

13.0 CULTURAL HERITAGE

13.1 INTRODUCTION

IAC Archaeology has prepared this chapter to assess the impact, if any, on the archaeological and cultural heritage resource of the proposed power plant in Profile Park. The assessment determines, as far as reasonably possible from existing records, the nature of the archaeological and cultural heritage resource in and within the vicinity of the proposed power plant using appropriate methods of study. An impact assessment was undertaken to identify potential adverse impacts that the proposed power plant may have on the cultural heritage resource, while the mitigation strategy is designed to avoid, reduce, or offset such adverse impacts.

13.1.1 STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY

This assessment was completed by Faith Bailey who is an Associate Director and Senior Archaeologist and Cultural Heritage Consultant with IAC Ltd. Faith holds an MA in Cultural Landscape Management (archaeology and built heritage) and a BA in single honours archaeology from the University of Wales, Lampeter. She is a licence eligible archaeologist, a member of the Chartered Institute of for Archaeologists, a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and has over 18 years' experience working in the commercial archaeological and cultural heritage sector.

13.2 METHODOLOGY

13.2.1 DEFINITIONS

In order to assess, distil and present the findings of this study, the following definitions apply:

- 'Cultural Heritage' where used generically, is an over-arching term applied to describe any combination of archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage features, where –the term 'archaeological heritage' is applied to objects, monuments, buildings or landscapes of an (assumed) age typically older than AD 1700 (and recorded as archaeological sites within the Record of Monuments and Places).
- the term 'cultural heritage', where used specifically, is applied to other (often less tangible) aspects of the landscape such as historical events, folklore memories and cultural associations.

13.2.2 LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

The following legislation, standards and guidelines were consulted as part of the assessment.

- National Monuments Act, 1930 to 2014;
- The Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2017;
- Heritage Act, 1995, as amended;
- Draft Advice Notes on Current Practice (in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements), 2015, EPA;
- Draft Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements. Dublin. Government Publications Office, 2017, EPA;



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- Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1999, (formerly) Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht, and Islands; and
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2000 and the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act 2000.

13.2.3 CONSULTATION

During scoping and research for the assessment and EIAR, a number of statutory and voluntary bodies were consulted to gain further insight into the cultural background of the receiving environment and study area, as follows:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH)– the Heritage Service and Policy Unit, National Monuments and Historic Properties Section: Record of Monuments and Places; Sites and Monuments Record; Monuments in State Care Database; Preservation Orders; Register of Historic Monuments;
- National Museum of Ireland, Irish Antiquities Division: topographical files of Ireland; and
- South Dublin County Council: Planning Section.

13.2.4 PAPER SURVEY

This is a document search. The following sources were examined and a list of areas of archaeological and cultural heritage potential was compiled:

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Dublin;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Dublin;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders List;
- Register of Historic Monuments;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- South Dublin County Development Plan 2016–2022;
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2020); and
- Place Names.

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a list of archaeological sites known to the National Monuments Section, which are afforded legal protection under Section 12 of the 1994 National Monuments Act and are published as a record.

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds documentary evidence and field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g. only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Section as ‘un-located sites’ and cannot be afforded legal protection due to lack of locational information. As a result, these are omitted from the Record of Monuments and Places. SMR sites are also listed on a website maintained by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) – www.archaeology.ie.



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National Monuments in State Care Database is a list of all the National Monuments in State guardianship or ownership. Each is assigned a National Monument number whether in guardianship or ownership and has a brief description of the remains of each Monument.

The Minister for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage may acquire national monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of national monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

Preservation Orders List contains information on Preservation Orders and/or Temporary Preservation Orders, which have been assigned to a site or sites. Sites deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction can be allocated Preservation Orders under the 1930 Act. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the 1954 Act. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister.

Register of Historic Monuments was established under Section 5 of the 1987 National Monuments Act, which requires the Minister to establish and maintain such a record. Historic monuments and archaeological areas present on the register are afforded statutory protection under the 1987 Act. The register also includes sites under Preservation Orders and Temporary Preservation Orders. All registered monuments are included in the Record of Monuments and Places.

The topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland are the national archive of all known finds recorded by the National Museum. This archive relates primarily to artefacts but also includes references to monuments and unique records of previous excavations. The find spots of artefacts are important sources of information on the discovery of sites of archaeological significance.

Cartographic sources are important in tracing land use development within the development area as well as providing important topographical information on areas of archaeological potential and the development of buildings. Cartographic analysis of all relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies or structures that no longer remain within the landscape.

- Down Survey Maps of the Barony of Newcastle c. 1655
- Rocque's An Actual Survey of County Dublin, 1760
- Taylor's Map of the Environs of Dublin, 1816
- Ordnance Survey Maps of Dublin, 1843–1938

Documentary sources were consulted to gain background information on the archaeological and cultural heritage landscape of the proposed development area.

Development Plans contain a catalogue of all the Protected Structures and archaeological sites within the county. The South Dublin County Development Plan (2016–2022) was consulted to



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obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development area.

Aerial photographic coverage is an important source of information regarding the precise location of sites and their extent. It also provides initial information on the terrain and its likely potential for archaeology. A number of sources were consulted including aerial photographs and satellite imagery held by the Ordnance Survey, Google Earth, and Bing Maps.

Excavations Bulletin is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2010 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files. This information is also available online (www.excavations.ie) from 1970–2020.

Place Names are an important part in understanding both the archaeology, history, and cultural heritage of an area. Place names can be used for generations and in some cases have been found to have their root deep in the historical past. The main references used for the place name analysis is *Irish Local Names Explained* by P.W Joyce (1870) and the Place Names Database of Ireland.

13.2.5 FIELD INSPECTION

Field inspection is necessary to determine the extent and nature of archaeological, architectural, and historical remains and can also lead to the identification of previously unrecorded or suspected sites and portable finds through topographical observation and local information.

The archaeological field inspection entailed -

- Walking the proposed development and its immediate environs.
- Noting and recording the terrain type and land usage.
- Noting and recording the presence of features of archaeological or historical significance.
- Verifying the extent and condition of any recorded sites.
- Visually investigating any suspect landscape anomalies to determine the possibility of their being anthropogenic in origin.

13.3 BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

13.3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed power plant is located in the townland of Kilbride, Parish of Kilbride and Barony of Newcastle. There are two groups or individual recorded monuments within 500m of the proposed power plant site. These comprise a castle (DU0021-004) and a church, graveyard and ecclesiastical enclosure group (DU0021-005001-3) (Figure 13-1), located over 300m to the south.



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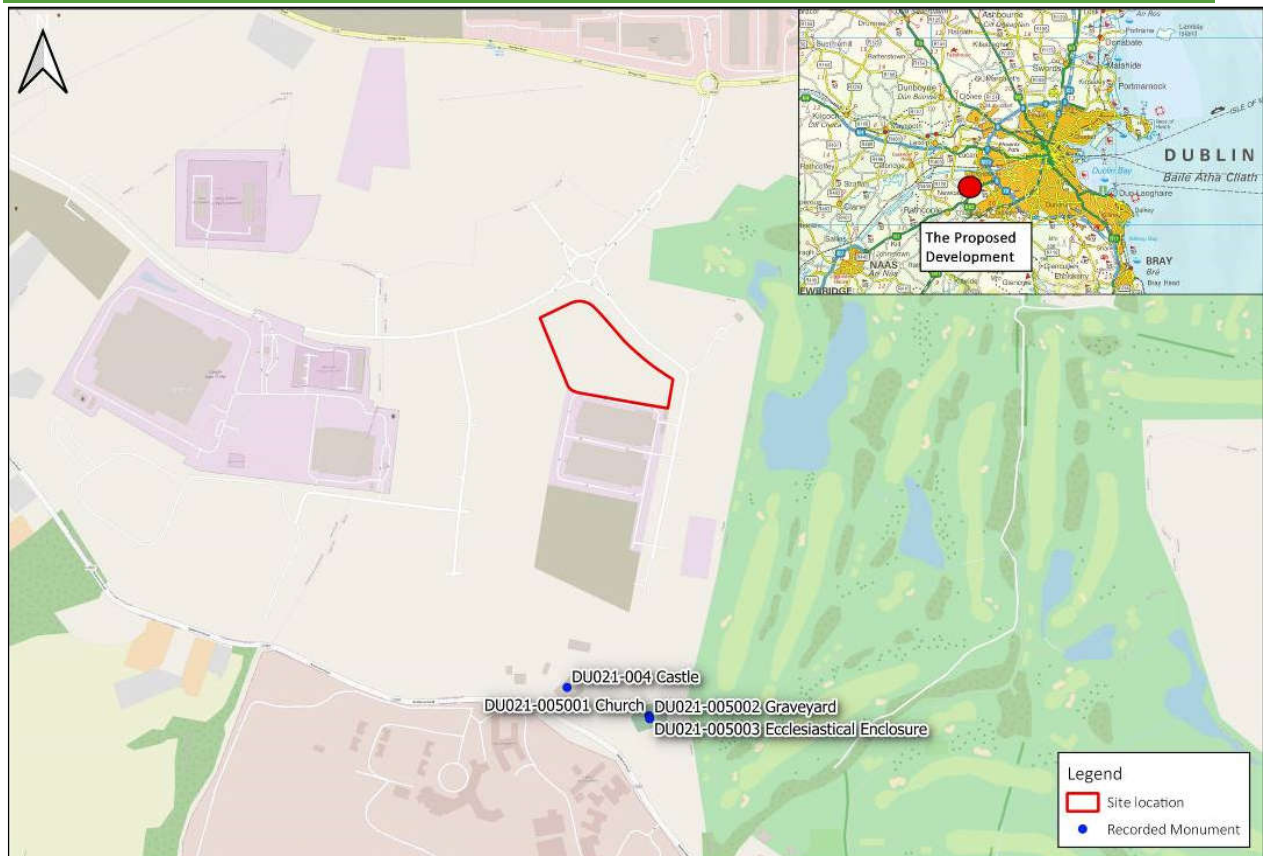


Figure 13-1: Site location showing recorded monuments

13.3.1.1 Mesolithic Period (6000–4000 BC)

Although recent discoveries have suggested the possibility of human activity in the southwest of Ireland as early as the Upper Palaeolithic (Dowd and Carden 2016), the Mesolithic period is the first time for which there is widespread evidence of human occupation on the island of Ireland. Mesolithic people led a mobile lifestyle, hunting, foraging and fishing for sustenance and migrating to exploit seasonal resources. As a result, coastal and riverine resources were of particular importance to these communities. Such transient ways of life leave little trace in the archaeological record. Often the only indication of Mesolithic activity are scatters of flint implements and debitage. Occasionally shell middens have been found to date to this period. Although Mesolithic activity has been identified in County Dublin, there are no recorded sites of Mesolithic date within the vicinity of the proposed power plant.

13.3.1.2 Neolithic Period (4000–2500 BC)

The Neolithic period began with the introduction and adoption of agriculture to Ireland. This period was revolutionary. Neolithic groups turned to cereal cultivation and the rearing of stock for sustenance. There was no longer a need to move frequently and as a result settlement became more permanent. Pottery was being produced possibly for the first time. A new preoccupation with claiming territory to farm contributed to the megalithic tomb tradition that emerged in the Neolithic. There are four main types of megalithic tombs; court cairns, portal tombs, passage tombs and the later wedge tombs of the early Bronze Age. These monuments served as tombs for the dead, ceremonial centres for the living and territorial markers in the landscape. They would have required significant organisation and cooperation to construct. The



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proposed development area would have remained favourable for settlement into the Neolithic period although there are no recorded Neolithic sites in the vicinity of the proposed power plant.

13.3.1.3 Bronze Age (2500–800 BC)

The Bronze Age was marked by the widespread use of metal for the first time in Ireland. As with the transition from Mesolithic to Neolithic, the transition into the early Bronze Age was accompanied by changes in society. The megalithic tomb tradition went into decline and ended by the middle Bronze Age and the burial of the individual became typical. Cremated or inhumed individuals were often placed in a cist, which is a stone-lined grave, usually built of slabs set upright to form a box-like construction and capped by a large slab or several smaller lintels (Buckley and Sweetman 1991). Barrows and pit burials are also funerary monuments associated with this period.

Another site type thought to reveal a glimpse of domestic life at this time is the burnt mound or *fulacht fia*. A common site within the archaeological record, they are traditionally interpreted as temporary cooking sites but it has been suggested that they may have had other functions such as brewing, dyeing and bathing. They survive as low mounds of charcoal-enriched soil mixed with an abundance of heat-shattered stones. They are usually horseshoe-shaped and located in low-lying areas near a water source and are often found in clusters. Even when levelled by an activity such as ploughing, they are identifiable as burnt spreads in the landscape (Brindley and Lanting, 1990).

No Bronze Age site have been recorded within the study area of the proposed power plant to date.

13.3.1.4 Iron Age (800 BC–AD 500)

Compared to the rest of Irish prehistory, there is very little evidence in Ireland, as a whole, representing the Iron Age. As in Europe, there are two phases of the Iron Age in Ireland; the Hallstatt and the La Tène. The Hallstatt period generally dates from 700BC onwards and spread rapidly from Austria, across Europe, and then into Ireland. The later Iron Age or La Tène also originated in Europe during the middle of the 5th century BC. While in Ireland, evidence of a Hallstatt phase is rare, La Tène influences are reflected strongly in the style of metalwork of this period. It is clear that there was significant contact and interaction between the Continental Europe, Britain and Ireland at this time. There are no recorded sites of Iron Age date in the vicinity of the proposed development area. There are no recorded sites of Iron Age date in the vicinity of the proposed power plant.

13.3.1.5 Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

Ireland, as depicted in the surviving sources, was entirely rural in the early medieval period. Ireland at this time was a patchwork of larger and smaller kingdoms known as *túath* and *trícha cét* respectively. Byrne (1973) estimates that there were as many as 150 kings in Ireland at the time, each ruling over a basic territorial unit known as the *túath*. If estimates placing the population of Ireland in the early medieval period at quarter to half a million people are accurate, then each king would have ruled over between 1,700 and 3,300 subjects within his *túath* (Stout 2017). From the 6th century, many of these subjects would have lived in enclosed settlements known as ringforts.



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Secular habitation sites in the early medieval period include *crannógs*, cashels and ringforts, which are largely defined as circular enclosures surrounded by banks and ditches. In addition to these, there is some evidence for unenclosed settlements which are more difficult to identify in the archaeological record. The ringfort or *ráth* is considered to be the most common indicator of settlement during the early medieval period. Ringforts are strongly associated with agricultural land and, as such, are rarely situated at higher altitudes. Ringforts and potential ringforts (enclosures) are the most common archaeological sites recorded across the Irish landscape. Enclosures, in many cases, represent damaged or denuded ringforts.

This period was also characterised by the introduction of Christianity to Ireland. Early churches tended to be constructed of wood or post-and-wattle. Between the late 8th and 10th centuries, mortared stone churches gradually replaced these earlier structures. Many of the sites, some of which were monastic foundations, were probably originally defined by an enclosing wall or bank similar to that found at the coeval secular sites. This enclosing feature was probably built more to define the sacred character of the area of the church than as a defence against aggression. An inner and outer enclosure can be seen at some of the more important sites; the inner enclosure surrounding the sacred area of church and burial ground and the outer enclosure providing a boundary around living quarters and craft areas. Where remains of an enclosure survive, it is often the only evidence that the site was an early Christian foundation. An ecclesiastical enclosure (DU021-005003) is recorded c. 393m south of the proposed development area. The sub-circular raised area contains a graveyard (DU021-005002) and a medieval stone church (DU021-005001). Although the surviving church is of medieval date it may stand on the site of an early medieval ecclesiastical site.

13.3.1.6 Medieval Period (AD 1100–1600)

This period began with the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in Ireland in support of the deposed King of Leinster, Diarmait MacMurchadha. By the end of the 12th century the Normans had succeeded in conquering much of the country (Stout and Stout 1997). Leinster, including Dublin and Meath, was 'sub-infeudated', meaning that great swathes of land were parcelled out among the Anglo-Norman elites. The Anglo-Norman tenurial system more or less appropriated the older established land units known as *túaths* in the early medieval period but described the territories as manors (MacCotter 2008). The initial stage of the invasion of the country was marked by the construction of motte and bailey castles, which were later replaced with stone castles.

In the later medieval period, a total of seven tower houses were constructed in the wider environs of the proposed development area. These include Grange Castle (DU017-034), from which the wider area takes its name, Kilbride Castle (DU021-004), c. 391m south of the proposed development area and Nangor Castle (DU017-037), c. 925m to the northeast. Kilbride Castle (DU021-004) is no longer extant with its location now occupied by a farm complex. Some of the farm buildings may have been built from the reclaimed fabric of the castle. The castle appears to have survived until 1871-5, when it was depicted on the historic OS mapping. By the time of the 1906-9 OS map, it is annotated as 'site of', indicating it has been demolished.

The existing Kilbride Church (DU021-005001) dates to the medieval period, though stands in ruins today. It was described at the dissolution in 1547 as an old chapel- indicating it was considered old even in the mid-16th century and described as ruinous as early as 1630 (SMR file). The church was dedicated to St. Bridget, giving the townland its name, Kilbride, deriving from *Cill Bhríde*.



13.3.1.7 Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600–1900)

The 17th century witnessed the systematic reduction of all of Ireland to English authority, largely through conflicts and the forced settlements, ‘The Plantations’. With the onset of the 18th century, the political climate settled and this saw a dramatic rise in the establishment of large residential houses around the country. This was largely due to the fact that after the turbulence of the preceding centuries, the success of the Protestant cause and effective removal of any political opposition, the country was at peace. The large country house was only a small part of the overall estate of a large landowner and provided a base to manage often large areas of land that could be dispersed nationally. During the latter part of the 18th century, the establishment of a parkland context (or demesnes) for large houses was the fashion. Although the creation of a parkland landscape involved working with nature, rather than against it, considerable construction effort went into their creation. Major topographical features like rivers and mountains were desirable features for inclusion into, and as a setting, for the large house and parkland. The closest former parklands to the proposed power plant, is a modest demesne associated with Kilcarbury House, c. 490m to the east and the much larger Castle Baggot, c. 575m to the southwest.

13.3.2 SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970–2020) revealed that no previous archaeological investigations have been carried out within the site of the proposed power plant. Just two archaeological investigations have taken place within 500m of this site.

Archaeological monitoring was carried out during the construction of the development to the immediate south under licence 12E067. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered (Bennett 2012:188).

Archaeological monitoring was also carried out prior to industrial development to the north of the proposed development area, within the ‘Kilcarbery Distribution Park’ (Licence 98E0572, Bennett 1999:170). No features or deposits of archaeological potential were identified during these works. Post-medieval and modern pottery was recovered from the topsoil.

13.3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

13.3.3.1 Down Survey Maps of the Barony of Newcastle, c. 1655

There is little detail provided for the site of the proposed power plant in these early maps. It would appear that the site is located within an area noted as ‘unforfeited lands’ and it is therefore not shown in any detail as the primary purpose of these early maps was to detail land to be forfeited. It is likely the site area was in use as agricultural land at this time.

13.3.3.2 John Rocque, Map of County Dublin, 1760 (Figure 13-2)

By the time of this mapping in 1760, the site of the proposed power plant is depicted as open agricultural land. Kilbride church (DU021-005001), annotated as in ruins, is shown to the south. A structure is shown in the approximate location of Kilbride castle (DU021-004) but is unlabelled. In the wider landscape, Grange Castle (DU017-034) and Nangor (DU017-037) are also shown.



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13.3.3.3 John Taylor, Map of Dublin City and its Environs, 1816 (Figure 13-2)

The site of the proposed power plant is depicted in an undeveloped location on this map, within an area labelled 'lands of Kilbride'. Kilbride church (DU021-005001) is again shown and labelled as in ruins. A small structure is depicted to the west of the site's approximate location and labelled 'Kilcarbery'.



Figure 13-2: Extracts from historic OS maps (1843 and 1871-5) showing the proposed development area

13.3.3.4 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1843, scale 1:10,056 (Figure 13-3)

This is the first accurate historic mapping coverage of the area containing the proposed development. The site of the proposed power plant forms part of an agricultural landscape, comprising parts of three fields. A laneway passes north-south through the proposed development area leading to Kilbride Castle (DU021-004) to the south. Kilbride Church (DU021-005001) is also shown within a sub-circular graveyard.

13.3.3.5 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1871-5, scale 1:10,056 (Figure 13-3)

There is no change to the site of the proposed power plant by the time of this map. To the south, Kilbride House has been constructed immediately to the west of Kilbride Castle (DU021-004).



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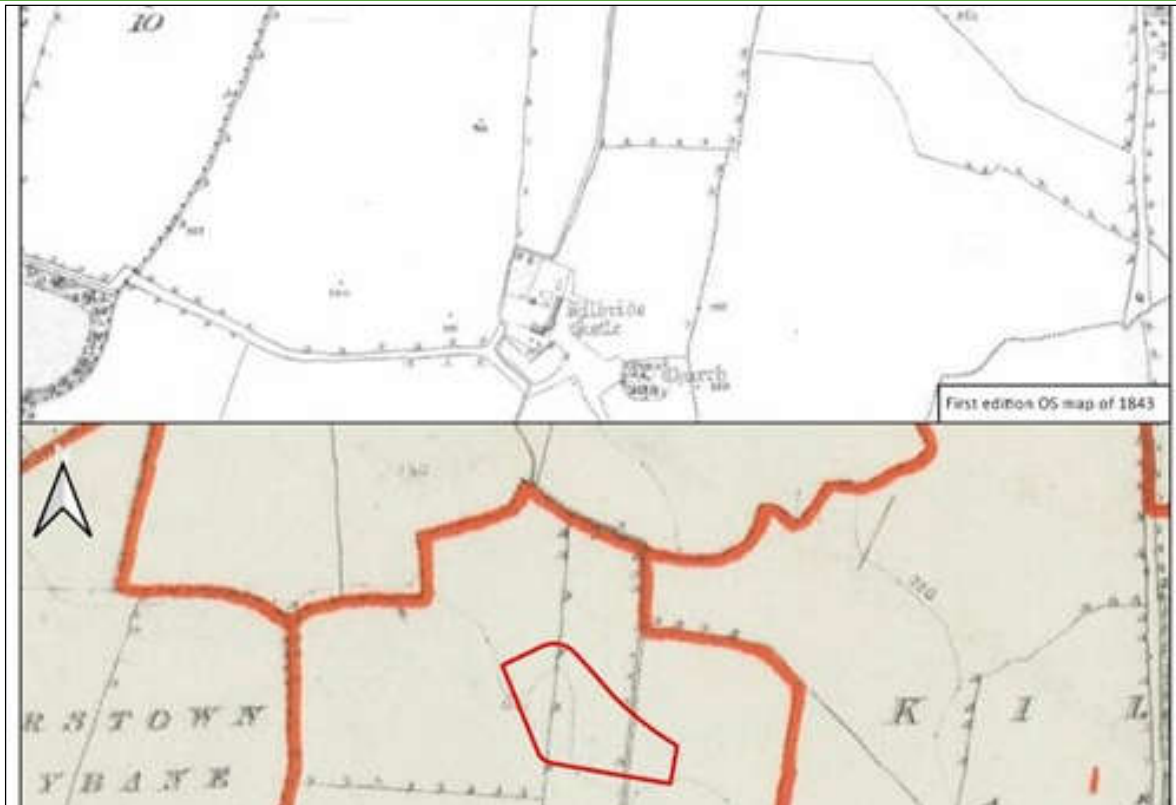


Figure 13-3: Extracts from historic OS maps (1843 and 1871-5) showing the proposed development area

13.3.3.6 Ordnance Survey Map, 1906–9, scale 1:2500

There is no significant change to the proposed development area shown on this map. Kilbride Castle (DU021-004) is now annotated as ‘site of’ indicating that the castle is no longer extant by this time. While Kilbride Church (DU021-005001) is marked as ‘in ruins’ for the first time.

13.3.3.7 Third Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1935-8, scale 1:10,056

There are no significant changes to the site of the proposed power plant on this map.

13.3.4 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The South County Dublin Development Plan (2016–2022) recognises the statutory protection afforded to all RMP sites under the National Monuments Legislation (1930–2014). The development plans list a number of aims and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage (Appendix 13.1). It is a policy of the South County Dublin Development Plan (2016–2022) to promote the in-situ preservation of archaeology as the preferred option where development would have an impact on buried artefacts. Where preservation in situ is not feasible, sites of archaeological interest shall be subject to archaeological investigations and recording according to best practice, in advance of redevelopment.

There are no recorded archaeological sites within the proposed development area. There are four recorded monuments within 500m of the site (Appendix 13.1; Table 1).



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Table 13-1: Recorded Archaeological Sites

RMP No.	Location	Classification	Distance From Site
DU021-004	Kilbride	Castle - unclassified	391m south
DU021-00500103	Kilbride	Church, Graveyard and Ecclesiastical enclosure	393m south

13.3.5 STRAY FINDS WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA

Information on artefact finds from the study area in County Dublin has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic activity in the study area.

A review of the topographical files revealed that no stray finds have been recovered from within the study area of the proposed development to date.

13.3.6 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the proposed development area held by the Ordnance Survey (1995–2013), Google Earth (2008–2020) and Bing Maps (2021) revealed the proposed development area has been subject to topsoil disturbance in recent years during the construction of the roadway to the north and east (Google Earth 2009, Figure 13-4). No previously unknown archaeological sites were noted during the analysis.



Figure 13-4: Satellite imagery of the proposed development area (Google Earth 2009)



13.3.7 FIELD INSPECTION

The field inspection sought to assess the site, its previous and current land use, the topography, and any additional information relevant to the report. During the course of the field investigation the proposed development site and its immediate surrounding environs including the proposed electrical grid and gas connections were inspected (Figure 13-4).

The proposed development area comprises an area of flat disturbed ground (Figures 13-5 and 13-6). It is bounded by the public road to the east and north and by a large industrial complex to the south. The disturbed ground continues west beyond the site. A deep drainage feature is present running along the site’s eastern boundary (Figure 13-7). It continues north along the eastern side of the site before it crosses underneath the public road and continues north.

No previously unrecorded features or areas of archaeological significance were identified during the site inspection. The inspection confirmed that the site has been disturbed in recent years, as indicated in the aerial photographic coverage.



Figure 13-5: Proposed development area, facing southwest

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Figure 13-6: Proposed development area, facing southwest



Figure 13-7: Drainage feature on eastern side of site, facing northwest



13.3.8 CULTURAL HERITAGE

The term ‘cultural heritage’ can be used as an over-arching term that can be applied to both archaeology and architectural; however, it also refers to more ephemeral aspects of the environment, which are often recorded in folk law or tradition or possibly date to a more recent period. There are no specific sites of cultural heritage significance within the study area of the proposed power plant, however the archaeological sites discussed above should also be considered cultural heritage and the townlands and placename analysis detailed below are also of cultural heritage significance.

13.3.8.1 Townlands

The townland is an Irish land unit of considerable longevity as many of the units are likely to represent much earlier land divisions. However, the term townland was not used to denote a unit of land until the Civil Survey of 1654. It bears no relation to the modern word ‘town’ but like the Irish word *baile* refers to a place. It is possible that the word is derived from the Old English *tun land* and meant ‘the land forming an estate or manor’ (Culleton 1999, 174).

Gaelic land ownership required a clear definition of the territories held by each sept and a need for strong, permanent fences around their territories. It is possible that boundaries following ridge tops, streams or bog are more likely to be older in date than those composed of straight lines (*ibid.* 179).

The vast majority of townlands are referred to in the 17th century, when land documentation records begin. Many of the townlands are mapped within the Down Survey of the 1650s, so called as all measurements were carefully ‘laid downe’ on paper at a scale of forty perches to one inch. Therefore, most are in the context of pre-17th century landscape organisation (McErlean 1983, 315).

In the 19th century, some demesnes, deer parks or large farms were given townland status during the Ordnance Survey and some imprecise townland boundaries in areas such as bogs or lakes, were given more precise definition (*ibid.*). Larger tracks of land were divided into a number of townlands, and named Upper, Middle or Lower, as well as Beg and More (small and large) and north, east, south, and west (Culleton 1999, 179). By the time the first Ordnance Survey had been completed a total of 62,000 townlands were recorded in Ireland.

The proposed power plant is located within the townland of Kilbride. The surrounding townlands consist of Aungierstown and Ballybane, Baldonnell Lower, Baldonnell Upper, Ballybane, Kilcarbery and Kilmactalway.

13.3.8.2 Toponymy of Townlands

Townland and topographic names are an invaluable source of information on topography, land ownership and land use within the landscape. They also provide information on history; archaeological monuments and folklore of an area. A place name may refer to a long-forgotten site and may indicate the possibility that the remains of certain sites may still survive below the ground surface. The Ordnance Survey surveyors wrote down townland names in the 1830’s and 1840’s, when the entire country was mapped for the first time. Some of the townland names in the study area are of Irish origin and through time have been anglicised. The main references used for the place name analysis are *Irish Local Names Explained* by P.W Joyce (1870) and



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www.logainm.ie. A description and possible explanation of each townland name in the environs of the proposed route are provided in the below table.

Table 13-2: Place Name Analysis

Name	Derivation	Possible Meaning
Aungierstown and Ballybane	-	Aungier's Town/The white homestead
Kilbride	<i>Cill Bhríde</i>	St. Bridget's Church
Kilmactalway	<i>Cill Mhic Thalmhaigh</i>	Mac Shalwy's Church
Ballybane	<i>An Baile Bán</i>	The white homestead
Baldonnell	<i>Baile Dhónaill</i>	Donal's homestead
Kilcarbery	<i>Cill/coill Chairbre</i>	Church/wood of Cairbre

13.4 CONCLUSIONS

The proposed power plant is located in the townland of Kilbride, Parish of Kilbride and Barony of Newcastle. There are two individual or groups of recorded monuments located within 500m of the proposed power plant. These comprise a castle (DU0021-004) and a church, graveyard and ecclesiastical enclosure group (DU0021-005001-3), located over 300m to the south.

There have been no archaeological investigations within the proposed development area to date. A review of Excavations Bulletin (1970-2020) revealed that two previous programmes of archaeological monitoring of took place in the vicinity of the proposed development area, one to the immediate south and one c. 327m north of the site. Neither revealed any features or deposits of archaeological significance (Licence 12E067, Bennett 2012:188, Licence 98E0572, Bennett 1999:170).

A review of the historic mapping demonstrated that the proposed development area remained as undeveloped agricultural greenfield throughout the post-medieval period. Aerial photographic analysis and satellite imagery proved the site remained greenfield until the construction of the roadways to the immediate east and north c. 2009 (Google Earth). The aerial photographic coverage has shown that the site of the proposed power plant has been subject to disturbance in the recent past.

A review of the topographical files revealed that no stray finds have been recovered from within the study area of the proposed power plant to date.

A field inspection confirmed that the area of the proposed power plant has been subject to disturbance, as indicated in the aerial photographic coverage. No features of archaeological potential were identified during the field inspection.

Both the electrical grid and gas connections will be installed in existing public or private roads and there is no potential for discovering new archaeological features given this is made ground with existing utility infrastructure already in situ.



13.5 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

13.5.1 DO NOTHING SCENARIO

If the proposed power plant were not to proceed, there would be no negative impact on the archaeological or cultural heritage resource of the site or its surrounding area.

13.5.2 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

13.5.2.1 Archaeology

Whilst the site of the proposed power plant has been subject to disturbances, it is unclear how this disturbance may have affected the potential archaeological resource. It remains possible that ground disturbances associated with the development may have a direct negative impact on archaeological remains that may survive within the site. Impacts have the potential to range from moderate to significant in scale, prior to the application of mitigation.

13.5.2.2 Cultural Heritage

No potential negative impacts upon the cultural heritage resource are predicted as a result of the construction of the proposed power plant.

13.5.3 OPERATIONAL PHASE

No negative impacts during operation are predicted upon the archaeological and cultural heritage resource.

13.5.3.1 Potential Cumulative Impacts

As it is proposed to monitor construction activity and preserve any identified archaeological features by record, no cumulative impacts are predicted upon the archaeological or cultural heritage resource.

13.6 MITIGATION AND MONITORING MEASURES

13.6.1 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

13.6.1.1 Archaeology

The Development Applications Unit provided the following consultation response to the proposed power plant:

- The applicant is required to engage the services of a suitably qualified archaeologist to carry out an archaeological assessment of the development site. The assessment will include archaeological test excavations. No sub-surface work should be undertaken in the absence of the archaeologist without his/her express consent.
- The archaeologist will carry out any relevant documentary research and inspect the site. Test trenches will be excavated at locations chosen by the archaeologist (licensed under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004), having consulted the site drawings.
- Having completed the work, the archaeologist should submit a written report to the Planning Authority and to the National Monuments Service in advance of the planning decision. Where archaeological material/features are shown to be present, preservation



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in situ, preservation by record (excavation) or monitoring may be required and the National Monuments Service will advise the Applicant/Developer with regard to these matters.

- No site preparation or construction work shall be carried out until after the archaeologist's report has been submitted and permission to proceed has been received in writing from the Planning Authority in consultation with the National Monuments Service.

Whilst the above mitigation would be considered appropriate on most greenfield site with potential for archaeology, it should be noted that this site has been the subject to substantial earthworks in recent years. As such the site, whilst still a greenfield site, has been the subject to soil and subsoil disturbance. As such it is proposed that alternative mitigation is prescribed as follows given the substantially reduced risk of encountering archaeological features on site:

All topsoil/overburden stripping associated with the proposed power plant will be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. If any features of archaeological potential are discovered during the course of the works further archaeological mitigation may be required, such as preservation in-situ or by record. Any further mitigation will require approval from the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

The mitigation measure identified above would also function as a monitoring system during construction to allow the further assessment of the scale of the predicted impacts and the effectiveness of the recommended mitigation measures.

13.6.1.2 Cultural Heritage

As there are no potential impacts on the cultural heritage resource, no mitigation is deemed necessary.

13.6.2 OPERATIONAL PHASE

No mitigation relating to the operational phase and the archaeological and cultural heritage resource is required.

13.7 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Both the electrical grid and gas connections will be installed in existing public or private roads and there is no potential for discovering new archaeological features given this is made ground with existing utility infrastructure already in situ. No other cumulative impact with other projects are predicted.

13.8 RESIDUAL EFFECTS

There are no predicted residual impacts for the operational phase of the proposed development upon the archaeological and cultural heritage resource.

13.9 REFERENCES

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Cartographic Sources

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Electronic Sources

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- www.archaeology.ie – DoHLGH website listing all SMR/RMP sites.
- www.heritagemaps.ie – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural, and natural heritage.
- www.googleearth.com – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.
- www.bing.com – Satellite imagery of the proposed development area.
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- www.logainm.ie – Database of townlands in Ireland.

