

## 10 Cultural Heritage

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### 10.1 Introduction

This Remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report (rEIAR) has been prepared to accompany a substitute consent application for an existing disused quarry at Coolsickin or Quinsborough, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. The extraction works and associated works carried out during the lifecycle of the quarry within the Application Site is referred to herein as the 'Project'. The Project is located within the administrative boundary of Kildare County Council, (KCC).

This Chapter of the remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report (rEIAR) has been prepared to assess the potential significant effects on the cultural, archaeological and architectural heritage resource, which may have occurred as a result of the Project activities.

The Site is located in the townland of Coolsicken or Quinsborough, which is situated ca. 2.7 km north of Monasterevin and ca. 9 km southwest of Kildare Town. The Site comprises a quarry void area which has been used for sand and gravel and limestone rock extraction between the years 2000-2006. The grid reference coordinates (Irish Transverse Mercator) for the approximate center of the Site are E663403, N713199.

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

### 10.2 Technical Scope

The technical scope of this assessment is to consider the potential impacts and effects on Cultural Heritage that could have resulted because of the quarrying related activities carried out at the Site. This assessment considers the potential sources of change resulting from Project activities detailed in the project description (Chapter 2 of this rEIAR).

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

For the purposes of the assessment, heritage assets include physical features either created by, or that have undergone modification from, human activity, and placenames, historical events, language, memories and other intangible cultural considerations. For the purposes of this study the various types of heritage asset are divided into archaeological heritage, architectural heritage, and cultural heritage, encompassing objects of beauty, cultural, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value.

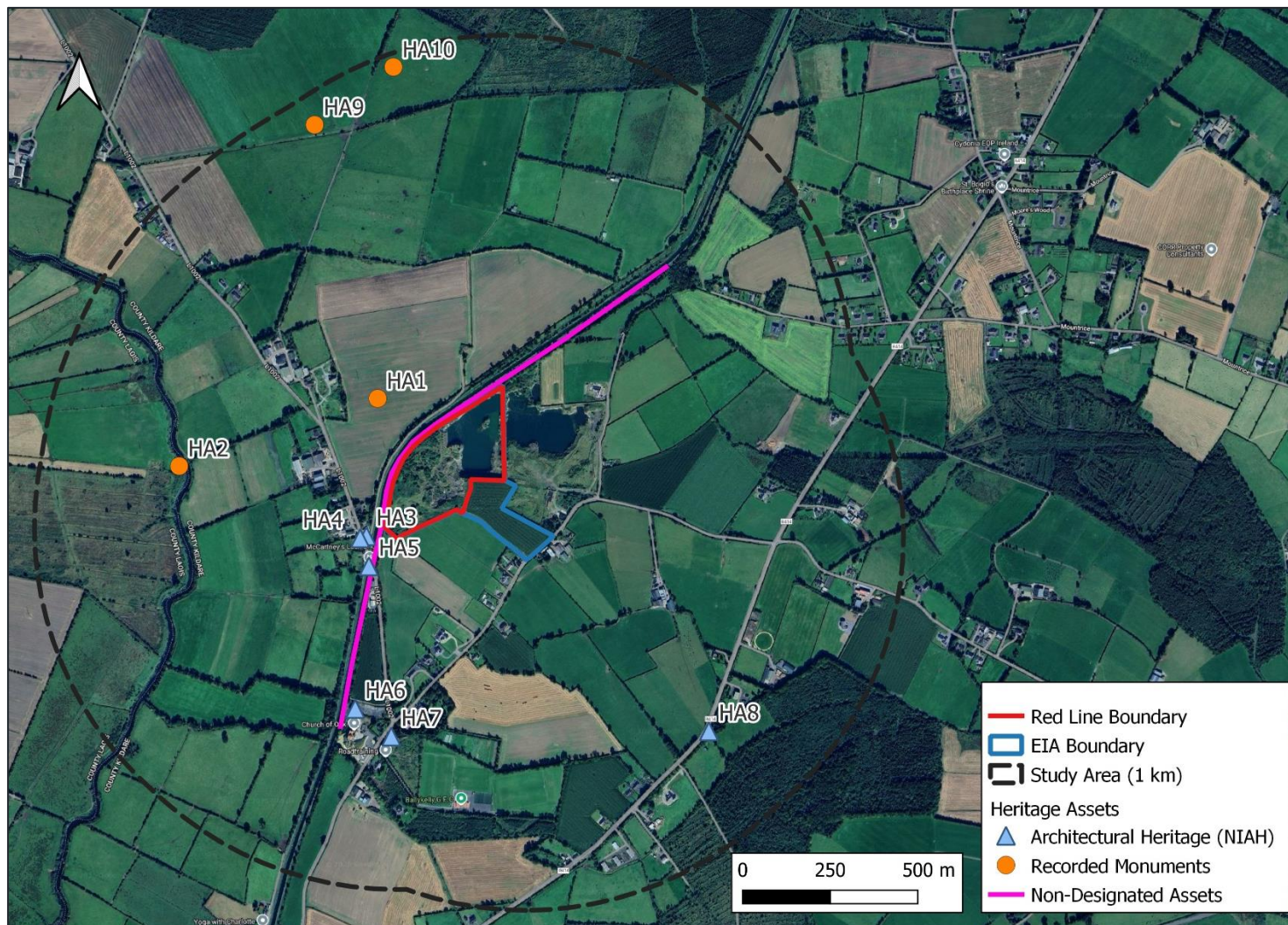
## 10.3 Geographical and Temporal Scope

Historical arial mapping and documentation held by Kildare Country Council indicates extraction of aggregates within the Application Site is estimated to have commenced within 2000 and the operation had ceased within 2006. Accordingly, the baseline for this rEIAR has been set to 01 January 2000, and the rEIAR process has assessed environmental impacts from that date to 31 December 2006 (see Chapter 2 Project Description for detail).

The geographical study area for this assessment comprises known heritage assets within the quarry and a 1 km study area surrounding the quarry (see Figure 10-1).

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

In the context of this rEIAR, the Substitute Consent Application Site boundary is located entirely within the EIA Boundary and contains lands which form the historical extraction area and quarry working areas (i.e. the historical stockpile areas).



**Figure 10-1 - Location of the Application Site, EIA Boundary, and the 1 km Study Area with heritage assets identified.**

## 10.4 Project Description Summary

The Project seeking substitute consent consists of extraction of sand, gravel and rock over an area of 7.87 ha through blasting, mechanical excavation and rock breaking along with aggregate processing and stockpiling. The Project was operational between the years 2000-2006.

A full project description is presented in Chapter 2 (Project Description).

## 10.5 Legislative and Policy Context

### 10.5.1 Legislation

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

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

### 10.5.2 Relevant Policies and Plans

- The Kildare County Development Plan (CDP) 1999 is the strategy document for County Kildare which covers most of the temporal scope of this assessment period. The key policies and objectives of this plan are listed in Section 2.5.1 of the Project Description (Chapter 2).
- The Kildare CDP 2005-2011 was adopted on 18 May 2005 and covers the temporal scope from this date to 31 December 2006. The key policies and objectives of this current plan are listed below and in Section 2.5.2 of the Project Description (Chapter 2).

The plans above include objectives and policies, relevant to this assessment, i.e., with regard to cultural heritage.

The Council's aim is to protect, conserve and manage the archaeological and architectural heritage of the county and to encourage sensitive, sustainable development so as to ensure its survival and maintenance for future generations.

#### 10.5.2.1 Cultural Heritage

Chapter 17 of the 2005–2011 Kildare County Development Plan sets out the policies on heritage within the county. The Council recognises the importance of identifying, valuing and safeguarding the archaeological and architectural heritage of Kildare.

The following policies are relevant to the assessment:



### 10.5.2.2 General Heritage

The following policy, objectives and actions are set out in Section 17.1 of the KCDP 2005-2011, and are relevant to architectural and archaeological heritage:

- HP 1 To incorporate objectives for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural, architectural and archaeological into all Local Area Plans, all council plans, programmes and policies.
- HP 2 To ensure that heritage concerns are considered early in the planning process, potential developers should consult with relevant agencies as early as possible in relation to designated sites, recorded monuments, places and protected structures.

### 10.5.2.3 Archaeology Heritage

The following policy, objectives and actions are set out in Section 17.3 of the KCDP 2005-2011:

- AH 1 To have regard to the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), and the Urban Archaeological Surveys when dealing with planning applications for development or threats to items recorded. No development shall be permitted in the vicinity of a recorded feature, where it detracts from the setting of the feature or which is injurious to its cultural or educational value. In all such cases the Council shall consult with the National Monuments Section of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG).
- AH 2 To protect and preserve archaeological sites that have been identified subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- AH 3 To secure the preservation of town walls, embankments, town gates, bastions or ancillary fortifications.
- AH 4 To preserve the integrity of existing archaeological monuments in their settings including the integrity of town defences.
- AH 5 To ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing.
- AH 6 To achieve satisfactory buffer areas between new development and town defences in order to ensure the preservation & enhancement of the amenity associated with the presence of town defences within the historic urban pattern.
- AH 7 To ensure that disturbance, removal & alteration of the line of town defences are suitably safeguarded within the historic towns and settlements of County Kildare.
- AH 8 To retain, where possible, the existing street layout, historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these form medieval or earlier origins.
- AH 9 To require the preparation & submission of an archaeological assessment detailing the potential of any development on both the upstanding buried structures and deposits, when considering development in the vicinity of all upstanding monuments, including town defences.

- AH 15 To ensure that proposed developments that may, due to their size, location or nature, have implications for archaeological heritage are subject to an archaeological assessment. Such an assessment will ensure that the development can be designed in such a way as to avoid or minimise any potential effects on the archaeological heritage. In all such cases the Council shall consult with the National Monuments Section of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG).

### 10.5.3 Relevant Guidance

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

- ClfA 2020, Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment;
- ClfA 2020, Standards and Guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment;
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999, Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage; and
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2022, Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.

## 10.6 Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

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

This assessment has been produced in accordance with national and local legislation and policy, as well as best practice guidance. The impact assessment methodology aligns with EPA guidelines (EPA, 2022) and has been adapted from the advice provided by the National Roads Authority (NRA), in their Guidelines for the Assessment of Architectural Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes and Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Roads Schemes (no publication date). These guidelines can be equally applied to other development schemes.

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

- Cultural heritage assets with the potential to be affected by the Development are identified and ascribed a 'value', ranging from "unknown" to 'very high';
- The 'magnitude' of any effects resulting from the Development upon the identified receptors are established, ranging from 'no change' to 'major' (assuming no mitigation is in place);
- A comparison of the magnitude of effect and receptor value is used to calculate the significance of effect;

- Where relevant, the mitigation strategy used is described, with the significance of effect re-calculated (assuming that mitigation is in place) to ascertain the residual effects.

Effects to cultural heritage assets can result from both direct and indirect effects. Direct effects are considered here to be those that result in an immediate, physical impact to an asset, such as ground disturbance. Indirect effects are considered here to include those that occur through an environmental pathway (e.g. Air, waterways, and groundwater) or that are secondary (e.g. mitigation measures for a different impact affecting cultural heritage). These indirect effects may be physical but may also affect the setting of an asset. Indirect effects can include, but are not limited to:

- Noise effects;
- Air pollution/dust effects; and
- Visual effects.

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

**Table 10-1 - Criteria for assessing the value of heritage assets**

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

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

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

**Table 10-2 - Criteria for assessing the magnitude of impact on heritage assets**

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



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

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

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

**Table 10-3 - Significance of Effect**

Value		Magnitude of Impact				
		Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	No Change
	Very High	<b>Very Large</b>	<b>Large or Very Large</b>	<b>Moderate or Large</b>	Slight	Neutral
	High	<b>Large or Very Large</b>	<b>Moderate or Large</b>	<b>Moderate or Slight</b>	Slight	Neutral
	Medium	<b>Moderate or Large</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral
	Low	Slight or <b>Moderate</b>	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral
	Negligible	Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Neutral	Neutral

## 10.7 Baseline and Existing Conditions

### 10.7.1 Introduction

The archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage assets that lie within the quarry and the 1km study area are detailed in Table 10.4 Inventory of Heritage Assets below and are shown in Figure 10.1. Each entry in the inventory has a heritage asset (HA) reference number which is used to identify it within the assessment and on Figure 10-1.

### 10.7.2 Information Sources

The area was examined using information from:

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

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

### 10.7.2.1 Cultural Heritage Background

#### **Geology**

The underlying geological formations comprise a bedrock geology of Allenwood Formation, which is described as consisting of pale-grey generally massive shelf limestones and their dolomitised equivalents. The Allenwood Formation is Carboniferous in age. The subsoils underlying the site are composed of gravels derived from Limestones and till derived from Limestones. In the northern section of the study area GSI mapping indicates there is cut over raised peat. To the west of the study area there are areas of alluvium and lacustrine sediments.

#### **Walkover Survey**

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

#### **Previous Assessments**

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

#### **Archaeological Investigations**

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

### 10.7.2.2 Baseline Summary and Inventory of Heritage Assets

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

- four archaeological heritage assets listed in the RMP;

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

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

**Table 10-4 - Inventory of Heritage Assets**

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



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

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				beneficial impact on the character or integrity of a house forming part of a self-contained group alongside an opposing house (see 11902105) with the resulting ensemble making a pleasing visual statement in a rural street scene.
HA5	NIAH: 11902104: Macartney's Bridge and Locks	Coolsickin or Quinsborough	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 13/11/2002	<p>Bridge and Locks: Single-arch dressed stone hump back road bridge over canal, dated 1784, with dressed stone voussoirs, keystone and coping to parapet wall. Canal lock, c.1785, to north comprising sections of stone ashlar retaining walls with stone bollards and timber lock gates over incorporating integral pedestrian footbridge.</p> <p>Macartneys Bridge (and Lock) is a fine stone bridge that forms an imposing feature on the Grand Canal (Athy Branch) and is one of a group of bridges on the section of that canal that passes through County Kildare. The construction of the arch that has retained its original shape is of technical and engineering merit. The bridge (and sections of canal retaining walls) exhibits good quality stone masonry and fine, crisp joints. The bridge and lock group is of considerable historical and social significance as a reminder of the canal network development in Ireland, which brought about many technical advances and encouraged the development of commercial activity in the late eighteenth century.</p>

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
HA6	11902103: Ballykelly Malthouse	Millfarm (Monasterevin Ed)	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	<p>Mill (water): Detached eight-bay seven-storey double-pile rubble stone mill, dated 1801, with four-bay seven-storey side elevation to north having four-bay three-storey lean-to projecting bay.</p> <p>Ballykelly Malthouse, a large complex in good condition, retains much of its original appearance and character and is a good example of an early nineteenth-century industrial building in the region. The primary elevations, composed of a massive wall masses pierced with small openings, reveal the utilitarian nature of the building that was required to be cool and damp proof. The mill is of considerable historical and social importance as the focal point for local agricultural activities and a centre of employment in the past, and the building continues this function at present. The evidence of a former mill race to the site is of technical interest. The mill is a prominent landmark from the roadside nearby and dominates its surroundings. Original materials remain in situ, including the traditional stone construction and timber sash fenestration to the range to south.</p>
HA7	11902102	Ballykelly, Kildare	Architectural Heritage (NIAH) - recorded 31/10/2002	<p>Farm house: Detached six-bay single-storey lobby entry thatched farmhouse, extant 1837, on a T-shaped plan; two-bay (single-bay deep) single-storey lean-to return (east). Now disused.</p>

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



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

HA No.	Ref No.	Townland	Designation	Description
				all the way to St. Mullins in south Carlow. The Barrow Way passes through the towns of Rathangan, Monasterevin, Athy, Carlow, Leighlinbridge, Muine Bheag, Goresbridge, Borris and Graiguenamanagh. Naas, Co. Kildare, Irelandrat

### 10.7.2.3 Development of Application Site from 7000 BC to 2025

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

#### **Prehistoric Period (7000 BC – AD 500)**

The study area and the wider landscape appear to have been used for burials during prehistory. There are two burials known from the wider area, in Mountrice (RMP KD021-005---) and a possible barrow at Inchacooly (RMP LA005-002). There are mounds at Inchacooly (HA02 – RMP LA005-003) which falls within the study area, and at Mountrice (RMP KD021-007), which may also be remains of a prehistoric burial monuments. The presence of funerary activity in the area suggests that the Site may have been part of a ritual landscape rather than a settlement location during this period.

#### **Early Medieval Period (AD 500 – 1100)**

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

#### **Medieval Period (AD 1100 – 1600)**

Diarmaid Mac Murchadha, King of Leinster, killed the King of Ui-Faelain in 1141 and relations between Ui-Faelain and Murchadha were uneasy throughout the period. In 1166

the Ui-Faelain supported the High-King Ruaidhri OConchobhair's invasion of Ui Cheinnselaig and forced Murchadha to flee to Britain later in the year. He returned the following year aided by Norman mercenaries and retook Ui Cheinnselaig and the town of Wexford. In 1169 he invaded Ossory and overran the Ui-Faelain lordship. On the death of Diarmaid Mac Murchadha in 1171 his son-in-law Richard fitz Gilbert de Clare claimed the Lordship of Leinster and this was confirmed to him by King Henry II the same year. By the time of his death in 1176, when Leinster passed to King Henry II, the process of sub-infeudation (the granting of lands by lords to their dependents, to be held by feudal tenure) was well under way in much of Leinster. The Ui Faeláin lands in the study area were granted to Maurice FitzGerald who established the manor of Rathmore with its caput and motte and bailey castle to the north of the study area (Otway Ruthven 1980, 43, MacCotter 2008, 174-177). The study area may have formed part of this estate during this period or may have been agricultural or wild land outside the estate. No heritage assets from this period are located within the Site or the study area. In 1185 John, Lord of Ireland, confirmed the grant of the manor of Rathmore to Maurice FitzGerald (MacNiochail 1964, 14). In 1293 Rathmore passed to John FitzThomas who subsequently became the Earl of Kildare (MacNiochail 1964, 67). The Earl's of Kildare held Rathmore until the rebellion of Silken Thomas in 1534.

### **Post-medieval Period (AD 1600 – 1800)**

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

### **Modern Period (AD 1800 – present day)**

The predominately agrarian emphasis of the study area and its surroundings continued on into the 19th and 20th centuries, with notable changes in land ownership with the Land Acts that allowed tenant farmers to own land. Architectural heritage assets in the study area (HA3 -11902105, HA4 - 11902106 and at Millfarm (HA6 - 11902103), and at Ballykelly (HA7- 11902102, and HA8 - 11902114) from the early to mid 1800s present a context that is largely rural, agricultural and partly industrial in nature. All structures marked on the 1910 edition of the six-inch Ordnance Survey mapping within 300m of the application area were

checked for potential field assessment. There are no such structures located in this area (see Figure 10-1).

#### **10.7.2.4 Archaeological Potential**

The quarry is reported to have been in operation from approximately 2000-2006, which indicates that the Site is disturbed. Owing to the extractive nature of quarrying there is no potential for sub-surface archaeological remains.

### **10.8 Selection of Sensitive Receptors**

There are no Protected Structures within the Site or study area. There are six structures included in the NIAH situated within the study area, none of which fall within the Site. There are four Recorded Monuments within the study area, none of which are located within the Site. These designated heritage assets have the potential to have been impacted by the quarrying works on the Site through changes within their settings.

There is one non-designated heritage asset that borders the northern edge of the Site, and it has the potential to have been physically impacted by quarrying activity on the Site, and these impacts may result in significant effects.

### **10.9 Characteristics of the Project**

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

- Stripping of soils, sands and gravels that has occurred primarily within the quarry void space,
- Blasting and mechanical excavation of bedrock,
- Processing of materials to create a commercial product (e.g. crushing and screening of rock to create aggregate),
- Stockpiling overburden within the Application Site,
- Dewatering of the quarry void during extraction of bedrock, and,
- Use of vehicle, plant and equipment in the quarry operations.

### **10.10 Potential Effects**

There are no known heritage assets within the Site that would have been impacted upon by the quarrying activity. However, there is one non-designated heritage asset that borders the northern edge of the Site. In addition, there are six designated heritage assets on the NIAH, and four Recorded Monuments that lie within the study area.

#### **10.10.1 Archaeological Heritage Assessment**

The designated archaeological heritage assets within the study area are located at a distance of 170m to 965m from the Site and are separated from the Site by a section of The Barrow Way that runs along the northern edge of the Site. The quarrying works to the Site



between 2001-2006, have had no impact on these assets owing to their distance from the Site, and to the fact that The Barrow Way separates the Site from these assets.

#### **10.10.1.1 HA1 KD021-016---- Enclosure: Coolsickin or Quinsborough**

The asset is located approximately 170m to the north of the Site, and the quarrying works undertaken within the site has resulted in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset.

#### **10.10.1.2 HA2 LA005-003 --- Mound: Inchacooly**

The asset is located approximately 610m to the north-west of the Site, and the quarrying works undertaken within the site has resulted in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset.

#### **10.10.1.3 HA9 KD021-011 ---- Enclosure: Coolsickin or Quinsborough**

The asset is located approximately 925m to the north of the Site, and the quarrying works undertaken within the site has resulted in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset.

#### **10.10.1.4 HA10 KD021-003 ---- Enclosure: Coolsickin or Quinsborough**

The asset is located approximately 965m to the north of the Site, and the quarrying works undertaken within the site has resulted in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset.

### **10.10.2 Architectural Heritage Assessment**

The heritage assets within the study area are located at a distance ranging from 60m to 940m from the edge of the Site. The embankments around the quarry effectively cut off views to the quarry from the surrounding area, ensuring that there are no direct views into the quarry. Furthermore, as the quarry has not been in operation since 2006, and the quarry void is currently filled with water, it contributes to and helps retain the overall rural setting of the heritage assets and their surroundings.

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

HA3 and HA4 are located approximately 60m and 80m respectively to the south-west of the Site and are separated by The Barrow Way. This along with the fact that the Site and the quarry are encased by steep embankments, have allowed for the overall settings and views to and from both houses, which form a self-contained group, to remain unaffected and unchanged by the quarrying works, resulting in No Changes and a Neutral significance of effect on the heritage asset. Given the proximity of the heritage assets to the site, the impact of the quarrying in terms of noise can be considered as Minor adverse on heritage assets of low cultural significance, resulting in a Neutral significance of effect on the heritage assets.

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

The asset is located approximately 115m to the south of the Site. This along with the fact that the Site and the quarry are encased by steep embankments, have allowed for the setting and views to and from the Macartneys Bridge (and Lock) to remain unaffected and unchanged, resulting in No Changes and a Neutral significance of effect on the heritage asset. Given the proximity of the heritage asset to the site, the impact of the quarrying in terms of noise can be considered as Minor adverse on a heritage asset of low cultural significance, resulting in a Neutral significance of effect on the heritage asset.

#### **10.10.2.3 HA6 11902103: Ballykelly Malthouse Millfarm (Monasterevin Ed)**

The asset is located approximately 510m to the south of the Site. The distance from the Site and the fact that the quarry is encased by steep embankments, have ensured that views and settings of the Mill have remained unimpacted by quarrying works, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset

#### **10.10.2.4 HA7 11902102: Farmhouse Ballykelly, Kildare**

The asset is located approximately 565m to the south-east of the Site. The distance from the Site and the fact that the quarry is encased by steep embankments, have ensured that the settings and views to and from the farmhouse have remained unimpacted by quarrying works, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset

#### **10.10.2.5 HA8 11902114: Water Pump Ballykelly, Kildare**

The asset is a small-scale feature and is located approximately 940m to the south-east of the Site. The distance from the Site have ensured that the settings, and overall aesthetic of the water pump have remained unimpacted by quarrying works, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset

HA11 Non-designated heritage: The Barrow Way

The Barrow Way borders the northern edge of the Site. The quarrying works carried out between 2001-2006 were contained within the Site, thereby there were No Changes to the significance of the heritage asset. Furthermore, as the Site and the quarry are encased by steep embankments, the views and settings of The Barrow Way have remained unchanged, resulting in No Change in terms of magnitude of impact to the significance of the asset.

#### **10.10.2.6 Interaction with other effects**

No interaction with other effects have been identified.

### **10.11 Remedial Mitigation and Monitoring**

There have been no impacts identified on archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage and no remedial mitigation is required.

## 10.12 Residual Effects

The residual effects are Neutral on the heritage assets within the study area. Therefore, no significant effects are predicted to have occurred as a result of the Project.

## 10.13 Cumulative Effects

The application is not considered to have any cumulative effects on cultural heritage.

## 10.14 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered in the compilation of this assessment.

## 10.15 References

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