

CHAPTER 14 CULTURAL HERITAGE

- **Appendix 14.5 Teltown Impact Assessment Report**

Cultural Heritage Impact Appraisal

North South 400 kV Interconnection Project

Prepared by:

Declan Moore, Billy Quinn and Nigel Malcolm

Issued to:

Tobin Consulting Engineers for EirGrid

Date:

April 2015



moore group – archaeological & environmental services – mooregroup.ie

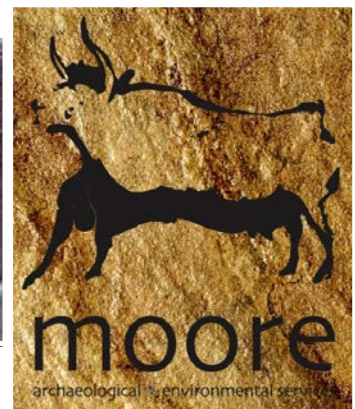


TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	SCOPE OF WORKS	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	The proposed Development	2
1.3	Legal Background.....	5
1.3.1	<i>Conventions & Legislation</i>	<i>5</i>
1.3.2	<i>Meath County Development Plan, 2013 -2019</i>	<i>5</i>
1.4	Methodology.....	6
1.4.1	<i>Desktop Study of the Area.....</i>	<i>6</i>
1.4.2	<i>Field Inspection</i>	<i>7</i>
2	DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT.....	8
2.1	Landscape Character Assessment	8
2.2	Line route Description.....	8
3	BASELINE DATA	11
3.1	National Monuments in State Care	14
3.2	National Monuments in the Ownership of a Local Authority	14
3.3	Archaeological Monuments.....	14
3.3.1	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 027</i>	<i>14</i>
3.3.2	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 031</i>	<i>15</i>
3.3.3	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 031001</i>	<i>15</i>
3.3.4	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 032</i>	<i>15</i>
3.3.5	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 033</i>	<i>16</i>
3.3.6	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 034001</i>	<i>16</i>
3.3.7	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 034002</i>	<i>16</i>
3.3.8	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 034003</i>	<i>17</i>
3.3.9	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 034004</i>	<i>17</i>
3.3.10	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 034005</i>	<i>17</i>
3.3.11	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 049</i>	<i>18</i>
3.3.12	<i>SMR No.: ME017: 050</i>	<i>18</i>
3.4	Record of Protected Structures (RPS).....	18
3.4.1	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-127 / NIAH- 14401714.....</i>	<i>19</i>
3.4.2	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-128 / NIAH- N/A.....</i>	<i>19</i>
3.4.3	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-129 / NIAH- N/A.....</i>	<i>19</i>
3.4.4	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-130 / NIAH- N/A.....</i>	<i>19</i>
3.4.5	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-131 / NIAH- 14401701.....</i>	<i>20</i>
3.4.6	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-132 / NIAH- 14401703.....</i>	<i>20</i>
3.4.7	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-133 / NIAH- 14401702.....</i>	<i>20</i>
3.4.8	<i>Site ID: RPS - MH017-134 / NIAH 14401704.....</i>	<i>21</i>

3.4.9	Site ID: RPS - MH017-138 / NIAH- N/A.....	21
3.5	The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files	21
3.6	Previous Archaeological Fieldwork in the area	21
3.6.1	<i>The Knockauns, (Teltown), Baile Oraí (Oristown).....</i>	21
3.6.2	<i>The Knockauns, (Teltown), Baile Oraí (Oristown).....</i>	22
3.6.3	<i>Oristown - Vicinity of ringfort.....</i>	23
3.6.4	<i>Oristown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	24
3.6.5	<i>Oristown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	25
3.6.6	<i>Oristown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	25
3.6.7	<i>Teltown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	26
3.6.8	<i>Teltown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	26
3.6.9	<i>Gibstown Demesne - No archaeological significance.....</i>	27
3.6.10	<i>Gibstown - No archaeological significance.....</i>	27
3.6.11	<i>Tankardstown - Adjacent to ploughed-out ringfort</i>	28
3.7	Cartographic Evidence.....	28
3.7.1	<i>The Knockauns Linear earthwork – (SMR No. ME017-049).....</i>	29
3.7.3	<i>Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) – (SMR No. ME017-033 - 034001-034005) 31</i>	
3.7.4	<i>Rath Dhú – (SMR No. ME017-027).....</i>	33
3.7.5	<i>Teltown Church and Graveyard – (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001)</i>	34
3.7.6	<i>Unrecorded sites of Archaeological, Architectural or Cultural Heritage Potential</i>	36
3.7.7	<i>O'Donovan's Maps</i>	49
4	THE TELTOWN ZONE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AMENITY	49
4.1	Literary References to the area	49
4.1.1	<i>O'Donovan's Ordnance Survey Letters.....</i>	49
4.1.2	<i>The Boyne and the Blackwater by Sir William Wilde Published 1849.....</i>	64
4.1.3	<i>A Social History of Ireland by P.W. Joyce published 1903.</i>	69
4.2	Notes on the literary Sources.....	70
4.2.1	<i>After O' Donovan</i>	70
4.2.2	<i>After Wilde.....</i>	71
4.2.3	<i>After Joyce</i>	71
4.3	Teltown Today - Interpretation and Comments	72
4.3.1	<i>Rath Dhú or the Black Fort – (SMR No. ME17-027).....</i>	74
4.3.2	<i>Rath Airthir (The Eastern ort) - (SMR No. ME017-033).....</i>	76
4.3.3	<i>The Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049).....</i>	78
4.3.4	<i>St. Patrick's Graveyard, Standing Stone, Font, Sundial and Graveslab – (SMR No.s ME017-034001 - ME017-034005)</i>	81
4.3.5	<i>Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. – ME017-031 & 031001)</i>	82

5	EVALUATION OF IMPACTS.....	83
5.1	Evaluation of impacts.....	84
5.1.1	<i>Quality of impacts.....</i>	<i>84</i>
5.1.2	<i>Significance of Impacts</i>	<i>84</i>
5.1.3	<i>Duration of Impacts</i>	<i>85</i>
5.1.4	<i>Types of Impacts</i>	<i>85</i>
5.2	Construction Phase Impacts	85
5.2.1	<i>Direct Physical Impacts</i>	<i>86</i>
5.2.2	<i>Indirect Impacts</i>	<i>87</i>
5.3	Operational Phase Impacts.....	87
5.3.1	<i>Impacts on Setting.....</i>	<i>87</i>
6	MITIGATION	97
6.1	Direct Physical Impacts.....	97
6.1.1	<i>Mitigation Strategies during Construction.....</i>	<i>97</i>
6.1.2	<i>Mitigation Strategies during Operational and Dismantling Work.....</i>	<i>98</i>
6.2	Impacts on setting	98
7	RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	99
8	CONCLUSIONS.....	101
9	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	103
10	OTHER SOURCES REFERENCED.....	104
	APPENDIX 1: CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE POLICIES FROM THE MEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019.....	I
	APPENDIX 2: FIGURES.....	V
	APPENDIX 3: PHOTOMONTAGES	VII

FIGURES

Figure 1. Proposed Intermediate Lattice Tower (Indicative).....	3
Figure 2. Proposed Angle Lattice Tower (Indicative)	4
Figure 3. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Site of Knockauns. SMR No. ME017:049.....	29
Figure 4. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Knockauns; note elliptical feature to south of field boundary.....	30
Figure 5. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Saint Patrick's, Rath Airthir, Bridge and Mill.....	31
Figure 6. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) and Environs.....	32
Figure 7. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, Showing Rath Dhú.....	33
Figure 8. Second Edition Ordnance Survey map showing Rath Dhú.....	34

Figure 9. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031)	35
Figure 10. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031)	36
Figure 11. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Corn Mill, Ford & Weir (MSA-CHS076, MSA-CHS077 & MSA-CHS078).....	37
Figure 12. 2005 Aerial Photography Showing the Locations of the Corn Mill, Ford & Weir (MSA-CHS076, MSA-CHS077 & MSA-CHS078).	37
Figure 13. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Old Mill (MSA-CHS075).....	38
Figure 14 Hillshade of DTM of Old Mill Site (MSA-CHS075).....	39
Figure 15. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Absence of the Circular Copse of Trees (MSA-CHS071) that Subsequently Appears on the Later Mapping and Aerial Photography.	40
Figure 16. Second Edition Ordnance Map Showing a Circular Copse of Trees (MSA-CHS071).	41
Figure 17. Aerial Photography Indicating the Tree Copse (MSA-CHS071).	41
Figure 18. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing St. Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).	43
Figure 19 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing St. Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).	43
Figure 20 Orthophotography of St Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).....	44
Figure 21. First edition Ordnance Survey Map with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.....	45
Figure 22. Orthophotography with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.	45
Figure 23. Hillshade of DTM LiDAR with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.	46
Figure 24. First edition Ordnance Survey with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.	47
Figure 25. Orthophotography with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.	47
Figure 26. Hillshade of DTM with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.	48
Figure 27. Hillshade DTM with 1m Contours and Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.	48
Figure 28. O'Donovan's map of the Teltown 1836, showing the significant sites associated with the area.	61
Figure 29. Annotated map of Teltown showing Knockauns and Rath Dhú	62
Figure 30. Aerial image Rath Dhú.....	75

Figure 31. Hillshade of DSM of Rath Dhú (SMR NO. ME17-027).....	75
Figure 32. Aerial Photography of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).....	76
Figure 33. Hillshade of DSM of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).....	77
Figure 34. Hillshade of DTM of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).....	78
Figure 35. Aerial Photography of the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049).....	79
Figure 36. Hillshade of DTM LiDAR at the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) with Luganeany site circled in green.	80
Figure 37. Hillshade of DSM LiDAR at the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) with nearby houses and Luganeany site circled in green.	80
Figure 38. Aerial photography showing Teltown Church (Cill Tailteann) (SMR No. ME017- 031)	82
Figure 39. LiDAR DTM showing Teltown Church (Cill Tailteann) (SMR No. ME017-031)...	83

TABLES

Table 1. Summary of Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Sites.....	12
Table 2. Distances between archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites and the proposed development	13
Table 3. Summary of Predicted Impacts on Setting	96
Table 4. Summary of Residual Construction Phase Impacts on the Setting of Archaeological and Architectural Heritage Sites	100

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1 This report describes the results of an archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage appraisal carried out in relation to the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity (ZAA), County Meath. The work was undertaken by the authors for Moore Archaeological and Environmental Services Ltd. (Moore Group) for Tobin Consulting Engineers Ltd, on behalf of the client EirGrid.
- 2 The appraisal relates to the likely potential impacts that would result from a proposed 400 kV Overhead Line (OHL), part of the North South 400 kV Interconnection Development (herein referred to as the 'proposed development'), which passes through a region of high archaeological potential identified by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG). Once completed, the proposed development within the ZAA will consist of eight steel lattice towers, numbered from north to south as Towers 303 to 310, with associated OHL.
- 3 The Teltown ZAA was highlighted by the National Monuments Service as a region of high archaeological potential due to its historical, mythological and folkloric associations with the ancient region of Tailtiu. The National Monuments Service provided a map of the ZAA which outlines an area of approximately 520 Ha situated to the north west of the bend in the River Blackwater and west of Domhnagh Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village (**Appendix 2 Figure 1**). John O'Donovan, place-name researcher with Ordnance Survey Ireland during the 1830's, identifies an area in the western half of the ZAA as the focus of a complex of prehistoric and early historic field monuments relating to Tailtiu.
- 4 The work was commissioned in order to:
 - Determine the archaeological potential of the area;
 - Determine how the archaeological resource would be affected by the proposed developments; and
 - Propose mitigation measures.
- 5 The Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity encompasses an area second only to Tara in terms of legends and folklore. Figures from ancient tales stride the landscape including Pagan Kings, kindly Queens, mighty warriors and of course St. Patrick himself shining the light of Christianity and banishing the older Celtic deities to the darkness.

- 6 In the days when William Wilde and John O'Donovan travelled here, in the early to mid-Nineteenth Century, the great sites of Tailtean still stood as proud reminders of the areas central role in the rites and rituals of a time long past. Wilde espouses that Rath Dhú's earthen banks were drawn up to a height of almost 7 metres, in the centre of a single field of nearly 100 acres offering commanding views over the surrounding landscape. Enigmatic depressions to the north of the Fort still survive. These, according to local mythology were built by the Firbolg and hosted 'aquatic fights' as part of the annual games. East of this is the Knockauns, O'Donovan refers to this feature as the "remains of a mound, now a rabbit warren", Wilde however is much more enthused, "parts of the trench and embankments of two other forts, which, judging from the portions still remaining, must have been of immense size, greater even than any of those now existing at Tara." To the south along Cromwell's Road is Luganeany, site of the Teltown marriages, then discernible as a spring and depression and further south again is Doolough where St. Patrick 'confined the shade' of King Laoghaire.
- 7 Much has changed since the time of O'Donovan and Wilde; at the time of the first edition Ordnance Survey in 1836 the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity contained approximately 47 structures, now there are over 200. The 100 acre expanse containing Rath Dhú was subdivided into 15 fields by the beginning of the Twentieth Century, with a road extending into the area from the north along which six houses had been constructed, many with accompanying outbuildings. Several of these outbuildings have since been extended into extensive agricultural sheds. The earthen bank of Rath Dhú now stands only three to four metres above the surrounding area and one of the artificial lakes is slowly being encroached upon by a farmyard development. The Knockauns was inexplicably partially destroyed by earth moving machinery in 1997 and in more recent years two roadside dwelling houses have been built to its immediate east between it and the wedding site of Luganeany. The cumulative effect of all these incremental changes throughout the ZAA has altered the original landscape and reduced, denuded or destroyed some of the ancient sites.
- 8 To further advise the appraisal a detailed LiDAR survey was undertaken of the Teltown ZAA at 12.5cm resolution. The data was processed and provided in two formats, as a Digital Surface Model (DSM) which provides height data including that of vegetation and man-made features and as Digital Terrain Model (DTM), where vegetation and man-made features have been stripped away, providing a bare earth representation of the terrain. Two new features were noted following a review of the LiDAR, the first (MSA_CHS071), a possible enclosure, now consists of a patch of woodland approximately 110m to the west of the proposed development. The second (MSA_CHS073), is an area of unusually low elevation in the south of the ZAA, located

just to the north of the Blackwood River and approximately 280m to the west of the proposed development. This feature may be associated with man-made loughs mentioned by John O'Donovan, although O'Donovan attributes these loughs to being in the vicinity of Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027), approximately 1.6km to the north west.

- 9 The evaluation found that there will be no direct physical impact upon previously recorded archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage sites within the ZAA as a result of the proposed development. There is the potential that previously unrecorded archaeological deposits could be impacted upon and mitigation measures are recommended to ensure that these impacts are kept to a minimum. These measures include archaeological testing and archaeological monitoring, and construction techniques and equipment that will ensure that ground disturbance is kept to a minimum. Any archaeological deposits that are discovered during the construction phase will be excavated in full consultation with the National Monuments Service of the DAHG.
- 10 The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of most of the prominent sites including Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027), the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) and Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village including St. Patrick's graveyard, standing stone, font, sundial and graveslab (SMR No. ME017-034001-034005, RPS No. MH017-131) and Rath Airthir (SMR No. ME017-033) was found to be imperceptible to slight. It was found that there would be a moderate impact on the setting of Teltown Church and graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001). The view from Donaghpatrick Bridge (RPS No. MH017-130) would experience a slight impact. At the circular entrance feature to the old Gibstown Estate (RPS No. MH017-138), situated at Crasulthan cross roads, the view eastwards, already compromised by other physical infrastructure (powerlines, telecoms wires, a radio tower and a GAA clubhouse with floodlights) would experience a slight cumulative impact. Views to the west from the vicinity of the embanked enclosure (SMR No. ME017-050), which has no above ground expression), would result in a slight to imperceptible impact. . These include views from the N3, the R163 and from the Baile Oraí (Oristown) / Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) road. There are a number of views of the development from roadways within the ZAA and photomontages are provided from where the impact upon those views from the proposed development would be greatest. It was found that these views were intermittent and that the level of impact would change throughout the year. Overall the significance of the impact of the proposed development on these views was not found to be greater than moderate.

- 11 As an entity the Teltown ZAA has a group value and mindful of its mythological and historical associations as an Óenach or assembly site it is considered that the proposed development will have a permanent negative impact of moderate significance on the Teltown ZAA.

1 SCOPE OF WORKS

1.1 INTRODUCTION

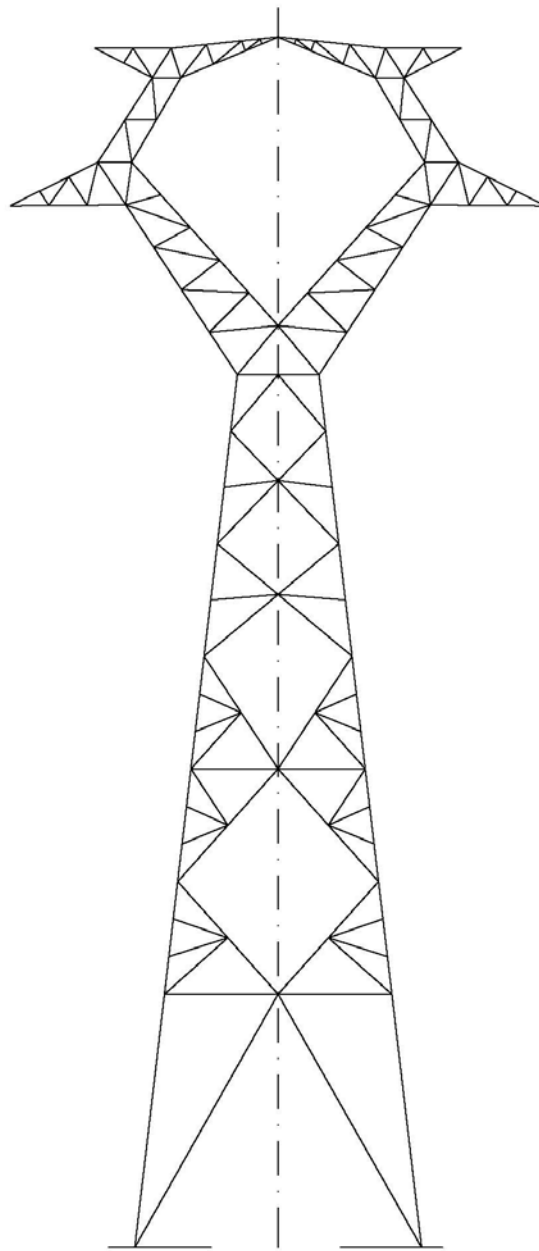
- 12 Moore Group was commissioned to carry out an archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage impact appraisal on behalf of Tobin Consulting Engineers Ltd. for the client EirGrid for a proposed 400kV overhead transmission line in a region identified by the National Monument Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) as the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity (ZAA).
- 13 The appraisal relates to the potential impacts that may result from a proposed 400 kV Overhead Line (OHL), part of the North South 400 kV Interconnection Development (herein referred to as the 'proposed development'), which passes through a region identified by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG). The proposed development within the Teltown ZAA will consist of eight steel lattice towers, numbered from 303 to 310 with associated OHL.
- 14 The National Monuments Service provided a map of the ZAA which outlines an area of approximately 520 Ha situated to the north west of the bend in the River Blackwater and west of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village (**Appendix 2 Figure 1**). A map of the ZAA is held by the National Monuments Section of the DAHG and does not appear in the existing or previous Meath County Development Plan. It comprises a region defined by the River Blackwater to the south and the third class road between Baile Oraí (Oristown) and Bloomsbury Crossroads to the west, the R163 Kells to Slane Road to the north and a third class road linking Crasulthan Crossroads to a point south of Donaghpatrick Bridge to the east.
- 15 The Teltown ZAA was highlighted by the National Monuments Service as a region of high archaeological potential due to its historical, mythological and folkloric associations with the ancient region of Tailtiu. John O'Donovan, place-name researcher with Ordnance Survey Ireland during the 1830's, identifies an area in the vicinity of Rath Dhú as the focus of a complex of prehistoric and early historic field monuments relating to Tailtiu. The ZAA has also been previously highlighted in an Archaeology Ireland Heritage Guide (No. 3, 1998).

1.2 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

16 The proposed development involves the construction of a 400kV OHL from the townland of Lemgare in County Monaghan on the border between counties Monaghan and Armagh, to Woodland Substation in County Meath. The development will consist of steel lattice towers (see **Figure 1** and **Figure 2** for indicative figures) supporting a 400 kV OHL consisting of three conductors. There are a total of eight towers proposed within the ZAA itself (Towers 303 to 310). Three of the towers proposed to be located within the ZAA will be angle towers; Towers 303, 307 and 309. The development will also include:

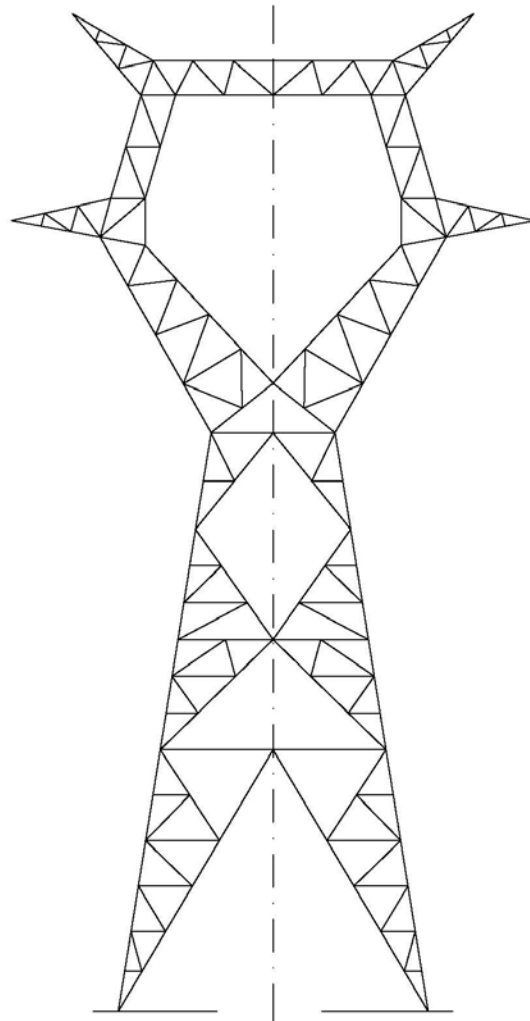
- **Working areas:** where foundations will be excavated and tower construction will take place;
- **Stringing areas:** from where phase conductors and shieldwires will be strung on the transmission line supporting structures (towers) and tensioned;
- **Guarding:** will be constructed over roads and existing low voltage OHLs to protect them during stringing operations; and
- **Access routes:** that will facilitate access for construction machinery and materials to enable the above works. It is noted in the construction methodology that access routes may involve the construction of temporary stone access tracks that would involve topsoil stripping.

Figure 1. Proposed 400 kV Intermediate C-IVI-1 Lattice Tower



Front Elevation

(Not to be scaled - for illustrative purposes only)

Figure 2. Proposed 400 kV Angle C-IVI-1 Lattice Tower**Front Elevation**

(Not to be scaled - for illustrative purposes only)

1.3 LEGAL BACKGROUND

1.3.1 Conventions & Legislation

17 Ireland has ratified several European and international conventions in relation to the protection of its cultural heritage. Outlined below are summaries of relevant conventions and legislation.

- The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended);
- ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas, 2005;
- The National Monuments Act and its various amendments 1930 to 2012;
- EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended;
- The European Landscape Convention 2000;
- The Architectural Heritage and Historic Properties Act, 1999;
- The European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention), ratified by Ireland in 1997;
- The European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage (Granada Convention), ratified by Ireland in 1997; and
- The UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 1972.

1.3.2 Meath County Development Plan, 2013 -2019

18 A County Development Plan (CDP) plays a pivotal role in both facilitating and regulating development within a county, setting out general policies and development standards and the processes whereby individual applications are assessed against these policies. The County Development Plan also contains lists of Cultural Heritage Sites including National Monuments, recorded monuments, protected structures and protected views as well as the landscape character assessment of the county.

19 This appraisal has been carried out with regard to the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 and in particular its cultural heritage and landscape policies (Appendix 1) and other relevant sources contained within. There is no mention of Teltown, Tailtin or Tailteann in Chapter 9 *Cultural and Natural Assets* of the CDP. It is mentioned in Chapter 2, Core Strategy, where a number of tourist attractions are listed under the heading of *Sustainable Heritage*:

- 20 The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Brú na Bóinne ranks among the most visited tourist sites in the country. Other tourist attractions based on Meath's archaeological and historical heritage include the Royal site of Tara, Kells, Trim castle, Loughcrew, Tailteann, the Hill of Ward, the Christian sites at Slane, Donaghmore, Killeen, Dunsany and Duleek, monastic ruins at Bective and stately homes throughout the county.
- 21 And similarly in the Tourism Chapter under the heading of Existing Resources:
- 22 Meath has one of Europe's best collections of prehistoric sites and monuments and a unique blend of history and culture. As a result, the county has a large number of visitor attractions, the most famous being the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Brú na Bóinne incorporating the passage tombs at Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth. The Battle of the Boyne site (now incorporating Oldbridge House and Estate), Trim Castle and the Hill of Tara have also a high profile in both the domestic and overseas markets. Loughcrew, the Royal site of Tara, Tailteann, the Hill of Ward, Christian sites at Kells, Slane, Donaghmore, Killeen, Dunsany and Duleek, monastic ruins at Bective and Trim, grand country houses from the 18th Century onwards and associated prestigious gardens throughout the county all bear testimony to Meath's rich historic past and the county's inexhaustive list of attractions.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

- 23 The methodology employed to complete this appraisal is twofold, comprising a desktop study of the area and field inspections.

1.4.1 Desktop Study of the Area

- 24 To assess the potential impact of the proposed development the following were consulted:
- World Heritage Sites;
 - National Monuments in State Care;
 - Preservation Orders;
 - Record of Monuments and Places (RMP);
 - Sites and Monuments Record (SMR);
 - Archaeological Survey Database;
 - Meath County Council's Graveyard Survey;
 - Record of Protected Structures (RPS);

- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH);
- Historic Gardens & Designed Landscapes, as indicated of OSI historic mapping;
- Meath County Development plan 2013 to 2019;
- Excavations Bulletin;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic Sources;
- Toponym analysis;
- Aerial photographs;
- LiDAR survey of the entire ZAA; and
- Literary sources.

1.4.2 Field Inspection

- 25 Restricted access to land prevented site visits to a number of monuments. In view of this the field survey was conducted in the following manner:
- 26 **Cultural Heritage Sites:** Where possible cultural heritage sites identified in the desktop study were visited. Where access is not possible then the sites were, where possible, surveyed from the nearest publicly accessible land or roads. It was possible to visit or view all designated archaeological or architectural heritage sites within the ZAA.
- 27 **Tower Locations and Guarding Areas:** Where possible the proposed site of each pylon was surveyed from the nearest publicly accessible land and inspected to determine if there are previously unrecorded archaeological or architectural features or areas of archaeological or architectural potential. Where it was not possible to view or access the tower locations each site was reviewed using documentary sources, including historic mapping, orthophotography, satellite photography and shaded relief maps or hillshades generated from high resolution LiDAR surveying.
- 28 **Impacts on Setting:** Sites where there is a potential for impacts on setting were visited where possible to assess the magnitude of the impact. Where access was not possible the sites were surveyed from the nearest publicly accessible land or roads.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

2.1 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

29 The Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 contains the Meath Landscape Character Assessment which was completed adhering broadly to the draft landscape assessment guidelines published by the DAHG in 2000. The following summarises the relevant findings from the assessment with regard to the landscape character of the area within and in the vicinity of the Teltown ZAA.

30 Characteristics of Blackwater Valley

31 River Corridors and Estuaries, comprising Nanny Valley, and Blackwater Valley (Landscape Character Areas 8 and 20). The River Blackwater runs between Kells and Navan where it joins with the Boyne. The entire river has a European designation as an cSAC and a number of smaller parts designated as pNHAs. The rivers Nanny and Delvin have largely undeveloped corridors and as such have high ecological value (with associated wetlands, sand bars, mudflats and coastal areas). Both estuaries (Boyne and Nanny) are densely wooded and relatively undisturbed, making them important.

32 Sensitivities of Blackwater Valley

33 These areas are considered to of very high value and are regionally important. They are highly sensitive to development. The Nanny Valley in particular would have a low capacity to absorb all types of development. The Blackwater valley can however absorb some development, in particular visitor facilities, conversion of existing buildings, overhead and underground cables, wind farms, roads and railways.

2.2 LINE ROUTE DESCRIPTION

34 Just to the north of the Teltown ZAA and approximately 180m to the west of the proposed development is St. Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068), which is indicated on both the first and second edition OSI maps. However the church of old was replaced with a new church during the late 1960's.

35 Within the Teltown ZAA the proposed development, from north to south, will consist of the construction of eight towers (towers 303-310). The proposed development enters the ZAA approximately 600m to the west of Crasulthan Crossroads in Baile Oraí

- (Oristown) townland. Temporary guarding will be constructed on either side of the R163 where the OHL passes overhead. Tower 303 is located to the immediate south of the R163 road approximately 410m from an embanked enclosure (SMR No. ME017-050), and 580m from the linear earthwork known as the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049). The embanked enclosure could not be discerned during fieldwork and is not evident in either the OSI aerial photography (OSI 1995, 2000 and 2005) or EirGrid commissioned aerial photography or the LiDAR survey. There is however evidence of an anomaly on 2001 Google Earth satellite imagery. The Knockauns is visible to the rear of two recently constructed houses, as a small gorse covered mound.
- 36 Between towers 303 and 304 the line crosses over two pasture fields and just to the west of Tower 304 there is a small area of woodland which may contain the remnants of an enclosure (MSA-CHS070). The LiDAR DTM survey, having stripped away the vegetation, indicates that there may be the remains of ditch to the south which when combined with the existing woodland boundaries form an enclosure. Further to the west, approximately 1.4km from the proposed development lie the remains of Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027). visible as a circular, raised platform just to the west of a lane that runs north north east to south south west, to the east of the monument. To the south of Tower 304 temporary guarding is to be constructed to protect a LV OHL during stringing.
- 37 A copse of trees (MSA-CHS071) is located approximately 110m to the east of the proposed development, between towers 305 and 306. The feature was probably planted as a design feature to enhance the Gibstown Estate, as it does not appear on the first edition OSI map but is recorded on the second edition OSI map.
- 38 At angle Tower 307 the line route diverts to the south west entering into Tailtinn (Teltown) townland. Approximately 520m to the south east of Tower 307 is Rath Airthir (SMR No. ME017-033) an impressive trivallate rath with a motte and bailey. Rath Airthir is visible from within the village of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick). Tower 308 is located to the south west of a local access road, approximately 650m to the north west of St Patrick's Church and graveyard (Graveyard - SMR No. ME017-034001 and Church - RPS No. MH017-133). The original church reputed to have been founded by St. Patrick which subsequently became the medieval parish church was located within the existing sub-rectangular graveyard. The existing Church of Ireland building was built in c.1896. Within the graveyard (SMR. ME017-034001) are a number of recorded features including a standing stone (SMR No. ME017-034002) an octagonal font (SMR. ME017-034003), a trapezoidal headed sun dial (SMR. ME017-034004) and a 16th century graveslab (SMR. ME017-034005). Also within the village) are the following

protected structures, a Parochial Hall (RPS No. MH017-132), Sextons House (RPS No. MH017-134) a 19th Century House (RPS No. MH017-133), and just to the south of the village Donaghpatrick Bridge (RPS No. MH017-130), a six arch masonry bridge with cutwaters.

- 39 Tower 309 is located to the north west of a bend in the River Blackwater and approximately 350m from a ringfort in Tankardstown (SMR No. ME017-032). Teltown Church and graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031 and - ME017-031001 respectively) is situated approximately 690m to the west of tower 309. This church survives as a ruin within a square enclosure to the east of Teltown House (RPS No. MH017-129). Tower 310, is located approximately 275m from an area of low lying ground (MSA-CHS073) that could be associated with man-made loughs mention by John O'Donovan.
- 40 The line route exits the Teltown ZAA between towers 310 and 311 crossing the River Blackwater near to where a corn mill (MSA-CHS076) was located during the first edition survey. By the time of the second edition Ordnance Survey survey the mill appears to have been in ruins. More recently, since 2005, a house has been built on the site. Nearby, there was a fording point across the Blackwater River (MSA-CHS078).

3 BASELINE DATA

- 41 This section inventories available data in relation to both recorded and unrecorded archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites within the study area. Table 1 summarises the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites from north to south that are located in the vicinity of the proposed development as it traverses the Teltown ZAA.
- 42 Table 2 quantifies distances between archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites and the proposed development. Details regarding each of the sites listed in Table 1 and are contained under relevant headings in this chapter.
- 43 Other baseline data is also summarised in this chapter, including details of finds discovered in the region that are held by the National Museum of Ireland, the results of archaeological excavations within the area, and the results of cartographic, aerial and LiDAR review.

Table 1. Summary of Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage Sites.

Reference	Site Name	Legal Status	Townland	NRG East	NGR North
MSA-CHS068	St Catherines Church	None	Oristown	281411	274580
RMP - ME017-050	Embanked enclosure	RMP	Oristown	281155	274411
RMP - ME017-049	Knockauns	RMP	Oristown	280980	274340
RMP - ME017-027	Rath Dhú	RMP	Teltown	280140	274190
RPS - MH017-138	Gibstown Gate Feature	RPS	Gibbstown Demesne	282093	274145
MSA-CHS070	Possible Enclosure	None	Gibbstown Demesne	281400	274024
MSA-CHS071	Copse of Trees	None	Gibbstown Demesne	281731	273532
RMP - ME017-031001	Teltown Graveyard	RMP	Teltown	280536	272927
RMP - ME017-031	Teltown Church	RMP	Teltown	280550	272930
RPS - MH017-129	Teltown House	RPS	Teltown	280424	272864
RMP - ME017-033	Rath Aithir	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281930	272690
RMP - ME017-032	Enclosure	RMP	Tankardstown	281529	272584
RPS - MH017-133	Donaghparick Parochial House	RPS	Donaghpatrick	282016	272583
NIAH - 14401702	Donaghpatrick Graveyard	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281957	272538
RMP - ME017-034003	Font	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281969	272540
RMP - ME017-034004	Sundial	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281924	272532
RMP - ME017-034005	Graveslab	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281957	272535
RMP - ME017-034002	Standing Stone	RMP	Gibbstown Demesne	281969	
RPS - MH017-131	Saint Patrick's Church	RPS	Gibbstown Demesne	282022	272532
NIAH - 14401701	Parochial Hall	RPS	Gibbstown Demesne	282008	272545
RPS - MH017-132	Possible Man-made Lough	None	Teltown	280835	272605
NIAH - 14401703	Sextons House	RPS	Gibbstown Demesne	282022	272532
MSA-CHS073	Mill	None	Tankardstown	281743	272398
RPS - MH017-134	Mill	None	Teltown	280943	272316
NIAH - 14401704	Donaghpatrick Bridge	RPS	Tankardstown	281935	272313
MSA-CHS075	Weir	None	Teltown	280826	272297
RPS - MH017-130	Martry House	RPS	Martry	280334	272260
MSA-CHS076	Ford	None	Teltown / Castlemartin	280969	272251
RPS - MH017-127	Martry Mill	RPS	Martry	280225	272278
NIAH - 14401714					

Table 2. Distances between archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites and the proposed development

Reference	Site Name	Legal Status	Distance from route (m)	Nearest Tower Number
MSA-CHS068	St Catherines Church	None	180	303
RMP - ME017-050	Embanked enclosure	RMP	410	303
RMP - ME017-049	Knockauns	RMP	580	303
RMP - ME017-027	Rath Dhú	RMP	1435	303
RPS - MH017-138	Gibstown Gate Feature	RPS	510	304
MSA-CHS070	Possible Enclosure	None	110	304
MSA-CHS071	Copse of Trees	None	110	306
RMP - ME017-031	Teltown Church	RMP	690	309
RMP - ME017-031001	Teltown Graveyard	RMP	690	309
RPS - MH017-129	Teltown House	RPS	790	308
RMP - ME017-033	Rath Aithir	RMP	520	307
RMP - ME017-032	Enclosure	RMP	350	309
RPS - MH017-133	Donaghparick Parochial House	RPS	660	307
NIAH - 14401702				
RMP - ME017-034001	Donaghpatrick Graveyard	RMP	650	307
RMP - ME017-034003	Font	RMP	660	307
RMP - ME017-034004	Sundial	RMP	650	307
RMP - ME017-034005	Graveslab	RMP	650	307
RMP - ME017-034002	Standing Stone	RMP	670	306
RPS - MH017-131	Saint Patrick's Church	RPS	650	307
NIAH - 14401701				
RPS - MH017-132	Parochial Hall	RPS	680	307
NIAH - 14401703				
MSA-CHS073	Possible Man-made Lough	None	280	310
RPS - MH017-134	Sextons House	RPS	700	307
NIAH - 14401704				
MSA-CHS075	Mill	None	580	310
MSA-CHS076	Mill	None	140	310
RPS - MH017-130	Donaghpatrick Bridge	RPS	810	310
MSA-CHS077	Weir	None	150	310
RPS - MH017-128	Martry House	RPS	700	311
MSA-CHS078	Ford	None	90	310
RPS - MH017-127	Martry Mill	RPS	810	311
NIAH - 14401714				

- 44 Other baseline data is also summarised in this chapter, including details of finds discovered in the region that are held by the National Museum of Ireland, the results of archaeological excavations within the area, and the results of cartographic, aerial and LiDAR review.

3.1 NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN STATE CARE

- 45 Under Section 14 of the National Monuments Act 1930 as amended, sites which are protected require the granting of consent for all works carried out around or in proximity to a national monument in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister, a local authority or which is subject to a preservation order. The Minister may grant consent in writing for the carrying out of works affecting such a monument. The Minister may also take into account public interest in allowing the carrying out of any works.
- 46 There are no National Monuments in state care in the Zone of Archaeological Amenity or in the surrounding area.

3.2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN THE OWNERSHIP OF A LOCAL AUTHORITY

- 47 Within the National Monuments Act archaeological monuments in the ownership of a local authority can be afforded the same level of protection as those in the ownership or guardianship of the State. The most common monuments in the ownership of local authorities consist of historic graveyards that were vested to the Burial Boards by the Church Temporalities Commission. Vesting of these sites took place during the disestablishment of the Church of Ireland towards the end of the 19th Century. The modern day successor to the Burial Boards are the local authorities.
- 48 The church and graveyard at Teltown (SMR No. ME017-031 & 03001), to the rear (east) of Teltown House, was vested to the relevant burial board and is now in the ownership of Meath county Council.

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS

- 49 The following archaeological monuments, listed in alphanumeric order by SMR number, are located in the vicinity of the proposed development:

3.3.1 SMR No.: ME017: 027

- Nat Grid Ref.: 280140/274186
- Townland: Tailtin (Teltown)
- Classification: Enclosure Hachured 'Rath Dhú'

- **Description:** Raised oval area defined by earthen bank W-NW and NNW-NE and by scarp elsewhere (dims. 95m NE-SW, 85m NW-SE) with fosse NW-ENE. Entrance possibly at E. The site was partially bulldozed in 1997 and was subsequently investigated by the National Monuments service over two seasons.

3.3.2 SMR No.: ME017: 031

- **Nat Grid Ref.:** 280550/272938
- **Townland:** Taltin (Teltown)
- **Classification:** Church
- **Description:** Situated on a slight rise in the floodplain of the NW-SE Blackwater River, with a N-S section of the stream c. 230m to the W. The church of Teltown was burnt by Dermot Mac Murrough in 1170 (Mulvany 1971, 15). According to Dopping's Visitation (1682-5) the parish church was dedicated to St. Barnabas but had been a ruin for 40 years and it was not enclosed (Ellison 1973, 8). Part of the N wall (L 7.3m; T 0.7m; max. H 2.5m) and the adjacent part of the W (L 6m) wall of the church survive with no architectural features. The N wall might extend a further 8m or 11m to the east, but the church is of indeterminable dimensions. It is in a rectangular graveyard (dims c. 53m E-W; c. 43m N-S) defined by masonry walls.

3.3.3 SMR No.: ME017: 031001

- **Nat Grid Ref.:** 280550/272938
- **Townland:** Taltin (Teltown)
- **Classification:** Graveyard
- **Description:** Situated on a slight rise in the floodplain of the NW-SE Blackwater River, with a N-S section of the stream c. 230m to the W. The parish church of Teltown (ME017-031) is in a rectangular graveyard (dims c. 53m E-W; c. 43m N-S) defined by masonry walls.

3.3.4 SMR No.: ME017: 032

- **Nat Grid Ref.:** 281930/272690
- **Townland:** Tankardstown
- **Classification:** Ringfort

- Description: Circular area defined by earthen bank SSW-NW and elsewhere by natural scarp down to river Blackwater (diam. 31m). Traces of fosse at N. No visible entrance.

3.3.5 SMR No.: ME017: 033

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281930/272690
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Castle- Motte and Bailey Hachured 'Rath Airthir'
- Description: Flat topped earthen mound (diam. of base 20m) defined by ditch with lunate bailey attached SE-NW (dims. 29m NW-SE, 20m NE-SW). Both surrounded by double bank and ditch SW-ENE, with defaced scarp ENE-SW. Rath Airthir may originally have been a trivallate ringfort with an outer diameter of 120m and an inner platform of 65m. Set on the NE edge of this platform is a high mound, its top slightly flattened, with steeply sloping sides, measuring about 30m in diameter at its base. It rises to a height of approximately 5m and retains the surviving remnants of a surrounding bank and ditch.

3.3.6 SMR No.: ME017: 034001

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281957/275238
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Church (Saint Patrick's Church)
- Description: Tower of present church is medieval with base batter, face corbel built in wall and blocked windows. Medieval font in graveyard. Sundial built into S wall of graveyard. The enclosure is the only indication of the pre-Norman church. The present church, covering the area laid down by St. Patrick, was consecrated in 1897. It makes use of the earlier mediaeval tower, where the Parish Priest was formerly housed. Within this enclosure are a number of standing stones often associated with inauguration sites.

3.3.7 SMR No.: ME017: 034002

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281965/272522
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Standing stone

- Description: Standing stone with rectangular cross section (c. 0.4m by c. 0.35m, H c.1.8m), perhaps salvaged from a building. Within graveyard of church.

3.3.8 SMR No.: ME017: 034003

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281969, 272540
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Font
- Description: According to Dopping's Visitation (1682-5) the parish church of Donaghmore (ME017-034----) was roofless but two fonts were present (Ellison 1973, 8). In the graveyard there is an octagonal font (ext. dims 0.66m; H 0.53m) with a faceted base and a circular basin (diam. 0.5m; D 0.26m) that is standing on an octagonal shaft (H 0.47m) and a square base (dims 0.66m x 0.66m). (Roe 1968, 113-14)
-

3.3.9 SMR No.: ME017: 034004

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281924, 272532
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Sundial
- Description: The trapezoidal head (dims 0.68m x 0.46m) of a sundial with an incised circle (diam. 0.36m), radial lines and central hole for the gnomon is built into the outer face of the SW wall of the subrectangular graveyard (ME017-034001-) at Donaghpatrick towards the W angle.
-

3.3.10 SMR No.: ME017: 034005

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281957, 272535
- Townland: Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown)
- Classification: Graveslab
- Description: Isaac Butler, writing c. 1740, describes the church at Donaghpatrick (ME017-034----) as a ruin but records a graveslab of Patrick Plunket (1575) and his wife Elizabeth Barnewall of Cribistown (Gibstown) in its chancel, which cannot be identified now (Butler 1892).
- From Butler's notes (c. 1740): The church, from its ruins, must have been considerable. It is a great burial-place, several large gravestones, but so

obsolete that there is no reading them. There is one in the chancel of said church, on the right-hand of the altar with the following inscription:

- ORATE PRO ANIMABUS / PATRICII PLUNKET DE- / CRIBISTON QUI OBIT 1 / NOVEMBR AD 1575. ET / ELIZABETH BARNEWALL / QUAM SIBE PRIE M U / UXOR O... QUI OBIT / 14 AUGUSTI / 1550, ET / MARGARETE DLINU...C / QUAM DE T ... DE DIN QUE / DE VITA MICARAVIT 1588 / ALEXANDER PLUNKET HEREDES.

3.3.11 SMR No.: ME017: 049

- Nat Grid Ref.: 280978/2744334
- Townland: Baile Oraí (Oristown)
- Classification: Linear earthwork
- Description: No information in Meath Inventory, this site is commonly referred to as the Knockauns. It comprises two gorse covered, parallel earthen mounds with sloping sides extending E-W for 65m and set 3m apart. The site is located to the east of a recently developed dwelling house.

3.3.12 SMR No.: ME017: 050

- Nat Grid Ref.: 281158/274408
- Townland: Baile Oraí (Oristown)
- Classification: henge possible
- Description: This embanked enclosure was identified from an aerial photograph taken by Dr Conor Newman, Department of Archaeology UCG. This site has no above ground expression, and did not appear on the LiDAR survey. It survives as a faint cropmark.

3.4 RECORD OF PROTECTED STRUCTURES (RPS)

- 50 The following structures, listed in alphanumeric order by RPS number, are located the vicinity of the proposed development:

3.4.1 Site ID: RPS - MH017-127 / NIAH- 14401714

- Building Type: Mill
- Name: Martry Mill
- Townland: Martry
- Feature: Architectural, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Group of three adjoining two-storey mill buildings, on L-shape plan, built c.1800. Probably built on site of an earlier mill structure.

3.4.2 Site ID: RPS - MH017-128 / NIAH- N/A

- Building Type: House
- Name: House beside Martry Mill
- Townland: Martry
- Feature: Architectural, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Three bay, two-storey house with steeply pitched roof. Central projecting porch. Sash windows. Could be mill house?

3.4.3 Site ID: RPS - MH017-129 / NIAH- N/A

- Building Type: House (detached)
- Name: Teltown House
- Townland: Tailtin (Teltown)
- Feature: Architectural, Technical,
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Early 19thC, the house is a two-storey three bay house, gable ended and with slated roof and square porch.

3.4.4 Site ID: RPS - MH017-130 / NIAH- N/A

- Building Type: Bridge (road)
- Name: Donaghpatrick Bridge
- Townland: Tankardstown/ Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown demense)
- Feature: Architectural, Technical
- Importance: Regional

- Description: 6 arch masonry bridge, with cutwaters

3.4.5 Site ID: RPS - MH017-131 / NIAH- 14401701

- Building Type: Church (C of I)
- Name: Saint Patrick's Church of Ireland Church and hall
- Townland: Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown demense)
- Feature: Architectural, Archaeological, Artistic, Historical, Social, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Detached church, built c.1896, designed by J.F. Fuller. incorporates a former tower house to the west. Octagonal ashlar limestone gate piers with pair of cast-iron gates, flanked by turnstile steps.

3.4.6 Site ID: RPS - MH017-132 / NIAH- 14401703

- Building Type: Parochial Hall
- Name: Hall
- Townland: Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick)
- Feature: Architectural, Social, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Detached gable-fronted parochial hall, dated 1889, with three bays to side elevations and single-bay porch to east gable. Pitched slate roof with cast-iron ridge cresting and carved timber barge boards.

3.4.7 Site ID: RPS - MH017-133 / NIAH- 14401702

- Building Type: House
- Name: Former Stewards House
- Townland: Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick)
- Feature: Architectural, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Detached three-bay two-storey former parochial house, built c.1889, with gabled central breakfront. Red brick walls with limestone plinths and plaque. Red brick outbuildings to site. Bounded by cast-iron railings and gates.

3.4.8 Site ID: RPS - MH017-134 / NIAH 14401704

- Building Type: House (detached)
- Name: Sextons House
- Townland: Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick)
- Feature: Architectural, Technical,
- Importance: Regional
- Description: Detached three-bay two-storey former sexton's house, built c.1890. Pitched tile roof with red brick chimneystack. Rubble stone walls. Replacement timber windows with some limestone dressings.

3.4.9 Site ID: RPS - MH017-138 / NIAH- N/A

- Building Type: Demesne features
- Name: Gibstown Estate - Circular entrance feature
- Townland: Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown demense)
- Feature: Architectural, Artistic, Historical, Social, Technical
- Importance: Regional
- Description: The gates of the now demolished Gibstown House.

3.5 THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND TOPOGRAPHICAL FILES

- 51 The topographical survey for Tailtin (Teltown), Baile Oraí (Oristown), Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown), and Hurdlestown townlands produced one result, reporting the discovery of human remains near the vicinity of a ringfort at Baile Oraí (Oristown) (no further information was available i.e.: Reg. No. SMR No.).

3.6 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK IN THE AREA**3.6.1 The Knockauns, (Teltown), Baile Oraí (Oristown)**

- Meath
- 1997:430
- Linear earthwork
- 280940 274335
- 97E301

- 52 The double-banked monument known as 'The Knockauns' at Teltown, County Meath, was partly destroyed by earth-moving machinery in May 1997. The northernmost bank was completely demolished, the intervening ditch was filled with redeposited material and part of the southern bank was removed. Excavation (on behalf of the National Monuments Service) was undertaken there in August and September 1997 along with a geophysical survey (by the Applied Geophysics Unit, NUIG). The southern bank survived as a large truncated earthwork 38m in length, about 10m in maximum width and 2.4m in maximum height, with its long axis aligned west-north-west/east-south-east. The destruction exposed machine-cut section faces at either end on the west and east and a longitudinal section running the length of the earthwork on the north. Earth from the destroyed parts of the monument was redeposited in the general vicinity, in the intervening ditch and in the western and southern parts of a water-filled hollow marked on the Ordnance Survey map to the east of the earthwork. This hollow seems to have been an irregular oval measuring about 42m east-west and 11m north-south, with a maximum depth below external ground level of about 2m at its centre. The vegetation in the undisturbed north-eastern portion suggests that it was not a pond as such. Utilising the exposed sections on the west and east, two 2m-wide cuttings were opened; two shorter 2m-wide cuttings to the north were cut to reveal the amount of redeposited material in the intervening ditch; and one small cutting on top of the earthwork was opened to explore its upper surface, but revealed nothing. It transpired that the northern earthwork, though completely destroyed, had left a clear geophysical signature, and the presence of a broad, deep, flat-bottomed ditch between the two embankments was confirmed. It was evident that the surviving earthen bank had a substantial core of compressed, burnt, ash-like material; this has been extensively sampled and should provide material for radiocarbon dating. A small votive deposit of unburned cattle bones was found in the lower levels of this burnt deposit. Further excavation will be necessary to investigate the lowest levels of the burnt deposit, and what may be small settings of stones and small pieces of wood, possibly stakes, have yet to be investigated. Partial and preliminary reconstitution of the monument was undertaken, and this, too, has to be completed.
- 53 John Waddell and Madeline O'Brien, Department of Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Galway.

3.6.2 The Knockauns, (Teltown), Baile Oraí (Oristown)

- Meath
- 1998:519
- Linear earthwork

- 280940 274335
- 97E0301

54 The double-banked monument known as the Knockauns at Teltown, County Meath, was partly destroyed in May 1997. Excavation (on behalf of the National Monuments Service) was undertaken there in 1997 (Excavations 1997, 143), and a second season, of nine weeks' duration, took place in July and August 1998. The focus of this excavation was the eastern side of the southern bank, in order to complete the recording of the archaeological layers exposed by machine in 1997. Excavation revealed that there was a much greater depth of deposit in the central organic core (the burnt deposit) of the monument than the 0.8m recorded in 1997. The core, buried beneath 1-2m of redeposited gley, was made up of layers of deposited silts with some large stones revetting their southern side. Over these, and on the northern side, were many lenticular deposits of silt with pointed stakes driven into them. Because of machine destruction the relationship of the organic core to what appeared to be a ditch between the two banks was not resolved in 1997, the old ground surface not being clearly identified. Excavation of a greater depth of this organic core in 1998 clarified this issue and demonstrated that the banks were constructed without an intervening ditch, the gap between them containing a considerable depth of silts and clay resting on the original ground surface. Although it was not possible to complete the excavation of this year's cutting to sterile ground across its entire length, it was possible to recover secure samples for dating and analysis from undisturbed contexts. The reinstatement and grass planting of the northern bank was completed, but the final reshaping of the upper eastern slope of the southern bank was not finished as additional topsoil was required; the reconstruction of this small area will now have to wait until dryer weather in spring 1999. Finds consisted of post-medieval pottery and modern material from the plough zone at the southern end of the southern bank. Flint and a fragment of bronze were recovered in the lower layers of the bank construction material, while fragments of leather, wood, a small amount of bone and one sherd of glass came from contexts within the organic core.

55 John Waddell and Madeline O'Brien, Department of Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Galway.

3.6.3 Oristown - Vicinity of ringfort

- Meath
- 2000:0772
- 27575 28125

- SMR 17:16
- 00E0337

- 56 A proposed house site is located 22m beyond the western constraint of a ringfort. Monitoring of topsoil removal at the house site (19m x 21m) and driveway (4m x 23m) was undertaken. This revealed a uniform, mid-brown, sandy clay/loam topsoil, which overlay a yellow-brown boulder clay with occasional gravel inclusions. One sherd of modern black-glazed crockery was uncovered. Nothing of archaeological interest was found.
- 57 Finola O'Carroll, Cultural Resource Development Services Ltd, Campus Innovation Centre, Roebuck, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4.

3.6.4 Oristown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2002:1505
- 28025 27593
- 01E0952

- 58 Monitoring was undertaken of the construction of a private dwelling at Oristown, Co. Meath. Monitoring of topsoil-stripping was a condition of planning. The site occupied a level area in the west of a large, gently sloping field that was under grass. It was immediately north-west of the townland of Teltown, which lies within a bend in the River Blackwater and is the focus of a zone of concentrated late prehistoric and early historic archaeological activity. The Ordnance Survey letters: Meath record the locations of numerous artificial features, including raths, lakes and roadways (Herity 2001, 11–14). Intensive farming throughout the intervening years has damaged much of the pre-existing landscape.
- 59 The whole site was stripped of topsoil using a mechanical digger with a 1.5m-wide ditching bucket. The topsoil, which was c. 0.35m deep, was a friable, mid-brown clay loam with few stone inclusions. At the entrance from the road were three linear features running parallel to the road, c. 1.7m apart. These appeared to be the bases of furrows and may be from lazy-bed cultivation. Here the topsoil was slightly shallower, on average 0.28m deep. The soil profile was uniform throughout the site. The entire footprint was stripped during the development, and the topsoil and subsoil were consistent throughout. No further features of archaeological interest were noted. Some pieces of glazed china and a fragment of black-glazed earthenware were recovered at

the location of the furrows. One piece of medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil, a stray find with no associated feature. It has a compact, reddish fabric, with traces of a green glaze. It is probably of 13th- to 14th-century date.

60 Reference: Herity, M. (ed.) 2001 Ordnance Survey letters: Meath. Dublin.

61 Finola O'Carroll, Cultural Resource Development Services Ltd, Unit 4, Dundrum Business Park, Dundrum, Dublin 14.

3.6.5 Oristown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2003:1446
- 28085 27380
- 03E1635

62 Monitoring of groundworks took place on 7-8 October 2003 on a site for a dormer house in the townland of Oristown, Kells. There are a number of monuments in the general area. A linear earthwork (SMR 17:49), 500m to the north in the adjoining townland of Teltown, was partially destroyed in 1997 and subsequently excavated by John Waddell and Madeline O'Brien (Excavations 1997, No. 430; Excavations 1998, No. 519, 97E0301). Nothing of archaeological interest was observed during the monitoring.

63 Kieran Campbell, 6 St Ultan's, Laytown, Drogheda.

3.6.6 Oristown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2008:978
- 28108 27419
- 08E0898

64 Test-trenching for a one-off house as part of further information took place near a linear earthwork in the Teltown area (RPS No. MH017-049). Nothing of archaeological interest was noted.

65 David Sweetman, Roestown, Drumree, Co. Meath.

3.6.7 Teltown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 200:0779
- 28051 27329
- SMR 17:31, 17:27
- 00E0110

66 An archaeological assessment was carried out at the site of a proposed bungalow and associated works at Teltown, Donaghpatrick, County Meath, on 12 April 2000. The site of the proposed development is located within the area of archaeological potential in Meath as identified in the 1994 County Development Plan. It is located north of a church site (SMR 17:31) and south of an enclosure (SMR 17:27). Four test-trenches were excavated by machine within the proposed development. All revealed that natural deposits were present beneath the topsoil at an average depth of 0.3m. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed, and no finds were recovered. Consequently no archaeological deposits will be destroyed by the proposed development. No further work is required subject to the approval of Dúchas The Heritage Service.

67 Deirdre Murphy, Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd, 15 Trinity Street, Drogheda, County Louth.

3.6.8 Teltown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2001:1059
- N805735
- 01E1093

68 Monitoring was carried out during the construction of a dwelling-house with garage, septic tank and driveway. The site is in the townland of Teltown, some 800m south-south-east of Rath Dhú (SMR 17:21). The site lies on locally flat ground with a very gradual slope down to the Boyne. There is a slight slope down from north to south within the site. Sod and topsoil was reduced by 0.2–0.3m for the house and driveway, and at the back of the house at the location of the septic tank and percolation area. A very fine yellow clay was exposed; this was consistent all over the site. Nothing of archaeological significance was exposed.

69 Rosanne Meenan, Roestown, Drumree, County Meath.

3.6.9 Gibstown Demesne - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2005:1179
- 28193 27293
- 05E0025

70 The owner of the site proposed to demolish a house and sheds and to construct a new dwelling house. An assessment was required. The development is located some 300m north of the mound (SMR 17:33) marked 'Rath Airthir' on the Ordnance Survey in Gibstown Demesne townland. Rath Airthir was an early site, possibly an inauguration site; the Archaeological Survey of County Meath classifies it as a motte and bailey. The church site of Donaghpatrick (SMR 17:34) is located across the road from Rath Airthir. Both sites are closely associated with St Patrick. The other monuments in the Teltown complex lie to the north, north-west, west and south-east. Seven test-trenches were excavated by a tracked digger with a 3-ft bucket. A layer of heavy gravel had been placed around the house to improve drainage. The trenches in the immediate vicinity of the house exposed fine brown clay underlying the sod and topsoil. Further out from the house, grey stony sandy subsoil was exposed. Nothing of archaeological interest was exposed in any of the test-trenches.

71 Rosanne Meenan, Roestown, Drumree, Co. Meath.

3.6.10 Gibstown - No archaeological significance

- Meath
- 2003:1396
- 03E0405

72 The site of the proposed development is located outside Kells, County Meath, and within the archaeological landscape surrounding the Teltown complex. The proposed development is to consist of a 500m access track and the erection of a GSM mast and related compound. An assessment of the proposed development, including testing, was carried out at the end of April 2003. The site is not near any known monuments, but, given the nature of the surrounding archaeological landscape, the potential of encountering subsurface remains is high. Upon arrival on-site, it was discovered that the access track had been previously stripped and mostly gravelled. Upon closer

inspection, it was revealed that very little was actually excavated, with the sod (0.05-0.1m) having been removed. Six trenches were excavated by machine along the line of the access and across the foundations of the mast and associated compound. No evidence of archaeological activity was revealed.

- 73 Christopher Read, North West Archaeological Services Ltd, Cloonfad Cottage, Cloonfad, Carrick-on-Shannon, County Leitrim.

3.6.11 Tankardstown - Adjacent to ploughed-out ringfort

- Meath
- 1999:712
- O035508
- SMR 45:11
- 99E0581

- 74 This work was carried out as part of the ongoing monitoring of pipe-laying for the Ashbourne/ Ratoath/Kilbride Sewerage Scheme. A 2m-wide ditching bucket was used to trench along the verge parallel to the area where the ploughed-out ringfort was sited. Telecom lines and a stone-filled ditch disturbed the area. Modern china and crock were recovered but nothing of archaeological significance. Subsoil was reached at a depth of 0.35m and was a pale beige/yellow clay.

- 75 Finola O'Carroll, Cultural Resource Development Services Ltd, Campus Innovation Centre, Roebuck, University College, Belfield, Dublin 4.

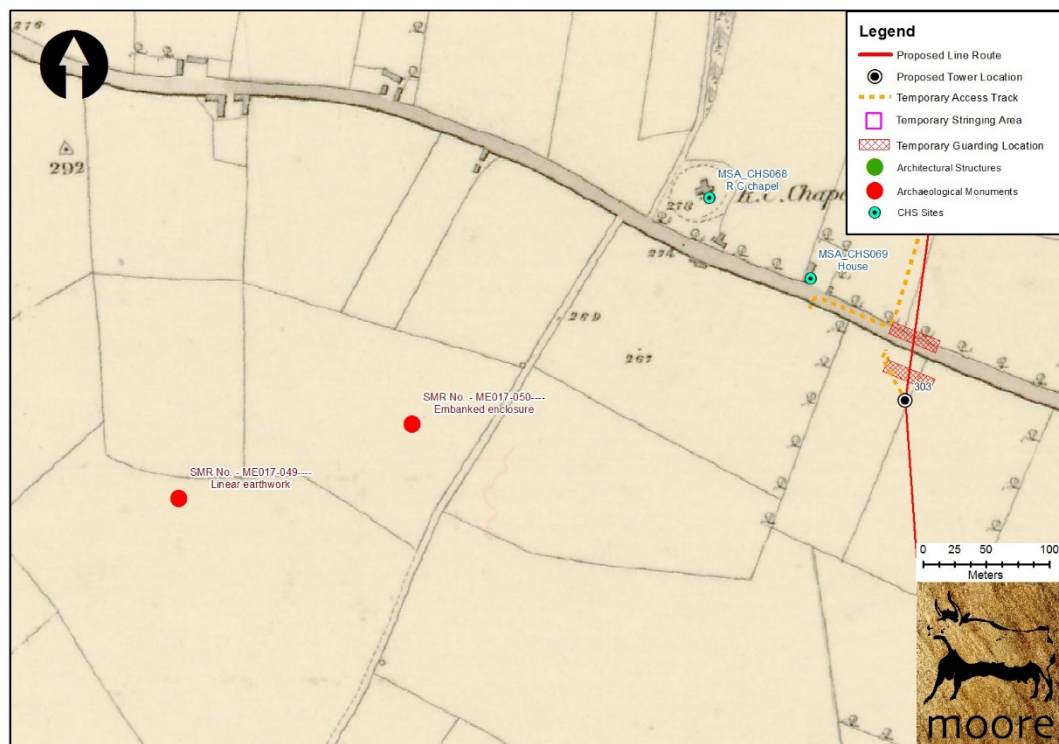
3.7 CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 76 The following section considers the Ordnance Survey First & Second Edition maps for the subject area in relation to designated and previously unrecorded archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites. Copies of the Ordnance Survey First Edition maps are provided in **Appendix 2 Figures 10 and 11**.

3.7.1 The Knockauns Linear earthwork – (SMR No. ME017-049)

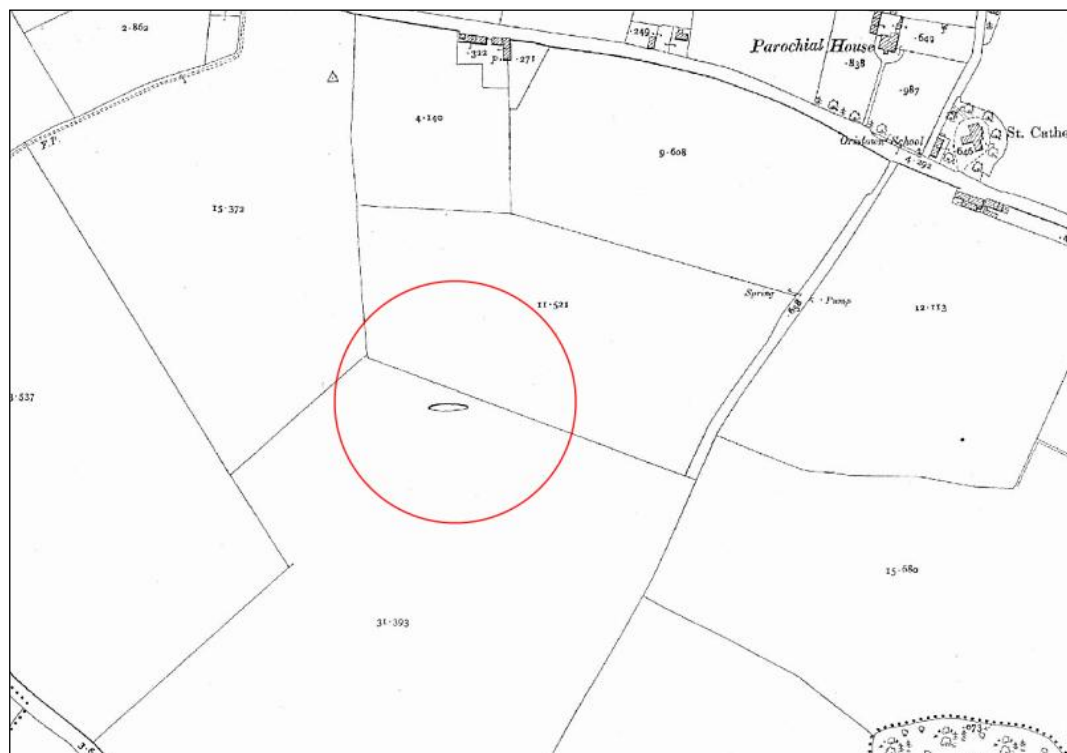
- 77 There is no indication on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 33**) of the linear earthwork known as the Knockauns. O'Donovan in his Ordnance Survey letters (refer to **Section 4.1.1**) records the monument as being located to the immediate south of the arcing field boundary. This field boundary is visible just to the north of the linear earthwork indicated in **Figure 3**.

Figure 3. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Site of Knockauns. SMR No. ME017:049



- 78 On the later Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 4**) this bow shape boundary has been realigned and straightened. Also noticeable is an unmarked elliptical feature that may relate to the monument. Other changes include 'Cromwell's road' that on the 1st ed. links the Baile Oraí (Oristown) to Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown) road to the Baile Oraí (Oristown) to Donaghpatrick road. The lane now appears to end at a *cul de sac*. The right of way apparently sacrificed to enlarge a field has since been re-instated as a through road. The Knockauns was partially destroyed in the late 1990's and is now discernable as two gorse covered parallel mounds to the rear of a two dwelling houses.

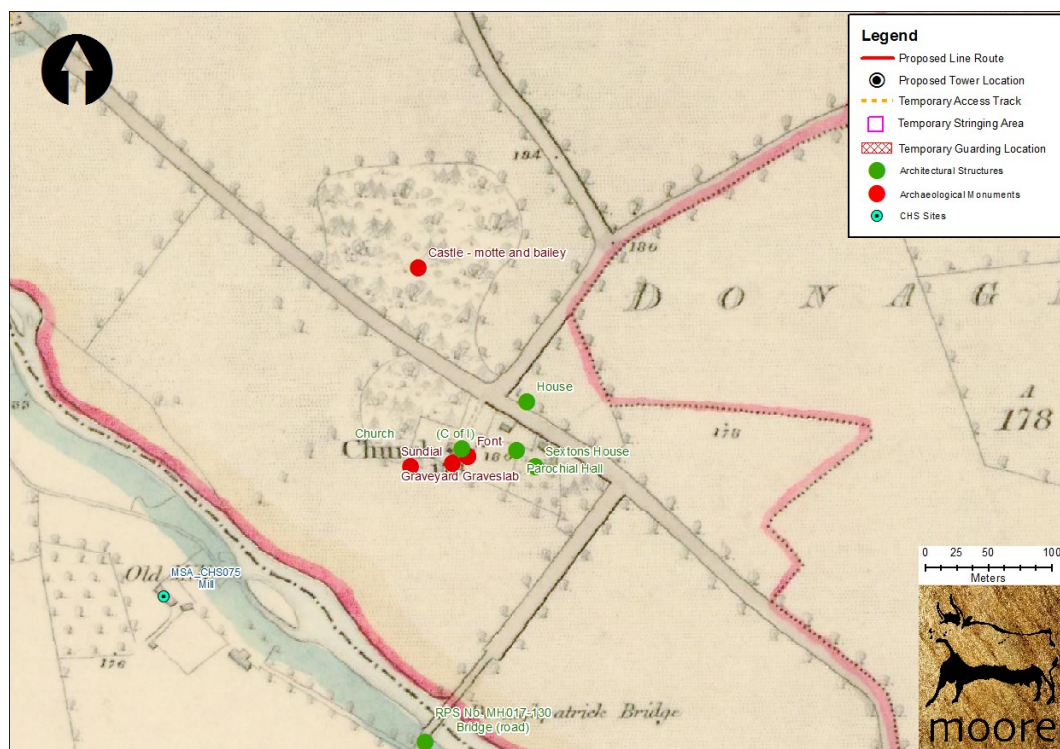
Figure 4. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Knockauns; note elliptical feature to south of field boundary



3.7.3 Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) – (SMR No. ME017-033 - 034001-034005)

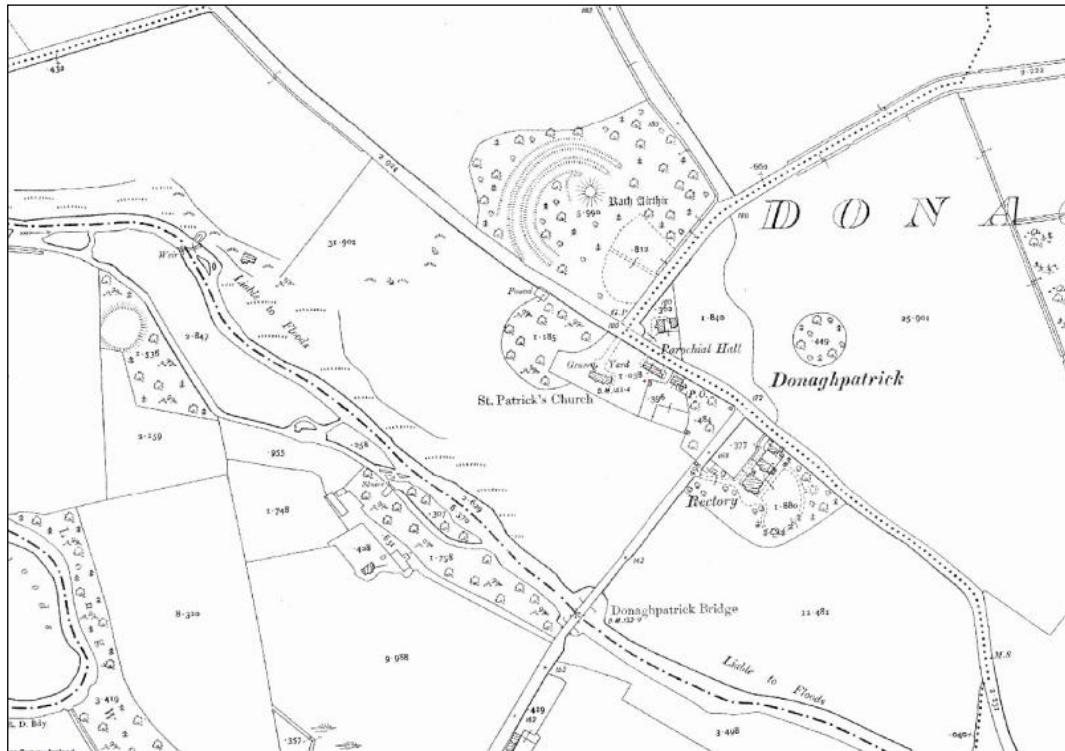
- 79 On the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 5**) Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) is depicted as a small wooded hamlet comprising a church and a number of dwellings at the junction of three intersecting roads with a bridge to the south. There is no notation indicating the site of Rath Airthir. This site may have been overlooked by the surveyors, obscured as it was by trees.

Figure 5. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Saint Patrick's, Rath Airthir, Bridge and Mill.



- 80 The Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 6**) shows the village in more detail, and particularly focuses on the site of Rath Airthir, a trivallate fort, later incorporating a Motte and Bailey. Other developments include dwellings, a rectory and a parochial hall are all noted.

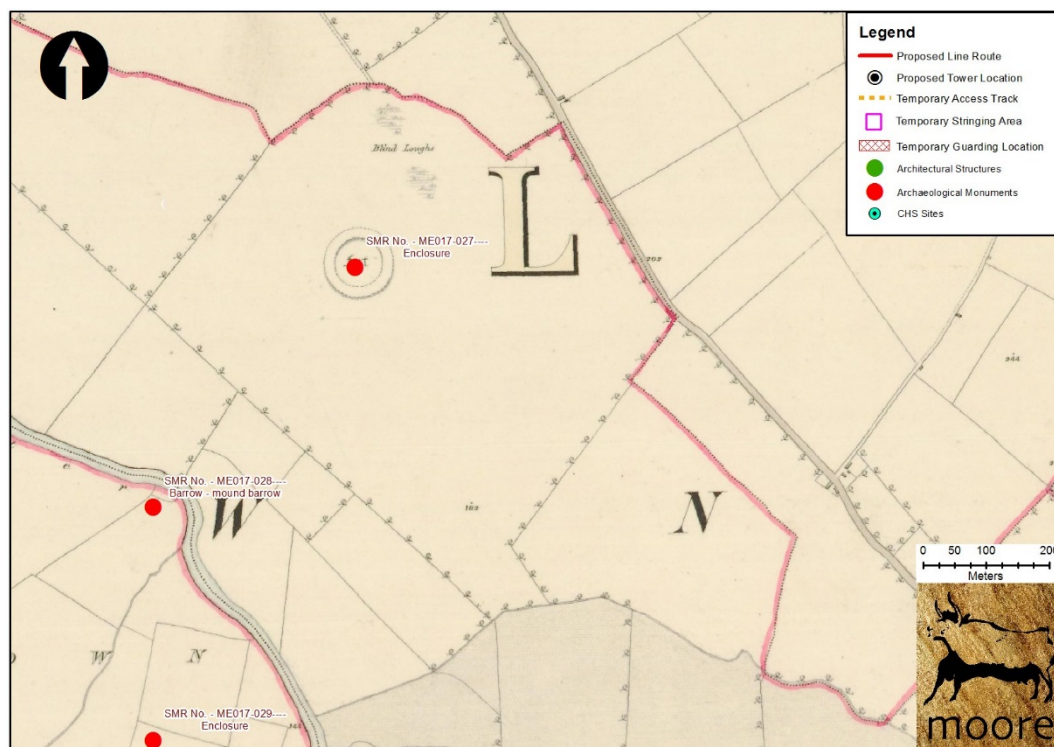
Figure 6. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) and Environs.



3.7.4 Rath Dhú – (SMR No. ME017-027)

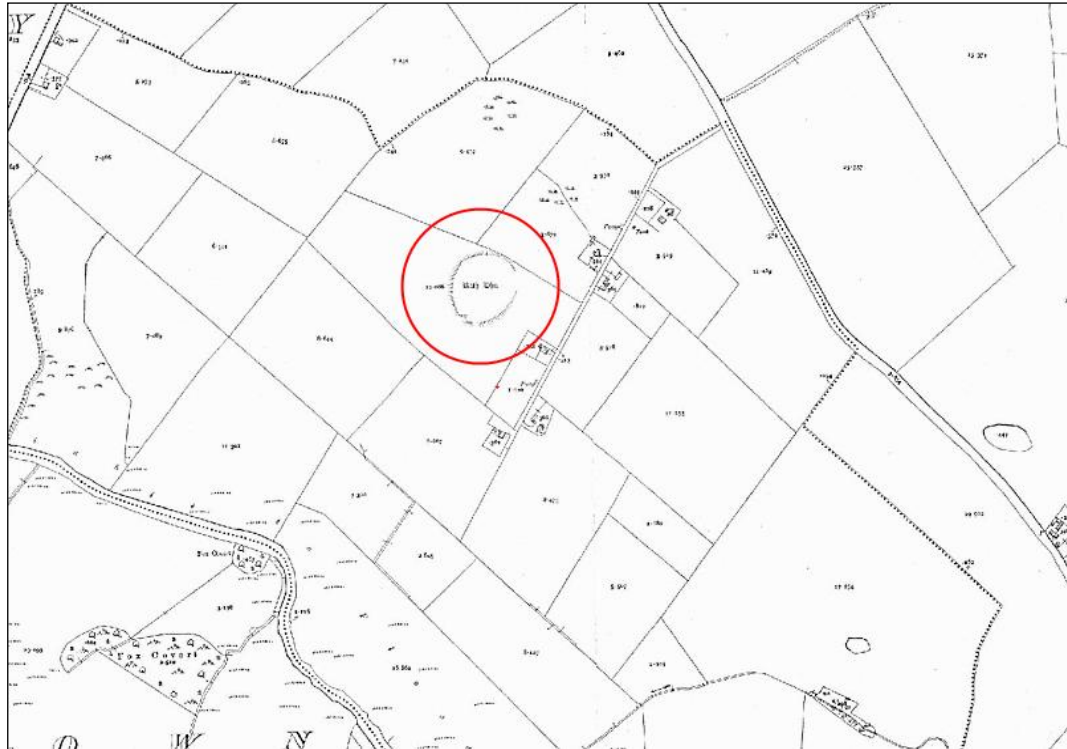
- 81 The site is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map as an annular enclosure in a large open field, notated as a fort. A literary reference from a similar era by William Wilde (refer to **Section 4.1.2**) is effusive in its description of the fort describing it as originally having a second external bank that was still traceable even though it had recently been levelled. Its setting within a large open field had commanding views of the surrounding landscape. Also notable in this map are the two dried up loughs to the north of the fort. According to O'Donovan sources these artificial lakes were made by an ancient race called the Firbolg and were possibly used to water cattle during the course of the fairs.

Figure 7. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, Showing Rath Dhú.



- 82 By the time of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 8**) the monument is pennanular in shape and the surrounding area has been developed, fields subdivided, a lane constructed and dwellings built in close proximity to the east.

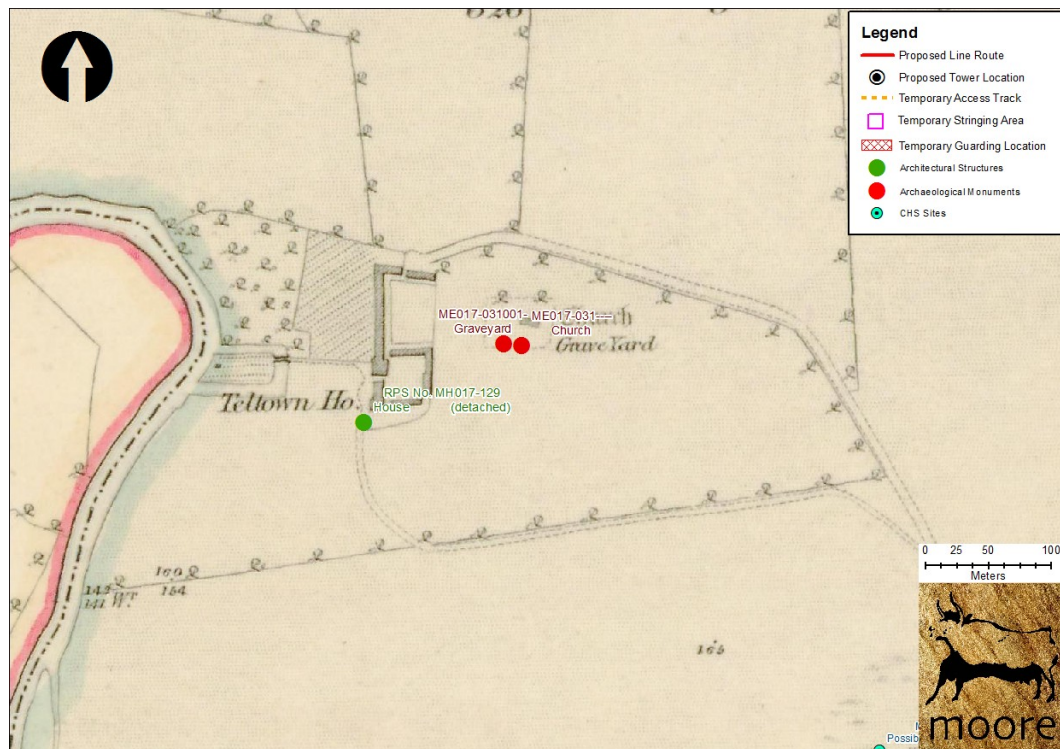
Figure 8. Second Edition Ordnance Survey map showing Rath Dhú.



3.7.5 Teltown Church and Graveyard – (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001)

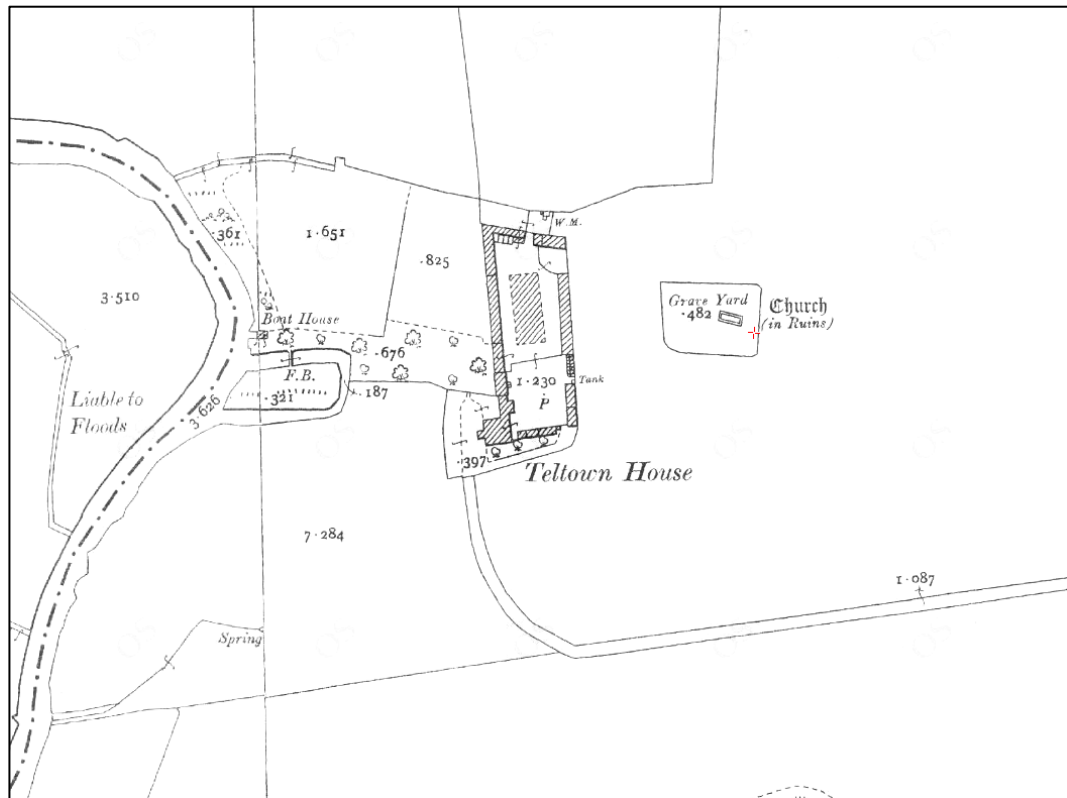
- 83 Located to the rear (east) of Teltown House are the ruins of Teltown Church and graveyard, which are indicated as such on the first edition Ordnance Survey mapping.

Figure 9. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001)



- 84 The second edition Ordnance Survey map similarly shows the church and graveyard east of Teltown House, little has changed in the vicinity, however it is notable that the road running east west to the north of the church is no longer in use; and the field within which the church is located has been enlarged.

Figure 10. Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031)



3.7.6 Unrecorded sites of Archaeological, Architectural or Cultural Heritage Potential

3.7.6.1 MSA-CHS076 - Corn Mill – Tailtin (Teltown)

- 85 Along the southern boundary of the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity the First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows a 'Corn Mill', a 'Ford' and a 'Weir' (MSA-CHS076, MSA-CHS077 & MSA-CHS078, **Figure 11**). These sites are no longer extant.

Figure 11. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Corn Mill, Ford & Weir (MSA-CHS076, MSA-CHS077 & MSA-CHS078).

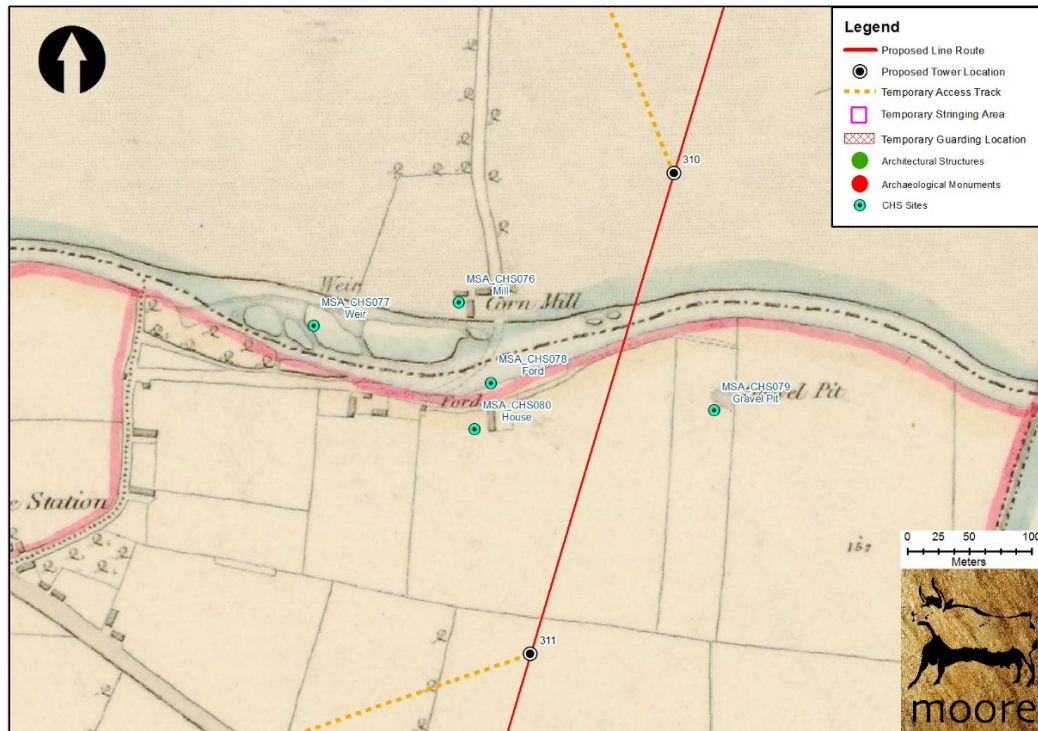
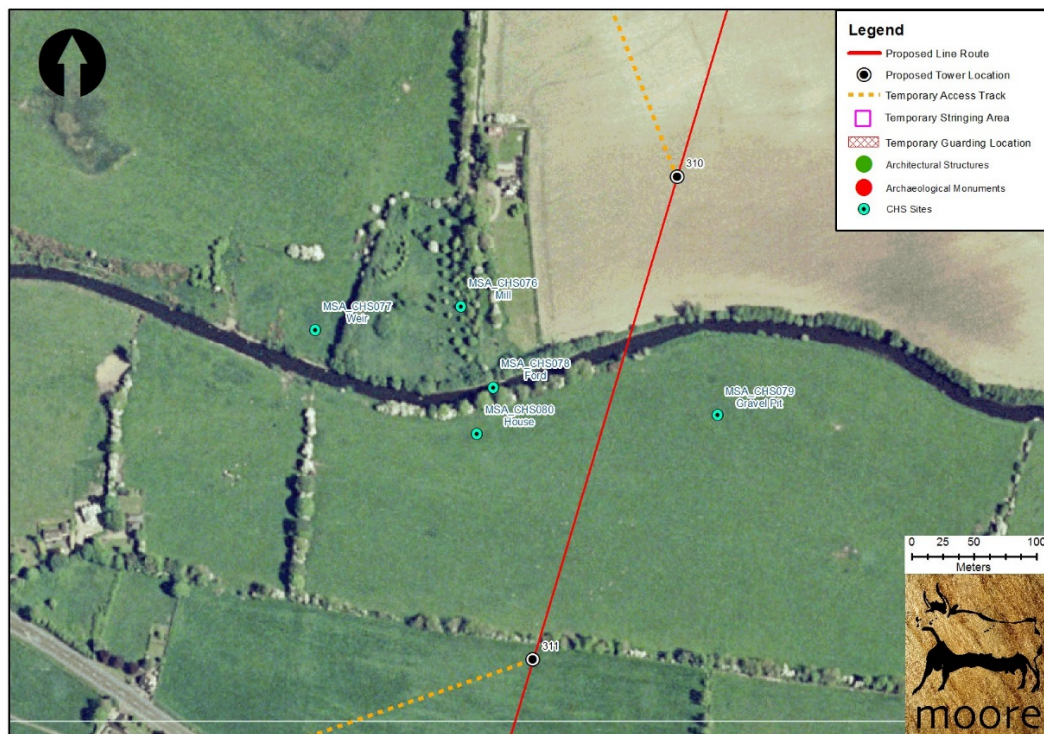


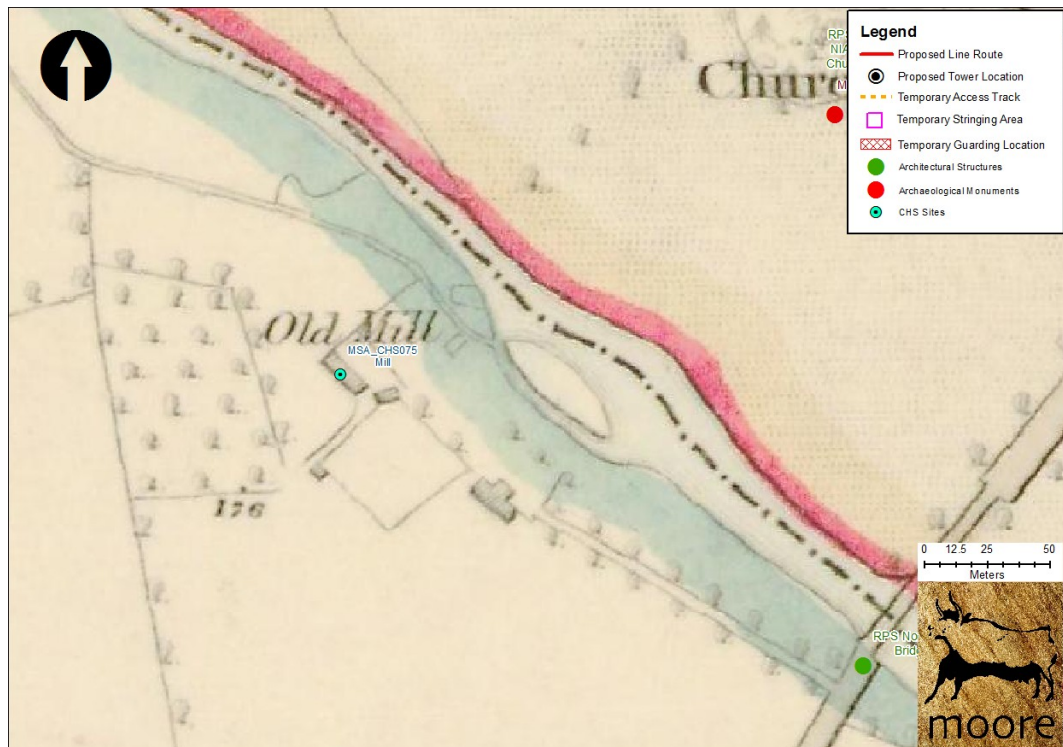
Figure 12. 2005 Aerial Photography Showing the Locations of the Corn Mill, Ford & Weir (MSA-CHS076, MSA-CHS077 & MSA-CHS078).



3.7.6.2 MSA-CHS075 - Old Mill – Tankardstown

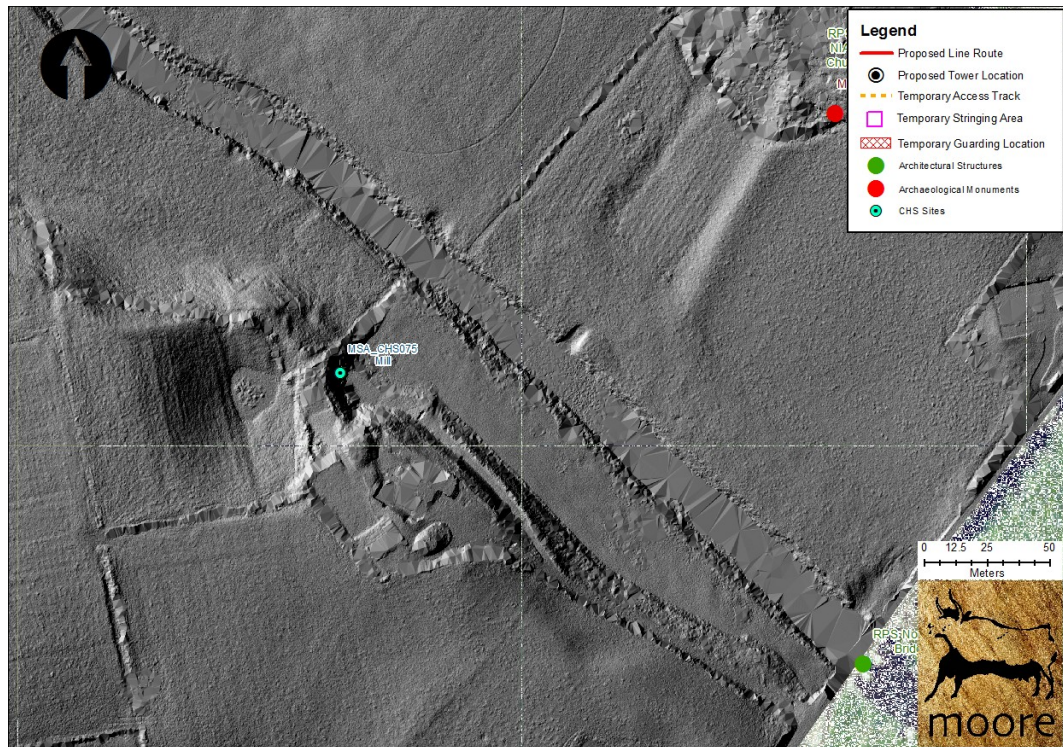
- 86 South west of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) on the opposite side of the Blackwater the First Edition Ordnance Survey map shows an 'Old Mill'. A private residence is now located at the site and it would appear from the fieldwork, aerial photography and LiDAR that little trace, if any, of the old mill remains.

Figure 13. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing Old Mill (MSA-CHS075).



- 87 There appears to be no trace of the old Mill in the hillshade generated from the LiDAR DTM.

Figure 14 Hillshade of DTM of Old Mill Site (MSA-CHS075)



3.7.6.3 MSA-CHS071 - Copse of Trees

- 88 Aerial photography and the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 16**) indicated a potential archaeological feature taking the form of a circular copse of trees in a field north west of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick). This site does not however appear on the earlier First Edition Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 15**). This site was probably planted as a design feature to enhance the parkland associated with Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown demense).

Figure 15. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Absence of the Circular Copse of Trees (MSA-CHS071) that Subsequently Appears on the Later Mapping and Aerial Photography.

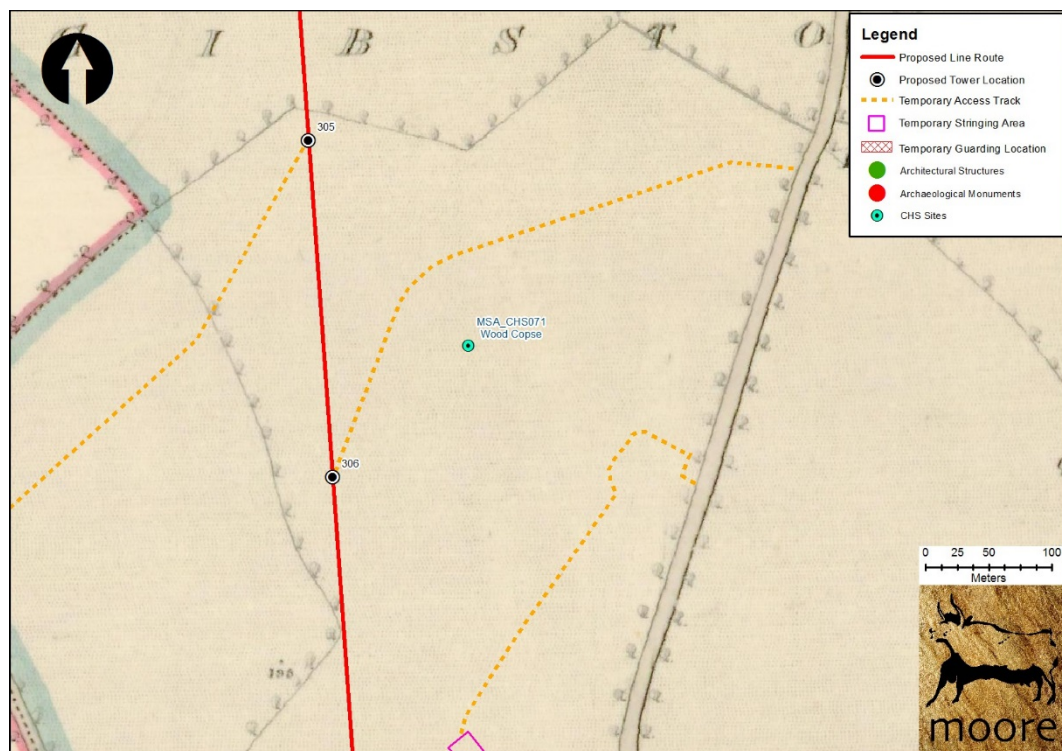


Figure 16. Second Edition Ordnance Map Showing a Circular Copse of Trees (MSA-CHS071).

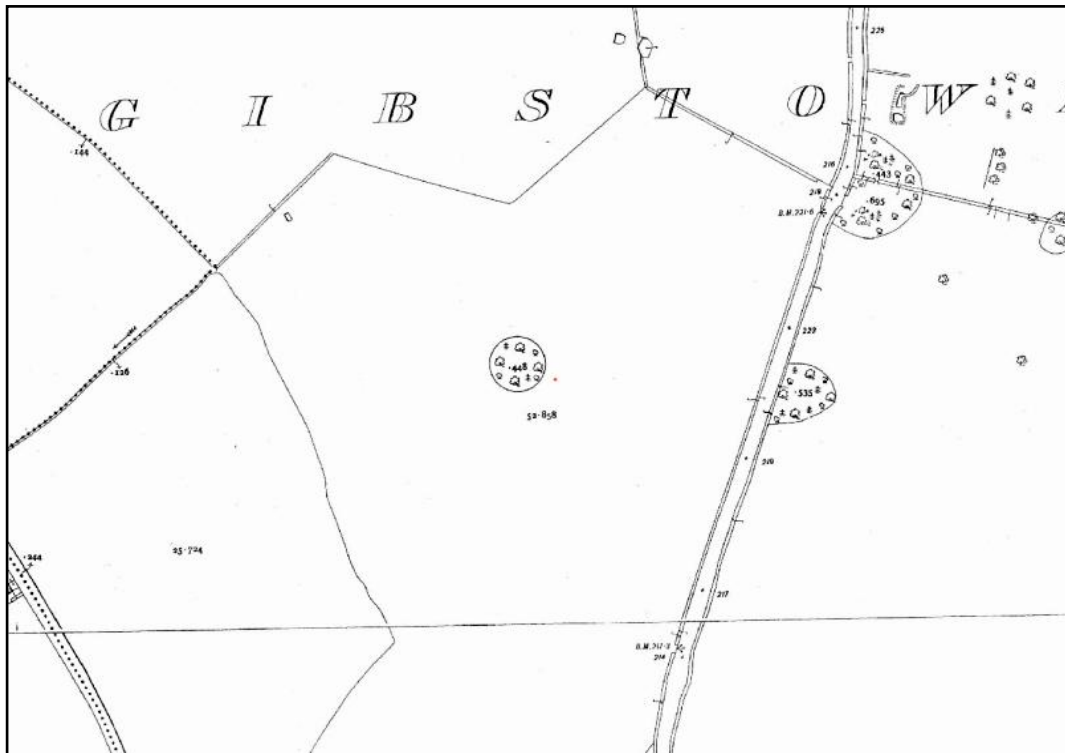
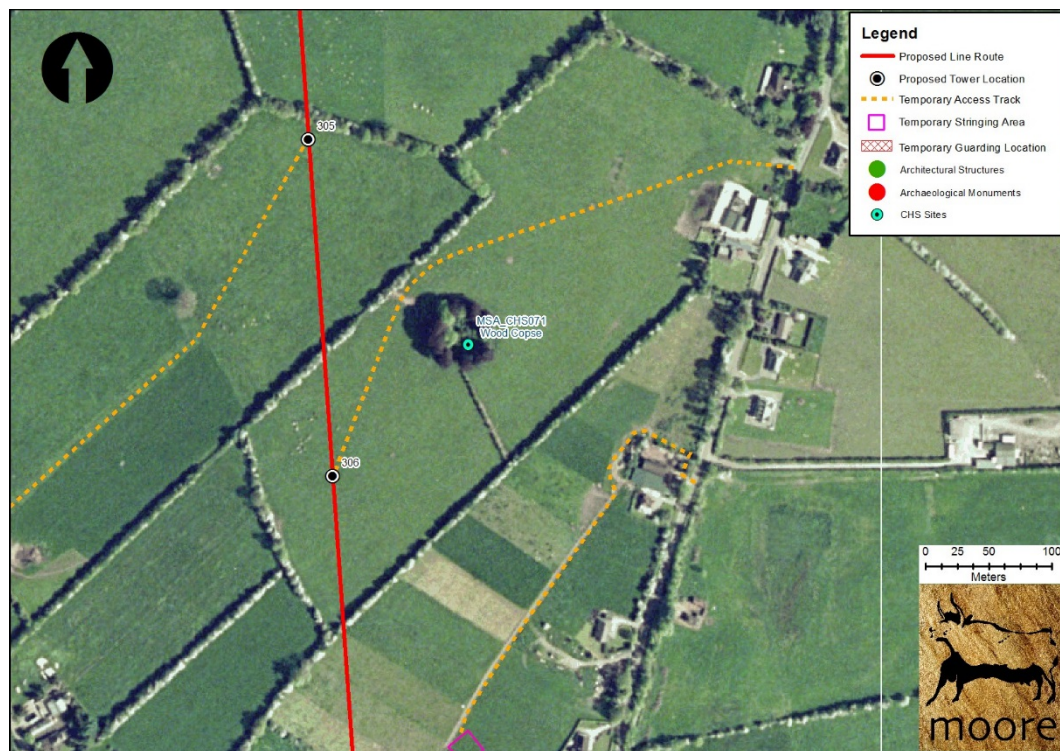


Figure 17. Aerial Photography Indicating the Tree Copse (MSA-CHS071).



3.7.6.4 MSA-CHS068 St. Catherine's Church

- 89 Both the First Edition and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps (**Figure 18** and **Figure 19**) show St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church to the north of the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity on the R163. Both appear to indicate a well-defined circular enclosure around the church which could be indicative of an early foundation date. A new church now occupies the site, having been opened and dedicated in November 1970, and no trace of the old church survives (**Figure 20**).

Figure 18. First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing St. Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).

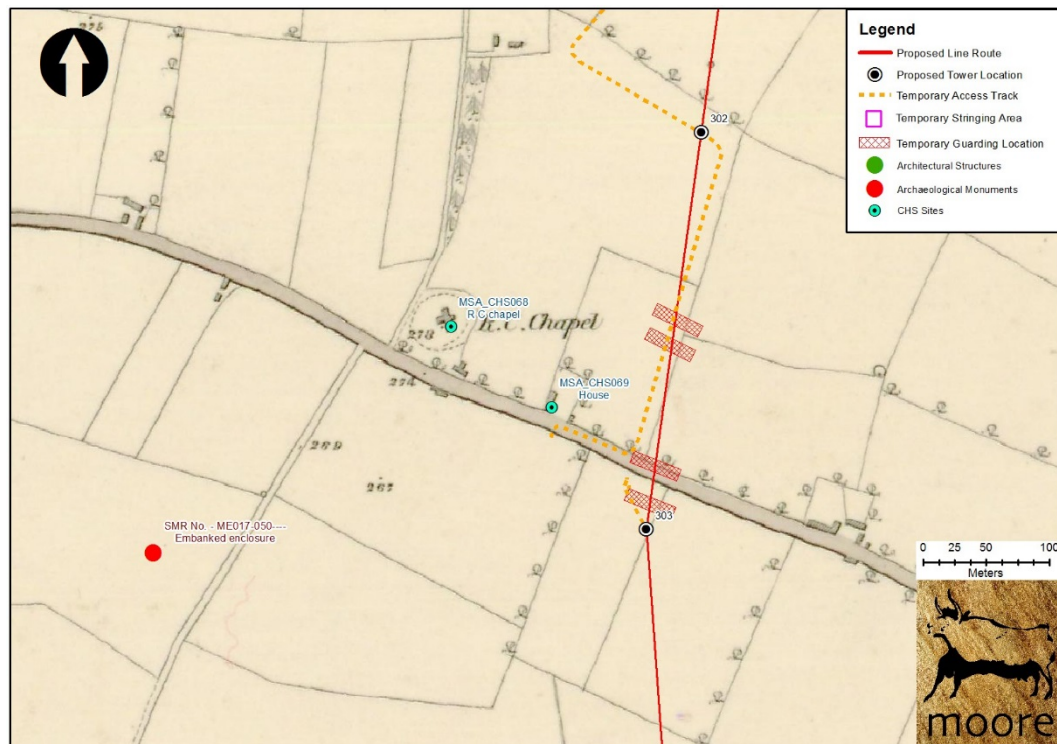


Figure 19 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing St. Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).

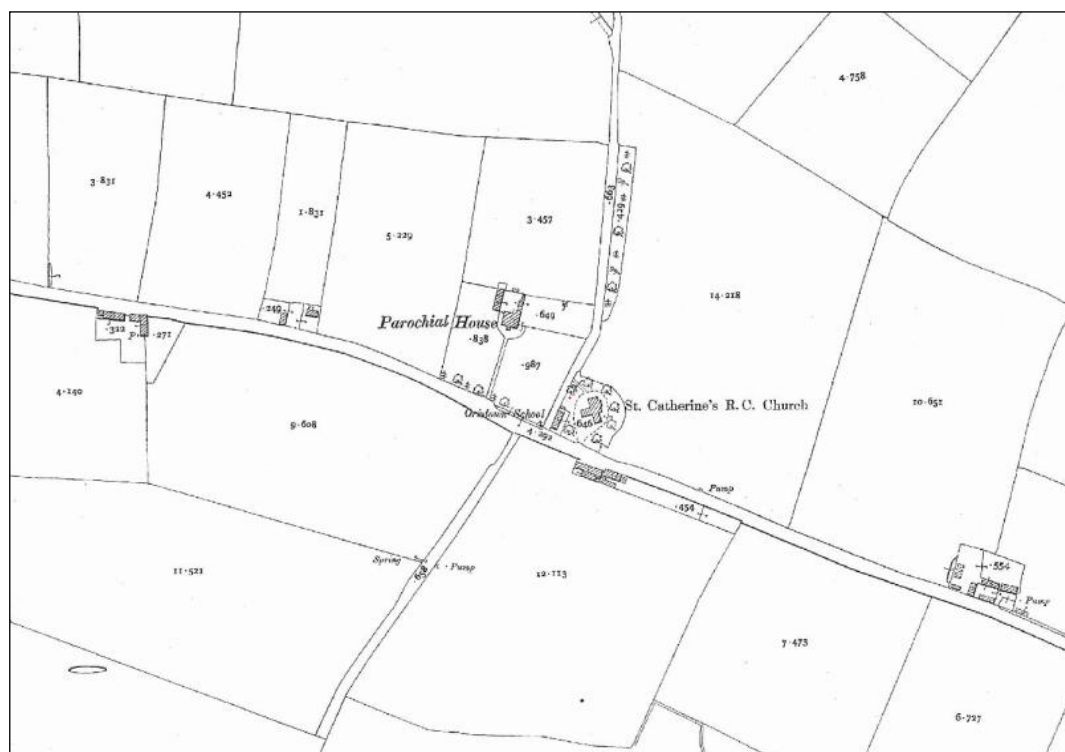
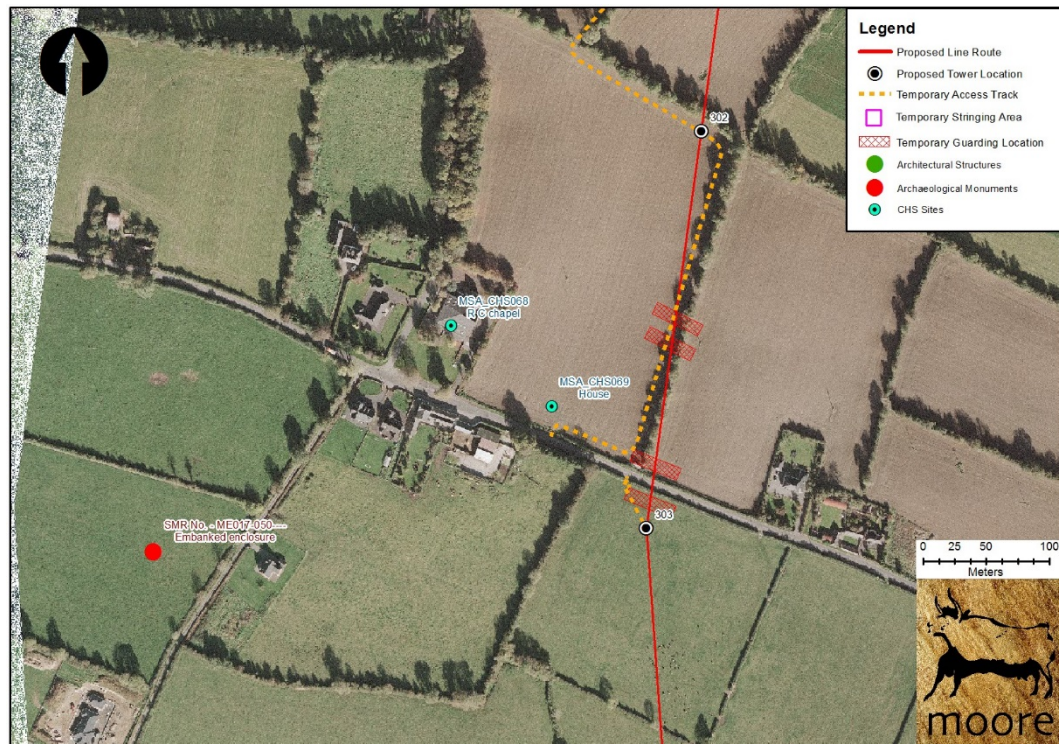


Figure 20 Orthophotography of St Catherine's Church (MSA-CHS068).

3.7.6.5 MSA-CHS070 Possible Enclosure

- 90 During analysis of the hillshade generated from the LiDAR DTM the remnants of a possible ditched enclosure was observed to the west of structure 304. The site comprises a roughly curvilinear possible ditch located within an existing wood copse. A northern boundary may be defined by an existing field boundary marking the northern limit of the copse. The site forms an elongated roughly rectilinear area and measures 150 in diameter X 100m north-south.

Figure 21. First edition Ordnance Survey Map with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.

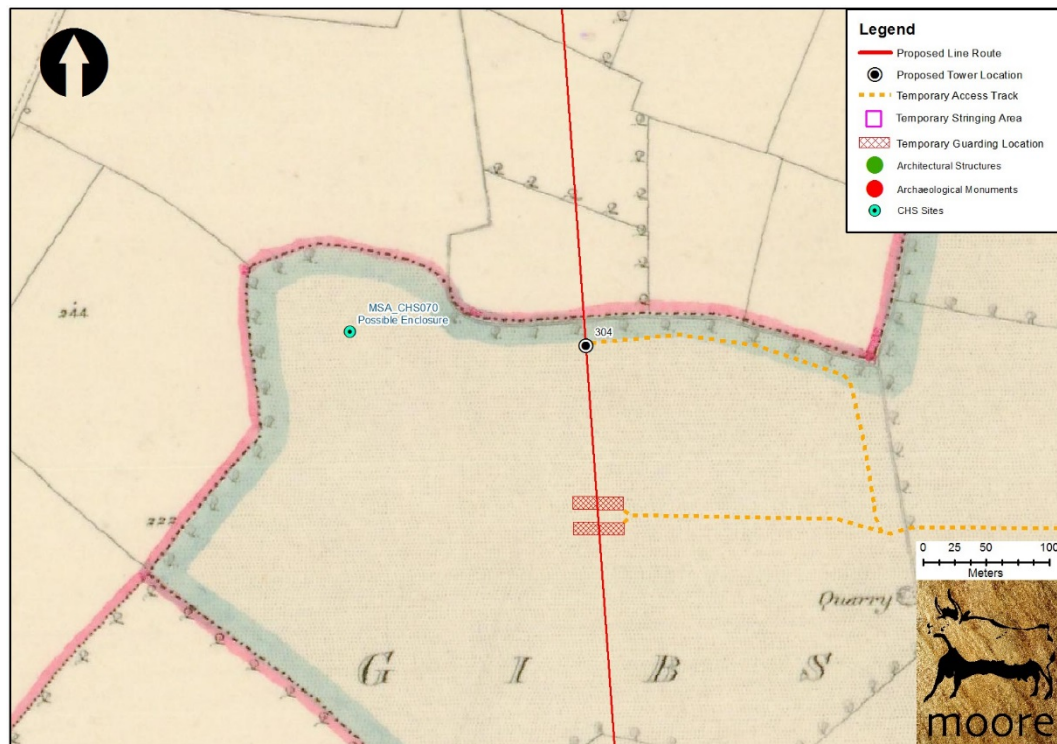


Figure 22. Orthophotography with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.

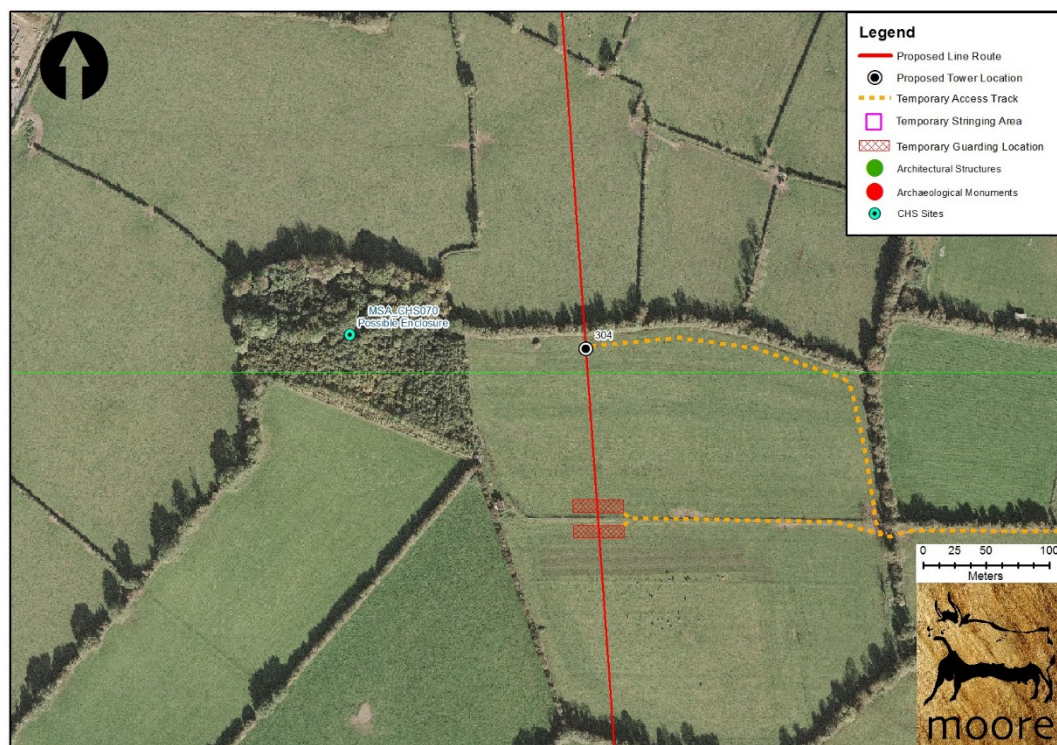


Figure 23. Hillshade of DTM LiDAR with Location of Possible Enclosure (MSA-CHS070) Indicated.



3.7.6.6 MSA-CHS073 - Possible Location of Artificial Lakes

- 91 During analysis of the hillshade generated from the LiDAR DTM areas of low lying ground which was identified to the west of structure 310 may indicate the location of the artificial lakes referred to by O'Donovan. According to O'Donovan's local sources these artificial lakes were located just north of Rath Dhú. Of particular note is the eastern most site appears to be at least two metres lower than the ground surrounding it.

Figure 24. First edition Ordnance Survey with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.

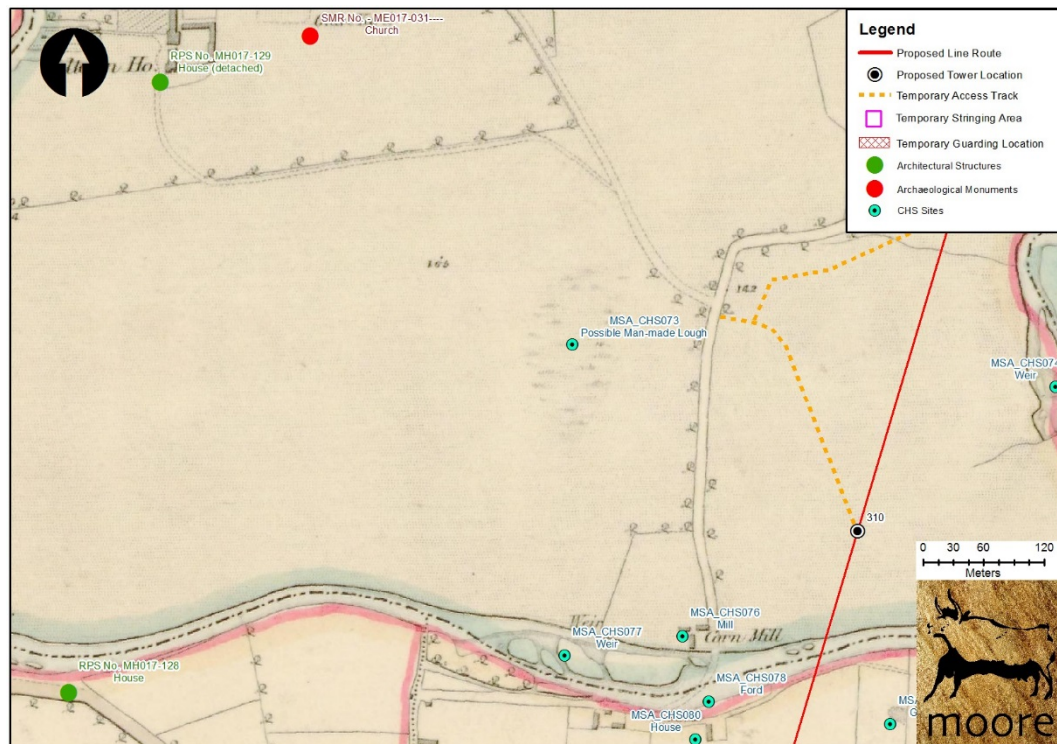


Figure 25. Orthophotography with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.

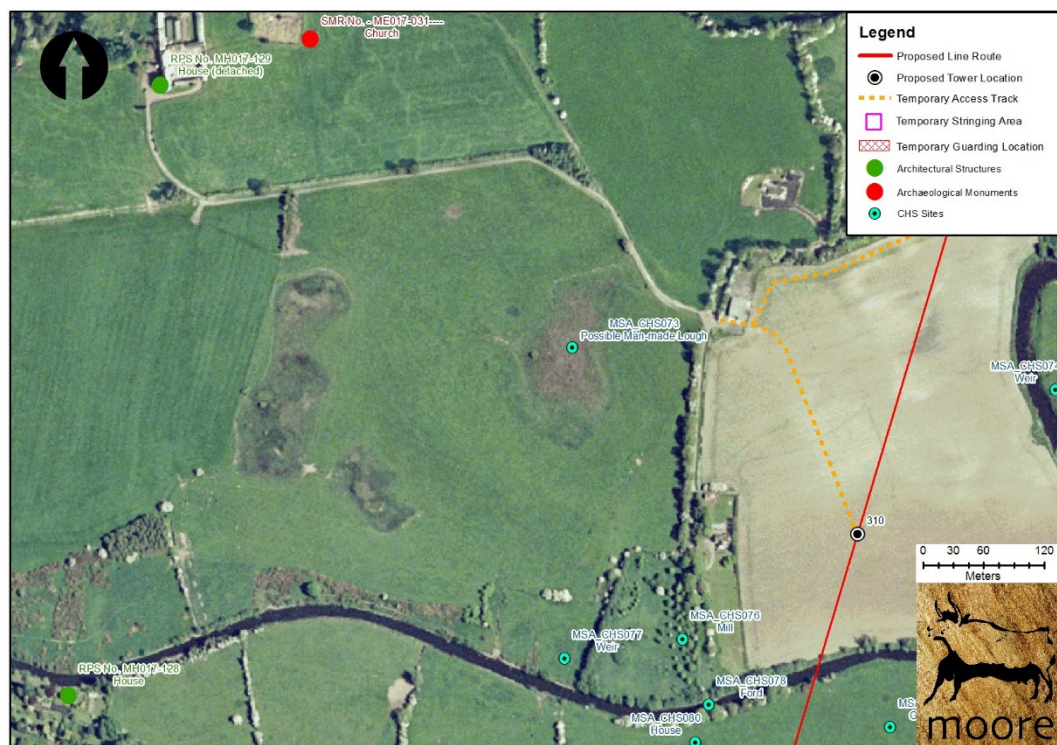


Figure 26. Hillshade of DTM with Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.

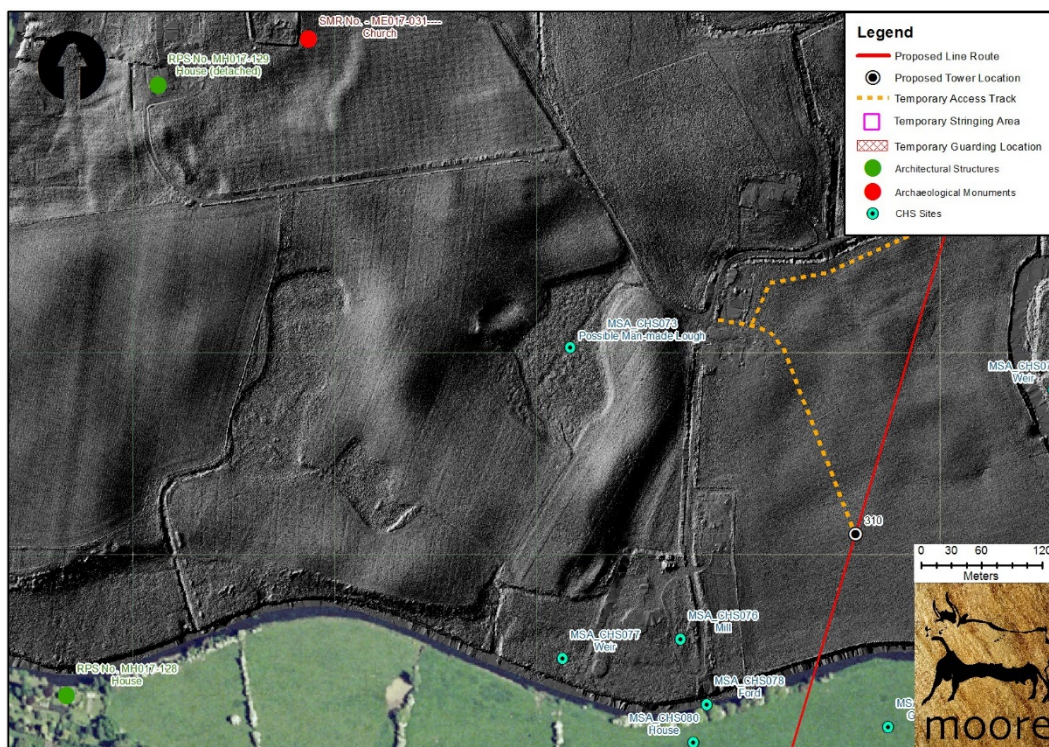
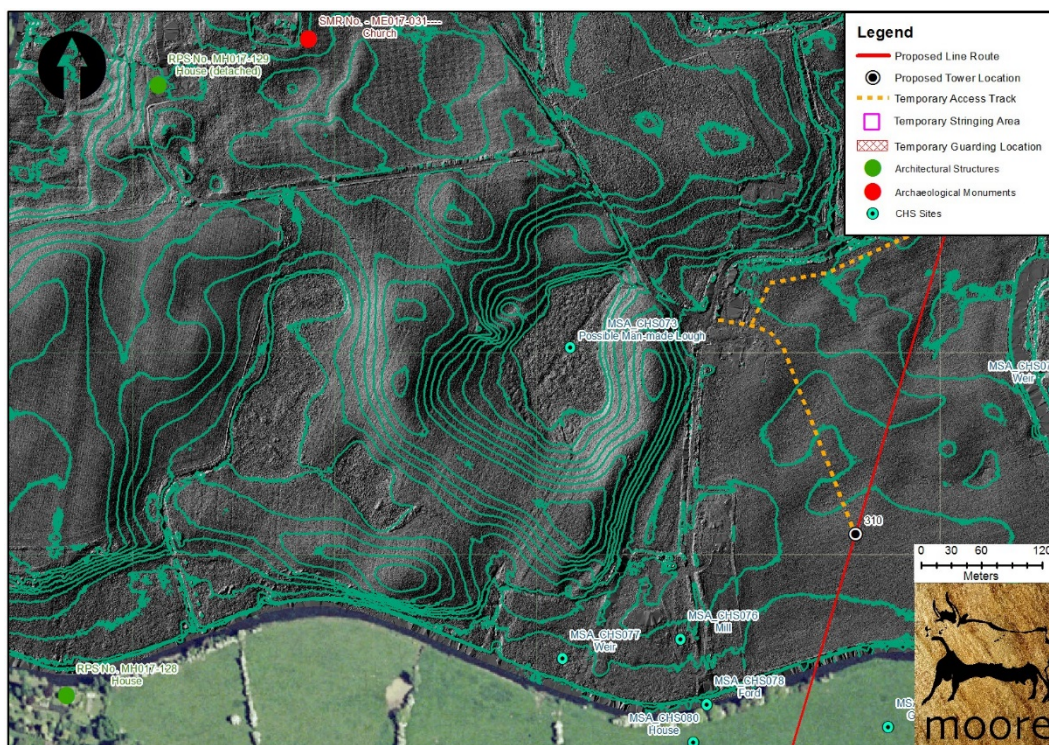


Figure 27. Hillshade DTM with 1m Contours and Location of Possible Man-made Lough (MSA-CHS073) Indicated.



3.7.7 O'Donovan's Maps

- 92 During the first edition survey by the Ordnance Survey of Ireland John O'Donovan, place-name researcher, compiled detailed notes and annotated maps regarding the region. These notes, along with reproductions of his maps, are discussed in **Section 4.1.1**.

4 THE TELTOWN ZONE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL AMENITY

- 93 During consultation with the DAHG regarding the proposed development, the department representatives highlighted their concerns regarding the route passing through the Teltown region. A map was presented which outlines a 'Zone of Archaeological Amenity' (**Appendix 2 Figure 1**) in the area and although the zone has no legal status the mythological and folkloric associations, some of which are referred to in this report, are extensive and the DAHG view the region as a nationally important landscape.
- 94 The zone is located on south facing gently sloping terrain to the north of the river Blackwater. Its southern boundary is predominantly the Blackwater River itself, except in the south east corner where the zone also encompasses an area to the south at a sharp bend in the river. To the north it is bordered by the R163 which also represents a geographical boundary to the zone as the road follows a ridge line. There are no views over the zone of archaeological amenity from the north due to its south facing aspect. Views are limited around and within the zone, characterised by arable land with high hedgerows. Many of the roads and fields in the area are bordered by trees providing high levels of screening. A notable exception is on the Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) Baile Oraí (Oristown) road, where just out of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick), travelling north east, there are views to the south of the road.

4.1 LITERARY REFERENCES TO THE AREA

4.1.1 O'Donovan's Ordnance Survey Letters

- 95 O'Donovan was the fourth son of Edmond O'Donovan and Eleanor Hoberlin of Rochestown. His early career may have been inspired by his uncle Patrick O'Donovan. He worked for antiquarian James Hardiman researching state papers and traditional sources at the Public Records Office. He also taught Irish to Thomas Larcom for a short period in 1828 and worked for Myles John O'Reilly, a collector of Irish manuscripts.

Following the death of Edward O'Reilly in August 1830, he was recruited to the Topographical Department of the first Ordnance Survey of Ireland under George Petrie in October 1830. Apart from a brief period in 1833, he worked steadily for the Survey on place-name researches until 1842, unearthing and preserving many manuscripts. His letters to Larcom are generally regarded as an important record of the ancient lore of Ireland for those counties he documented during his years of travel throughout much of Ireland.

96 The Following are extracts from O'Donovan's Ordnance Survey Letters, written at the time of the drafting of the First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps. Some of the letters refer to features indicated on the following figures:

- **Figure 28.** O'Donovan's map of the Teltown 1836, showing the significant sites associated with the area.
- **Figure 29.** Annotated map of Teltown showing Knockauns and Rath Dhú

4.1.1.1 July 15th 1836,

97 "The Parish of Tailteann is otherwise called Orestown, which is probably the name you have got on the plan. Teltown is however a Townland, and must be on the plan,

98 J, O'Donovan."

4.1.1.2 July 12th 1836. Keannannus, 6

99 "Dear Sir,

100 To say no more about Molaise and the wandering Methodists whom (not Molaise) I most heartily detest as a set of immoral, lying scoundrels. I shall now go on with my own business, which has a good deal to do with ould Saints but nothing at all with those who see angels and converse with them in the 19th century. I have visited Tailteann and identified its name and locality. It lies about four miles southeast of Kells to the right of the road as one goes from Kells to Donaghpatrick. Nothing is now to be seen there but an earthen fort called Rath Dhúbh, 112 paces in diameter but presenting no peculiar features.

101 Between this Rath and the road is to be seen two small loughs now nearly dried up. These have the appearance of being artificial lakes and may have been used while the

Olympic Games of Tailteann were celebrated by the Irish. Have this fort and these loughs been shown on the plan; if so, what names have been given them?

- 102 Lanigan throws out a very bold conjecture that Teltown in the County of Meath was the place called Tailteann by the Irish writers, but it need not remain a matter of conjecture, as it is called, Tailteann at this day and pointed at as the famous place of antiquity where the Irish met for various purposes.
- 103 The names of Meath present a very strange aspect to the Irish Etymologist; they have almost all assumed an English appearance, and the most ridiculous transpositions have been made to anglicise them; town has been stuck as a tail to the greater part of them, and the word rath, instead of being placed first as is the Irish custom, has been placed last, which frequently gives a name a very exotic look. Ex. gr. Maperath for Rath a' Mhabaidh, Calliaghstown Ballynagalliagh. To comply with the general custom of sticking town as a tail to as many of these names as possible, the ancient name of Queen Tailteann, the daughter of Mamore, was changed to Teltown, as if it were to make it impossible to tell what town it anciently was the name of! Fortunately however, it happens that the Irish Language is still spoken in the neighbourhood which enables me to put it on record that the place which the English speaking people call Teltown is invariably called Tailteann by the Irish, which, joined with the traditions connected with the Rath and with its description by Colgan as near Donaghpatrick, perfectly identifies it with the Olympic Games of Looee.
- 104 We are informed by the Four Masters that Roderic O'Conor was the last King who celebrated the Nassa of Tailteann, and that on the occasion his people covered the country for some miles around. Of this more here after.
- 105 Your obedient servant,
- 106 John O'Donovan."

4.1.1.3 July 15th 1836, Kennanus, 9

- 107 "Dear Sir,
- 108 I hope that in the course of next Winter we shall be able to prepare for the ensuing excursion, as this has proved a perfect failure. If you want names for the Engravers you can draw upon me instantly as we have not lost 1 minute since we arrived in Meath; but should there be no immediate call for names I shall keep the Name Books until the

Extracts from the Annals, etc., arrive that I may be enabled to speak with more confidence and decision upon the names of wells and other remarkable features of antiquity.

109 Traditio de Talténia asservata.

110 In my last letter I mentioned that the Fair of Tailteann was celebrated by Roderic O'Connor, the last Milesian King of Ireland. I can now state on the authority of several old natives that the sports of Tailteann were celebrated at so late a period as thirty years ago! An annual Pattern was held on the south side of the River, opposite the fort of Telton, on the first Sunday of the month, which the Irish at this day in every part of Ireland call Lughnasadh, its having been, according to Cormac's Glossary, the month in which Looee of the Long Hands celebrated the Games of Tailteann, It was the month of August, which is called by the Irish the Month of Looee's Nasa or Sports or Games. About thirty years ago the Meathians carried the Nassa of Looee to such a pitch of violence after they had introduced Potten instead of Metheglin, that the Clergy, the Magistrates and all those who consulted for the welfare of the people, thought it advisable to abolish the Sports of Tailteann, and thus put a stop to Olympic Games which had continued to amuse the people for a period of more than 2,000 years! What a pity that they were not able to let them continue by re-introducing Metheglin instead of Whisky!

111 What I consider very curious in this Pattern is that it was not carried on in honor of any Saint, as is always the case in every other Parish, and that it was held in the very beginning of the month which derived its name from the Sports of Tailteann. The usual sports carried on in latter days were dancing, wrestling, boxing- sports congenial to the Irish temperament or Constitution. In ancient times the Irish met at Tailteann for various purposes, viz., to contract marriages, which they did by the simple ceremony (if we believe the book of Fermoy) of kissing and shaking hands (undé posadh, marriage); for buying and selling (we learn from Cormac's Glossary that there was a hill at Tailteann called Tulach na Coibhche, which he explains Hill of Buying or Market Hill. This is probably the mound lying to the north of the road on which there is a Trig. Station) and for exhibiting feats of eangnamh - dexterity at arms and buffoonery (I suppose grinning through horse-collars as in England!). But these are facts which must be hereafter cleared up from The Book of Fermoy. My present object is to identify the sites of ancient places; to clear up the history is another business which cannot be done in a letter written from the force of memory in a country town where there is not a single book to be consulted on the subject.

112 Tradition says that St. Patrick condemned the shade of Laogaire, King of Tara, to remain in the Dubhloch, which lies to the east of the Fort of Tailteann, until the Day of Judgement. Laogaire never believed that Christ was the Son of God, for which he is condemned by all the Milisian writers of Christian era.

113 Your obedient servant,

114 J. O'Donovan."

4.1.1.4 July 14th 1836. Kells

115 "Dear Sir,

116 My paper is all out; please to send me some, as also some quills, for Meath will consume a good deal of both.

117 Let me have St. Patrick's travels through Meath as given in the Tripartite and Colgan's notes upon the same.

118 St. Patrick's visit to Tailteann is thus described by the Monk Jocelyn:-

119 "And on Monday Patrick came to Taltania where the royal fair, public Games and contests were accustomed to be held yearly. In this place he met with Carbré (the son of Niall and brother of King Laogaire) who was like the King, his brother, in ferocity of mind and cruelty. When St. Patrick was preaching the Word of Life unto him, and was laying before him the way of salvation, that man of adamant heart not only refused to believe in the truth preached unto him but even plotted death for the preacher of the Way of Life, and drove with scourge the companions of the holy men into a neighbouring river called Sele, because Patrick had called him an enemy of God. Then the man of God, seeing that he was a man of inveterate malice and a reprobate, said unto him "Because thou hast opposed the doctrine of the of the King of Heaven and refused to bear his sweet yoke, neither Kings nor Rulers shall be descended from thy seed, but thy seed shall be subservient to the seed of thy brothers, nor shall the neighbouring river, into which thou hast driven my companions and which now abounds in fish, ever yield any henceforward."

120 This passage is curious, but I am anxious to have the words of the Tripartite as Jocelyn has obtained the character of "Jocelyn of the Dark Ages, Prince of legendary writers"

and this without deserving it more than St. Augustin or any other of the same imaginative class of writers.

121 Colgan says that the river called Sele by Jocelyn was called Abha Dhúbh i.e., Fluvius Niger in his own time (1647). It is now called The Blackwater River which rises in Lough Ramor near Virginia in Cavan and pays its tribute to the Boyne at the Town of Navan but I guess it has shaken off the curse of St. Patrick as I crossed a stone carry or weir upon it which makes me suspect that fishes venture up it in this age of general liberty and universal benevolence, when men never carry their indignation so far as to wreak vengeance on rivers and other impercipient objects which, as they have no power of volition, cannot become accountable for any transgressions. I shall Follow St. Patrick through every glen and over every river, and find Fault with him wherever he becomes haughty for which he will probably keep me out, but if St. Patrick shuns the truth I have no wish to go into the same place with him. He had his whims and his faults as well as modern preachers, who would curse rivers new as well as in the days of Patrick if they could gain any point by so doing.

122 It is curious that the fort, river and lough of Tailteann now bear the epithet of dubh, black, being called Rath Dubh, Dubh-Loch and Abha Dhúbh. Let these be carefully marked on the Plan of Tailteann Parish. Should we not venture to anglicise this Telton, as it is spelled by Usher in his Primordia and in the Inquisition taken in the reign of James I. Teltown is a very vulgar modern corruption, supported by no respectable authority.

123 Let me know the lands belonging to the Abbey and other establishments at Kells according to Archdall and the inquisitions. Is there any record of Headfort (Headford) near Kells, which is called Kenlis by the Irish and supposed to have given the name of Kenlis to Kells?

124 Your obedient servant,

125 John O'Donovan."

4.1.1.5 Sunday, July 17th 1836. Navan

126 "Dear Sir,

127 This being an idle day we again visited Telton, and went over the ground carefully with the most intelligent of the natives, who pointed out some additional features. They say

that the Fair of Telton was transferred to Orestown, where it was held till thirty years ago. Orestown is set down in old Almanacks as a fair-town. The sports of Telton were transferred to Martry, opposite the Rath on the south side of the Blackwater River. Perhaps you could send me a trace from the fair plan of Telton or Orestown Parish, that I may see if all are marked.

- 128 a. The great Rath of Tailteann, measuring one hundred and twelve steps in diameter. It now consists of one ring only but there was a second ring which was levelled a few years ago by the present proprietor.
- 129 b. An artificial lake, one hundred and ninety two paces in circumference; it is nearly circular.
- 130 c. An artificial lake 130 paces in circumference.
- 131 d. A blind lough called Doolough lying two fields east of the Rath. Tradition says that Saint Patrick confined the shade of Laogaire in this lough.
- 132 e. A Trig. pole lying north of the road. The eminence on which this pole stands is believed by the natives to be the highest ground in Ireland! Is it 2300 feet above the level of the sea?
- 133 f. Remains of a mound, now a rabbit warren.
- 134 g. A hollow called Lag an Aonaigh, i.e., the Hollow of the Fair. Here, according to tradition, marriages were celebrated in Pagan times. A well springs in the centre of this hollow a short distance (i.e., a few yards) to the south of which a wall (now a ditch) was erected, and in this wall there was a gateway closed by a wooden gate in which there was a hole large enough to admit a human hand. This is the spot at which marriages were celebrated according to the odd manner following. A number of young men went into the hollow to the north side of the wall and an equal number of marriageable young women to the south side of the wall, which was so high as to prevent them from seeing the men; one of the women put her hand thro' the hole in the gate, and a man took hold of it from the other side, being guided in his choice only by the appearance of the hand. The two who thus joined hands by blind chance were obliged to live together for a year and a day (this agrees with the hand-fasting of the highlanders) at the expiration of which time they appeared at the Rath of Telton, and if they were not satisfied with each other they obtained a deed of separation, and were entitled to go to Leganeany again to try their good fortune for the ensuing year. This tradition has given rise to a phrase in

- the Country "they got a Tailteann Marriage" by which is meant that they took each other's word for nine months. The natives of Telton think that there was a great deal of fair play in this marriage, for which as opinion Paley would condemn them as savages, and Milton would applaud them as men of sound ethical principles!
- 135 Whether this tradition be right or wrong, or partly right and partly wrong, we must ascertain hereafter, not now.
- 136 The natives believe that Telton is the oldest place in Ireland excepting Tara.
- 137 h. An artificial lough just dried up. The tradition in the Country is that the loughs (b, c, h.) were formed by an old race of men called the Firvolg, but for what purpose they know not, unless it was for watering their cattle.
- 138 i. A pile of stones around a tree called Bun Mucnaidhe,
- 139 Tradition remembers nothing about this monument but that it was placed there to commemorate the death of a Christian warrior of the name Art, who was a very good man and on whose fall several poems, now forgotten, were composed.
- 140 Cromwell ran a road through the Country in this direction, a part of which is still traceable from Leganeany to Bunmuckny (vide g – i).
- 141 The old graveyard of Tailteann is yet pointed out and the Patron Saint is remembered to be St. Catherine.
- 142 I hope that all those features are marked on the plans; if not I think you should have them marked.
- 143 Let me know how soon the Name Books of the Barony of Navan will be ready? Direct to Navan as I find it a better town and a more convenient centre than Kells. St. Patrick does not allow much fish up the Blackwater.
- 144 Let me know if Mr. Petrie has heard of the Copper book found near Moynalty and sent to Dublin?
- 145 Your obedient servant,
- 146 John O'Donovan."

4.1.1.6 Tuesday July 18th 1836. Navan

147 "Dear Sir,

148 The map of Meath which you sent us is wrong, and we have been often set astray by it; I hope you will be able to send us a more correct one, that is one showing the relative situation of the parishes and all the villages. The parishes of Meath are very small, and will for that reason occupy much time; and much time will also be consumed by going away from Navan and Kells without finishing the Parishes lying around them. What time will it take to finish the name Books of the Barony of Navan? Let me suggest that, unless the Inquisitions be compared immediately we shall soon be knocked idle for want of N: books.

149 OF THE PARISH OF DONAGHPATRICK.

150 This is a very small parish lying to the East of the Rath of Telton and midway between the towns of Kells and Navan. The site of the ancient Church is occupied by a modern Protestant church, which the natives believe to be of the same size and form with the one erected by St Patrick. It stands near the northern bank of the River Sele or Black water. The situation of Domnach-Padruig is described by Colgan thus: 'Domnach-Padruig is called by that name even to this day: it is a Church in the Diocese of Meath near Taltania' (juxta Talteniam). Evin, in the Tripartite Life of Saint Patrick, gives the following account of the Apostle's visit to Telton and of the erection of Donaghpatrik:

151 Triad: Thau: p. 129, col. 2, c. 4.

152 And on Monday Patrick came to Taltania where the Royal Fair, Public Games and contests (certamina) were accustomed to be celebrated yearly. Here he met with Carbré (the son of Niall and brother of King Laogaire) who like the King his brother was fierce and cruel. When St. Patrick was preaching the word of life unto him and was laying before him the way of salvation, that man of adamant heart, not only refused to believe in the truth preached unto him, but even plotted death for the preacher of the way of life, and with a scourge (whip) drove the companions of the Holy Man into an adjacent river, called Sele, because Patrick had called him an enemy of God. Then the Man of God, seeing that Carbré was a man of inveterate malice, and a reprobate in sight of God, said unto him 'Because thou hast opposed the doctrine of the King of Heaven and refused to bear his sweet yoke, neither Kings nor chieftains shall be descended from thee, but they seed shall, for ever, be subservient to the seed of thy

brothers; and this adjacent river into which thou hast scourged my companions, although now abounding in fish, shall never yield any henceforward.'

153 CAP. V

154 Patrick, having left Carbré the son of perdition proceeded to Conall, his brother, whose residence was then at the place where the Church of Domnach-Padruig was afterwards erected. Conall received with joy the herald of truth, as an angel of light, and behaved towards him with due respect and reverence, and adapting his ears and mind to his doctrine, was by him instructed in the mysteries of faith, regenerated in salutary baptism and added to the family of Christ. The Man of God gave him his Benediction, saying at the same time 'the seed of thy brothers shall serve thy seed, and this sacred patrimony obtained by hereditary right, shall pass to thy posterity from father to son, that they may venerate my successors, respect them with homage, and defend them with their patronage.'

155 In that place where his palace (Aula) stood, Conall laid the foundation of a Church for God and St Patrick, which was sixty of his own feet (quod pedibus ejus LX. pedum erat) and he removed his own palace to another place not far distant.

156 Patrick then said unto him, whosoever of thy posterity shall rashly attempt to injure this Church, he shall not enjoy a happy or long reign. Whilst likewise the holy man was marking out with his crozier and measuring for Prince Conall a place on which to build a fort (Arx) which is called Rath-Airthir and was afterwards blessing it, he said with a prophetic mouth, that only one person was to be killed in that place until the day of judgment.

157 INTERPOLATION.

158 This prophecy, it is evident from experience has been fulfilled, for only one person is known to have been killed in that place. As Kineth and Dubhdaleth, the two sons of Fergal, prince of Meath came on a Sunday to that place, a certain man named Mac Bressuill met them outside the door, and one of them for some reason pierced him with his sword whereupon, one of them betook himself over Taltania and other into the Church of Donaghpatrick and thus saved their lives by committing themselves to the protection of flight.

159 Another accident also happened which affords a sufficient proof that no other person could be killed in that place. In the time of Donchad, king of Ireland, Cobdenach, the

son of Fidgal, an illustrious man together with three other troops engaged boldly and dexterously with his enemy on that plain; and when the battle which was prolonged till evening at length ceased, Cobdenach found that his own right hand was much injured and, gashed by lances and other weapons, yet not one fell on either side, and he acknowledged that during the battle he could not inflict the slightest wound on any one.

160 I have made every search and enquiry for this Rath-Airthir, and have at length come to the conclusion that it is no other place than the present Orestown (Orient-dun)! How different the names, and still they are the same! Orestown is a ridiculous anglicising of its present Irish name Baile Othádhe by changing Orhy to Ore, adding s for the Genitive case as if Orhy were a family name, and translating Baile town and to the end of the name to agree with English Analogy. Now Baile Othádhe is a Meathian corruption of Baile which is a modernization of Rath Airthir by substituting Baile for Rath, and Rath Óirthir is the same Asrath Airthir both meaning East fort.

161 This is placing etymology on the rack in earnest, and still it is more than probable that it will turn out the truth. The following similar corruptions will corroborate the assumption. Ros Airthir in Fermanagh near Enniskillen is anglicised to Rossorry and Hibernicised in modern times to Ross Orrraidh, which is according to the Fermanagh mode of corruption. If Rossorry were in Meath, it is ten to one but it would have been Anglicised Orrystown!

162 Ath na Dairbhriche in Meath is now pronounced Dairbhuidhe, the 'r' at the end being totally rejected, and Dairbhreach in Louth is also corrupted Dairbhuidhe by the Irish though correctly anglicised Dervor. From these analogies in corruption I conclude that Orestown is a translation of Baile Airthir, and that Baile Airthir is a modernization of Rath AFirthir.

163 The Fort of Orestown (Oristown) is yet in existence: the shades of its ancient inhabitants, now called the good people (gentry) carried away into its subterranean abodes, a man of the name Martin who lives there still and from whom the Fort is named Rath Martinraw. (See Plan).

164 The locality of the Church of Donaghpatrick will support the account in the tripartite of its having been erected on the site of Prince Conall's palace. A fort lies near it from which a subterranean passage leads (it is said) to the Church. It is believed that there is a vast treasure of gold laid up in this Crypt, but none have courage enough in those days to explore the gloomy mansion. Not many score years ago a number of young men and women entered this abode of gold and the fairies for the purpose of searching every

hole and corner in it for the treasure, and in order to inspire themselves with real Irish courage they took with them a piper and some whiskey They set out or rather in on their journey like Aeneas going to the Elysian fields, & the piper was heard (by those outside) playing until he had come under the church, after which the animating notes of his instrument were hushed to silence. Not one of the party ever returned: they were all either choked by the fairies or smothered in the foul air of the gloomy passage!

- 165 This story may or may not be true, but the passage underground exists according to tradition and the testimony of some old men, who saw it opened, which affords a strong corroboration of the statement in the Tripartite Life of St Patrick, that the church of Donaghpatrick is on the site of the mansion of an Irish Prince, which was certainly a wooden structure surrounded with earthen mounds and having about it various caves and places of defence and concealment.
- 166 That many ancient Irish churches were erected within the rings of Pagan Rathes and Cashels cannot be doubted, as Fenagh within the Cashel of King Fergna, and perhaps Inishmurray, but it is also certain that the early Christian converts raised mounds and Cashels around their Monasteries in imitation of the mode of fortification practised by their fathers."

4.1.1.8 O'Donovan's Maps

Figure 28. O'Donovan's map of the Teltown 1836, showing the significant sites associated with the area.

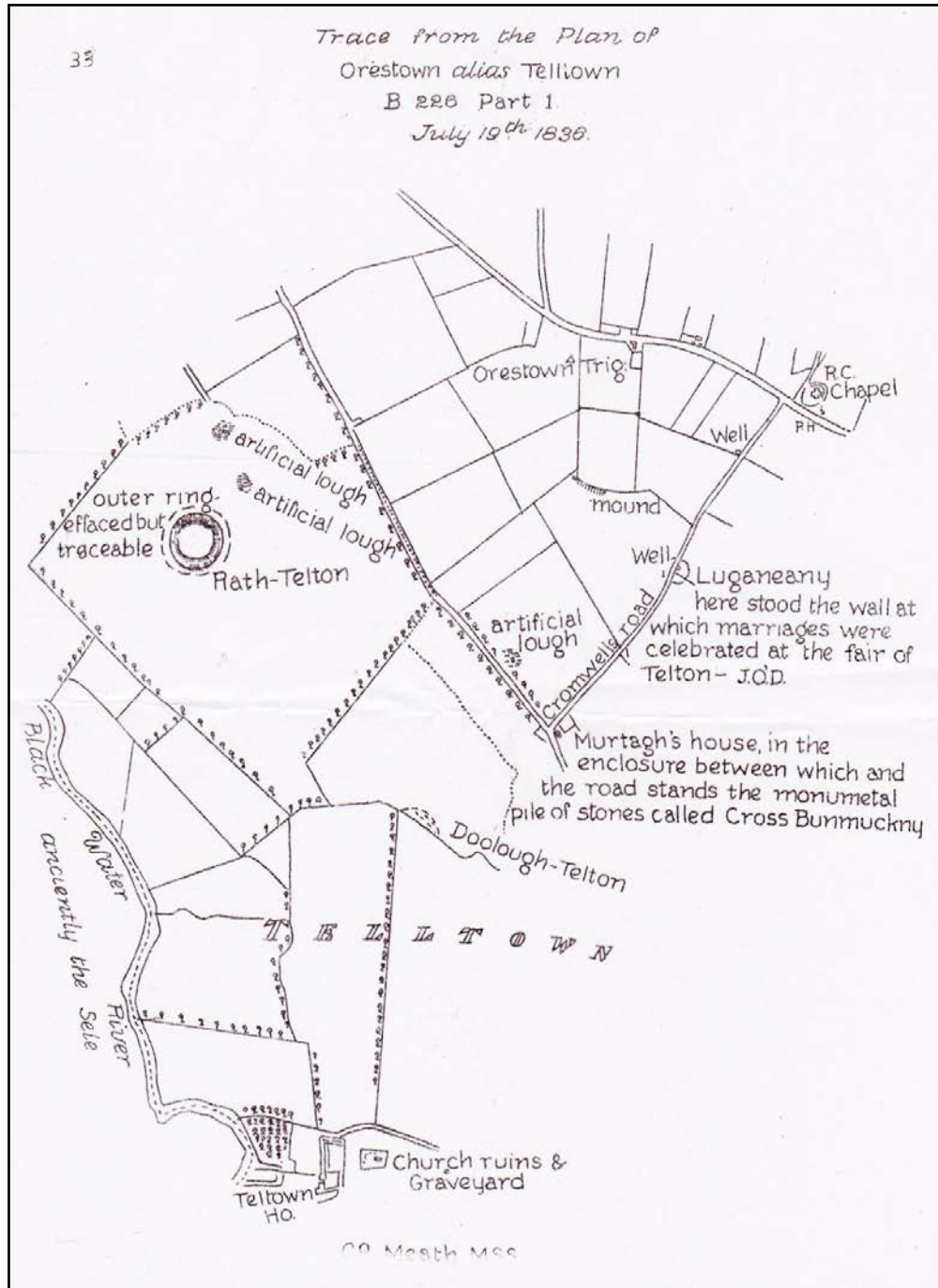
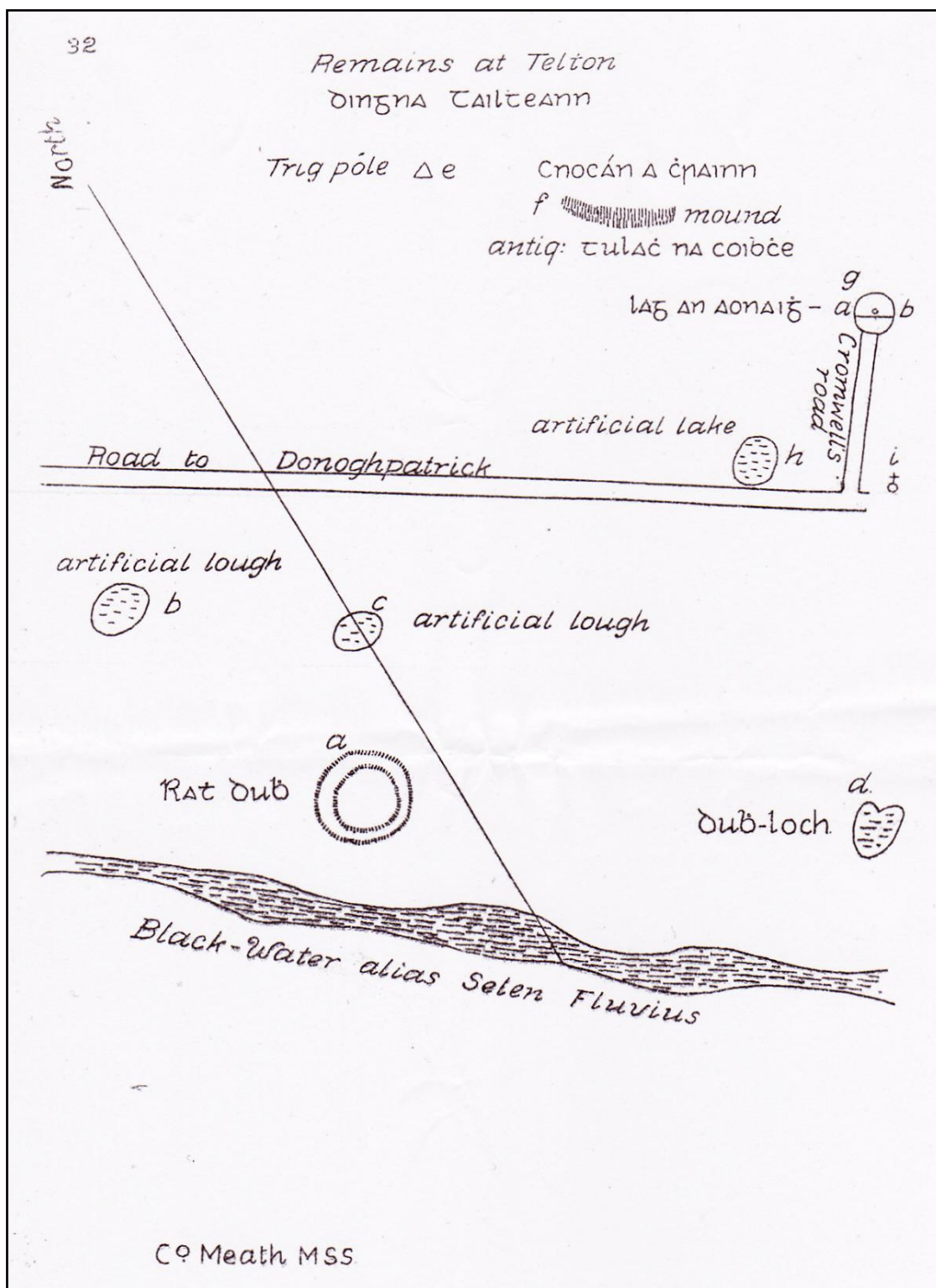


Figure 29. Annotated map of Teltown showing Knockauns and Rath Dhú

4.1.1.8.1 O'DONOVAN'S NOTES ACCOMPANYING HIS MAPS

- 167 a. Rath Dhú, according to O'Donovan this fort was originally bivallate but the external bank was levelled in the early 19th century.
- 168 b & c Artificial lakes, these lakes have now been filled in and survive only as dark anomalies on the aerial photographs. The tradition in the country is that the loughs were formed by a race called the Firbolg.
- 169 d. A blind lough called Doolough lying two fields east of the Rath. Tradition says that Saint Patrick confined the shade of Laogaire in this lough. This lake does not appear on the 1st or the 2nd. Edition maps. On the aerial photographs however it is discernible as a slight depression with evidence of water-logging.
- 170 e. A Trigonometry pole, since removed.
- 171 f. The site of the Knockauns, O'Donovan describes it as the remains of a mound, now a rabbit warren. As previously stated this site does not appear on the 1st edition map but does appear on the 2nd edition as an un-annotated sub-oval shape. This site was partially bulldozed in the early 1990's and was the subject of an archaeological investigation.
- 172 g. A hollow and well site known as Lag an Aonaigh, or the Hollow of the Fair. Here, according to tradition the famous Teltown marriages were carried out. This site is not indicated on either the first or second editions of the Ordnance Survey maps. However the site does appear as a cropmark on an aerial photograph taken in 2005 to the immediate east of Cromwell's road. A newly built house occupies a site to the west of the road.
- 173 h. An artificial lough. This lake does not appear on the 1st edition map but does appear on the 2nd. edition as a sub oval un-annotated feature. This lough is visible on aerial photographs as an area of water-logging to the north of a dwelling house.
- 174 i. A pile of stones around a tree called Bun Mucnaidhe. O Donovan records that there was a pile of stones there to commemorate the death of a Christian warrior of the name Art long since forgotten. On the 1st and 2nd edition maps this site is occupied by a house and outbuildings that have since been demolished, the site now exists as an open field.

4.1.1.8.2 OBSERVATIONS ON O'DONOVAN'S NOTES

175 O'Donovan's letters (Refer to Section 4.1.1) and maps (Figure 28 and Figure 29) on Teltown offer a fascinating insight into the cultural importance of the area at a time when the annual festival that used to be held there was still in living memory. Local sources would have been able to point out the different monuments and sites and describe the peculiar customs associated with them. As a Gaelic scholar O'Donovan would have also been familiar with the old Irish manuscripts relating to the area and its central place in ancient mythology. Furthermore as an employee of the Topographical Department of the first Ordnance Survey of Ireland under George Petrie he also had access to the most recent maps which he traced over when recording his field notes. O'Donovan's sketches of the Teltown field monuments are important insofar as they define, geographically, a discrete area that he believed constituted the focus of Tailteann and the annual Óenach. This area includes both the northern portion of Tailtin (Teltown) and the south of Baile Oraí (Oristown). It is defined by the course of the River Blackwater to the west, 'Cromwell's road' to the east, the Baile Oraí (Oristown) to Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown) road (R163) to the North and Teltown Church ruins to the south (see Appendix 2 Figure 1). O'Donovan's area comprises the north western portion of the designated Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity and excludes Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village and the west of Diméin Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown Demesne).

4.1.2 The Boyne and the Blackwater by Sir William Wilde Published 1849

176 The following is an Extract from The Boyne and the Blackwater by Sir William Wilde as he traverses the region in the mid-19th Century.

177 Descending the river upon the northern bank we arrive at Teltown, about midway between Kells and Navan. This is one of the most celebrated spots in Ireland; perhaps, next to Tara, it is the most ancient, if not the most notable. An entire chapter might be devoted to it, describing its topography, transcribing its annals, relating its legends – Pagan and Christian, - and giving a detailed account of its battles, sham and real; its fairs, games, sports, and marriages; these, however, would far exceed the limits of a guidebook, intended chiefly to direct the tourist, and point out the scenic beauty, and the memorable localities upon the hitherto neglected Boyne and Black-water, which is all this little work pretends to. Let the following notice suffice. Upon a green hill sloping gradually from the waters edge, and rising to a height of about 300 feet, amidst the most fertile grazing lands in Meath, if not in Ireland, may be seen a large earthen fort, about a furlong's length to the right of the road, with a few hollows or excavations in the

adjoining lands, apparently the sites of small, dried up lakes ; and to the left of the road, nearly opposite these, parts of the trench and embankments of two other forts, which, judging from the portions still remaining, must have been of immense size, greater even than any of those now existing at Tara. These mark the sites of the early Pagan settlement, and the position of the palace of Tailtean, one of the four royal residences which existed in Ireland in very early times.

- 178 The first notice which the Annals record of Tailtean (the name of which is still preserved in the modern Teltown) is, that in the year of the world 3370, in the reign of Lugh Lamhfhada, " The fair of Tailtean was established in commemoration and in remembrance of his foster-mother Tailte, the daughter of Maghmor, King of Spain, and the wife of Eochaidh, son of Ere, the last king of the Firbolgs." This fair continued down to the time of Roderick O'Conor, the last monarch of Ireland, and was held annually upon the first of August, which month derives its name in the Irish language from this very circumstance, being still called Lugh-nasadh, or Lugh's fair,—the Lammas day,—to which several superstitious rites and ancient ceremonies still attach throughout the country generally. Upon these occasions various sports and pastimes, a description of Olympic Games, were celebrated, consisting of feats of strength and agility in wrestling, boxing, running, and suchlike manly sports, as well as horse races and chariot races. Besides these the people were entertained with shows and rude theatrical exhibitions. Among these latter are enumerated sham battles and also aquatic fights, which it is said were exhibited upon the artificial lakes, the sites of which are still pointed out. Tradition assigns the site of the fair to that portion of the great rath still existing upon the northern side of the road, and about a quarter of a mile to the north-east of the great fort, or Rath Dubh, and here it is said the most remarkable of the Teltown ceremonies took place—the marriages or betrothals. Upon one side of this great embankment were ranged, it is said, " the boys," and on the other "the girls;" the former ogling, the latter blushing; for human nature is, we suppose, the same at all times and in all places, among our forefathers and mothers at Teltown upwards of a thousand years ago, or in a modern drawing-room, or at a flower-show or review. They then, having had a good view of each other, passed down a little to the south, where there is a deep hollow in the land, evidently formed artificially, probably the ditch of one of the ancient forts, and called Lug-an-Eany, where they became separated by a high wall, which prevented their seeing each other. In this wall, say the local traditions, there was a door with a small hole in it, through which each young lady passed her middle finger, which the men upon the other side looked at, and if any of them admired the finger he laid hold of it, and the lass to whom it belonged forthwith became his bride; so that we find a fair and pretty hand, a delicate and taper finger, with its snowy skin and delicately formed nail, were even more captivating among the Irish lads and lasses some twelve hundred years ago

than they are at the present day. He took her for better for worse, but the key-hole or wooden ring was not as binding as the modern one of gold; for, by the laws of Tailtean, the marriage only held good for a year and a day. If the couple disagreed during that time they returned to Tailtean, walked into the centre of Rath Dubh, stood back to back, one facing the north, and the other the south, and walked out of the fort, a divorced couple, free to try their luck again at Lug-an-Eany. What a pity there is no Teltown or Black Fort marriage in the present day! What numbers would take advantage of it!

- 179 In the bottom of this hollow there is a well, which in wet weather overflows, and its waters trickle down the adjoining hill towards the Blackwater. Leading nearly southward from this spot we pass down the remains of an ancient paved, but now grass-grown way, called "Cromwell's road," and near where this joins the modern main road there is another hollow, still containing some water, pointed out as the site of one of the artificial lakes. The fair of Tailtean was continued up to about eighty years ago, and some vestiges of the sports, particularly the fighting, existed within the memory of man at a Patron which used to be held on the opposite side of the river.
- 180 The Great Fort, or Rath Dubh, measures round the outer wall of circumvallation 321 paces, having openings in it nearly due north and south. The height of the surrounding earthen embankment varies from fifteen to twenty feet. Standing in the centre of this great fort we again obtain one of those refreshing views which we have so often attempted to describe when following the course of the Boyne. Looking up towards the north-west, the hill of Lloyd presents a grand and imposing object. Below it the eye rests upon the steeple and round tower of Kells, appearing to rise out of the woods of Headford;
- 181 While in the extreme distance the round hills of Cavan bound the horizon. Immediately around us is a country of immense fertility and with a gently undulating surface, divided into fields of great size,—that in which we stand contains nearly 100 acres,—bordered by rows of well-grown timber, rising out of tall quickset hedges. There is scarcely a cottage, or even a farmer's house, to be seen. All seems one vast pasture farm, through which the Sele winds in pleasing curves, presenting glimpses of its dark blue waters among the flowery meadows which stretch along its brink. The wooded hill of Foughan rises up beyond it to the south-west, and following its track by the little ruined church of Teltown, by the heights of Donaghpatrick, over the woods of Liscarton, above which the old castle in that locality topples, and by the plantations of Eathaldron, the eye rests upon the hills of Skreen and Tara in the extreme north-eastern distance.

- 182 St. Patrick visited the royal residence of Tailtean early in his missionary career, and not merely in the local legends, but in the written Lives of that saint, we meet with abundance of tales and fables regarding the miracles and the wonders "which he wrought here upon the sons and servants of Cairbre, brother-of King Loeghaire.
- 183 Many of the legends told of Patrick by the people here are evidently but paraphrases of his "doings" at Tara. The Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego story about the fire trial between the servant of Patrick and the servant of the Druid. gets here a new dress, with new names and "entirely new scenery, machinery, decorations, and processions." King Loeghaire or Leary (not Cairbre), who was a wonderful Druid and powerful magician entirely, is the chief personage in the Tailtean fables. After being defeated in various trials of skill and necromancy with the saint, who could make no hand of him at all, Patrick was forced to put him down into a dark "condemned hole," near the river, called to this day, "an t-aithghearr go h-lffrionn," "the short road to hell," where the heathen king, Loeghaire, is still believed to be, if he never got any farther. Some fool-hardy people went a few years ago to lift mooreen out of this spot, but they had scarcely broke the scraw that covered the soft surface of the hollow, when a terrible roaring was heard coming up out of the bottom of the earth, and presently a most venomous serpent, with a long mane and a head as big as a horse, rose up out of the pit, and looked about him; but when he saw nobody, for all the men had run away, he drew himself down again, and no one ever attempted to make any inquiries after the ould king of the black rath since. But all that is nothing to what happened at the building of Donapatrik Church hard by. Everyone knows that Prince Conall gave the saint one of his beautiful raths there to build a church upon, and that the workmen engaged in the erection of it came very short of provisions one hard summer,—just, for all the world, like the year before last. Well, Loeghaire when he heard that, sent him a furiously wicked bull that was the terror of the whole country, and used to be horning and aiting everybody that came next or nigh him,—he was as cross and as thievish as the ould king himself,—in hopes that he'd finish the blessed man all out. The baste was sent over to the other side of the water, and when he saw St. Patrick, he stopped bellowing and snorting all of a sudden, and was as quiet as a sucking calf. 'Kill him,' says the saint; so they made a great feast of him. Next day the king came down to the river side, just walking along mighty easily, letting on as if he didn't want to know anything about what happened, but hoping all the while that the bull had made a meal of some of the good Christians. He wasn't long there when some of the saint's servants bid him the time of day, and told him how much they enjoyed the bull, which, we may be sure, was no ways pleasing to his majesty; but to convince him, not only of the truth of the story, but to give him a taste of his power, St. Patrick ordered his servants to bring out the well-picked bones, and to tie them up in the skin, and to throw them into the river to Leary. That was easy enough, but then

comes the miracle. The bundle had hardly touched the water, when out of it rose the bull, well and hearty, large as life, bone to bone, and sinew to sinew, and swam over to the king. And yet, for all this, history records that the old reprobate died in his mother Church, and was buried in the hill of Tara, in a standing position, accoutred in his battle dress. Conversions of old people or grown up men and women are not as common or as easy as people imagine.

184 A short distance above Teltown the river is crossed by Bloomsbury Bridge; but the tourist will find greater and more frequent objects of attraction on the northern bank, till he reaches Donaghpatrick, about a mile and a quarter lower down.

185 In the valley, by the water's edge, about midway between these two places, and beside a broad curve of the river, we meet the ruins of Cill-Tailltean, the little church of Teltown, which was plundered by Diarmaid Mac Murchadha and the Danes in 1156, and again by the same prince and the English in 1170, in their marauding excursions among the rich churches of East Meath.

186 We now arrive at Donaghpatrick, which takes its name from Domnacli-Padraig, the ancient church of Patrick, which formerly stood here, on the site now occupied by the modern parish church. This was the "Ecclesia Patricii Magnet the Domnach Mor, or great church, sixty feet long, so frequently alluded to in our Irish hagiology, one of the earliest daimh-laigs, or stone sacred edifices, erected in Ireland after the introduction of Christianity. It is related in the life of St. Patrick, attributed to St. Evin, and published by Colgan in the Trias Thaumaturga, that Conall, the brother of King Loeghaire, "who resided here, not only gladly accepted Christianity, and was baptized, but also showed great 'kindness to Patrick, and gave him his house or rath on which to erect a church; and the outline of this very cashel can still be discerned in the present graveyard. The only other evidence of great antiquity now remaining here, is what appears to be a fragment of a gable tombstone similar to that still existing at Slane, of which we give a drawing, in the description of that place (p. 182). It can be seen just protruding above ground to the south of the present church.

187 Upon the left of the road, as we approach the church, stands, without exception, one of the very finest raths of the military class to be seen in Ireland. It is of immense size, but, its outline being now obscured by trees and much underwood, it escaped the notice of the Ordnance surveyors, and has not been marked on the map of this part of Meath. It much resembles that at Downpatrick, consisting of a central circular mound, rising gradually out of several circumvallations, or earthen embankments, four of which can still be traced; the great ring fort at Dowth, and the King's Rath enclosing the Forradh at

Tara, and Rath Dubh at Tailtean, extend over a greater space; but of its kind there is nothing to compare with this along the Boyne or Blackwater.

188 It is much to be regretted that earthen mounds of this description should be planted; a graceful tree at top, or a few growing on the sides, add to their picturesqueness; but covering them with trees and underwood quite obscures their form and conceals their purpose. May not this moat have been the celebrated Rath Airthir, the eastern fort, now Oristown; or even the house which the good Conall erected for himself after he so hospitably gave his own to Patrick?

189 Author: Sir William Wilde (1815 to 1876)

190 First published: McGlashan & Gill, Dublin, 1849

191 This edition: Kevin Duffy, Headford, County Galway, 2003

4.1.3 A Social History of Ireland by P.W. Joyce published 1903.

192 A social history of ancient Ireland: treating of the government, military system, and law ; religion, learning, and art ; trades, industries, and commerce ; manners, customs, and domestic life, of the ancient Irish people"

193 ASSEMBLIES, SPORTS, AND PASTIMES

194 Between Navan and Kells, was attended by people from the whole of Ireland, as well as from Scotland, and was the most celebrated of all for its athletic games and sports : corresponding closely with the Olympic, Isthmian, and other games of Greece. It was held yearly on the 1st August, and on the days preceding and following. What vast numbers were congregated during these games will be seen from the Four Masters' record of the last official aenach held there, A.r). 11 69, by Roderick O'Conor, king of Ireland, when the horses and chariots alone, exclusive of the people on foot, extended in a continuous line from Tailltenn to Mullach-Aiti, now the Hill of Lloyd near Kells, a distance of more than six English miles. This aenach was originally instituted, according to the old legend, by the De Dannan king Lugad, or Lug of the Long Arms, to mourn and commemorate his foster-mother, Tailtiu, who was buried there under a mound, and from whom the place took its name. From Lug the first of August was named Lughnasad, meaning the nasad or games of Lug : a name still in use.

195 Marriages formed a special feature of this fair. From all the surrounding districts the young people came with their parents, bachelors and maidens being kept apart in separate places, while the fathers and mothers made matches, arranged the details, and settled the dowries. After this the couples were married, the ceremonies being always performed at a particular spot. Hence, according to Cormac's Glossary (p. 48), a hillock there had the name of Tulach-na-Coibche, "the hill of the buying," where the bride-price was paid. All this is remembered in tradition to the present day: and the people of the place point out the spot where the marriages were performed, which they call "Marriage Hollow." The remains of several immense forts are still to be seen at Teltown.

196 SOCIAL AND DOMESTIC LIFE

197 O'Donovan carefully examined this historic site in 1836 for the Ordnance Survey, and found among the people vivid traditions of the old customs. Though the younger generation, when speaking English, called it Teltown, the older Irish-speaking people never used any name but Tailtinn. They told him too that games were carried on there "down to 30 years ago" - i.e. to 1806 - but that, on account of the increasing manufacture of - pottheen whiskey - instead of the old native drinks, ale and mead — there were quarrels and scenes of violence, so that the magistrates at last put a stop to the meetings

198 Author: Joyce, P.W.(Patrick Weston),1827-1914

199 Publisher: London ; New York : Longmans, Green, and Co.

4.2 NOTES ON THE LITERARY SOURCES

4.2.1 After O' Donovan

200 O'Donovan's letters on Teltown are insightful as they offer not only a detailed field report with location maps but more importantly comment on the customs and the folklore associated with the area and the annual fair. The important points that O'Donovan makes in relation to the area are as follows:-

- Confirms that Teltown is indeed Tailteann where the Irish met for various purposes and that the games were carried out until the turn of the nineteenth century.

- That the fair was not a Christian honorific but dated back to earlier times as evidenced by the pagan wedding ceremony.
- Confirms the areas folkloric associations with St. Patrick.
- Acknowledges that the Teltown fair was later transferred to Baile Oraí (Oristown) and that the games were transferred to Martry in the early 1800's.
- Identifies and locates the different sites. Interestingly O'Donovan describes the Knockauns as the remains of 'a mound, now a rabbit warren' and places the marriage site near a hollow at Luganeany along Cromwell's Road. More recent historians appear to have erroneously identified the Knockauns as the Marriage site. Unfortunately two houses have been built on the western side of Cromwell's Road at the site of Luganeany.
- Suggests Rath Airthir was originally the site of Prince Conall's palace, although neither O'Donovan nor the surveyors could find Rath Airthir during the surveying of the first edition maps and the site is indicated as woodland.

4.2.2 After Wilde

- 201 Wilde expands on the marriage ceremony offering his own thoughts on the subject. He also describes visiting the hollow where the marriage ceremonies were carried out, Cromwell's road and Rath Dubh. He also revisits the Patrician stories and discusses Rath Airthir, correctly mentions that it does not appear on the 1st edition map, obscured as it was by trees and overgrowth.

4.2.3 After Joyce

- 202 Joyce writing in 1903 quotes O'Donovan's letters regarding the pronunciation and spelling of the name Tailteann and referencing the Annals of the Four Masters comments on the Óenach or fair held in 1169 by Roderick O'Connor King of Ireland.

4.3 TELTOWN TODAY - INTERPRETATION AND COMMENTS

203 It is noteworthy that the above commentators focussed their attentions on this area despite O'Donovan's introduction that 'nothing is now to be seen there but an earthen fort called Rath Dhúbh'.

204 Detailed maps of the area are contained in **Appendix 2**, including:

- Orthophotography (circa 2004) **Appendix 2 Figures 2 and 3**;
- Hillshade from DSM (2013) **Appendix 2 Figures 4 and 5**;
- Hillshade from DTM (2013) **Appendix 2 Figures 6 and 7**;
- Detailed view of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) Village DSM and DTM **Appendix 2 Figures 8 and 9**; and
- First Edition Ordnance Survey Maps **Appendix 2 Figures 10 and 11**.

205 Today Teltown appears as an attractive landscape with visible historic features including a church, earthworks and vernacular features such as stone bridges and cottages. In the past its regional importance was partly due to its geographical location situated along a bend in the River Blackwater overlooking a grassy plain in North Leinster. The natural environment has all the elements conducive to settlement including a good water supply, rich pasture and arable land. What differentiates Teltown from areas that shared these resources however, is its location within the ancient kingdom of Meath. Meath meaning 'middle' was the social, cultural and political centre of Ireland to and from which all roads led. In early medieval Ireland, Meath was one of five kingdoms the rest being Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught. Ulster seems at first to have been dominant but, by the time Niall of the Nine Hostages died, early in the 5th century, hegemony had passed to his kingdom of Meath that consisted of the present Counties of Meath and Westmeath, with parts of Cavan and Longford centred around the royal site of Tara. It was due to Meath's primacy as a seat for the high Kings that Teltown first came to prominence as a place of assembly for the annual Óenach, a celebration marked by games and festivities.

206 Teltown first appears in the literary tradition in association with Tailtiu the last Queen of the Fir Bolg. It was under her direction that the original forest was cleared into a grassy plain. Tailtiu named the area in her own memory and designated it as her place of burial. In the Yellow book of Lecan it is recorded that there were 50 hillocks in Tailtiu. An 11th Century poem names eight raths and O'Donovan's description confirms the existence of ponds, earthworks and roadways. Teltown figures prominently in the *Táin* and *Dunair Finn* and also in the *Life of Patrick* and in the *Vitae* of Ciaran. Much of the

early literature concerning the area is mythological and in some way seems to mark the cultural transition from a pagan to a Christian society.

- 207 Many battles are also supposed to have been fought here including the final battle between the Milesians, ancestors of the Gael, over the Tuath De Dannan. The Táin records that the defending charioteers confronted invading forces at Roi Ard in Tailtiu. Later the Uí Neill had frequent Dynastic battles in the area as claimants fought for the high Kingship. In the early Christian period a synod was held at Tailtiu in AD 563 in an effort to Christianise the site. Its ritual significance continued until at 1168 when the last of the High Kings Ruaidhri O'Conchobair held a royal assembly here after his inauguration in Dublin.
- 208 The three marvels of the Óenach (assembly) relate to wondrous events that occurred at Teltown and concern a 'Headless man', a 'Mannkin' small enough to be held on a finger and fathered by a boy and 'ships in the air' witnessed by a multitude of people. These assemblies were also associated with amusement and games, chief amongst them chariot races.
- 209 By the 12th century the kingly status of the festival had diminished with the ascent of the Norman barons and the geopolitical transfer of power to Dublin. However it is testimony to the potency and significance of the festival that it endured as an annual fair until the nineteenth century.
- 210 Today the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity, as defined by the map prepared by the National Monuments Service of the DAHG, comprises two main areas. The area to the West can be credited to O'Donovan and focuses on Rath Dhú and its immediate environs including the now disappeared artificial lakes, The Knockauns, Cromwell's road, St. Catherine's church (since replaced) and Teltown house, church ruin and graveyard. The area to the east is centred on the village of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) its church and graveyard and Rath Airthir fort.
- 211 In terms of amenity only one of the numerous monuments is publicly accessible and that is the, still utilised, St. Patrick's Church and Parochial Hall. Elsewhere all the other field monuments are situated in privately owned land, un-serviced by either pedestrian tracks or rights of way. There is limited signposting at some sites but no provision for car parking or public access. At a local level there is no information centre or brochures available providing information on the history or the archaeology of the area, nor is it promoted on a regional level for visiting tourists. Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) is not serviced by local bus routes. Many of the views which would have existed

historically, both of and between the monuments within the area, are now obscured by development.

- 212 The monuments within the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity can be dated provisionally to the Iron Age, Early Christian and Medieval period. The elements that contribute to their significance are as follows.

- As a multi-period and ritual landscape the area is of national importance. This significance is enhanced by the overall group value of the monuments.
- The mythological, folkloric and literary associations of the area appeal to a growing public interest in Irish legends and sagas.

- 213 The significant sites in the area include the following:

4.3.1 Rath Dhú or the Black Fort – (SMR No. ME17-027)

- 214 Referred to as Rath Telton by O'Donovan in his letters (4.1.1) it consists of a flat topped mound and is the most prominent of the Teltown monuments and was possibly an inauguration site comparable to the circular mound at the Rathcroghan in County Roscommon. The site is described in the archaeological Inventory as a raised oval area defined by earthen bank W-NW and NNW-NE and by scarp elsewhere (dims. 95m NE-SW, 85m NW-SE) with fosse NW-ENE. Entrance possibly at E.
- 215 The flat topped mound has a steep sloping side measuring 3-4m in height with a base diameter of approximately 100m. A fosse is clearly visible on the western side of the monument in the hillshade (**Figure 31**).

Figure 30. Aerial image Rath Dhú

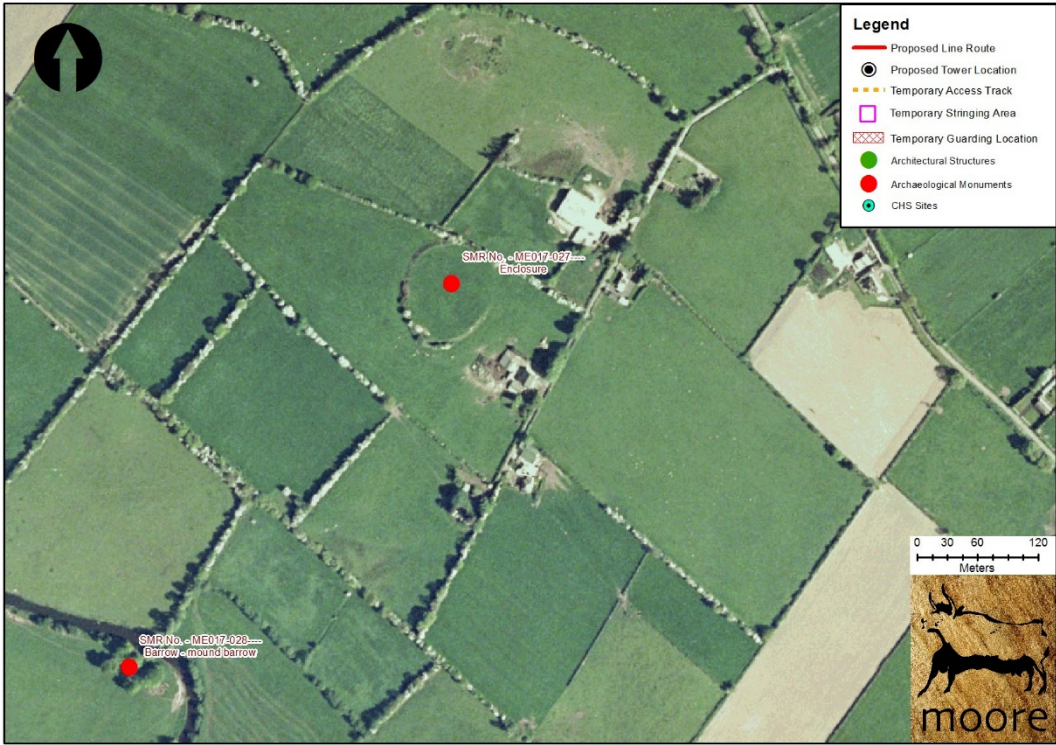
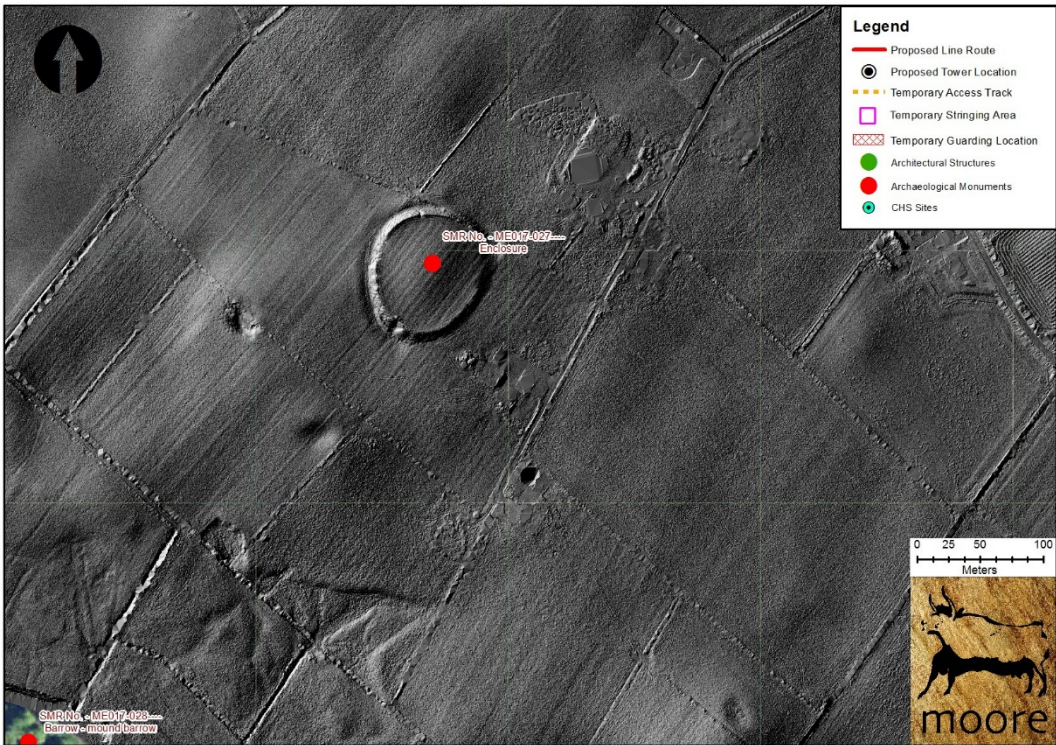


Figure 31. Hillshade of DSM of Rath Dhú (SMR NO. ME17-027).



4.3.2 Rath Airthir (The Eastern ort) - (SMR No. ME017-033)

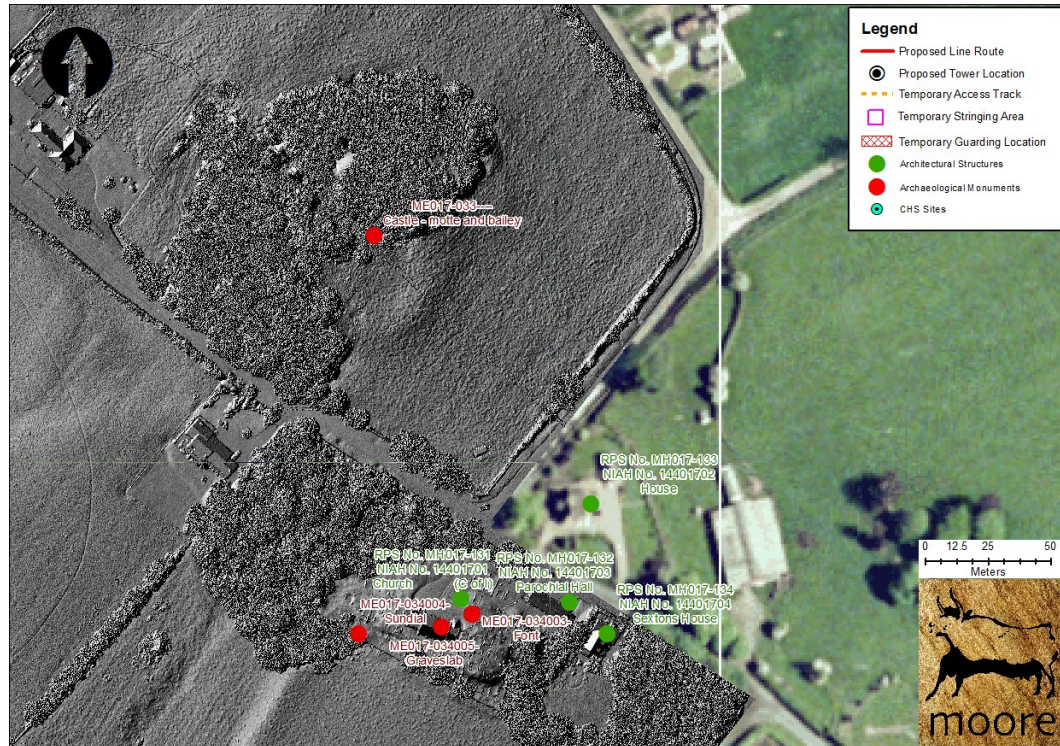
- 216 Rath Airthir is a very impressive monument identified as motte and bailey in the Archaeological Survey Database, but also consisting of a trivallate ringfort with an outer diameter of 120m and an inner platform of 65m. Set on the NE edge of this platform is the motte and bailey, a high mound, its top slightly flattened, with steeply sloping sides, measuring about 30m in diameter at its base. It rises to a height of approximately 8m and retains the surviving remnants of a surrounding bank and ditch. This site has been identified by Herity as the Tredua or triple rampart fort at Tailtú, as mentioned in the Metrical Dindshenchas: "The Tredua of Tailtiú, famed beyond all lands, where the Kings of Ireland used to fast that no disease might visit the land of Erin." In the archaeological inventory the site is classified as a Motte and Baily and is described as a flat-topped earthen mound (diam. of base 20m) defined by ditch with lunate bailey attached SE-NW (dims. 29m NW-SE, 20m NE-SW). Both surrounded by double bank and ditch SW-ENE, with defaced scarp ENE-SW.
- 217 It would seem the site was originally a trivallate ringfort that was later re-used for defensive purposes by the Normans.

Figure 32. Aerial Photography of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).



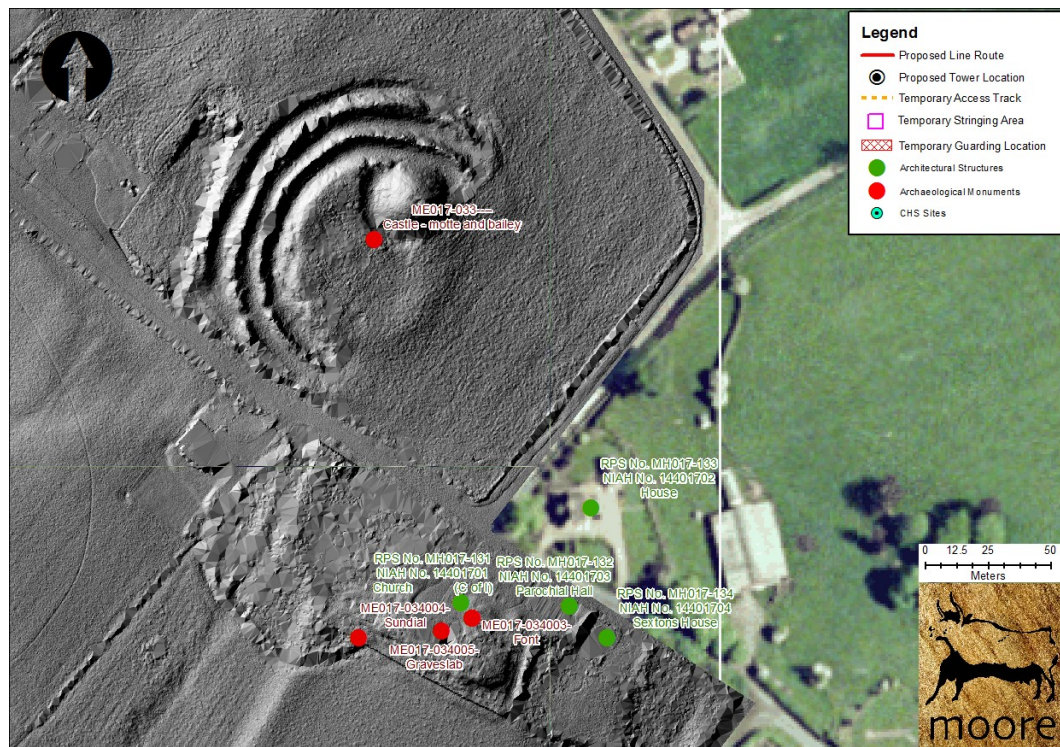
- 218 The hillshade images generated from the DSM clearly shows dense vegetation covering the site of Rath Airthir, to the point where the site is almost indistinguishable.

Figure 33. Hillshade of DSM of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).



- 219 The hillshade images generated from the DTM, with the vegetation stripped away, show Rath Airthir in all its splendour, with both the remains of the embankments and the impressive motte.

Figure 34. Hillshade of DTM of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick).



4.3.3 The Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049)

- 220 This site comprises two parallel earthen mounds with steeply sloping sides orientated just north of the bend in the river, east of Rath Dhú. O'Donovan (1836) referred to this site as both 'Cnocan a Chrainn' and 'Tulach na Coibche'. The former meaning 'the little hill of the tree' the latter translating as 'a contemporary bride' or 'a lady of easy virtue'. The hill of the tree could refer to this site as an inauguration mound which traditionally had a tree planted on top. While the reference to the bride could refer to the folklore of the 'Teltown marriage'.
- 221 O'Donovan in his Ordnance Survey letters, places the marriage site to the ESE of the Knockauns along the road known as 'Cromwell's Lane' near a well, now no longer extant, known then as Luganeany.
- 222 The Knockauns occupies an elevated position with extensive views to the south.

- 223 The Knockauns was partly destroyed by earth-moving machinery in May 1997. The northernmost bank was completely demolished, the intervening ditch was filled with re-deposited material and part of the southern bank was removed. Excavation (on behalf of the National Monuments Service) was undertaken there in August and September 1997 along with a geophysical survey (by the Applied Geophysics Unit, NUIG).
- 224 Two new dwelling houses now exist in the area between the Knockauns and Luganeany.

Figure 35. Aerial Photography of the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049)



Figure 36. Hillshade of DTM LiDAR at the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) with Luganeany site circled in green.

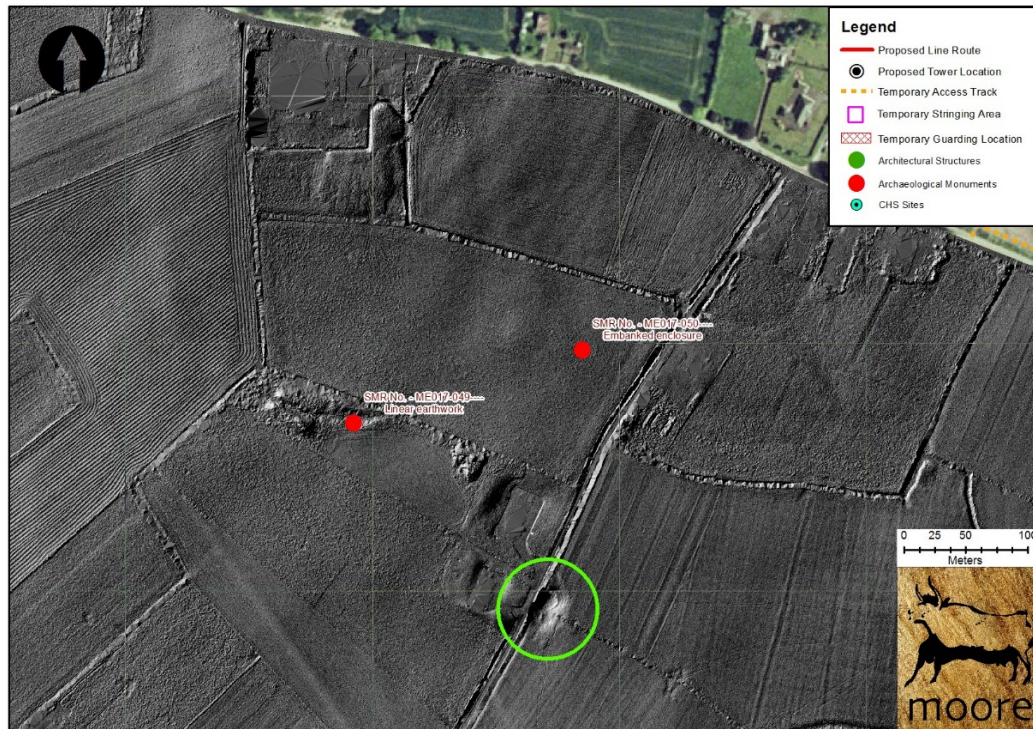


Figure 37. Hillshade of DSM LiDAR at the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) with nearby houses and Luganeany site circled in green.



4.3.4 St. Patrick's Graveyard, Standing Stone, Font, Sundial and Graveslab – (SMR No.s ME017-034001 - ME017-034005)

- 225 This site as the name suggests has strong connections with Patrician literature and is the location of a late 19th Century church and burial ground surrounded by an earlier enclosure. Legend has it that St. Patrick set out the boundaries of the church in 433 A.D. Initially a wood and clay structure was erected and subsequently a stone church which was plundered on numerous occasions from about 800 A.D. onwards. The Church was in ruins in 1682, apart from the medieval tower. It was rebuilt in 1805 and incorporated the tower. In 1835 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners gave a grant of £104.3.7d to repair the Church. The Rectory was built in 1812, by aid of a gift of £200 and a loan of £600 from the Board of First Fruits. Despite being only 81 years old, the Church was demolished in 1895, apart from the medieval tower, and a new Church was built, again in the same position. The new Church was designed by the architect, J.F. Fuller, and was erected by Thomas Gerrard and his sisters, Mrs Collins and Mrs Johnston, of Gibstown House. The Church is a small pleasing structure, with a three bay Nave, constructed of rock-faced limestone, an apsidal Chancel, a Vestry, and a lean-to gabled Porch, adjoining the South wall of the mediaeval tower.
- 226 The interior decoration is limited to the Chancel, which contains a tiled floor and tiled wall decoration. The Chancel arch is Caen stone and the ceiling of the entire Church is panelled. The original pews, Font, Reading-Desk and American Organ are still in situ. The large 'Eagle' brass Lectern, came from Ardbraccan Church, when that Church closed. The Altar, is decorated with a curious fretted front panel, not unlike that commonly found on a Victorian radiator cover. The small Vestry, off the Chancel, contains its original decorated fire place surround and a decorated table and matching chairs, complete the furnishing. There are no Memorial Tablets on the walls of the Church, an expressed wish of the Gerrard family. Some Tablets from Kilshine Church, now closed, have been erected in the inner porch.
- 227 The Tower is a bulky structure of coursed limestone rubble and was a residential tower. Like a traditional Tower House it contained a large room on each of its four storeys. Each room had a fire place and recessed cupboards and was linked to the next storey by a stone staircase in the North wall. The floors have long since been removed, but access to the top of the tower is still possible, as the ancient stone steps have survived.
- 228 The church is notable for its five magnificent stained glass windows. In the graveyard there is a medieval font, a sundial and many gravestones of all denominations, dating from the sixteenth century on. Within this enclosure are a number of standing stones

often associated with inauguration sites. In close proximity to the townland are the ruined remains of three other churches, one surrounded by a circular enclosure found to the west, St. Catherine's found to the north and Martry, a sister house of Kells, found to the south of the river.

- 229 Near the Church, is a handsome Parochial Hall, again retaining most of its Victorian interior intact. It was built in 1889, and was designed by R.S. Barnes C.E.

4.3.5 Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. – ME017-031 & 031001)

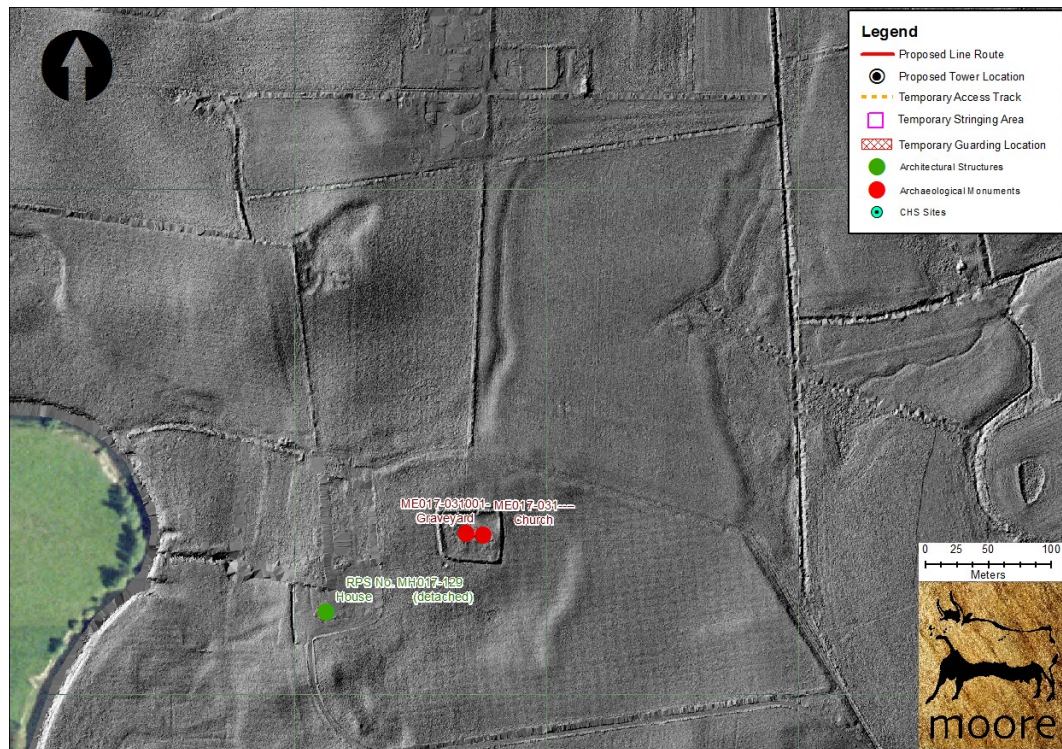
- 230 Teltown Church, or Cill Tailteann as it is referred to by Wilde and local signage in Tailtin (Teltown) today, is located in a large undulating field just to the east of Teltown House, now a B & B. The graveyard surrounding the ruins contains a number of upstanding gravestones and there is a roughly rectangular enclosing bank surrounding the site. The site is well maintained and in the recent past some degree of planting of shrubs has been undertaken along the enclosing bank and other plant species have been planted in amongst the ruins of the church. The remains of the road running east west to the north of the graveyard which was indicated in the first edition Ordnance Survey map is evident in the aerial photography.

Figure 38. Aerial photography showing Teltown Church (Cill Tailteann) (SMR No. ME017-031)



- 231 The hillshade shows the road in much greater detail, extending all the way to the rear of Teltown House, It appears that there may have been a road intersecting it from the north.

Figure 39. LiDAR DTM showing Teltown Church (Cill Tailteann) (SMR No. ME017-031)



5 EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

- 232 The proposed development passes from north to south through the area highlighted by the National Monuments Service of the DAHG as the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity (ZAA). The area is accorded this non-statutory status due to its rich tradition of folklore and history based chiefly on the Óenach, an annual assembly, that historical sources suggest was centred within the vicinity of Rath Dhú and the Knockauns.
- 233 In assessing the impacts, a review was carried out of all known archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites within the ZAA. Sources of Ordnance Survey historic mapping, several sources of aerial and satellite photography and hillshades generated from LiDAR surveys were used to review known sites and to try and identify

previously unidentified archaeological or architectural sites, structures, monuments or features of importance. Field survey work was undertaken from publicly accessible land and roadways within the region. In addition folk records, historical documents and Ordnance Survey letters were referenced to provide a context to these sites.

- 234 In line with EPA Guidance notes and the NRA Guidelines on EIA, the impact upon each cultural heritage site was assessed using the following criteria:

5.1 EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

- 235 In line with EPAs Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements (March 2002), the impact upon each archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage site within the MSA has been assessed using the following criteria:

5.1.1 Quality of impacts

- Positive Impact: A change that improves or enhances an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site, structure, monument or feature or its setting.
- Neutral Impact: A change that does not affect an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site, structure, monument or feature or its setting.
- Negative Impact: A change that will remove or negatively alter, whether in its entirety or not, an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site, structure, monument or feature, or detract from an observer's enjoyment or appreciation of its setting.

5.1.2 Significance of Impacts

- Imperceptible Impact: An impact capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.
- Slight Impact: An impact, which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.
- Moderate Impact: An impact that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging trends.
- Significant Impact: An impact, which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.
- Profound Impact: An impact, which obliterates sensitive characteristics.

5.1.3 Duration of Impacts

- Short-term Impact: Impact lasting one to seven years.
- Medium-term Impact: Impact lasting seven to fifteen years.
- Long-term Impact: Impact lasting fifteen to sixty years.
- Permanent Impact: Impact lasting over sixty years.
- Temporary Impact: Impact lasting for one year or less.

5.1.4 Types of Impacts

- Cumulative Impact: The addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant, impact.
- 'Do Nothing Impact': The environment as it would be in the future should no development of any kind be carried out.
- Indeterminable Impact: When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described.
- Irreversible Impact: When the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.
- Residual Impact: The degree of environmental change that will occur after the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.
- 'Worst Case' Impact: The impacts arising from a development in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.

5.2 CONSTRUCTION PHASE IMPACTS

236 Potential construction impacts may be direct, physical impacts on known and previously unrecorded archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments or features. Care has been taken during the design stage to avoid such impacts, however, where there remains a potential for such impacts mitigation measure are recommended. Construction phase impacts may occur:

- Where an archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage site, structure, monument or feature is located within an area where works takes place and the works either intentionally or unintentionally entail the alteration or removal of all or part of the site, structure, monument or feature a direct, physical impact will occur;
- Where archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments or features are intentionally or unintentionally removed or altered

when transporting and / or facilitating access for machinery, equipment and / or materials to or from site for tower construction and / or stringing of OHLs, a direct physical impact will occur;

- Where archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments or features are intentionally or unintentionally removed or altered when facilitating access for and / or during the construction of guarding over roads within the ZAA; and
- There is also the potential for direct, physical impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological and architectural sites, structures, monuments or features

237 If these impacts cannot be remediated, for example if archaeological deposits are destroyed during excavations, then the impacts will be permanent.

5.2.1 Direct Physical Impacts

238 There were no previously unrecorded archaeological monuments noted in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development as it passes through the ZAA. Two potential sites were identified within 120m and 280m of the proposed development (a possible enclosure and the possible location of the artificial lakes respectively). The nearest known archaeological monuments is a rath (SMR No. ME017-32) located on the southern bank of the Blackwater River approximately 330m to the south east of Tower 309, and an embanked enclosure (SMR No. ME017-50) located approximately 390m to the west of Tower 303. This site was originally identified by aerial photography as a crop mark and has no above ground expression.

239 No known archaeological or architectural sites, structures, monuments or features will be directly physically impacted on by the proposed development

240 Despite the lack of evidence of archaeology in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development, the Teltown ZAA is still of high archaeological potential given the historical evidence that gatherings have been held in the region for hundreds of years. Previously unrecorded archaeological deposits could be encountered during excavations associated with the construction phase. There is also the potential that vehicles accessing construction areas and guarding areas could impact on previously unrecorded archaeological deposits.

5.2.2 Indirect Impacts

- 241 There are no predicted indirect impacts on archaeological or architectural sites, structures, monuments or features during the construction phase of the proposed development.

5.3 OPERATIONAL PHASE IMACTS

5.3.1 Impacts on Setting

- 242 The greatest threat to the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the region from this type of development consists of impacts on setting throughout the operational phase. It is noted that there are no plans to decommission the proposed development and the impacts noted below will therefore be permanent.
- 243 This section assess the potential impacts on the settings of cultural heritage sites and upon the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenities, including effects on the inter-relationships between features, effects on the relationship of a feature to the wider landscape and effects on significant views from and to the features. The proposed development crosses a ridge as it passes into the ZAA from the north and there are a total of eight towers proposed within the ZAA itself (Towers 303 to 310). Three of the tower proposed to be located within the ZAA will be angle towers; Towers 303, 307 and 309.
- 244 Five areas of particular importance were noted within the ZAA, Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027), Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village, the Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049), Rath Airthir (SMR No. ME017-033) and Teltown Church and graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001).

5.3.1.1 Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027)

- 245 Distance from line - 1.4km
- 246 See Photomontage 53

Plate 1. View of Rath Dhú from the east

247 John O'Donovan, in his notes that accompanied the first edition survey by Ordnance Survey Ireland, highlighted Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME017-027) as being located at the centre of the Teltown Festival. The impressively banked enclosure discussed by both O'Donovan and William Wilde, in his book *The Boyne and the Blackwater* (1849), was located in an elevated position in the centre of a huge field with extensive views to the south all the way to Tara and the Hill of Ward. Now the field has been divided into a dozen fields, with a laneway located to the east of Rath Dhú, between the monument and the proposed development. Also adjacent to the monument, between it and the proposed development are several houses and agricultural buildings. Intervisibility between Rath Dhú and the Knockauns, approximately 720m to the west, is impacted on by several houses that lie between the two monuments. Similarly views towards Rath Airthir are restricted by houses, agricultural buildings and trees along the road adjacent to the Rath Dhú. Given the historical associations of the site, its sensitivity to impacts on setting was found to be high, despite the changes that have taken place in its vicinity. The proposed development is located approximately 1.4km to the east of the monument, where it runs from north to south through the Teltown ZAA. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of Rath Dhú was considered to be minor and the overall significance of the impact on the setting of the monument deemed to be slight negative.

5.3.1.2 Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick)

248 Distance from line -650m

Plate 2. View of St. Patrick's Church

- 249 See Photomontages 56 and 57 Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) is a picturesque village located at the eastern extent of the ZAA. There are a number of protected structures and archaeological monuments associated with the town including Rath Airthir Motte and Bailey (SMR No. ME017-033----), St. Patrick's Church, Graveyard and associated features (SMR No. ME017-034001-034005, RPS No. MH017-131), a parochial hall (RPS No. MH017-132) a stewards house (RPS No. MH017-133) and sextons house (RPS No. MH017-134). Nearby, just to the south, is Donaghpatrick Bridge (RPS No. MH017-130). The village itself is encapsulated with dense stands of vegetation to the west of St. Patrick's Church and Rath Airthir that screen the town from the proposed development which would be located approximately 500m to the west of Rath Airthir. There are picturesque views from St. Patrick's Church to Donaghpatrick Bridge and vice versa. From within the town itself the only view of the proposed development will be that of a wirescape that crosses the road to the west, but dense woodland on either side of the road will constrain this to a very limited view. The tops of two towers will be visible southern boundary of the graveyard at a distance of approximately 875m from tower 310 and 1.45m from tower 313 (see photomontage 41). On approaches to the village from the west, where the development is to be located, the vegetation screens views towards these designated sites as well. The sensitivity of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) to impacts on setting was found to be high to very high but the magnitude of the impacts of the proposed development upon that setting was found to be minor and the overall significance of the impact slight negative.

5.3.1.3 The Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049) and Luganeany

250 Distance from line -570m

251 The site known as the Knockauns, is classified as a linear earthwork (SMR No. ME017-049) and consists of two parallel earthen mounds approximately 3m apart. These mounds extended roughly EW for upwards of 65m. The monument was partly destroyed by machinery in 1997, when the northern bank was completely demolished, the ditch was filled with re deposited material and part of the southern bank was removed. Subsequently the site was the subject of two excavations by the National Monuments Service. The Knockauns was thought to have been the site of the Teltown Marriages; however John O'Donovan, in his Ordnance Survey Letters, attributes this marriage ritual to an alternate site known as Luganeany, a hollow approximately 200m the south east of the Knockauns. The site has an elevated aspect with extensive views of the surrounding area to the south. In recent times two new dwelling houses have been constructed approximately 120m to the east of the Knockauns, between it and the proposed development. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate to high and the magnitude of the impact of the proposed development modest. The overall significance of the proposed development on the setting of the site was deemed to be slight negative.

5.3.1.4 Rath Airthir (SMR No. ME017-033)

252 Distance from line 430m

Plate 3. View of Rath Airthir from within Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) village

253 O' Donovan in his letters mentions that he had 'made every search and enquiry for this



Rath-Airthir, and have at length come to the conclusion that it is no other place than the present Orestown!' The above quote may explain the absence of Rath Airthir from the first edition map. The site is mentioned in ancient

references to Tailtu, and as Maire O'Neill (1962, p313) asserts its name translates as

'the eastern fort' which accurately describes its position relative to Teltown. The second edition Ordnance Survey 25" map features Rath Airthir not in Baile Oraí (Oristown) but in Bhaile Ghib (Gibstown), to the north of Donaghpatrick cemetery.

- 254 The site is classified as a motte and bailey and is described in the archaeological survey as a flat-topped earthen mound (diam. of base 20m) defined by ditch with lunate bailey attached SE-NW (dims. 29m NW-SE, 20m NE-SW). Both surrounded by double bank and ditch SW-ENE, with defaced scarp ENE-SW. open ground between the monument and nearby roads, in the centre of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick)

Plate 4. View towards Rath Aithir from the south west



village, facilitate views of the site. An existing OHL can also be seen passing directly over the monument. Dense vegetation covering the western half of the site screens views to the west and when approaching Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) from the north and west the monument appears as

woodland. This dense vegetation prevents any indivisibility between Rath Airthir and any of the monuments to the west. There is indivisibility between it and other sites within Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) itself but these view are not impacted upon by the proposed development. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate to high and the magnitude of the impact of the proposed development minor. The overall significance of the proposed development on the setting of the site was deemed to be slight negative.

5.3.1.5 Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-031 & 031001)

- 255 Distance 690m
- 256 See photomontage 59
- 257 Teltown Church consists of the ruins of a small church surrounded by a number of gravestones and a low, rectangular enclosing bank. Located as it is, in in a large field, there are unobstructed views from the church across the surrounding landscape.

Although indicated on one of O'Donovan's maps he has little to say on the site, only acknowledging its existence. Wilde expands little upon this, only telling us that it was plundered twice in the 12th Century.

- 258 To the west, Teltown House (RPS No. MH017-129) with its extensive cut stone outbuildings compliments the historic setting of the church and views to the house and the lands to the south and south east are unobstructed. To the north there are a number of more modern houses located along the Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) Baile Oraí (Oristown) road and a cul-de-sac that extends off it to the south. The only reason that locations of Rath Airthir and St. Patricks Church are evident is due to the amount of vegetation surrounding them, screen them from any indivisibility. There was no indivisibility noted between the church and any of the other archaeological sites in the area. Approximately 75m to the north of the monument, extending from east to west is an existing 110 kV OHL. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be substantial.
- 259 Although located at almost 700m from Teltown Church a number of the Towers associated with the proposed development will be visible as it passes to the east. This is all the more evident as there is little in the way of screening or other development between the proposed development and the church. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development was found to be substantial and cumulative to the existing 110kV OHL to the north. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of Teltown Church was found to be moderate negative.

5.3.1.6 Roads throughout the ZAA

- 260 URS Ltd. undertook photomontages from locations within and around the Teltown ZAA to assist in the evaluation of impacts. Cognisant that there was no public access to many of the monuments in the ZAA, the locations from which the photomontages were taken were agreed previously with the DAHG and are representative of the impacts from various sensitive cultural heritage sites. Photomontages have also been taken which are representative of the highest magnitude of impact as someone traverses the region via the local roadways. Many of the views are transient and only available for short distances whilst traversing the region. It is noted that many of the views will change with the seasons depending on vegetation and hedge trimming. The photomontages along with a map indicating locations from which photomontages are taken included in Appendices 2 and 3.

Photomontage 51 – Gibstown Gate (RPS No. MH017-138)

Plate 5. Gibstown Gate Feature

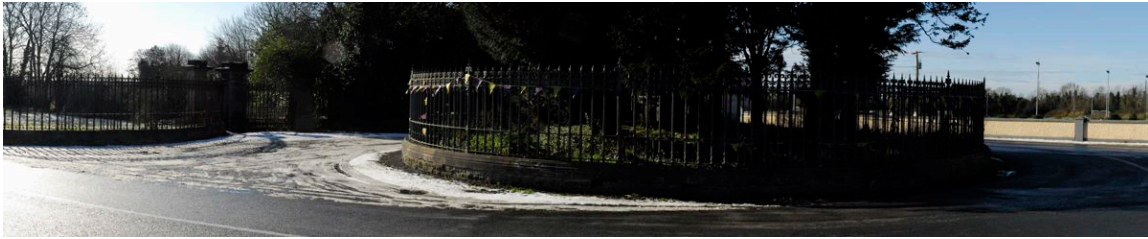


Plate 6. New house being constructed to the south of Gibstown Gate



261 This view is taken from the decorative gate of the former Gibstown Demesne looking to the west. Both the circular feature and entrance gate are listed in the record of protected structures for County Meath. Gibstown House has long been demolished, however a number of outbuildings survive which are located approximately

1km to the east, south east of the gates, away from the proposed development. The road linking the gate to the house has been reclaimed by fields leaving the gate as an independent feature within the landscape. The graveyard and GAA pitch with associated lighting detract from the structure's setting. More recently a house has been constructed directly to the south of the gate and several of the associated iron railings have been removed, at this stage it is not known when they will be reinstated. Three towers will be partially visible with the wirescape almost fully visible with some screening provided by existing trees. The proposed OHL is seen in the context of existing poles and wires. The significance of the impact of the OHL on the setting of the Gibstown Gate was assessed to be slight negative, in the context of the cumulative impacts of developments in the area.

Photomontage 52 – R163 west of Crasulthan Crossroads

262 This view looks southwest from a location on the R163 west of the cemetery at Crasulthan Cross roads. There are no designated cultural heritage sites in the vicinity. The roadside hedges in view have been recently cut back but after summer growth they are much higher providing a more substantial screen. There are already existing poles and wirescape within view. The two towers seen from this viewpoint will have a visual

impact, but the remainder of the OHL will be screened by roadside hedges and the local topography as seen in the photomontage. Although there is an impact from the pylons upon this particular viewpoint, generally travelling along the R163 (the northern boundary of the Teltown ZAA) the views towards the Teltown area are restricted due to the height of the hedgerows on the southern side of the road.

Photomontage 58 – Baile Oraí (Oristown) / Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) Road

- 263 This view south west is available for approximately 30m of this stretch of road. The signpost points towards Cill Tailteann. There is a tower directly behind the signposts, partly screened by trees. The summer growth of the trees would screen this tower fully from this viewpoint. A further four towers and associated wirescape are partly visible in the distance. The significance of the impact of the proposed development at this location was found to be moderate.

Photomontage 56 – Donaghpatrick Bridge (RPS No. MH017-130)

264 This view north west is taken from the north side of Donaghpatrick Bridge. The walls on either side of the bridge are high and prevent views from eye level in a car. The wall reduces in height for a short stretch but the visibility of this view would greatly depend on speed of travel. A pedestrian walking along the bridge would have this view for the length of the bridge,. The view up river (west) is not the first to be appreciated from this

Plate 7. View of car crossing Donaghpatrick Bridge



location, as the eye is first drawn to St. Patrick's Church, located on high ground just to the west of the bridge. Two of the towers are partially visible along with some of the wirescape. The vast majority of the proposed OHL is screened by vegetation and

topography. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate and the magnitude of the impact was considered to be modest to slight. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on Donaghpatrick Bridge was found to be slight negative.

Photomontage 55 – N3 Road

265 This view looks north east from the Top Service Station on the N3. The N3 is a very busy road and any views to the wider landscape would normally be experienced at speed. Four of the proposed towers are visible in this view, with the closest in the centre of the viewpoint. The wires would cross the road close to this viewpoint. Summer growth on the roadside hedge in view would greatly reduce the visibility of the towers and wirescape. This view would be available for approximately 300m along this road, the OHL would also be visible to the right of the road. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the Teltown ZAA at this location was found to be moderate negative.

5.3.1.7 Summary of Impacts on Setting

Table 3. Summary of Predicted Impacts on Setting

Reference	Site Name	Sensitivity to Impacts on Setting	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Impact
MSA-CHS068	St Catherines Church	None		None
RMP - ME017-050	Embanked enclosure	Low / Moderate	Modest / Substantial	Slight
RMP - ME017-049	Knockauns	Moderate / High	Modest	Slight
RMP - ME017-027	Rath Dhú	High	Minor	Slight
RPS - MH017-138	Gibstown Gate Feature	Moderate	Modest	Slight
MSA-CHS070	Possible Enclosure	Low / Moderate	Substantial	Slight
MSA-CHS071	Copse of Trees	Low	Substantial	Slight
RMP - ME017-03001	Teltown Graveyard	High	Substantial	Slight
RMP - ME017-031	Teltown Church	High	Substantial	Moderate
RPS - MH017-129	Teltown House	Moderate / High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-033	Rath Aithir	Moderate / High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-032	Enclosure	Moderate	Modest	Slight
RPS - MH017-133	Donaghparick Parochial House	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
NIAH - 14401702				
RMP - ME017-034001	Donaghpatrick Graveyard	Very High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-034003	Donaghpatrick Font	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
RMP - ME017-034004	Donaghpatrick sundial	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
RMP - ME017-034005	Donaghpatrick Graveslab	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
RMP - ME017-034002	Standing Stone	High	Minor	Slight
RPS - MH017-131	Saint Patrick's Church	Very High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401701				
RPS - MH017-132	Parochial Hall	High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401703				
MSA-CHS073	Possible Man-made Lough	Moderate	Modest	Slight
RPS - MH017-134	Sextons House	High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401704				
MSA-CHS075	Mill	None		None
MSA-CHS076	Mill	None		None
RPS - MH017-130	Donaghpatrick Bridge	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
MSA-CHS077	Weir	None		None
RPS - MH017-128	Martry House	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
MSA-CHS078	Ford	None		None
RPS - MH017-127	Martry Mill	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
NIAH - 14401714				

6 MITIGATION

6.1 DIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS

266 In accordance with the relevant legislation and DAHG policy, the main mitigation involves preservation in-situ, by avoiding any direct impacts on known sites. To better inform the siting of the proposed towers a specially commissioned LIDAR Survey was undertaken of the entire Teltown ZAA. This survey did not note any additional sites of archaeological significance.

6.1.1 Mitigation Strategies during Construction

267 The following mitigation strategies have been formulated for the Teltown ZAA:

- Test pits for other environmental and engineering disciplines will be subject to archaeological monitoring by a suitably qualified archaeologist;
- Archaeological testing – best practice in areas of high archaeological potential demands caution, to ensure that archaeological deposits are identified as early as possible, thereby ensuring that any loss from the archaeological record is minimised. During archaeological testing a licence eligible archaeologist supervises excavations undertaken with a toothless grading bucket, under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DAHG, thereby ensuring the early identification of archaeological deposits and minimal loss to the archaeological record. Undertaking this work preconstruction will ensure that sufficient time can be allowed within the construction schedule for the excavation of any archaeological deposits discovered. All tower and guarding locations within the Teltown ZAA will be subject to a regime of pre-construction archaeological testing under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DAHG. The National Monuments Service of the DAHG and the National Museum of Ireland will be consulted immediately should archaeology be discovered and allowance will be made for full archaeological resolution;
- During the construction phase a suitably qualified archaeologist will monitor site access and construction works. Ensure that where appropriate low ground pressure vehicles or panel tracks are used to minimise ground disturbance. Stone roads will not be constructed within the Teltown ZAA. The Derrick Pole Methodology (see chapter 7.4.3.1.2 of the EIS) will be used for tower construction; mobile cranes will not be used; and

- A suitably qualified archaeologist will monitor access and construction of any guarding areas required within the ZAA.

268 In line with the Code of Practice between the National Monuments Service and ESB Networks (2009) the above archaeological work will be overseen by a project archaeologist. The role and responsibilities of the project archaeologist are outlined in the Code of Practice.

6.1.2 Mitigation Strategies during Operational and Dismantling Work

269 Maintenance and upgrading of the transmission bases and their eventual dismantling could have direct or indirect impacts on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource. These effects will be mitigated by liaison with the National Monuments Service of the DAHG.

6.2 IMPACTS ON SETTING

270 Mitigating the impacts of the proposed development on the setting of archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage sites, structures, monuments or features has been achieved through sensitive line routing. It is not possible to further mitigate these impacts for the proposed development. It is noted that there are no significant impacts on designated archaeological or architectural sites within the Teltown ZAA.

7 RESIDUAL IMPACTS

- 271 There will be no direct, physical impacts on previously recorded archaeological or architectural sites within the Teltown ZAA. It has been noted that this is a region of high archaeological potential and therefore mitigation strategies will be implemented to ensure that ground disturbance is minimised. Tower and guarding locations will be archaeological tested to ensure that any archaeological deposits are identified with a minimum of ground disturbance and that losses to the archaeological record are minimised. Any archaeological deposits will be excavated in line with professional best practice in full consultation with the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland.
- 272 It was found that throughout the operation phase of the proposed development that it will have an impact on the setting of a number of archaeological monuments within the ZAA, these impacts are summarised in **Table 4**. There are also a number of locations along roadways through and surrounding the Teltown ZAA that will experience visual impacts. It was found that the proposed development will have a moderate impact on the setting of the Teltown ZAA as a whole.

Table 4. Summary of Residual Construction Phase Impacts on the Setting of Archaeological and Architectural Heritage Sites

Reference	Site Name	Sensitivity to Impacts on Setting	Magnitude of Impact	Significance of Impact
MSA-CHS068	St Catherines Church	None		None
RMP - ME017-050	Embanked enclosure	Low / Moderate	Modest / Substantial	Slight
RMP - ME017-049	Knockauns	Moderate / High	Modest	Slight
RMP - ME017-027	Rath Dhú	High	Minor	Slight
RPS - MH017-138	Gibstown Gate Feature	Moderate	Modest	Slight
MSA-CHS070	Possible Enclosure	Low / Moderate	Substantial	Slight
MSA-CHS071	Copse of Trees	Low	Substantial	Slight
RMP - ME017-031	Teltown Church	High	Substantial	Moderate
RMP - ME017-031001	Teltown Graveyard	High	Substantial	Moderate
RPS - MH017-129	Teltown House	Moderate / High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-033	Rath Aithir	Moderate / High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-032	Enclosure	Moderate	Modest	Slight
RPS - MH017-133	Donaghparick Parochial House	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
NIAH - 14401702				
RMP - ME017-034001	Donaghpatrick Graveyard	Very High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-034003	Donaghpatrick Font	Very High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-034004	Donaghpatrick Sundial	Very High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-034005	Donaghpatrick Graveslab	Very High	Minor	Slight
RMP - ME017-034002	Standing Stone	High	Minor	Slight
RPS - MH017-131	Saint Patrick's Church	Very High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401701				
RPS - MH017-132	Parochial Hall	High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401703				
MSA-CHS073	Possible Man-made Lough	Moderate	Modest	Slight
RPS - MH017-134	Sextons House	High	Minor	Slight
NIAH - 14401704				
MSA-CHS075	Mill	None		None
MSA-CHS076	Mill	None		None
RPS - MH017-130	Donaghpatrick Bridge	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
MSA-CHS077	Weir	None		None
RPS - MH017-128	Martry House	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
MSA-CHS078	Ford	None		None
RPS - MH017-127	Martry Mill	Moderate	Minor	Slight / Imperceptible
NIAH - 14401714				

8 CONCLUSIONS

- 273 The Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity encompasses an area second only to Tara in terms of legends and folklore. Figures from ancient tales stride the landscape including Pagan Kings, kindly Queens, mighty warriors and of course St. Patrick himself shining the light of Christianity and banishing the older Celtic deities to the darkness.
- 274 In the days when William Wilde and John O'Donovan travelled here, in the early to mid-Nineteenth Century, the great sites of Tailtean still stood as proud reminders of the areas central role in the rites and rituals of a time long past. Rath Dhú's earthen banks were drawn up to a height of almost 7 metres, in the centre of a single field of nearly 100 acres offering commanding views over the surrounding landscape. Enigmatic depressions to the north of the Fort still survive. These, according to local mythology were built by the Firbolg and hosted 'aquatic fights' as part of the annual games. East of this is the Knockauns, O'Donovan refers to this feature as the "remains of a mound, now a rabbit warren", Wilde however is much more enthused, "parts of the trench and embankments of two other forts, which, judging from the portions still remaining, must have been of immense size, greater even than any of those now existing at Tara." To the south along Cromwell's Road is Luganeany, site of the Teltown marriages, then discernible as a spring and depression and further south again is Doolough where St. Patrick 'confined the shade' of King Laoghaire.
- 275 Much has changed since the time of O'Donovan and Wilde; at the time of the first edition Ordnance Survey in 1836 the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity contained approximately 47 buildings, now there are over 200. The 100 acre expanse was subdivided into 15 fields by the beginning of the Twentieth Century with a road extending into the area from the north along which six houses had been constructed, many with accompanying outbuildings. Several of these outbuildings have since been extended into extensive agricultural sheds. The earthen bank of Rath Dhú is now three to four metres high and one of the artificial lakes is slowly being encroached upon by a farmyard development. The Knockauns was partially destroyed by earth moving machinery in 1997 and in more recent years two roadside dwelling houses have been built to its immediate east opposite the wedding site of Luganeany. The cumulative effect of all these incremental developments throughout the ZAA has altered the original landscape and reduced, denuded or destroyed some of the monuments.
- 276 The impact of the proposed development will not directly physically impact on known archaeological sites or monuments. The impact of the development on the setting of these sites has to be regarded in the context of an occupied landscape with attendant

development, infrastructure and existing transmission lines. The significance of the impact on the Teltown ZAA was appraised as moderate.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 277 Bennet, I. (Ed.), 1992. Excavations 1991'Newtown'. Dublin
- 278 Bennet, I. (Ed.), 2000. Excavations 1998. Dublin.
- 279 Bennet, I. (Ed.), 2000. Excavation 1999. Dublin.
- 280 Condit, T & Cooney G. (ed). 1998. Heritage Guide No. 3. Teltown: An Ancient Assembly site in County Meath. Wordwell. Dublin.
- 281 Joyce, P.W., 1913. Irish Names of Places. Vol. III. Dublin.
- 282 Killannin, Lord & Duignan, M., 1962. The Shell Guide to Ireland Edbury Press, London.
- 283 MacNeill M, reprinted 2008 . The Festival of Lughnasa. University College Dublin.
- 284 Moore, M. 1989. Archaeological Inventory of County Meath. Government Publications office. Dublin.
- 285 Nolan, W. & Simms, A., (Eds.), 1998. Irish Towns, A Guide to Sources. Dublin.
- 286 O'Donovan, J. Letters containing information of the Antiquities of the County of Meath collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1836 (Dublin 1836).
- 287 O'Sullivan, A. 1998. The Archaeology of Lake Settlement in Ireland. Royal Irish Academy. Dublin
- 288 Waddell J. 2000. Prehistoric Archaeology of Ireland. Wordwell.
- 289 Wilde, W. 2003. Beauties of the Boyne and Blackwater. Headford: Kevin Duffy (reprint of original edition).

10 OTHER SOURCES REFERENCED

- 290 Dept. of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, 1999. *Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*, Government publications, Dublin.
- 291 Dept. of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, 1999. *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation*. Govn. Publications, Dublin.
- 292 The Heritage Council, 2000. *Archaeology & Development: Guidelines for Good Practice for Developers*. The Heritage Council of Ireland Series, Kilkenny.
- 293 The Planning and Heritage Section of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. *Sites and Monuments Record, County Meath*.
- 294 EPA, 1995. Advice notes on current practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements. Dublin.
- 295 National Monuments Acts 1930-20012.
- 296 National Museum of Ireland. Topographical files, County Meath.

APPENDIX 1: CULTURAL HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE POLICIES FROM THE MEATH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2013-2019

- 297 Archaeological Heritage Policies and Objectives
- 298 CH POL 6 To promote awareness of, and access to, the archaeological inheritance of County Meath.
- 299 CH POL 7 To ensure that development in the immediate vicinity of a recorded monument is sensitively sited and designed so that it does not significantly detract from the monument. Where upstanding remains exist, a visual impact assessment may be required.
- 300 CH POL 8 To retain surviving medieval plots and street patterns in the villages and towns of Meath, where practicable, and in the course of development to record evidence of ancient boundaries, layouts, etc.
- 301 CH POL 9 To inform and seek guidance from the National Museum of Ireland if an unrecorded archaeological object is discovered, or the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in the case of the discovery of an unrecorded archaeological site, in accordance with National Monuments Legislation.
- 302 CH OBJ 7 To protect archaeological sites and monuments, underwater archaeology, and archaeological objects, which are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, and to seek their preservation in situ (or at a minimum, preservation by record) through the planning process.
- 303 CH OBJ 8 To seek to protect important archaeological landscapes from inappropriate development.
- 304 CH OBJ 9 To make the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) available to the public in the Planning Office and maintain a link on the Meath website to the on-line edition at www.archaeology.ie.

- 305 CH OBJ 10 To establish in-house training programmes for Council staff carrying out repair and maintenance works to historic structures, subject to the availability of resources.
- 306 CH OBJ 11 To encourage and promote the appropriate management and maintenance of the County's archaeological heritage, including historical burial grounds, in accordance with conservation principles and best practice guidelines.
- 307 CH OBJ 12 To consider the establishment of a National Monuments Advisory Committee for Meath, subject to resources.

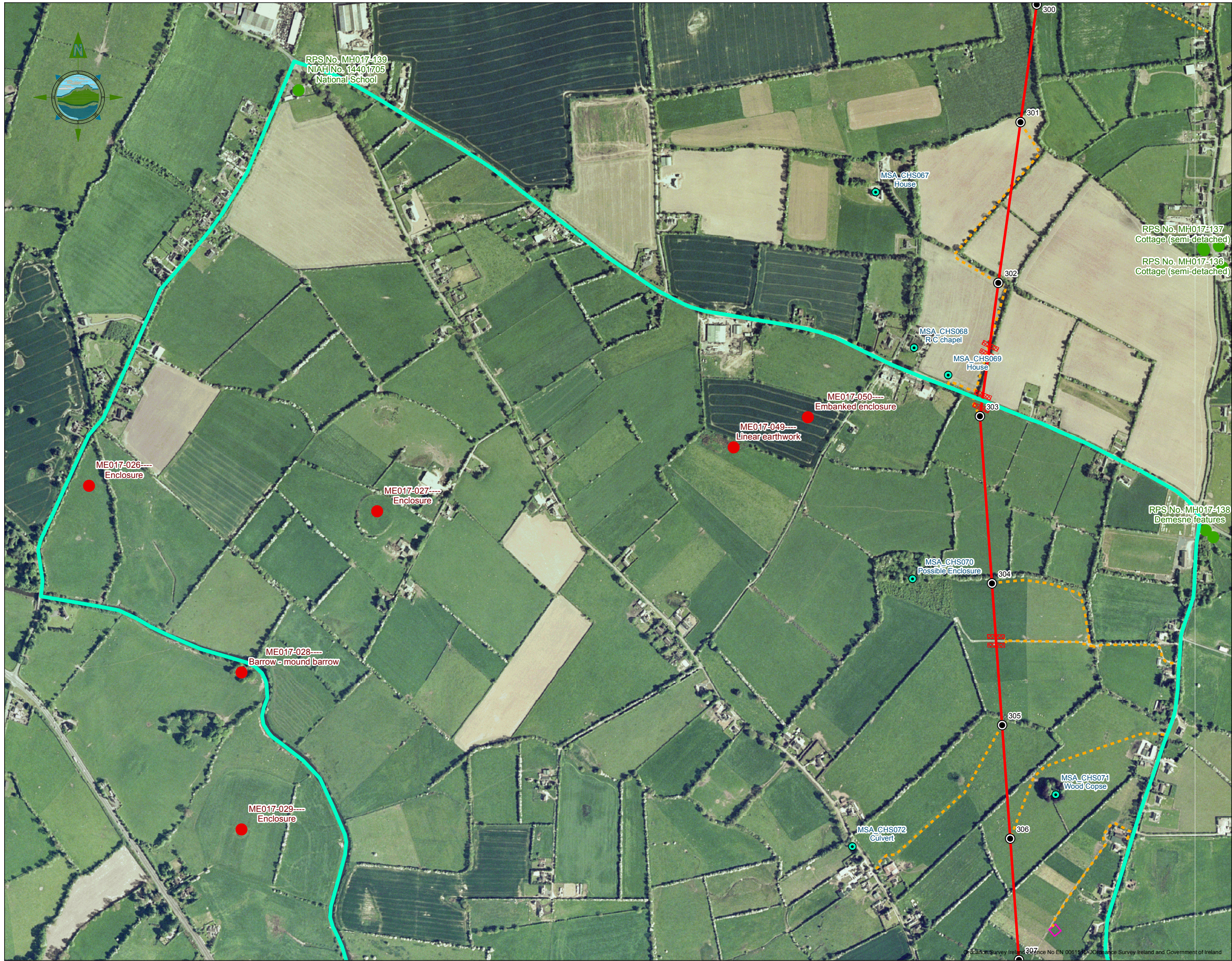
Architectural Heritage Policies and Objectives

- 308 CH POL 10 To conserve and protect the architectural heritage of Meath.
- 309 CH POL 11 To require that all planning applications relating to Protected Structures contain the appropriate accompanying documentation in accordance with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011) or any variation thereof, to enable the proper assessment of the proposed works.
- 310 CH POL 12 To encourage the retention, sympathetic reuse and rehabilitation of Protected Structures. In certain cases, land use zoning restrictions may be relaxed in order to secure the conservation of the protected structure.
- 311 CH POL 13 To encourage the retention of original windows, doors, renders, roof coverings and other significant features of historic buildings.
- 312 CH POL 14 To continue to develop the Council's advisory/educational role with regard to heritage matters and to promote awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the architectural heritage of Meath.
- 313 CH POL 15 To encourage, where appropriate, the adaptive re-use of existing buildings and sites in a manner compatible with their character and significance.
- 314 CH OBJ 13 To protect all structures (or, where appropriate, parts of structures) within the county which are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest and which are included in the Record of Protected Structures.

- 315 CH OBJ 14 To review and update the Record of Protected Structures when new information becomes available and to make additions and deletions as appropriate.
- 316 CH OBJ 15 To identify and retain good examples of historic street furniture e.g. cast-iron post boxes, water pumps, signage, street lighting and kerbing.
- 317 CH OBJ 16 To make available and distribute detailed guidance notes and provide advice on architectural heritage to the public, developers, public bodies, groups and associations.

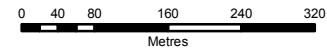
APPENDIX 2: FIGURES

- Figure 1 Teltown ZAA**
- Figure 2 Aerial Photography circa 2010 Sheet 1 of 2**
- Figure 3 Aerial Photography circa 2010 Sheet 2 of 2**
- Figure 4 Hillshade of LiDAR DSM Sheet 1 of 2**
- Figure 5 Hillshade of LiDAR DSM Sheet 2 of 2**
- Figure 6 Hillshade of LiDAR DTM Sheet 1 of 2**
- Figure 7 Hillshade of LiDAR DTM Sheet 2 of 2**
- Figure 8 Detailed View of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) LiDAR DSM**
- Figure 9 Detailed View of Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) LiDAR DTM**
- Figure 10 First Edition OSI Map Sheet 1 of 2**
- Figure 11 First Edition OSI Map Sheet 2 of 2**
- Figure 12 Photomontage Locations**



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites



C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd.

Client:



Project:

NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title:

MSA
Teltown Appraisal Report
Aerial Photography circa 2010
Sheet 1 of 2

Scale @ A3: 1:8,250

Prepared by:	Checked:	Date:
N. Malcolm	O. McAlister	March 2015
Project Director: Damien Grehan		

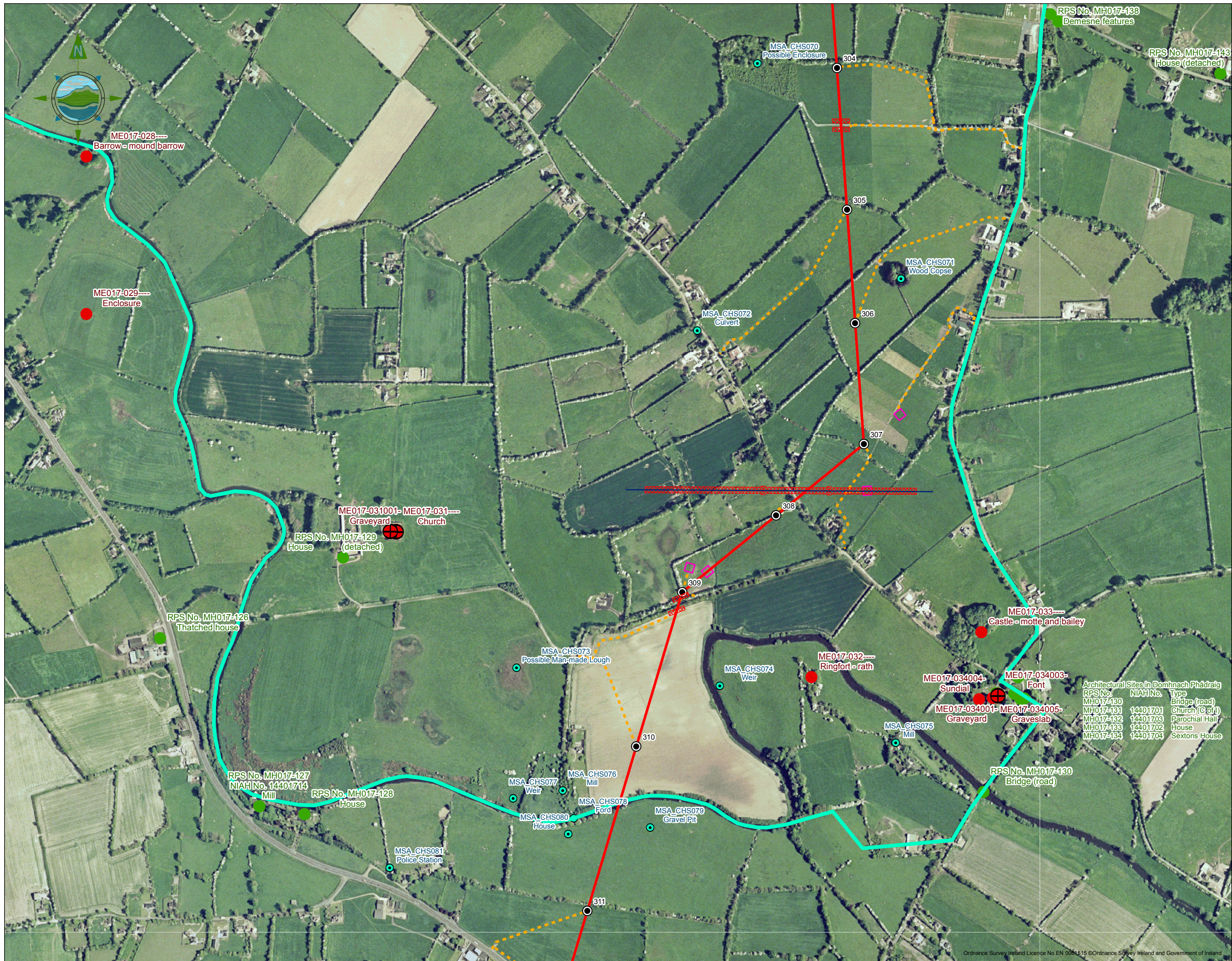


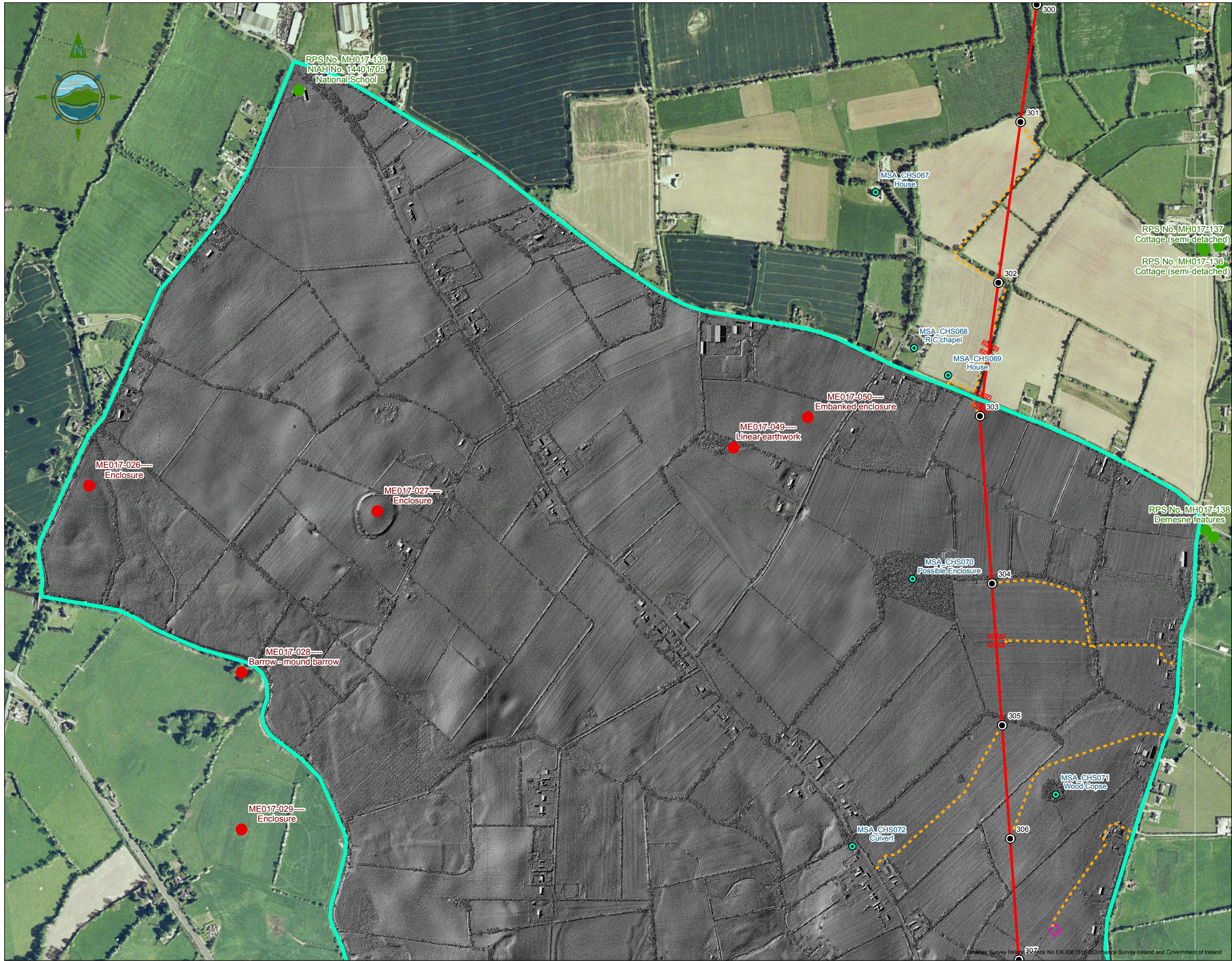
Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie



No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document was originally issued.

Issue: 6244 FIGURE 2 (Teltown) C





Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites

0 40 80 160 240 320
Metres

C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd

Client:



Project:

NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title:

MSA
Teltown Appraisal Report
Hillshade of LiDAR DSM
Sheet 1 of 2

Scale @ A3: 1:8,250

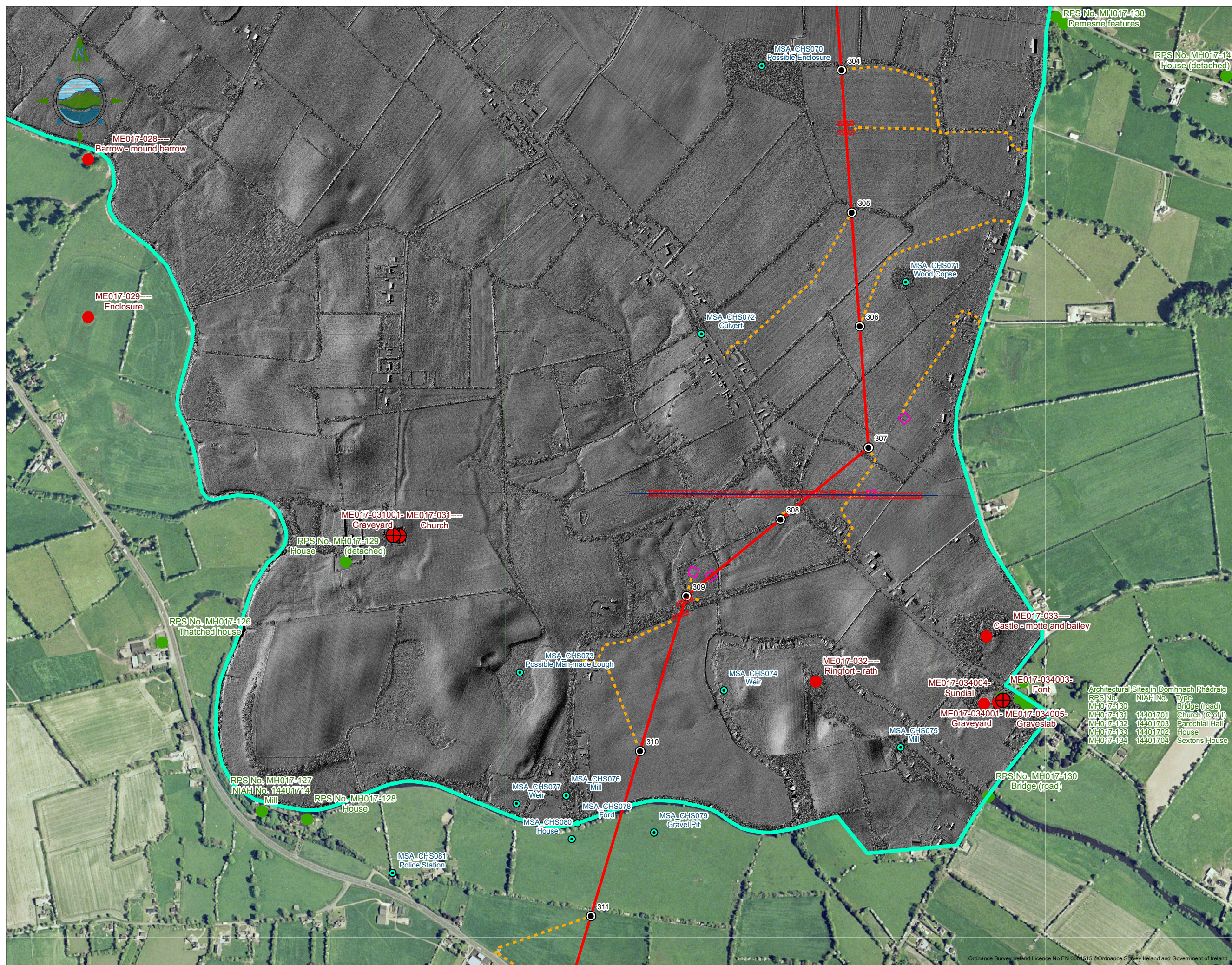
Prepared by: N. Malcolm
Checked: O. McAlister
Date: March 2015
Project Director: Damien Grehan



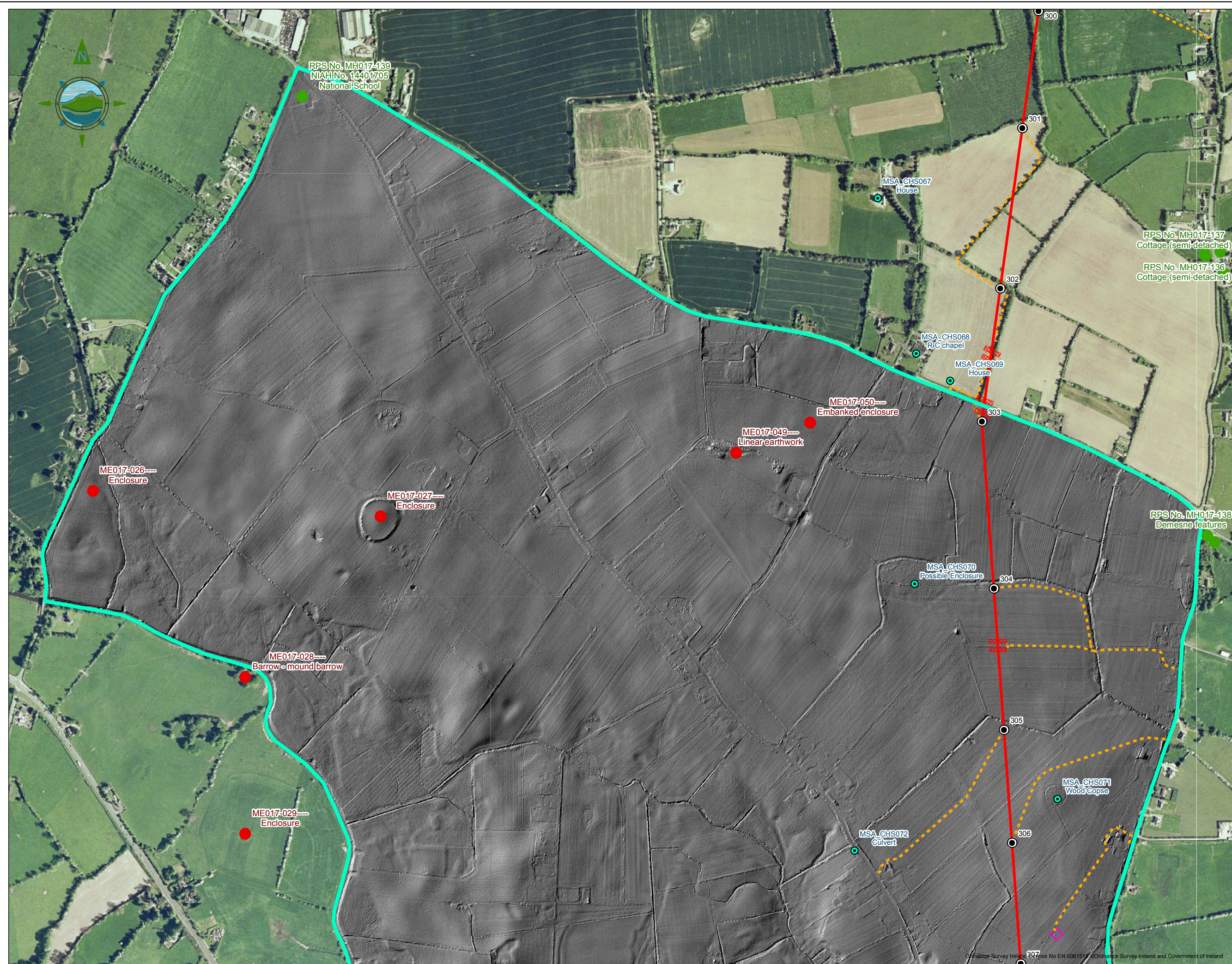
Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie

No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document was originally issued.

Issue: 6244 FIGURE 4 (Teltown) C



6244 **FIGURE 5 (Teltown)** **C**



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites

0 40 80 160 240 320

Metres

C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd

Client:

Project:

NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title:

MSA

Teltown Appraisal Report
Hillshade of LiDAR DTM
Sheet 1 of 2

Scale @ A3: 1:8,250

Prepared by:	Checked:	Date:
N. Malcolm	O. McAlister	March 2015

Project Director: Damien Grehan

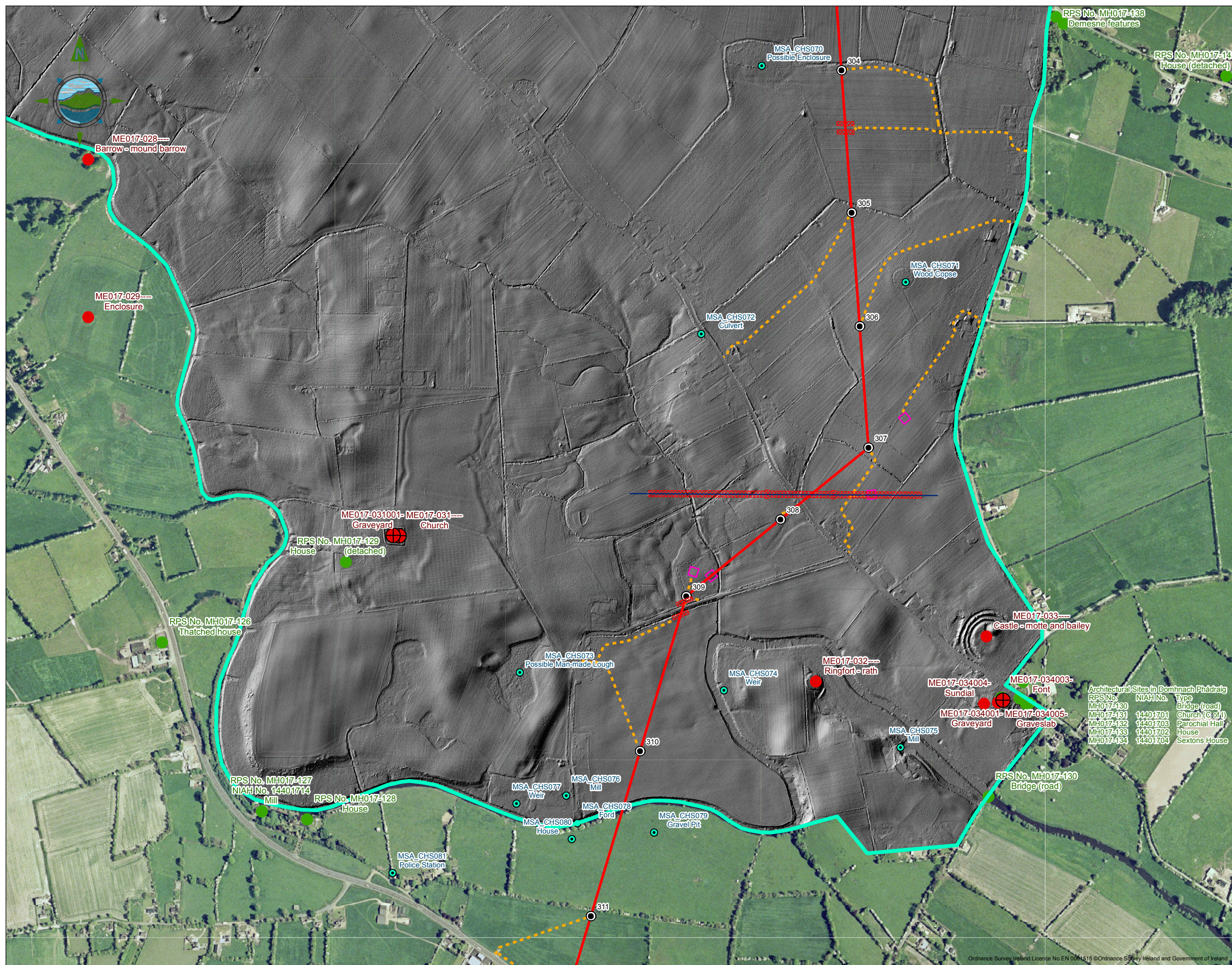
TOBIN
Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd.

Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie

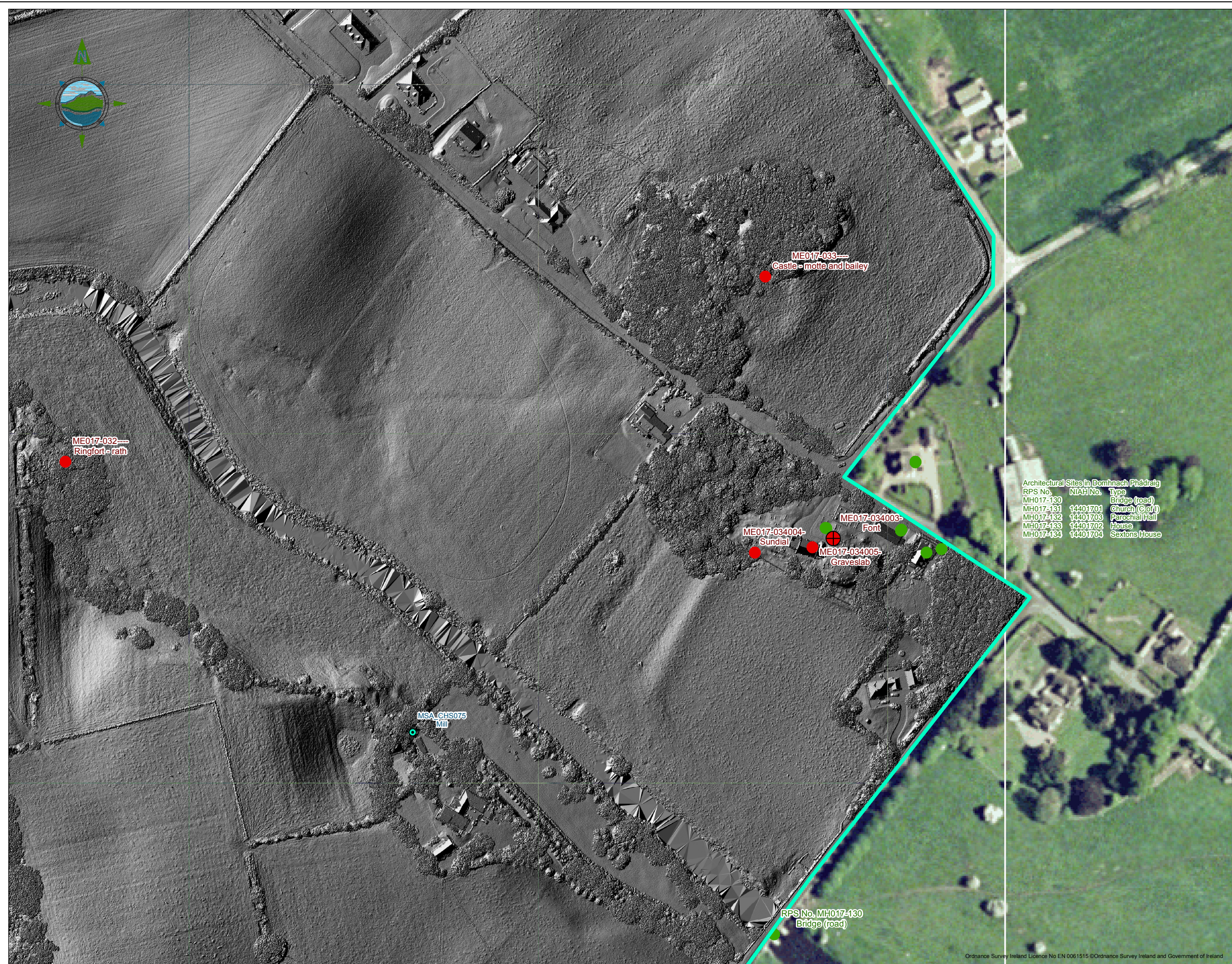
No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document was originally issued.

Issue:

6244	FIGURE 6 (Teltown)	C
------	--------------------	---



C



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites



C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd.

Client:



Project:

NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title:

MSA
Teltown Appraisal Report
Detailed View of Domhnach Phádraig
(Donaghpatrick) LiDAR DSM

Scale @ A3: 1:2,000

Prepared by:	Checked:	Date:
N. Malcolm	O. McAlister	March 2015
Project Director:	Damien Grehan	

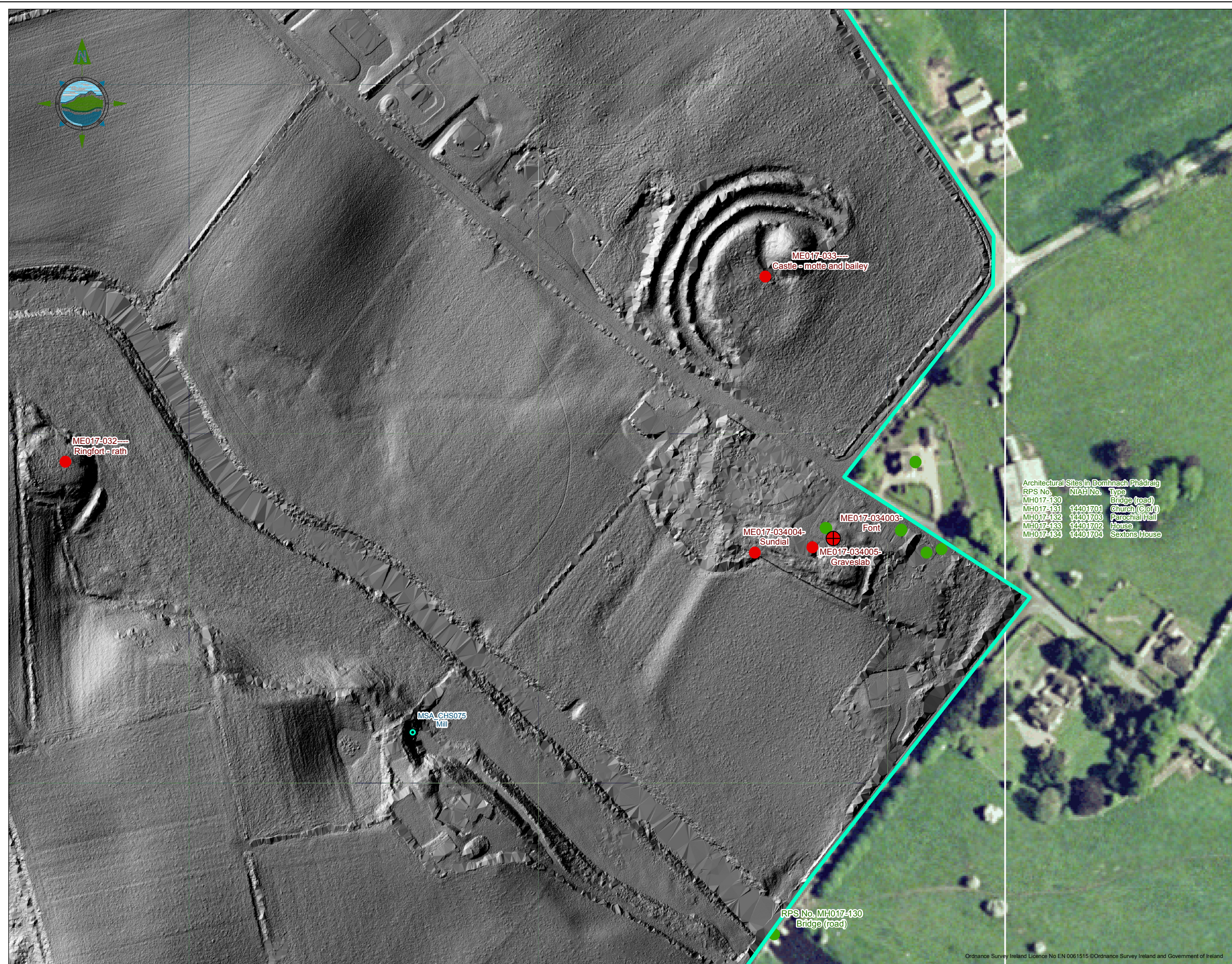


Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie



No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any
retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co.
Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document
was originally issued.

Issue:
6244 FIGURE 8 (Teltown) C



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites

01020406080

Metres

C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd

Client:

Project:

NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title:

MSA

Teltown Appraisal Report
Detailed View of Domhnach Phádraig
(Donaghpatrick) LiDAR DTG

Scale @ A3:

1:2,000

Prepared by:

Checked:

Date:

N. Malcolm

O.McAlister

March 2015

Project Director:

Damien Grehan

Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd.

Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie

No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any
retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co.
Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document
was originally issued.

Issue:

6244

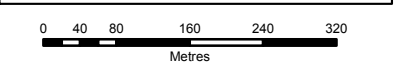
FIGURE 9 (Teltown)

C



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites



C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.M.A.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.M.A.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd

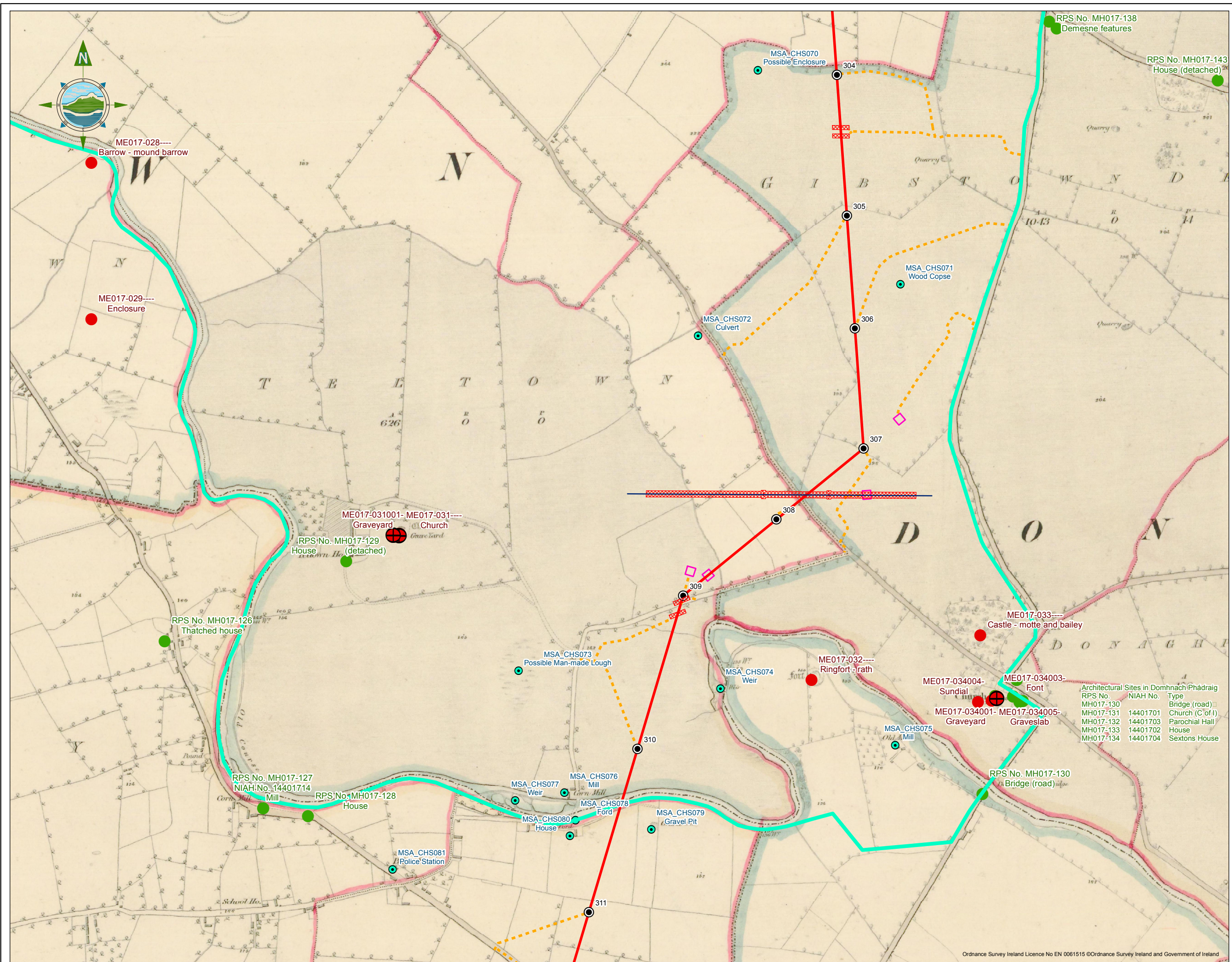
Client:

Project: NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title: MSA
Teltown Appraisal Report
First Edition OSI Map
Sheet 1 of 2

Scale @ A3:	1:8,250	
Prepared by:	Checked:	Date:
N. Malcolm	O. McAlister	March 2015
Project Director:	Damien Grehan	

TOBIN
Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd.
Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie



Legend

- Proposed Line Route
- Proposed Tower Location
- Temporary Access Track
- Temporary Stringing Area
- Temporary Guarding Location
- Proposed Alterations to Existing Electricity Lines
- Teltown ZAA
- National Monuments in State Care
- Monuments in Local Authority Ownership
- Preservation Orders
- Archaeological Monuments (RMP / SMR)
- Architectural Sites (RPS / NIAH)
- CHS Sites

0 40 80 160 240 320 Metres

C	Mar 15	Updated following design review	N.M.	O.McA.
B	Dec 14	Issued	N.M.	O.McA.
A	Jan 14	Issued	N.M.	E.C.
Issue	Date	Description	By	Chkd.

Client:

Project: NORTH-SOUTH 400 kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT

Title: MSA
Teltown Appraisal Report
First Edition OSI Map
Sheet 2 of 2

Scale @ A3: 1:8,250

Prepared by:	Checked:	Date:
N. Malcolm	O. McAlister	March 2015

Project Director: Damien Grehan

Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers,
Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park,
Dublin 15, Ireland.
tel: +353-(0)1-8030406
fax: +353-(0)1-8030409
e-mail: info@tobin.ie
www.tobin.ie

No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without the written permission of Patrick J. Tobin & Co. Ltd. as copyright holder except as agreed for use on the project for which the document was originally issued.

6244	FIGURE 11 (Teltown)	Issue: C
------	---------------------	----------

APPENDIX 3: PHOTOMONTAGES

Photomontage 51

Photomontage 52

Photomontage 53

Photomontage 53A

Photomontage 55

Photomontage 56

Photomontage 57

Photomontage 58

Photomontage 59

**Photomontage 51 (panoramic)**

View west across cemetery from local road L7414 at Crasulthan Cross Roads (R163), when standing near the gates of the former Gibstown Demesne

Date photo taken: 14.06.2011 (verified on site 03/2015)
Time photo taken: 4:35pm
Viewpoint location: E282090 N274136
Viewpoint elevation: 81m
Arc of view: 87°
Distance to nearest tower structure: 514m to Tower 304
Camera height: 1.6m
Camera type: Canon EOS 6D Mark III
Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
March 2015

URS

**Photomontage 52 (panoramic)**

View southwest from R163, west of Crasulthan Cross Roads

Date photo taken: 14.06.2011 (verified on site 03/2015)
Time photo taken: 4:45pm
Viewpoint location: E281807 N274359
Viewpoint elevation: 52m
Arc of view: 55°

Distance to nearest tower structure: 252m to Tower 303
Camera height: 1.6m
Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

**NORTH - SOUTH 400kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT**
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
March 2015

URS

**Photomontage 53 (panoramic)**

View southeast from local road L34097 (Cul de Sac) across the townland of Teltown

Date photo taken: 21.11.2013 (verified on site 03/2015)
Time photo taken: 11:31am
Viewpoint location: E260280 N274159
Viewpoint elevation: 63m
Arc of view: 64°

Distance to nearest tower structure: 1.31km to Tower 304
Camera height: 1.6m
Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Lens type / focal length: Canon 50mm fixed lens
Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

**NORTH - SOUTH 400kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT**
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
April 2015

URS



Photomontage 53A (panoramic)

View southeast in the vicinity of Protected View and Prospect 80 located at the R147 looking across the River Blackwater valley
Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken: 07.01.2014 (verified on site 03/2015)	Distance to nearest tower structure: 2.12km to Tower 309
Time photo taken: 1:34pm	Camera height: 1.6m
Viewpoint location: E279299 N273801	Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Viewpoint elevation: 44m	Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Arc of view: 70°	Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
April 2015

URS

**Photomontage 55 (panoramic)**

View northeast from R147 (Boyne Valley Driving Route) opposite the fuel station looking across the Blackwater Valley
Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken:	21.11.2013 (verified on site 03/2015)	Distance to nearest tower structure:	246m to Tower 311
Time photo taken:	1:00pm	Camera height:	1.6m
Viewpoint location:	E280770 N271951	Camera type:	Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Viewpoint elevation:	56m	Lens type / focal length:	Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Arc of view:	61°	Recommended viewing distance:	A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

**NORTH - SOUTH 400kV
INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT**
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
March 2015

URS



Photomontage 56 (panoramic)

View northwest from local road L7413 at Donaghpatrick Bridge

Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken: 05.04.2012 (verified on site 03/2015)
 Time photo taken: 10:45am
 Viewpoint location: E281956 N272351
 Viewpoint elevation: 47m
 Arc of view: 74°

Distance to nearest tower structure: 800m to Tower 308
 Camera height: 1.6m
 Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
 Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
 Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
 April 2015

URS

**Photomontage 57 (panoramic)**

View west from the south-western boundary of Donaghpatrick Church and graveyard
Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken: 05.04.2012 (verified on site 03/2015)	Distance to nearest tower structure: 861m to Tower 310
Time photo taken: 10:33am	Camera height: 1.6m
Viewpoint location: E281980 N272501	Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Viewpoint elevation: 61m	Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Arc of view: 78°	Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
April 2015



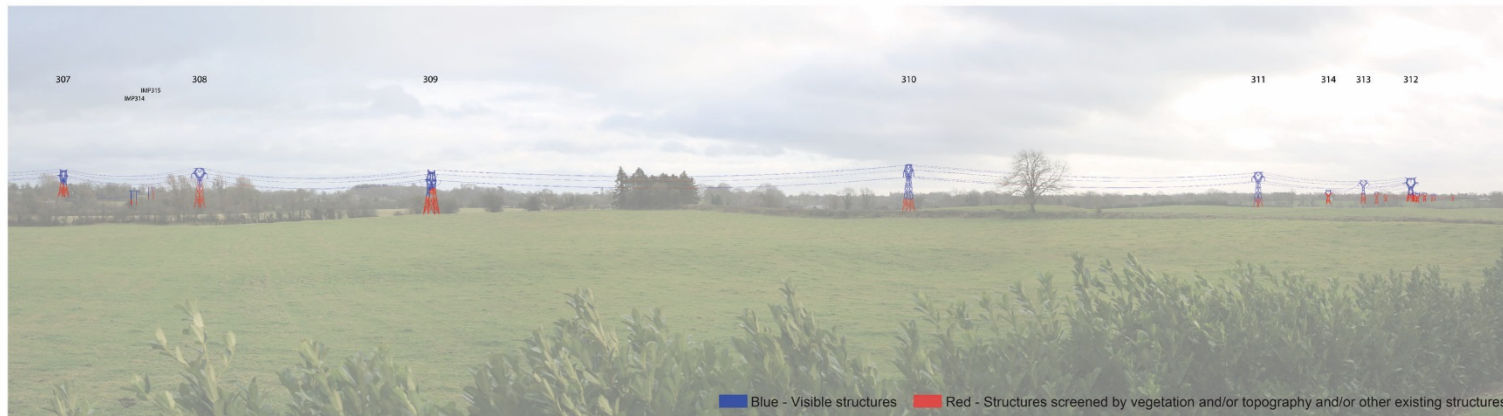
**Photomontage 58 (panoramic)**

View southwest from local road L3409 near the T-Junction with local road L34091 in the townland of Donaghpatrick
Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken:	05.04.2012 (verified on site 03/2015)	Distance to nearest tower structure:	222m to Tower 308
Time photo taken:	10:23am	Camera height:	1.6m
Viewpoint location:	E281634 N272865	Camera type:	Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Viewpoint elevation:	54m	Lens type / focal length:	Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Arc of view:	103°	Recommended viewing distance:	A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
April 2015



**Photomontage 59 (panoramic)**

View southeast across the Blackwater River Valley from Teltown Church

Please note this photomontage includes bird flight diverters attached to both earthwires (Section between Towers 307 and 312)

Date photo taken: 07.01.2014 (verified on site 03/2015)
Time photo taken: 12:03pm
Viewpoint location: E280565 N272926
Viewpoint elevation: 47m
Arc of view: 93°

Distance to nearest tower structure: 670m to Tower 309
Camera height: 1.6m
Camera type: Canon EOS 5D Mark III
Lens type / focal length: Canon, 50mm fixed lens
Recommended viewing distance: A3: 30-50cm, A2: 50-70cm

NORTH - SOUTH 400kV INTERCONNECTION DEVELOPMENT
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
April 2015

