



De Faoite Archaeology

Unit 10
Riverside Business Centre
Tinahely
Co. Wicklow

Preliminary Archaeological Assessment

Arklow Large Scale Residential Development
Masterplan

Tinahask Upper and Money Little,
Arklow,
Co. Wicklow

Yvonne Whitty

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Client Redmond Construction

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1 Introduction

This document is a preliminary archaeological impact assessment report accompanied by a geophysical survey for a Large Scale Residential Masterplan for a proposed development at Tinahask Upper and Money Little and Money Big, Arklow, Co. Wicklow. The development is located in a rural setting 1.3km south of Arklow town with commanding views over the Irish Sea to the east. The landscape is undulating and under pasture. A small housing development Oakwood Court bounds the site to the north, the Dublin-Wexford railway to the west and agricultural fields to the east. In the wider landscape Arklow Links is visible to the east and Arklow Rock and Roadstone quarry is to the southeast.

This development will involve the construction of 405 residential units, a link road, childcare facilities, works to the Railway Bridge, port road and all associated services.

Although no RMP sites will be impacted upon by the proposed development, there is a rich archaeological landscape within the wider archaeological landscape 1.3km of the site. To the north is the medieval town of Arklow, to the southwest prehistoric activity as evidenced by burnt mounds in addition to medieval activity as evidenced by a burial site, chapel and holy wells are located to the south and southwest of the development site.

All of these archaeological sites are recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP). Placename analysis indicates that Tinahask Upper which is in the barony and civil parish of Arklow was first mentioned in 1839 with the earliest reference to Money in 1641¹.

There is always the potential for sub surface finds or features of archaeological significance to survive within the receiving area of the proposed development. As part of this pre-planning assessment a geophysical survey was completed under Licence 23R0020 by Dr Ger Dowling. The survey did not reveal features of clear archaeological significance however three discrete spreads of possible burnt materials/soils were identified. The interpretation of these spreads as archaeology is highly tentative however, and a modern (e.g., ferrous) origin cannot be discounted according to Dowling. Agricultural activity was also represented in the dataset. In order to establish the nature of these potential archaeological features it is recommended that a programme of targeted test trenching be carried out to confirm/discount if these features are archaeological in origin. Additional trenches should also be excavated throughout the footprint of the development to confirm the results of the geophysical survey.

Any features identified while testing will be surveyed in by GPS and overlain with the development plans to see if they will be impacted upon by the proposed development. The results of the programme of test trenching with a detailed impact assessment should be submitted as Further Information.

All works should be carried out under licence issued by and following consultation with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

¹ [www/Logainm.ie](http://www.Logainm.ie)

2 Location description and development proposal:

2.1 Location Description

The proposed development site is located 1.3km southwest of Arklow town in the townland of Tinahask Upper and Money Little. Arklow lies at the estuary of the river Avoca in the south-east corner of County Wicklow. The modern urban area (pop. 13,163, Census 2016) spans the river and reaches down to the shoreline. Equidistant between Dublin and Wexford, the town is roughly 70 kilometres from each on the M11; access inland is by following the R747.

The proposed development site is in lands that are under pasture and are divided into a series of fields of varying size by tree-lined hedgerows and fencing. The land is for the most part flat is gently undulating. Phase 1 development will involve the construction of 99 units with associated access roads and services.

A small housing development Oakwood Court bounds the site to the north, the Dublin-Wexford railway to the west and agricultural fields to the east. In the wider landscape Arklow Links is visible to the east and Arklow Rock and Roadstone quarry is to the southeast.

The underlying bedrock of the locality comprises green, red-purple, buff slate and siltstone (Oaklands Formation) and dark blue-grey slate, phyllite and schist (Maulin Formation), with an intervening fault line and a seam of basalt and gabbro (Dolerite: Slieve Gullion Complex). The soils are dominated by fine loamy over clayey calcareous Irish sea till (Macamore Series) (Dowling, 2023).

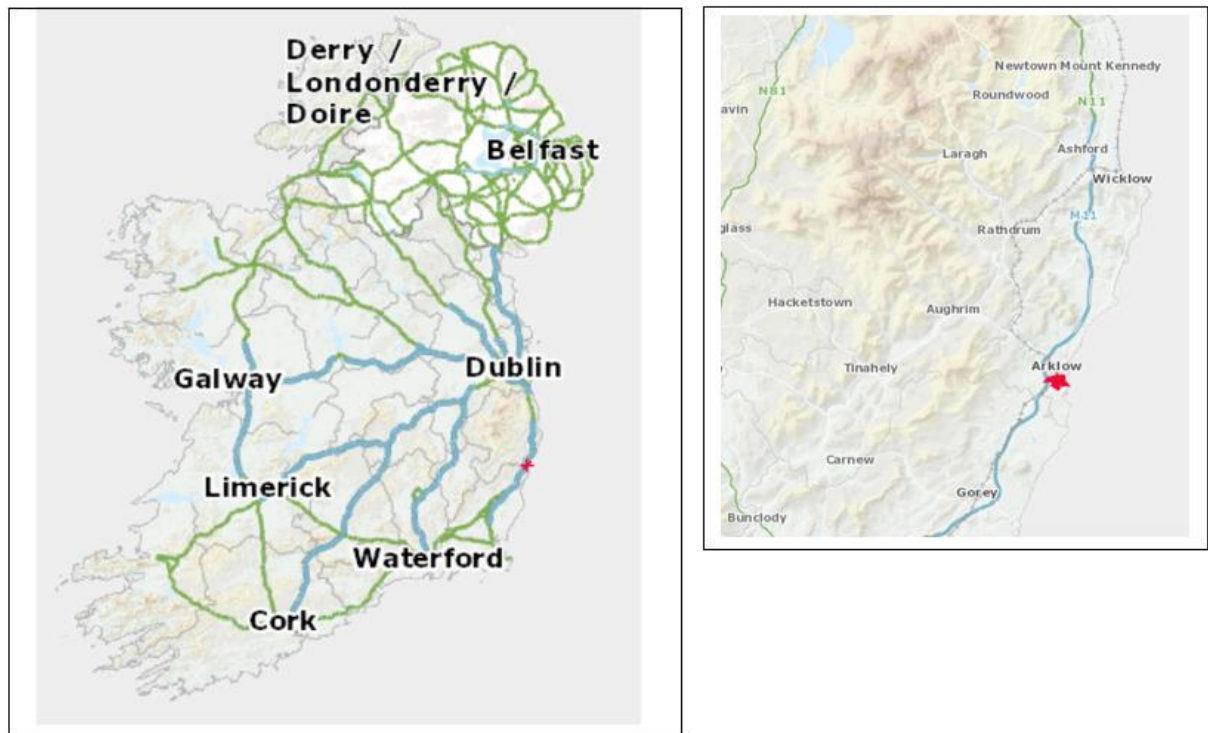


Figure 1: Site Location Tinahask Upper and Money Little, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

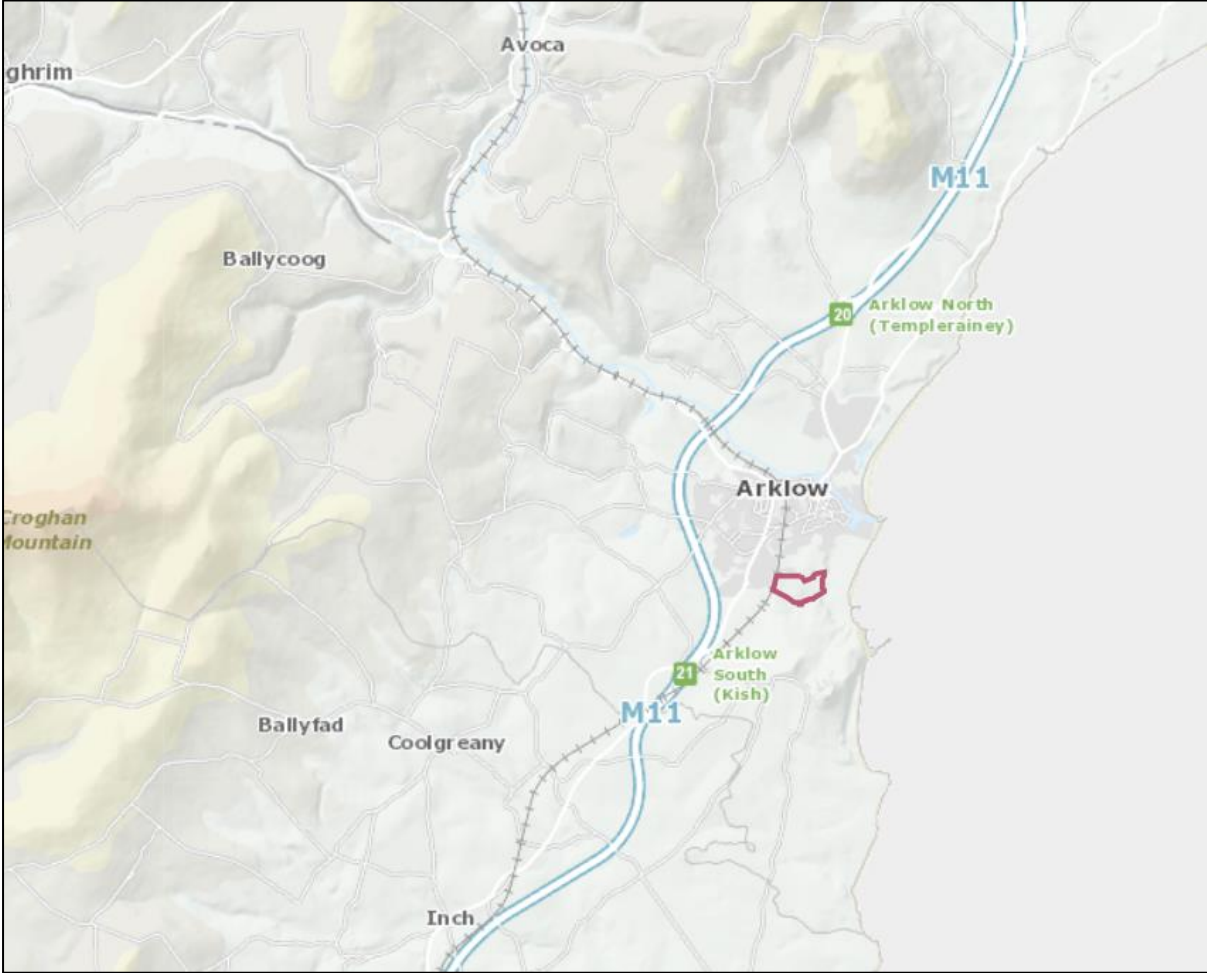


Figure 2: Site location Tinahask Upper and Money Little outlined in red.

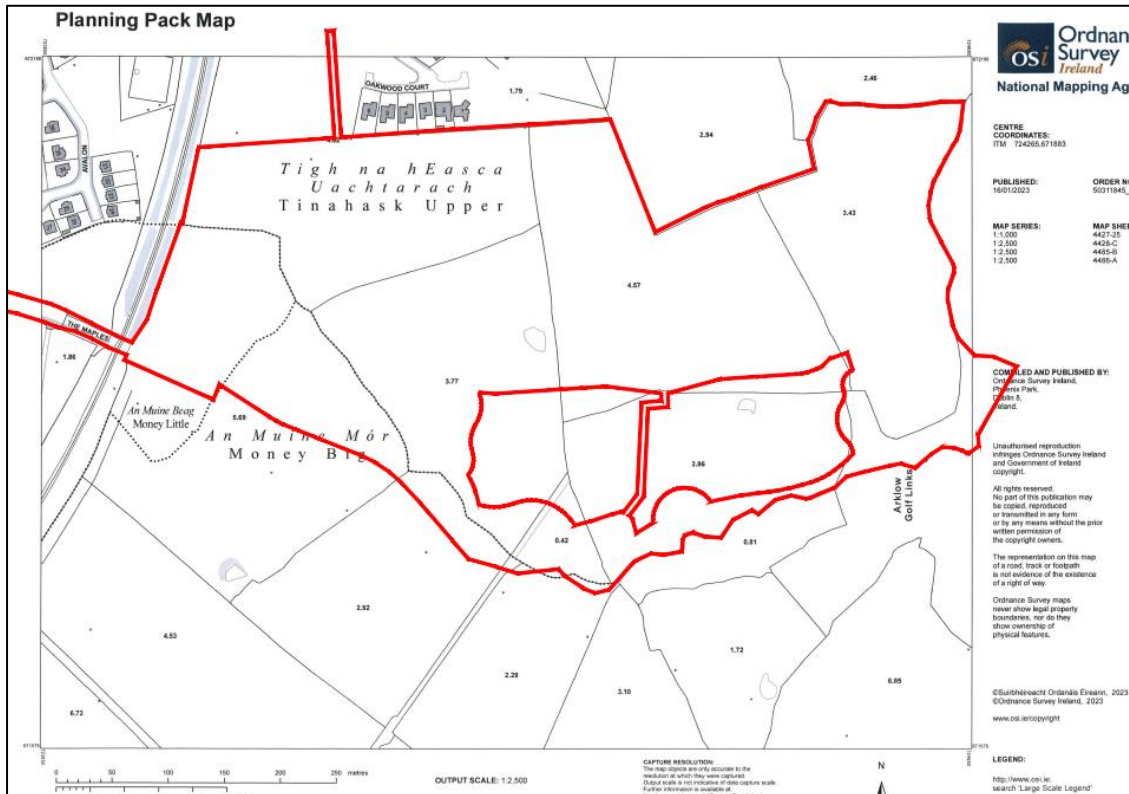


Figure 3: OS Map of development.



Figure 4: Proposed development plan Tinahask Upper and Money Little.



Plate 1: Entrance to development site facing SE.



Plate 2: View towards Arklow Rock and Roadstone Quarry, facing SE.



Plate 3: View towards Oakwood Court facing NE.

2.2 Development Proposal

Tom and Pat Redmond intend to apply for a 7-year permission for a Large-Scale Residential Development on a site of approx. 19.30 ha at Tinahask Upper, Money Little and Money Big, Arklow, Co. Wicklow. The application site is generally bounded by residential development at

Oakwood Court and greenfield lands to the north; by Arklow Golf Club to the east; by greenfield lands to the south; and by the railway line, Avalon and The Maples residential developments to the west.

The proposed development will consist of the following:

- a) Construction of 472 no. residential units as follows:
 - i. 288 no. 1-2 storey houses comprising: 33 no. two storey two bedroom terraced houses (85m²); 92 no. two storey semi-detached three bedroom houses (103m²); 64no. two storey three bedroom terraced houses (103m²); 4 no. single storey detached three bedroom houses (111m²); 20 no. two storey semi-detached three bedroom dormer bungalow houses (124.6m²); 8 no. three storey terraced four bedroom houses (155.9m²); 17 no. two storey detached four bedroom houses (137.2m²); and 50 no. two storey semi-detached four bedroom houses (137.2m²). Each house will be provided with private open space areas in the form of an associated rear / side garden.
 - ii. 184 no. apartment / duplex units comprising: 50 no. two bedroom duplex ground floor apartments (80.7m²) and 50 no. three bedroom duplex at first and second floor levels (130.8m²). 3 no. four storey apartment blocks consisting of a total of 84 no. apartments as follows: 30 no. one bedroom units (52m² - 57m²), 42 no. two bedroom units (83m² - 86m²), and 12 no. three bedroom units (99m² - 100m²). All apartment / duplex units will be provided with private open space areas in the form of balconies / terraces.
 - iii. Communal open space associated with the proposed apartment / duplex units will be provided in the form of landscaped areas located in the vicinity of the apartment units.
 - iv. Public open space in the form of 13 no. local parks (totalling approx. 13252sqm / 1.33ha).
 - v. All internal residential access roads and cyclist / pedestrian paths serving the proposed development.
 - vi. Provision of 832 no. car parking spaces across the development site and 400 no. bicycle parking spaces for residents of the proposed apartments / duplex units. 37 no. visitor bicycle parking spaces are provided throughout the development site. All terraced houses and ground floor duplex apartments will be provided with associated secure in curtilage bicycle lock ups.
- b) Provision of a new public park facilitating active and passive open spaces to the south of the site (totalling approx. 22098 sqm), including linear parks, walkways and fitness loops, play areas for structured and natural play, fitness station points, and an area for a playing pitch.
- c) Construction of a three-storey mixed use building which will consist of 2 no. Retail units (approx. 534m²) at ground floor level, a community centre (approx. 191m²) and office space (approx. 212m²) at first floor level and 2 no. two-bedroom apartment and 2 no. three-bedroom apartment at second floor level. 48 no. car parking spaces and 20 bicycle parking spaces are also proposed for this building.
- d) Construction of a two storey Childcare Facility (approx.. 944m²) with dedicated outdoor play areas (approx. 331m²), vehicle drop off area and 30 no. car parking spaces.
- e) Temporary upgrade works to the existing Railway bridge to facilitate vehicular access to the proposed development, including revised barriers on approach, and tie in works to the existing public road.
- f) Construction of part of the Port Access Road, with a temporary junction at its Junction/connection with the proposed northern arterial route / link road including pedestrian and cycle paths ,and traffic calming measures.
- g) The provision of vehicular access, internal roads, pedestrian and cycle paths to the Community and Education lands (in accordance with the Action Area Plan AAP2), with provision of services and utilities to the designated area.

- h) All associated site development works, services provision, infrastructural and drainage works, surface water attenuation and natural attenuation systems, connection to public services and utilities, provision of ESB substations, bin stores, bicycle stores, car parking, public lighting, landscaping, open spaces, and boundary treatment works.
- i) This development will form part of a larger / future phase of development of the Action Area Plan AAP2.
- j) The planning application is available for public viewing at the following website: www.tinahaskarklowlrd.ie.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the cost of making a copy at the office of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

3 Archaeological Desktop Assessment - Jim Rees and Yvonne Whitty.

The proposed development site is located in a rural setting at Tinahask Upper, 1.3km south of the town of Arklow (An tInbhear Mór in Irish) and is located in the barony and civil parish of the same name in the south-east Co Wicklow. Arklow town is situated on the mouth of the river Avoca in the south-east corner of County Wicklow. Tinahask is a corruption of the Irish *Tigh na h-easca*, house in the 'wet or marshy place' (Price, 2006, 634). Money Big and Money Little are often referred to locally as The Moneylands. 'Money' in this instance, is a corruption of the Irish *muine*, meaning 'shrubbery' (Price, 636). The earliest reference to Money Little is in the 1641 Depositions when it was known as Mooney and the earliest reference to Tinahask Lower is in 1839 in the Ordnance Survey Parish Name books.

The surrounding geology is mix of Ordovician sandstone, siltstone and shale. Dolerite is found 1.5km to the south of the study area at Arklow Rock which is a volcanic breccia which formed from a combination of shattered rock fragments and ash resulting from a volcanic explosion some 475 million years ago². This stone has been quarried for its dolerite - an extremely hard stone used for soda surface works and coastal protection works (Nairn & Crowley 1998, 26).

The following sources were consulted in the preparation of this method statement.

Historical and archaeological background research

- Archaeological and historical background research
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)
- A review of previous archaeological assessments/ investigations.
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland.
- Ordnance Survey (OS) and pre-Ordnance Survey maps.
- Historic Illustrations and documents
- Aerial photography
- Site visit

3.1 Archaeological and Historical Background Research

Prehistoric Period

² [Volcanic Breccia | Geology Garden | University College Cork \(ucc.ie\)](http://www.volcanicbreccia.com)

The earliest known evidence for prehistoric activity in the hinterland of Arklow town which is 1.3km north of the development site at Tinahask, dates to the late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Grogan and Kilfeather 1997).

A large assemblage of Neolithic pottery found with two scrapers was uncovered during excavations in the townland of Coolboy (WI040-055) c.2.1km to the north of the Arklow town (Ó Riordáin 1999). Burial activity from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age is represented by a group of cremations pits (WI040-056; WI040-057; WI040-058) excavated during works on the Arklow bypass road scheme in the townland of Templeraíny c. 2.7km from Arklow town. The burials -cremation pits-were excavated by Brendán Ó Riordáin. The cremations were spread across three areas given the names Site K, L and M. Two of the burial pits, one at site K (WI040-056-) and one at Site L (WI040-058) contained the remains of cremated human bones. Four adjacent pits at Site M (WI040-058) contained cremated remains with flint artefacts and sherds of Beaker pottery dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age period (Power 2013; Ó Riordáin 1999; Licence No. 97E0083).

Further evidence for habitation during the Bronze age in the surrounding countryside is the presence of settlement site (WI040-048) excavated by Thaddeus Breen. The site consisted of an oval post structure associated with an assortment of other postholes that produced sherds from Beaker, Cordoned Urn and Vast vessels, dating the site to the Bronze Age. (Power 2013; WI040-048; Licence No. 97E0324).

The Bronze Age is also represented by several burnt mounds discovered during the excavation of the Arklow bypass. Burnt mounds are also known as fulacht fiadh and have been primarily interpreted as cooking places, although some may also have been used for bathing and industrial activity. These sites commonly date to the Bronze Age, although examples from the Neolithic through to early medieval date are also known.

Two adjacent burnt mounds (WI045-015 and WI045-017) were found in the townland of Ballynattin c. 1.17 and 1.3km respectively from the site at Tinahask. Excavation of the site revealed the presence of a wooden platform composed of narrow lengths of wood beneath one of the mounds. A series of wooden stakes were in turn found under the platform. A sample from this wood was dated by dendrochronology and returned a felling date of late 856 BC/early-855 BC (Connolly 1997; Licence No. 97E0128). Another burnt mound (WI045-017) associated with slot trenches, pits and posts was found c.200m to the east in 2003 (Excavation Licence 03E1692) in advance of the development of the Arklow IDA Enterprise Park (Tierney 2006).

A further three adjacent spreads of burnt mound material (WI040-051) were also found in the townland of Kilbride c. 2.8km to northeast Arklow town and excavated by Ó Riordáin (97E0083) on the Arklow bypass road c. 2.7km at Kilbride. The burnt material was present in shallow pits/depressions and the only finds recovered were some pieces of unworked flint and fragments of burnt bone. Two other burnt spreads were also found c.600 northeast (WI040-052) in Kilbride and c.856m (WI040-053) at Coolboy.

Late Bronze Age activity in wider Arklow hinterland is represented by the discover of an assemblage containing a socketed spearhead, two axeheads and a knife, found at Kish, c. 2.8km south of Arklow town (Stout 1994, 21).

Tentative evidence of settlement in the area in the later Iron Age is presented on a map created by the Greek cartographer Ptolemy (roughly AD 90-168) of Ireland. The oldest surviving map of Ireland, scholar have argued that the coastal area called Manapii is located at what we now know as the town and hinterland of Arklow (Darcy & Flynn 2008, 66).

Early Medieval period

The medieval period in Ireland began around 500 A.D. This was a time of massive social change with the arrival of Christianity the new and soon to be dominant religion and the development of new political dynasties. At the Iron Age/ early medieval transition Ireland was made up of up to 150 tuatha or tribal units/ petty ruled over by a chief or king. In turn these tribal units formed part of larger territorial units ruled over by over Kings. In the sixth/seventh century Wicklow was ruled by the Dál Messin Corb a leading Leinster dynasty of whom St Kevin of Glendalough was a member. This tribe was later taken over by the Uí Mail who rose

to power as the Kings of Leinster having killed Maelodran, a legendary hero of the Dál Messin Corb tribe (Smyth 1994, 48; Corlett 1999, 35).

By the first half of the 5th century AD there was a significant Christian community living in Ireland. In the year 431 A.D the bishop Palladius was sent by Pope Celestine to the “Christians in Ireland” (Edwards 2000,182; Edwards 1990, 99). The arrival of Christianity saw the introduction of writing, and which lead to the development of the ogham script. Society began to move away from an oral to a written tradition. As the century progressed the beginnings of extensive missionary activity was evident in Ireland with St Patrick’s arrival to convert the pagan Irish. Archaeological evidence for early medieval Christianity includes cemeteries, hermitages, and pastoral church sites along with large and small monasteries. People also lived in and around the monastic sites, being either monks living within the enclosure or workers on the monastic estate living in the area around the enclosure. These sites are associated with a range of features including the church and graveyard, the dwellings, various ovens/kilns, wells, and mills as well as field systems, although some of these would have been located outside the ecclesiastical enclosures.

Ecclesiastical sites are found in the wider landscape at Rock Big, which is known as Chapel Hogan, 1.15km southwest of the development site in the Roadstone Quarry and at Bogland 1.15km south of the development site where a church and graveyard labelled as 'Site of Killynee Chapel and Graveyard' on the first edition map was completely removed in the construction of the railway line. Two holy wells are also located at Rock Big, these monuments are discussed in the following paragraphs.

The location Chapel Hogan (WI045-005 ---) is now occupied by the office and weighbridge of Arklow Roadstone Limited in the townland of Rock Big. In one of his regular letters back to the Ordnance Survey office in 1839, field researcher Eugene O' Curry recorded a 'little burial place at the south end of the strand in the townland of Bigrock; it has no name'. (Corlett & Medlycott, 125) O'Curry was wrong; locals knew it as Chapel Hogan and between the time he wrote that letter and the printing of the map this must have been brought to the attention of the Ordnance Survey as the site is marked 'Site of Chapel Hogan and grave yard'.

O'Curry noted that some masonry remains were still in evidence. Price recorded that these remnants had been levelled before 1950. Price was at a loss as to why Chapel Hogan was so called (Price, 2006, 633). He felt that it might have derived from the association of the monks of Baltinglass Abbey with this area. Among their numerous properties, the Cistercians of Baltinglass had a salt pan here in Rock Big, that is a set-up for extracting salt from the sea. As they were so far from their abbey, they would have erected an oratory or small chapel-of-ease in which to fulfil their religious obligations, so the historical basis for a 'chapel' here is well founded. Significantly, among their possessions were lands in County Carlow which included Killogan Burial Ground, called Kill Hogan by the locals there.

This recurrence is interesting, but still gives no clue as to who ‘Hogan’ was, or if perhaps Hogan is a corruption not of an Irish name but of an Irish word. A tradition in Arklow recalls that the derelict Chapel Hogan was used for the burials of unbaptised babies (Local knowledge). Until relatively recent decades, the Catholic church refused the dignity of burial in consecrated ground to such innocents. Parents, intent on some religious association, buried their children in defunct religious sites such as Chapel Hogan. They are often referred to as a ‘killeen’ from the Irish cillín, meaning a small church. No one knows when the monks ceased to operate their salt pan here or when their chapel fell into disuse, but it most likely dates to Henry VIII’s Dissolution of the Monasteries (1536-1541). A recognised ‘holy place’ such as this would have been a perfect cillín. Given the foregoing, it is possible that Chapel.

Hogan is a corruption of Séipél na hÓgánaigh, the Chapel of the Young (see Ó Dónaill, 921). This is merely Jim Ree’s own observation and is open to correction.

Lady’s Well (WI045-006---) is situated just south of the site of Chapel Hogan (WI045-005----) and is easily located as a Marine shrine, known locally as The Grotto, was constructed over it in 1954. Locally, it is usually referred to as ‘Our Lady’s Well’, the possessive pronoun being seldom omitted. It has a long history of veneration particularly in the months of March and October. Some of these practices continue today, including the tying of offerings to a hawthorn bush immediate beside the well. Unfortunately, the well dried up after the commencement of quarrying in the immediate area in 1960. According to Price, this well ‘used to be visited on 25th March and 15th August’ (Price 2006, 633; Grogan and Kilfeather, 166).



Plate 4: Lady’s Well (WI045-006---) at Roadstone Quarry.

Folklore collected from Arklow National School in the late 1930s recorded the following details: 'The Lady's Well is a small well situated on Murray's Farm at Arklow Rock, about one mile south of the town of Arklow. It is situated within about 100 yards of the old, ruined church called Chapelhogan (perhaps Sepeal an logain). A small part of the wall of this church still stands. People from the Rock district pay great respect to this well. Every year the people from the lower part of Arklow town visit this well on 25th March, say a decade of the Rosary, take some water from the well, and drink it. They also take home some water and bring it home to give to people at home to drink. Each one as he takes water ties a 'bit of rag' on a bush out the well' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0924, Page 42). This is typical of several entries in the Schools Collection regarding Our Lady's Well.

St. Patrick's Well (WI045-007---) lies 210m to the south-east (725193.100 671183.743 OS 1840) of Our Lady's Well (WI045-006---). Like Lady's Well (WI045-006---), this too appears to have dried up since the quarry opened, and there have been no visible remains for many years. Price (1967, 484) recorded that 'nothing is known about St. Patrick's Well'.

Folklore collected from Arklow National School recorded the following details: 'St Patrick's Well is also situated in a field on the left-hand side of the Rock Road (going in direction from Arklow). An ancient mass path runs across the rock, about 150 yards from seashore. This mass pass was used by the people who lived near or on Clugga Strand, apparently to reach Chapel Hogan, and later to Arklow Church. Midway along this path will be found St Patrick's Well. It is not known by people of Arklow Rock but is now overgrown by weeds. No visits are made or were made within living memory.' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0924, Page 43)

A pupil in Arklow Convent school wrote, 'In the year 432 St. Patrick came to Ireland as a bishop. At that time, it took three or four months to travel from one country to another as it was only sailing boats which were in use. It was in one of these boats that St. Patrick and his twelve followers sailed when they were coming to Ireland. During their long voyage their supply of water ran out. St. Patrick was in much distress on hearing this but to their great relief they sighted land. They sailed towards it and it was the Arklow Rock. St Patrick was the first to come ashore and where his foot touched a well sprang up. This well is to be seen to the present day. The local people have great faith in this well they still go and pray there; it is said the water cures certain diseases. Even though the sea water constantly mixes with it, it is always fresh and has no taste of salt.' (Schools' Collection, Volume 0923, Pages 185-6)

The second ecclesiastical site is marked on the OS 1840 is 'The site of Killynee Chapel (WI045-003001-) and Grave yard' (WI045-003002-) which is 1.18km southwest of the proposed development site. It does not appear on subsequent ordnance survey map editions, as whatever remained of the chapel and graveyard was obliterated in 1863 by the construction of the railway line. (Price 1967, 480; Grogan and Kilfeather, 119) No trace exists today 2023.

This was an ancient site which appeared in several ecclesiastical lists over the past millennium. The various forms of the name are Cillfinnmagh 1173, Cellfinnmaegh 1179, Killnevey 1275, Killenevey 1531, Kilnowy 1615, Killenoy 1630 (all in Ronan, 1927); Killynee, 'church of the white plain' (Price, 2006, 629).

'Situated in a marshy area, now drained. The site is shown on the 1838 OS 6-inch (published 1840) map as a rectangular structure within a small rectangular graveyard (max. dims. c. 30m NW-SE; 20m NE-SW) and is named 'Site of Killynee Chapel and Graveyard' (Grogan & Kilfeather, 119).

Settlement during the early medieval period (500-1200 AD) is predominantly represented by circular or sub-circular enclosures called ringforts, with placename elements showing the presence of these sites including rath, lios or dún. These settlement enclosures consisted of a circular area enclosed by a large earth and stone bank with a deep outer ditch. The bank may have been surrounded by a timber palisade or a fence. The main enclosures ranged in diameter from 15m up to 60m and some larger examples had multiple concentric enclosures. Circular houses were located inside the ringfort, which were gradually replaced by rectangular houses. Other settlement site types of this date included crannógs, which were dwellings built in lakes and rivers on natural or man-made islands. Ringforts and crannógs were built by farmers who would have practiced mixed agriculture with livestock and crops.

The nearest ringfort sites are found over 3.5km to the west at Ballygriffin (WI040-026), Barnacleagh East (WI040-025) and Ecawn (WI045-002).

The golden age of early Christian Ireland was violently interrupted by the Vikings which marked the beginning of two hundred years of intermittent warfare. From 795 A.D. the Norse raiders or Vikings began raiding the east coast of Ireland and founded their first base at Dublin. From there they plundered the countryside especially targeting the monasteries which held great wealth. The invaders secured rivers by establishing bases at its mouths and from there they could penetrate inland (Flynn 2003, 14).

Viking activity had begun in Wicklow by 827 AD (Etchingam 1994, 113; AU; AFM). Arklow located on the mouth of a river estuary would have been an attractive location and presumably provided safe harbour to the Vikings during this period. The Avoca estuary was one of the only safe harbours for relatively large boats and small ships on the coast between Wexford and Dublin (Harrison forthcoming).

The medieval harbour was probably located on the east side of the town where there are still quays in the modern town (Bradley & King 1989, 12). The repair of the "haven" (harbour) is among the features mentioned in the 1571 covenant between the earl of Ormond and the townsmen (Curtis 1932-43, v, 212). By the early nineteenth century, the harbour was accessible only to small boats because the passage was sinuous and subject to shifting sands' (Bradley & King 1989, 12; Lewis 1837, Vol. I, 60).

In the year 836 the annals tell us that the 'heathens from Inber Dea' attacked Kildare Cell Dara was plundered by heathens from Inber Dea, and half of the church was burned (AU 836).

Liam Price identified 'Inber Dee' with the estuary of the Avoca River at Arklow. The place name 'Inber Dee', has been argued as relating to Arklow. Smyth (1994, 46) argues that 'A Viking presence at Arklow is first vouched for in the Annal of Ulster in 836, and that Arklow was clearly a port of some significance in pre-Viking times. Also citing the locations mentioned in the 7th century Life of Patrick by Muirchú (ibid).

Other raids by the 'Inber Dee' group are mentioned in the annals at the ecclesiastical site of Glendalough and Clonmore in 834 & 835 (Etchingam 2011, 214). To reach Glendalough the raiding party travelled up the valley of the Avonmore—a march of over twenty miles through hostile and difficult terrain, attacked unexpectedly from the south-east, and burned half the monastery (Corpus of Electronic Texts). Harrison (forthcoming) argues that the attack at Kildare 'indicated that there was a raiding base or longphort at the site'. However, there is no evidence at present that the 'Inber Dee' base marks the beginning of permanent inhabitation.

The initial phase of raiding of the island of Ireland by the Vikings was followed by a second and most intensive phase of settlement characterised by the foundation of a series of urban centres: Waterford (914), Cork (c. 915), Dublin (917), Wexford (c. 921) and Limerick (922)' (Bradley 1995 12). The Dublin territory, known as Dyflinarskiri, was the most extensive of the settlements. It at one point embraced the modern county of Dublin and parts of Wicklow stretching south along the coast as far as Arklow (ibid).

The strongest evidence to support a Viking settlement at Arklow comes from placenames (Bradley 1995, 12). The placename Arklow is of wholly Scandinavian origin, with 'lo' meaning river meadow and 'Ark' being derived from the Viking name Arknell, i.e. Arknell's Meadow. Harrison (forthcoming) notes that important is that this is one of only a handful of entirely Norse placenames that have survived to the present day in Ireland. It must reflect

the perceived importance of the Avoca estuary as one of the only safe harbours for relatively large boats and small ships on the coast between Wexford and Dublin.

A pagan burial found between Three Mile Water and Arklow during the nineteenth century tentatively implies that at some point a more regular inhabitation of the Arklow–Wicklow region before the second half of the 10th century. The burial produced a pair of brooches and silver chain. The brooches are a well-known Scandinavian tortoise brooch, Norwegian type 51 as classified by Jan Petersen and date to late 9th or early 10th century They are believed to constitute part of the grave goods of a female of Scandinavian birth (O Floinn, Topographical Files NMI; Bradly 1995 11); Coffey 1902, 71-3; Fanning 1970, 78 fn 27; WI031-040). Historical and archaeological evidence cannot as of yet provide 'secure evidence for Scandinavian activity at Arklow in the tenth, eleventh, or twelfth centuries either, and certainly no evidence for the "proto-town"' (Harrison forthcoming). Harrison argues:

'If there was a Hiberno-Norse presence at the site [Arklow], it is more to have been something akin to the "way stations" that have been proposed for west Cork and Kerry, most of which have been identified using Scandinavian or Hiberno-Norse topographical place-names similar to that of Arklow itself... Arklow's importance may have been as a safe harbour for ships travelling between Dublin and Wexford, pausing between tides or due to unfavourable winds, rather than as a trading site in its own right.'

Late Medieval Period

The twelfth century was a time of political and social change in Ireland. Dermot McMurrough's desperate invitation of Anglo Normans to Ireland, and their famous landing in Bannow Bay in 1169 AD, along with the subsequent Norman invasion changed the landscape and social organisation of Ireland forever. Following the landing the Norman troops in Wexford the army set out to take Dublin. The High King at the time Ruairi O'Conchúir did not anticipate the route Mac Murrough and the foreigners would take through the Wicklow and Dublin mountains and the Normans took the city of Dublin within a few days.

Soon afterwards King Henry II granted most of the land in Leinster to the knight Richard fitz Gilbert de Clare, known as Strongbow, but the crown continued to retained control over a narrow strip of land from Wicklow to Arklow.

Harrison(forthcoming) notes that:

'Henry's retention of these two sites suggests that they had a strategic or economic importance that other locations lacked, and this may suggest an existing, permanent Hiberno-Norse presence at these sites, of unknown form and presumably small size'.

Within two decades, King John, Lord of Ireland to an Irish magnate, granted the "castle of Arklow with the vill of Arklow" (*castellum de Arcloh cum villa de Arcloh*) at some point between 1185 and 1189, to his loyal follower, Theobald Walter, first Butler of Ireland (COD i, no.17; Power 1981 fig.2).

In the initial decades after the Norman invasion in 1169 AD a new type of defensive residence called a castle was introduced. The first castles were a distinctive type of earth and timber fortifications such as the motte and bailey and ringworks were built. The more substantial stone castles followed in the 13th and 14th centuries. Less elaborate tower houses, the fortified residence of the aristocracy (both old Norman and Gaelic), were erected in the 15th to early 17th centuries A.D.

The wording of the grant made to Theobald Walter (1185-9) suggests that there was probably an earth and timber castle constructed prior to the grants issue (O'Brien 2021).

This castle may have taken the form of a ringwork and the rock cut ditch to the W of the stone castle may have formed part of the defences of this earth and timber castle. (O'Brien 2021).

A stone castle was then constructed by Theobald Walter and it may have followed the outline of the earlier ringwork castle. The Anglo-Normans were an important influence in the creation of an urban network in medieval Ireland. The grant is vague in detail as to the type of settlement that existed at the time. It was situated at the foot of a hill along the south bank of the river Avoca (Bradley & King 1989).

Like the majority of medieval towns, it was home to a number of religious houses. Theobald Walter made a grant of land to the Cistercians of Furness. The monks were had arrived in Arklow by the year 1204 however by 1205 they had moved to a more suitable site also granted to them by Theobald Walter at Abington Co Limerick (LI014-014002). Theobald was later buried at Abington in 1206 (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 126). The site of the Cistercian abbey (WI040-029004) is thought to be located on low-lying marshy ground on the east side of the Arklow bridge. A church site has been identified by O' Curry of the Ordnance Survey and Ronan with the site of the Cistercian Abbey.

The Ordnance Survey Letters of Wicklow noted that:

'There is an old abbey and extensive burial ground in this town to which the inhabitants continue to give the name of the Abbey, though not a vestige of the building remains, nor is the site distinguishable from the neighbouring grounds' (Herity 2013, 115).

Ronan in the early twentieth century recorded that:

'an ancient graveyard with the site of a church was found on the north side of the Bridge of Arklow in a sandbank in Ferrybank townland in this [Kilbride] parish. Several graves containing' skeletons were found here, which were covered with large flags, the sides being built with stones of various sizes and forms. The surface of the place is still covered over with human bones. A tombstone now lying at Lord Wicklow's farmhouse [Sheldon Abbey] was found here a few years ago which is 6 feet long, 2 feet broad at one end and 1 foot 8

inches at the other and 7 inches thick in the centre along the whole length, whilst the edges on each side are but 3 inches in thickness (Ronan 1927, 103-4, fn, 9).

In 1264 Thomas Theobald FitzWalter a descendant of Theobald Walter founded 'The Friary of the Holy Cross' a house of Dominican friars (WI040-029001) at Arklow. The Dominicans were a preaching order trained to orate in the vernacular language. The abbey was located on the south side of Main Street and the extent of its lands are probably outlined by the townland of Abbeylands. Thomas Theobald FitzWalter was buried here in 1285. In 1414 a papal indulgence was granted to the friary for the conservation of the church (CPL, 461).

The friary was dissolved in 1539 and in 1541 the crown granted a lease of the monastic buildings and lands to Edmund Duffy 'for 21 years, at a rent of 20s' (Nicholls 1994, 22). In 1544 the friary lands were granted to John Travers of Dublin, esq., at a smaller rent. (Nicholls 1994, 46; Gwynn & Hadcock 1988, 221). There are no upstanding remains of the friary although portions of the church and claustral buildings survived into the mid-18th century (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 221). The site of the friary is marked by a park. Vestige of earlier times are represented by a collection of 18th- and 19th-century headstones, including samples by Denis Cullen and James Byrne arranged around the perimeter of the high-walled square graveyard.

The parish church was central part of life in a medieval town. The medieval parish church at Arklow was located on the north side of Main Street. The church was dedicated to St Mary a common Anglo-Norman dedication. The parish of Arklow was part of the diocese of Dublin. One of the earliest references to St Mary's church dates to 1279 when the church was held by 'Fremund called Lebrun, papal chaplain and the dean and chapter of St Patrick's elected Master William de Conreria, papal chaplain' (CPL, 457). The church was also recorded in 1283 in the Calendar of Ormond Deeds (COD) and in 1289 in the Calendar Document of Ireland (CDI). The 1302-06 the Ecclesiastical taxation of the bishopric of Dublin valued St Mary's church, in the Deanery of Arklow, at £4 per annum with the tenth value of 8s. (Cal. doc. Ire., 241). The Visitation of Dublin Diocese in 1630 described the site as

'The church of Arklow wants some covering. The chancel is in good repair, only it wants ornaments within. The great tithes are impropriated, worth about £40 per annum. Mr Balthazar Fox is vicar there, whose vicarage is set for £17 per annum, out of which he allows to one Nicholas Whyte, curate there, £5 sterling per annum' (Anon. 1869, 163).

Price (1927, 104) argues that the town was a successful centre of trade:

'besides, as, in the vicinity at Killahurler was Christ Church Wood, belonging to the Cathedral of Dublin, and a very useful source for the supply of timber, we find constant shipments of beams from the " Bar Foot and Salmon Pool " of Arklow in the middle ages; and as we find the chaplains of Arklow, with the Dominicans, partaking of oysters and salmon with the Prior of Christ Church in the prior's chamber, in the year 1339'.

In 1377 Maurice Tanner a burgess of Arklow lost a ship bringing supplies to Wicklow. In 1402 Roger Grymston of Dublin received a licence to trade between Dublin and Arklow (Price 1937, 55).

By the 13th century Arklow possessed a stone castle (WI040-029002). Although in a ruinous condition it is one of the only medieval buildings to survive above ground. The castle was strategically located on high ground at the west end of the town and enjoyed a vista that overlooked the river (Bradley & King 1989). Its current physical condition is described in detail in Section 5 of this report.

The founders of the castle Fitzwalter's held the position of chief Butler to the Monarch and because of this title, they slowly adopted the name Butler as a surname. The title meant that if the king was to visit Ireland, the Chief Butler had to make sure there was plenty of food and drink ready for him and his retinue. As the chief Butlers the Fitzwalter's/Butlers were special privilege known as the Prisage of Wine. They were entitled about 15% of all the wine that was imported to Ireland.

From around 1272 territorial disputes began to take place with the Gaelic aristocracy and the Anglo Normans' we get the first mention of the fighting in the mountains of Wicklow, which continued for two and a half centuries or more' which destroyed the whole Anglo-Norman settlement in the east of the present County Wicklow except Arklow, and then reduced even that to about half its original extent' (ibid Ivor quote haven said where it's from).

The Butlers were a powerful family and also held estates in Lands Meath, Tipperary, Wexford. By the 14th century the Butlers moved their centre of operations to Kilkenny, and Kilkenny Castle becoming their main home. They appointed caretakers to look after their affairs in Arklow, including the castle. The sporadic accounts of Arklow castle show it was no stranger to conflict. In 1316 during the first stage of Bruce's expedition to Ireland, the Irish burned Arklow to the ground (Anal. Hib, 69). Some months later the Irish were defeated on the 16th of April by Edward le Boteler (Lewis 1837 vi, 59).

Decades later Arklow came under pressure from the native Irish. In 1331 the castle (WI040-029002) the castle was captured by the O'Tooles but was retaken by Lord de Birmingham; and in the year following it was again taken by the Irish, who were finally repulsed by the Justiciary Sir Anthony Lucy, who repaired the fortifications and strengthened the garrison (Anal. Hib, 121,125; Lewis 1837 vi, 59; Price 1937, 54). The Justiciary 'placed a Constable, EMas de Ashbourne, in charge of it; and in 1335 another Government official, Gilbert de Moenes, was Constable' (Price 1937, 54). By 1359 the castle was back in control of Butler and Thomas Talbot, an officer of the Earl of Ormond, was the Constable was the Constable (ibid). Despite the resurgence of the Gaelic power within Wicklow, Arklow town managed to be retaining its independence.

Sometime after 1416, the Manor of Arklow came into the control of the MacMurrough Kings of Leinster, possibly after the death of the 4th Earl of Ormond in 1452. In 1525, Muiris Kavanagh (McMurrough, King of Leinster 1522-31) returned the manor and castle of Arklow and its lands to his nephew Piers Butler, the 8th Earl of Ormond (ARUP 2013, 29).

In the 16th century the Butlers were reasserting their interests in the manor of Arklow. According to Price (1936, 52) the sixteenth century manor had reduced in size from its foundation. Now consisting of the lands lying between the boundary of County Wexford and the line of the Arklow river from Arklow almost to Aughrim, and of a triangular piece of land, the parish of Kilbride, on the north side of that river from Arklow almost to Aughrim, and of a triangular piece of land, the parish of Kilbride, on the north side of that river.

In the year 1543 the castle and manor were in the possession of John Travers, Master of the King's Ordnance in Ireland. It was leased to him from Sir James Butler Earl of Ormond with the conditions that he reassert and forcibly, if necessary, the old Butler claims to these lands.

'shall defend the town, manor, lordship and castle of Arklow which he holds at Present by lease for a term of years of said Earl, and shall also do the best he can to win such lordships, meases, lands, tenements, etc., belonging to said lordship, etc., or to any part Of the Earl's inheritance in Leinster from the possession of the Irish withholding the same without lawful or just title, said Earl now grants to John an annuity of £13 6s 8d Irish out of

the rents, issues and profits of said lordship, to have and to hold to said John as long as he remains the Earl's tenant of that lordship' (COD iv, 256-7 also see COD ii, 256).

A covenant between the earl of Ormond and the burgesses of Arklow in 1571 suggests that the town was in a state of dilapidation, and the castle, harbour and defences are specifically mentioned as being in poor condition (COD v, 211).

There is no definitive evidence to suggest that the town defences were ever built, and today there is no surviving upstanding remains visible within the town. The alignment and length of the long boundary, however, that delimits the plots on the south side of Main Street suggests that some form of defence probably existed, possibly an earthen rampart and fosse (Courney & Deery 2020, 14).

A rare reference to the physical shape of the castle is found in Calendar Ormond Deeds in 1594 when the 'great hall of the castle of Arklow' was noted. The hall was the venue for a legal dispute:

'several complaints exhibited by sundry of the inhabitants within the lordship of Arklow unto the Earl of Ormond as concerning several wrongs, injuries and other bad dealings used by said inhabitants, very pernicious and hurtful among themselves, whereby great discontentment and disquietness ensued thereof, for want of due course to be taken for redress of such wrongs and other indirect dealings as are continually growing betwixt said inhabitants as well for titles of land, actions of debt, as otherwise/ thereupon said Earl having a circumspect care of said inhabitants, being his tenants, directed unto us his pleasure, willing us, James Grace of Rathville in county Carlow, Edmond Gall and Piers McWilliam of county Kilkenny, to repair to the lordship of Arklow, calling before us such controversies as were depending betwixt the inhabitants' (COD vi, no. 7, 8-9).

In 1601 a lease between Thomas, Earl of Ormond and Captain Laurence Esmond mentions 'a weir upon the river of Arklow' (COD vi, no. 7, 9). The terms of his lease note that Captain Laurence Esmond,

'shall further repair the wall or bawn of said manor where ruined and shall buttress it with lime and stone within two years' (ibid., 10).

Post Medieval Period

On land now occupied by Arklow Golf Club in the eastern portion of Money Big and neighbouring Tinahask Upper it is reputed by local historian Jim Rees that this was the possible location of a battle or skirmish was fought on 30 June 1599 based on landscape descriptions in the Carew Manuscripts. The warring sides were the army of Elizabeth I, under the command of Robert Devereux, earl of Essex, and the Wicklow chieftain Phelim McFeagh O'Byrne and his followers. Phelim was the son of the more famous Feach McHugh O'Byrne.

The landscape was comprised of sandhills, boggy ground and scrubby woodland, which was home to large numbers of rabbits, giving it the name The Warrens. In wet weather, the boggy ground regularly became a small shallow lake known as The Warren Lough. (Local knowledge). This irregular, untamed terrain concealed an Irish force of about 800 foot and forty horse '*The rebels stood on a bog, behind which was a shrubby wood, which joined the sand hills*' (Carew Manuscripts, 380).

From a vantage point high on the shoulder of Rock Big, Essex could see that his advance party was about to be ambushed. He ordered all his cavalry and 300 light infantry to attack and dispel the Irish force. In response, the Irish 'came on with a louder shout and more

speed than before'. When the English cavalry reached the wetland, many of their horses got bogged down and the riders had to dismount. Essex's infantry came on with swords flashing and pistols firing. Behind them came musketeers. On seeing this extra firepower, the O'Byrnes stopped in their tracks.

This break in momentum allowed the English horsemen to bear down on the Irish. Many threw away their weapons and tried to escape, but in their confusion, they ran into the different attacking groups of English. Some were 'so amazed that they stuck in the bog', where they were killed one by one.

It was after this skirmish that Phelim McFeagh O'Byrne surrendered to the English crown and seven years later Wicklow became the last of the thirty-two counties of Ireland to be constituted under English law.

The 17th century was a time of political upheaval in Ireland. The Battle of Kinsale in 1603 which resulted in the Flight of the Earls in 1607 saw the final chapter in the old Gaelic way of life. In 1606 the territory we now know as Wicklow was formally drawn up and it became the last county formed in Ireland. Before this point the lands around Arklow were in Co Carlow. By the final formation of its county boundaries in 1606, the last county in Ireland to be formed.

The 1640s was a particularly turbulent decade which saw the castle at Arklow once again the focus of conflict. By 1640 AD Catholics owned less than half the land in the county through a policy of plantation. The civil war in England between royalists and parliamentarians spread to Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Rebellion broke out in 1641 when the old Anglo-Normans joined forces with the Irish in defence of their common Catholic religion. The head of the royalist faction in Ireland was James Butler, earl of Ormond. In 1641 both the O'Byrnes and the O'Tooles revolted. The town of Arklow remained loyal to the crown during the nine years' war, and it was a supporter of the confederate cause between 1641 and 1649.

The parliamentarians, latterly under Oliver Cromwell, proved victorious and, although the civil war ended in England in 1649, Cromwell's pursuit of royalists in Ireland, especially Catholic royalists, had long lasting consequences for landownership and governance in Ireland.

On 15th August 1649 Oliver Cromwell, Lord Lieutenant and Commander of the Parliamentary Army in Ireland, landed at Dublin. In September he besieged and captured Drogheda before turned his attention southwards moving down into Wicklow and on to Wexford. The Parliamentary armies sacked the castle at Killincarrig on 7th September and on 28th September Arklow fell after a brief battle (Murphy 1885, 141). A garrison was installed and attacked and killed by the O'Toole's and the O'Byrne's, about three months later. Arklow was under siege for around 8 weeks until Colonel Hewson arrived from Dublin with 1,000 horse and foot men to relieve the town, prompting the attackers to retreat. An attempt to capture the town in January 1650 was again foiled by Captain Barrington and the castle garrison (ibid). Two months later, Cromwell ordered the castle's destruction, leaving just one badly damaged circular tower and part of the curtain wall, which are present today.

Two years later, in 1652, the Act of Settlement was enacted. The Act of Settlement allowed Cromwell to reward the loyalty of his troops with land owned by the defeated royalist. This resulted in most of the Butler families, who followed the Catholic faith being dispossessed of their ancestral lands and transplanted to other counties. The incumbent Earl of Ormond (James Butler, 12th Earl of Ormond) who a protestant, went into exile with Charles II during the Interregnum under Cromwell, and with the king's restoration in 1660 the Earl was

rewarded with a dukedom and became Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. With his lands restored 'The Manor of Arklow' was again back into the hands of the Ormond's.

Ormonde finally disposed of his connection with Arklow through a series of property transfers in the 18th century which heralded a new wave of erecting public buildings in the town. The first half of the 18th century witnessed the establishment of a network of British military barracks. In many cases – including Arklow – these barracks were constructed at the most strategic location available and if this was occupied by a derelict castle, then it was demolished, and its rubble used in the new construction.

The barracks dates to the earliest phase of barrack building in 18th century Ireland (McGrath 2021). It is mentioned in 1701 and Major Clapham, Lieutenant Bates, and Ensign Webb of the 24th Regiment of Foot were stationed at Arklow in 1734. The George II half penny which was retrieved during excavations associated with the Arklow Waste Water Treatment Plant dates to 1746 during the phase of activity associated with the use of the barracks. Other items including the Onion bottle also appear to date this this era, where Arklow was finally emerged from the medieval into the early modern age.

In his biography of Michael Collins, *The Big Fellow*, Frank O'Connor mentions another military episode in the locality of the proposed development site: 'bigger and better gun-running [was organised], and during August the first shipload of arms reached Arklow' (O'Connor, 155). Local lore suggests that the shipment was landed at night. The local contact died soon after and when the IRA returned to retrieve their cache, they could not locate it among the monotonous rolls of sand dunes. Since its establishment in 1927, Arklow Golf Club has transformed the terrain beyond all recognition and no such discovery of arms, intentional or accidental, has ever been made – or, at least, none reported.

3.2 Record of Monuments and Places (RMP Files) (Appendix 1)

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under section 12 (1) of the 1994 National Monuments (Amendment) Act and provides that the Commissioners (now the Minister) shall establish and maintain a record of monuments and places where the Minister believes there are monuments, such record to be comprised of a list of monuments and relevant places and a map or maps showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the state. It is based on the older non-statutory Sites and Monuments Record and information from county archaeological inventories. It records known upstanding archaeological monuments, the original location of destroyed monuments and the location of possible sites identified through documentary, cartographic, photographic research and field inspections.

No RMP site will be impacted upon by the proposed development site a total of eleven RMP sites are located within 1.5km of the development site within the constraint area associated with Arklow Historic Town which are discussed in the historical background above Section 3.1 above.



Figure 5: RMP sites within 1.5km of proposed development site.

Table 1: RMP sites within 1.5km of proposed development site.

SMR No.	Class	Townland	Distance from site
WI045-003001-	Church	BOGLAND	1.15km
WI045-003002-	Graveyard	BOGLAND	1.15km
WI045-005----	Chapel	ROCK BIG	1.18km
WI045-005001-	Graveyard	ROCK BIG	1.15km
WI045-006----	Ritual site - holy well	ROCK BIG	1.2km
WI045-007----	Ritual site - holy well	ROCK BIG	1.4km
WI045-014001-	Enclosure	BALLYNATTIN	1.4km
WI045-015----	Burnt mound	BALLYNATTIN	1.14km
WI045-017----	Fulacht fia	BALLYNATTIN	1.3km
WI045-020----	Excavation - miscellaneous	BALLYNATTIN	1.5km
WI040-029	Historic Town	ARKLOW	1.3km

Table 2: SMR sites www.archaeology.ie

WI040-029
Class: Historic Town
Townland: Arklow
Description: Arklow is classified as a 'Historic Town' which is defined in the RMP files as 'a settlement of pre-AD 1700 date that occupied a central position in the communications network, functioned as a market centre and had an organised layout of streets with a significant density of houses and associated land plots. In addition, examples of one of the following monument classes should be present: town defenses; castle/tower house; house (which functioned as a manor house); parish church/cathedral; religious house(s); administrative institution (e.g. town hall, market-house); judicial institution (e.g. courthouse, prison); monuments indicating specialized technological production (e.g. mill, kiln, tannery, ironworking site); bridge; hospital;

school; quays.'(www.archaeology.ie).

WI045-017----
Class: Fulacht fia
Townland: BALLYNATTIN
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: No
<p>Description: A possible fulacht fia, slot-trenches, pits and post-holes were excavated here in 2003 (Excavation Licence 03E1692) in advance of the development of the Arklow IDA Enterprise Park (Tierney 2006, 541-2).</p> <p>Compiled by: Claire Breen</p> <p>Date of upload: 17 January 2013</p>
<p>References:</p> <p>Tierney, J. 2006 Ballynattin, Arklow. In I. Bennett (Ed.) Excavations 2003: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland, 541-2 (No. 2063). Bray. Wordwell.</p>

WI045-014001-
Class: Enclosure
Townland: BALLYNATTIN
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: No
<p>Description: Discovered in 1998 during archaeological monitoring of works associated with the IDA Industrial Park (Excavation Licence 98E0257). Excavation revealed a rectangular area (14m E-W x 8m) defined by a U-shaped trench (Wth 0.34m-0.44m; D 0.04m - 0.2m) with an entrance (Wth 1.35m) on the S side. There was a large amount of charcoal and burning present which led the excavator to suggest 'that the trench held a wooden palisade that burnt down. The presence of only one post-hole, that at the east side of the entrance, suggests that the trench may have contained a sill-beam in which posts were set that have now decayed without trace.' (Cotter 2000, 220). Finds included one sherd of pottery and numerous pieces of flint. (ibid)</p> <p>Compiled by: Claire Breen</p> <p>Date of upload: 24 January 2013</p>
<p>References:</p> <p>1. Cotter, E. 2000 Ballynattin. In I. Bennett (ed.), Excavations 1998: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland, 220 (No. 686). Bray. Wordwell</p>

WI045-015----
Class: Burnt mound
Townland: BALLYNATTIN
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: No
<p>Description: This is the record for two adjacent burnt mounds excavated by Anne Connolly (97E0128) as part of the Arklow bypass scheme. One was a subcircular spread of burnt material (c. 7m NE-SW; 5.5m (NW-SE; depth 0.2m) from which one fragmented piece of worked flint was recovered. The second spread of burnt material was broadly subcircular in shape (12.5m NE-SW; 10.8m NW-SE; max. depth 0.45m). Associated with these a wooden platform consisting of narrow lengths of wood covering an area 1.9m in length and 1.4m in width. Beneath this platform was a series of wooden stakes which did not form any clear patterns. A sample from this wood was dated by dendrochronology and had a felling date of late-856 BC/early-855 BC. (http://www.excavations.ie/Pages/Details.php?Year=&County=Wicklow&id=4119)</p> <p>Compiled by: Denis Power</p> <p>Date of upload: 25 January 2013</p>

WI045-003002-
Class: Graveyard
Townland: BOGLAND
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
<p>Description: Situated in a marshy area, now drained. The site is shown on the 1838 OS 6-inch map as a rectangular structure within a small rectangular graveyard (max. dims. c. 30m NW-SE; 20m NE-SW) and is named 'Site of Killynee Chapel and Graveyard'. It has been completely removed in the construction of the railway line.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Date of upload/revision: 26 September 2013</p>

WI045-003001-
Class: Church
Townland: BOGLAND
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated in a marshy area, now drained. The site is shown on the 1838 OS 6-inch map as a rectangular structure within a small rectangular graveyard (max. dims. c. 30m NW-SE; 20m NE-SW) and is named 'Site of Killynee Chapel and Graveyard'. It has been completely removed in the construction of the railway line.

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.

Date of upload/revision: 26 September 2013

WI045-007----

Class: Ritual site - holy well

Townland: ROCK BIG

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

Description: Situated in modern Roadstone quarry on a rocky E-facing slope overlooking the sea, 210m SE of Lady's Well (WI045-006-----) and 280m SSE of the site of Chapel Hogan (WI045-005---) and graveyard (WI045-005001-). Like the Lady's Well (WI045-006-----), this too appears to have dried up since the quarry opened. No visible remains. Price (1967, 484) recorded that 'nothing is known about St. Patrick's Well'.

Folklore collected from Arklow National School recorded the following details: 'St Patrick's Well is also situated in a field on the left hand side of the Rock Road (going in direction from Arklow) An ancient mass path runs across the rock, about 150 yards from sea shore. This Mass pass was used by the people who lived near or on Clugga Strand, apparently to reach Chapel Logan, and later to Arklow Church, Midway along this path will be found St Patrick's Well. It is not known by people of Arklow Rock but is now overgrown by weeds. No visits are made or were made within living memory.' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0924, Page 43; www.duchas.ie)

The following folklore was collected from Arklow Convent about this well; 'In the year 432 St. Patrick came to Ireland as a bishop. At that time it took three or four months to travel from one country to another as it was only sailing boats which were in use. It was in one of these boats that St. Patrick and his twelve followers sailed when they were coming to Ireland. During their long voyage their supply of water ran out. St. Patrick was in much distress on hearing this but to their great relief they sighted land. They sailed towards it and it was the Arklow Rock. St Patrick was the first to come

ashore and where his foot touched a well sprang up. This well is to be seen to the present day. The local people have great faith in this well they still go and pray there; it is said the water cures certain diseases. Even though the sea water constantly mixes with it, it is always fresh and has no taste of salt.' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0923, Pages 185-6; www.duchas.ie)

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.

Revised by: Caimin O'Brien

Date of revised upload: 25 May 2020

References: Price, L. 1967 The placenames of Co. Wicklow. VII - The baronies of Newcastle and Arklow. The Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (382-532).

WI045-006----

Class: Ritual site - holy well

Townland: ROCK BIG

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated in modern Roadstone quarry on a rocky N-facing slope overlooking the sea, to the S of site of Chapel Hogan (WI045-005----). Site of St. Patrick's Well (WI045-007----) 210m to the SE. The well has dried up since the quarry opened, and the site is now occupied by a Marian shrine (10/10/1954) and a hawthorn on which offerings are suspended in May. Pilgrimages to the shrine take place annually on the 25th of March. According to the Ordnance Survey Letters the well 'used to be visited on 25th March and 15th August' (Price 1967, 484; O'Flanagan 1928, 137).

Folklore collected from Arklow National School recorded the following details; 'The Lady's Well is a small well situated on Murray's Farm at Arklow Rock, about one mile south of the town of Arklow. It is situated within about 100 yards of the old ruined church called Chapelhogan (perhaps Sepeal an logain)". A small part of the wall of this church still stands. People from the Rock district pay great respect to this well. Every year the people from the lower part of Arklow town visit this well on 25th March, say a decade of the Rosary, take some water from well, and drink it. They also take home some water and bring it home to give to people at home to drink. Each on as he takes water ties a 'bit of rag' on a bush out the well.' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0924, Page 42; www.duchas.ie)

The following folklore was collected from Arklow Convent about this well; 'There is a well called the "Lady Well" which is situated on the "Rock" in Arklow. In the olden times the people used to go out and whitewash all round the well for the Priest to go out and say the Rosary and bless it on the 25th of March. This custom is still carried on for crowds of children and old people go out and say the Rosary and tie pieces of ribbon on the tree and bring home bottle of the water which is believed to be a cure for various ailments. Convent to the Lady Well is a large stone or rock on which supposed to be the imprint of a deer's fore-feet said to have leaped from Tara Hill in Co Wexford' (The Schools' Collection, Volume 0923, Pages 200-01; www.duchas.ie)

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.

Revised by: Caimin O'Brien

Date of revised upload: 25 May 2020

References:

O'Flanagan, Rev. M. (Compiler) 1928 Letters containing information relative to the antiquities of the county of Wicklow collected during the progress of the Ordnance Survey in 1838. Bray.

Price, L. 1967 The place-names of Co. Wicklow. VII - The baronies of Newcastle and Arklow. The Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (382-532).

WI045-005----

Class: Chapel

Townland: ROCK BIG

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

Description: Situated in modern Roadstone quarry on a marked NE-facing slope overlooking the seashore, 2.1km SSE of Arklow town. Two holy wells, Lady's Well (WI045-006----) and St. Patrick's Well (WI045-007-----) lie 130m to the SSW and 280m to the SSE respectively. Site of chapel now occupied by a quarry office. Today there are no surface remains visible of Chapel Hogan which was annotated 'Site of Chapel Hogan' on the 1840 ed. OS 6-inch map. In 1838-40 the site of the church was described in the Ordnance Survey Letters as following; 'there is an old little burial place at the south end of the strand in the Townland of Bigrock; it has no name'. Price (1967, 484) wrote about the OS Letters and stated that 'the place he is referring to is Chapel Hogan. There was a mound here with a small piece of masonry on it, but it has now been levelled. I cannot explain the name, but it may have some connection with Baltinglass Abbey (WI027-024001-). The Abbey owned a salt-pan at Arklow adjoining the lands which had been granted to the Cistercians of Furness; it must have been somewhere on the sea-shore here. Baltinglass Abbey also owned the lands of the parish of Clonmelsh, Co. Carlow, and there is a place there called Killogan Burial Ground (CW012-025001-) or Kill Hogan, as it was pronounced locally. Chapel Hogan may have been a chapel belonging to the Abbey near their salt-pan'.

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.

Revised by: Caimin O'Brien

Date of revised upload: 22 May 2020

References:

1. OSL - Ordnance Survey Letters. Letters written by members of the Ordnance Survey's 'Topographical Department' (T. O'Connor, A. O'Curry, E. Curry, J. O'Donovan and P. O'Keefe) sent to headquarters from the field (1834-41). MSS in Royal Irish Academy.

2. Price, L. 1967 The place-names of Co. Wicklow. VII - The baronies of Newcastle and Arklow. The Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (382-532).

WI045-005001-
Class: Graveyard
Townland: ROCK BIG
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
<p>Description: Situated in modern Roadstone quarry on a marked NE-facing slope overlooking the seashore, 2.1km SSE of Arklow town. Two holy wells, Lady's Well (WI045-006----) and St. Patrick's Well (WI045-007-----) lie 130m to the SSW and 280m to the SSE respectively. Annotated 'Site of Chapel Hogan, Grave Yard' on the 1838 ed. OS 6-inch map. In 1838-40 the graveyard was described in the Ordnance Survey Letters as following; 'there is an old little burial place at the south end of the strand in the Townland of Bigrock; it has no name'. Price (1967, 484) mentions the site of a church, then only a mound of rubble. It is now occupied by a quarry office. According to Jim Rees a local historian this graveyard was later used as a burial place for unbaptised children also known as a Cillín [Killeen] (pers. comm. Jim Rees 22 May 2020). Around 1960-1 this area was being levelled in order to construct the office building and the weighbridge when the graveyard wall was revealed along with human bones that were uncovered by the works. The skeletal material was then reburied in a pit in front of the Lady's Well (WI045-006----) grotto (SMR File).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Revised by: Caimin O'Brien based on details provided by Jim Rees</p> <p>Date of revised upload: 22 May 2020</p>
<p>References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> OSL - Ordnance Survey Letters. Letters written by members of the Ordnance Survey's 'Topographical Department' (T. O'Connor, A. O'Curry, E. Curry, J. O'Donovan and P. O'Keeffe) sent to headquarters from the field (1834-41). MSS in Royal Irish Academy. Price, L. 1967 The place-names of Co. Wicklow. VII - The baronies of Newcastle and Arklow. The Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies (382-532).

WI045-020----
Class: Excavation - miscellaneous
Townland: BALLYNATTIN
Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes
<p>Description:</p> <p>A number of pits and burnt areas were uncovered here as part of the construction work associated with an extension to the 'Euroconex' car park in 2005 (Excavation Licence 04E0937 ext.). The features were preserved in situ (Ó Faoláin 2008, 414-5).</p> <p>Compiled by: Claire Breen</p>

References:

1. Ó Faoláin, S. 2008 Euroconex, IDA Business & Technology Park, Ballynattin. In I. Bennett (ed.), Excavations 2005: summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland, 414-5(No. 1695). Bray. Wordwell.

3.3 National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files

The topographical files are held in the National Museum of Ireland in Kildare Street. These files identify all recorded finds which are held in archive and have been donated to the state in accordance with national monuments legislation.

A total of nine stray finds were recorded from Arklow, however none are recorded from Tinahask Upper or Money Little.

3.4 Excavations Bulletin (www.excavations.ie) (Appendix 1)

The excavation bulletin website (www.excavations.ie) was consulted to identify previous excavations that may have been carried out within Arklow town.

There have been many excavations in recent years associated with the Arklow Bypass and N11 Rathnew to Arklow road re-alignment and improvement scheme. Both road schemes uncovered archaeological features dating to the prehistoric period. The N11 road realignment uncovered a total of sixty-six archaeological sites, the majority of which dated to the Bronze Age and comprised burnt mound sites.

The closest archaeological excavations are over 1km to the southwest in the townland of Ballynattin where two burnt mound were excavated by Connolly under licence 97E0128. A possible fulacht fia, slot-trenches, pits and post-holes were excavated by Tierney under Licence 03E1692 in advance of the development of the Arklow IDA Enterprise Park. Also discovered in 1998 by Cotter during archaeological monitoring of works associated with the IDA Industrial Park licence 98E0257 was a rectangular trench which was interpreted as representing a trench that held a wooden palisade that had burnt down.

3.5 Cartographic Analysis

Analysis of historic mapping shows the human impact on the landscape and its evolving nature over clearly defined time intervals. The comparison of editions of historic maps can show how some landscape features have been created, altered, or removed over a period. These maps were also looked at in terms of the relationship of the recorded monument sites to boundaries, townland, parish, and barony.

Gaelic land ownership required a clear definition of territories for each sept and a need for strong permanent fences around their territories. Townland boundaries along ridge-tops, streams, or bogs are more likely to be older in date than those composed of straight lines. Christianity introduced the system of parish boundaries, whilst Anglo Normans introduced baronies and counties.

Cartographic sources consulted include the Historic 6" and Historic 25". The map analysis focuses on the proposed development site.

Ordnance Survey Mapping



Figure 6: First Edition Map 1839 which shows outline of proposed development in the townlands of Tinahask Upper and Money Little.

At the time of the first edition map the proposed development site is in an agricultural setting primarily in the townland of Tinahask Upper. The site occupies a series of agricultural fields, and three possible ponds are visible. The site crosses the townland boundary between Money Little and Tinahask. (Figure 6).

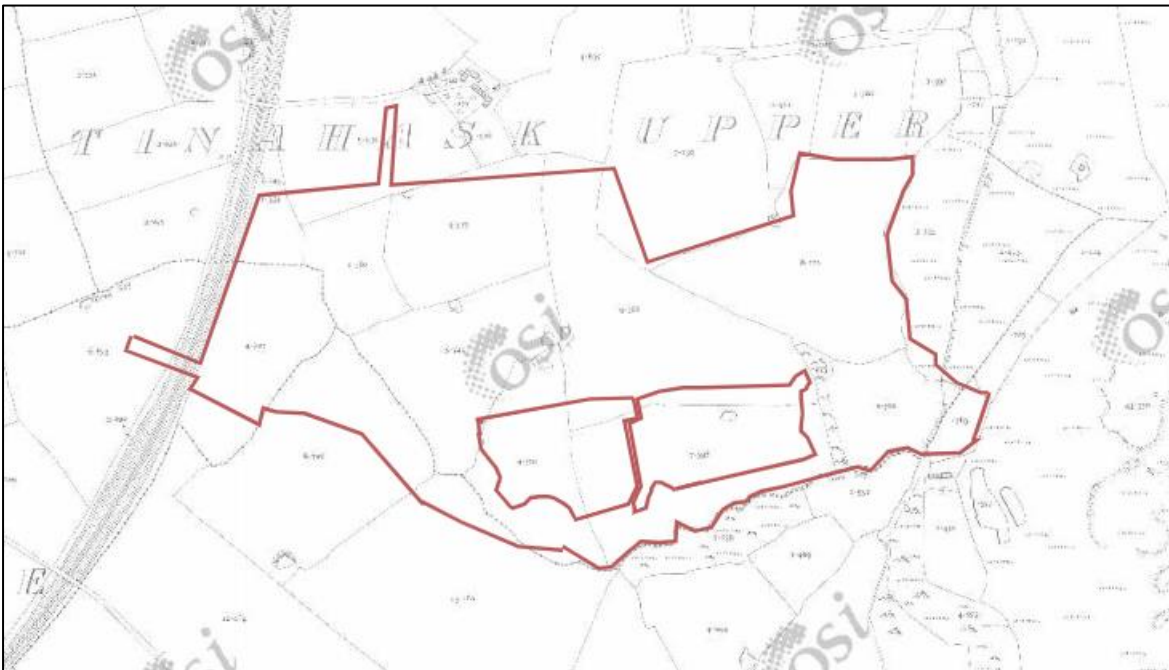


Figure 7: Third Edition Map 1908 which shows outline of proposed development in the townlands of Tinahask Upper and Money Little.

By the time of the Third Edition Map there has been no notable changes to the fields in which the development is proposed. The main change is that the railway line is depicted and the fields at the eastern part of the development have been enlarged. There is a pond depicted in the eastern part of the development which is not visible on the first edition map and the pond at the northern limit of the site is depicted as a faint line.

4 Legislative Background

This assessment is guided by relevant legislation, standards, and guidelines in respect of archaeology, built and cultural heritage, as follows:

European Legislation

- Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and National Heritage, 1972
- Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe, (the 'Granada Convention') ratified by Ireland in 1997
- European Convention Concerning the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (the 'Valetta Convention') ratified by the Republic of Ireland in 1997

National Legislation

- National Monuments Act 1930, amended 1954, 1987, 1994, 2004 and 2014.
- Heritage Act 1995
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999
- Planning and Development Act 2000-2018 (as amended).

Further policies relating to archaeological heritage are outlined in The Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028.

8.5 Built Heritage Objectives

Archaeology Objectives

The Archaeological Objects are:

CPO 8.1 To secure the preservation of all archaeological monuments included in the Record of Monuments and Places as established under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994, and of sites, features and objects of archaeological interest generally. In the development management process, there will be a presumption of favour of preservation in-situ or, as a minimum, preservation by record. In securing such preservation the planning authority will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

CPO 8.2 No development in the vicinity of a feature included in the Record of Monuments & Places (RMP) or any other site of archaeological interest will be permitted which seriously detracts from the setting of the feature or which is seriously injurious to its cultural or educational value.

CPO 8.3 Any development that may, due to its size, location or nature, have implications for archaeological heritage (including both sites and areas of archaeological potential /

significance as identified in Schedules 08.01 & 08.02 and Maps 8.01 & 8.02 of this plan) shall be subject to an archaeological assessment.

CPO 8.4 To require archaeological assessment for all developments with the potential to impact on the archaeological heritage of riverine, intertidal or sub tidal environments.

CPO 8.5 To facilitate public access to National Monuments in State or Local Authority care, as identified in Schedule 08.02 and Map 8.02 of this plan.

CPO 8.6 To protect the integrity of Baltinglass Hills archaeological landscape including identified monuments and their wider setting by resisting development that may adversely impact upon the significance and understanding of this important landscape.

CPO 8.7 To support the inscription of Glendalough to Ireland's tentative UNESCO World Heritage Site list and promote a conservation led approach to facilitating visitor access and enjoyment of this internationally significant landscape.

CPO 8.8 To protect and promote the characteristics of historic towns in County Wicklow identified as zones of archaeological potential in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), ensuring that cognisance is given in relevant development proposals to retaining existing street layout, historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these derive from medieval or earlier origins.

CPO 8.9 To protect and promote the conservation of historic burial grounds (those that are generally no longer in use but which may contain sites and features on the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and/or RPS) and support greater public access to these where possible.

5 Summary of Geophysical Survey Results

The following is an extract from the geophysical survey which accompanies this impact assessment report.

'The geophysical survey did not reveal any features of clear archaeological significance, though a number of anomalies of potential interest were identified. These were mapped in the western sector of the target lands and may reflect discrete spreads of burnt materials/soils [1–3]. The interpretation of these as archaeology is highly tentative however, and a modern (e.g., ferrous) origin cannot be discounted on present evidence. Agricultural activity is also represented in the dataset, with at least one relict field boundary [4] and several possible examples discernible. The line of a modern farm track [5] and a number of wire fences can also be seen, as can the sinuous path of what appear to be several natural streams/drainage channels. In addition to anomalies of anthropogenic origin, the investigation recorded a seam of near-surface igneous (dolerite) geology in the underlying sedimentary bedrock. This can be seen to extend northeast to southwest across the eastern sector of the survey area, with scatters of volcanic stones/pebbles (as well as other magnetic material of anthropogenic origin) in topsoils likely accounting for the numerous 'ferrous-type' responses dispersed throughout the target lands. Natural variations in the depth and composition of the underlying geology and soils also likely accounts for broad, amorphous positive responses recorded in the southern part of the survey area' (Dowling, 2023, p. 16).



Figure 8: Geophysical survey results in relation to Phase 1. Note that the proposed next phase was also surveyed in tandem with Phase 1.

6 Impact Assessment and Recommendations

This desk-based impact assessment report which includes a geophysical survey has been conducted to determine the full impact of any proposed works on the archaeological heritage and to develop an informed archaeological strategy to be agreed with the Department.

There are no recorded monuments within the study area of the proposed development. The closest site is a burnt mound which was uncovered at Ballynattin. Just over 1km to the southwest of the site during excavations a with the N11 bypass. To the north is the medieval town of Arklow and ecclesiastical sites are found in the wider landscape at Rock Big, which is known as Chapel Hogan, 1.15km southwest of the development site in the Roadstone Quarry and at Bogland 1.15km south of the development site where a church and graveyard labelled as 'Site of Killynee Chapel and Graveyard' was completely removed in the construction of the railway line. The works will impact upon the townland boundary between Tinahask Upper and Money Little.

Given that the proposed development site does contain potential for settlement from the prehistoric period on, a geophysical survey was completed by Dr. Ger Dowling. Three potential areas of archaeological significance were identified.

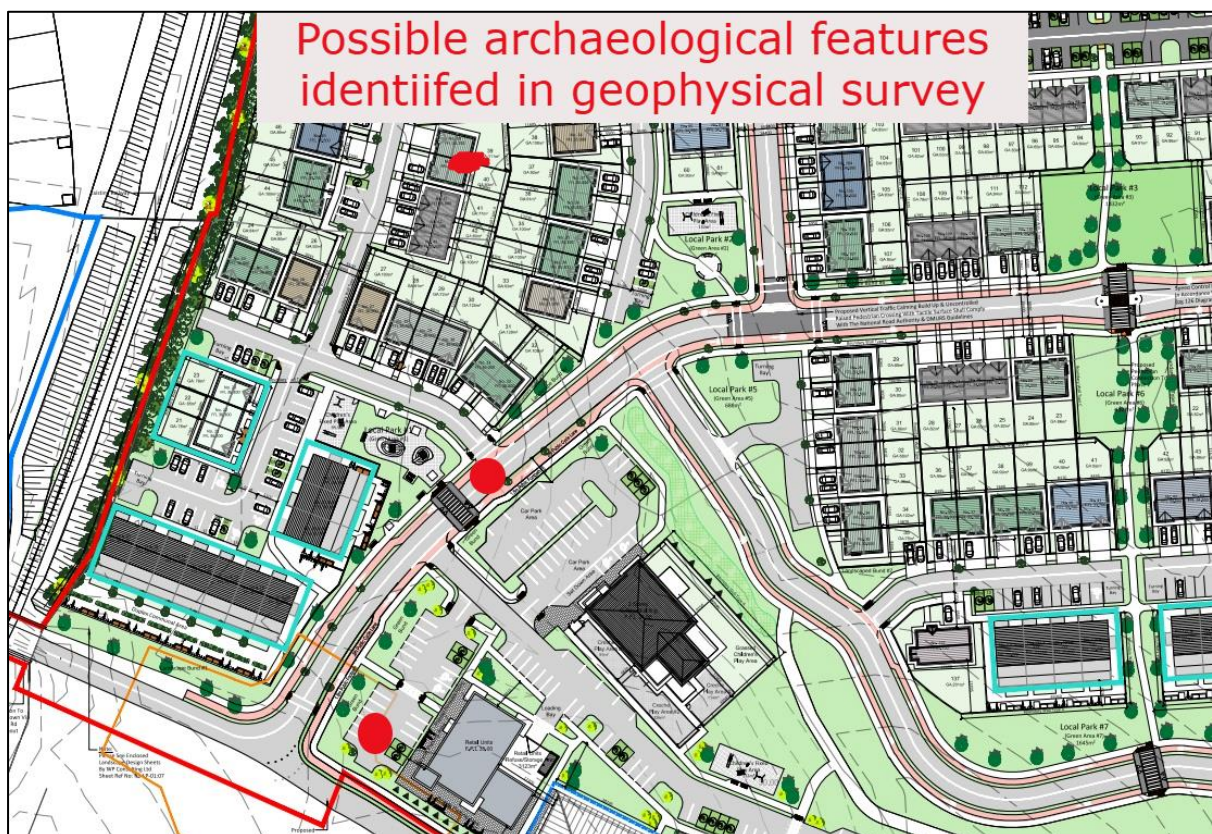


Figure 9: Approximate location of features identified in the geophysical survey overlain with the development plan.

The interpretations presented in the geophysical survey are provisional and further work (e.g., test trenching) is required to fully assess the nature and archaeological potential of the anomalies identified. These features should be subject to targeted test trenching and additional trenches should be excavated throughout the development area to confirm the results of the geophysical survey.

This programme of test trenching should be undertaken by archaeologists under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DoHLGH. Dependant on the results of the test trenching, further mitigation may be required, such as the preservation in-situ or by record (archaeological excavation) of any features that may be identified and/or archaeological monitoring. Any further mitigation will require agreement from the DoHLGH.

It is the developer's responsibility to ensure full provision is made available for the resolution of any archaeological remains, both on site and during the post excavation process, should that be deemed the appropriate way to proceed.

Please note that all recommendations are subject to approval by the National Monuments Service of the Heritage and Planning Division, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

This assessment is guided by relevant legislation, standards, and guidelines in respect of archaeology, built and cultural heritage and is subject to approval by the relevant bodies.

All works should be carried out under the relevant excavation licence under Section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930-2014 (as amended) and in consultation with the NMS and NMI.

7 References

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Whitty, Y. (2019). Archaeological Impact Assessment for Esmonde Developments at the former Bolands Builders, Castle Park, Arklow, County Wicklow.

www.archaeology.ie. (2022, June 21). Retrieved from Historic Environment Viewer: <https://maps.archaeology.ie/HistoricEnvironment/>

8 Appendix 1 Previous Archaeological Excavations

County: Wicklow **Site name:** Ballynattin, Arklow

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 03E1692.

Author: John Tierney, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Ballycurreen Industrial Estate, Kinsale Road, Cork.

Site type: Prehistoric

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 722494m, N 671276m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 52.778595, -6.184330

This work was carried out in advance of the development of the Arklow IDA Enterprise Park at Ballynattin. There is currently a 130m internal main roadway developed within the site that serves to access Euroconnex Technologies. Excavation of this road (and where it continued northwards through the centre of the site) was monitored by Sarah McCutcheon. A 14m-wide corridor along the length of the proposed main access road (stretching from the entrance to the northern roundabout) was excavated for services to be installed. Subsequently, the features (prehistoric enclosure, possibly Bronze Age) unearthed during monitoring were excavated by Eamonn Cotter (Excavations 1998, No. 686, 98E0257). The prehistoric enclosure was situated in the south-east corner of the currently proposed Vitra Tiles site. Immediately east of the Arklow Bypass, a burnt mound was excavated by Anne Connolly in 1997 (Excavations 1997, No. 609, 97E0128). This site is c. 100m to the east of the IDA business park.

Test excavations were carried out on the Haul Road and the proposed Vitra Tiles site in advance of proposed development works at the IDA business and technology park. Several trenches were machine excavated. Trenches 2 and 5 at the western end of the Haul Road contained probable archaeological features. Further testing was carried out on 17 November 2003, when it was discovered that the Vitra Tiles site had been stripped of all topsoil and the position of the Haul Road had been set out. At this time, the extent of the test-trench around the archaeology in Trenches 2 and 5 was extended. This testing yielded five areas which subsequently had to be excavated. These were excavated between 8 and 19 December 2003. Trenches 2 and 5 were extended and excavated as Cuttings 2 and 3. No other potential archaeological features were encountered within the other test-trenches along this road. The geophysical survey of this part of the site indicates no definite evidence for in situ archaeological remains.

There was a small spread of burnt-mound material in the south-east corner of the Vitra Tiles site. This is probably related to the prehistoric enclosure excavated in July 1998. The presence of this feature and a spread of burnt material at the western end of the test-trench indicates the possibility of the presence of archaeological sediments and features in the southern end of the Vitra Tiles site. In Cutting 1, Contexts 77-81 are the remains of heat-

shattered stone spreads rather than burnt mounds in the strict sense. The layers may be the result of other episodes of burning. No datable artefacts were recovered from Cutting 1. Contexts 82-84 are heat-shattered stone layers and trough fills which comprise a fulacht fiadh.

Cutting 2 is located on the route of the 'Haul Road' and was formerly Trench 2 of the original testing. Orientated east-west, the excavated area measured 5m by 4m. A number of features, consisting of two slot-trenches, four pits, nine stake-holes and two possible post-holes, were excavated. Four pottery sherds and three pieces of flint were recovered from the testing. Two of the pieces of flint were from Feature 3, which is in the vicinity of the fill of a natural hollow, a stake-hole cut and the fill of a pit. Another came from the cut of a pit. The pits seem to be for containing fire waste; the fills are all similar: pinkish-brown clayey silt with flecks of charcoal. It is not known where the actual fire producing this waste was located, but it was presumably nearby. None of the pits in Cutting 2 were subjected to in situ burning but appear to have been used as rubbish pits. The posts and stakes in the other cuts may have comprised two fences, one orientated north-east/south-west. The other fence comprises a double fence orientated north-west/south-east. A slot-trench is the innermost line of the double fence and Contexts 42, 29, 37, 39 and 6 comprise the outer line of the double fence. Again, the function of these is not certain. The 'corner' where these fences meet may be a post-hole that was dug out after use and backfilled, rather than a pit.

The archaeology in Cutting 2 appears to be broadly contemporary with the enclosure excavated in 1998, which is c. 150m to the north-east, and with the fulachta fiadh uncovered in the vicinity.

Cutting 3 (formerly Trench 5) is located on the route of the 'Haul Road'. The excavated area measures 7m north-south by 5m. The excavated features consist of seven pits, three stake-holes and one ditch. Their function is not certain. There may have been a curved screen providing a possible windbreak (the stake-holes); the function of the pits is unknown. Most of the fills appear to have been subjected to burning. The in situ burning uncovered during testing may be a patch of burnt clay located at the south-east corner of the cutting running under the east baulk. The area burnt was not extensive, but it is likely that the hearth was regularly cleaned and that the debris removed from the hearth was then deposited into the nearby pits. The pit fills may represent the remains of more extensive layers which have been eroded and truncated by ploughing, surviving only because they were deposited into the deeper pits.

The ditch uncovered during testing, Feature 12, may be Context 51. The fill of the ditch contained pieces of possibly worked flint. These may have been disturbed from an area which the ditch truncated or removed during its excavation. The date of the ditch is uncertain, but its function is more than likely to drain water, as the sondage excavated through it filled with water soon after excavation. It is possible that this ditch is similar to the enclosing ditch excavated by Eamonn Cotter, which also contained pieces of worked flint.

The archaeology uncovered in Cuttings 2 and 3 may be the partial remainder of very temporary habitation sites and extends outside the Haul Road both to the south and the north.

County: Wicklow **Site name:** BALLYNATTIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 97E0128

Author: Anne Connolly, Archaeological Services Unit Ltd, Oranmore Industrial Park, Claregalway Road, Oranmore, Co. Galway, for Valerie J. Keeley Ltd.

Site type: Burnt mound.

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 722494m, N 671276m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 52.778595, -6.184330

An excavation of a burnt mound, identified during licensed monitoring along the proposed bypass of Arklow town, was carried out from April to July 1997. The site was situated c. 1.5 miles south of Arklow, to the west of the main Dublin–Wexford Road (N11).

Two main cuttings were excavated to natural along the land-take at Ballynattin townland. Cutting 1 investigated the burnt mound identified during the initial soil-stripping. A further spread of burnt material was identified in the course of the archaeological work and Cutting 2 was opened to fully resolve the archaeology of this area.

Excavation of Cutting 1 revealed a subcircular, compact burnt stone and charcoal concentration, which measured c. 7m north-east/south-west and 5.5m north-west/south-east. This burnt material had a maximum depth of 0.2m. Finds from this material consisted of shattered flint, with one fragmented worked piece being recovered.

Excavation of Cutting 2 was undertaken to investigate a substantial spread of burnt stone and charcoal, located some 25m to the south of Cutting 1. This burnt spread was of an irregular though broadly subcircular shape, and measured 12.5m north-east/south-west and 10.8m north-west/south-east. It had a maximum depth of 0.45m at its centre, though it was significantly shallower on its south-west side. It did not yield any finds with the exception of some shattered flint.

A second, smaller subcircular burnt spread was located to the north-west of the main area. It had a diameter of 2.6m and an average depth of 0.15m. Excavation revealed two further small, shallow, irregular burnt deposits underlying this subcircular burnt spread, each with a layer of light silty clay occurring between them. Underlying all these layers was a yellow silty clay, which seems to have been formed naturally through silting. It had a depth of 0.3m.

Immediately to the north-west of and underlying the main burnt spread, and to the south-east of and partly underlying the series of small subcircular burnt spreads, a wooden feature was revealed. It underlay the yellow silty clay and overlay a mixed layer of fine sand. The wooden feature consisted of c. 23 narrow lengths of wood laid in a north–south direction, forming a deliberately prepared surface. It measured 1.9m in length, 1.4m in width and 0.1m– 0.15m in average depth.

On removal of this wooden feature, a series of moderately preserved wooden stakes was excavated. They did not form any very clear patterns, though they had definitely been pointed to facilitate their being driven into the underlying sand. A sample from this wood underlying the wooden feature was dated by the Palaeoecology Centre in Queen's University, Belfast, and a felling date of late 856 BC or early 855 BC was recorded. Wood samples were identified by Ellen O'Carroll, Irish Archaeological Wetlands Unit, and were found to be predominantly of alder (61%), with willow, ash, hazel, oak, birch and holly also represented. There were no finds associated with the wooden feature or the underlying strata.

County: Wicklow **Site name:** BALLYNATTIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 98E0257.

Author: Eamonn Cotter, Ballynanelagh, Rathcormac, Co. Cork.

Site type: Prehistoric enclosure

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 722494m, N 671276m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 52.778595, -6.184330

The site was discovered during archaeological monitoring, by Sarah McCutcheon, of topsoil removal from a 14m-wide corridor designed to provide access and services for a new industrial park development by the IDA, close to the new Arklow Bypass. It appeared under the topsoil as a band (c. 0.4m wide) of charcoal and burnt clay enclosing a rectangular area.

Excavation revealed the enclosing element to be a trench ranging from 0.34m to 0.44m wide and from 0.04m to 0.2m deep, enclosing a rectangular area measuring c. 14m east-west x 8m. The trench was U-shaped in profile with near-vertical sides. The enclosure had rounded corners, and, although little survives of the east side owing to disturbance by a modern field fence, this side appears to have been curved rather than straight. The entrance to the enclosure was in the south side and was 1.35m wide. A circular cut (diameter 0.27m, depth 0.09m) on the east side of the entrance is likely to be the base of a post-hole.

The fill of the trench consisted of a soft, light brown soil with charcoal concentrations of varying densities and numerous patches of burnt, ashy material. Numerous fragments of

burnt wood of small diameter were found, suggesting the presence of twigs, such as might have been used in a post-and-wattle fence. Charcoal concentrations were most dense at the east end of the south side and midway along the north side, where the trench was at its deepest. In these areas the charcoal layer was c. 0.05m thick and was underlain by a 0.1m-thick layer of greyish, silty soil.

The amount of charcoal and burning present suggests that the trench held a wooden palisade that burnt down. The presence of only one post-hole, that at the east side of the entrance, suggests that the trench may have contained a sill-beam in which posts were set that have now decayed without trace. One sherd of pottery and numerous pieces of flint were recovered, and, while none of these was definitively diagnostic, they suggest a late prehistoric date, possibly Bronze Age.

County: Wicklow **Site name:** BALLYNATTIN

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 04E0937 EXT.

Author: Simon Ó Faoláin, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Ballycurreen Industrial Estate, Kinsale Road, Cork.

Site type: Possibly prehistoric

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 723244m, N 671380m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 52.779358, -6.173182

Test excavations were undertaken in advance of the proposed construction of an extension to a carpark at Euroconex Technologies Ltd, Business and Technology Park, Ballynattin, Arklow, Co. Wicklow. A significant number of archaeological sites had been excavated in the area of this park in the past. Works were carried out on 23 August 2005. Three test-trenches were excavated in a staggered layout, all aligned with their long axes running south-west to north-east, the same as the long axis of the proposed carpark extension. All three trenches measured 50m long by 2m wide.

The features uncovered during testing were considered as three groups: modern, probably modern and possibly archaeological.

The large, disturbed area in the south-western part of the area tested, and a pair of post-holes also in the same area, were clearly modern in origin.

Included as 'probably modern' are two features which are similar in form and are probably plough furrows. They run parallel with the test-trenches, which are in turn aligned parallel with the long sides of the existing field boundary, a fact which makes them more likely to be ploughmarks.

The possibly archaeological features all contained charcoal and in some cases had evidence of fire-reddening and/or burnt stone or clay. Limited investigation of their fill recovered no artefacts, modern or otherwise.

Given that extensive prehistoric archaeology has been excavated in a number of locations in the immediate vicinity and that a worked flint was recovered from one of the trenches, the possibility that these features may be further evidence of prehistoric activity was considered significant and monitoring of groundworks was recommended.

Sites and Monuments Record No.: N/A **Licence number:** 04E0937 EXT.

Author: Simon Ó Faoláin, Eachtra Archaeological Projects, Ballycurreen Industrial Estate, Kinsale Road, Cork.

Site type: Possible prehistoric activity

Period/Dating: —

ITM: E 722494m, N 671276m

Latitude, Longitude (decimal degrees): 52.778595, -6.184330

This is one of several phases of work carried out on the IDA Business Park in Ballynattin, Arklow. Euroconex Technologies Ltd is located in the north-west corner of the business park. Testing of the carpark was carried out by Bruce Sutton (Excavations 2004, No. 1842, 04E0937). Testing of a carpark extension, to the south of the Euroconex building and to the east of the existing carpark, was carried out by the writer (see No. 1694 above, 04E0937 ext.). The extension was subsequently monitored in September 2005; this summary details the findings of the monitoring.

The entire area was stripped of topsoil, 0.3m in depth, down to the level of the subsoil. A number of possible archaeological features were uncovered. A number of possible pits measured an average of 0.3m by 0.3m, were circular in plan and were filled with a mid-pinkish-orange clayey silt with sub-angular moderate medium pebbles and small stones, with moderate flecks and small pieces of charcoal. Two small areas of burning in situ were also uncovered. The possible pits and burnt areas were concentrated in the western half of the proposed extension. The features, on the surface, are similar morphologically to those excavated by John Tierney in the adjoining site in the IDA Business Park in Ballynattin (Excavations 2004, No. 1841, 04E0712). Evidence for modern disturbance, including a large pit filled with scrap metal, furrows and field drains, was also uncovered.

As the carpark extension was not excavated below the level of the top of the subsoil, the features were preserved in situ. The location of the possible features was surveyed electronically. The features were then covered with a protective membrane of terram, which in turn was covered with pea gravel and trunking.

