



De Faoite Archaeology

Unit 10  
Riverside Business Centre  
Tinahely  
Co. Wicklow

# Desk Based Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

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Strategic Infrastructure Development

Carmelite Monastery,

Delgany

Co. Wicklow

Drumakilla Limited

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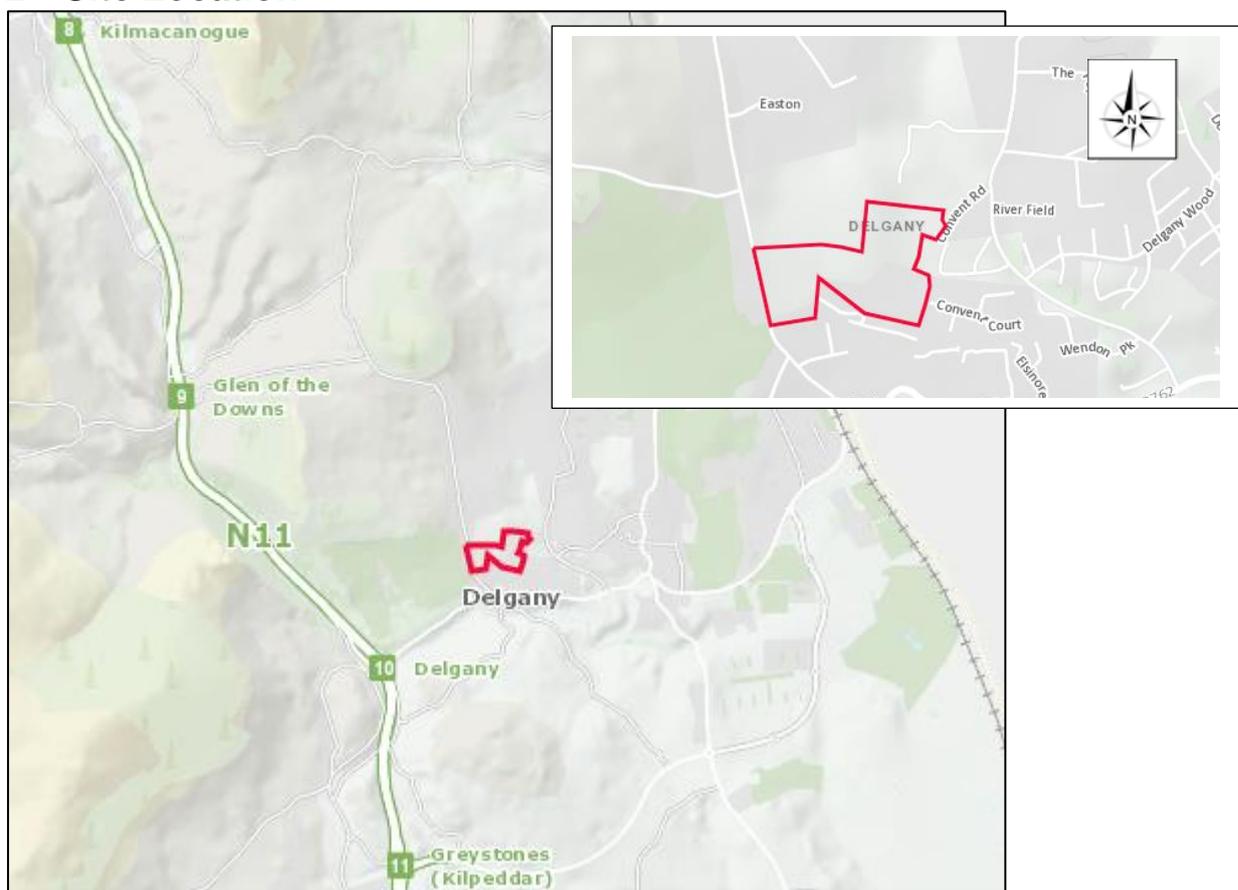
## 1 Introduction

This report details the results of a desk based pre planning assessment at the site of a proposed housing Strategic Infrastructure Development by Drumakilla Limited in the grounds of a Carmelite Monastery at Delgany, County Wicklow (ITM 727655 711060).

This assessment has been carried out to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological finds or features of significance which may be impacted upon by the proposed development.

The following sections details the results of a desk based assessment and recommends an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy in advance of construction works should the development be granted planning permission. This mitigation strategy which includes both geophysical survey and test trenching is detailed in Section 6 of this report and is subject to approval by the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland.

## 2 Site Location



**Figure 1:** Site location Convent Road, Delgany, County Wicklow.

The site of the proposed residential development is located 200m north of Delgany, a small village on the R762 between Greystones and the N11 road in the townland of the same name (Figure 1). The proposed development site is located just west of Convent Road in the grounds of the Carmelite Monastery (Figure 2). The Carmelite nuns have been in Delgany for over 170 years, taking possession of a Victorian country house in 1844 and building the existing church in 1851 (McGimsey, 2019). An Architectural Conservation Report and Heritage Impact Assessment has been prepared for this development and is summarised below.



**Figure 2:** Proposed development site divided into Areas 1-4.

The site within the grounds of the Carmelite monastery is within a rural setting north-south aligned and is irregular in plan between Convent Road and Bellvue Hill, R762 (Figure 2). The site is bound to the east by Convent Road, to the south by dwellings and to the north and west by mature trees and dense hedging. Richview House which was built c.1845 bounds the site to the northwest.

For ease of discussion the site has been divided into four areas for this report.



**Plate 1:** Area 1 looking west with gothic chapel, 2005 convent building on right and Victorian house on left of photo.



**Figure 3:** Annotated buildings in Area 1.

### 2.1 Area 1

Area 1 is at the eastern end of the proposed development site and comprises buildings associated with the convent which are protected structures (Figure 2 and 3, Plate 1). Landscape grounds are located both north and south of a driveway which leads to the convent and church which is on elevated ground.

The earliest building on site is the Victorian House Reg No. 16305011. It is described on the National Inventory of Architecture’s website as a

*‘Well maintained and unusually complete religious house grouping typical of the mid to later 19th century. The central section of this monastery was originally a country house, built possibly c.1810 (it is shown on the OS map of 1838-40). The Carmelites took possession of the house in 1844 adding the church by 1853’.*

A school was held within the monastery until 1896 (Plate 3). This building which dated to 1844 was demolished c.2007 when the new convent accommodation was built (Plate 4, McGimsey, 2019).



**Plate 2:** East elevation of Early Victorian House Reg No. 16305011. Note the modern wall adjoining the building to the left is where the school building from 1884 was located prior to its demolition c.2007.



**Plate 3:** School building prior to demolition in 2007 (National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, 2019).



**Plate 4:** Rear of new convent accommodation, facing northeast.

The Gothic Revival Chapel is also a protected structure on site Reg No. 16305011. It was built of locally quarried limestone with dressed granite stone and was in use from 1853 (ibid.). The roof is pitched and slated and the windows are arched (Plate 5).

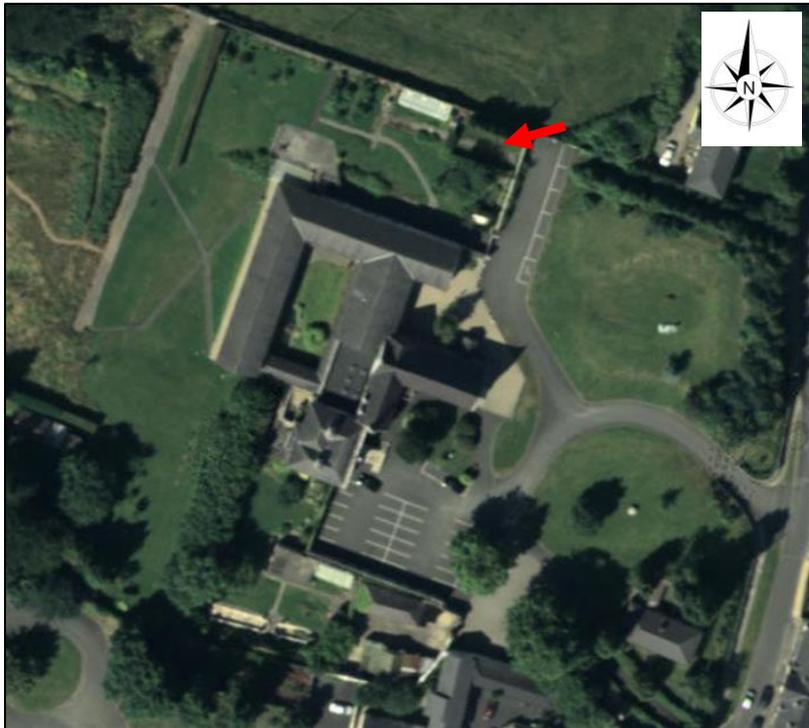


**Plate 5:** South east facing view of chapel.

A nineteenth Century Gate lodge is located at the south-east corner of the property which is uninhabited. It is described in the Architectural Conservation Report and Heritage Impact Assessment as:

*'modest and simple example of the kind of small lodges that were used throughout Ireland as a home for full time staff and immediate security at the entrance gates. This gate lodge remains in useable condition and provides a tangible link to the property's 19th century origins and its long use as the enclosed home of a religious order.'*

A small stable building and sheds with concrete block with corrugated roofs are located to the south of the house (Figure 2).



**Plate 6:** Red arrow marks location of nun's graveyard in Area 1.

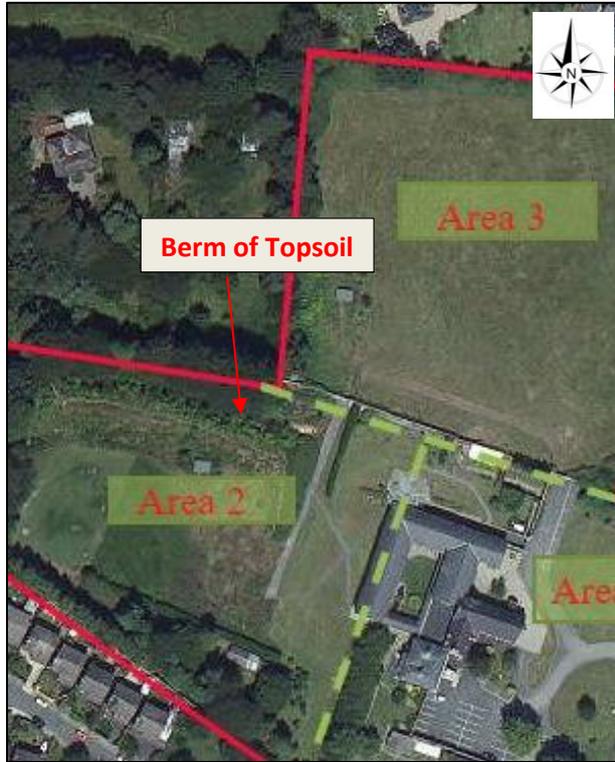
The nun's burial ground which contained the remains of over 80 individuals is located to the north of the chapel in an enclosed area rectangular in plan, northeast to southwest aligned (17m x 13m) (Plates 6 and 7). A licence was granted by Wicklow County Council for the exhumation of the individuals within the Carmelite Monastery in August 2018. The burials have been re interred in Kilquade monastery and no human remains have been left in Delgany (Appendix 4).



**Plate 7:** Entrance to nun's graveyard through hedging facing east.

## 2.2 Area 2

Area 2 is located west of Area 1 and overlooks the rear of the convent building. A berm of topsoil is visible in Area 2 associated with the construction works for the new convent building in 2007.



**Figure 4:** Proposed development site Area 2.



**Plate 8:** Aerial view of Area 2 from 2000.



**Plate 9:** Aerial view of Area 2 from 2005 to 2012

Comparison of aerial photographs from 2000 (Plate 8) and 2005-2012 (Plate 9) illustrates the degree of disturbance associated with groundworks for the new convent accommodation (Figure 4, Plate 10). This mound of soil is completely overgrown and is up to 10m in approximate height (Plates 9 and 10). Elsewhere the fields are under rough pasture and the northern part of the site which adjoins Richview House is overgrown with trees (Plate 11).



**Plate 10:** View southeast Area 2 from berm of topsoil.



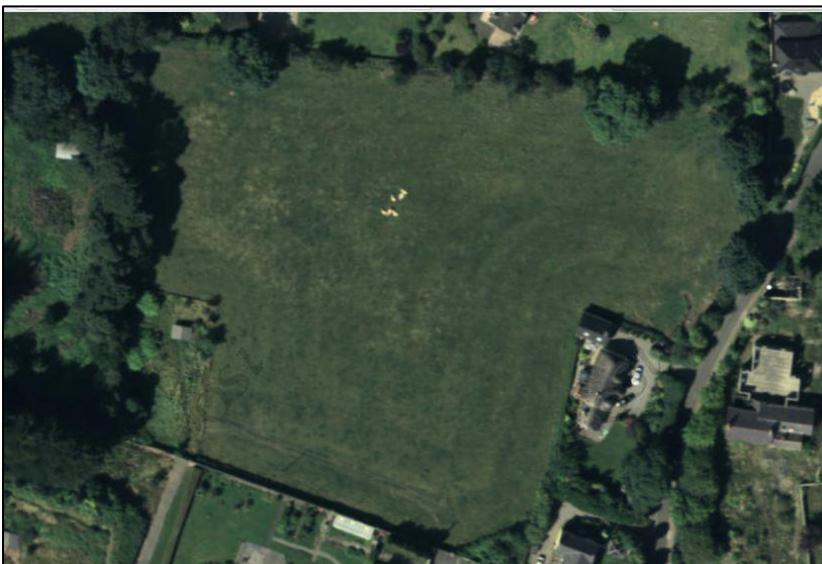
**Plate 11:** Area 2 northern boundary adjoining Richview House, facing west.

### 2.3 Area 3



**Figure 5:** Proposed development site Area 3.

Area 3 comprises a large undisturbed open field under pasture at the northern end of the proposed development site (Figure 5, Plates 12-14). The ground is higher in the west and slopes gently to the east where it is bound by Convent Road.



**Plate 12:** Aerial view of Area 3 ([www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)).



**Plate 13:** View of southern portion of Area 3 facing east.



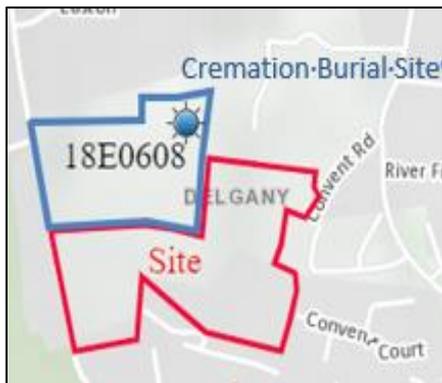
**Plate 14:** View of northern portion of Area 3 facing east.

## 2.4 Area 4



**Figure 6:** Proposed development site Area 4.

Area 4 is east of a small road known as Bellvue Hill R762 which leads towards Kindlestown (Figures 2, 6 and 8, Plate15). The area comprises a large undisturbed open field under pasture at the western end of the proposed development site. Area 4 is bound to the north by a development which was tested by the author under Licence 18E0608 in the grounds of Richview House. The entire development site was test trenched and an isolated Bronze Age burial site comprising a total of five cremation burials were excavated by the author approximately 250m northeast of Area 4 (Figure 7).



**Figure 7:** Adjoining site tested in 2018 by author with location of cremation burial site marked.



**Figure 8:** Aerial view of Area 4 Google Earth.



**Plate 15:** View of Area 4 facing southeast.

### 3 The Development



**Figure 9:** Proposed development plans for the Carmelite Convent Delgany.

The proposed development consists of 232 no. residential units, a creche, a community facility, a management office, demolition works, new entrances, landscaping, parking and site development works in the grounds of the Carmelite convent at Delgany, County Wicklow (Figures 9 and 10).

The Victorian House and the Chapel will be retained, with the house in use as a crèche and the Chapel in use as a community centre.



**Figure 10:** Topographical survey Carmelite Convent Delgany.

## 4 Archaeological Desk Top Assessment of Site

Desk based research included a thorough examination of all available sources as detailed below. The main research was carried out in the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street and also at Ballywaltrim Library in Bray where all the local history files were examined. All other sources used in the compilation of this report are detailed below.

The proposed development area lies 200m north of the village of Delgany in the townland and civil parish of the same name and the barony of Rathdown. Delgany is a picturesque village and Lewis in 1837 describes the village as 'beautifully situated in a sequestered spot on the banks of the stream that waters the Glen of the Downs'. It is located in north Wicklow between the Glen of the Downs and is approximately 2km from the Irish Sea.

A total of six townlands bound Delgany; Kindlestown Upper and Lower, Killincarrig, Farankelly, Stilebawn and Bellevue. Demesne. The Three Trout's Stream runs east to west along the southern boundary between Delgany/Stilebawn and Delgany/Farankelly.

There is confusion as to the origins of Delgany. Lewis (1837) simply states that it was anciently called Dergne, or Delgne, however does not explain its meaning. Curry, in 'The Ordnance Survey Letters for Co. Wicklow' (1928, p27), states that Delgany was not of ecclesiastical but of topographical origin and it was originally Delginis, Island of the Thorns. Delginis is mentioned on several occasions in the Annals of the Four Masters, however Flannery notes 'it is now accepted that ancient Delginis is Dalkey not Delgany' and that 'Derge' Mogorog which is mentioned in the Annals of the Four Masters is in fact Delgany (1990, p.13). Derge means little reddish spot, Flannery notes that there have been references in the past to the reddish colour of the subsoil (ibid.). Mogorog was as the Annals record a contemporary of St Kevin from whom he received his last rites in AD681. Its origins are therefore considered both ecclesiastical and topographical.

### 4.1 Prehistoric Period (7,000BC to 400AD)

There are no recorded monuments or stray finds dating to the Mesolithic period in Delgany or any of the surrounding townlands. Evidence of Mesolithic activity (7,000-4,000BC) in Wicklow is scarce, an explanation for this could be that this activity would have taken place in the coastal areas which are now submersed by and washed away by the sea (Stout 1994, p.4; Corlett 1999, p.11). The closest evidence of later Mesolithic activity is at Dalkey Island where large quantities of Bann Flakes were recovered from midden material (Corlett 1999, p.11). Bann Flakes have also been recorded at Dun Laoghaire, Rathfarnham and Loughlinstown (ibid.). However more recently three Bann flakes have been recovered from the shores of the Poulapuca Reservoir which is approximately 25km from the coast. This area would have in antiquity overlooked the Kings River, a tributary of the River Liffey (Corlett 1999, p.22).

Evidence of Neolithic activity (4,000-2,400BC) is associated with the first appearance of Megalithic Tombs which comprise and in Wicklow the most common type is the passage tomb. They are found in upland areas in northwest Wicklow and south Dublin. They are a prominent feature on this high ground above a 240m contour and beyond the limits of agriculture (Stout 1994, p.6). However, the most common type of megalithic tomb in the barony of Rathdown is the portal tomb, so called for its portal stones which form its entrance (Corlett 1999, p.17). There are however no portal tombs in Delgany or any surrounding townlands. The nearest portal tomb is at Ballybrack near Shankill (DU026-030---).

Development-led excavations in recent years have uncovered evidence of Neolithic activity within the surrounding environs of Delgany, however not within Delgany itself. A polished stone axe head and a waste flint flake were found in a ploughed field northwest of the site under discussion which is an indicator of Neolithic activity (Appendix 1). A development in

Charlesland in 2002, just 1.5km southeast of Delgany exposed fourteen archaeological sites which showed substantial settlement in the Bronze Age. However Neolithic activity was evidenced at two sites. Early Neolithic pottery and six saddle querns were recovered from Site D; Charlesland which contained two Bronze Age round houses (Appendix 2, Molloy 03E0146). Neolithic pottery was also recovered from a pit which was in close proximity to a burnt mound (Appendix 2, Molloy 2004, 04E0118). In Kilcoole one of the pits excavated at the site of a residential development contained over 500 sherds of Early Neolithic pottery (Appendix 2, Kavanagh 06E0670). However the most significant evidence for Neolithic activity was in Killincarrig townland which is adjacent to and east of Delgany (Whitty 10E0025).

An Early Neolithic settlement was excavated by this author in 2010. The settlement comprised two possible structures; associated pits, hearths and other peripheral features (3910–3650 BC, 3770–3640 BC). A large quantity of early Neolithic pottery and diagnostic, high quality lithics were also recovered. An early/middle Bronze Age pit and an Iron Age/Early Medieval hearth (AD 400–560) were also recorded. The structures ran beyond the limits of excavation and bear testament to the continuous occupation of this landscape from Neolithic to Late Iron Age/Early Medieval times.

It is in the Bronze Age (2400-600BC) that substantial evidence for extensive settlement in the environs of Delgany emerges. In 2018 a Bronze Age cremation burial site was excavated by the author 75m northeast of the proposed development site. A stray find of a copper alloy axe has been recorded from a garden in Delgany parish; however its exact find spot is not known (Appendix 1). The stone axe which was used in Neolithic times was replaced by a metal axe. Flat copper axes were the most common artefact to have been produced in the Early Bronze Age and one has been found at Killincarrig approximately 2km east of Delgany (Corlett 1999, 21, Appendix 1). Other stray finds from Killincarrig which date to this period include a bronze mount and a bronze palstave. A large burnt mound site which contained flint and Bronze Age pottery was identified in 1991 by Gowen in Delgany just north of the Three Trout's stream (Appendix 2.1, Gowen 0280105) in Killincarrig. Three spreads of burnt mound material and associated features and also a large burnt mound which sealed five troughs were also excavated by Hayden (Appendix 2.2, Hayden 93E0001).

Excavations associated with the Greystones Southern Access Route (GSAR) in 2004 which had a total length of 2.24km, uncovered a total of twenty sites of which the majority dated to the Bronze Age period (Appendix 2.4). The roadway is located in the townlands of Farrankelly, Priestsnewtown and Kilpedder East. The development in Charlesland in 2002, discussed above just 1.5km southeast of Delgany exposed fourteen archaeological sites.

In Charlesland of the fourteen sites, five were classified as prehistoric however no exact date was assigned in the Excavations Bulletin. Six sites contained evidence of burnt mound activity and associated features, one site contained a ring ditch and cremations, one of which was contained within an urn. Another site which was classified as a settlement also contained cremation deposits. This 'settlement site' contained two round houses and had evidence of activity in the medieval period also. The most interesting finds included a socketed and looped axe and a musical instrument placed at the base of a wood lined trough (Molloy Appendix 2).

The GSAR road as previously discussed was 2.4km in length and twenty-two sites were excavated along its route. The site types found show intense activity in the Late Bronze Age. The site types excavated include prehistoric pits and postholes, a fulacht fiadh and the burial record is evidenced by two ring ditches and cremation burials (Wiggins Appendix 2.4)

The most significant site excavated on the GSAR was excavated by Ken Wiggins, Site 6B in Priestnewtown (Appendix 2). The site comprised an annular Bronze Age ring-ditch which enclosed a sequence of concentric post-holes, as well as four cremation vessels. There was a further cremation outside the ring-ditch to the south-east, adjacent to a large linear ditch.

Wiggins interpreted the site as a Late Bronze Age flat cemetery with mortuary structure which is so far is unique in the Irish archaeological record.

There is very little evidence of any activity in the Iron Age. The nearest site which is in Killincarrig, at the site of an Early Neolithic settlement discussed above. One of the hearths returned a date of AD 400–560 which placed it in the Late Iron Age/Early Medieval period.

## 4.2 Later Middle Ages (AD1150-1700)

Cualu was the early name for Wicklow and Dublin mountain area. This area was ruled by the Dál Messin Corb a leading Leinster tribe of whom St Kevin of Glendalough was a member. However by the seventh century the Uí Mail rose to power as Kings of Leinster having killed Maelodran, a legendary hero of the Dál Messin Corb tribe (Corlett 1999, p.35).

Although Pope Celestine sent Palladius as the first Bishop to convert the Irish to Christianity the widespread conversion although gradual has been more attributed to St. Patrick who arrived in AD 432. During this gradual conversion the laity would have still buried their dead in familial cemeteries, a practice which was tolerated by the church. Burial in monastic centres would have been reserved for kings, bishops, abbots, clerics and patrons. However by the eight century onwards the Church began to legislate regarding acceptable burial practices and The '*Collectio Canonum Hibernensis*' ('Collection of Irish Canons'), written in the early eighth century, documents that canons urged the faithful to abandon burial among their ancestors in favour of burial in church cemeteries (O'Brien 2011, p.58).

Delgany's association with Mogorog indicates an early origin for this church. Mogorog is mentioned in the Annals of the Four Masters as a contemporary of St. Augustine and is reputed to have been of royal blood. The Martyrology of Donegal referred to him as the son of Brachon, King of Britain and of Dina the daughter of a Saxon King (Flannery 1990, p.13). He is said to have arrived in Ireland in the late sixth century, settled in Wicklow and established a cell east of Glendalough, Delgany. The Annals of the Four Masters record that St. Mogorog gave St Kevin his last rites in AD681 (ibid.).

Although the precise location of the cell is not known as it may have been built of wood it is reputed to have been located in the vicinity of the old graveyard. Flannery states that "If there was ever a monastery at Delgany it would probably have been destroyed at the time of the Reformation and consequent Suppression of the Monasteries, the stones being removed for use in other buildings" (Flannery 1990, p20).

The archaeological monuments at the old graveyard comprise a church WI013-00401, graveyard WI013-00402, high cross WI013-00403 and font WI013-00404. The oldest antiquity in Delgany is the shaft of the ninth century high cross which has an inscription on its southern face, Flannery records that it is known as 'The Kings Stone' (1990, p.20). Its inscription reads 'Pray for Dicu and Maelodran the wright' ORDU DICU OCUS MAELO DRAN SAIR (ibid). Corlett suggests that although Odran, a wright (sair) was possibly a wood worker who could not be identified in the historical sources, he may have built the wooden church or carved wooden crosses (1994, p.40). A bullaun stone is located across the road (WI013-065).

The ruins in the old graveyard are of a later nave and chancel church, most likely be thirteenth-century in date.



**Plate 16:** View of high cross WI013-00403, Delgany graveyard.



**Plate 17:** Ruins of church WI013-00401 in Delgany Graveyard.

The monastic settlement would also have been a 'catalyst for the social and economic development of the surrounding environment' (Coldrick & Deery, 2017, p. 12). An interesting find of ninth century gold coins recovered on the Glen Road which leads from the N11 into Delgany adds further weight to the archaeological potential of the environs.

The coins were found in 1872 by a group of children playing on the Glen Road. This hoard dates from the ninth century from the Kings of Mercia. One of the coins was a papal coin of Leo III (c.750-816) who was Emperor as well as Pope. Perhaps as Flannery (1990) suggests they had been brought over by a monk from Repton in Derbyshire where the Mercian Kings are buried.

Other evidence of medieval activity in Delgany was recorded in 1878 when a passageway could be seen at the dispensary under the house belonging to a Mr Evans. The Dispensary is labelled on the Second Edition Map of 1885 (Flannery 1990, p 15) The passage was reputed to have lead in the direction of Three Trout Stream and a stone holy water font was reputed to have been found in the soil seemingly thirty years earlier near the passageway. This font is at Kilquade chapel. The original road was supposed to have run between the Three Trout's Stream and a cottage which belonged to Mr Evans (ibid.). No record of when the road was moved was found during research for this report. The earliest known map is from 1775 and no record was found during an examination of the Vestry Records relating to Delgany, however they were difficult to read in many places.

An archaeological assessment by Gowen in the vicinity of the Three Trout's Stream near Killincarrig noted that several finds of Early Christian and Bronze Age date were handed into the National Museum by metal detectors (Appendix 2).

Two curvilinear ditches believed to be early medieval were excavated at Site 1A, Charlesland by Molloy in 2003 (Appendix 2.5). The ditches contained large quantities of iron slag and burnt bone. A medieval enclosure was excavated along with Bronze Age features also in Charlesland by Molloy in 2004 (Appendix 2.5). The enclosure encompassed an area c. 42m in diameter and was identified as SMR 13:6 and SMR 13:7 by aerial photography.

Dublin was established as an urban centre by the Vikings in AD917. The town thrived and its hinterland known as Dyflinarskiri extended as far south as Delgany and Greystones. By AD980 most of the Vikings who had settled in this region had converted to Christianity. The Rathdown slabs which were influenced by Viking art styles are regarded as representing the burials of local Vikings (Corlett, 1994, p.54).

This Viking hinterland thrived as it was protected by Viking Dublin to the north and to the west the Wicklow Mountains acted as a barrier from attacks by the native Irish. However, this did not stop the Leinster tribes attacking and burning Dublin in AD942. The peace of Delgany was shattered in AD1021 by another battle. The Danes, led by Sitric Silkbeard king of Dublin were defeated by Owgair, King of Leinster (Corlett 1999, p.56 and Flannery 1990). Flannery (1990) suggests that this battle may have taken place along the present Glen Road. A finger ring from Killincarrig may as Corlett indicates have been lost at this battle (1994, p.56). The band of the silver ring had traces of a runic inscription and the plate was decorated with silver filigree (Appendix 1). Another trace of Viking influence is to be seen at Bellevue Demesne which bounds Delgany to the west. The original name of this area was Ballygunner, which derives from a Norse personal name, Gunnar (Corlett 1999, p.57, Simpson 1994, p.193).

By the end of the twelfth century the Vikings were met with a new political and social force as the Anglo Normans invaded Ireland. Diarmait MacMurrough was the King of Leinster and ruler over all the less powerful families. He was forced into exile by the high king of Ireland, Rory O' Connor in 1166. Mac Murrough however returned with a band of Norman knights under the leadership of Richard de Clare, Strongbow. Diarmait set to challenge Rory O' Connor for the title of high king of all Ireland but died before this could be achieved. With his death however Strongbow and the Normans seized control of Leinster in AD1171. Delgany was located in a territorial area known as the Uí Briúin Cualann and was now under Strongbow's control (Simpson 1994, 191). This territory encompassed an area of lands which stretched from Dalkey to Powerscourt in the west and Newcastle in the south. A charter in AD1192 records that Delgany was in the control of a clan called the Mac Giollamochlmóg (Simpson 1994, 193). Domnall Mac Giollamacholmóg the leader of the clan sided with the Anglo Norman invaders despite laying siege with the Irish against the Normans at Dublin and retained his land in Uí Briúin Cualann (Corlett 1999, p.61). Henry II arrived in Ireland after Strongbow's ascent to power to ensure his loyalty to him. Henry did grant much of the lands in Leinster to Strongbow who in turn gave lands to his Norman knights. Mac Giollamacholmóg did however

remain an important landowner which was primarily due to his marriage to Dervorgilla, Strongbow's sister (ibid.; Simpson 1994, 195).

To secure their lands the Normans built motte and bailey castles. These were erected mostly in the late twelfth/early thirteenth century and the castle would have been built of wood or stone. The Norman castles in Leinster were mainly located along the coast. There is no recorded castle in Delgany itself however Curry recorded a 'fine moate' in Ballydonagh which is now known as Bellevue Demesne, adjoining Delgany to the west. This possible site has been quarried away and is not a recorded monument (Simpson 1994, p.200).

The Anglo Norman settlement of Uí Briúin Cualann was relatively peaceful, for the most part because Domhnall Mac Giollamochmog was the reigning Gaelic chief as discussed above. However by the late thirteenth century trouble began to break out as Prince Edward in July 1270 ordered a rebellion to be quelled on his lands (Simpson 1994, p.208). The Normans were weak on several fronts, there were not enough of them to successfully colonise the land, the landlords were absentee and the native Irish remained working the lands which they previously owned (Corlett 1999, p. 67). In Wicklow the O'Byrne's and the O'Tooles took advantage of the situation and began to wage war on the Normans who were losing their grip.

The construction of Kindlestown Castle 685m northeast of the proposed development site was a direct response to the changing political climate. The Pale was a frontier for the Norman settlers and land outside it was known as the Marches. The castle was ascribed to Walter de Beneville but it was from Albert de Kenley that the castle took its name. Kenely was the sheriff of Kildare prominent in the region in the fourteenth century and Simpson notes that he would have received the lands at Ballygunner, now Bellevue Demesne when he married into the Mac Giollamochmóg family in the early fourteenth century (1994, p.214). By the late 14th century the castle was in the hands of the Archbold family, one of the main staunch colonist families in the area. The Archbolds owned lands from Bray to Delgany and Lehaunstown (Corlett 1999, p.72). These lands were given to Norman settlers on condition that they reside there and defend the lands from Irish attack. Kindlestown Castle was excavated in 2001 and the remains of habitation in the medieval period were exposed. Although no datable finds were made at the earliest level, the succeeding levels could be dated from the 14th century onwards. Simpson has suggested that the south and west wall were destroyed during the Cromwellian period. The Archbolds continued to occupy the castle and lands up until the sixteenth century. The topographical files record that a sixteenth century finger ring was found in a flower bed at Kindlestown (Appendix 2).



**Plate 18:** Kindlestown Castle  
WI008-017 (Nat. Mon. 323).

The Wicklow Mountains were known as a 'Land of War' and remained so for the next three hundred years (Corlett 1999, p.67). As English power contracted in the fifteenth and sixteenth

centuries the O Byrnes and the O Tooles, continued their attacks on these settlers and by AD1626 the O'Byrne territory stretched along the coast through fourteen parishes from Delgany to within four miles of Arklow town (Flannery 1990, p.22). Despite bordering Dublin, Wicklow was the last county to be shired as late as 1608 (Gurrin 2000). After the Cromwellian invasion Delgany and Kindlestown Castle were granted to the Earl of Meath (Flannery 1990, p24).

### 4.3 Post Medieval (AD1400-1700) and the Modern Era

For much of the eighteenth century Ireland experienced peace coupled with improvements in agriculture. The soil in Delgany was fertile and conducive to tillage (Gurrin 2000, p.7). In AD1636 a Meath Estate Deed concerning Delgany refers to the presence of a Watermill (NLI Microfilm p 2935). This mill is depicted on the Baker Estate Map of the townlands of Delgany in 1775 (Figure 5). It shows the land described as arable and a mill and mill race between the Delgany Road and the Three Trout Stream. This had gone out of use by 1838 by the time of the First edition Map. This map has the only know drawn church in the old graveyard.

This era also brought prosperity and many fine houses were built including Bellevue House which was previously called Ballydonagh Estate. This estate was previously owned by Francis Corbett who had been the rector at Delgany. David La Touche built Bellvue a Georgian mansion in AD1754. David was from a wealthy Huguenot family who remained active in the community in Delgany until the last male heir died in AD1904.

Delgany appears to have been a pretty village in AD1792, a contemporary source refers to the village 'with its many neat and tasteful cottages on the roadside built with excellent taste in rustic architecture under the amiable hand of the proprietor of Bellvue' (Beaufort p.74).

It is in this era of prosperity that the original Early Victorian House dating to 1810 was built. Richview house and gate-lodge which adjoins the development site to the north was built c.1845. The below postcard from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century illustrates the Early Victorian House in the centre of the photo which was taken over by the Carmelite sisters in 1844. The church was built in 1851 and a large two and three-storey wing to the south built c.1860. A school was held within the monastery until 1896 in the south wing.



**Plate 19:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> century postcard Carmelite Convent Delgany, County Wicklow ( McGimsey, 2019).

The Carmelites are an enclosed order following in the footsteps of St Teresa of Avila in Spain. St Teresa began this way of life in sixteenth century. There have been Carmelite nuns in Ireland since the seventeenth century and there are currently ten monasteries in Ireland.

The Penal Laws prevented Catholic children being educated and so the Carmelites opened a school in Delgany in 1846 (McGimsey, 2019). The school which has since been demolished remained in place for 50 years before the Holy Faith sisters who were a teaching congregation took over until 1896 when the school closed as education was provided elsewhere (Flannery p.101). It was demolished c.2007 for the development of new living accommodation. It was in continuous use as a convent up until its sale and closure in 2019.

#### 4.4 Previous archaeological assessments (Appendix 2)

In the immediate vicinity of the development site the author excavated a Bronze Age burial site approximately 75m southeast of the proposed development site in the townland of Delgany (18E0608) (Figure 6). The entire development site was test trenched and an isolated Bronze Age burial site comprising a total of five cremation burials which were in a linear east to west alignment were excavated and post excavation analysis is ongoing.

A corn drying kiln was excavated by IAC in 2019 approximately 500m northeast of the site under discussion in Kindlestown Upper (Planning Ref Wicklow County Council 18/678).

In the wider landscape development-led excavations in recent years have uncovered substantial prehistoric activity within the surrounding environs of Delgany. A development in Charlesland in 2002, just 1.5km southeast of Delgany exposed fourteen archaeological sites which showed substantial settlement in the Bronze Age. Excavations associated with the Greystones Southern Access Route (GSAR) in 2004 which had a total length of 2.24km, uncovered a total of twenty sites of which the majority dated to the Bronze Age period. The development in Charlesland in 2002, discussed above just 1.5km southeast of Delgany exposed fourteen archaeological sites.



Figure 11: Previous archaeological excavations in vicinity of proposed site at Delgany County Wicklow.

#### 4.5 National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files (Appendix 1)

The topographical files relating to Delgany from the National Museum of Ireland in Kildare Street were inspected to ascertain whether any artefacts had been thus far recorded in the vicinity of the proposed development area. The finds are discussed in the historical background below and are detailed in Appendix 1.

## 4.6 Architectural Heritage and Local Development Plan

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage's (NIAH) is a section within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht whom identify and record the architectural heritage of Ireland, from 1700 to the present day.

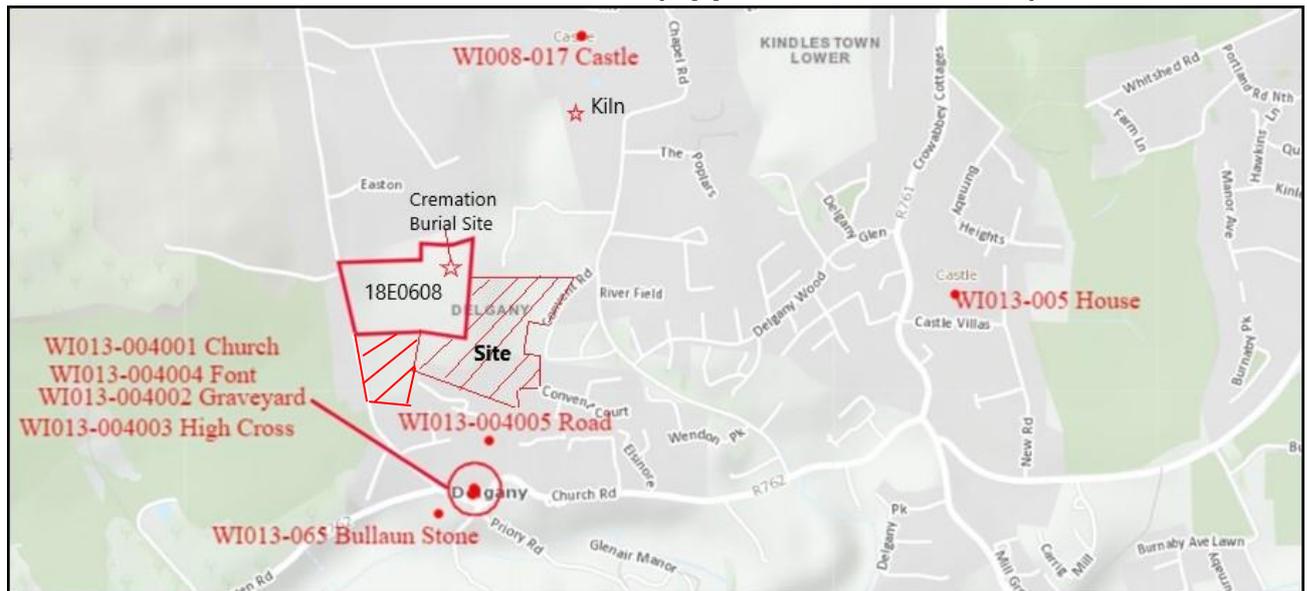
The County Development Plan for Wicklow was inspected in accordance with Part IV of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2006 which requires every development plan to include a record of 'Protected Structures'. A 'protected structure' is a structure that a Planning Authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical point of view.

Delgany Carmelite Monastery is listed as a protected structure (Ref 08- 15). The early-19th Century, house and also the two-storey wing which is now demolished is listed. The chapel is also listed as a protected structure

The appraisal for the monastery and church as extracted from the NIAH website is as follows (Reg No: 16305011).

*'Detached multiple-bay single-storey over basement former house, built c.1810, now in use as a monastery with an attached Gothic Revival church, built c.1853, and a large two and three-storey wing to the south built c.1860. The whole ensemble is roughly U-plan with the original former house section to the centre, large three-storey projecting wing to south and projecting church section to north. The façade of the monastery section proper is finished in painted lined render, with moulded quoins and drip stones. The hipped roof of the central section is slated and largely hidden from view behind a tall parapet. Rendered chimneystacks. The roof of the large wing to the south is completely hidden from view behind a parapet. The entrance, which is to the original central section, consists of a partly glazed double door and is located within a c.1950s flat roofed porch, which itself is located to the high level ground floor and is reached via a symmetrical double-return external stone stair. The porch is surmounted by a freestanding Marian statue and the stair has wrought-iron railings. The flat-headed windows have timber sash frames, six over six and three over six. Two first floor windows of the north elevation of the south wing have been replaced with niches, each with statues supported on corbelled brackets. The gable-ended church is in rubble field stone with roughly arranged granite quoins and dressings, whilst the pitched roof is slated. The entrance is to the east-facing gable and consists of a timber pointed arch door set within a moulded reveal, which itself is set within a full-height gabled projection. Pointed arch windows. Gable-topped reducing buttresses. The monastery is set within extensive grounds to the north side of the village of Delgany.'*

## 4.7 Record of Monuments and Places (Appendix 3 RMP Files)



**Figure 12:** RMP sites and recent archaeological sites identified in 2018 and 2019 within 1km of site location at Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

Reference Number	Legal Status	Townland	Monument Type	Distance
WI008-017	National Monument No. 323	Kindlestown Upper	Castle/Hall House	685m
WI008-017001	National Monument No. 323	Kindlestown Upper	Bawn	685m
WI013-004002	Recorded Monument	Delgany	Graveyard	175m
WI013-004003	Recorded Monument	Delgany	High Cross	175m
WI013-004001	Recorded Monument	Delgany	Church	175m
WI013-004004	Recorded Monument	Delgany	Font	175m
WI013-004005	Recorded Monument	Delgany	Road/Holloway	75m
WI013-005	Recorded Monument	Killincarrig	House 16th/17th century	- 965m
WI013-065	Recorded Monument	Delgany	Bullaun Stone	225m

**Table 1:** RMP sites summary within 1km radius of development site.

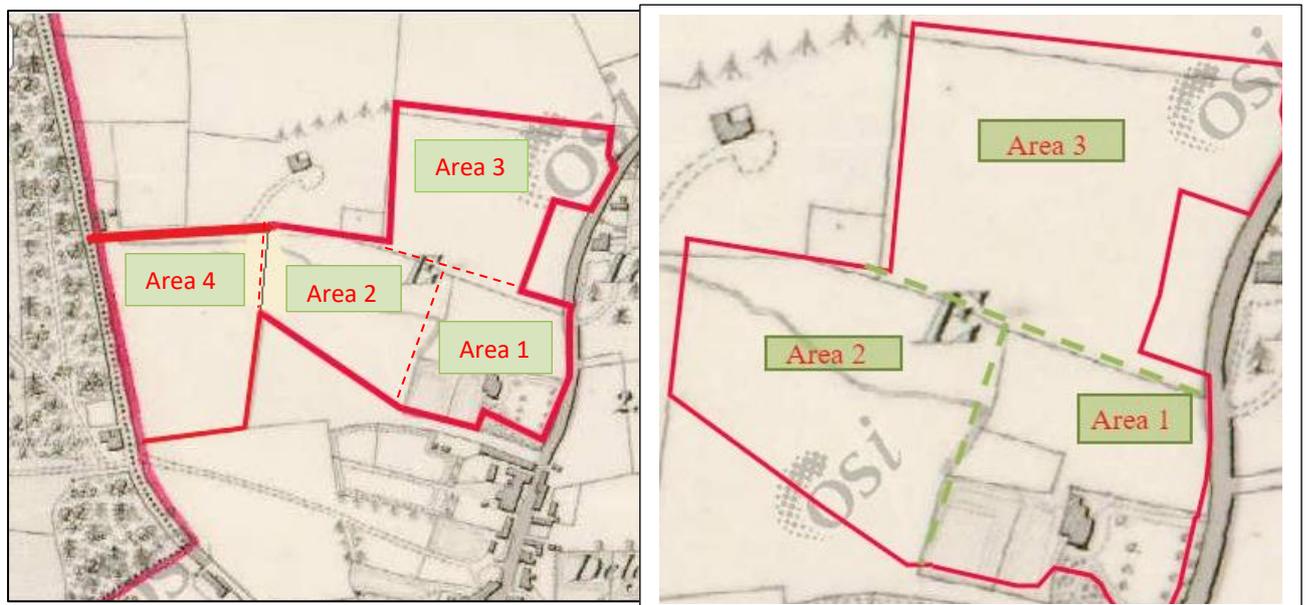
No Recorded Monuments will be impacted upon by the proposed development. The closest RMP site is a road/Holloway which is described in the RMP files as 'An unpaved road consisting of a linear depression, usually with an earthen bank on one or both sides, and only found in association with medieval deserted settlement (12th-16th centuries AD)'. Archaeological test trenching in 2002 (Excavation Licence 02E0390) revealed the eastern end of the possible hollow way.

A cluster of RMP sites are 175m to the south in the village of Delgany in a graveyard which contains several eighteenth century headstones. These sites comprise a church WI013-00401, graveyard WI013-00402, high cross WI013-00403 and font WI013-00404. The remains of the ninth century high cross has an inscription on its southern face, Flannery records that it is known as 'The Kings Stone' (1990, p.20). Its inscription reads 'Pray for Dicu and Maelodran the wright' ORDU DICU OCUS MAELO DRAN SAIR (ibid). Corlett suggests that although Odran, a wright (sair) was possibly a wood worker who could not be identified in the historical sources, he may have built the wooden church or carved wooden crosses (1994, p.40). A bullaun stone is located across the road (WI013-065).

Approximately 685m to the northeast of the development site is a castle which comprises the remains of an early 17th-century house WI031-005, probably built for Henry Walsh. Kindlestown Castle WI008-017, located 900m northeast of the development site was built in the fourteenth century and is ascribed to Walter de Beneville. It was from Albert de Kenley, the sheriff of Kildare that the castle took its name who was prominent in the region in the Anglo Norman period.

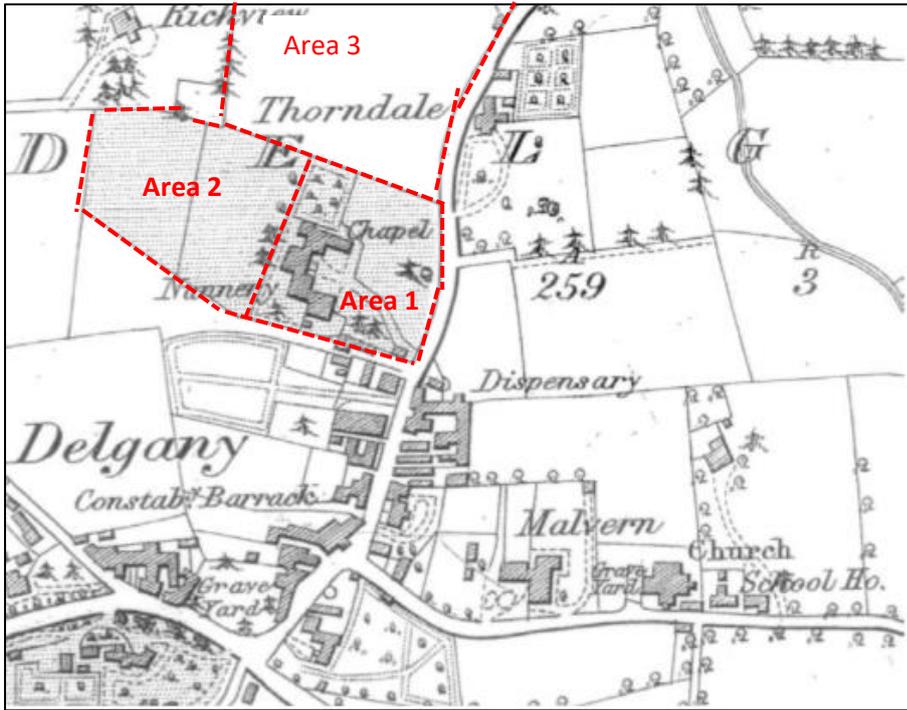
#### 4.8 Cartographic Analysis

In order to identify field boundaries and other historic features which may have been exposed in the test trenches all editions of OS mapping was completed. Analysis of historic mapping shows the human impact on the landscape and its evolving nature over clearly defined time intervals.



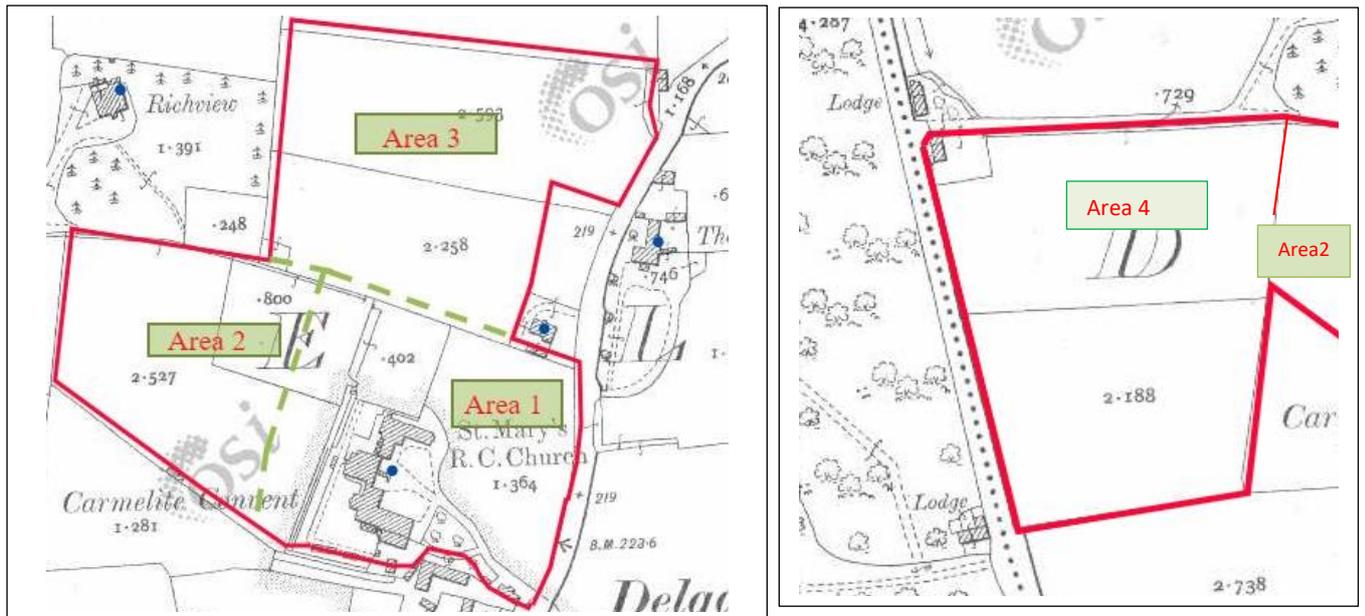
**Figure 13:** Proposed development site outlined in red on historic map 6 inch colour (1837-1842).

In 1886 the Early Victorian House is depicted with landscaped gardens to the front and rear in Area 1. A possible stream runs through the centre of Area 2. This is also depicted as a large open field as is the field depicted in Areas 3 and 4.



**Figure 14:** Areas 1-3 Second edition Ordnance Survey map surveyed in 1885.

By 1885 Carmelite Convent has been fully developed. The chapel is at the north end of the group of buildings and the Nunnery is labelled as a block of buildings attached to the Victorian house. Area 2 comprises a large field which has been divided in two and the possible stream which was depicted on the first edition map is no longer depicted. Area 3 comprises a large open field and no features of note are depicted.



**Figure 15:** Areas 1-4 third edition Ordnance Survey map 1910.

By the time of the third edition map 1910 the site is well developed. The chapel has been labelled 'St Mary's R.C Church' in Area 1. The field boundaries in Area 2 have been altered. A field boundary is depicted running east west across Area 3. A similar field boundary is depicted in Area 4 running east west as is a small house located in the northwest corner of the field opposite the gate lodge at the entrance to Richview House.

## 5 Impact Assessment

The area of proposed development within the grounds of a Carmelite Convent is located in the townland of Delgany which is in the Parish of Delgany and Barony of Rathdown. No Recorded Monuments will be impacted upon by the proposed development however the site is located in a rich archaeological landscape as has been discussed in Section 4 of this report.

The closest Recorded Monument site is a road or Holloway 75m to the south of the site. These sites are an unpaved medieval road (12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries) consisting of a linear depression, usually with an earthen bank on one or both sides.

In the immediate vicinity of the development site the author excavated a Bronze Age burial site approximately 75m northeast of Area 3 in the townland of Delgany (18E0608). A total of five cremation burials which were in a linear east to west alignment were excavated and post excavation analysis is ongoing (Figures 11 and 12). Given the proximity of this site to Area 3 there is potential for sub surface archaeological features to be uncovered.

The church and Victorian house in Area 1 will be retained as part of this development, the proposed use of the chapel is a community centre and the house a crèche (Figure 16). The nun's burial ground which contained the remains of over 80 individuals is located to the north of the convent in an enclosed area rectangular in plan northeast to southwest aligned (17m x 13m) (Plates 6 and 7, Figure 16). A licence was granted by Wicklow County Council for the exhumation of the individuals within the Carmelite Monastery's burial ground in August 2018. The burials have been re interred in Kilquade monastery and no human remains have been left in Delgany (Appendix 4). All of the burials which were interred in coffins were excavated by hand and date from 1844 up to recent years. An access road and green area will be developed at the former location of the burial ground (Figure 16).



**Figure 16:** Proposed development plan in relation to nun's burial ground at Carmelite Convent, Delgany.



**Figure 17:** Field boundaries which may be impacted upon by the proposed development Areas 1-3.



**Figure 18:** Field boundaries which may be impacted upon Area 4.

Based on the results of cartographic analysis there will be a direct impact on field boundaries depicted on historic mapping as illustrated in figures 17 and 18. Area 1 appears to have been disturbed from at least 1810 and significant earth moving took place in 2007 during construction works associated with the new convent accommodation (Plate 9).

The excavated material from the new accommodation building is stored at the northern end of Area 2 and is visible as an overgrown mound of topsoil (Figure 4, Plates 9 and 10). It is possible that sub surface archaeological material survives beneath this area depending on the degree of disturbance.

Given the results of the desk based assessment there is potential for impacts on previously unrecorded archaeological features in particular in Areas 3 and 4. These fields remain unchanged based on cartographic analysis, with the exception of the removal of field boundaries which ran roughly east west at the time of the third edition map in Areas 3 and 4 (Figure 17 and 18). A house is also depicted at the northwest corner of Area 3 on the third edition map 1910 (Figure 15).

The excavation of a Bronze Age cremation burial site 75m northwest of Area 3 of the proposed development site indicates that the landscape was occupied during the Bronze Age (Figures 11 and 12).

## 6 Archaeological Mitigation

The purpose of this pre planning archaeological impact assessment is to enable an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy to be adopted at an early stage in order to protect previously unidentified archaeological remains which may be impacted upon during the course of construction works should the development be granted planning permission.

Based on the results of this desk based assessment which has confirmed the archaeological potential of the site the following archaeological mitigation in terms of both geophysical survey and test trenching is recommended:

### 6.1 Area 1:

It would appear that the ground for the most part in Area 1 has been disturbed from construction activities. Test Trenching and/or geophysical survey under licence is advised where is practical in Area 1. The advice of a geophysicist will be sought to see if the ground is suitable given the degree of disturbance in recent years.

The nun's graveyard was located in the northeast corner of Area 1. All of the burials, were exhumed and re-interred in Kilquade graveyard in September 2018 under licence from Wicklow County Council. To ensure that there are no burials remaining the soil should be removed under archaeological licence and supervision to natural ground to ensure that all burials have been exhumed. Test trenching should also be carried out under licence adjacent to the boundaries of the graveyard to confirm that there are no outlying burials. The burials were excavated by hand from the graveyard and this precautionary strategy will ensure that there is no danger of burials being encountered during construction works.



**Figure 19:** Area 1 (left) and burial ground identified by red arrow and proposed test trenches illustrated in blue.

### 6.2 Area 2

Given the rough terrain and degree of overgrowth it would not be possible to carry out a geophysical survey in Area 2. Given the height of the mound approximately 10m it will not be possible to excavate test trenches through this material in advance of the main contract for

health and safety reasons. Test trenching is recommended in Area 2 to identify any sub surface archaeological remains.

### **6.3 Area 3**

The field which comprises Area 3 is under pasture and is in the author's opinion suitable for geophysical survey. It is recommended that a geophysical survey is carried out followed by a programme of archaeological test trenching based upon the results of the geophysical survey. It is also recommended that test trenching be carried out in the field adjacent to the nun's burial ground to ensure that that no burials are located beyond the confines of the graveyard as extant today (Figure 19).

### **6.4 Area 4**

The field which comprises Area 3 is under pasture and is in the author's opinion may be suitable for geophysical survey. It is recommended that a geophysical survey is carried out followed by a programme of archaeological test trenching based upon the results of the geophysical survey.

The results of the programme of licenced test trenching and geophysical survey should be contained within an Archaeological Impact Assessment report for review by the relevant bodies.

Based on the results of this assessment including both geophysical and test trenching under licence, further mitigation may be required, such as the preservation of any archaeological deposits that may be identified, either in situ or by record (i.e. excavation) and/or archaeological monitoring. Any further mitigation will require consultation with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

*Please note this is the professional opinion of the writer and based on the results of the desk top assessment. All recommendations ore subject to approval by the National Monuments Service of the Heritage and Planning Division, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.*

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## Appendix 1: Topographical Files

NMI File Number	Townland	Parish	Barony	Details
1A/42/71	Kindlestown	Delgany Lwr	Rathdown	Sixteenth-century bronze finger ring found in flower bed
1995:680	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:681	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:682	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:683	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:684	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:685	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:686	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:687	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:688	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:699	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park silver nugget
1995:700	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park coin
1995:701	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Burnaby Park coin
1943: 200	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Wooden ladle found in wood near Delgany
1943: 201	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Wooden ladle found in wood near Delgany
1943: 202	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Wooden ladle found in wood near Delgany
1988:236	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Decorated Viking silver ring in 2 pieces
1988:237	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Decorated ring of small ring brooch
1988:238	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Bronze Palstave
1988:239	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Incomplete Bronze socketed axe
1988:240	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Medieval bronze socketed spearhead
1988:241	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Circular Bronze Brooch

1988:242	Killincarrig	Greystones	Rathdown	Bronze Mount
No Record number	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Polished stone axe head and waste flint flake found by Mr. Seamus Corballis in a field nw of 'Round the Bend'.
1995:15	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Chain found in garden in Delgany parish.
1995:16	Delgany	Delgany	Rathdown	Copper alloy axe head found in garden in Delgany parish.

## Appendix 2: Previous archaeological excavations

(Source [www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie))

### **Wicklow**

**1991:136**

#### **Kindlestown Upper**

Medieval

**O327211 Andy Halpin**

In June and July 1991 Archaeological Development Services Ltd. carried out an archaeological site assessment on behalf of T.J. Tracey and Son Ltd. at Kindlestown Upper, Delgany. The site includes the remains of Kindlestown Castle, a National Monument of medieval date, and it was because of this that preliminary archaeological site assessment was a condition of the planning permission for a proposed housing development on the site. The possibility of associated settlement in the vicinity of the castle was the primary object of the investigation.

Kindlestown Castle is thought to be of 13th-century date, but little is known of its history or of any associated settlement. A map of Delgany surveyed in 1775 shows the castle with a cluster of houses beside it, apparently to the north or north-east. This seemed to indicate some form of settlement around the castle, possibly of medieval origin. If there was some form of village settlement on the site in 1775, it had vanished by the time of the Ordnance Survey First Edition in 1838.

The results of the assessment trenches, however, indicated no significant archaeological deposits on the site. Field ditches and building debris were noted, but in all cases were of relatively recent date and no trace of any earlier features was visible. Indeed, the building debris may well derive from the buildings depicted on the 1775 map, or their successors. On the basis of the evidence currently available, therefore, one must conclude that the settlement shown on the Baker estate map in 1775, if such it was, was a relatively modern (and apparently short-lived) phenomenon. Activities such as ploughing and potato cultivation (which according to local sources went on the site until quite recently) may have destroyed archaeological stratigraphy. On the basis of the assessment, however, there is no reason at present to believe that any significant archaeological deposits or features are present on the site.

### **Wicklow**

**2001:1354**

#### **Kindlestown Castle, Delgany**

Medieval

**O279211**

**SMR 8:17**

**0E0844 Linzi Simpson**

#### Introduction

Excavations have now been completed in the interior of Kindlestown Castle, Delgany, on behalf of Dúchas The Heritage Service. The medieval castle consists of a rectangular hall-house-type structure, which measures externally 21m east–west by 9.8m by c. 8m in height (internally 18m east–west by 6.6m). Although the northern wall and part of the eastern wall survive generally intact to parapet level, the southern and western walls were comprehensively demolished in the post-medieval period. The surviving castle, two storeys high, is built of rough limestone, and the main features consist of a small projecting tower in the north-west corner, an original barrel vault at ground-floor level, and an entrance (at ground-floor level) and mural staircase in the eastern wall. The windows are small defensive loops in the exterior, widening into segmental-arched embrasures in the interior. Window-seats survive at first-floor level. The remains of a slated parapet and stone string-course are also visible in the front façade.

There are four antiquarian depictions by Du Noyer from the early 1840s (three pencil sketches and one water-colour) and these show the eastern side of the castle still intact. This appears to have been a narrow service tower, which extended well beyond the roof line.

The flashing of the pitched roof was visible in the west face of the tower, which was still relatively intact in 1913 (when Canon Scott photographed it). The Du Noyer depictions also suggest that there was a watercourse on the northern side (possibly a moat, see below) and earthworks to the west.

In summary, the excavations revealed the remains of habitation in the medieval period in the form of metalled surfaces, post-holes and a hearth. Although no datable finds were made at the earliest level, the succeeding levels could be dated from the 14th century onwards. The castle appears to have been continually occupied and in use from this time into the 18th century, when at least two brick ovens were constructed. The excavation also established that the south and west walls, as revealed during excavation, represented a replacement wall rebuilt in the 19th century. These walls, while following faithfully the line of the original wall (and, in the case of the southern wall, built on top of the original medieval foundations), were drystone walls, incorporating fragments of the collapsed barrel vault, some with traces of wicker centering. The castle was probably repaired in response to the fact that it had been extensively plundered and large sections of the facing stones had been removed.

#### An enclosure

the castle may originally have stood in a large rectangular ditched enclosure, which measured 52m east–west by 18m and which was still visible in 1991. Only traces of the northern section of the moat are now visible, located 6.5m from the castle. This moat, marked by a shallow depression and nettles, measures 6m wide by at least 1m in depth. There was no excavation in this area.

#### The history of the castle

Historically, the castle was ascribed by Liam Price to Walter de Beneville but takes its name from the de Kenley family, prominent in the region in the 14th century: Albert de Kenley was sheriff of Kildare in the early 14th century and he probably received the castle after marrying into the Mac Giollamochoilmog family, the dominant Irish dynasty in the region. The Meic Giollamochoilmog controlled all the land in the area and their caput was at Rathdown, in Greystones, a short distance from Kindlestown.

The Wicklow area (then south county of Dublin) had been settled very peaceably after the Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland in 1169, for the most part because Domhnall Mac Giollamochoilmog, the reigning Gaelic chief, sided with the new invaders and they became allies, safeguarding his land and tenants. Thus the first hundred years in Wicklow was very settled. By the late 13th century, however, the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles, forcibly moved to the Wicklow Mountains, began to rebel, attacking and destroying the Anglo-Norman settlements. The construction of Kindlestown Castle, clearly a highly defensive building, was a direct response to the changing political climate.

By the mid-14th century, south County Dublin had been all but cleared of settlers, creating an opportunity for 'frontier colonists' to expand in the area. By the late 14th century the castle was in the hands of the Archbold family, one of the main staunch colonist families in the area, who gradually expanded their power base to include lands at Bray and Kilruddery. The castle remained in a frontier position throughout the medieval period, being taken by the rebel O'Byrnes in 1377, although retaken soon afterwards. The south and west wall was probably destroyed during the Cromwellian period, as were other castles in the area. Shortly after, the castle passed into the hands of the earl of Meath, who held lands at Kilruddery, Co. Wicklow.

#### Phase 1

Two phases can be identified in the construction, visible as a change in the type of stone used, a break in the render line in the front façade, and the use in the lower level of putlog holes, which are absent from the upper level. This combination probably suggests that the castle was constructed to first-floor level (including the barrel vault), after which construction was halted, although it is not known for how long. The Phase 1 castle was built of roughly cut/uncut grey limestone bonded with distinctive crude mortar, which contained heavy grit and shell inclusions. The walls were over 2m wide and the quoins were of cut granite (local stone). The southern wall had a basal batter, while the foundations of the northern wall were composed of a series of projecting offsets. The barrel vault was clearly original to the Phase 1 building as the northern haunch forms part of the core of the standing northern wall. The excavation also revealed that the castle was originally roofed in purple slate, complete examples of which were found throughout the deposits. The remains of a deposit of small

chips of slate at the south-east corner of the castle is probably related to the construction level of the roof.

## Phase 2

The second phase followed the plan of the first and the north-west tower was completed, with garderobes feeding into the already existing chutes of Phase 1. A third garderobe was added at parapet level, but this was clearly not in the original plan as the chute only extends through the Phase 2 portion of the wall, screened by a squinch arch.

The entrance at ground-floor level in the east wall is difficult to date. The excavation revealed that the eastern wall continued across the line of the doorway, suggesting that it was originally a solid wall. However, this was only 0.25m in height, comprised of two courses, and there was no indication of the doorway in the west face. Two granite jambs, however, were located on the eastern side and were positioned 1.45m apart. These appear to have been inserted, disturbing the face of the wall, although this could not be firmly established. The level of the jambs, less than 0.2m from the boulder clay, is also relatively unusual as it suggests that the doorway entrance was very high. The doorway may have been inserted in Phase 2, replacing an original door at first-floor level, the remains of which may be shown as a broken open on one of the 19th-century depictions.

The Phase 2 castle was constructed from a different type of stone, consisting of rough limestone with an orange/red hue, clearly from a different source. The walls were also thinner and possibly not as defensive (the thinness of the walls eventually led to the partial collapse of the eastern wall). What is of note, however, is the fact that the mortar used is very similar in type to that used in the lower course, suggesting that the same source of lime was used. The remains of an external render are clearly visible in the front façade of the Phase 2 section, indicating that the castle was completely rendered in Phase 2, the render probably adhering better to the upper levels because the mortar of this section of the wall was still fresh, unlike the lower portion (Ben Murtagh, pers. comm.). The use of regularly spaced putlog holes in the lower Phase 1 section was notable in view of their absence in the upper levels. Although putlogs may have been used and subsequently neatly in filled, the barrel vault was in position by this date, which would have facilitated the construction of the upper levels.

## The deposits

The excavation revealed little stratigraphy that could be dated to the medieval period, although a large quantity of medieval pottery was recovered, along with two coins probably dating from the 14th century. It did establish, however, that the castle does not have deep foundations and sits directly on boulder clay. The western end of the castle had the remains of a metallised surface, presumably the original surface, and this was set on boulder clay. It was probably originally quite extensive but had been cut away by later 17th- and 18th-century activity in the central and eastern parts. This surface contained the remains of a large hearth, the burnt ash and charcoal of which extended throughout the western end of the castle. Numerous lumps of fire-reddened clay were also recovered from this deposit. The remains of some sort of stone drain, orientated north–south, were revealed in the central area, although badly truncated by later activity.

The boulder clay and redeposited boulder clay were also cut by numerous post-holes, some in linear arrangement, extending through the length of the castle (east–west). However, these could not be related to any known feature although several post-dated the castle walls. They may represent some sort of internal divisions within the barrel vault, which were replaced continually over time. Also of note were the remains of three massive post-holes, centrally placed in a linear arrangement, orientated east–west. These measured, on average, 0.3m in diameter by 0.35m in depth and were cut through the metallised surface. They appear to suggest the presence of some sort of internal support system, centrally placed at this end of the barrel vault.

A large channel was excavated through the western end of the castle in the late 17th century, orientated east–west, and this removed the medieval stratigraphy in this area. The cut may have acted as some sort of large soak-away as it was filled with loose boulders. The deposits over this feature, while post-medieval in date, also contained a large amount of medieval pottery, indicating that they represented disturbed medieval horizons.

Two ovens were located at the eastern end of the castle, both made of hand-made brick, which can probably be dated to the late 17th/early 18th century. One of the ovens was set within the window embrasure, removing the lower sill but obviously taking advantage of the position of the window to act as a flue. Only the lower three courses of the oven survived intact. The second oven was set into the southern wall at the eastern end and the facing was removed in this location. This oven (possibly part of a pair) survived relatively intact. It was sub oval in shape with a flue on the western end and a stone slab floor. The interior was completely filled with layers of charcoal and ash and a large number of broken pantiles. A series of new clay floors were laid at the eastern end of the castle which could be associated with the ovens. A small rough stone wall was also constructed which separated the ovens from the remainder of the castle.

The upper deposits of clay, sealing the channel and extending throughout the castle, were substantial in depth and contained numerous lumps and mortared fragments of the collapsed barrel vault, including many with traces of wicker centering (the window embrasures show sections of well-preserved plank centering). The depth of the deposit may suggest that the area on either side of the roof of the barrel vault was in filled with clay to create a level floor (Ben Murtagh, pers. comm.).

**Wicklow**  
**2002:1965**  
**Hillview, Delgany**

Testing  
**32773 21090**

**02E0390 Bill Frazer**

Testing was undertaken in April 2002 before the Hillview development in Delgany village. The site, measuring c. 22m by 28m, lies immediately behind the main eastern street frontage in the village, on a south-facing slope, just north of the Wicklow Arms and immediately outside the protected area surrounding an early ecclesiastical site (SMR 13:4). The first historical mention of Delgany is in an entry for 1021 in the Annals of Ulster, which records the defeat of Sigtryggr, son of Óáffr, king of Dublin, by Augaire mac Dúnlaing, king of Leinster, at Delgany, prompting speculation that Sigtryggr had a stronghold in the neighbourhood (Etchingham 1994, 121). By 1192 Delgany had fallen under the purview of Macgilleholmoche, along with Kellegar, Ballyman, Kilmaberne and Ballydonagh (Simpson 1994, 193–4), and by the beginning of the 14th century the Uí Briúin Cualann controlled the district east of the Avonmore River from Delgany to the outskirts of Wicklow. At around the same time (c. 1315) the Archebolds, who had already settled around the area, occupied nearby Kindlestown Castle and may have been tenants of Albert de Kenley (ibid. 210). Delgany was a center of medieval settlement by this time.

Testing before the refurbishment/extension of the Wicklow Arms was undertaken by Rónán Swan in 1999 (Excavations 1999, No. 895, 99E0231). No surviving medieval features were found, although the stratigraphy of that site indicated several periods of renovation and reconstruction associated with the demolition of previous buildings. The 1999 site lay between the ecclesiastical site and the Hillview site.

In the present work two perpendicular test-trenches were mechanically excavated across the development site. Trench 1 measured 14.4m north-east/south-west by 1.8m, across the natural gradient. No archaeology was unearthed in this trench. Trench 2 measured 19.2m by 1.8m, down the hill slope. Two archaeological features were revealed. A feature cut into natural boulder clay, possibly linear and oriented south-east/north-west across the hill slope yielded a possible broken gun flint from the top of its charcoal-rich surface. A second, larger cut feature at the south-eastern end of the trench contained several different deposits, some with charcoal and butchered animal bone. This feature corresponds to a former footpath ('hollow way') shown on the first-edition OS map. On the basis of the OS maps, the hollow way was backfilled between c. 1838–1908/9. Two mortared stone south gables of buildings border the Hillview site to the north and east, although neither will be affected by the

development. The former dates from 1838 and 1908/9, and the latter pre-dates 1838. Both now form part of property boundary walls and are in poor condition. Based on this assessment, measures for the mitigation of the impact of development on the archaeology were incorporated in the construction programme, so that archaeology unearthed will be preserved undisturbed and in situ, with monitoring of service trenching to follow.

**Wicklow****2006:2181****Kindlestown Castle, Delgany**

Medieval castle

**32793 21175****WI008-017****01E0084 ext. Colm Moriarty**

A small excavation was carried out at Kindlestown Castle, Delgany, Co. Wicklow, in October 2006. The medieval castle is located within a modern housing development called Dromont, off Kindlestown Upper Road, which leads from Greystones to Delgany. The castle is a rectangular hall-house, the ground plan of which measures 21m east-west by 9.8m (internally 18m east-west by 6.6m wide). Construction of the castle was probably started by Albert de Kenley in c. 1300 but may have been completed by the Archbold family, who had become very prominent in the area by the mid-14th century. It was to remain in the Archbold hands until the 17th century, when the Earl of Meath eventually purchased it. The castle is a late example of a hall-house, most of which are dated to the early 13th century (Simpson 2002).

The area resolved during this excavation programme was located in the eastern part of the castle adjacent to its northern wall. It measured 2.9m east-west by 3m. The remaining interior of the castle had been excavated by Linzi Simpson in 2001 (Excavations 2001, No. 1354). Five levels of activity were recognized during the 2006 phase of excavation, the majority of which were post-medieval in date. The only medieval features identified were a cluster of nine stake-/post-holes that cut natural boulder clay adjacent to the northern wall of the castle. In the limited area that was excavated, these features failed to form any coherent structural pattern. However, they are very similar in form and layout to post-holes previously identified by Simpson. She suggested that they might represent some sort of internal divisions within the barrel vault which were replaced continually over time. The absence of more substantial medieval remains was probably related to a large 17th-century drain that truncated most of the excavation area. Later activity at the site included a truncated red-brick oven and successive post-medieval clay and mortar surfaces.

Post-excavation work for this site is ongoing.

## Reference

**Wicklow****2004:1863****FARRANKELLY/PRIESTSNEWTOWN/ KILPEDDER EAST**

Monitoring

**328857 209686 to 327534 208973****04E0128 Ken Wiggins**

Monitoring of road construction work for the Greystones southern access route (GSAR) took place between February and March 2004; limited construction work in an archaeologically sensitive area on 27 May 2004 was also monitored. The GSAR had a total length of 2.24km and a construction corridor width of between 40m and 60m. The roadway is located in the townlands of Farrankelly, Priestsnewtown and Kilpedder East, around 2km south of the village of Delgany, Co. Wicklow, and 2km north-west of the village of Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow. The route follows a curving line extending between the R761 Greystones-Kilcoole road to the east and the N11 Dublin-Wexford road to the west. It will ultimately intersect the N11 at Drummin townland.

The sites that contained little or no material of archaeological interest were investigated under the monitoring licence. Each archaeologically significant site was excavated under a separate

licence. Where a number of sites were identified in close proximity to one another and appeared to be related, a single excavation licence was sought to cover all as a group. Seven excavation licences were issued to Ken Wiggins (Sites 1-2, 04E0267, No. 1880 below; Site 4, 04E0403, No. 1881 below; Site 5, 04E0402, No. 1882 below; Site 6, 04E0401, No. 1883 below; Sites 12-13, 04E0467, No. 1884 below; Site 14, 04E0466, No. 1864 below; and Sites 17-18, 04E0653, No. 1872 below). A further licence was issued to Christine Grant (Site 16, 04E0496).

**Wicklow****2004:1864****GSAR SITES 14/14A-F, FARRANKELLY**

Prehistoric pits

**328857 209686****04E0466 Ken Wiggins**

Sites 14/14a-f was situated in Field 1 of the GSAR, Chainage 2080-2240. In the course of topsoil-stripping, these seven separate areas were cordoned off for excavation under one licence. The archaeology consisted of a series of twelve pits, which were dispersed over a large area measuring 160m in length (east-west) and 40m in width. No artefacts were associated with any of these features.

**Wicklow****2004:1872****GSAR SITES 17/17A-B AND 18, KILPEDDER EAST**

No archaeological significance

**327534 208973, 327618 208958****04E0653 Ken Wiggins**

Site 17 was located in Field 12 of the GSAR, Chainage 480-520, and consisted of two areas of charcoal-enriched clay deposited on sandy brown subsoil.

**Wicklow****2004:1880****GSAR SITES 1 AND 2, PRIESTSNEWTOWN**

Fulacht fiadh

**327960 208848, 327940 208850****04E0267 Ken Wiggins**

Site 1 was exposed towards the southern end of the 'outfall' corridor, extending between Chainage 1000 of the GSAR and the bank of the Kilpedder Stream. It consisted of a spread of dark-grey silty clay containing many heat-shattered sandstone fragments and measuring 6m (east-west) by 3m. The site was interpreted as the leveled remains of a Bronze Age 'burnt mound' or fulacht fiadh.

Site 2 was located c. 17m west of Site 1 and c. 11m north of the edge of Kilpedder Stream. It was a similar spread of dark-grey/blackish silty clay with dense fire-cracked sandstone fragments and measuring c. 6m (east-west) by c. 3.5m, which appeared to represent the remains of an ancient cooking site or fulacht fiadh.

**Wicklow****2004:1881****GSAR SITE 4, PRIESTSNEWTOWN**

Prehistoric pits and post-holes

**328308 209070****04E0403 Ken Wiggins**

Site 4 was located in Field 10 of the GSAR, Chainage 1250-1295, and consisted of a concentrated group of twelve post-holes and six pits in the surface of the subsoil. The site measured 10.5m (east-west) by 8m.

The presence of burnt-stone material in three pits at the southern end of the site suggests that the Site 4 remains could be peripheral to a leveled fulacht fiadh. However, the absence of a characteristic spread of burnt stones across at least part of the site makes interpretation as a fulacht fiadh difficult. Furthermore, the same pits each contained traces of cremated bone, more of which came from seven of the post-holes, material not typically associated with excavated fulacht fiadh. The post-holes indicate that substantial structures existed on the site, but the surviving evidence is too limited and incomplete to provide meaningful plans of these structures. It is possible that the site was connected with the cremation of human remains, while not itself a burial site. Cremation burials in upright courseware pots were discovered along the line of the GSAR on Site 6b, located c. 400m south-west of Site 4 (see No. 1883 below, Priestsnewtown, 03E0401).

## **Wicklow**

**2004:1882**

### **GSAR SITES 5/5A-C, PRIESTSNEWTOWN**

Prehistoric pits and stake-holes

**328094 208969**

**04E0402 Ken Wiggins**

Site 5 was located in Field 11 of the GSAR on the south-facing slope of a gentle rise, Chainage 1030-1120, adjacent to the southern fence line. The site measured c. 12m north-south by 35m. Three deposits, seven stake-holes, two cultivation furrows and one area of oxidized clay were revealed on the site.

Site 5a comprised a single pit, located c. 10m north-west of Site 5. The pit measured 1.02m (northwest/south-east) by 0.74m by up to 0.5m deep. The fill consisted of a lower deposit of loose brown sand containing some smooth pebbles, flecks of charcoal and burnt bone. The upper fill was grey/brown sandy clay containing flecks of charcoal and some heat-shattered sandstone fragments.

Site 5b, a limited area of potential adjacent to Site 5a, was found on investigation not to be of archaeological significance. Site 5c was located c. 60m north-east of Site 5 and comprised single pit. The pit was a circular, bowl-shaped feature, measuring 0.86m (north-south) by 0.83m by up to 0.23m deep. The fill consisted of crumbly grey/greybrown silty clay with flecks of charcoal and traces of burnt bone.

## **Wicklow**

**2004:1883**

### **GSAR SITES 6/6A-G, PRIESTSNEWTOWN**

Bronze Age ring-ditch and cremations

**328012 208978 to 327841 208975**

**04E0401 Ken Wiggins**

The different areas comprising Sites 6/6a-g were identified during monitoring of topsoil-stripping over a large section of Field 11. Two of the areas, 6/6a and 6b, were relatively large and clearly included a great many archaeological contexts. The other components, 6c-g, were much smaller and each contained only one or two features of archaeological interest.

Site 6/6a, located c. 70m west of Site 5 (No. 1882 above, Priestsnewtown, 04E0402), Chainage 920-965, was felt to have archaeological potential when several pits, post-holes and linear features were discerned during the course of topsoil-stripping (Sites 6 and 6a, initially cordoned off separately, were later combined and excavated as Site 6a). In total, eleven pits, five deposits, two post-holes, ten stake-holes, one ditch, two cultivation furrows and two other linear features were revealed on Site 6a.

One of the main features of interest was a large oval pit at the eastern end of the site, C223, which contained heat-shattered stones and a piece of burnt worked flint in the upper fill. Two substantial sub circular pits, C270 and C269, were in close proximity to each other at the extreme western end of the site and each produced a worked flint and numerous pieces of charcoal. A pair of stake-holes located 4m east-south-east of pit C270 may represent the

remains of a cooking spit, as a deposit of black charcoal-stained fine sandy silt was located between the two.

Site 6b lay on the south-facing slope of a gentle rise, Chainage 860-900, and was discovered during monitoring of machine-stripping when various linear features running both perpendicular and parallel to the fence lines were discerned, together with part of an annular ditch and several possible pits, post-holes and deposits. The most significant features on Site 6b were an annular ditch and a sequence of concentric post-holes, as well as four cremation vessels, which were located in three pits enclosed by the ring-ditch. There was a further cremation outside the ring-ditch to the south-east, adjacent to a large linear ditch.

The ring-ditch, C386, was almost perfectly circular, measuring 12.86m (east-west) by 12.76m. The depth of the ditch varied considerably throughout, ranging from 0.19m to 0.43m, depending on the extent of damage from cultivation furrows. Although the edges of the ditch were vertical throughout, the base was quite irregular, ranging from extremely flat to concave or U-shaped in form. For the most part the ditch contained a uniform fill, which was composed of loose mid-brown/grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal flecks and small pebbles. Fifteen finds were recovered from the fill of the ditch, either sherds of Bronze Age pottery or worked flint.

There were 22 post-holes in the area enclosed by the ring-ditch. Ten post-holes were organized into a concentric sequence inside the eastern half of the ditch. The spacing between the post-holes forming this inner ring was reasonably regular, ranging from 0.62m to 0.8m. The other post-holes were more irregularly distributed, and there was a complete loss of post-hole evidence in the south-western quadrant of the ditch, largely due to agricultural disturbance of the substrate. The post-holes varied in size from between 0.09m and 0.28m in width and from 0.04m to 0.27m in depth.

Three cremations pits, two of which contained one vessel each and the third containing a pair of cremation vessels were situated roughly in the center of the area enclosed by the ring-ditch. The most easterly of the pits, C387, contained one virtually intact upright vessel (Vessel 2), complete with burnt bone, charcoal and a flat capstone. The capstone was a sub circular limestone slab measuring 0.21m by 0.23m by 32mm deep. The deposit directly over the capstone contained small pieces of cremated bone, flecks of charcoal and small heat-shattered stone fragments. Vessel 2 measures 185mm high, with a diameter of 0.2m at the rim, tapering to 0.15m at the base. The vessel wall is 0.09m thick. Preliminary analysis of the cremated bone material by Laureen Buckley indicates that the cremated bone fragments below the capstone appear to be of one older juvenile or adolescent. Virtually all the bones of the skeleton were represented.

The most northerly of the three pits, C465, contained only the base and lower part of the body of a vessel (Vessel 5) and scattered, disturbed burnt bone. The loss of the majority of the vessel was due to disturbance by an agricultural furrow. The vessel is 0.17-0.19m in diameter at the base; the vessel wall is 18mm thick. The cremated bone sample from the vessel was highly fragmented and appears to consist of skull and long bone fragments, probably from a single individual.

The most westerly of the cremation pits, C466, contained two cremations within vessels. Cremation vessel C360 (Vessel 4) was the most northerly of the two. Unfortunately, only a limited amount of the lower part of Vessel 4 survived, due to cultivation damage. The vessel is 0.16m in diameter at the base, with the vessel wall of 10mm average thickness; the base itself is 13mm thick. The bone sample from this vessel was small, consisting of skull and long bone fragments.

To the south-east of Vessel 4, within the same pit, was a line of six fist-sized stones forming an arc, oriented north-east/south-west. The line of stones separated Vessel 4 from another cremation vessel, C469 (Vessel 3), which lay immediately to the south. Vessel 3 is a largely complete pot, standing 0.21m high, with a diameter of 0.2m at the rim, tapering to 0.16m at the base. The vessel wall is of 13mm average thickness. The vessel contained 1kg of cremated bone fragments. The sample consists mainly of skull, including mandible, and long bones. Analysis suggests that the remains are of a single adult male.

Another cremation pit, C303, containing an upright vessel (Vessel 1), was found external to the ring-ditch, c. 8m beyond its south-eastern quadrant. Vessel 1 is an impressive, virtually intact, pot measuring 0.29-0.31m in height, with a diameter of 0.27m at the rim, tapering to 185mm at the base; the vessel wall is 13mm thick. Preliminary analysis by osteoarchaeologist Laureen Buckley of the cremated bone contained by Vessel 1 has identified fragments of skull, mandible, long bones, pelvic bones and a toe bone, probably from a single adult individual.

There was a significant concentration of pits and post-holes in the south-east corner of Site 6b, outside the limits of the ring-ditch. The most significant feature was a linear ditch, C426, aligned northeast/south-west. The ditch had an excavated length of 26.24m by 0.85m wide and up to 0.8m deep. It terminated to the north but to the south continued beyond the fence line, delimiting the road-take. The infill consisted of mid-dark-brown silty sand and contained three worked flints. Cremation pit C303, containing Vessel 1, was located c. 1.5m west of the ditch. Ditch C426 truncated the remains of an earlier linear feature, C417, which was cut into the natural on the same axis. Ditch C417 measured 3.6m long, 0.32m wide and up to 0.32m deep. The fill was dark-greyish-black silty sand containing frequent amounts of charcoal and small sub-angular stones. Ditch C426 seems to be contemporary with the Late Bronze Age activity organized about the Site 6b ring-ditch and resembles a field boundary. Evidence for a field system enclosing a ring-barrow was found in 2000 by Ian Doyle at Kilmahuddrick, Co. Dublin, consisting of a shallow north-south linear feature, which could be followed for about 40m (Excavations 2000, No. 225, 00E0448).

Site 6c was located between Sites 6a and 6b, Chainage 910. It was initially perceived to be the remains of a linear feature aligned north-south, extending the full width of the construction corridor and measuring 2-3m in width. The fill was dark-grey silty clay with some gun cartridges scattered on the surface. When a section was excavated through the feature, it was found to be the remains of a shallow machine-dug field boundary ditch and of no archaeological significance.

Site 6d was situated adjacent to the northern fence line, due west of Site 6c and to the north of Site 6b, Chainage 880. The site contained deposit C110 and a small, slightly oval-shaped pit, C108. Deposit C110 was a shallow circular spread of mid-brown silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and some small thumbnail-sized pebbles. This spread measured 0.57m in diameter and 0.04m in depth. The pit C108, situated to the south of C110, measured 0.44m in length (north-south), 0.33m in width and was 0.17m deep. The fill comprised mid- to dark-grey silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and some small pebbles. There were no finds from this site.

Site 6e was situated c. 20m east of Site 6/6a, Chainage 980, and marked the eastern limit of the Site 6 complex, about 55m west of Site 5/5a. This site consisted of a single circular pit, C105, measuring 0.43m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. The pit contained a compact dark-grey silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and 65% heat-shattered stones.

Site 6f marked the western limit of the Site 6 complex, located adjacent to the northern fence line, Chainage 800. This site appeared to consist of two small circular pits, but, when sectioned, the features were found to be tree-root boles and of no archaeological significance.

Site 6g was situated adjacent to the northern fence line, Chainage 910-960 (i.e. east of Site 6c and north of Site 6a). The site comprised two large oval pits, C114 and C3, and one small oval pit, C104. The smallest of the three features, C104, measured 0.85m in length (north-south), 0.48m in width and was up to 0.13m deep. The fill contained loose dark-brown/black silty clay with c. 10% burnt bone, 6-8% small heat-shattered stones and 3% charcoal pieces. The same association of cremated bone with burnt stones occurred in three pits on Site 4 and a pit on Site 5a (see No's 1881 and 1882 above, Priestsnewtown, 04E0403 and 04E0402).

The second pit, C114, situated at the southern end of Site 6g, was sub circular in plan and measured 1.8m (north-south) by 1.9m and was 0.35m deep. The upper fill was extremely compact and difficult to remove. It consisted of c. 70% heat-shattered stones in dark-brown/black silty clay. Two underlying contexts, C106 and C107, also consisted of extremely

compact mottled silty clay and heat-shattered stones with patches of oxidized clay. Fill C106 produced two small flint flakes.

The largest feature on Site 6g was pit C3, situated close to the northern fence line. It was oval in plan and measured 5.5m north-south by 2.5m wide and up to 0.8m deep. Three fills were identified, none of which were strikingly archaeological in character. The material was mostly brown silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and fist-sized stones and pebbles. The eastern half of this feature was excavated to obtain a profile, but its purpose is unknown and its archaeological origins doubtful. The most significant findings made in the course of the GSAR project were the annular ditch and cremation vessels excavated on Site 6b. Following conservation, Vessels 1-5 were examined by Eoin Grogan and Helen Roche. It was found in all but one case that residual black accretion was present on the inner surface of the pots, indicating that the vessels were used as domestic cooking ware before being placed in the ground (i.e. they were not primarily made for use for burials). Vessel 5 may have been unused prior to deposition. From the middle part of the Bronze Age, 1600-1100 BC, specially produced funerary vessels were replaced in burial contexts by domestic pots. The vessels tended to be placed upright in pits, rather than placed as before in stone-lined cists. The GSAR pottery is Late Bronze Age courseware. Comparable pottery has been securely dated at Haughey's Fort, Co. Armagh, Mooghaun South, Co. Clare, and Rathgall, Co. Wicklow, to between 1100 and 800 BC. Similar pottery has been found recently at three other locations in County Wicklow: Rathmore, Ballynabarny along the N11 and at Charlesland on the southern fringe of Greystones.

The vessels discovered at Site 6b form a remarkable Late Bronze Age assemblage, but the ring-ditch itself is an exceptional discovery. It is an annular ditch (i.e. a complete circuit) and the cremation vessels confirm that the feature was associated with burial practice. Two aspects of the excavated evidence mark it out as an annular ditch with a difference. Firstly, there appears to have been an inner ring of posts, c. 0.6m inside the edge of the ditch, the posts spaced c. 0.6m apart. Although the sequence of concentric post-holes was only present within the eastern half of the enclosed area, it is likely that it originally extended around the entire circumference but was absent from the western half of the circuit due to ground erosion and disturbance related to cultivation furrows. Secondly, the ring-ditch was narrow and vertical-sided in profile, more like a slot-trench associated with a structure, not a ditch dug to generate spoil for covering burials. The absence of a mound over the burials enclosed by the ring-ditch is confirmed by the inner ring of postholes. Usually such an arrangement of post-holes would be associated with a penannular ring-ditch, denoting the remains of a structure, as for example the Site 2 circular structure excavated by Catherine McLoughlin at Kerlogue, Co. Wexford (Excavations 2002, No. 1915, 02E0606). Another example of the 'double ringed' round house was excavated by John Ní Žill at Kilmurry North, Co. Wicklow (Excavations 2001, No. 1368, 01E0572). On the latter site, the outer ring, the slot-trench, was 11.5m in diameter and would have held an outer, non-load-bearing wall of wicker and daub. The inner ring consisted of a circle of post-holes, 8.5m in diameter, and would have supported a thatch or sod roof. A centrally placed hearth was also identified and the entrance to the structure faced south-east.

If there was a structure like a round house at Site 6b - i.e. with a wall in the ring-ditch (more correctly termed a circular slot-trench), just under 13m in diameter, and a ring of internal roof-supporting posts, just over 10m in diameter - it was not an abandoned dwelling that was subsequently reused for burials, as the absence of a break in the slot-trench means it never had a doorway. The diameter of the slot-trench is not too large for the roof to have been supported solely by the inner ring of posts. The excavated circular wooden house at Rathgall, Co. Wicklow, had a diameter of 15m. Additional roof-supporting posts near the center of the Site 6b structure could have taken the form of prop-posts, resting directly on the floor level or on stone pads on the ground and therefore leaving no cuts in the subsoil.

The excavated evidence suggests that the structure at Site 6b was house-like in form, not unlike the structure at Kilmurry North, but without an entrance and therefore not intended for use for habitation. The 'occupants' were in fact the cremated individuals placed in upright vessels in the central area. The evidence points to the existence of a late Bronze Age mortuary structure, the construction method of which bears comparison with recognized house-building techniques of that time. The 'house' was built for the dead as a particular mark of veneration

stemming from their elevated status in the community to which they belonged. As a flat cemetery distinguished by a substantial 'dwelling', Site 6b of the GSAR is unique in Irish archaeology.

**Wicklow****2004:1884****GSAR SITES 12 AND 13/13A-B, PRIESTSNEWTOWN**

Prehistoric ring-ditch and hearth

**328608 209495, 328655 209584****04E0467 Ken Wiggins**

Site 12 of the GSAR, located in Field 3, Chainage 1825, was found on investigation to be of no archaeological interest.

Site 13 was located in Field 3, west of Priory Road, Chainage 1900-1940, and measured 25m (east-west) by 6m. The site consisted of the southern half of a ring-ditch (the other half, lying to the north, was outside the construction corridor). The ditch measured c. 12m in diameter (east-west) and extended south of the northern fence line, a distance of 3.5m. It was 1-1.3m wide and 0.2m deep. The ditch contained three fills. The upper fill was dark-grey silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and two pieces of worked flint. Stratified below was loose yellow/brown silty clay, which also contained flecks of charcoal and two pieces of worked flint. The lower fill consisted of black silty clay containing 90% charcoal.

Site 13a, located adjacent to the boundary between Fields 3 and 2, and was found to be of no archaeological significance. Site 13b, located c. 22m east of the ring-ditch, consisted of a stone-lined hearth.

**Wicklow****2005:1706****KILPEDDER EAST/DRUMMIN EAST/BROMLEY**

Monitoring

**04E0128 Ken Wiggins and Yvonne Whitty**

Monitoring and excavation on the Greystones Southern Access Route (GSAR) (before the GSAR Links was added in 2005), first took place between January and April 2004 (Excavations 2004, No. 1863). The 2.4m stretch of roadway yielded twenty sites, including a Bronze Age ring-ditch that yielded five funerary urns accompanied by cremations and also a site of probable cereal-drying activity with a large quantity of medieval pottery.

GSAR Links is the section of road linking the GSAR with the N11 and this was constructed and monitored in 2005. For this, an extension to the licence was granted to Kenneth Wiggins in May of 2005. Trial testing and excavation of a number of features (Site 21) took place on this section of the route by K. Wiggins in May--June 2005.

Site 21 comprised eleven cut features (pits of various sizes and a post-hole cut into the edge of one of the larger pits) and thirteen distinct fills/deposits associated with the cuts. The features were spread over a distance of c. 110m along the length of the road-take in Field 3. Most of these features seemed to relate to fulacht fiadh activity (see No. 1707 below).

Between 12 October and 16 November 2005, monitoring took place under Yvonne Whitty's licence during construction of the route. One small pit was found and excavated in November 2005.

**Wicklow****2005:1707****KILPEDDER EAST/DRUMMIN EAST/BROMLEY**

Fulacht fiadh

**327486 209000 TO 327012 208948****04E0128 EXT. Ken Wiggins**

Testing and excavation along the western section of the Greystones Southern Access Route (GSAR), linking with the N11 at Kilpedder, took place between 25 May and 10 June 2005. The existing section of the GSAR, constructed in 2004, is a dual carriageway, 2.24km long, traversing the townlands of Farrankelly, Priestsnewtown and Kilpedder East, located around 2km south of the village of Delgany and 2km north-west of Kilcoole. The route follows a curving line extending between the R761 Greystones to Kilcoole road to the east and stopping c. 450m short of the N11 Dublin–Wexford road to the west. The completion of the GSAR is being carried out in two phases. The first phase involves the construction of a temporary southbound link to the N11; the second phase comprises the construction of a permanent interchange at Kilpedder, including the provision of an underpass. Monitoring and excavations carried out along the line of the GSAR between January and April 2004 revealed twenty separate sites of greatly varying scale and archaeological significance (Sites 1–20). The sites were located in the townland of Priestsnewtown, with the exception of Site 14 (Farrankelly) and Sites 17 and 18 in Kilpedder East. Site 6 was the most significant discovered, highlighted by a circular slot-trench relating to a substantial Late Bronze Age structure, and a number of associated cremation burials placed in large upright ceramic vessels (see Excavations 2004, No. 1883, 04E0401).

### **Wicklow**

**2006:2183**

#### **N11 Kilpedder Interchange, Johnstown/Killickabawn/Bromley/Drummin East/Holy well**

Monitoring

**326807 209062**

**04E0128 Judith Carroll**

Monitoring of topsoil-stripping of the proposed route of the Kilpedder interchange, Co. Wicklow, including minor resolution of sites, took place between 6 April and 26 May 2006. The testing by topsoil-stripping on the Kilpedder interchange was an extension of the Greystones southern access route (GSAR) scheme on the western side of the N11. It was given the same excavation number and treated as an extension of the licence originally given to the GSAR in 2004, under the direction of Ken Wiggins (Excavations 2005, No. 1863). The Kilpedder interchange had an approximate total length of 0.35km, comprising a 4.3ha area situated between the townlands of Johnstown, Killickabawn, Bromley, Drummin East, and Holy well, Co. Wicklow.

In October 2006, monitoring of the area of the footbridge was carried out. The route of the Kilpedder interchange impacted directly on part of the area defined as the perimeter of WI013–016 (NGR 32645 209010). This monument was a historic town site, the site of the medieval borough of Kilmacberne, which was probably developed as an ecclesiastical manor. It was likely to have been abandoned in the 14th century.

In total, seven archaeological sites were identified during trial testing, including two burnt mounds and pit features. These sites were excavated under licence number 04E0128.

### **Wicklow**

**2001:1350**

#### **Charlesland**

Crop marks

**32952 21003, 32949 21001**

**RMP 13:6(01, 02); 13:7(01, 02)**

**01E1132 Bernice Molloy**

An archaeological assessment was carried out in Charlesland, Co. Wicklow, following a request for additional information from Wicklow County Council for a proposed residential/industrial development and link-road. The site is on a gentle north-east-facing slope with good views of the Sugarloaf and the Wicklow mountains to the west, and the Irish Sea to the east.

Two crop mark sites (SMR 13:6 and 13:7) are located on the southern boundary of the proposed residential development. Two further crop mark sites (SMR 13:22 and 13:23) were

located along the route of the proposed link-road and these were tested under a separate licence (see No. 1351 below, 01E1133). Neither site is visible on the ground surface, nor were both identified by aerial photography in the 1980s (by J.K.S. St Joseph of Cambridge University). Four circular enclosures were visible on the aerial photograph and several smaller unidentifiable anomalies.

Five test-trenches were excavated. Trenches 1, 3 and 4 revealed curving linear features, one of which contained fragments of prehistoric pottery. Trench 2 revealed burnt mound material. Trench 5 revealed a wide curving ditch over 17m in diameter. It was not possible to correlate exactly the features located during testing with those visible on the aerial photograph, but testing revealed two definite circular enclosures.

Geophysical survey was recommended in order to determine the full extent of the archaeology.

**Wicklow****2001:1351****Charlesland**

No archaeological significance

**32948 20934****RMP 13:22 and 13:23****01E1133 Bernice Molloy**

An assessment was carried out in Charlesland, Co. Wicklow, following a request for additional information from Wicklow County Council for a proposed residential/industrial development and link-road. The site is on a gentle east-facing slope with good views of the Sugarloaf and the Wicklow mountains to the west, and the Irish Sea to the east.

Two crop mark sites were located along the route of the proposed link-road. Two further sites (SMR 13:6 and 13:7) to the north were tested under a separate licence (see No. 1350 above, 01E1132). Neither site is visible on the ground surface, nor were both identified by aerial photography in the 1980s (by J.K.S. St Joseph of Cambridge University).

Two test-trenches excavated across SMR 13:23 exposed a gravel pit that had been quarried and backfilled. Material found in the backfill suggested that the quarry was modern in date. Trenches 2–6 were opened to examine SMR 13:22. This crop mark appeared to be geologically derived and bore some resemblance to a pingo—an ice core mound.

Testing concluded that neither feature was archaeological in origin.

**Wicklow****2002:1964****Charlesland**

Monitoring

**02E1804 Bernice Molloy**

Charlesland is c. 1.5km south of Greystones. Monitoring of topsoil-stripping of a dual carriageway linking the R671 (Killincarrig–Kilcoole) to Greystones began in December 2002. This forms part of a larger area that involves the construction of a residential development and an industrial mixed-use development. Topsoil-stripping along the dual carriageway and the residential spine road exposed more than seven archaeological sites, including a complex of round houses with enclosing ditches, a Bronze Age enclosure and several burnt mounds. Topsoil-stripping is still in progress, and further findings, along with excavation details, will be included in the 2003 bulletin.

**Wicklow****2003:2072****Charlesland**

Monitoring

**02E1804 Bernice Molloy**

Charlesland is located c. 1.5km to the south of Greystones. Monitoring of topsoil-stripping commenced in December 2002 of a dual carriageway linking the R671 (Killincarrig-Kilcoole) to Greystones. This forms part of a larger development area that involves the construction of a residential development and an industrial mixed-use development. Topsoil-stripping along the dual carriageway and residential spine road exposed over seven archaeological sites, including a complex of roundhouses with enclosing ditches, a Bronze Age enclosure and several burnt mounds (Excavations 2002, No. 1964).

Topsoil-stripping recommenced in 2003 with stripping of Phase II of the dual carriageway and Phase I of the housing development. Three burnt mounds and two large ditches were exposed. These sites were excavated under separate licences (see below) and post-excavation analysis is ongoing.

**Wicklow****2003:2073****Site A, Charlesland**

Prehistoric

**32962 20994****03E0018 Bernice Molloy**

This site was exposed during topsoil-stripping for a dual carriageway between the R671 and Greystones. The road is part of a larger residential and industrial development planned for the Charlesland area. Fourteen sites have been excavated to date.

Site A was located directly to the south of SMR 13:6 and 13:7. Test excavations carried out on these sites in December 2001 exposed two enclosures and associated burnt-mound activity (Excavations 2001, No. 1351, 01E1133). Pottery located during testing dated these sites to the Bronze Age. The archaeological deposits excavated in Site A are likely to be associated with these sites and may represent the more ephemeral activity that extends outwards from the enclosures.

A linear ditch with three distinct cuts ran in an east-west direction through this area. It measured 47m in length and varied considerably in width and depth along this length. The considerable deposits of silting and wash at the base of this ditch would suggest that it was left open for a considerable period of time.

Structure 1 was located to the west of this ditch. Its internal dimensions and the structural post-holes would suggest that it was of a temporary nature only. One cremation pit and a number of animal burials were identified to the north of the ditch. A curvilinear feature measuring c. 10m in length was excavated to the south of the linear feature. Several sherds of Bronze Age pottery were found in its fill. The cut had a gradual break of top and base slope with c. 45° sides sloping to a rounded concave V-shaped base. This linear cut may have been a construction or foundation slot excavated to accommodate upright timbers of an open structure or windbreak. Artefacts retrieved included a Late Bronze Age socketed looped axe head and Beaker pottery, which would suggest that the area was sporadically settled or settled for a long period of time.

**Wicklow****2003:2074****Site 1A, Charlesland**

Multi-period

**32954 21049****03E1821 Bernice Molloy**

This site was exposed during topsoil-stripping for Phase I of the residential development at Charlesland, Co. Wicklow. This project is part of a larger road and industrial development scheme. Fourteen sites have been excavated to date within the development zone.

Site 1A was located in very low-lying land which was liable to flooding. It was situated c. 20m

south of the Three Trout's Stream. The site was extremely disturbed by land drainage and cultivation. Post-excavation work is ongoing but, based on finds retrieved during excavation; two phases of activity have been identified.

#### *Prehistoric*

A trough was located at the eastern extent of the site. It measured 1.9m (north-east/south-west) by 1.65m and was 0.6m deep. Six timbers were located at the base of the trough and a preliminary investigation would suggest that they were reused. The remains of a wattle lining were evident on the eastern and southern edges of the cut. Four shallow pits and a shallow spread were located to the north of the trough. There were no traces of a burnt mound associated with the trough.

#### *Early*

#### *medieval?*

Two curvilinear ditches were excavated at the western extent of the site. The western ditch measured 13m in length and varied in width between 0.6 and 0.8m. The eastern ditch measured 10m in length. Large quantities of iron slag and burnt bone were retrieved from the fills of both ditches. The nature of the burnt bone has yet to be identified.

### **Wicklow**

**2004:1856**

#### **CHARLESLAND**

Prehistoric

**329326 210380**

**04E0118 Bernice Molloy**

This site was exposed during monitoring of topsoil-stripping for a residential scheme in Charlesland. This excavation was part of a programme of monitoring and excavation on a large development scheme carried out between December 2002 and August 2004, during which seventeen archaeological sites dating from the Neolithic to the medieval period were excavated. The main archaeological evidence, however, points to extensive settlement in the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

This site consisted of eight areas of archaeological activity dispersed along the east- and south-facing slopes of a hill.

### **Wicklow**

**2004:1858**

#### **CHARLESLAND**

Fulacht fiadh, urn burial and later medieval activity

**32955 21002**

**SMR 13:7**

**04E0387**

The archaeological sites at Charlesland, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, were identified during a phase of monitoring (No. 1857 above, 04E0153) carried out on behalf of Durkan Residential Ltd. Planning permission was sought by the client but was subsequently refused in September 2001 on several grounds, including archaeological issues. An Bord Pleanála granted permission to develop at Charlesland Sites C and D in 2003.

The proposed development site was located at the break of an east-facing slope of a low gradual hill to the south-west of Greystones village. Four areas of archaeological significance, close to each other, were identified during topsoil-stripping. These were excavated. Beaker pottery was recovered under the burnt mound of a fulacht fiadh; this suggests an Early Bronze Age date. This will be confirmed by the pending radiocarbon dates.

Fourteen sites have so far been excavated within the Charlesland Residential Development (Excavations 2001, No's 1350-1351, 01E1132 and 01E1133; Excavations 2002, No. 1964, 02E1804; Excavations 2003, No's 2072-2083, 02E1804, 03E0018, 03E1821, 03E0592, 03E0146, 03E0147, 03E0196, 03E0908, 03E1028, 03E1188, 03E1550 and 03E1645), most of which can be definitely dated to the Bronze Age period. The fulacht fiadh recorded in Areas 1 and 2 (04E0387) probably date to the Early Bronze Age; pottery analysis and radiocarbon

Area 3 was medieval in date and no definite structural pattern has emerged through excavation; further examination of soil samples taken will aid with further interpretation of the site. There was no evidence for ritual activity in Area 3; it is likely that these features are the result of medieval agricultural activity.

An isolated Bronze Age urn was the only prehistoric evidence within Area 4. The stone surface with the reused millstone fragment and the local medieval wares and metal artefact retrieved from Area 4 indicates that this area was again used in the medieval period.

## **Wicklow**

**2004:1859**

### **CHARLESLAND**

Prehistoric and medieval

**329511 210031**

**SMR 13:6(01, 02); 13:7(01, 02)**

**04E0744**

Excavations commenced in June 2004 on a site in Charlesland, Co. Wicklow, identified by means of aerial photography in the 1980s (CUCAP BGE 83) and presented as two adjoining crop circles. This site was confirmed to be of archaeological significance by a programme of testing and geophysics carried out in December 2001 (Excavations 2001, No. 1350, 01E1132). This excavation was carried out following a programme of monitoring and excavation on a large residential scheme within the townland between December 2002 and August 2004, during which seventeen archaeological sites dating from the Neolithic to the medieval period were excavated. The main archaeological evidence, however, points to extensive settlement in the Middle to Late Bronze Age in this area.

The excavation revealed multi-phase archaeological features ranging from a prehistoric fulacht fiadh to a medieval enclosure. The site was located on low-lying ground, south and east of a diverted streambed. The archaeological deposits along the northern and north-western perimeter of the site were truncated by a double-ditch field boundary that was identified on the first-edition (1838) OS map.

## Appendix 3 RMP Files from [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)

WI013-004001-

**Class:** Church

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Description:** Situated in Delgany village on a gentle S-facing slope overlooking a stream valley. A nave (int. dims. 14m x 6.2m) and chancel (int. dims. c. 7.4m x 4m) church which remained in use until c. 1789. The walls survive only at lower levels apart from a portion of the N wall of the nave and are of uncoursed rubble with large blocks towards the wall footings. The inner face of the nave retains some plaster. The walls of the chancel are thicker (T 1m) than those of the nave (T 0.75m) and contain more large blocks. A single stone protruding from the N wall of the nave may indicate the junction between the nave and chancel. A doorway occurs in the S side of the nave with a large flagstone sill and there is an indication of a window opposite in the N wall. Some early nineteenth-century headstones occur within the church which stands at the S side of a trapezoidal graveyard (dims. 70m x (max.) 45m). The remains of a granite high cross are situated to the N of the church and consist of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (H 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m). The W, S and E faces have the remains of rebated panels and six (indecipherable) lines of script survive on the S face (Harbison 1992, 61). A sub rectangular font forms part of a low wall outside the doorway of the church. The graveyard is enclosed by a modern (nineteenth-century) wall, and contains several early eighteenth-century headstones.

WI013-004002-

**Class:** Graveyard

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Description:** Situated in Delgany village on a gentle S-facing slope overlooking a stream valley. A nave (int. dims. 14m x 6.2m) and chancel (int. dims. c. 7.4m x 4m) church which remained in use until c. 1789. The walls survive only at lower levels apart from a portion of the N wall of the nave and are of uncoursed rubble with large blocks towards the wall footings. The inner face of the nave retains some plaster. The walls of the chancel are thicker (T 1m) than those of the nave (T 0.75m) and contain more large blocks. A single stone protruding from the N wall of the nave may indicate the junction between the nave and chancel. A doorway occurs in the S side of the nave with a large flagstone sill and there is an indication of a window opposite in the N wall. Some early nineteenth-century headstones occur within the church which stands at the S side of a trapezoidal graveyard (dims. 70m x (max.) 45m). The remains of a granite high cross are situated to the N of the church and consist of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (H 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m). The W, S and E faces have the remains of rebated panels and six (indecipherable) lines of script survive on the S face (Harbison 1992, 61). A sub rectangular font forms part of a low wall outside the doorway of the church. The graveyard is enclosed by a modern (nineteenth-century) wall, and contains several early eighteenth-century headstones.

The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Wicklow' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1997). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.

WI013-004003-

**Class:** Cross - High cross

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Description:** The remains of a granite high cross are situated to the N of the church at Delgany (WI013-004001-). They consist of the lower portion of the cross-shaft with rectangular section and chamfered edges (H 1.87m; 0.47m x 0.3m). The W, S and E faces have the remains of rebated panels and six (indecipherable) lines of script survive on the S face (Harbison 1992, 61).

WI013-004004

**Class:** Font

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Description:** A sub-rectangular font which forms part of a low wall (W side) outside the doorway of the church (WI013-004001-). It is set on its side and has a drain-hole just off centre.

WI013-065----

**Class:** Bullaun stone

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Description:** A large granite boulder (visible Wth 1.2m; H 0.9m), obscured by dense vegetation growth at time of inspection in 2003, with a single basin (diam. 38cm; D 34cm) which has been split leaving two thirds of it intact. Small cup shaped depression (diam. 12 cm; D 5cm) alongside basin.

WI013-004005-

**Class:** Road - hollow-way

**Townland:** DELGANY

**Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP:** No

**Description:** Archaeological test trenching in 2002 (Excavation Licence 02E0390) revealed the eastern end of a possible hollow way, the line of which is represented as a track way on the 1841 OS 6-inch map. (Frazer 2004, 534)

WI008-017----

**Class:** Castle - hall-house

**Townland:** KINDLESTOWN UPPER

**Description:** National Monument in state ownership No. 323. Situated in a low-lying area in gently undulating terrain. A rectangular two-storey hall (dims. 21m E-W; 9.8m N-S), of roughly coursed limestone and felsitic rubble, of which only the N wall remains largely intact. It has a barrel-vaulted ground floor, above which the surviving N wall is stepped inward to support the first floor independently of the vault. There are towers at the NW and NE angles which project (L 0.6m) from the N wall; that at the NE has collapsed but the stairwell leading from the ground floor to an intramural passage at first floor level in the N wall is still visible. There is a chamber in the NW tower at this level, with a cross-loop in the W wall, two garderobe chutes in the N face, and a third immediately beneath the squinch between the chamber and the N wall of the hall. There are four internal rounded opes in the N wall on the first floor which narrow to simple rectangular windows on the outside. The remains of a wall-walk with drain-holes and string course are to be seen at the top of the N wall. The hall is probably of early fourteenth-century date and it stands at the E end of a rectangular ditched enclosure (dims. c. 52m E-W; c. 18m N-S internally). The fosse (Wth 4m) extends 29m to the W beyond the hall and turns S to the adjacent field boundary. There is no indication of an entrance. Excavations carried out in 2001 (Excavation Licence 01E0844) 'revealed the remains of habitation in the medieval period in the form of metalled surfaces, post-holes and a hearth. Although no datable finds were made at the earliest level, the succeeding levels could be dated from the 14th century onwards. The castle appears to have been continually occupied and in use from this time into the 18th century, when at least two brick ovens were constructed. The excavation also established that the south and west walls, as revealed during excavation, represented a replacement wall rebuilt in the 19th century. These walls, while following faithfully the line of the original wall (and, in the case of the southern wall, built on top of the original medieval foundations), were drystone walls, incorporating fragments of the collapsed barrel vault, some with traces of wicker centring. The castle was probably repaired in response to the fact that it had been extensively plundered and large sections of the facing stones had been removed.' (Simpson 2003, 418-21).

Further excavations were carried out in 2006 in the eastern part of the castle adjacent to its northern wall. The only medieval features uncovered included nine stake-/post-holes. A large 17th-century drain truncated most of the excavation area. (Moriarty 2009, 574)

WI013-005----

**Class:** House - 16th/17th century

**Townland:** KILLINCARRIG

**Description:** Situated on a gentle E-facing slope. The remains of an early 17th-century house probably built for Henry Walsh. The main block (L 14.3m; Wth 7.6m) is gabled and had two storeys with attic. The entrance is at the E with a stair turret directly opposite projecting from the W wall. The wrought jamb stones of the door were removed in 1943-4; a shallow armorial recess occurs overhead. Attached at the NE side is a kitchen block (int. dims. 6.9m x 4.9m) of similar construction and height. Substantial chimney stacks survive intact on the N and W walls of the main block. There is no cut stone visible. (Leask, OPW files 1944; Price 1957, 322)

A series of test trenches opened in 2006 (Excavation Licence 06E0113) to the WNW in advance of the construction of a dwelling did not reveal anything of archaeological significance.

## Appendix 4: Exhumation Licence

 **COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHAINTÁIN**  
**Wicklow County Council**  
**Forbairt Pleanála agus Comhshaoil**  
**Planning Development and Environment**

Áras An Chontae / County Buildings  
Cill Mhantáin / Wicklow  
Guthán / Tel: (0404) 20236  
Faics / Fax: (0404) 67792  
Rphost / Email: env@wicklowcoco.ie  
Suíomh / Website: www.wicklow.ie

Seirbhísí Comhshaoil - Environmental Services  
Guthán / Tel: (0404) 20236  
Bainistiú Dramhaíola - Waste Management  
Guthán / Tel: (0404) 20127

Carmelite Monastery,  
Delgany,  
Co. Wicklow.

27<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

Re: Application for Exhumation Licence – Carmelite Monastery Delgany. *all reinterred in  
Kilquade (new)  
18/9/18.*

A Chara,

I refer to the above and wish to advise that the Environmental Health Officer has no objection to this application subject to the following conditions:

1. The exhumation should be carried out within 12 months of the date of the licence and preferably during the summer months of July to September in order to ensure a low water table in the area. Furthermore, a water pump and shuttering should be on site so as to secure the grave when opened and facilitate the safe removal of the remains. Although it is not envisaged that the water table will be high during the summer months this is precautionary.
2. The exact date and time of the start of the exhumation should be agreed with Wicklow County Council and the Health Service Executive should be given at least 10 days prior notice.
3. An Environmental Health Officer should be present at the exhumation to ensure the protection of public health and maintenance of public decency. If in the course of the exhumation, it is apparent that there is undue risk to the safety of the workers or the exhumations can not be carried out in a safe manner, the exhumation should stop and the grave should be restored to its previous condition.
4. The remains should be placed in a new casket. The new casket should be made of timber, tarred on the inside, followed by leak proof plastic membrane which will surround and cover the original coffin or remains. The shell lid should be screwed down or nailed in place when the casket is closed. A nameplate or similar means of identification giving the name and date of death of the deceased should be attached to the lid of the casket. The casket should be inspected prior to the exhumation and this will require the inspection to be carried out by an Environmental Health Officer.
5. The dimensions of the new casket should be large enough to accommodate the existing coffin if in the event the original full coffin still remains. The dimensions should be given to Wicklow County Council so as to ensure that the new casket is of sufficient size to accommodate the existing coffin. The Undertaker should submit these details to Wicklow County Council.

Tá an doiciméad seo ar fáil i bhformáidí eile ar iarratas.  
This document is available in alternative formats on request.  
Ba chóir gach comhfhreagras a sheoladh chuig an Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, Forbairt Pleanála agus Comhshaoil.  
All correspondence should be addressed to the Director of Services, Planning Development & Environment.