PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

BOYCETOWN,
KILCOCK,
Co. KILDARE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

MARTIN E. BYRNE, MA, Dip. EIA Mgmt., MIAI.

Report Commissioned by
TERESA MONAGHAN
C/o David Mulcahy Planning Consultants Ltd
67 Old Mill Race
Athgarvan
Newbridge
Co. Kildare

AUGUST 2022

BYRNE MULLINS & ASSOCIATES
ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL HERITAGE CONSULTANTS

7 CNOC NA GREINE SQUARE,
KILCULLEN,
Co. KILDARE.
PHONE 045 480688
e-mail:byrnemullins@eircom.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction 1

2. Methodology 1

2.1 Definition of Study Area 1

2.2 Paper Survey 1

2.3 Field Inspection 1

2.4 Difficulties Encountered 2

3. Site Location and Description 2

4. Description of Development 4

5. General Historical Background 7

6. Archaeological Heritage 12

6.1 Statutory Protections 12

6.1.1 National Monuments Acts 12

6.1.2 Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023 12

6.2 Archaeological Inventory 13

6.3 Archaeological Artefacts 14

6.4 Results of Previous Documented Relevant Archaeological Investigations 14

7. Potential Impacts of the Proposals 15

7.1 Assessment of Impacts 15

7.2 Construction Phase 15

7.3 Post-Construction/Operational Phase 16

8. Mitigation Measures 16

APPENDIX 1 – List of Consulted Documentary Sources 17

LIST OF PLATES

1. Aerial View of Site 3

2. Extant remains of former 'Herd's House' 10

LIST OF FIGURES

1. General Site Location **2**
2. Site Location – Existing Layout **3**
3. Existing Site Layout/Contour Survey **4**
4. Proposed Layout Plan **6**
5. Extract from Down Survey Map – 1656-8 **7**
6. Extract from Noble and Keenan – 1752 **8**
7. Extract from Taylor & Skinner - 1777 **8**
8. Extract from Taylor - 1783 **9**
9. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1837 **9**
10. Extract from Griffith's Valuation Map of 1854 **10**
11. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1911 **11**
12. Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1939 **11**
13. Extract from TII LiDAR Survey **13**
14. Locations of AR-1 & AR-2 with respect to extent of subject site **14**

ALL MAPS AND AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS ARE REPRODUCED UNDER OSI LICENCE No.: EN0074512

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

BOYCETOWN, KILCOCK, Co. KILDARE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Martin E. Byrne, MA, Dip. EIA Mgmt, MIAI.
BYRNE MULLINS & ASSOCIATES – ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

1. INTRODUCTION

This report provides an Archaeological Heritage Assessment with respect to a proposed residential development on lands at Boycetown, Kilcock, Co. Kildare. The report was prepared on behalf of the applicant, Teresa Monaghan c/o David Mulcahy Planning Consultants Ltd, 67 Old Mill Race, Athgarvan, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Definition of Study Area

The overall proposed development lands and an area of approx. 500m surrounding such lands were determined to be the Study Area for Archaeological Heritage. The extent of the Study Area was chosen to reflect an appropriate Archaeological Heritage context for the development, beyond which it was considered that a development of this nature would have no direct/indirect (visual) impacts.
.

2.2 Paper Survey

As part of a documentary/cartographic search, the following principal sources were examined from which a list of sites and areas of Archaeological Heritage interest/potential was compiled:

- Record of Monuments and Places – Cos. Kildare and Meath (RMP)
- Sites and Monuments Record of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (SMR) – www.archaeology.ie
- Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland
- Annual Archaeological Excavations Bulletin – www.excavations.ie
- Aerial Photographic & Cartographic Archive of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland – www.osi.ie
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) – www.buildingsofireland.ie
- Placenames Commission – www.logainm.ie
- Documentary and cartographic sources in Kildare County Library
- Kildare County Development Plan 2017 – 2023 (KCDP)
- Kilcock Local Area Plan 2015-2021 (KLAP)
- Heritage Council Heritage Database – www.heritagemaps.ie
- National Folklore Collection (The School's Collection) – www.duchas.ie

2.3 Field Inspection

Following completion of the preceding paper survey, a detailed field survey was undertaken in early-February 2021 with respect to Archaeological Heritage. This entailed a surface reconnaissance of the subject site and inspections of the surrounding lands, where possible. This survey complemented an earlier archaeological survey of the subject lands undertaken in 2016.

An attempt was also made to identify previously unrecorded sites of archaeological heritage potential within, and in the immediate environs of, the proposed development area.

2.4 Difficulties Encountered

No significant difficulties were encountered with respect to the preparation of the Paper Survey or subsequent Field Survey. Where it was not possible to access the lands outside the extent of the subject landholding, reconnaissance was undertaken from adjacent boundaries.

3. SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed development lands are located in the townland of Boycetown, *c.* 1.15km to the north-west of the centre of Kilcock and adjacent Junction 8 of the M4 Motorway – Figure 1. The site is bounded to the west by the R158 road, to the south-east west by agricultural lands and to the north-east by a residential development (Boycetown Court). Sections of the northern boundary front onto the R148 road, with the remainder bounding St. Joseph's Cemetery and a separate plot which includes a former C-of-I church (Protected Structure Ref: B05-08).



Figure 1 General Site Location

The subject development lands are formed by four agricultural fields (Figure 2), under pasture, and divided from each other by planted field boundaries (Plate 1). A modern trackway leads east from a modern gated agricultural/field entrance on the R407 road to the west and there are similar entrances from the R148 to the north. The westernmost boundary is formed by a post-and-rail fence, of modern construction, with the northern road frontages are formed by planted embankments, of relatively modern origin. The boundaries to the cemetery are of concrete block walls, with those to the former church plot formed by trees and other planting. There is a derelict cottage structure (former 'Herd's House) in the north-western field, fronting the R148 road (Plate 2).

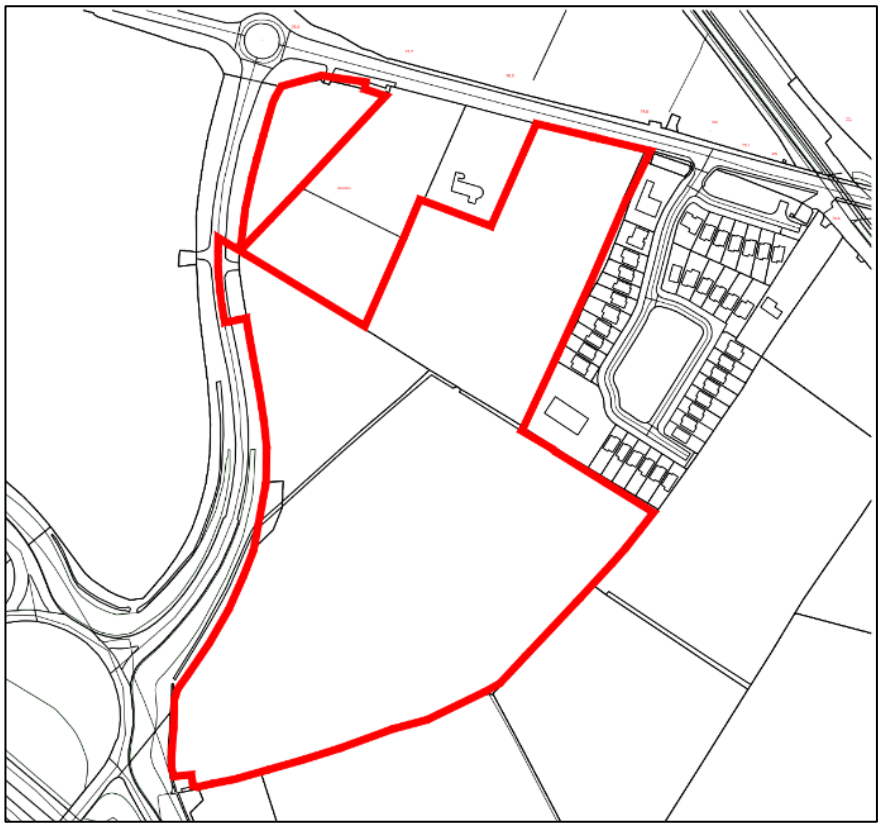

Figure 2 Site Location – Existing Layout



Plate 1 Aerial View of Site

In general, the land surface in slightly undulating; in general, the northern area of the site falls gently to the north, whilst that on the south falls gently to the southwest – Figure 3.

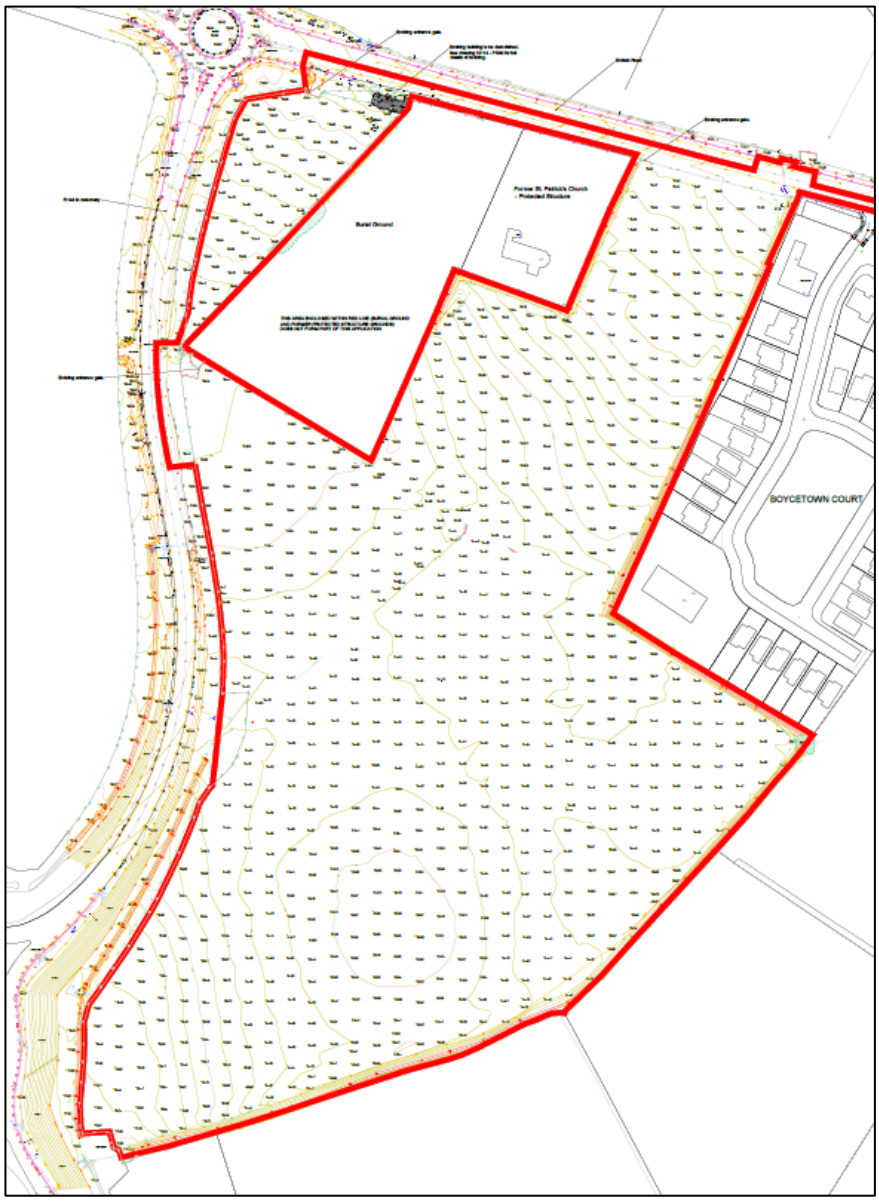

Figure 3 Existing Site Layout/Contour Survey

4. DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT

The proposed development (30,839 sq.m GFA) will consist of the demolition of a detached, vacant cottage (GFA 69sq.m) and the construction of 272 residential units (149 no. houses, 65 apartments and 58 duplexes), childcare facility and foul pumping station along with associated ancillary works and site works. The 149 no. dwellings consist of:

- 40 no. 4 bed 2 storey houses (House Type A1, A2, A3, A4, A5)
- 8 no. 4 bed 3 storey houses (House Type E1, E2)
- 90 no. 3 bed 2 storey houses (House Type B1, B2, B3, C1, C2)
- 11 no. 2 bed 2 storey houses (House Type D1)

The proposed apartments and duplexes are provided in 7 no. blocks (Blocks A, B, C, D, E, F, G) ranging in height from 3 to 4 storeys, with the exception of 1no. Duplex Block (Type N1), which is a 3 storey, end of terrace unit. Block A and Block B contain Rooftop terraces at 4th floor level.

The Duplex Blocks (Type J1, Type, J2, Type J3, Type J4, Type K1, Type L1, Type M1, Type N1) are all 3-storey and contain 58 units divided as follows:
6no. 1 bed ground floor apartment units (Units L1-A)
23no. 2 bed ground floor apartment units (Units J1-A, J2-A, J3-A, J4-A, K1-A, M1-A, N1-A)
1no. 2 bed duplex unit (two-storey unit) (Units K1-B)
25no. 3 bed duplex units (two-storey units) (Units J1-B, J2-B, J3-B, J4-B, L1-B)
3no. 4 bed duplex units (two-storey units) (Units M1-B, N1-B)

The 65 apartments are located within Blocks A, B, C and D divided as follows:
17no. 1 bed units (Type F1, Type F2, Type F3, Type F4, Type F5, Type F6)
37no. 2 bed units (Type G1, Type G2, Type G3, Type G4, Type G5-A, Type G5-B, Type G6, Type G7, Type G8)
11no. 3 bed units (Type H1, Type H2)

Block D also contains a childcare facility (gfa.526.2 sq. m) and includes a dedicated outdoor play area (c.210 sq.m).

Ancillary works including 1 no. vehicular entrances off the R148 to the north and 1 no. vehicular entrance off the R158 to the west, a spine road which will link with the permitted spine road on the adjoining lands to the south-east under PL09.306826, internal roads, footpaths, cycle lanes, car parking (465 no. spaces), cycle storage/parking (426 no. spaces), 2 no. bus stops, bin storage, public open space, hard and soft landscaping, natural play area, play equipment, boundary treatments, public lighting, 3 no. substations (14sq.m each) and controlled pedestrian crossing on the R148.

All associated site and infrastructural works including underground wastewater pump station (a wetwell); welfare building 6.25sqm and 3m in height; 472m of 125mm OD rising main and 250m of gravity sewer along the R148; an underground emergency storage tank, capacity 230 m3 approx.; above ground lifting gantry; valve and flowmeter chambers; a chemical dosing facility for odour control; Passive Carbon Unit; Kiosks; above ground surge vessel (<13 m3); Landscaping, fencing and access off the R148. The proposed development includes all necessary ancillary pipework and manholes, diversion of existing utilities; new power supply and water connection for the pump station, ducting, mechanical and electrical services, plant, instrumentation, automation, controls and equipment. It also includes all associated site development works, hardstanding areas and access and site drainage. The proposed development includes works on lands owned by Kildare County Council to facilitate access and drainage infrastructure.

A layout plan of the development, as proposed, is illustrated in Figure 4.



Figure 4 Proposed Layout Plan

5. GENERAL HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The subject lands form part of the townland of Boycetown, in the civil parish of Kilcock and barony of Ikeathy and Oughterany (O.S. 6" Map – Kildare Sheet 05). The origin of the townland name is unclear. The Irish form of the name is *Baile an Bhúsaigh,* which, according to the Placenames Commission (www.logainm.ie) is a non-validated name. Forms of the name have been in use since the mid-sixteenth century.

For most of the early historic period, the general region was divided into two, politically, between the over-kingdoms of the Uí Néill in the north and the Laighin to the south. The frontier boundary between these over-kingdoms in the area corresponds with the Rye Water River, and is believed to have been inhabited by the Ikeathy tribe, who controlled the general area between the River Rye at Kilcock and the River Liffey at Clane after they moved from central Kildare. The Rye Water River still forms part of the boundary between Cos. Kildare and Meath.

The earliest documentary reference relating to Kilcock comes from the Annals of the Four Masters and relates to an event in AD 774 when there was a battle at Cill-Coca on the boundary of the Kingdoms of Meath and Leinster. This placename includes an ecclesiastical element indicating the nature of the site and also giving the name of the patroness and founding saint. The Irish form of the name Kilcock - *Cill Coca* – translates as 'the Church of Coca'. St Coca who is traditionally believed to have been a sister of St Kevin of Glendalough and an embroiderer of church vestments, including those for St Colmcille. An early historical reference records that "The Virgin" St Cocha is honoured on the 6th June in the church or monastery of Killchoca on the borders of Meath' (O'Donovan 1837, 78).

There is very little documentary historical information for the immediate area dating to the medieval and immediate post-medieval period. Following the Anglo-Norman invasions, the lands in the area were initially granted to John de Hereford, following which a number of 'manors' were established, including one at Kilcock. A religious centre was established, with the clergy supplied by the Knights Hospitallers. The manor and religious centre subsequently developed into the present town. The first documentary evidence for the existence of an established secular settlement at Kilcock dates to the fifteenth century when it is recorded that the 'profits of the court, mill, market and the tolls of the town were in the dower of dame Anastasia Wogan of Rathcoffey' (Costello 1988, 95–96).

The Pale ditch, an earthen rampart which surrounded the Dublin region, ran through the area south of modern Kilcock. Stretching from Dundalk to Ardee, Kells, Kilcock, Clane, Naas, Ballymore Eustace, Rathmore, Kilteel and Dalkey, its length was dotted with towers, castles and cultivated manorial estates (Lyons 2000, 17) and the surrounding lands would have been intensively farmed due to its proximity to the markets in Dublin. Devitt (1911, 215) suggests that the road from Kilcock to Summerhill (existing R158) marked a boundary of The Pale in 1514, although no physical evidence has yet been discovered; this junction of the R158 with the R148 is positioned approximately 300m to the east of the north-eastern corner of the site.

The lands in the area of Kilcock were subsequently subsumed into the Fitzgerald estates, and remained in control of the family until 1537 when James Fitzgerald was executed. The lands at Kilcock were subsequently granted to the Sutton family

'Boyestowne' is indicated in the Civil Survey (aka Down Survey) map of 1656-8 (Figure 5). The Down Survey Project (www.downsurvey.tcd.ie) notes that a census of 1659 recorded that 12 English were in residence at 'Boistowne' and comprised 127 'plantation' acre; in 1641 the lands were owned by Ellen Butler, a Catholic but by 1670 they were owned by James, Duke of York, a Protestant.



Figure 5 Extract from Down Survey Map – 1656-8

A new toll road from Dublin to Mullingar, via Kilcock to Enfield (part of the present R148), was established in the 1730s and is illustrated in Noble & Keenan's map (Figure 6) and Taylor & Skinner's map of 1777 (Figure 7). Both indicate the nearby roads to Summerhill and Trim but neither mentions Boycetown, indicating that no significant residences had been constructed in the townland at these times.



Figure 6 Extract from Noble and Keenan – 1752



Figure 7 Extract from Taylor & Skinner - 1777

Taylor's map of 1783 (Figure 8) illustrates a large house in Boycetown, on the northern side of the Kilcock-Enfield road and to the west of the subject site; in addition, the map indicates some formal tree planting along the edges of main road.

The Royal Canal construction began in Dublin in 1790 and this signalled the end of the stage coach era, as the canals were a cheaper and more efficient means of transport. The stretch from Dublin to Mullingar, via Kilcock, opened as a trade route around 1807 and the canal eventually reached the Shannon in 1817.

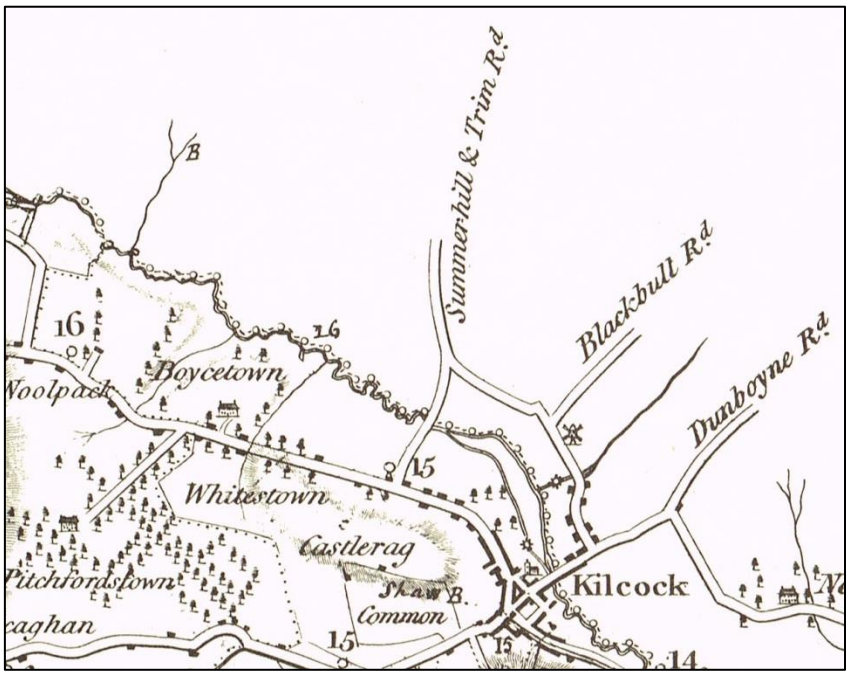

Figure 8 Extract from Taylor - 1783

Lewis (1837, ii, 62) noted that the population of the civil parish of Kilcock was 2235, of which 1730 lived in the town. He further noted that the parish chiefly comprised rich pasture land 'appropriated for the fattening of stock for the Dublin market, and for exportation'; what little was under tillage was well cultivated, using an improved system of agriculture and was very productive. In addition, he noted that the surrounding scenery was 'pleasingly diversified', and included a number of richly wooded demesnes

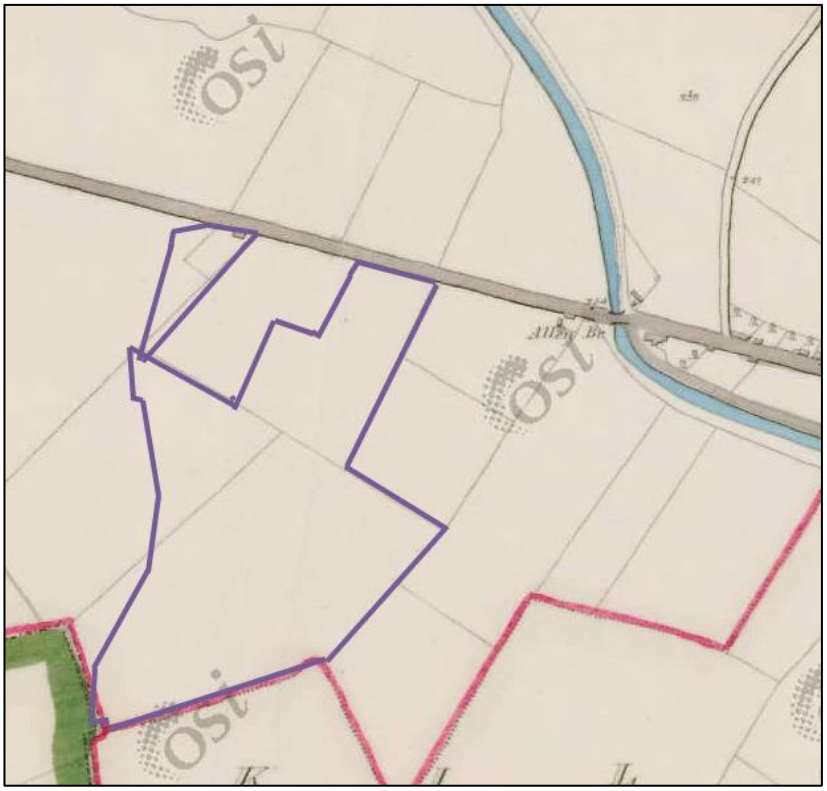

Figure 9 Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1837

The *Ordnance Survey* map of 1837 (Figure 9) illustrates the layout of the subject lands at that time, with the route of the Royal Canal indicated to the west and north; the existing eastern and southern boundaries, together with the existing central internal boundaries had been established by this time and the lands were in agricultural use. In addition, a section of the southern and southwestern boundaries are indicated as townland boundaries, with the latter also serving as a civil parish boundary. The north-western field

included a rectangular plot with a single structure fronting onto the road.

Unlike the Grand Canal, the Royal Canal was never profitable and was was sold for £300,000 to the Midland Great Railway Company. The railway company bought it as a strategic move to subsume the transportation business of the canal and planned to drain it and lay tracks over its route. However, this did not occur, partly because the line of the canal had too many unsuitable bends. The railway company commenced a railway line from Dublin Broadstone to Galway, with the first section completed to Enfield and opened in June 1847; construction works on the line continued and overall line to Galway opened in August 1851. A temporary station at opened in Kilcock in 1847 and permanent station in 1848; the latter was closed in 1948 and a new station was subsequently constructed in 1997 (Johnston, 1997, 87).

Griffiths Valuation of 1854 (Figure 11) indicates two structures within a rectangular plot in the north-western field, one of which is described as a 'Herd's House'; this is still partially extant (Plate 2). At this time the lands (No. 10) were leased by Joseph Walker and were owned the representatives of James Cleghorn. In addition, the Valuation Map also indicates that a church had been constructed within a newly established plot of land on the southern side of the Kilcock – Enfield Road, outside subject landholding. The map also illustrates the railway line to the northwest of the subject lands.

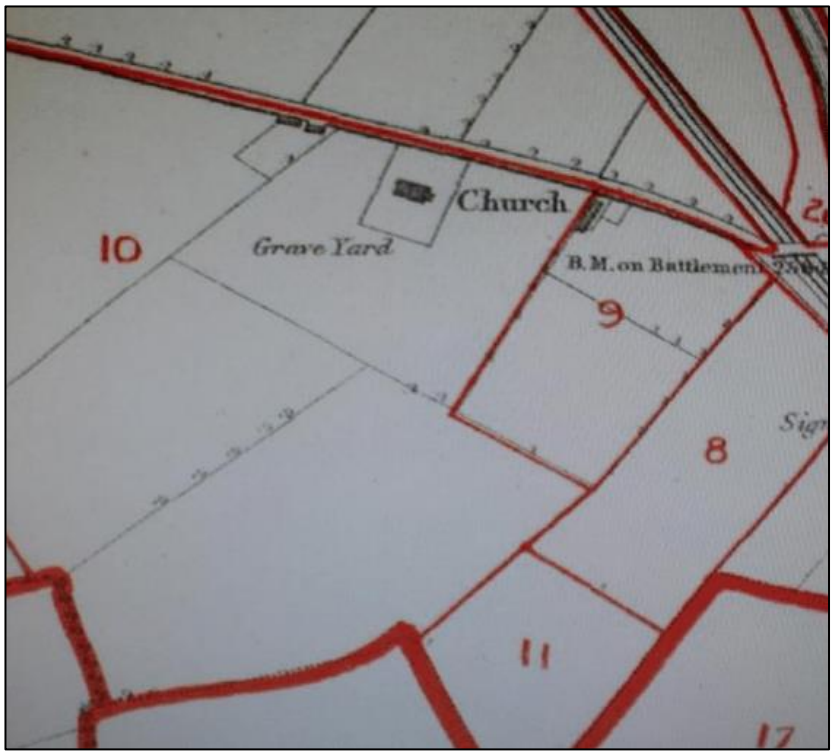

Figure 10 Extract from Griffith's Valuation Map of 1854



Plate 2 Extant remains of former 'Herd's House'

The church indicated by the Valuation Map (Figure 10 above) was subsequently replaced by a new church – St. Patrick's Church – which was consecrated in 1870. The later Ordnance Survey maps of 1911 and 1939 (Figures 11 & 12, respectively) indicate this church set in its own grounds with a separate cemetery to the west. The maps also indicate no land division changes within the subject landholding.

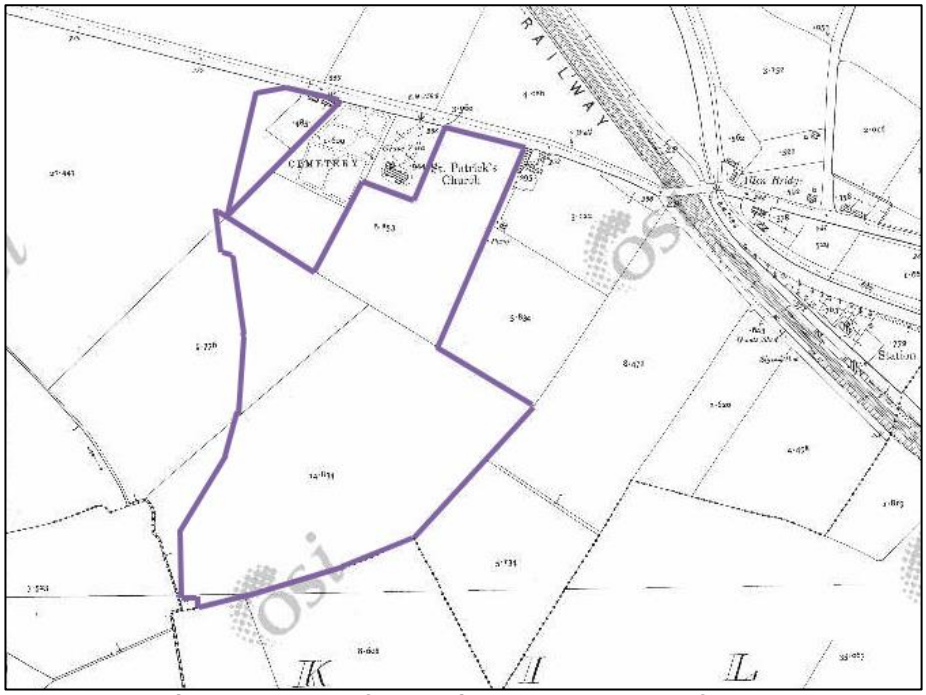

Figure 11 Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1911

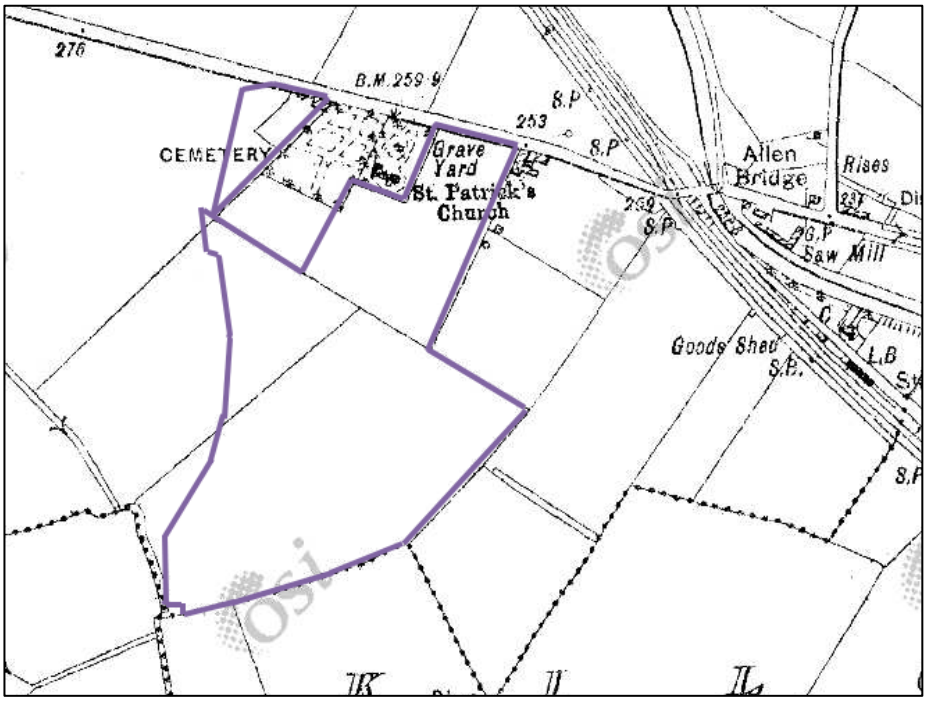

Figure 12 Extract from Ordnance Survey Map of 1939

In more recent times, St. Patrick's Church was deconsecrated and converted to residential use. The cemetery, which is now under the control of Kildare County Council, was expanded in a southerly direction, to its present extent. As part of the development of the M4 Motorway to the south, a new junction – Junction 8 - was constructed to the southwest, with a new link/access road (R407) constructed outside the western extent of the subject landholding, to the Kilcock – Enfield road (R148); the western site boundaries were established at this time.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE

Archaeology is the study of past societies through their material remains and the evidence of their environment. It is not restricted solely to ancient periods; it includes the study of relatively recent societies through, for example, industrial and military sites (DoAHG 1999, p9).

Archaeological heritage comprises all material remains of past societies, with the potential to enhance our understanding of such societies. It includes the remains of features such as settlements, burials, ships and boats and portable objects of all kinds, from the everyday to the very special. It also includes evidence of the environment in which those societies lived. The terms "site" or "monument" are used generally to refer to fixed structures or areas of activity, as opposed to particular moveable objects. Historic wrecks are also part of the archaeological heritage (DHLG&H, 2021, 3).

6.1 Statutory Protections

The statutory and administrative framework of development control in zone of archaeological potential or in proximity to recorded monuments has two main elements:

(a) Archaeological preservation and licensing under the National Monuments Acts and
(b) Development plans and planning applications under the Planning Acts.

6.1.1 National Monuments Acts

Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 provides that the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government 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 to each county of the State. This is referred to as the 'Record of Monuments and Places' (RMP), and monuments entered into it are referred to as 'Recorded Monuments'.

Section 12(3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 provides for the protection of monuments and places in the record, stating that
"*When the owner or occupier (not being the Minister) of a monument or place which has been recorded under subsection (1) of this section or any person proposes to carry out, or to cause or permit the carrying out of, any work at or in relation to such monument or place, he shall give notice in writing of his proposal to carry out the work to the Minister and shall not, except in the case of urgent necessity and with the consent of the Minister, commence work for a period of two months after having given the notice.*

6.1.2 Kildare County Development Plan 2017 - 2023

The following relevant Archaeological Heritage Objectives are set out in Section 12.9.1 of the Plan:

AH1	Manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the archaeological heritage of the county, avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest and secures the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest. The Council will favour preservation in – situ in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principals for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1999) or any superseding national policy.
AH2	Have regard to the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), the Urban Archaeological Survey and archaeological sites identified subsequent to the publication of the RMP when assessing planning applications for development. No development shall be permitted in the vicinity of a recorded feature, where it detracts from the setting of the feature or which is injurious to its cultural or educational value.
AH3	Secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest, included in the Record of Monuments and Places and their settings, in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHG (1999), or any superseding national policy document
AH4	Ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing and to ensure that such proposed developments are subject to an archaeological assessment. Such an assessment will seek to ensure that the development can be sited and designed in such a way as to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage that is of significant

interest including previously unknown sites, features and objects.

NOTE: The RMP for County Kildare was published in 1996 Any archaeological monuments and sites discovered since the publication are not subject to protections under the National Monuments Acts, unless specifically the subject of a Preservation order, but are protected in the Kildare County Development Plan under Policy AH2 above.

6.2 Archaeological Inventory

There are no previously identified archaeological monuments located within, or immediately adjacent, the proposed development lands. Likewise, no surface features of archaeological potential were noted by aerial photographic or cartographic research or by a surface reconnaissance of the lands. . In addition, the extent of the subject landholding is included in a LiDar Survey undertaken by the Office of Public Works (OPW) (Open Topographic Data Viewer); an extract from the survey is included in Figure 13 and no features of archaeological potential are visible.



Figure 13 Extract from TII LiDAR Survey

There is two previously identified monuments located within the defined study area (Section 2.1 above), the locations of which are illustrated in Figure 14 with respect to the extent of the subject landholding and described as follows:

SITE AR-1
SMR No:
KD005-019
TOWNLAND:
Pitchfordstown
CLASSIFICATION:
Castle
Gatehouse
Designed Landscape
Fortified House
House

This complex of monuments is positioned on a low pasture rise surrounded by lower, poor, wet ground to W, N and E. It comprises a very large and fairly well-preserved trapezoidal area (dims. L c. 330m NW-SE; Wth c. 260m along NW side; Wth c. 320m along SE side) defined by an intermittent, low, inner earthen bank (Wth 1-3m; int. H 0.2-0.4m; ext. H 1.5-2m), and an outer fosse which is recut as a drain (Wth 2-3m; av. D 1m). The enclosure was defended by D-shaped corner bastions, the straight sides of which back onto the interior (int. diams. 7-10m; straight side L 12-16.5m), three of which survive. The fourth, at the S corner, is shown on the 1st. ed. (1839) of the OS 6-inch map as being partially destroyed by a road, and by the date of the current OS 6-inch map (1939) it was overlain by a driveway. The interior is sub-divided roughly equally into four fields by hedged earthen banks and the NW-SE bank follows the line of a tree-lined

ITM Ref:
686926 739563
PROTECTION:
RMP; KCDP

avenue which is indicated on Taylor's 1783 map of County Kildare and which also shows the site as a tree-lined sub-rectangular area. The avenue is still traceable as two parallel field banks to the NW of the site. May have been a plantation bawn. (Cullen and O'Keefe 1996, 215-7).

Source: Archaeological Survey of Ireland; www.archaeology.ie; Compiled by Gearóid Conroy; Uploaded 10 June 2011.

This monument is located approximately 465m to the southwest of the closest extent of the subject landholding.

SITE AR-2
SMR No:
KD005-024
TOWNLAND:
Boycetown
CLASSIFICATION:
Excavation - Miscellaneous
ITM.
686692 740278
PROTECTION:
KCDP

Archaeological monitoring (Licence no. 03E1554) was carried out by Declan Moore in association with a proposed development of a warehousing facility and ancillary offices, along with associated services, infrastructure, storage and landscaping in an area measuring 13,937m2. Two small pits were observed in the northernmost field at the site. No diagnostic material was recovered from the northern pit. A small amount of burnt-bone fragments were recovered from the other. These have been retained for analysis. Nothing further of archaeological significance was recovered. (www.excavations.ie 2003:0888)

Source: Archaeological Survey of Ireland; www.archaeology.ie; Compiled by Gearóid Conroy; Uploaded 10 June 2011.

These archaeological features were uncovered approximately 265m to the northeast of the closest extent of the subject landholding.

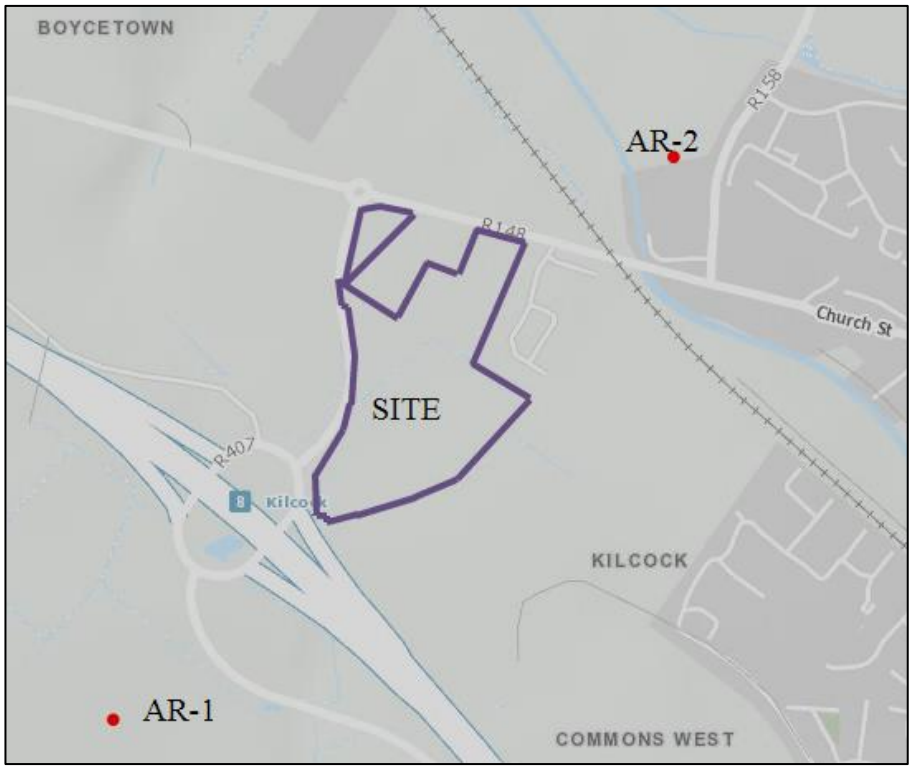

Figure 14 Locations of AR-1 & AR-2 with respect to extent of subject site

6.3 Reported Archaeological Artefacts

The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland contain one reference to Boycetown. This refers to a Ballyvalley-Type Flat Axe, of Bronze-Age date, discovered in a field in 1956 (NMI Reg. Ref: 1956:36).

6.4 Results from previous documented relevant archaeological investigations

A search undertaken of the published Archaeological Excavations Summaries (www.excavations.ie) indicates that a number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in the general area of Kilcock. No previous intrusive archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the extent of the

subject landholding and three have been undertaken within the defined study area; one of these is referenced above with respect to Site AR-2 and the others are as follows:

- A programme of Archaeological Testing was undertaken of the Enfield – Kilcock section of the M4 motorway by Dermot Neilis in 2002 (Licence No; 02E0141). This included the road to the west of the subject site (R407), together with the adjacent section of motorway to the south and the junction to the south-west. Nothing of archaeological interest/potential was uncovered in any of the road corridors adjacent the subject development lands (www.excavations.ie - 2008:0908).

- Archaeological Monitoring of topsoil stripping associated with a residential development at Boycetown/Commons East, Kilcock was undertaken by Ellen O'Carroll in 2005 (Licence No: 05 E 0673). Nothing of archaeological interest/potential was uncovered (www.excavations.ie – 2005:755).

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSALS

7.1 Assessment of Impacts

The following table (based on NRA, 2003, 21) provides the baseline criteria used to describe the impacts that the proposed development will have on Archaeological Heritage Sites.

	Direct	Indirect
Severe	Archaeological Heritage site is within a proposed development area. Construction work will entail the removal of part or the entire cultural heritage site.	Archaeological Heritage site is within a proposed development area. Construction works will entail the destruction of the visual context of the site or isolate it from associated groups or features.
Potentially Severe	Archaeological Heritage site is adjacent to a proposed development area. There is potential for related remains being affected by development works.	Archaeological Heritage site is adjacent to a proposed development area. Construction works will greatly injure the visual context of the site or isolate it from associated groups or features.
Moderate	Existing access to an archaeological site will be severed. Development works will affect the context of an archaeological heritage site.	N/A
No Predicted	The proposed development will have no predicted impact.	N/A

Table 1 Criteria for Impact Assessment

7.2 Construction Phase

There are no previously identified monuments or features of archaeological interest located within, or in the immediate environs of, the subject proposed development lands, as noted above in Section 6.2, and no surface features of potential were noted by cartographic and aerial photographic interest or by a comprehensive surface reconnaissance survey of the subject lands and immediate environs. In addition, no surface features of archaeological potential are visible on available LiDar Surveys. The nearest Recorded Monument is at Pitchfordstown (Section 6.2 – Site AR-1), approximately 465m to the southwest of the subject proposed development extents; No features of archaeological interest were undertaken during intrusive investigation undertaken in advance of the construction of the R407 road, outside the western site boundary and the nearest development site (Section 6.4) which produced subsurface archaeological remains is approximately 265m to the northeast (Section 6.2 - Site AR-2). In addition, there are no artefacts recorded by the National Museum of Ireland as having been discovered from the lands or immediate environs.

Given the above, it is considered that the subject proposed development lands are, generally, of low/moderate archaeological potential. However, in general, there is increased potential that ground reductions associated with a development of this kind, in areas of previous generally undisturbed ground, have the ability to uncover and disturb hitherto unrecorded subsurface features, deposits, structures and finds of archaeological interest and potential. Without the adoption and implementation of a suitable mitigation strategy, any subsurface archaeological features or artefacts that might be located within the site during the construction phase of the development might not be identified and recorded

7.3. Post-construction/Operational Phase

There are no extant monuments or features of archaeological interest and/or potential located within, or in the immediate environs of, the subject proposed development lands. The nearest extant archaeological remains are at Pitchfordstown (Site AR-1), comprising a castle, gatehouse, fortified house, a designed landscape and a house; these are located approximately 465m to the southwest of, and not visible from, the subject proposed development site.

Consequently, it is considered that the development, upon completion, will not cause any visual impacts from the perspective of archaeological heritage

8. MITIGATION MEASURES

As noted above in Sections 7.2 and 7.3, it is not considered likely that the development, as proposed, will cause any direct or indirect/visual impacts to any identified archaeological monuments.

However, as further noted in Section 7.2, ground reductions in areas of previous generally undisturbed ground, have the ability to uncover and disturb hitherto unrecorded subsurface features, deposits, structures and finds of archaeological interest and potential. Without the adoption and implementation of a suitable mitigation strategy, any subsurface archaeological features or artefacts that might be located within the site during the construction phase of the development might not be identified and recorded. Consequently, the following mitigation measures are suggested (subject to agreement with National Monuments Service, Dept. of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and Planning Authority):

The subject development lands should be subjected to a programme of pre-development intrusive archaeological testing, undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist and under licence from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Following complete of the testing, the archaeologist shall prepare a report describing the results of such for submission to the Planning Authority and National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The report should include an assessment of the impact that the development might have on any subsurface features that may have been uncovered by the testing programme and suggest a suitable mitigation strategy for agreement with the Planning Authority and National Monuments Service. Such strategy may include avoidance or preservation by record of any subsurface archaeological features, as well as monitoring of all topsoil stripping associated with the development and an artefact retrieval strategy.

APPENDIX 1
Consulted Documentary Sources

Aalen, F.H.A, Whelan, K & Stout, M. 1997. *Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape.* Cork University Press.
2011. *Atlas of the Irish Rural Landscape (Revised & Expanded Second Edition), Cork University Press.*

Bateman, J. 1883. *The Great Landowners of Great Britain and Ireland.* Harrison, London.

Barry, T., Frame, R & Simms, K (eds). 1995. *Colony and Frontier in Medieval Ireland – Essays presented to J.F. Lydon.* The Hambledon Press, London.

Bunbury, T. 2004. *The Landed Gentry & Aristocracy – Kildare*. Irish Family Manes, Dublin

Byrne, J. 2004. *Byrne's Dictionary of Irish Local History – from earliest times to c. 1900.* Mercier Press, Cork.

Connell, P. 2004. *The Land and People of County Meath, 1750-1850*. Four Courts Press, Dublin

Costello, C. 1988 *Looking Back, Aspects of history, Co. Kildare*. Leinster Leader, Naas
1991. *Guide to Kildare and West Wicklow.* Leinster Leader, Naas.
2005. *A Class Apart – The Gentry Families of County Kildare.* Nonsuch Publishing, Dublin.

Cullen, S & Gilligan, B. 1999. *Unity in Division: A History of Christianity in Kilcock and Newtown.* Kilcock Millennium Committee

Delaney, R. 2004. *Irelands Inland Waterways. Celebrating 300 Years.* Appletree Press, Belfast.

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. 1999. *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*. Stationery Office, Dublin.

Dept. of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. 2021. *Archaeology in the Planning Process.* Office of Planning Regulations

Devitt, Rev. M. 1911 'Summerhill and its Neighbourhood' (Part I). *JCKAS*, Vol. VI. 214- 221.

Duffy, P.J. 2006. 'The Territorial Identities of Kildare's Landscapes', in Nolan & McGrath, pp. 1-34.

Flanagan, D. & Flanagan, L. 1994. *Irish Place Names.* Gill and Macmillan, Dublin.

Graham, B.J. 1975. 'Anglo-Norman settlement in County Meath. *P.R.I.A*. c (2), pp. 223-50.

Griffith, R. 1854. *General Valuation of Rateable Property of Ireland- Co. Kildare.* Dublin.

Harbison, P. 1992. Guide to the National and Historic Monuments of Ireland. Gill & Macmillan.

Halpin, A. & Newman, C. 2006. *Ireland: An Oxford Archaeological Guide to Sites from earliest times to AD 1600.* Oxford University Press.

Herity, M (ed). 2001. *Ordnance Survey Letters – Meath*. Four Masters Press, Dublin.
2002. *Ordnance Survey Letters Kildare – Letters Containing Information Relative to the Antiquities of the County of Kildare Collected During The Progress Of The Ordnance Survey In 1837, 1838 and 1839.* Four Masters Press, Dublin.

Johnson, S. 1997. *Johnson's Atlas & Gazetteer of the Railways of Ireland.* Midland Publishing, Leicester.

Kiely, K. 2006. 'Poverty and Famine in County Kildare', in Nolan & McGrath, pp. 493-534.

Killanin, Lord. & Duignan, M.V. 1989. *The Shell Guide to Ireland*. McGraw-Hill Ryerston, Montreal (Revised & Updated edition by P. Harbison).

Lalor, B. (ed). 2003. *The Encyclopaedia of Ireland.* Gill & Macmillan, Dublin.

Lewis, S. 1837. *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland.* 2 Vols. London.

Lyons, MA. 2000. *Church and Society in County Kildare, c. 1470 – 1547.* Four Courts Press, Dublin.

MacNiochaill, G (ed). 1964. *The red book of the earls of Kildare*. Irish Manuscripts Commission, Dublin.
1992. *Crown surveys of lands, 1540-41, with the Kildare rental begun in 1518*. Irish Manuscripts Commission, Dublin

MacAodha, B.S. 1992. 'I gContae Chill Dara', *Studia Hibernica,* No. 26, pp. 217-226

MacCotter, P. 2008. *Medieval Ireland: Territorial, Political and Economic Divisions*. Four Courts Press, Dublin

Moore, M. 1987. *Archaeological Inventory of County Meath*. Stationery Office, Dublin.

Murphy, M & Potterton, M. 2010. *The Dublin Region in the Middle Ages. Settlement, Land-Use and Economy.* Four Courts Press/The Discovery Programme.

National Roads Authority. 2003. *Archaeological Guidelines for Reporting on Constraint, Route Selection, Environmental Impact Assessment on Archaeological Aspects of NRA Road Schemes*. Draft Consultation Document.

Nolan, W & McGrath, T (eds). 2006. *Kildare History and Society – Interdisciplinary essays on the history of an Irish County.* Geography Publications, Dublin.

O'Farrell, P. 2003. *A History of County Kildare.* Gill & Macmillan, Dublin.

O'Keeffe, T & Cullen, S. 1994. 'A Turreted Enclosure at Pitchfordstown, Co. Kildare', *J.R.S.A.I,* Vol. 124, pp. 215-7

Ó Ríordáin, S.P. 1979. *Antiquities of the Irish Countryside*. Lilliput Press.

Otway-Ruthven. 1959. 'The Medieval County of Kildare', *I.H.S. xi, No. 43*, pp. 1982-3.

Simmington, R.C. 1940. *The Civil Survey AD 1654-56. Vol. 5, Co. Meath*. Stationery Office, Dublin.
. 1952. *The Civil Survey A.D. 1654-1656, viii, County of Kildare* Stationary Office, Dublin.

Stirling Coyne, J. 1842. *The Scenery and Antiquities of Ireland*. Republished 2003 – Mercury Books, London.

Swan, R. 2002. 'Archaeological Investigations on the Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock Motorway Scheme', *Archaeology Ireland*, Vol. 16, No. 4, pp. 24-7

Swift, M. 1999. *Historical Maps of Ireland.* Parkgate Books, London.

Taylor & Skinner. 1783. *Maps of the Roads of Ireland*. 2nd edition, Dublin.