibility:
7549	Dangan Lower	Garden	Landscaped garden – no archaeological interest
7164	Dangan Lower	Garden	Landscaped garden – no archaeological interest
7573	Dangan Lower	Garden	Landscaped garden – no archaeological interest
7297	Barnacranny	Garden	Landscaped garden – no archaeological interest
7591	Ballagh	Garden and fields	Access denied
Figure 13.1.08			
7030	Mionlach	Grass pasture and farmhouse/yard	Access denied
7567	Coolagh	Limestone Quarry	Cultural heritage resource removed
Figure 13.1.09			
7031	An Caisleán Gearr	Garden and fields	Access denied
7340	An Caisleán Gearr	Grass pasture	Access denied