

## **13. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

### **13.1 Introduction**

A Cultural Heritage and Archaeology study was undertaken at the subject site (as described in Section 2 of this EIAR) by Archer Heritage Planning Ltd and a report was prepared for Ardstone Homes in July 2017. This report was updated in February 2019 in order to incorporate the results of ongoing archaeological assessment and investigations that were carried out in November 2019 to reflect the preliminary results of the full archaeological excavation of an enclosure excavated under License number 19E0214.

This Section of the EIAR seeks to identify and record the location, nature and dimensions of any archaeological or cultural heritage features, fabric or artefacts that may be impacted by the proposed development through an examination of existing sources, completed in tandem with a non-intrusive walkover survey of the site, Geophysical Survey, Test Trenching and Excavation. The assessment gauges the likelihood of the proposed development to impact on any site of, or features of cultural heritage interest present within the receiving environment and identifies appropriate mitigation measures in this regard.

The assessment was undertaken by Liam Coen BA MIAI, Archaeologist, Archer Heritage Planning Ltd, an excavation licence eligible archaeologist with over 10 years experience in archaeological assessment.

### **13.2 Assessment Methodology**

#### **13.2.1 General**

The Desktop study availed of the following sources:

- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)/ Sites and Monuments Record<sup>1</sup>
- Aerial photography
- Historical maps
- Topographical Files
- Documentary research
- Relevant on-line databases (e.g. Excavation Bulletin; NRA Archaeological Database).

#### **13.2.2 Field Inspection**

The site was visited on 7th July 2017. This field inspection took the form of a non-intrusive walkover survey, undertaken to assess land-use patterns, site topography, site access and the identification of sites of archaeological and cultural heritage interest.

#### **13.2.3 Geophysical Survey**

A geophysical survey (Detection Licence no. 18R0212) has been undertaken across the site in order to identify sub-surface magnetic anomalies indicative of areas of archaeological potential with no surface expression. The survey identified the location of a large enclosure site in the western portion of the proposed development, (along the line of the existing laneway). The results also indicate responses of

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<sup>1</sup> Archive Unit National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

likely archaeological significance in the northern and south-eastern portions of the site, beyond the enclosure perimeter. These include outlying ditch remains and possible pit locations and discrete linear/pit remains.

#### **13.2.4 Archaeological Testing and Excavation**

Following the geophysical survey, a programme of archaeological test trenching was carried out under licence number Licence no. 18E0724 which targeted the geophysical anomalies and the wider development area.

A total of 23 trenches, 2785 linear metres, and a rectangular cutting, 17.5m<sup>2</sup>, were excavated by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision. Four areas of archaeology were identified;

Area 2 - the main feature identified lay in the southern field and comprised a curvilinear enclosure, double-ditched along its northern arc, with several other smaller ditches running off this, possibly representing a related field system. The western and south-western quadrant was not identified but may be obscured by an existing laneway and associated hedgerows.

Area 4 - an isolated bowl furnace to the east of the enclosure.

Area 3 - the remains of a possible structure to the east of the enclosure.

Area 1 - a curvilinear ditch in the north-eastern field.

As a result of the programme of archaeological testing the features uncovered (Areas 1-4 above) were fully excavated from 29<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019 by Liam Coen of Archer Heritage Planning Ltd under licence (19E0214) from the Department of the Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland (NMI). A preliminary excavation report was issued on 22.11.19 and the Final Excavation Report is due for submission by 28.02.20.

#### **13.2.5 Legislative Background**

Archaeological and cultural heritage protection in Ireland is provided by a number of international and national mechanisms. These include but are not limited to:

- National Monuments Acts 1930-2006;
- Architectural Heritage & Historic Properties Act. 1999.;
- Planning & Development Act. 2000, as amended;
- European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage. 1992.

The Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1999) outlines the State's general principles in relation to the management and protection of archaeological heritage. This document outlines that avoidance of developmental impacts on archaeological heritage and preservation in situ of archaeological sites and monuments are always the preferred option. When a site, or part of a site, has to be removed due to development, then preservation by record must be undertaken, i.e. through excavation and recording.

#### **13.2.6 Kildare Development Plan 2017-2023**

The Kildare Development Plan 2017-2023 (Volume 1, Chapter 12) sets out general policies and standards for development within the county. Kildare County Council recognises the value and significance of the county's archaeological heritage, and the importance of fostering a greater public appreciation of this heritage. Through strategies and objectives contained in this Development Plan, they seek 'to protect,

conserve and manage the archaeological and architectural heritage of the county and to encourage sensitive sustainable development so as to ensure its survival and maintenance for future generations'. The stated strategy for the archaeological heritage of the county is to 'protect and conserve the archaeological heritage of the county', and to 'secure the preservation in-situ or by record of all sites and features of historical and archaeological interest'. The following is a selection of policy statements relating to the protection of the archaeological heritage contained in the County Development Plan:

*AH 1: To 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.*

*AH 2: Having 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.*

*AH 3 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.*

*AH 4: To ensure that development in the vicinity of a site of archaeological interest is not detrimental to the character of the archaeological site or its setting by reason of its location, scale, bulk or detailing 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.*

### **13.3 Receiving Environment**

#### **13.3.1 Site Description**

This greenfield site is located just to the north-west of Celbridge town off the Maynooth Road and the M4 Celbridge link road (Crodaun Townland, North Salt Barony, Kildrought Parish, Kildare Sheet 11; ITM 696865, 735124). The subject area contains no RMP sites, recent archaeological investigations are located to the north of the site (see the relevant sections below). The subject site has an area of approximately 9.55 hectares off the R405 Maynooth Road. It is composed of three large fields currently in use as grazing land and a small triangular field, falling gently from north to south. The intervening field boundaries comprise mature hedgerows with a tarmacked laneway in the south-western part.

The site was visited by Aidan O' Connell of Archer Heritage Planning Ltd on 7th July 2017 in overcast conditions. The site is comprised of 3 large rectangular fields bordering Castletown Demesne to the east and a triangular field and road boundary to the west which was formerly part of a much larger field; there is much surface vegetation evident within the fields, making archaeological identification difficult.

**Field 1** is approached through the lane shown on the historical mapping on the western side of the site. The lane itself is well preserved with a width of 4-5m bounded on both sides by mature hedgerow and trees. The lane leads to a former bungalow and its garden area with stables which are currently disused. To the north thereof is a large triangular field formerly used as horse paddocks. This



field is flat with mature trees and hedgerow to East and South with the M4 Link Road lying to the North and West. A small triangular area borders the Maynooth Road/M4 Link Road to the west, the ground level in this area appears to have been raised; possibly as a result of recent road construction.

**Field 2** is a large sub-rectangular field to the north of the subject site bounded by the Link Road. Only a very small portion of the south-western corner of this field is included in the proposed development. The land is flat apart from a narrow (4m) linear feature running NW/SE in the NE corner of the field. The townland boundary between Crodaun and Castletown lies along the eastern boundary of the field. Mature trees and hedgerows form the field boundaries on all sides.



**Field 3** is a large rectangular field laid out in rough grazing and bordered by mature trees and hedgerow to North, West and South with the townland boundary with Castletown to the east. The NW corner of the field is excluded from the current proposed development. The field is flat with a slight North to South fall, a plain 3-bay corrugated barn is located in the NW corner of this field and appears to be in use.



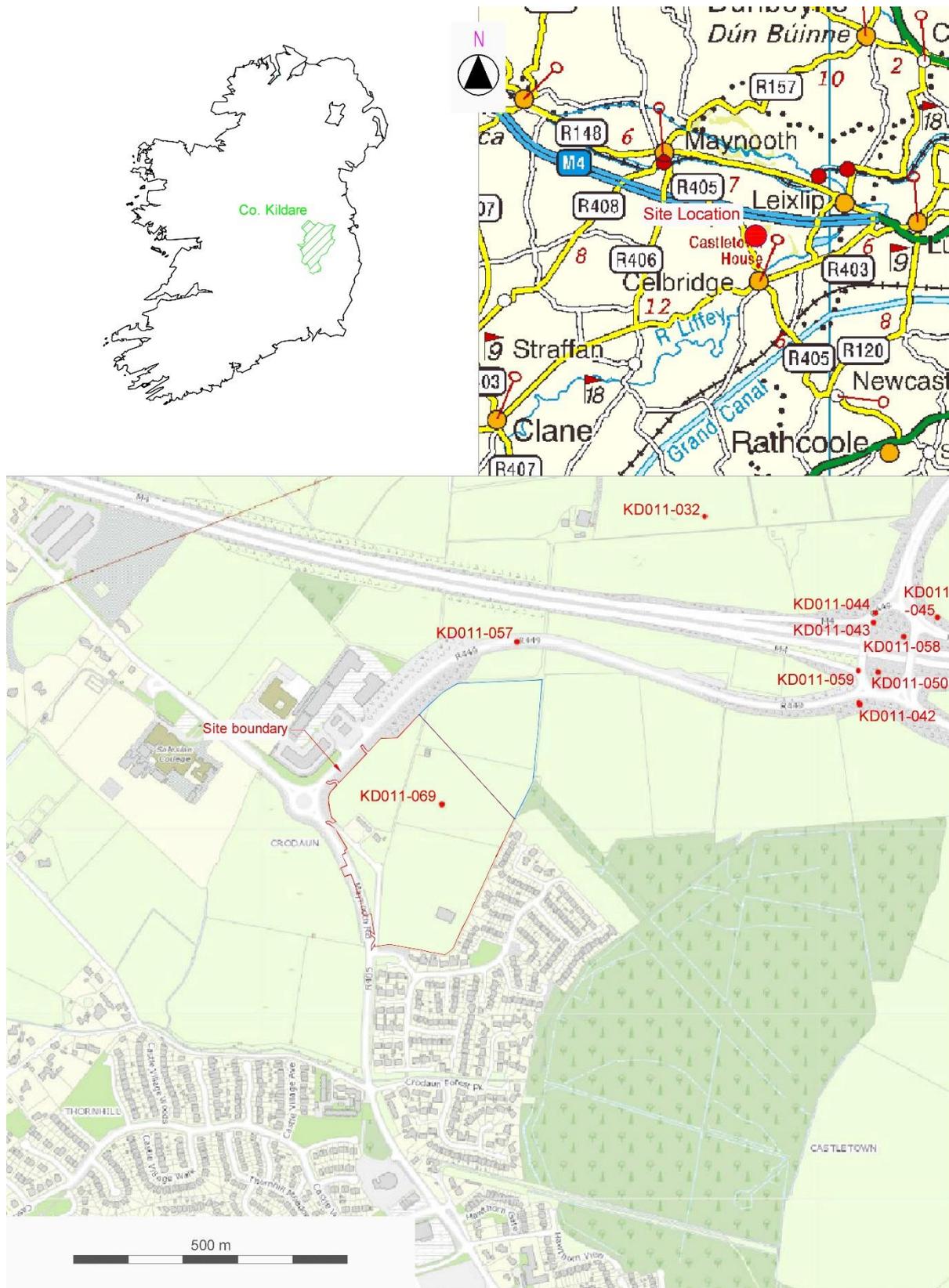
**Field 4** is a large square field on the southern side of the subject site; the land is flat with a slight fall north to south. Mature trees and hedgerow form the field boundaries to north and west with the townland boundary with Castletown to the east and south. A large pre-fab building was located in the SE corner of this field.



The townland boundary with Castletown forms most of the eastern and southern boundary of this site and comprises a largely well preserved roughly cut stone wall with notable modern changes to the south of the site where concrete blocks and capping have been inserted. The wall itself is 1.8 - 2.2m high and is constructed of roughly cut limestone blocks and mortar while an original gateway in Field 3 provides access to and from the demesne lands.



**Figure 13.1 Site location and surrounding RMP sites (in red)**



**13.3.2 Brief Archaeological and Historical Background**

Celbridge is situated in northeast Kildare on the River Liffey. The village derives its name from a corruption of its Irish name *Cill Droichead* meaning ‘the church at the bridge’ and up to the eighteenth

century, the village was known as 'Kildrought', and this remains the parish name, indicating an early medieval church site at this location, of which there is no evidence except that it was associated with Mochúa (otherwise Crónán), who had founded the monastery at Clondalkin before or during the eighth century AD (Doherty 2001, 182–9). The earliest evidence for the existence of a borough at Celbridge is from the beginning of the fifteenth century, when the earl of Kildare was enfeoffed (given land in exchange for service) with the manor of Kildrought, although an early thirteenth-century charter suggests the presence of a church and mill in this location. As a consequence of the Silken Thomas rebellion in 1534 and the Baltinglass rebellion in 1580, the manor was forfeited by earl of Kildare, and eventually passed to John Dongan in 1587, whose family retained the seat until the seventeenth century (Doohan 1984).

The Priory of St. Wolstan's was founded in the early thirteenth century AD by Adam de Hereford, for Canons of the Order of St. Victor, in memory of St. Wulfstan or Wolstan, Bishop of Worcester, who was canonized by Pope Innocent III at the same time. De Hereford granted the lands to Richard, the first Prior, 'the lands...and...church of Donacomper', which was already in existence. The priory increased its land holdings over the following century, being granted lands at Castle Dillon, the manor of Donacomper, as well as the churches (and therefore tithes) of Stacumny, Donaghmore and Killadoon. By the time of its dissolution in 1536, the priory held significant lands between Straffan and Lucan, including the townland of Ballymakealy (Cane 1919).

A bridge, three mills and 'one stone house ... intended for a malt house', were recorded in the Civil Survey in 1654, while the 1659 census recorded a population of sixty-three for Kildrought and a further thirty-four at Castletown. The development of the village was significantly enhanced by the granting of a weekly market and two annual fairs in 1674. In 1722, the famous Castletown House was built for William Connolly the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons. It was designed by Italian architect Alessandro Galilei (1691–1737). In the early nineteenth century the town had approximately 2400, with approximately 1650 resident within the town. At this time, it consisted of 270 houses owned by the Rt. Hon. W. Connolly, speaker of the Irish House of Commons. The village's main industry was woollen manufacture and various mill and factory buildings were erected in the village at the beginning of the nineteenth century employing 600 people (Lewis 1837).

### 13.3.3 Record of Monuments and Places

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a statutory inventory of archaeological sites protected under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 (Section 12, 1994 Act), compiled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI). The inventory concentrates on pre-1700 AD sites and is based on a previous inventory known as the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) which does not have legal protection or status (see [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)). A selection of RMP entries relevant to this area and within 1000m of the subject site are presented in Table 13.1 below.

**There are no recorded monuments located within the site itself; there are a large number of sites just to the north (associated with the construction of the M4 Motorway) and further north to an Ecclesiastical site in Kilmacredock Upper.**

**Table 13.1 Archaeological sites within 1000m of the proposed development**

SMR No	Class	Townland	ITM
KD011-057	Habitation site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697000, 735421
KD011-042001/2/3	Enclosure, Ring Ditch and Kiln	CASTLETOWN	697625, 735315
KD011-059	Metalworking site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697622, 735371
KD011-050	Corn Kiln	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697659, 735370
KD011-058	Habitation site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697708, 735432
KD011-043	Habitation site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697653, 735457
KD011-044	Habitation site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697656, 735476
KD011-045	Burnt mound	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697768, 735467
KD011-032	Field system	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697341, 735656
KD011-002003/4	Church and Graveyard	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697230, 735835
KD011-002001/2	Ecclesiastical enclosure/site	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697235, 735856
KD011-046	Fulacht Fia	KILMACREDOCK UPPER	697812, 735750

### 13.3.4 Cartographic Sources

Analysis of historic mapping can show human impact on landscape over a prolonged period. Large collections of historical maps (pre- and early ordnance survey maps as well as estate or private maps) are held at the Glucksman map library, Trinity College and other sources (UCD library, Ordnance Survey Ireland, local libraries and published material). The development of the site and its vicinity recorded through the eighteenth to twentieth century cartography are described in Table 13.2 below. The development of the local area was recorded in the cartographic research of the site and surrounding area. No new archaeological features were recorded within the subject site.

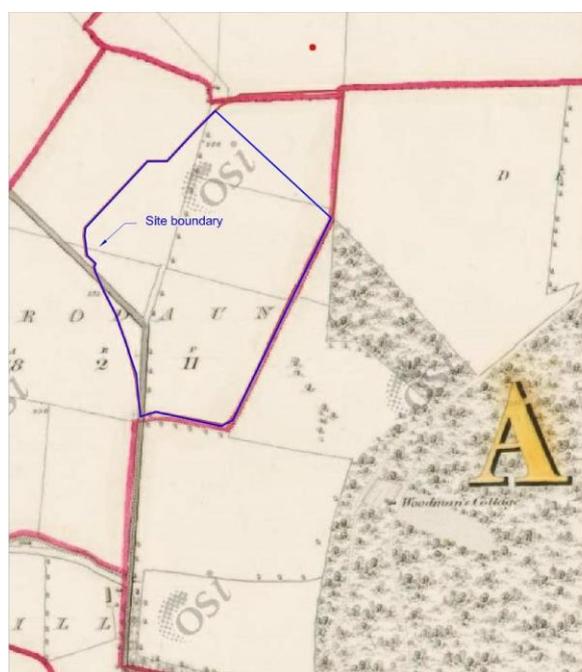
**Table 13.2 Cartographic sources relating to the site**

Map	Date	Description
1st Edition OS Map	1837	The area in question is depicted in its current layout with the triangular field to the west being shown as part of a larger field skirting the Maynooth-Celbridge Rd. A small residence and field is shown to the north of the site, mature trees are shown on the field

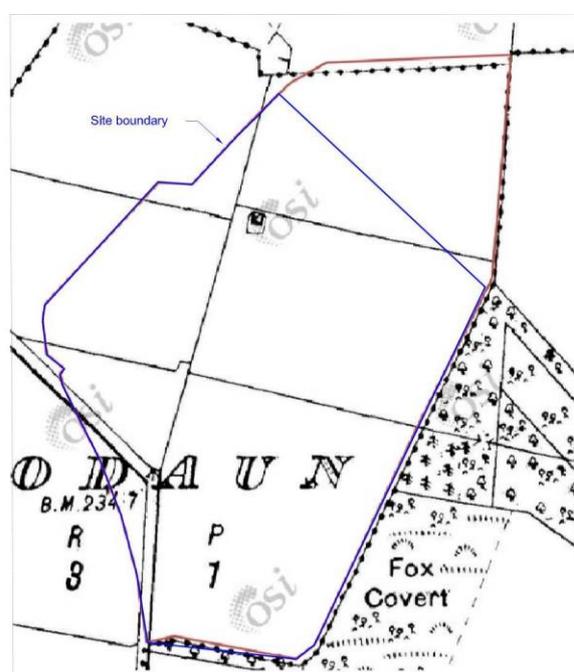
Map	Date	Description
		boundaries with Castletown Estate to the SE. Avenue runs partially N/S in the location of the present lane to the house. No features of archaeological potential noted
Ordnance 25-inch revision	Survey map	1907-09
		No change, Fox Covert is depicted to the southeast in Castletown Demesne
Cassini	Modern	No change, barn in NW corner of Field 2 is depicted.

**Figure 13.2 Extracts from Historic Maps**

### 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS 1837



### Cassini



### 13.3.5 Aerial photography

Aerial photography (or other forms of remote sensing) may reveal certain archaeological features or sites (earthworks, crop marks, soil marks) that for many reasons may not be appreciated at ground level. There are a number of available collections including the National Monuments Section, Geological Survey of Ireland (1970–73), Ordnance Survey of Ireland (1995, 2000, 2005), National Museum of Ireland (St Joseph CUCAP Collection) and Air Corps (1950's–1970's). Online orthostatic photographs of the site were examined (Ordnance Survey Ireland 1995, 2000 & 2005; Google Earth 2002-2018).

The 1995 Aerial Photograph shows the subject site before the M4 Link Road was built, there are a range of large circular and Figure of Eight features visible in Fields 1, 2 and 3 (the northern half of the subject site). The 2005 Aerial shows vegetation in these areas while the latest Digital Globe shows a further NW/SE linear feature in Field 2; this is visible on the ground as a dip in the field.

### 13.3.6 Previous Archaeological Excavations

The Excavation Bulletin is a database of summary accounts of archaeological excavations in Ireland and Northern Ireland from 1970 to 2008. Reports on licensed archaeological works are also held by the Archive Unit of the National Monuments Section. There have been a large number of archaeological investigations associated with the M4 Celbridge Interchange just to the north of the subject site revealing 17 sites including post-holes, linear features, burnt deposits, Fulachta Fia, ditches, a corn drying kiln, a possible hearth and kilns. Relevant reports in the wider area are listed and summarised below in Table 13.3. Previous archaeological investigations with direct relevance to the subject site are described in greater detail in the following sections.

**Table 13.3 Previous archaeological excavations**

Licence	SMR No	OS Ref	Townland/ Street	Ex. Bull. Ref.	Authors
01E0669	n/a	697635, 735326	M4 Celbridge interchange	2001:609	Hilary Opie
<p>This was designated as Site 4 on the Celbridge Interchange scheme. Excavation uncovered the remains of a ring-ditch and associated enclosure. The ring-ditch measured 9m in diameter, with a ditch 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep. Contained within the ditch were a series of individual deposits. All were contained within the one layer of fill and were spaced throughout the ditch. The deposits consisted of two separate pots, three small charcoal spreads, two cattle skulls, and part of a human cranium. The pottery appears to be Late Bronze Age in date. There were no remains of a central mound, and three small, possible pits in the interior proved to be natural features.</p>					
01E0998 01E0547 01E0306	N/A	696141, 735695	Kilmacredock Upper	2001:610	Fiona Reilly
<p>Monitoring of topsoil stripping for the M4 Celbridge Link Rd just to the north of the site revealed a number of sites; A 10m by 10m possible fire-pit and post-hole, two pits 4.5m by 5m, 8m by 11m, three bowl furnaces and two associated burnt deposits, a corn-drying kiln 17.5m by 8.5m and burnt mound-type material with a Quernstone.</p>					

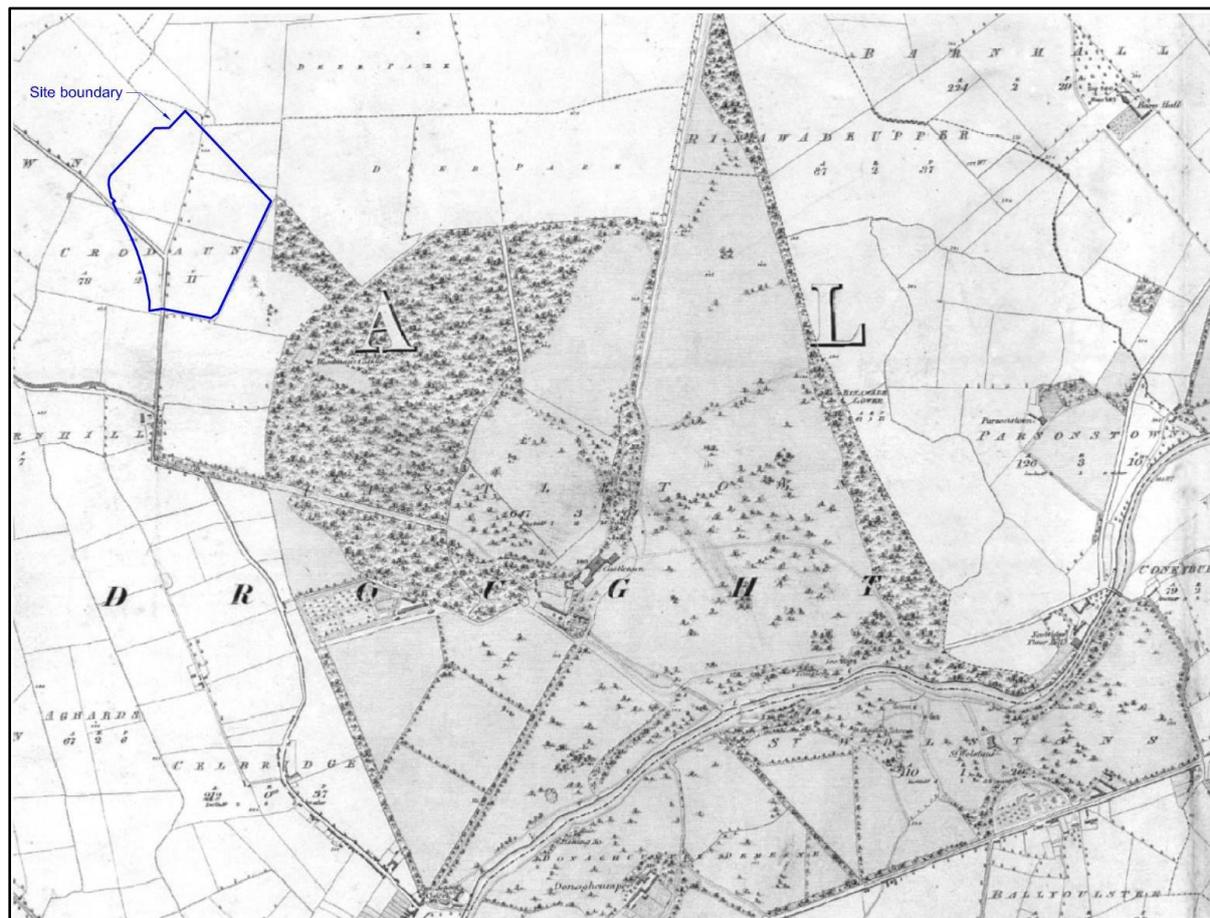
### 13.3.7 Architectural Heritage

Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to safeguard architectural heritage in accordance with Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000. Under S.51 (1), a County Council must compile a Record of Protected Structures (RPS), which lists all structures that are of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest. The protection, unless otherwise stated, includes the exterior and interior of the structure, lands lying within its curtilage (boundary), other structures and their interiors within the curtilage, plus all fixtures and fittings that form part of the interior or exterior of any of these structures. Buildings can be added to, or deleted from the RPS at any time, though generally this occurs when the county development plan is being reviewed. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) was established on a statutory basis under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act

1999. Its purpose is to identify, record, and evaluate the post-1700 architectural heritage of Ireland, uniformly and consistently as an aid in the protection and conservation of the built heritage. It is intended to provide a basis for recommendations of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to Local Authorities for the inclusion of particular structures in Records of Protected Structures (RPS).

The southern and eastern boundary of the subject site comprises a largely well preserved roughly cut stone wall. The Kildare County Council Record of Protected Structures contains two entries; B11-13, Castletown House, and B11-14, Castletown Walled Garden and Castletown demesne wall is included as part of one or both entries.

**Figure 13.3 Survey of Castletown Demesne (NIAH)**



### 13.3.8 Toponyms

Research into a site or areas place name (or toponym) can provide information relating to an areas heritage or previous land use. Many townland names were anglicised by the time the Ordnance Survey (OS) began in the 1830s and when townland names were standardised in the Townland Index (1851).

The origins of the townland name of Crodaun are uncertain as there is no Irish root for the name, it is variously referred to in the OS Placenames notes as Crottanstowne or Corranstown inferring an English derivation.

### 13.3.9 Topographical Files

The National Museum of Ireland Topographical Files is the national archive of all known antiquities recorded by the National Museum listed by county and townland/ street. These files relate primarily to

artefacts but also include references to monuments and contain a unique archive of records of previous archaeological excavations. The Museum files present an accurate catalogue of objects reported to that institution from 1928. The topographical files were viewed at <https://www.heritagemaps.ie/WebApps/HeritageMaps/index.html>. There are a small number of entries for Celbridge, comprising a ceramic tile (X34) and an iron key (8036:W9) from St. Wolstons Priory and a brass axehead (1941:728) found in the vicinity of Celbridge. No entries were found relating to Crodaun townland or the subject site.

### 13.4 Advance Archaeological Investigations

Test excavations were undertaken across the site from 9th-18th January 2019 by Liam Coen under licence (18E0724) issued by the Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland (NMI). A total of 23 trenches comprising 2785 linear metres, and a rectangular cutting, 17.5m<sup>2</sup>, were excavated by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision using a 16-ton tracked excavator with a 2m grading bucket. Trenches were located principally to investigate anomalies which were identified during geophysical survey (18R0212), while some trenches were located to assess the archaeological potential of the general area. Excavation proceeded in level spits no greater than 0.2m to the top of the first archaeological horizon when present or to the subsoil. Each revealed surface was inspected for archaeological remains and any potential archaeological features present recorded appropriately. All features identified within the trenches were tested to determine their extent, composition and depth and to ascertain potential dating material. All trenches were reinstated on completion of the works as per the contract specifications.

The subsoil in general comprised grey brown and orange clay over loose limestone bedrock. A total of four discrete areas of archaeological activity were recorded in the course of archaeological testing. A series of linear features were recorded in Areas 1 and 2 representing an enclosure and possible related field systems which were interpreted as an Early Medieval enclosed settlement and



associated field system. A possible structure was recorded in Area 3 while a bowl furnace in Area 4 may date from the Iron Age to the early modern period.

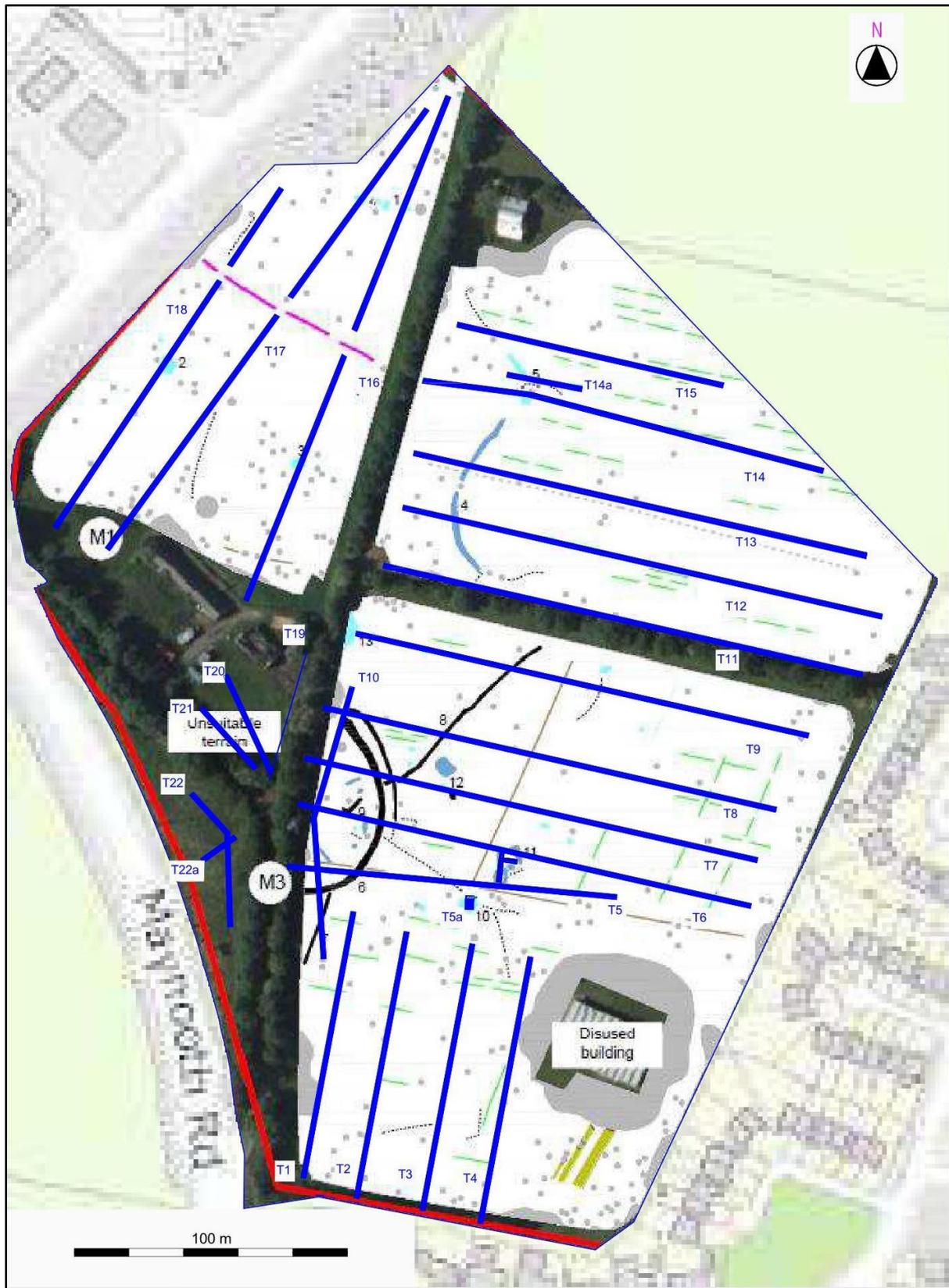
**Table 13.4 Test trench results**

Trench	L x B x D (in metres)	Orientation	Description
1	100 x 2 x 0.3-0.6	NNE/SSW	No archaeology found
2	100 x 2 x 0.3-0.6	NNE/SSW	No archaeology found
3	100 x 2 x 0.3-0.6	NNE/SSW	No archaeology found
4	100 x 2 x 0.3-0.6	NNE/SSW	No archaeology found

Trench	L x B x D (in metres)	Orientation	Description
5	121 x 2 x 0.35-0.6	E/W	Inner enclosure ditch F3, Area 2
5a	5 x 3.5 x 0.3-0.4	-	No archaeology found, extra rectangular cutting to investigate geophysical feature #10
6	170 x 2 x 0.4-0.65	NW/SE	Inner enclosure ditch F3, Area 2 and possible structure F13-F18, Area 3
7	170 x 2 x 0.35-0.6	NW/SE	Inner enclosure ditch F3, outer enclosure ditch F7, linear feature F11, Area 2
8	170 x 2 x 0.35-0.6	NW/SE	Inner enclosure ditch F3, linear feature F11, Area 2 & bowl furnace F19/20, Area 4
9	170 x 2 x 0.35-0.6	NW/SE	Linear feature F11, Area 2
10	100 x 2 x 0.3-0.5		Inner enclosure ditch F3, outer enclosure ditch F7, linear feature F9, Area 2
11	196 x 2 x 0.35-0.55	NW/SE	No archaeology found
12	180 x 2 x 0.3-0.45	NW/SE	Curvilinear feature F1, Area 1
13	170 x 2 x 0.35-0.5	NW/SE	Curvilinear feature F1, Area 1
14	150 x 2 x 0.35-0.55	NW/SE	No archaeology found, realigned from original MS to intercept geophysical feature #5
14a	28 x 2 x 0.35-0.5	NW/SE	No archaeology found, extra trench to investigate geophysical feature #5
15	100 x 2 x 0.35-0.5	NW/SE	No archaeology found, trench truncated by 30m from original MS due to overhead wires
16	100 x 2 x 0.35-0.5	NW/SE	No archaeology found, trench truncated by 10m from original MS due to buried services
17	100 x 2 x 0.35-0.55	NW/SE	No archaeology found trench, truncated by 10m from original MS due to buried services
18	100 x 2 x 0.35-0.65	NW/SE	No archaeology found trench, truncated by 10m from original MS due to buried services
19	50 x 2 x 0.35-0.6	N/S	Abandoned due to underlying tarmacked driveway and construction debris mound

<b>Trench</b>	<b>L x B x D (in metres)</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Description</b>
20	40 x 2 x 0.4-0.55	NW/SE	Double-ditched enclosure, F3 & F7, Area 2
21	30 x 2 x 0.4-0.6	NW/SE	Double ditched enclosure, F3 & F7, Area 2
22	55 x 2 x 1.2-1.5	NW/SE & N/S	No archaeology found, 1.2-1.5m overburden, truncated from original MS by 30m to N due to buried services and by 15m to S due to construction debris
22a	15 x 3 x 1.5-2	NW/SE	No archaeology found, extra trench to investigate continuation of enclosure, geophysical feature #6

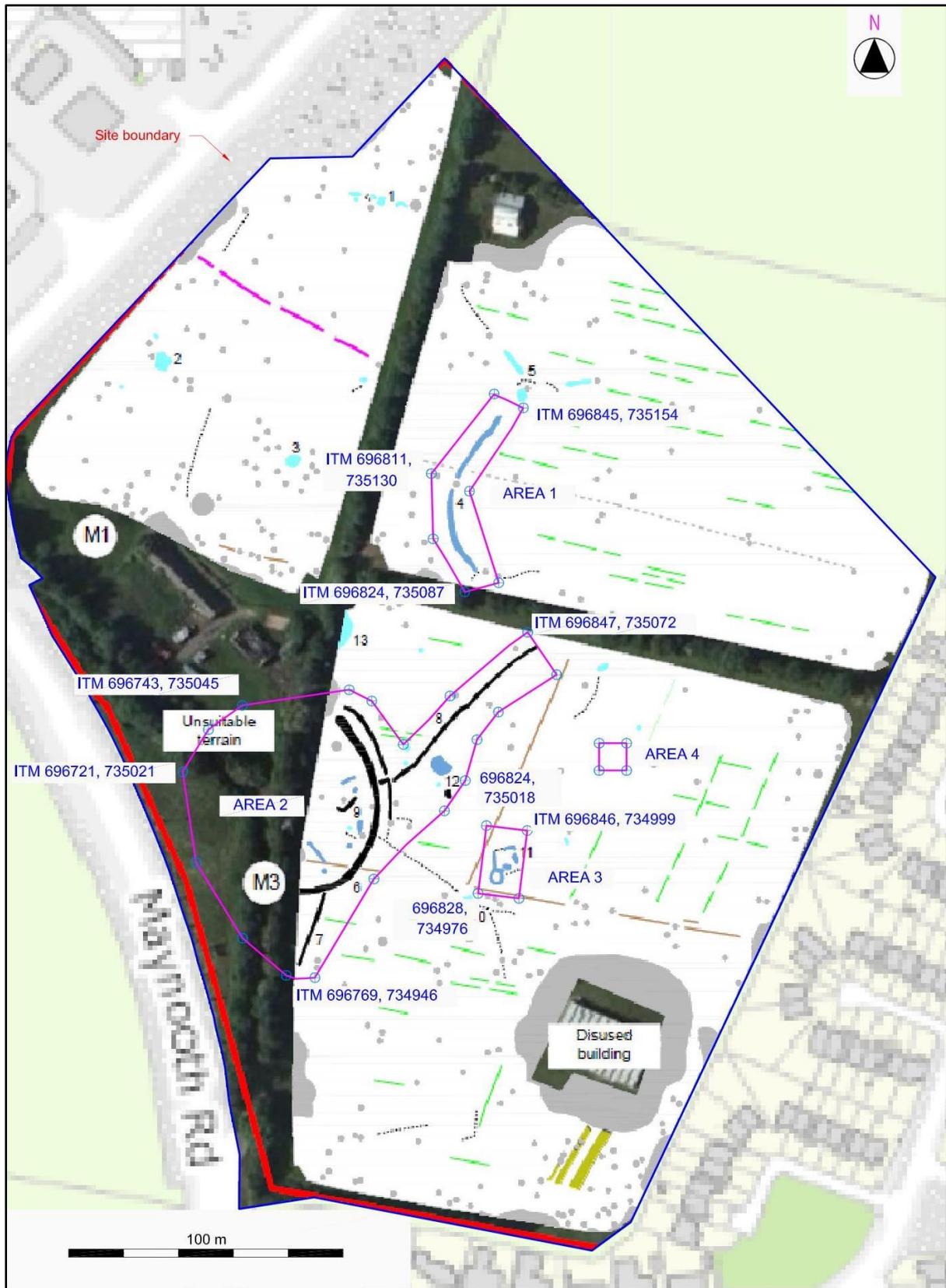
**Figure 13.4 Results of geophysical survey and test trenching**



Following test excavations, full archaeological excavation was undertaken across the site (see above). The overall aim of the excavation was to preserve by record any archaeological features in the four excavation cuttings; Area 1 (curvilinear ditch/field system); Area 2 (oval enclosure); Area 3 (possible structure) and Area 4 (bowl furnace). The principal archaeological feature was recorded in Area 2 and consisted of an oval-shaped Early Medieval enclosure, 92m N-S by 61m E-W in maximum extent, with an entrance in its northern point. A smaller shallower ditch along the entire northern arc of the enclosure made it bi-vallate at this half; with a number of internal and external features (pits, slot trenches, field boundary ditches). An associated field boundary ditch was recorded in Area 1. Excavation of Area 3 revealed presence of two cereal drying kilns; a number of post-holes and possible slot trench. Area 4 contained a single feature provisionally interpreted as a bowl furnace. The features in Area 3 and 4 are provisionally assumed to be associated with the nearby enclosure due to their proximity and as no artefacts contradicting an Early Medieval date were found.



Figure 13.5 Areas 1-4 excavated under license number 19E0214



### 13.5 Identification of Likely Significant Impacts

This cultural heritage assessment has employed a variety of sources in conjunction with non-intrusive walkover survey to make a coherent assessment of the cultural heritage risk associated with the project. The following conclusions are presented in order to ascertain any likely significant potential direct and indirect impacts which the proposed development may have:

- The site is relatively large in scale, comprising approximately 9.55 ha.
- No new archaeological sites or features were recorded in historical maps.
- A substantial stone wall bordering Castletown townland forms the eastern and southern boundary of the site.
- Four probable archaeological sites (Area 1 -4) have been identified within the subject lands during advance archaeological investigations;
  - (i) Area 2 - the main feature identified lay in the southern field and comprised a curvilinear enclosure, double-ditched along its northern arc, with several other smaller ditches running off this, possibly representing a related field system.
  - (ii) Area 4 - an isolated bowl furnace to the east of the enclosure.
  - (iii) Area 3 - two cereal drying kilns; a number of post-holes and possible slot trench.
  - (iv) Area 1 - a curvilinear ditch in the north-eastern field.
- These sites (Areas 1 – 4) were fully excavated under licence from the DCHG in consultation with the NMI.

It is considered that the recorded archaeological remains are of low (Area 1, 4, & 3) and moderate (Area 2) significance. Numerous comparable sites have been identified in advance of development projects. The archaeological sites are located on Figure above; their removal in the course of the proposed development was mitigated by full archaeological excavation carried out in advance of construction works under licence to The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

#### 13.5.1 Construction Phase

The greatest threat to unrecorded, buried archaeological sites/ features occur during the construction stage and include all ground disturbance works undertaken at this stage (excavations and other groundworks including the provision of access roads and service trenches), movement of machines and storage of material in sensitive areas. In the absence of the mitigation measures described below, significant likely impacts on archaeology and heritage would be direct, negative and permanent.

Archaeological excavation has been completed at the site under licence to the DCHG in consultation with the NMI. This involved the systematic removal of all archaeological layers, deposits and their associated archaeological objects from the site to preserve a complete and meaningful record of the archaeological remains and their stratigraphical sequence. Post-excavation processing and analysis of this material is ongoing off-site in a controlled environment.

The archaeological excavation thus reduced ground levels across the archaeological areas (1-4) site to the exposed natural subsoil surface, including the emptied 'cuts' of archaeological features (ditches, pits, postholes and stake holes). Adequate financial provision has been made available for the completion of post-excavation work, the conservation of artefacts and the publication of archaeological excavation

results through the excavation licensing system. A preliminary report on the excavation was lodged with the DCHG and NMI on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019. It is anticipated that the final excavation report will be issued to DCHG and NMI by the end of February 2020.

The proposed development will not impact on the wall along the eastern and southern boundary as it is not proposed to breach or alter the wall during the construction or operation phase. There are a number of rear gardens serving proposed houses backing onto the wall that will ensure separation of the proposed houses from the wall.

### **13.5.2 Operation Phase**

No potential impacts are anticipated during the operational phase, as it is expected that all matters associated with archaeological and cultural heritage interest will have been resolved prior to the commencement of the construction phase.

No potential impacts on the wall comprising the townland boundary with Castletown are foreseen during the operational phase as it is anticipated that the mitigation measures detailed below will be implemented.

### **13.5.3 Cumulative Impacts**

No potential cumulative impacts are identified as it is anticipated that matters of archaeological and cultural heritage interest at this site will have been resolved prior to the commencement of the construction phase of this proposal.

## **13.6 Do Nothing Scenario**

If the proposed development were not undertaken, the archaeological remains at Crodaun would be preserved by record following completion of full archaeological excavation. Should further (as yet unidentified) archaeological remains exist at the site; these would be preserved in-situ.

## **13.7 Mitigation Measures**

The subject site is a large greenfield site within an area of considerable archaeological potential. Four areas of archaeological remains of low-moderate significance have been identified within the site and have been fully excavated. The following recommendations are made subject to the approval of The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. As the statutory body responsible for the protection of Ireland's archaeological and cultural heritage resource, the DCHG may issue alternative or additional recommendations.

### **13.7.1 Construction Phase Mitigation Measures**

- **Recommended Mitigation Measure 1.** It is recommended that the topsoil stripping of the remainder of the wider site be subject to archaeological monitoring licensed under the National Monuments Acts.
- **Recommended Mitigation Measure 2.** It is recommended that the wall comprising the townland boundary with Castletown is recorded by Building Survey.

- **Recommended Mitigation Measure 3.** It is recommended that the condition of the wall comprising the townland boundary with Castletown be monitored over the course of the construction phase to ensure that there is no damage done to the structure.
- **Recommended Mitigation Measure 4.** The visual impact on Connolly Folly to the NW and on Castletown House and Demesne to the east should be assessed when development proposals are finalised.

### 13.7.2 Operation Phase

It is anticipated that archaeological requirements for this scheme will be implemented prior to the commencement of the construction phase. No mitigation measure(s) are considered necessary as the implementation of the proposed development in accordance with the proposed site layout plan will ensure sufficient separation between new houses and the existing the wall comprising the townland boundary with Castletown – refer to Recommended Mitigation Measure 3 (above).

### 13.8 Residual Impacts

It is not anticipated that there will be any residual impacts on archaeological features or sites encountered as it is likely that any archaeology that may be uncovered will be resolved in advance of the construction stage of the proposed redevelopment.

### 13.9 Interactions Arising

Archaeological features will be excavated in advance of construction works commencing. Therefore, no adverse Interactions are anticipated or envisaged.

### 13.10 Monitoring

It is proposed that all archaeological works be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the DCHG and the planning authority and under licence to the DCHG in consultation with the National Museum of Ireland.

### 13.11 References

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### 13.11.1 Web references

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Kildare Draft Development Plan

<http://www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Planning/DevelopmentPlans/KildareCountyDevelopmentPlan2017-2023/DraftCountyDevelopmentPlan/Volume1/Volume%201.pdf> Chapter 12 Celbridge LAP

<http://www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/Planning/DevelopmentPlans/LocalAreaPlans/DraftCelbridgeLocalAreaPlan2017-2023/Draft%20LAP%20with%20maps.pdf>

Figure of NIAH Castletown House Garden Survey Map <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/cgi-bin/displayimage.cgi?id=1924&size=f&type=m1> [accessed 7th February 2019]