

archaeology plan

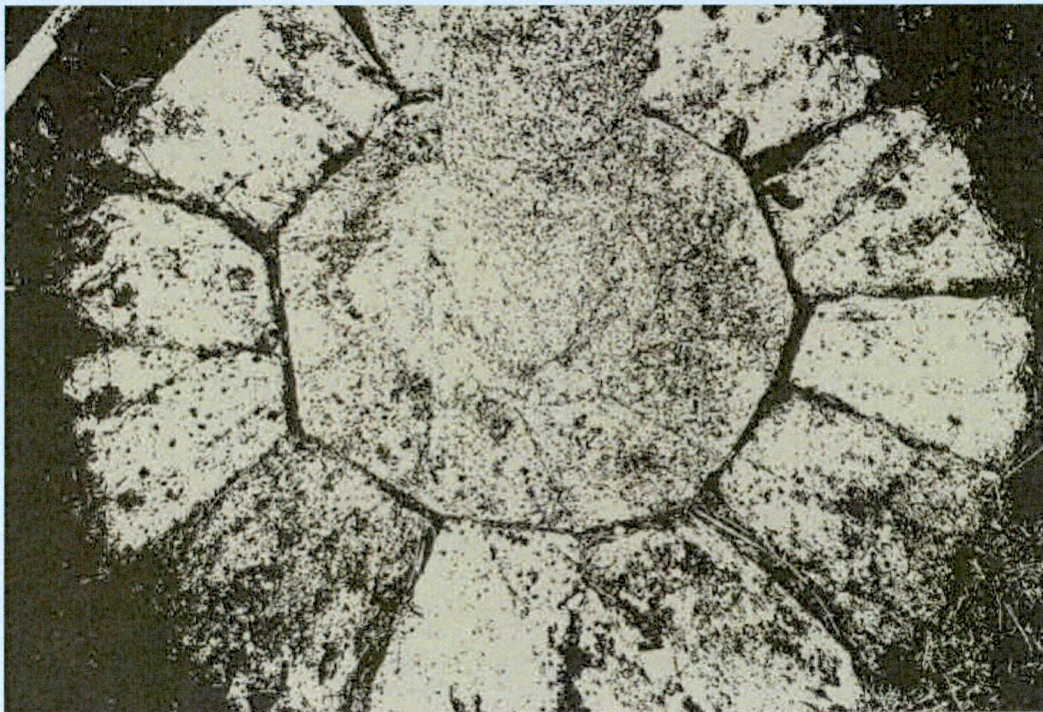
HERITAGE SOLUTIONS

Archaeological and Geological
Heritage Impact Assessment of
'Clonbrone', Lucan-Newlands Road,
Co. Dublin

WADE & BARRY

05/10/2022

AP2136



archaeology plan

HERITAGE SOLUTIONS

SITE NAME

'Clonbrone', Lucan-Newlands Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin

CLIENT

Nacul Developments Ltd., Lucan-Newlands Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin

RMP

N/a

PLANNING

SD21A/0026 - Order PR/0419/21

LICENCE

N/a

PROJECT REF

AP2136

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DATE

05/10/2022

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Section 1 Introduction

Report Summary

The results of an archaeological assessment of a site in Clonbrone, Lucan are detailed in this report. The assessment comprises a consideration of the archaeological background and history of the study area, a detailed examination of the historical cartography and a site visit. The report also addresses the geological heritage of the study area which is situated on the Lucan Esker. The purpose of the assessment is to address the impact of the development on existing archaeological and geological heritage.

Site Location

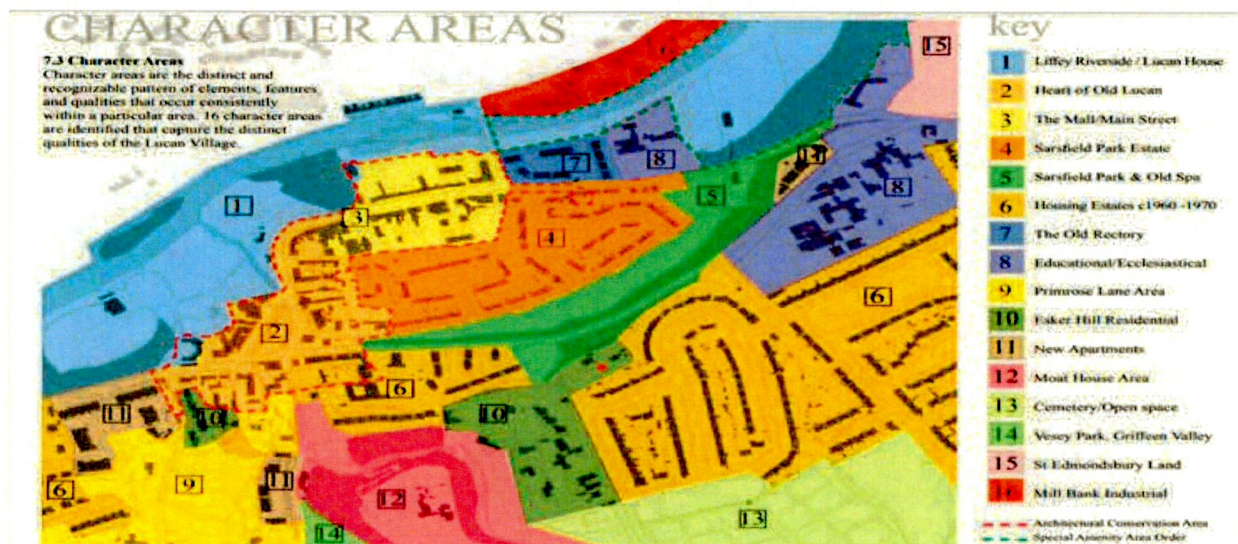
The application site is located at E703570 N735121, to the east of the Lucan-Newlands Road and currently consists of a detached dwelling house at 47m OD. The area is largely residential in nature with a detached dwelling located to the west and two storey semi-

detached properties located to the south and east. An area of open space is located to the north, which sits at an elevated position above the Lucan Road.

Development Proposals

The development proposal includes the demolition of 1 existing two storey detached dwelling (162sq.m) and associated out-buildings on site, and the construction of 7 two storey (plus dormer level), 5-bedroom, detached houses, on a site area of 0.3ha. The proposed development provides for all associated works, car parking, open spaces, and landscaping. Proposed access to the development will be via the existing vehicular entrance gate, which will be modified and set back for sight-line purposes, on the Lucan-Newlands Road/Esker Hill at a site known as 'Clonbrone' on Lucan Newlands Road/Esker Hill, Lucan.

Site (marked by red dot) is located within Character area 10 of the Lucan village design statement.





Current site outline in red

The site falls within zone 10 of the Lucan Village Design Statement, which is categorized as “Esker Hill Residential” and is described as – “Areas of individual houses that follow the old road, and since being built have been surrounded by the mass housing estates. They are typically large bungalows with large front and rear gardens”.

South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2022-2028

The overarching Policy NCBH1 of the South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2022-2028 states that it is the policy of the Council to:

"Protect, conserve and enhance the County's natural, cultural and built heritage, supporting its sensitive integration into the development of the County for the benefit of present and future generations."

NCBH1 Objective 1:

To protect, conserve and enhance natural, cultural and built heritage features, seeking opportunities to identify, retain, protect, and incorporate heritage assets into plans and development.

NCBH1 Objective 2:

To support the objectives and actions of the County Heritage Plan and the County Biodiversity Action Plan in the promotion and protection of natural, built and cultural heritage, and to take full cognisance of the County's Landscape Character Assessment and the County Geological Audit in the sustainable management of development.

NCBH1 Objective 3:

To carry out an audit and assessment, based on an initial pilot study of the County's natural and built heritage assets including Council owned protected structures and archaeological features; to identify and safeguard these assets from the

potential impacts of climate change; and to explore possible uses as part of climate change mitigation.

Archaeological Heritage

According to Policy NCBH13 , it is “the policy of the Council to manage development in a manner that protects and conserves the Archaeological Heritage of the County and avoids adverse impacts on sites, monuments, features or objects of significant historical or archaeological interest.”

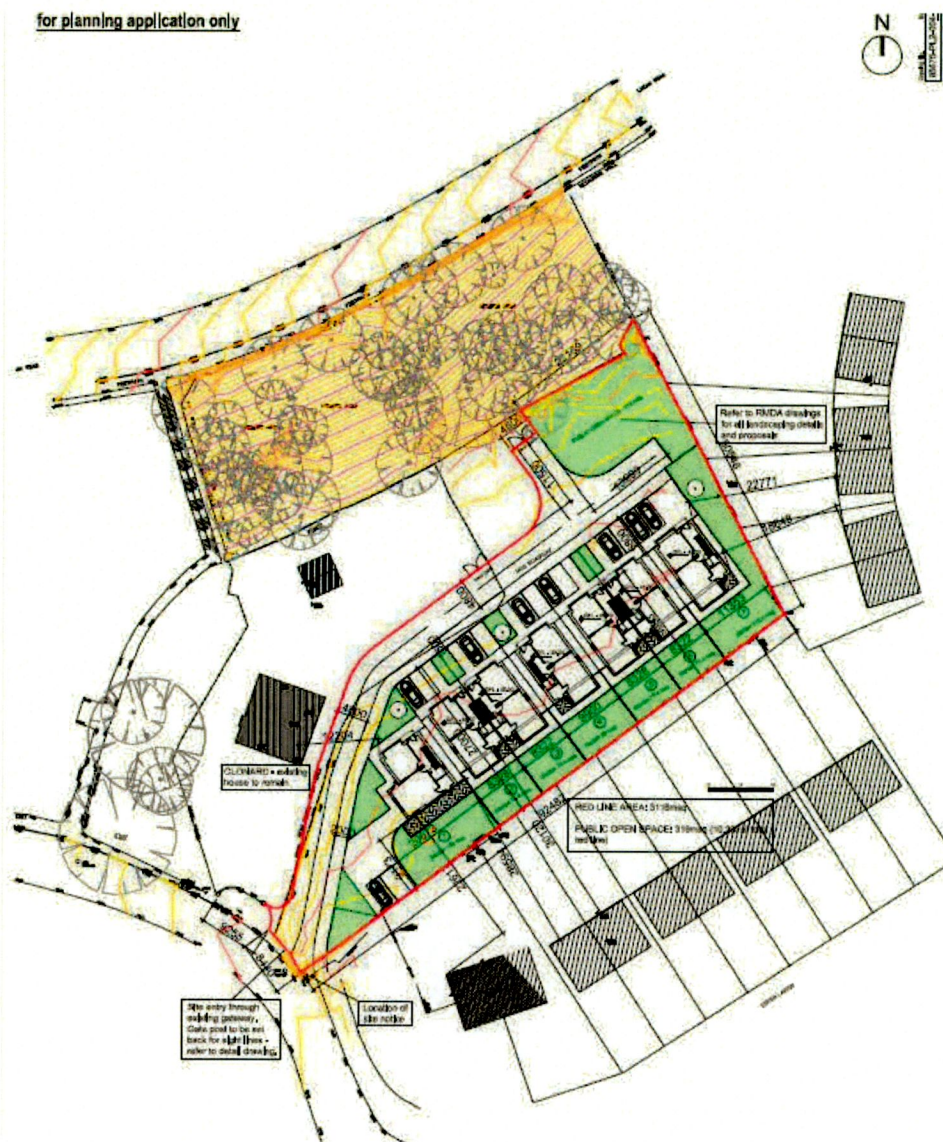
NCBH13 Objective 1:

To favour the preservation in-situ of all sites, monuments, and features of significant historical or archaeological interest in accordance with the recommendations of the Framework and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, DAHGI (1999), or any superseding national policy document.

NCBH13 Objective 2:

To ensure that development is designed to avoid impacting on archaeological heritage including previously unknown sites, features, and objects.

Proposed site plan (see landscape plan in appendix for proposed mitigation for the French Buhr segmented mill stone).



NCBH13 Objective 3:

To protect and enhance sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places and ensure that development in the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Area of Archaeological Potential does not detract from the setting of the site, monument, feature, or object and is sited and designed appropriately.

NCBH13 Objective 4:

To protect and preserve the archaeological value of underwater archaeological sites including associated features and any discovered battlefield sites of significant archaeological potential within the County.

NCBH13 Objective 5:

To protect historical burial grounds within South Dublin County and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles.

Geological Heritage

South Dublin County Council also states its responsibility towards preserving geological heritage.

NCBH12 Objective 1:

To protect identified County Geological Sites from inappropriate development, avoiding potential conflicts with other ecological and cultural assets by engaging in consultation, and to promote the importance and potential of such sites through the County's Heritage Plan.

Industrial Heritage

NCBH16 Objective 1:

To promote and encourage the sensitive and adaptive reuse of industrial heritage structures where appropriate, ensuring that any change does not seriously impact on the intrinsic character of the structure and that all works are carried out in accordance with best practice conservation, consistent with RPO 9.27 of the RSES.

NCBH16 Objective 2:

To conduct a field survey of sites of industrial heritage within the County to identify structures, features and their related artefacts and plant, and to actively seek the addition of industrial heritage structures or complexes, or

elements of significance, to the Record of Protected Structures.

NCBH16 Objective 3:

To have regard to those items identified in the South Dublin County Industrial Heritage Survey (2012) and any subsequent surveys when assessing any relevant development proposals.

Protected Structures

Conserve and protect buildings, structures and sites contained in the Record of Protected Structures and carefully consider any proposals for development that would affect the setting, special character or appearance of a Protected Structure including its historic curtilage, both directly and indirectly.

NCBH19 Objective 1:

To ensure the protection of all structures (or parts of structures) and their immediate surroundings including the curtilage and attendant grounds of structures identified in the Record of Protected Structures.

NCBH19 Objective 2:

To ensure that all development proposals that affect a Protected Structure and its setting including proposals to extend, alter or refurbish any Protected Structure are sympathetic to its special character and integrity and are appropriate in terms of architectural treatment, character, scale and form. All such proposals shall be consistent with the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities, DAHG (2011 or any superseding documents) including the principles of conservation.

The RPS for South Dublin County is listed in Appendix 3A of the Development Plan.

Section 2 Archaeological Background

The files of the Record of Monuments and Place were consulted for this desktop assessment. The RMP files form part of the archives of the National Monuments Service and are one of the primary repositories of information on the archaeological record. 12 mapped sites (pre-1750) are located within 0.6km of the proposed site, with the closest being 0.3km from the site's footprint. Excerpts from the RMP files are presented below along with a general location map showing all 12 marked monuments.

1: Castle-Unclassified DU017-018

The 1937 edition OS 6-inch map shows 'Castle (site of)' on the north bank of the River Liffey at a site which is occupied by a Woollen Mill. This location differs from that shown on the earlier 1837 OS 6-inch map. It is shown on the

north side of the road where there is a steep scarp today. Not visible at ground level.

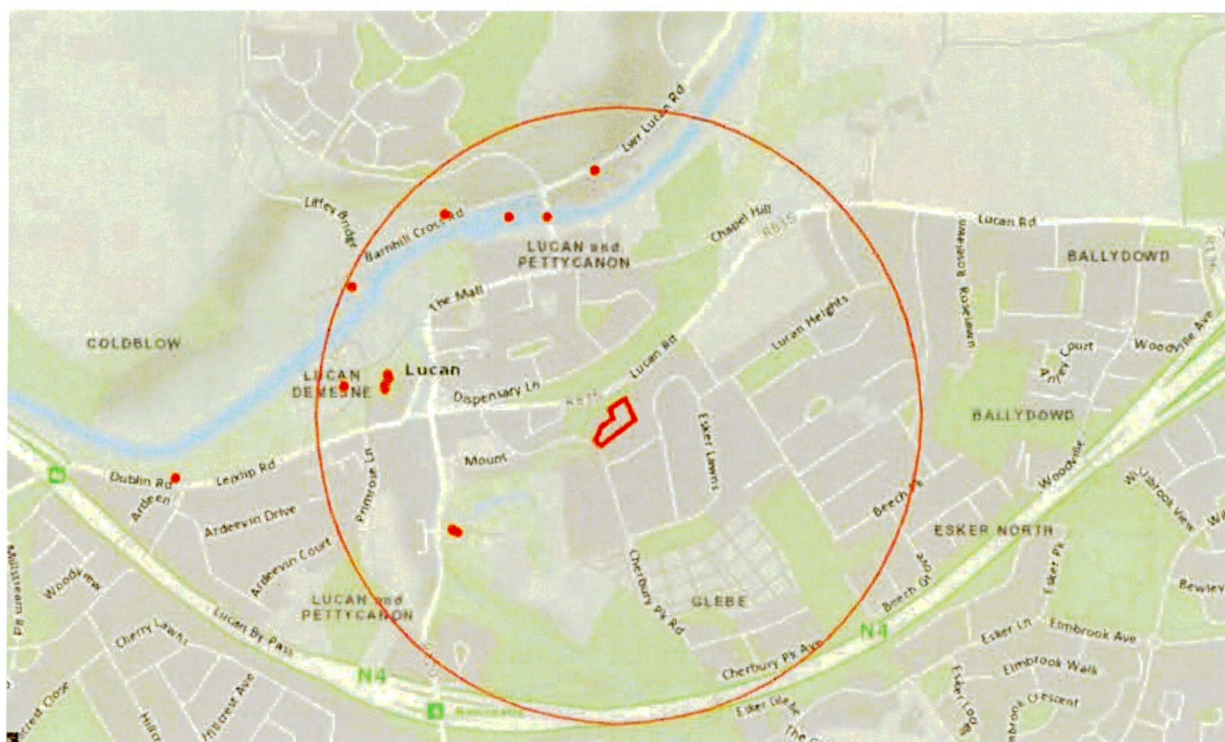
2: Bridge DU017-019006

The Lucan bridge which spans the River Liffey was built in 1814 on an earlier site. The first known reference to a bridge is in 1456 in the Statute Rolls under 34 Henry VI which prescribed that 'two towers with two gates be made, one upon the bridge of Kilmainham, another upon the bridge of Lucan', (O'Keefe, P. & Simington, T (1991, 104, 270-274). It is no longer visible at ground level.

3: Weir-Fish DU017-019005

According to Went (1954, 53-4) there are records of a fishery at Lucan since the late 13th and 14th centuries. The use of 'engines and nets' indicates the construction of weirs and

Map showing Recorded Monuments (RMPs) in the vicinity of the study area with a simplified site outline (Historic Map Viewer, National Monuments Service)



drift netting. There is a weir west of Lucan bridge, marked 'weir, Salmon Pass' which is likely to be the site of this fishery. It is noted in complaints relating to obstructions to fuel coming into the city from Wicklow (Murphy & Potterton 2010, 481).

4: Ritual Site-Holy Well DU017-017

Formerly located at the entrance into Hillsboro (Ó Danachair 1958, 82). The Sunday well site is now a gated entrance to a wood lined avenue west of a row of Victorian cottages. Not visible at ground level.

5: Bridge DU017-016

A single, pointed, segmental arch section, is all that survives of this medieval bridge dating between 1199-1216 (Murphy & Potterton 2010, 473). The remains are on the grounds of a house formerly called 'Bleach Green', now 'Treeslips'. King John's bridge is well-built of coursed limestone blocks. A cutwater is present on the upstream side. It originally spanned the Liffey at a point on its course where there is an island. The bridge is now fenced off by mesh metal fence, the later ornamental gate and bridge are within a garden resplendent with washing line. The medieval element is extremely overgrown.

6: Castle-Tower House DU017-019001

There is a residential tower attached to the north side of a medieval parish church (DU017-019002-). It is roughly square in plan with a stair turret in the northwest corner. Built of roughly coursed masonry, it rises to three storeys with a vaulted annexe to the east side. The tower was originally entered through a two-centred arched doorway. There is an inserted lintelled entrance in the east wall with the decorated head of a double-light ogee headed window built into the wall above it. The ground floor is vaulted on an east-west axis with traces of wicker-work centring (McDix 1897, 36; Ball 1902-20, IV, 43).

7: Church DU017-019002

The church is dedicated to St. Mary and located in a semi-circular, walled graveyard. It was granted to the Victorine/Augustinian Priory of St. Catherine, west of Lucan in 1219 (Ball 1906, 55-56; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 192). The church is of nave and chancel type with a residential tower attached to the north side

(DU017-019001-) (see Murphy & Potterton on residences 2010, 243).

8: Cross DU017-019004

According to Lewis (1837, 2, 322) a cross stood opposite the entrance to Lucan House. It is not visible at ground level.

9: Graveyard DU017-019003

On land sloping down to the River Liffey, this semi-circular, walled graveyard, contains St. Mary's, church (DU017-019002-) which was granted to the Augustinian Priory of St. Catherine (Ball 1906, 55-56; Gwynn & Hadcock 1970, 192). The graveyard is well kept with memorials dating largely from the 19th century.

10: Historic Town DU017-019

Lucan is a medieval manorial borough. The first known reference to the borough dates from 1315 (Martin 1981, 45). The street plan of the borough was essentially linear, consisting of one principal street. The burgage plots stretched from the street to the river and the OS 6-inch maps show a complementary pattern on the south side of the street (Bradley, J. & King, H. 1988, 215-59).

11: Ringfort DU017-021001

Situated on a high natural ravine. The site is a broad oval area (c.55m NW-SE; 28m NE-SW) demarcated by a scarped bank on ground that falls away to the SSW. There is a castellated

Recorded Monuments near the study area

Monument Type	RMP Number	Distance from site
Castle-Unclassified	DU017-018	0.5km
Bridge	DU017-019006	0.4km
Weir-Fish	DU017-019005	0.4km
Ritual Site-Holy Well	DU017-017	0.5km
Bridge	DU017-016	0.6km
Castle-Tower House	DU017-019001	0.4km
Church	DU017-019002	0.4km
Cross	DU017-019004	0.4km
Graveyard	DU017-019003	0.4km
Historic Town-Lucan	DU017-019	0.5km
Ringfort	DU017-021001	0.3km
Souterrain	DU017-021002	0.3km

entrance through the bank in the ENE. A souterrain (DU017-021002-) lies in the NW end of the interior (Anon., 1896, 421-2).

12: Souterrain DU017-021002

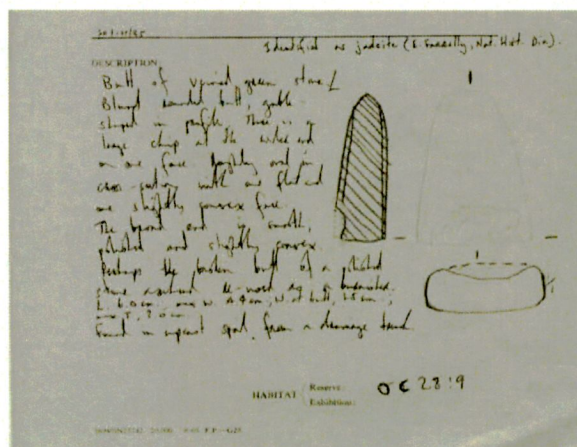
Situated in the northwest end of the ringfort's interior (DU017-021001-), its position is visible as a sunken area with descending stone steps. It was accessible up to recently. When last inspected in 1971 the entrance led into a passage with a beehive chamber off it. This was built of drystone walling with a corbelled roof closed by a large slab which was thought to be a modern repair. At a point opposite the present entrance was another entrance into a slightly curving passage orientated ENE-WSW. This was blocked at one end (Anon 1896, 421-2; Ball 1906, 4, 36; Price 1940, 123).

Both 11 and 12 are on the Cannonbrook Estate and were incorporated into the landscape design by James Gandon between 1805 and 1858 (Ask about Ireland).

NMI Topographical Files

Collectively known as the topographical files, they provide information on artefacts, their find

Rocque 1760 map, showing the north to south road's original orientation along the Griffeen river, before being diverted around to the northeast through Cannonbrook lands. The site is shown as a field. (SDCC Historical mapping resources).



Notes and sketch of axehead/polished stone from the Natural History Museum files

spots, and any field monuments which have been notified to the national museum. The site is located in the townland of Lucan Pettycannon for which there are currently no recorded finds (Weadick 2021, pers. comm).

An axe fragment (1986:7) was found within the townland of Esker South, circa 300m from the proposed site, within the line of the Lucan Esker, by Dan Magee during works on a drainage channel in 1983. At the time, it was

thought to be one of only 3 Jadeite Axes known in Ireland. However, it has since been re-classified as a polished stone in the Irish Stone Axe Project Database.

Lucan townland has 7 topographical find records, including 2 stone bottles, 1 stone ball, 1 copper alloy latchet brooch, a copper ringed pin, a bone motif fragment and a Gold Henry VI quarter noble (Weadick 2021, pers. comm).

Previous Excavations

Twelve excavations are recorded with 0.7 square kilometres of the proposed site, with the closest located 0.5km from the study area. No previous excavations have taken place within the site's footprint or within 300m of the proposed development area. The outlined site appears from the 16th century to have been green-field or wooded. Any existing structures within the site boundary appear to be modern.

1: 95E0057

Archaeological testing was carried out by Leo Swan on the above site between 24 February to

4 March 1995. No artefacts, features or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed.

2: 96E0066

No archaeology was recorded in this pre-development site assessment.

3: 05E1395

A test excavation was carried out in September 2006 on a proposed residential development site at No. 6 Main Street, Lucan. Four test-trenches were excavated across the site, but no archaeological features were exposed, and no finds recovered.

4: 98E0416

Archaeological trial-trenching was undertaken at a proposed development to the rear of 10 Main Street, Lucan, on 6 September 1998. No features, structures or finds of archaeological interest were uncovered during the testing.

5: 96E0089

An archaeological investigation was conducted at the 19th-century St Andrew's Church, Lucan, on behalf of the parish council, who wished to build an adjacent parochial hall. The area had been a small orchard for the past hundred years.



Excavations (Licensed sites in pink stars, Excavations.ie points in blue) within 0.7km of the proposed development site- Dublin County Heritage Maps (see HeritageMaps.ie)

No archaeological features or artefacts were found in the six intersecting trenches.

6: 02D025+02R041

Visual inspection, magnetometry and EDM-based survey of impact areas took place before the River Griffen Flood Alleviation Scheme. The assessment extended from King John's Bridge to the Griffen's point of confluence with the River Liffey.

7: Jim Higgins/No licence number

Archaeological monitoring took place on the site of a demolished building on the corner of Main Street and The Square, Lucan. No archaeological deposits, features or artefacts were found across the area of the development.

8: E002032

In May 2006, centreline testing for South Dublin County Council and the National Roads Authority, was undertaken prior to the widening of the existing N4 in the townlands of Fonthill, Lucan and Pettycannon (Counties Dublin and Kildare). It uncovered a single small charcoal spread measuring 0.45m by 0.6m. There were no associated finds.

9: 16E0351

Monitoring of groundworks took place over three days in 2016. This involved the removal of

a 1980s thick (0.35m) concrete slab floor, which extended over the ground floor of the internal area of No. 7 and both the late 19th- and 20th-century extensions (in total an area measuring 19.5m by 10m). No archaeology present.

10: 96E0194

Archaeological testing was carried out on the site of Nos 1 and 2 Main Street, Lucan, in July 1996. No archaeological features or artefacts were revealed, and no deposits of archaeological significance encountered.

11: 04E0254

A single trench was excavated in the footprint of the proposed extension No 1 Main Street, Lucan. Three archaeological features were identified. Two of these are likely to relate to 19th-century tenements which would have stood on the site prior to the construction of the bank. The other feature consisted of a clay-bonded foundation, which contained a small fragment of probable medieval pottery, although this may have been intrusive. This foundation would appear to have supported the front wall of a building which would have fronted on to Main Street.

12: 00E0717, SMR 17:21

Monitoring of earth removal and the digging of

Excavations close to the study area

LICENCE	LICENCE HOLDER	ADDRESS	ARCHAEOLOGY	DISTANCE
95E0057	D.L Swan	Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.3km
96E0066	Tim Coughlan	Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.3km
05E1395	John Kavanagh	6 Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.3km
01E0989	Stephen Johnston	Lucan Health Centre	No Archaeology	0.3km
96E0089	Ronan Swan	St Andrews Ch	No Archaeology	0.3km
02D025+02R041	Rex Bangerter	River Griffen	No Archaeology	0.3km
NA	Jim Higgins	Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.3km
E002032	John Channing	The Mall, Lucan	Charcoal Spread	0.3km
16E0351	Niall Colfer	7 Main st, Lucan	Modern Urban	0.3km
96E0194	D.L Swan	½ Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.3km
04E0254	Colm Moloney	Main st, Lucan	Possible Med Foundation	0.4km
00E0717	Finola O'Carroll	Adamstown Road	No Archaeology	0.4km
98E0416	Martin E Byrne	10 Main st, Lucan	No Archaeology	0.4km

small-scale foundations for extensions to Cannonbrook House was carried out due to the proximity (50m west) of the ringfort and souterrain. The area around the house consisted of modern, sandy gravel hardcore deposits, which ran to a depth of 0.7–1m, coming onto bedrock in places. Part of the adjacent hillside was also scarped, exposing 0.4m-deep topsoil, overlying 0.2m-deep natural, stony clays, which covered fractured shale bedrock. Nothing of archaeological interest was recorded.

Architectural Heritage

Two sites of architectural importance exist within 0.3km of the proposed site, the closest of which is located across the road from the proposed entrance. Numerous protected structures and National Inventory of Architectural Heritage recorded sites are located within the village of Lucan, which has a large architectural conservation area. The following are extracts from the NIAH:

1: Gate Lodge 11201136

Detached three-bay single-storey former gate lodge, c.1830, subsequently in use as a house, currently unoccupied. Smooth rendered walls. timber and iron casement windows. replacement timber door. Hipped pantile roof with wide eaves and central chimney stack. Single-storey twentieth-century extension to rear. Channelled ashlar gate piers with cast-iron gates and

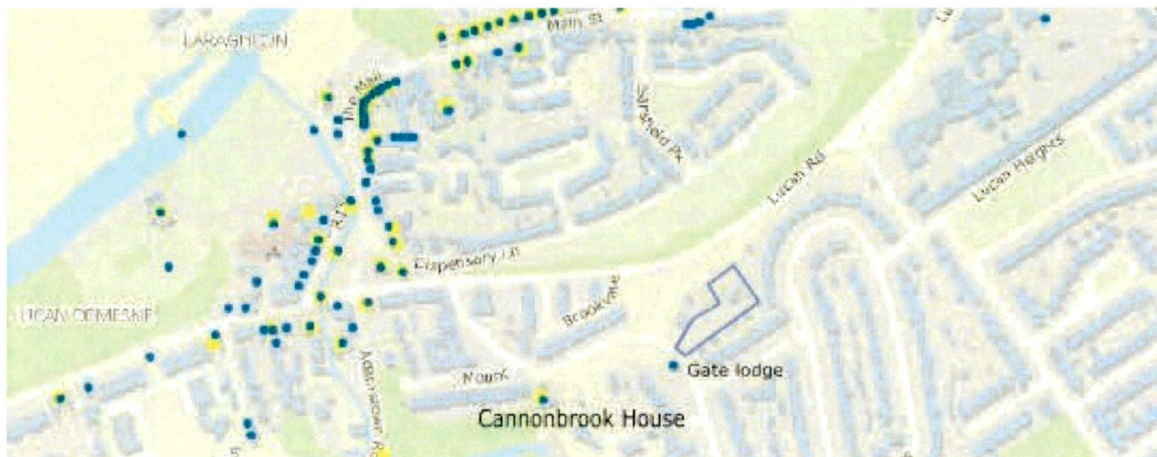
ailings, immediately to north. It is not a protected structure.

2: Cannonbrook House 11201034, PS 091

Detached multiple-bay two-storey over basement house, c.1780s, on an L-plan. Smooth rendered walls with replacement timber sash and uPVC windows. Single original lancet window to east gable. Hipped slate roof to north with single chimney stack to west. Low coursed limestone boundary wall and gate piers to street, buttressed to the northern section. Owned by James Gandon, architect of Four Courts and Custom House until 1823. Clonbrone and Clonard may have originally been part of that estate. It was later owned by George Huband and the Shackleton family.



Above: the house and outbuildings, with sundial, facing south; below: NIAH (blue) & Protected Structures (yellow) in the vicinity of Clonbrone



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Section 3 Geological Heritage

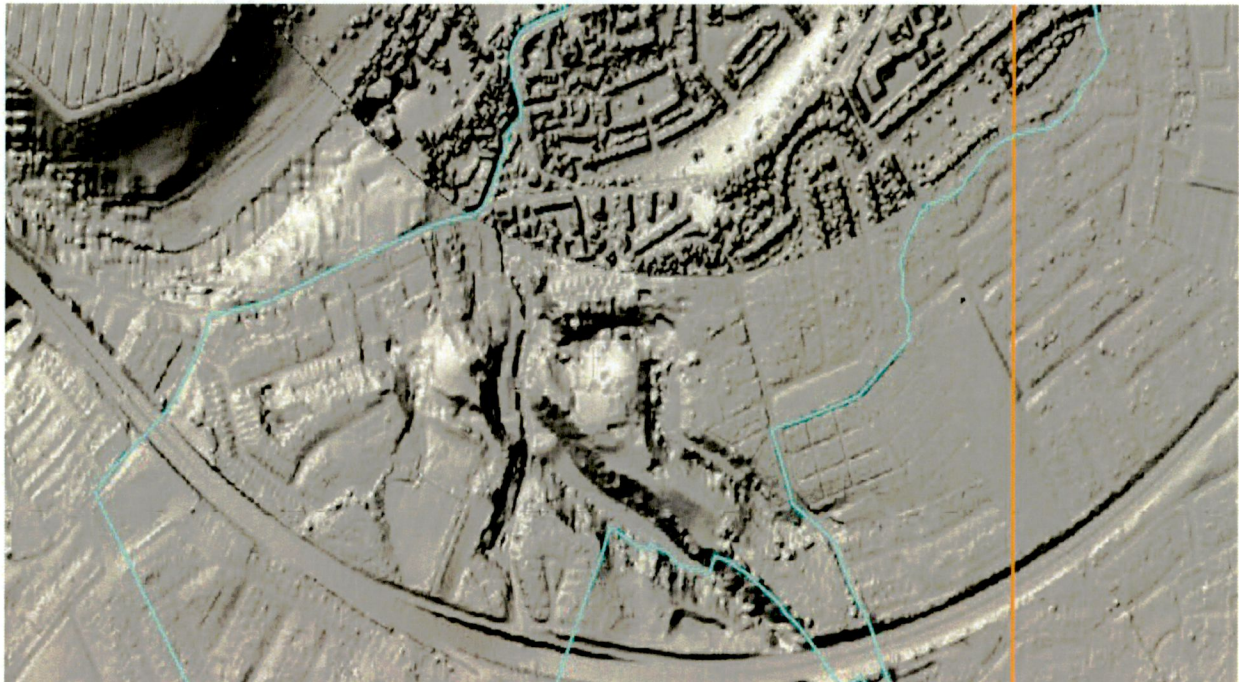
A 2014 audit of the geological heritage of South County Dublin identified the 10 sites, including the Lucan Esker. The County Development plan seeks to protect these sites from potentially damaging development.

The Lucan Esker is part of the Esker Riada, a name given to a collection of eskers that pass through the counties of Dublin, Kildare, Westmeath, Offaly, Leitrim, Longford, Roscommon, and Galway.

The Esker Riada was an important routeway between Ireland's east and west, providing a natural highway through Ireland's bog rich midlands. This gave it the name "An tSlí Mhór" the "Great Way" or the Via Magma.

The Irish name *Eiscir Riada* may be translated as "the divide between two kings", referencing the year 123AD, when according to mythology, Ireland was divided between the two Kings Conn and Mogha, after the battle of Maynooth (Dúchas). At Clonmacnoise, the Esker Riada meets the other great routeway, the Shannon.

The Lucan Esker is composed of a large accumulation of sands and gravels, deposited both under the ice sheet and at its margin, as the ice withdrew north-westwards across west Dublin at the end of the last Ice Age. It is therefore from the Quaternary period, though formed within an area of Lower Carboniferous limestone (Hinch 1921, 139; Hennessy et al 2014; SDCC 2021).



TII LIDAR image of the wider Lucan area, showing the Lucan Esker

Much of the Lucan Esker has been removed by historical quarrying of its constituent sands and gravels, so only fragments of the feature remain intact. Where present, such as at Esker Glebe in Griffeen Valley Park, and at Vesey Park/Esker Lawn cemetery near the Griffeen River, the esker ridge is a striking feature, standing proud of the flat landscape of glacial till or boulder clay upon which it was deposited.

Both localities are comprised of raised, elevated areas of sands and gravels, which might look to be mounds of artificially landscaped ground, but are in fact steep, winding slopes of the original delta for the River Liffey.

As Hermann Geissel notes, Lucan is “replete” with placenames related to the Lucan Esker (2006, 10). The feature is important in a historical and cultural sense in Lucan, as the townlands of Esker North and Esker South, as well as Esker House, Esker Bridge, Esker Cottage and Esker Cemetery, were all named after the Lucan Esker. Several modern-day estates, such as Esker Glebe, and the main arterial route Esker Road, have followed suit, and St. Patrick’s Parish church at Lucan is called Esker Church.

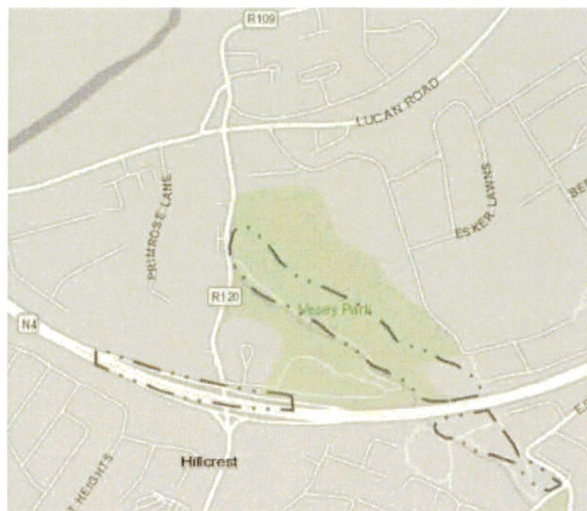
Griffeen Road, oriented northwest to southeast, sits atop the original esker ridge. The esker records the ice movement across this area of

West Dublin. The sands and gravels within the feature are comprised chiefly of limestone clasts. It is a good example of a deglacial, meltwater-deposited feature, with portions deposited under the ice, and portions at the ice margin.

The survival of the Lucan Esker continues the connection of Lucan to Kildare, Athlone and Galway, along what was a vital routeway between the east and the west. Hermann Geissel was able to trace the Esker Riada from Dublin to the west. He was able to trace it easily to Cherry Orchard Hospital in Ballyfermot and then from Ronanstown to take the old road to Lucan, which he describes as “the finest esker roads in the country. The ridge is extremely well defined, too perfectly shaped to be totally natural in its present form and now barely more than the width of the road, running at rooftop level” (Geissel 1999, 23).

He suggests that the high ground at the Spa Hotel and golf course (noting in his 2006 book that eskers are very popular with golf courses) provided the link between the esker and a fording point at Leixlip of the River Liffey.

The study area is located 300m northwest of the limits of the Lucan Esker. The landowner has suggested that the geology of the site based on previous development and gardening work nearby consists of strong Dublin boulder clay.



Outline of the Lucan Esker from the 2022 SDCDP maps



SDCC limits of the Esker in grey, red line showing distance from proposed site to the Esker

Section 4 Cartographic and Historical

'Clonbrone' may be roughly translated as "sorrowful, sad field/pasture/meadow" indicating its probable main use as grazing lands outside the limits of Lucan's main town and perhaps poor nature of the land. However, "bró" means quern or millstone – cloch bhró and cluain is generally meadow or pasture. The presence of a segmented mill stone on the site maybe indicative of the intended meaning.

Clonbrone is situated in the townland of Lucan and Pettycannon, in the civil parish of Lucan. Despite the road name "Esker Hill", it is not on or near the Esker or the Esker townland. The Lucan Esker has been discussed in the previous chapter.

The earliest recorded use of Lucan or Leamhcán may be from 1328 and is first shown on Rocques' 1760 Dublin County map. The name Pettycannon refer to a deed in 1751 referring to the "petty canons and choristers of St Patrick's, a transfer of 17 acres, 22 perches in the Burgage [drough?] fields adjacent to



Down Survey Map 1656-58

Tallaght" (Logaimn). Cartographically, "Lucan and Pettycan(n)on" or "Lucan and Pettycannon land(s)" appear from 1837.

Archaeological finds show evidence of a pre-1100's Viking settlement at Cool Drinagh, Lucan, when excavations in 1995 of a circular mound (barrow) revealed an enclosing fosse



Historic 6 inch/1st edition map, showing the new road cutting through Cannonbrook lands

feature which produced flint flakes and modern pottery. A copper-alloy brooch pin was found at the edge of the mound. The removal of the mound exposed an earlier ditch that produced cremated bone and a funnel-shaped pit complex which produced iron slag and an unidentified iron object (Mullins 1996, 13).

The Manor of Lucan was established after the Norman Invasion in 1169, possibly on a greenfield site close to a ford over the River Liffey (Murphy & Potterton 2010, 194). Initially the lands were awarded to Alard Fitz William by Prince John in c.1185, but ownership changed hands several times over the next four centuries

initially to Werrys or Gwerris Peche, who, though not titled was descended from the 12th century Bishop of Lichfield. The Peche's having purchased Lucan around 1206 may have built King John's Bridge (Healy 2004; Murphy and Potterton 2010, 90, 342, 473).

Roesia de Peche and her husband, John Hanstede held the manor and a park in 1299 (Beglane 2015, 36). A property dispute in the same year noted that Alianora de la Felde had dowry claims to the underwood produced in the park used for "hoops, rods and hafts", which provides evidence of coppicing and ash or elm trees (Beglane 2015, 81–82). Around 1300, land-use in Lucan was dominated by arable crops with only 15% in pasture (Murphy and Potterton 2010, 289). Goats were kept by tenants in upland pastures - two were fined for them in 1444 (*ibid*, 340) but rabbits were highly prized for meat and fur by the Anglo Normans (*ibid*, 344).

The latest existing inquisition post-mortem extent for Lucan, dates to 1358 (National Archives UK ref: TNA:PRO C47/10/22/115). It describes a medieval fishpond, dovecotes, a warren, a garden (or orchard) and 120 acres in burgage in possession of Thomas de Rokeby. There is a record for seven *nativii* or *betaghs* - unfree manorial tenants or laymen - in Lucan, holding 40 acres of land in 1358–59 but having very light customary services (*ibid* 2010, 184, 186). A short manorial court roll 1442-4 for Lucan also survives (Murphy & Potterton 2010, 47, 50, 173).

Between 1470 and 1534, the Kildare FitzGerald's rapidly expanded their influence through alliances, grants, purchases and marriages and secured Lucan and Leixlip (Murphy & Potterton 2010, 103).

Not long after the Norman Conquest, the Sarsfield family, originally from Herefordshire, settled in Ireland. John Sarsfield and both his sons, Patrick, and William held the position of Lord Mayor of Dublin between 1531 and 1560. William Sarsfield received the Manor of Lucan including two castles, two water mills, 50 acres of land and 100 acres of woodland from the Minor Cannons of St Patrick - this again may tie



The remains of King John's Bridge (taken 1930's) said to have had 3 arches and have been constructed between 1199 and 1216

into the Pettycannon townland name.

By 1649, Lucan had grown to a population of around 120 and his grandson, had added to the castle and grounds. However, the family were ejected that year to make way for the Commonwealth nominee, Sir Theophilus Jones.

Following the Restoration and much petitioning to the King, the Sarsfield family returned to the Lucan Estate. In the early 1700s Lucan Castle was occupied by the Vesey family as a result of Charlotte Sarsfield's marriage to Agmondisham Vesey (Mulhall in O'Flynn and Mulhall 1996).

Once widowed, Agmondisham established his rights over the estate by way of an Act of Parliament in 1712. By 1772, his son, also named Agmondisham, started work on a grand new house with the help of English architect Sir William Chambers. Lucan House is now recognised as one of the finest country homes in Ireland.

In 1758 Vesey discovered a sulphur spring alongside the Liffey in Lucan Demesne, starting a period of development and prosperity for the village, attracting new homeowners like Gandon, seeking treatment for his gout (Birdthistle 2013).

Most inhabitants worked on the Lucan estate or

in the collection of mills that had sprung up along the Liffey, producing corn, iron, or linen.

The famine had little effect on Lucan and its population continued to grow, although it is thought that the filled in round hole in the Demesne wall was used for passing out alms to the poor during the time (Bosco 1977).

The Vesey family were major landlords in the area and resided in Lucan House until its sale in 1921.

Clonbrone and Clonard

Clonbrone and Clonard were originally part of the Cannonbrook estate, as seen in the Rocque, 1st and 2nd edition maps where the road was diverted to the northeast and cut through a possible orchard within the estate. A connection with the northern road was re-established via a laneway along the western end of Clonard.

Cannonbrook was purchased by James Gandon, architect in 1805, after his death in 1823, it was owned by George Huband (Birdthistle 2013; Thom's Directory 1836). It was then owned by the Shackleton family, who operated Anna Liffey Mills. Clonard was occupied by mill managers of Anna Liffey Mills (Percy Davis and William Tanham).

Clonbrone may have been constructed for George Shackleton Junior (1872–1956). George was the grandson of George Shackleton (1785–1871), a Quaker who owned a mill in Ballitore, Co. Kildare (still standing; Ireland in Ruins 2021). That mill operated for 40 years before the 18th-century Anna Liffey Mill in Lucan in the Luttrell demesne was purchased in 1860 (OPW/ERM Ireland 2007, 58).

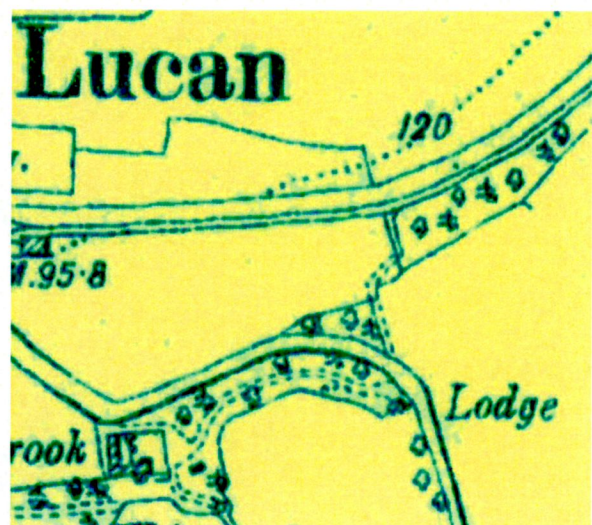
George Snr's son, Joseph Fisher Shackleton, married Jane Wigham Edmundson in Lucan in 1866. Jane was a noted photographer, who developed her photographs in the Mill buildings (McNally 2012). They had six children - three sons operated the Anna Liffey Mills: William Edmundson, George and John Shackleton.

Anna Liffey Flour Mills (RPS 0729; Lower Road, Woodlands, Lucan) was originally a stone driven mill that was converted to a roller mill in the 1880s. The conversions originally involved Henry Simon Ltd. but the mill later moved to Miag Rollers, which still survive intact on the site. The mills were in operation until 1998.

George Shackleton Jr. famously locked out members of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (ITGWU) and reluctantly replaced them with “scab” labour which led to great division and unrest in Lucan and in Jacob's factory, where workers refused to handle the ‘tainted’ scab flour (Durney 2013).

George is listed at Clonbrone in 1837, the same year William Tanham is in Clonard. In 1913; Percy Davis is in Clonard, listed as a commercial clerk with interests in flour milling. Both George and William Tanner are registered as owning a car in 1914 (Irish Motor Directory).

Anna Liffey mills was purchased by Fingal County Council in 2002 and is awaiting an ambitious rescue programme. It is currently used to store the wax cauldrons from Rathborne Candles amongst other items of industrial heritage (Hamond 2000, 1).



3rd edition 1912 map showing road cutting through earlier field boundaries and connection to northern road, SDCC mapping resource

Section 5 Site Inspection

On Monday 13th December 2021, Philippa Barry and Jordan Hanson visited the site at Clonbrone, Lucan. We spoke to the landowner Mr. Eamon Brennan, who informed us of the histories of both the building within the Study Area and the neighbouring structure next door.

Mr. Brennan informed us that the concrete house was constructed in a Swedish architectural style, and was built in the early twentieth century. To the west of this house, a neighbouring structure, Clonard, was constructed a few years later, in the same style, but Clonard burned circa 2000, and was later demolished.

In the past, the front garden area of the house (to the southwest, close to the main road and driveway) had been cultivated with potatoes and other garden vegetables in the small plot. Evidence of the land alteration in this area can be seen, with a linear depression visible on the surface running northwest to southeast.

Today, this area is overgrown and in disuse, with briar and brambles occupying the space. Additionally, earlier imagery from Google Earth shows tree cover in this area as recently as 2020, most of which has been cut down, most noticeably in the north-western garden between 2017–2021.

Mr. Brennan remarked that underlying the topsoil, at a depth of 6ft lies a compact, thick Dublin Boulder clay, running downslope to the northwest, and would be ideal for structural foundations.

Smaller brick structures in the northwest appear to be sunken features, contemporaneous with the house or later, but their purpose was hidden by the overgrowth.

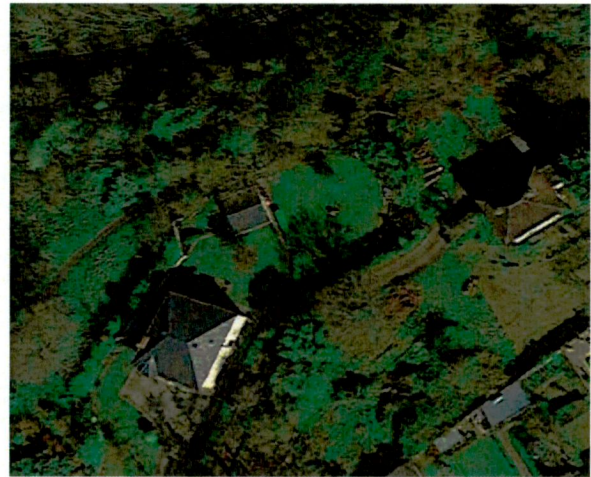
Mr Brennan advised that Clonbrone was originally occupied by George Shackleton, Jr in 1931 and that Clonard was occupied by managers of the Anna Liffey Mill.

4th Edition 1938 map showing the 1st mapped structures on the site, with houses marked at Clonbrone and Clonard - Clonbrone retains much of the original layout including the garage. A field division has been removed along with a possible structure to the west, the lane connection to the northern road seen in the 2nd and 3rd editions remains (SDCC)





A French Buhr segmented Millstone occupies the garden space immediately northwest of the house, and has been recreated as a garden ornament. Burh stones are a French stylistic variation of millstones, which are utilised in milling for grinding wheat. This segmented millstone may be associated with the milling business of the Shackletons. Overlying the segmented millstone is a central vertical granite pillar, which in turn carries a dish-shaped granite platform. See further information in Section 6.



It was noted that the overall Study Area is largely uneven. Small ground depressions inhabit the southern garden area behind the house, while on the opposite side a significant slope runs northwest to the road. The current house is situated between both of these areas on level ground.

From top left: overgrown front garden area, facing west; Clonbrone from Google Earth 2018 top right & 2021 centre; below, view of trees to be retained on downwards slope facing north; bottom left, Northwest garage structure with sunken features on left, gravel path and brick sett is consistent with 3rd edition map



Section 6 Impact Assessment

Archaeological Potential

Despite limited archaeological potential on the site, there is risk of below ground archaeological remains due to the lack of disturbance site over the last 400 years. There no above-ground evidence of archaeological features on the site and the closest excavations have not found archaeology. The nearest monuments are 300m away but suggest local early medieval occupation.

There is one ex-situ feature of Industrial Heritage on the site, possibly installed by George or more likely Richard, Shackleton in the years following the conversion of Anna Liffey Mills to rollers in the 1880s. Confirmation that they are French Buhr Stones has been provided by Niall Colfer and Fred Hamond (pers. comm.).

When we pointed out that the "sundial" had milling origins, Mr Brennan undertook his own research and found that it is one of series of objects created by Mr Laddie Birnie, a former employee of Hills Mills (1860–1988) who passed away some years ago. Mr Birnie, a recipient of the Benemerenti medal, was responsible for repairs in the mills, championed by Dick Shackleton who even brought people

The segmented mill stone and possible grinding stone in use as a garden ornament



from England to view his works, some of which are found at Anna Liffey House. Mr Birnie was described to Mr Brennan as "a genius with his hands". There is one sundial at Cannonbrook House and two others in Birnie family properties according to Mr Birnie's brother and fellow Benemerenti recipient, Billy. Amongst others, Mr Brennan contacted Mary Mulhall and Owen Shackleton.

Geological Potential

The site is situated approximately 300m from the Esker Ridge, which is an important element of geological and historical heritage. However, despite nearby townland and housing estate names, the site is outside its limits, on a low ridge overlooking the Lucan Road.

One of the sundials attributed to Laddie Birnie, found at Anna Liffey House, photographed by Eamon Brennan - note "R. Shackleton" at the base.



South Dublin County Council 2021 (Minogue and Associates with Aegis Archaeology, Michael Cregan and Geoscience Ltd) Landscape Character Assessment of South Dublin County, Draft Appendix 9 for the Draft South County Development Plan 2022–2028

Thompson, S. 2015 'Buildings at Risk: Race to stop Shackleton Mill grinding to a halt'. The Irish Times. September 29, 2015. <https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/homes-and-property/buildings-at-risk-race-to-stop-shackleton-mill-grinding-to-a-halt-1.2371082>

Went, A .E. J. 1954 Fisheries of the River Liffey. *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* **84**, 41-58.

Online resources

South Dublin County Libraries Online Image Archive
<http://source.southdublinlibraries.ie/>

Ireland in Ruins, 2021 Ballitore Mill Co Kildare:
<http://irelandinruins.blogspot.com/2021/05/ballitore-mill-co-kildare.html>

Irish Motor Directory 1914-1915 https://www.lennonwylie.co.uk/IrishMotorDirector1914_5.htm

"The Schools' Collection, Volume 0793, Page 284"
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Logaimn.ie

<https://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/history-heritage/architecture/pre-1850-houses-in-south-/lucan/>

South Dublin Historical Mapping:
<https://sdublincoco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e0c5595b033341dea7661e248d2e9ee9> -

