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**Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for a site at  
Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare**

Client  
Kildare County Council

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES UNIT

ITM: 672977, 712555

RMP Nos: KD022-029001-

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22 November 2023

ACSU Ref.: 23141

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## PROJECT DETAILS

Project	Proposed Development site at Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare
Report Type	Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment
Archaeologist	Magda Lyne
Client	Kildare County Council
Site	Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare
Townlands	Kildare
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0	22/11/23	Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	Final	M.L	L.C	DM

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of a cultural heritage impact assessment carried out for a site at Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare (ITM 672977, 712555). The site is in the townland of Kildare, measures c. 0.5 hectares, and lies adjacent to and east of Station Road. The assessment was undertaken on behalf of the client to accompany the planning application for a proposed residential development. It was carried out in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and suggest suitable mitigation. The purpose of this survey was to assess whether or not the site contained any evidence for the presence of previously unrecorded areas or features of historical, built heritage or archaeological significance.

The site contains no Recorded Monuments, however it is located within the zone of archaeological potential associated with Kildare Historic Town (KD022-029001-) and potentially adjacent to or within the ecclesiastical enclosure (KD022-029058-). The site is located outside of the Architectural Conservation Area for Kildare town and contains no Protected Structures as listed in the *Kildare County Development Plan 2023 – 2029*. Two buildings adjacent and to the north of the site are listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Saint Conleth's House (NMI Reg. No. 11817117) and Kilmore House (NIAH Reg. No. 11817098).

The cartographical and aerial imagery were examined as part of the assessment. The site has been shown as two fields since the mid-18th century. On the 1757 Rocque map, the southwest field is labeled *Gleabe*, with a building shown along Newgent Street within the site; the northeast is illustrated as under crop. The 1798 Sherrard map shows a row of four buildings along the street. By the time of the 1872 Ordnance Survey map of Kildare town one of these buildings is labelled *Forge*. By the 1908 O.S. map adjacent to the site is a building labeled Kilmore and Tourville. It appears the site was used as a pasture but was left to grow over by 2013. A site inspection found the site to be overgrown, bounded by modern and stone walls associated with adjacent gardens, with a concrete field boundary wall separating the two fields and a row of probable Victorian-era cottages facing Station Road.

The assessment concludes that the site is considered to be of very high archaeological potential due to its location within Kildare Historic Town (KD022-029001-) and potentially adjacent to or within the ecclesiastical enclosure (KD022-029058-). The southwest boundary of the site is on the suggested alignment of one of the proposed lines of the outer ecclesiastical enclosure associated with the monastic site (KD022-029002-). The actual alignment of the outer enclosure remains tentative, however. Parallel early medieval ditches exposed in 2018, just to the south of the junction between Priest Lane and Chapel Hill suggest that the enclosure might have encompassed a larger area. Furthermore, the southern field and Lourdesville area are depicted as Gleabe land as late as 1798. Consequently, it is likely that the lands were historically not in private ownership and were fully within the ecclesiastical site. This could mean that a portion or entire site might be within the outer ecclesiastical enclosure. The site has not been previously developed, suggesting the site has the potential to contain undisturbed previously unrecorded subsurface features or deposits of an archaeological nature. Any groundworks associated with the proposed development have the potential to impact archaeological remains if present. The site is heavily overgrown and was found to not be suitable for geophysical survey. Furthermore, the row of buildings along Station Road could contain older fabric associated with buildings depicted at this location on the 1757 and 1798 maps.

It is recommended that any proposed development be subject to further archaeological mitigation and include:

- test trenching in advance of any future development
- photographic record of the outside and inside of the cottages prior to demolition
- monitoring of demolition of the buildings in order to ensure preservation by record of any older fabric if present

This should be carried out by an experienced, licence – eligible archaeologist in line with a method statement submitted to and approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage..

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for a proposed residential development at Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare (ITM 672977, 712555; Figures 1–2). The site is in the townland of Kildare, measures c. 0.5 hectares, and lies adjacent to and east of Station Road. It consists of two fields, both heavily overgrown. The very west extent of the site is occupied by a row of houses facing Station Road. The site is bounded by rear gardens of residential dwellings and a petrol station.

The assessment was undertaken on behalf of the client to accompany a planning application for a proposed residential development. It was carried out in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site and suggest suitable mitigation measures. The purpose of this survey was to assess whether or not the site contained any evidence for the presence of previously unrecorded areas or features of historical, built heritage or archaeological significance.

## 2. THE DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 Proposal

It is proposed to develop the site for housing.

### 2.2 Methodology

A desk-based impact assessment was undertaken by completing a literature review and consultation of various sources, including mapping and photography. This included assessing the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), which are compiled and updated by the National Monuments Service and the National Historic Properties Service, of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The RMP is comprised of manuals that list all known archaeological sites and monuments in a county, with accompanying maps (based on Ordnance Survey (OS) six-inch maps) locating these sites. All sites included in the RMP are protected under the National Monuments Acts (1930–2004). The SMR consists of all records stored in the Archaeological Survey of Ireland national database and is presented in the Historic Environment Viewer, which also includes sites listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. The last published RMP for County Kildare is dated 1996, and as such, many of the sites listed in the SMR are scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP. Notably, however, all SMR sites within the area under consideration are also RMP sites.

The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland were also consulted to assess the area's archaeological potential. These files list, on a townland basis, archaeological artefacts in the care of or known to the museum. Such a record can provide evidence for human settlement or activity in the absence of physical remains or documentary references. The results of previous and ongoing archaeological investigations were also taken into account in order to evaluate the level of archaeological remains coming to light in the area.



Available historical maps, such as those held by the Map Library of Trinity College Dublin, National Library of Ireland and University College Dublin, were consulted, along with aerial photography from the Geological Survey of Ireland and Google Earth. These sources can indicate areas of archaeological potential through features like curving field boundaries, cropmarks and soil marks, and can provide information regarding the nature and extent of recorded archaeological sites that have become denuded since the early 19th century. Historical maps are also useful in identifying other features of cultural heritage significance.

The *Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029* was consulted as this contains a Record of Protected Structures (RPS). Further buildings and features of architectural interest in the area, that may not be included on the RPS, are detailed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH).

In addition to the desktop study, a field inspection was carried out, which sought to identify current and previous land use and to locate any features of archaeological or architectural heritage potential or items of cultural heritage interest on the site.

### 3. CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

#### 3.1 Topography

The site is located in Kildare town, and consists of two overgrown fields.

The site has an elevation of between 102 – 104 OD. The underlying geology consists of nodular & muddy limestone & shale. The limestone is described as belonging to the Boston Hill Formation (Geology Survey of Ireland). Above the bedrock is a made ground.

#### 3.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site is located in Kildare on lands adjacent to and east of Station Road. It lies within the townland of Kildare (<https://www.logainm.ie/25860.aspx>) in the Barony of Offaly East and the Civil Parish of Kildare. Kildare gives its name to a county, town, civil parish and a townland. It was mentioned as Cill Dara in 525, and noted in historical sources frequently thereafter, with the name Kildare recorded in 1297.

An examination of the Placenames Database of Ireland ([www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie)) can reveal important information about the natural and cultural heritage of an area. Kildare townland (Cill Dara) was first mentioned in 525 as Cill Dara (Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland by the Four Masters I-VII, ed. J. O'Donovan) and can be translated as 'church of oak'. The Down Survey of County Kildare 1657 depicts Kildare as a sizable civitas. The site is located within the zone of the archaeological potential of Kildare historic town (KD022-029001-).

The site subject to assessment consists of two overgrown fields. It is located to the northeast of the core of the ecclesiastical site (KD022-029002-). The core of the ecclesiastical site stood on or near the surviving Cathedral (D022-029005-), high

cross (KD022-029021-) and round tower (KD022-029020-) in the graveyard (KD022-029003-). The cathedral replaced a church of oak, that, according to Cogitosus (SMR file), stood beside St. Brigid's early-6th century monastery. The monastery was founded for nuns originally and became a double monastery under an abbess for the convent with monks under an abbot or bishop.

Three enclosures surrounding the ecclesiastical site are suggested for Kildare; an innermost, inner and outer. The wall of the graveyard represents the innermost enclosure approximately; surrounding it is the inner enclosure, hinted by the curvilinear nature of some streets that may reflect the lines of the early monastic enclosure, while the outer enclosure encompasses a much larger area, including both church and castle precincts as well as the majority of the lands of the latter walled town. The full extent of the outer enclosures remains largely unknown; however, a number of suggested extents have been stipulated. Swan (1985) implied that an area of about 6 hectares was enclosed by about 280 meters in diameter enclosure. This would suggest an enclosure along White Abbey Road, Priest Lane, and the southern portion of Station Road, joining at Claregate Street. Andrews (1986) suggests that this could have been a larger area, as it would bring Kildare's twelve approach roads close together, with many tenements that preserved a strip-like form suggesting Anglo-Norman influence. It was suggested that the sections of the outer enclosure could have been along the Bohereenagore and Shraud to the north of the site, while the southern edge could extend as far as Meadow Road. More recently, the line of the outer enclosure was suggested in Kildare Town Walls, Conservation, Interpretation and Management Plan (2014) as encompassing a smaller area that differs from Swans and Andrews. The inner enclosure follows largely Swans. The outer enclosure, with its southern, western and eastern extent is shown as following closely with the town defences, while the northern seems to be implied along Priest's Lane and to the north of Lourdesville Road, suggesting that the southwestern boundary of the current site forms its extent.

The outer enclosure can take the form of ditches or banks, enclosing less exclusively sacred land. These can be very large or more symbolic. Cogitosus reported (after Andres, 1985) that the suburbs have been marked out with a clear boundary. Two parallel early medieval ditches were recorded by Taylor (2020) during monitoring. These were dated to the 7 – 8<sup>th</sup> century (see Section 3.4 for details) and appear to be more in alignment with the middle enclosure outline predicted by Swan. The area of Lourdesville and a portion of the current site are depicted as Gleabe land, suggesting these were not in private hands historically and might have been enclosed by the outer enclosure. In the absence of evidence, the line of the outer enclosure remains speculative, and the assessment of the site, which was largely not subject to any groundworks, might aid in determining the extent of the boundary of the ecclesiastical site along its north-east quadrant.

## Kildare Town

Kildare Town is located on the western fringes of a fertile drift-covered limestone ridge, on the western limits of the agriculturally productive areas of the central plain. The town is in the watershed between the Rivers Liffey and Barrow, east of the peat bogs of the upper Barrow basin and west of the Curragh of Kildare.

The earlier name for the town was Druim Craig, denoting the ridge on which the town is built. The placename, Kildare or Cill Dara, means the church or cell of oak or the oak tree, although there were likely earlier pagan roots to the settlement. The oak is thought to mark a pagan shrine. The first reference to Kildare is in AD 520, it was mentioned in Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland by the Four Masters.

St Brigid founded a monastery there for nuns in the early fifth or sixth century at the dawn of Christianity in Ireland. The foundation developed as a double monastery, with nuns under an abbess and monks under an abbot or bishop; they were in separate residential buildings but with common worship areas, though sexes were separated in the church by a screen (Gwynn and Hadcock 1988, 320). In the twelfth century, Geraldus Cambrensis recorded the still-held tradition of the perpetual flame at the shrine to St Brigid.

The monastery appeared to be influential in early Irish politics, with alliances to the Uí Failgi and the Uí Dúnainge (later Kings of Leinster), and claims in the seventh century by Cogitosus as a 'Treasury of Kings' (Andrews 1986). The various annals record sequences of bishops, abbots and abbesses as well as the numerous destructions and burnings suffered at the hands of faction dynasties.

Kildare had strong connections to the Uí Cennselaigh, a dominant Leinster family (Gwynn and Hadcock 1988, 83). In the early twelfth century, Kildare became one of the five Episcopal sees of Leinster signifying the growing importance of the town. Kildare was a manorial settlement of the de Clare / Marshall family at the end of the twelfth century; this transferred to the de Vesci family.

County Kildare was formed by King John in 1210 along with the counties of Dublin, Louth, Meath, Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford. Kildare was formed from the ancient Gaelic territories of Carbury, Offelan, Omurethi and Ophaley. By 1216, the town was referred to as a borough, with burgesses mentioned in 1297. By then, the town of Kildare could boast a fine castle, a cathedral, Franciscan and Carmelite friaries, and a further church and hospital. It had passed to the FitzGeralds by 1319. During the fourteenth century, John FitzGerald was created Earl of Kildare and the association with the FitzGerald family continues to the present day. Throughout the middle ages, the principal function of Kildare was that of a market town, with milling being one of its main activities (Thomas 1984).

The earlier pre-Norman medieval layout would have consisted of an inner perimeter enclosure around the monastery and a circular outer enclosure around the settlement, possibly as far as Market Square to the southeast and Priest's Lane to the northwest (Andrews 1986, 2). Although there is a record of a murage grant in 1515, Kildare is not listed as a walled town in the description of Ireland in 1598 and no maps survive from the seventeenth century survey of the town. However, the circuit of the walled town can be estimated through a combination of placenames and street pattern cartographic evidence. The cathedral stands in the northern quarter of the medieval town plan according to Thomas. The line of the town wall would have extended from the cathedral perimeter wall, west to Fire Castle, then south to Clare Gate along the Black Ditch, and east to White Gate and the site of the castle. The park was probably originally the castle bailey. The northeastern wall extends from the park to join Ellis Gate; it then extends from this gate to the cathedral perimeter wall, to the north of Market Square and through the site (Thomas 1984).

Kildare failed to develop in the medieval period and was used by neither the Marshalls nor the FitzGerald as their centre. Its location was unsuitable; it had no river access, and it was vulnerable to attack, being at the southwest edge of the Pale close to the uncolonised Bog of Allen. Nonetheless, it was the recorded meeting place of parliaments in 1276-7 and 1310, and in 1599 Kildare was referred to as a city. The nunnery too declined after the Anglo-Norman conquest but continued until the general suppression of religious establishments under Henry VIII (Thomas 1984; Gwynn and Hadcock 1988).

### 3.3 Record of Monuments and Places

The site contains no Recorded Monuments, however it is located within the zone of archaeological potential associated with Kildare Historic Town (KD022-029001-). The line of town defences (KD022-029009-) is c. 70m to the south of the site, with the location of the Ellis Gate suggested to the south of the junction of Station Road/Dara Park. The town wall constructed after 1515 encompassed a number of monuments associated with the historic town. These include a cathedral (KD022-029005-) built on the site of the pre-norman church of Kildare, a graveyard (KD022-029003-) with a round tower (KD022-029020-) and a high cross (KD022-029021-) as well as a number of associated monuments. Furthermore, ecclesiastical enclosure (KD022-029058-) surrounding the ecclesiastical site (KD022-029002-) is recorded, and while the precise location of the early monastery is unknown, it likely stood near the Cathedral.

These descriptions are derived from the National Monuments Service Archaeological Survey Database (<https://heritagedata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/>).

Table 1: List of onsite and nearby monuments recorded in the Record of Monuments and Places

KD022-029001-	Historic town
<p>On a low ridge at the W-edge of the Curragh. According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 3, 196-265), the name Kildare is derived from Cill Dara, 'the church of the oak', a tree which, according to the 7th century writer Cogitosus, stood beside St. Brigid's early-6th century monastery (KD022-029002-). The Annals of Clonmacnoise record that in 1012, 'all the Town of Kildare was burnt by a thunderbolt but one house', suggesting a secular, urban-type settlement had developed in association with the monastery. A borough was established at Kildare before 1176, and became the principal manor of Strongbow's Lordship in north Leinster, and the earliest fortification may have been a motte (KD022-029025-). By the end of the 13th century, Kildare contained a castle (KD022-029004-), a cathedral (KD022-029005-), and both Franciscan (KD022-029006-) and Carmelite friaries (KD022-029007-). A parliament was held there in 1309-10. In 1316, John Fitzthomas, newly created earl of Kildare, was granted the town and castle. Bradley et al (op. cit., 199) suggest a population of about 1,000 in the town in the early-14th century. In 1515, the town received a new charter, and a weekly market and burgesses were licensed to enclose the town with walls and a fosse (KD022-029009-). It was the scene of an engagement in 1598, during the Nine Years War, when it was so badly damaged that it was described by Fynes Moryson (1907, ii, 351) as, 'altogether disinhabited'. The cathedral was ruined and roofless in 1604, and a number of properties were described in 1607 as 'ruinous' or 'lately burned'. However, the town recovered to become an important garrison site during the Confederate War of 1641-53. Around 1659, the Census of Ireland noted a population of 359 (Pender 1939, 395). (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 320; Orpen 1911-20, 374-381; Gilbert 1884, ii, 339) Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 19 January 2012                      Six-Inch First edition: 'Kildare'                      Six-Inch Latest edition: 'Kildare'                      ITM Coordinates: 672875 , 712351</p>	

Latitude and Longitude: 53.156666 , -6.910375	
<b>KD022-029009-</b>	<b>Town defences</b>
<p>According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 3, 213), a charter of 1515 authorised the burgesses of Kildare to enclose the town with a stone wall and a fosse, for which a murage grant was provided. Thomas (1992, 125) suggests that that grant, '... made a few years after the death of the "great earl" of Kildare but during the lord deputy-ship of his son, may therefore have been to restore an existing but decayed wall, or else to upgrade a simple earthen enclosure.' While the existence of a murage grant is not proof positive that defences were either constructed or repaired at that date, Kildare's frontier location strongly suggests that town defences were a necessity, unless the strong Anglo Norman castle (KD022-029004-) was deemed sufficient to meet any threat. No visible physical evidence for the morphology of the town defences survives, and any description is based on, mainly later, historical sources, and any suggested town wall course is conjectural. The earliest reference to town gates only occurs in the later-17th century, when, in 1674, three gates are mentioned; Clare Gate, Ellis Gate and White Gate, and a Fire Castle, which may also have formed part of the defences. The Clare Gate was situated on Claregate Street on the W side of the town (PRONI D 30378/2/3/5), and is indicated on Roque's 1757 map. Bradley et al.'s mapping (op. cit. 213, Fig. 85) suggests a location at c. ITM E 672649 N 712438. Ellis Gate was probably located on Station Road, on the highest point of the ridge at the NE side of the town. Bradley et al.'s mapping (op. cit. 214, Fig. 85) suggest a location at c. ITM E 672912 N 712480. White Gate was located on the E side of the town on Dublin Street, possibly just SSE of the Anglo Norman castle (KD022-029004-). Bradley et al.'s mapping (op. cit. 214-5, Fig. 85) suggests a location at c. ITM E 672953 N 712333. The Fire Castle is shown on Rocque's 1757 map, to the W of the Cathedral (KD022-029005-) and may have formed part of the town defences. Bradley et al.'s mapping (op. cit. 213-4, Fig. 85) suggests a location at c. ITM E 672673 N 712536. It's likely there was a S gate, possibly near the S end of Bride Street. Bradley et al.'s mapping (op. cit. 213-4, Fig. 85) suggests a location at c. ITM E 672809 N 712232. Besides the town gates, Rocque's map records 'Black Ditch or Cleamore Street' as the old name for Academy Street, which suggests the town's SW defences ran along this line, between Clare Gate at W and a S gate. Thereafter, the defences would have followed a line possibly running E from a S gate before turning N to the White Gate and on to the NNW to Ellis Gate, then, skirting N of the Cathedral, back around to the Clare Gate, via Fire Castle. (Andrews and Simms 1986; Horner 1975-6, 480-84) Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 24 January 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: Not indicated Six-Inch Latest edition: Not indicated ITM Coordinates: 672875 , 712351 Latitude and Longitude: 53.156666 , -6.910375</p>	
<b>KD022-029058-</b>	<b>Ecclesiastical enclosure</b>
<p>According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 3, 216-7), the curvilinear course of some of Kildare town's streets possibly reflects the lines of early monastic enclosures. Their interpretation sees the line of a possible enclosure reflected in the curve of Nugent St., off Market Sq., which continues as a visible cropmark on an aerial photograph to the N of the cathedral (KD022-029005-), while the S-limits of the enclosure might have been formed by the present Claregate St. An outer enclosure line is suggested by the curving course of Priest's Lane, Academy St., St. Brigid's Square and Convent Rd., while the outline of the graveyard (KD022-029003-) may reflect a third, innermost enclosure. Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 8 February 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: Not indicated Six-Inch Latest edition: Not indicated ITM Coordinates: 672789 , 712488 Latitude and Longitude: 53.157909 , -6.911629</p>	
<b>KD022-029002-</b>	<b>Ecclesiastical site</b>
<p>According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 3, 196-265), the name Kildare is derived from Cill Dara, 'the church of the oak', a tree which, according to the 7th century writer Cogitosus, stood beside St. Brigid's early-6th century monastery. Originally founded for nuns, it became a 'double monastery', with nuns under an abbess and monks under an abbot or bishop (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 319-20). The first bishop recorded was Conleth, who died in 520 (Annals of Ulster). Cogitosus' Life of Brigid, written c. 680, describes a large church with many windows, and formal, decorated doors for the nuns and monks, who were separated by a screen running down the centre of the church. The altar was also cut off from the rest of the church by a screen covered with paintings and hangings, and was flanked by the richly ornamented shrines of Brigid and Conleth. The shrines were reputedly carried off by Viking raiders in 835. The monastery was burned</p>	

on a number of occasions between 710 and 1089, (not always maliciously): after one burning, in 1012, The Annals of Clonmacnoise record, 'all the Town of Kildare was burnt by a thunderbolt but one house', suggesting a secular, urban-type settlement had developed around the monastery, while after another burning, in 1050, it was noted that both the wooden church (durthech) and the stone church (damhlaig) were destroyed. Kildare's importance was recognised in 1111 at the Synod of Rathbreasil, when it became one of the five episcopal sees of Leinster. The precise location of the early monastery is uncertain, but it almost certainly stood on, or near, the surviving cathedral (KD022-029005-), high cross (KD022-029021-) and round tower (KD022-029020-) in the graveyard (KD022-029003-); while the curvilinear nature of some streets may reflect the lines of early monastic enclosures (KD022-029058-). Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy

Date of upload: 19 January 2011

Six-Inch First edition:

Six-Inch Latest edition: Indicated

ITM Coordinates: 672792 , 712487

Latitude and Longitude: 53.157900 , -6.911584

**KD022-029005-**

**Cathedral**

Near the centre of a graveyard (KD022-029003-), just NW of the Market Sq. According to Bradley et al. (1986 Vol. 3, 217-21), St. Brigid's Cathedral is the successor to the pre-Norman church of Kildare. It consists of a nave and chancel church, with an almost square crossing tower and transepts, built of roughly coursed limestone with ashlar quoins (int dims: nave L c. 23.4m; Wth c. 9.3m; chancel L c. 12.5m; Wth c. 6.8m; tower L c. 6.8m; Wth c. 6.8m; N and S transepts L c. 8.1m; Wth c. 7.5m). The N transept, the greater part of the chancel, the W windows of the nave, and the N, E and W walls of the tower were entirely rebuilt during the restoration begun in 1896, when external buttressing was also added to both nave and chancel. Earlier restorations had also occurred: the cathedral was in ruinous condition in 1223, when it was rebuilt by the first English bishop, Ralph of Bristol (Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 83). The roof was pulled down in 1588 and the tower, chancel and north transept collapsed, possibly due to a failure of the foundations. The choir was rebuilt in 1686 and served as a cathedral until the late-19th century restoration of the entire structure. The chancel is lit by three graded lancets above a blank arcade of trefoil-headed arches with pointed canopies, and the restored N and S walls contain two, opposing lancets. The restored crossing tower rises from square piers with centrally attached shafts, and high pointed arches open into the nave, chancel and transepts. Access to the upper floors is via a spiral stairs in a modern octagonal turret at the angle of the nave and N transept. First floor-level was the belfry stage and is lit by two pointed windows in each wall. Second floor-level is marked by an external string course supported on small corbels, above which the walls are stepped-in slightly, and is lit by three small pointed windows with chamfered granite jambs in each wall. A stepped parapet supported on a drainage course is attributed by Leask (1960, 89) to repairs mentioned in 1395. The nave's N and S walls are each supported externally by six, evenly spaced buttresses joined at the top by pointed arches to form arcades of six bays, five of which frame a lancet, with the two others framing opposing doorways to W of centre of the nave. The W gable wall is buttressed at the N and S ends, and now contains three modern, graded lancets. The N transept was entirely rebuilt in the late-19th century, closely modelled on the S transept and is lit by three lancets in each wall. The S transept contains the main entrance to the church in its E wall; a modern pointed doorway inserted into an earlier, large, pointed arch. A gable line above the door supports Leask's suggestion (1960, 89) that there was a chapel projecting from each transept. The S transept is lit by three graded lancets in the S wall, and traces of three narrow, pointed lancets survive in the W wall which were superseded by two modern lancets. Some 21 decorated, line-impressed, square (L 0.12m; Wth 0.12m; T 0.025m), orange coloured medieval floor tiles were found in the Cathedral. Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 19 January 2012

Six-Inch First edition: 'St. Brigid's Cathedral'

Six-Inch Latest edition: 'St. Brigid's Cathedral'

ITM Coordinates: 672798 , 712481

Latitude and Longitude: 53.157845 , -6.911496

**KD022-029020-**

**Round tower**

In the NW sector of a graveyard (KD022-029003-), c. 30m NW of St. Brigid's Cathedral (KD022-029020-). According to Bradley et al. (1986 Vol 3, 222), the base and lower courses of the tower are built of evenly coursed granite blocks, with roughly coursed limestone blocks above (H. 32.6m; diam. 5.3m). There are seven floors; five supported on corbels, with the third and sixth on offsets. The red sandstone Romanesque doorway faces SE (H. above ground level 4.6m), and is of four orders (the outermost order is modern) with a gable above. The ornament includes chevrons, rosettes and foliation. There are narrow pointed splayed windows on the second, third, fourth and fifth floors, and five windows, each

<p>partially blocked at the base, on the top floor. Battlements were added in the 18th century. (Fitzgerald 1891-5, 76, 86-91; De Paor 1967, 137; Barrow 1979, 118-122) Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 24 January 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: 'Round Tower'</p> <p>Six-Inch Latest edition: 'Round Tower'</p> <p>ITM Coordinates: 672747 , 712516</p> <p>Latitude and Longitude: 53.158166 , -6.912251</p>	
<b>KD022-029003-</b>	<b>Graveyard</b>
<p>Just NW of the Market Sq. A sub-rectangular area (est. dims. L c. 115m E-W; Wth c. 65m N-S), enclosed by a mortared stone wall, which, according to Bradley et al (1986 vol. 3, 216), may have formed the innermost enclosure (KD022-029058-) of St. Brigid's monastery (KD022-029002-). Contains a high cross (KD022-029021-), a round tower (KD022-029020-), St. Brigid's Cathedral (KD022-029005-), numerous architectural fragments, and burials dating up to modern times. To the NE of the cathedral are the footings of two walls, possibly the mortuary chapel of the Leigh family. Immediately to the E of the cathedral is a small, rectangular barrel-vaulted structure (E-W L 4.3m; Wth 3.1m) with wicker centring, which originally would have stood above ground level, with a lintelled, internally splaying ope in the S wall. To the E of the cathedral, and N of the barrel-vaulted structure, is a small, rectangular, subterranean, stone-roofed chamber (L 1.5m; Wth 1.4m), possibly the remains of a burial vault. Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 19 January 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: 'Grave Yard'</p> <p>Six-Inch Latest edition: 'Grave Yd.'</p> <p>ITM Coordinates: 672790 , 712489</p> <p>Latitude and Longitude: 53.157918 , -6.911614</p>	
<b>KD022-029021-</b>	<b>Cross - High cross</b>
<p>In the SW sector of a graveyard (KD022-029003-), to the SW of St. Brigid's Cathedral (KD022-029005-). According to Bradley et al. (1986 Vol 3, 224-5), a damaged undecorated, ringed, granite cross-head, the upper portion of which is missing, is carried on a tall, plain, gently tapering granite shaft (H 3m; Wth 0.56m; T 0.31m) on a large, almost square base (H 1.2m; L 1.36m; Wth c.1.33m). Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy date of upload: 24 January 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: Not indicated</p> <p>Six-Inch Latest edition: Not indicated</p> <p>ITM Coordinates: 672761 , 712467</p> <p>Latitude and Longitude: 53.157724 , -6.912052</p>	
<b>KD022-029074-</b>	<b>Burial</b>
<p>In 1990, human remains comprising a skull and skeletal fragments were noticed in the section face of an earthen field boundary. The remains were apparently lying in a depression in the field bank and were associated with some animal bone and a thin stratum of charcoal-like matter. The field to the E contains a green space which is known locally as a burial ground, which consequently has not been developed. (Cahill and Sikora 2011, Vol 2, 483) Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Date of upload: 9 February 2012</p> <p>Six-Inch First edition: Not indicated</p> <p>Six-Inch Latest edition: Not indicated</p> <p>ITM Coordinates: 672782 , 712568</p> <p>Latitude and Longitude: 53.158629 , -6.911716</p>	
<b>KD022-029004-</b>	<b>Castle - Anglo-Norman masonry castle</b>
<p>Stands between Nugent St. to the W and Cox's Lane to the E. Gatehouse on E side of Anglo-Norman polygonal shaped enclosure castle was converted into a tower house in the 15th century which now stands in the car park of the Silken Tomas hotel in Kildare town. According to Bradley et al. (1986 vol. 3, 207-13), the Anglo-Norman castle originally consisted of a curtain-walled, polygonal enclosure (area c. 0.43 hectares) with four towers, and a possible motte (KD022-029025-) at its S-angle. Today only three sides of the polygonal walled enclosure or curtain wall (NW, NE and SE), a gatehouse converted into a tower house and the lower courses of two mural towers (at SW and N) survive above ground. Kildare town was used frequently by Strongbow as a base during the early 1170s, and the castle, which was in existence before 1185 (Curtis 1933-43, i, 4), may have been built by Strongbow himself, rather than the generally accepted builder, William Marshall. Between 1297 and 1299 repairs were carried out to the houses, towers and gates, and a new bakehouse, kitchen and well were constructed (38th PRI rep. DK, 47-48, 102). The castle was sufficiently strong to</p>	

withstand a three-day assault by Edmund Bruce in 1316. In 1331, it was described as having four towers, a chapel and a kitchen. The Anglo-Norman gatehouse was converted into a tower house of 15th century date, with the curtain wall of the polygonal castle acting as the bawn wall for the 15th century tower house. Access to the Anglo-Norman polygonal shaped castle enclosure was through a gatehouse on the SE-side. The gatehouse which today stands in the car park of the Silken Thomas hotel consists of a multi-period rectangular (ext. dims. L c. 11.5m; Wth c. 9.8m) four storey high tower built with rubble limestone with a base batter on the N, E and W walls. The ground level in the enclosed area to the W and NW of the gatehouse is much higher (H c. 3m) than outside to the E, suggesting that a timber gangway must have led up to the rounded entrance in the E wall, which is now infilled with a post-medieval window, with a simple entrance passage beyond, from which a stairs gives access to first floor-level above. This level is lit by a twin-light window in the E wall and a single-light in the W wall, and contains a blocked-off garderobe in the in the SW-angle. A stairs, entered through the N wall leads to second floor-level, which contains a long, intra mural chamber in the N wall, lit at the E and W ends by narrow, square headed windows, by a twin light, round arched window in the N wall, and by a now blocked loop in the NE-angle. A window visible in the outer face of the S wall suggests it too contains a, now blocked up, intra mural chamber. The main second floor chamber is lit by twin light, round headed window in the E wall, and a stairs near the SE angle give access to the parapets and roof area which are modern rebuilds. A substantial, battered, curtain wall (ext. H 5-6m; int H 1.5m; T 1.6m) of Anglo-Norman date, built of rubble limestone blocks, runs off the gatehouse towards the NNE, and its course can be traced counter-clockwise to the SW. A post-medieval water tower stands inside the castle ward to the N of the gatehouse. The interior of the castle ward is today used as a storage yard for Kildare County Council. Only a short portion of the curtain wall can be traced on the opposite, SW side, of the gatehouse, from where it presumably ran SW to the site of the possible motte (KD022-029025-). The curtain wall defence was augmented by three mural towers: one at the SW is named 'Old Tower' on Sherrard's (1798) Map of Kildare, but no visible surface trace survives: remains of a second, rectangular and possibly open-backed tower (max. dims. L 9.8m; Wth 4m; wall T 1.6m), at NW, are incorporated into the rear of Graham's Bakery on the corner of Market Sq. and Station Rd.: remains of a third, open-backed, rectangular tower (dims max. L 8.8m; Wth. could not be determined) survive at NE. (Mac Niocaill 1964, 101). Compiled by: Gearóid Conroy Revised by: Caimin O'Brien Date of revised upload: 23 March 2016

Six-Inch First edition: 'Castle in ruins'

Six-Inch Latest edition: 'Castle'

ITM Coordinates: 672941 , 712419

Latitude and Longitude: 53.157268 , -6.909372

### 3.4 Previous Archaeological Investigations

No previous archaeological investigations were carried out on the site. A number of assessments took place in the environs of the site in Kildare town to the south of the site. To the west of the site, in Chapelhill/Lourdesville, human remains were discovered in 1990. During monitoring (07E0423; Moore, 2008) of landscaping at Lourdesville, human remains were further identified and preserved in situ. More recently, features of archaeological significance were encountered to the west of the site. Test trenching (E005229; C001005; Hession, 2020) carried out at Chapel Lane identified a ditch that follows the line of the Cathedral wall and possibly represents the town defences (KD022-029009). Two ditches that may represent a part of the ecclesiastical enclosure (KD022-029058) were encountered, with further pit type and linear type features recorded.

Previously unrecorded ditches dating between the 7th and 8th centuries were identified during monitoring (18E0329; Taylor, 2020). This was in relation to pipe laying at the junction of Chapel Lane and Priest's Lane. Two parallel, east to west aligned ditches set 7m apart were recorded to the south of the Chapel Lane and Priest's Lane junction. The northernmost ditch measures 1.7m in width with steeply sloping sides at the top. The base was not reached, but it measured 1.2m in depth, maintaining a width of 1.5m. Three fills were visible within the excavated portion of the ditch. The lowest was dark, greyish-brown silty clay containing frequent charcoal inclusions and occasional fragments of animal bone from a medium-sized mammal, sealing it was a light, yellowish brown, clayey sand possibly representing an episode of deliberate backfilling while



the upper fill was dark grey to brown silty clay containing occasional small stone inclusions. The southern ditch was similar. Animal bone retrieved from the northernmost ditch was radiocarbon dated and returned a C14 date cal. AD686 - 799 (UPA - 41076, 1246 BP +/- 31, 2 sigma). Due to location and the dating, these ditches could represent the outer enclosure associated with the monastic site.

Listed below (Figure 2, Table 2) are the investigations located in the environs of the site. The details below are derived from the Summary Accounts of Archaeological Excavations in Ireland ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie))

Table 2: Previous archaeological investigations in the environs of the site

Excavations.ie reference	Licence No.	Site Type	Investigation type
- Kildare, Co. Kildare, Kildare (NMI Burial Excavation Record)	-	Graves of Indeterminate Date	-
2008:665 - Lourdsville, Kildare, Kildare	07E0423 ext.	Burials	Monitoring
2020:524 - Chapel Hill, Kildare, Kildare	E005229; C001005	Medieval ecclesiastical	Test Trenching
2018:754 - Kildare Back Yard Services – Campion Crescent, Lourdesville and Cleamore Terrace, Kildare, Kildare	18E0329	Early medieval ditches	Monitoring

### 3.5 Stray Archaeological Finds

The Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland were reviewed, and 180 finds for Kildare were listed. These are mostly recorded as found in the vicinity of Killdare Barracks, Outskirts of Kildare town and from Vicinity of Kildare town. The latter includes a number of copper alloy buttons, seals, mounts, harness fittings, pendants, silver and copper coins, copper tokens, copper alloy buckles, buttons, badges, whistle, pipe tamper and many more.

### 3.6 Protected Structures & National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

The site is located outside of the Architectural Conservation Area for Kildare town and contains no Protected Structures as listed in the *Kildare County Development Plan 2023 – 2029*. Two buildings adjacent and to the north of the site are listed in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Saint Conleth's House (NMI Reg. No. 11817117) and Kimmore House (NIAH Reg. No. 11817098).

### 3.7 Cartographic Review

A review of available historic mapping for the area was carried out to include the 6-inch 1838 (Figure 4), 1872 Town Map and the 25-inch 1906 (Figure 5) editions of the Ordnance Survey maps. In addition, pre-Ordnance Survey mapping

examined included the Down Survey Map of 1656, the 1757 Rocque plan of Kildare Town, and the 1798 Survey by Thomas Sherrard (Figure 3).

The site has been shown as two fields since the mid-18th century. On the 1757 Rocque map, the southwest field is labelled *Gleabe*, with a building along *Newgent Street*, and the northeast is illustrated as under crop. The 1798 Sherrard map shows a row of four buildings along the street.

By the time of the 1872 Ordnance Survey map of Kildare town, one of the buildings is labelled *Forge* while the street is labelled *Shraud*. By the 1908 O.S. map, the rear gardens of the row of houses are shown extending as far as the southeast boundary of the site, while the north field remains unchanged. Adjacent to the site is a building labelled Kilmore and Tourville. The road is now labelled Station Road as it leads to a train station.

It appears that the southwestern boundary of the site and the alignment of the field boundary dividing the fields has remained unchanged since at least the mid-18th century.

No further monuments of an archaeological nature were identified within the site on examined mapping

### 3.8 Aerial Photography Review

In addition to examining the various editions of the OS maps, aerial photographs dating between 1995 and 2013 from the Ordnance Survey of Ireland were also consulted, along with google aerial imagery dating between 2003 and 2022.

The site remains unchanged since the Ordnance Survey maps. By the 1995 aerial the site was surrounded by the rear gardens of residential dwellings. The field division is very clearly visible on the 1996 - 2000 aerial. It appears it was used as a pasture but was left to grow over by 2013.

No monuments of an archaeological nature were identified within the site on examined aerial imagery.

### 3.9 Field Survey

The purpose of this survey was to assess whether or not the site contained any evidence for the presence of any previously unrecorded areas or features of historical or archaeological significance.

The site was inspected in October 2023 by Billy Sines of Archaeological Consultancy Services Unit Ltd (Plates 1 – 8). The site can be accessed from the northwest off Station Road. A single-storey row of cottages, now boarded up, line the very western extent of the site with some modern extensions at the rear (Plates 3, 9, 10). Each cottage has a chimney in its south gable, modern windows, relatively modern slated roofs and chimneys. Four chimneys, two doors and seven windows, two of which are wide, and a garage door were visible. It appears one of the windows at the north end might have been a former door. The very northern building is a flat-roofed structure with a garage door. A gate leading to the rear is to the north and adjacent to it. The site consists of two fields divided by a modern poured concrete wall (Plate 4). Both fields are overgrown and uneven and not suitable for geophysical survey. The southwest field boundary consists of a low stone wall,

with modern intrusions and gaps apparent. A full and detailed survey of the site was not possible due to the presence of an invasive plant, Japanese knotweed which (see Plates 1 – 3) was prevalent throughout the site and had to be avoided to prevent cross contamination.

#### 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this assessment was to establish whether or not the site contained any evidence for the presence of previously unrecorded areas or features of historical, built heritage or archaeological significance.

There are no Recorded Monuments within the site. The site is considered to be of archaeological potential due to its location within Kildare Historic Town (KD022-029001-). Apart from the existing houses along the street frontage the site has not been previously developed suggesting the site has the potential to contain undisturbed previously unrecorded subsurface features or deposits of an archaeological nature.

The site is considered to be of very high archaeological potential due to its location within Kildare Historic Town (KD022-029001-) and potentially adjacent to or within the ecclesiastical enclosure (KD022-029058-). The southwest boundary of the site is on the suggested alignment of one of the proposed lines of the outer ecclesiastical enclosure associated with the monastic site (KD022-029002-). The actual alignment of the outer enclosure remains tentative, however. Parallel early medieval ditches exposed in 2018, just to the south of the junction between Priest Lane and Chapel Hill suggest that the enclosure might have encompassed a larger area. Furthermore, the southern field and Lourdesville area are depicted as Gleabe land as late as in 1798. Consequently, it is likely that the lands were historically not in private ownership and were fully within the ecclesiastical site. This could mean that a portion of, or the entire site might be within the outer ecclesiastical enclosure. The majority of the site has not been previously developed, suggesting the site has the potential to contain undisturbed previously unrecorded subsurface features or deposits of an archaeological nature. Any groundworks associated with the proposed development have the potential to impact archaeological remains if present. The site is heavily overgrown and was found to not be suitable for geophysical survey.

There is a row of single-storey houses along Station Road and within the very western extent of the site. On the 1757 map, only one house is depicted at this location. It could have represented a mud house, similar to those on Chapel Lane (Plate 11). This house could have been demolished or if it was not a mud house, incorporated into the row of four houses shown by the 1798 map. One of the northern buildings is depicted as *Forge* on the 1872 map, with no houses to the north depicted that were shown on the previous map. By the 1908 map, to the north Kilmore and Tourville buildings are depicted. It is possible that the single-storey cottages occupying the western portion of the site, likely represent Victorian buildings, that could incorporate some elements of the mid-18th and/or the early 19th-century structures shown on the earlier maps. The buildings are simple, with one room each on either side of a central door, with a chimney in their south gable. The extensions at the rear appear to be modern. The buildings could contain older fabric of buildings shown on the 1757 and 1798 maps; consequently, their removal will necessitate mitigation measures.

## 5. DISCUSSION

The site subject to assessment consists of two overgrown fields, with a row of buildings lining Station Road. The majority of the site is largely undisturbed and unchanged in appearance since at least the 1798 map.

The line of the outer enclosure of the monastic site remains unknown in the absence of any further evidence. However, based on the suggested lines of the outer enclosure, the site might be adjacent to and northwest of this boundary, fully within or partially within the enclosure. In the case of the latter, it is likely that the boundary between the two fields demarcating the Gleabe lands as on the 1798 map, could be the line of the enclosure.

In all these cases, and in the absence of archaeological investigation of undisturbed lands in this part of the town, the site is considered to have high archaeological potential that necessitates further archaeological assessment. Unfortunately, the site is too overgrown and uneven to be subject to a geophysical survey.

The buildings occupying the very west portion of the site, along the frontage of Station Road, may represent heavily modified cottages of Victorian date but could also contain older fabric associated with buildings depicted on the 1757 and 1798 maps.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

This assessment was undertaken on behalf of the client in advance of a proposed development at Station Road, Kildare, Co. Kildare.

The assessment concludes that the site is of very high archaeological potential to contain previously unknown archaeological remains, including an outer enclosure boundary if present within the site, and archaeological activity associated with the monastic site due to the sites location and previously undisturbed nature. Any groundworks associated with the proposed development have the potential to impact upon archaeological remains if present. Furthermore, the row of buildings along Station Road could contain older fabric associated with buildings depicted at this location on the 1757 and 1798 maps.

It is recommended that any proposed development be subject to further archaeological mitigation and include:

- test trenching in advance of any future development
- photographic record of the outside and inside of the cottages prior to demolition
- monitoring of demolition of the buildings in order to ensure preservation by record of any older fabric if present

This should be carried out by an experienced, licence – eligible archaeologist in line with a method statement submitted to and approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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### Cartographic Sources

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- Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of 1908 (published 1909).
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- Kildere Town Map 1872
- Rocque map of 1756
- Sherrard 1798

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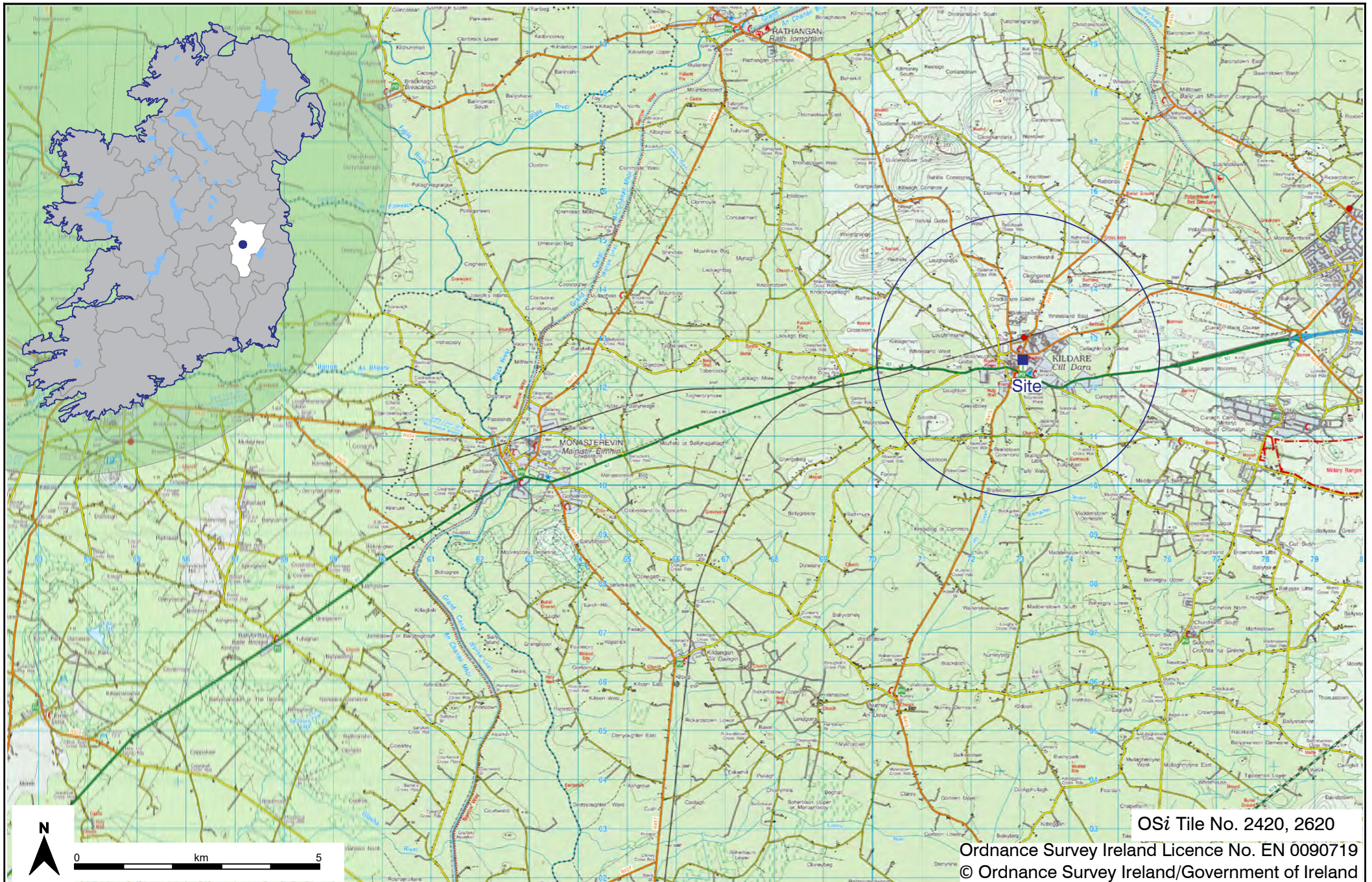
- 2014 *Kildare Town Walls. Conservation, Intepretation and Management Plan* (<https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Heritage/BuiltHeritageArchaeologyandMonuments/IrishWalledTownsNetwork/Kildare%20Town%20%20Conservation%20Interpretation%20%20Management%20Plan.pdf>)
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Record of Monuments and Places (RMP), the Heritage Service, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2. [Historic Environment Viewer \(arcgis.com\)](#)

Summary Accounts of Archaeological Excavations in Ireland ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)).

Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2



**Project** Station Road, Kildare

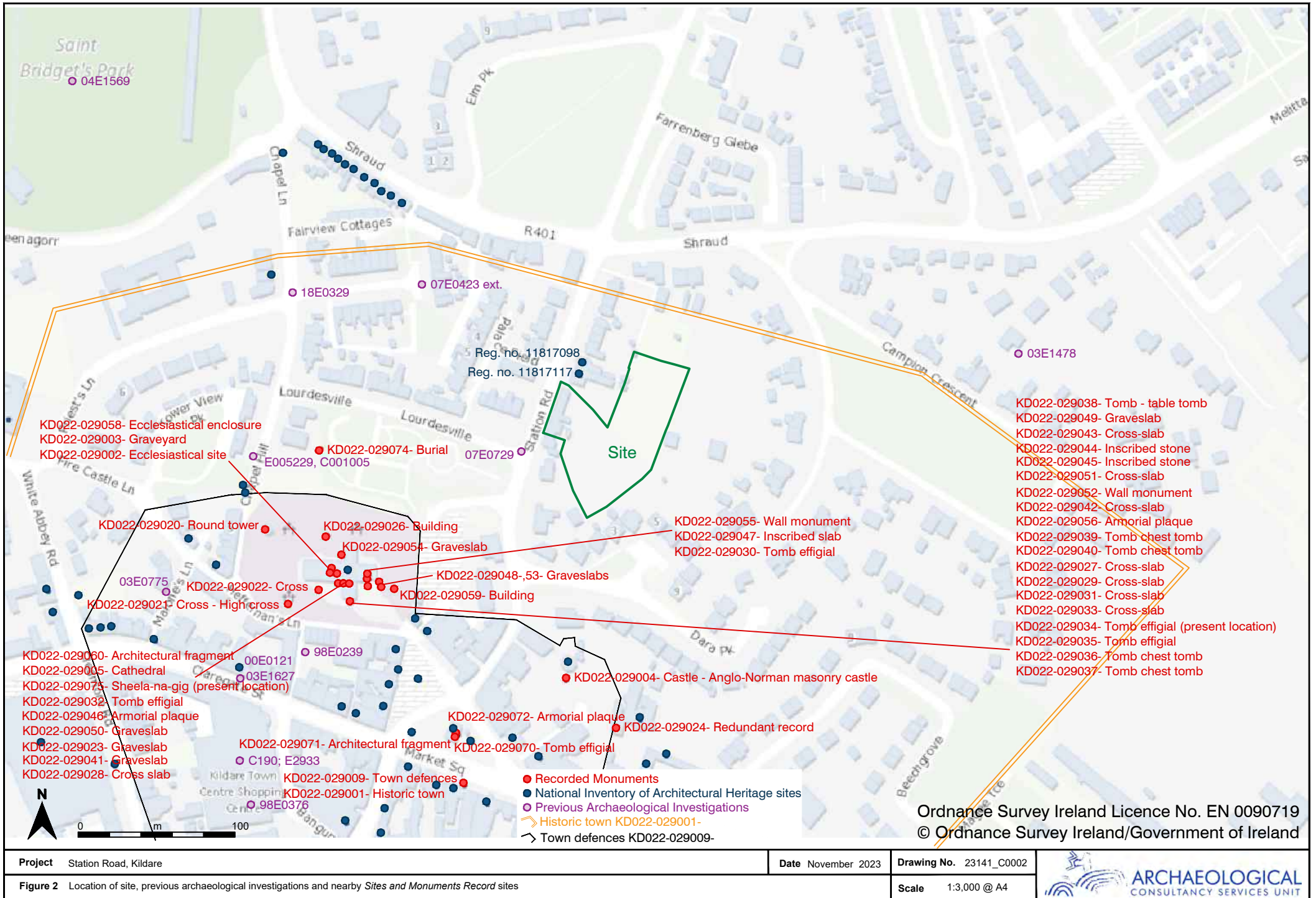
**Date** November 2023

**Drawing No.** 23141\_C0001

**Figure 1** Location of site

**Scale** 1:100,000 @ A4





**Project** Station Road, Kildare

**Date** November 2023

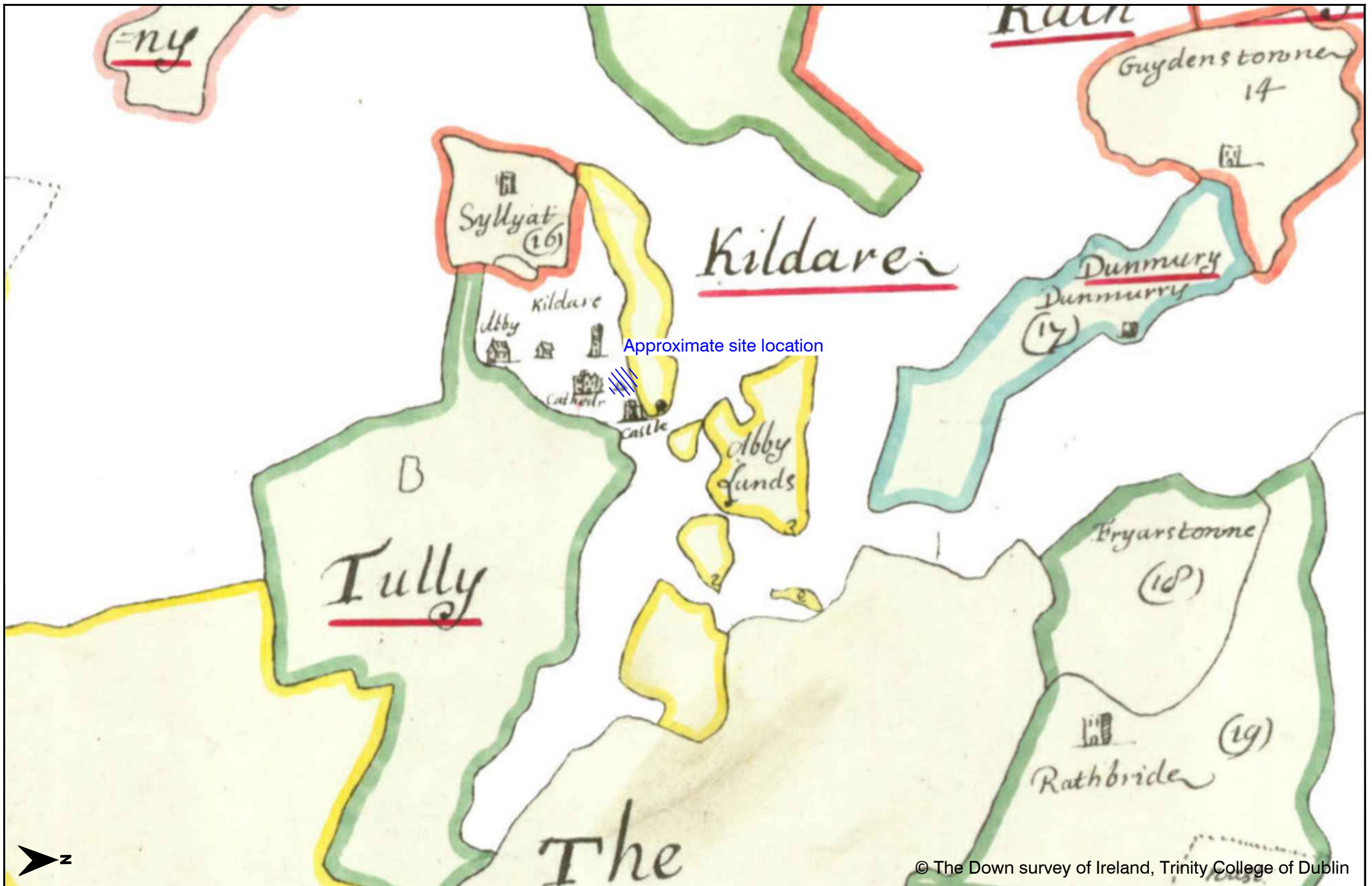
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**Figure 2** Location of site, previous archaeological investigations and nearby Sites and Monuments Record sites


**Scale** 1:3,000 @ A4








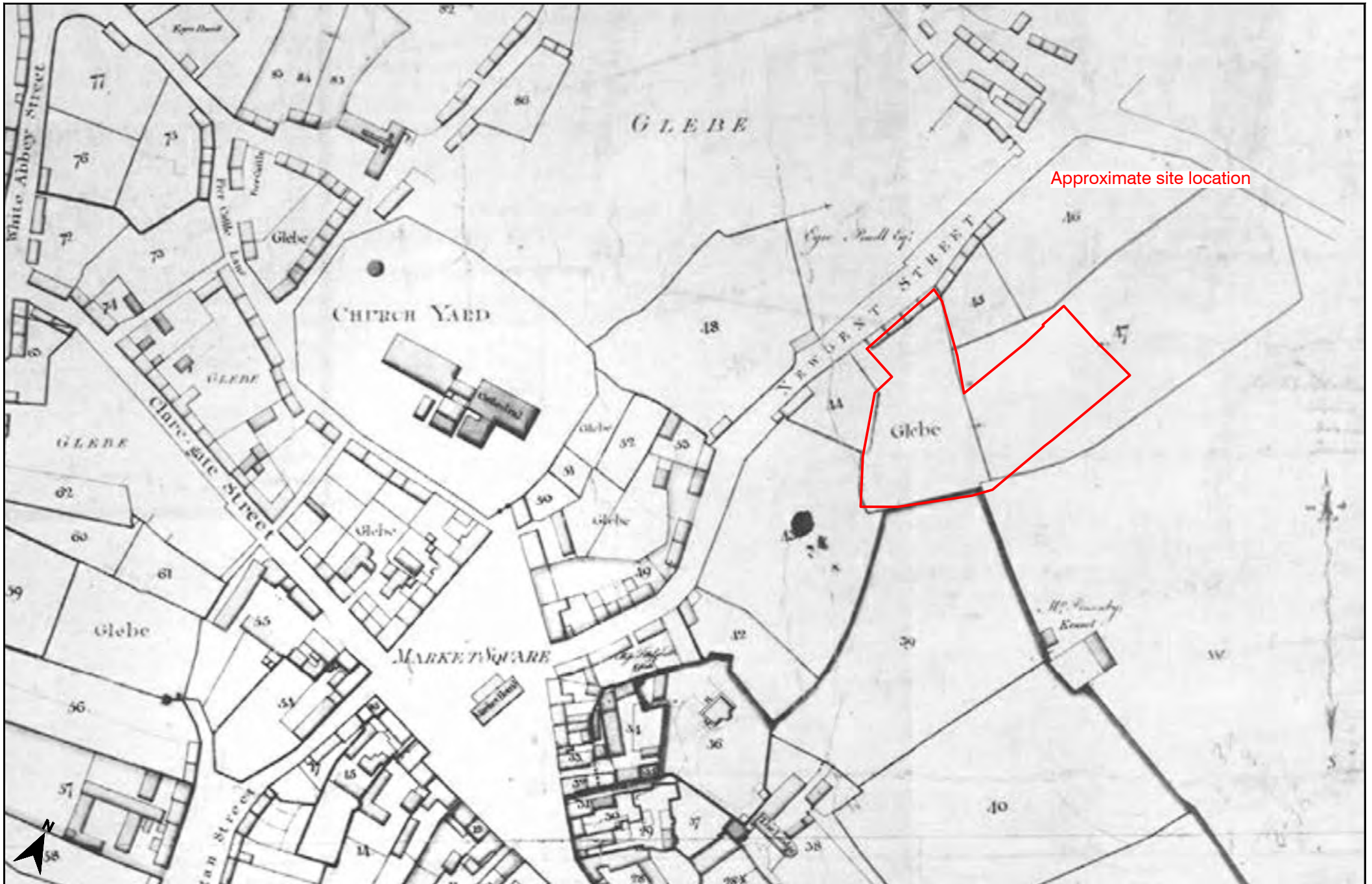
© The Down survey of Ireland, Trinity College of Dublin

<b>Project</b> Station Road, Kildare	<b>Date</b> November 2023	<b>Drawing No.</b> 23141_C0003	 <b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL</b> CONSULTANCY SERVICES UNIT
<b>Figure 3</b> Extract from Down Survey map of County Kildare, Barony of Naas (1656), showing approximate location of site		<b>Scale</b> Not to scale	



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<b>Project</b> Station Road, Kildare	<b>Date</b> November 2023	<b>Drawing No.</b> 23141_C0004
<b>Figure 4</b> Extract from John Rocque's map of Kildare (1757) , showing approximate location of site	<b>Scale</b> Not to scale	



Approximate site location

**Project** Station Road, Kildare

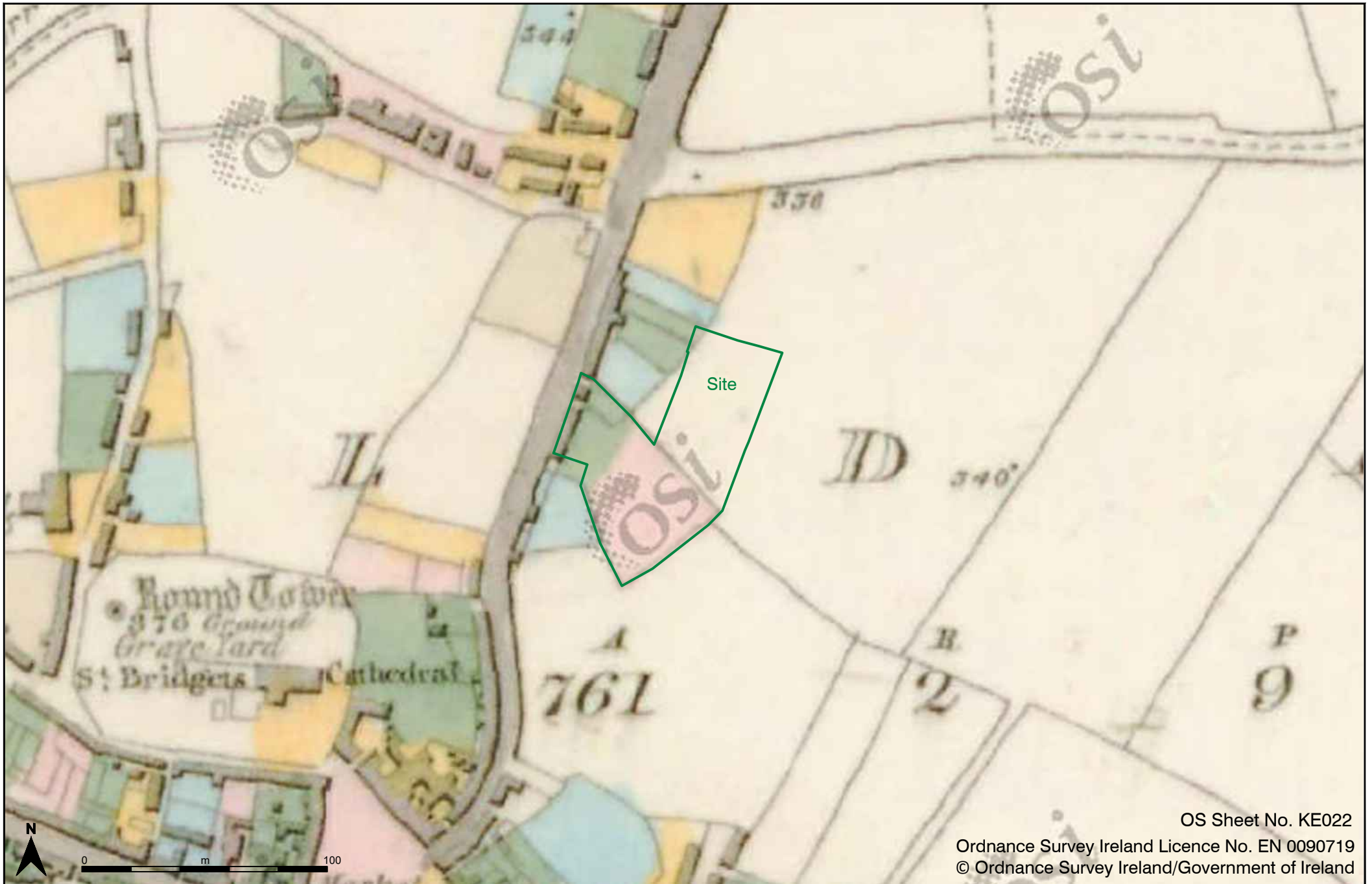
**Date** November 2023

**Drawing No.** 23141\_C0005

**Figure 5** Extract from Sherrard Map of Kildare (1798), showing approximate location of site

**Scale** Not to scale





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**Project** Station Road, Kildare

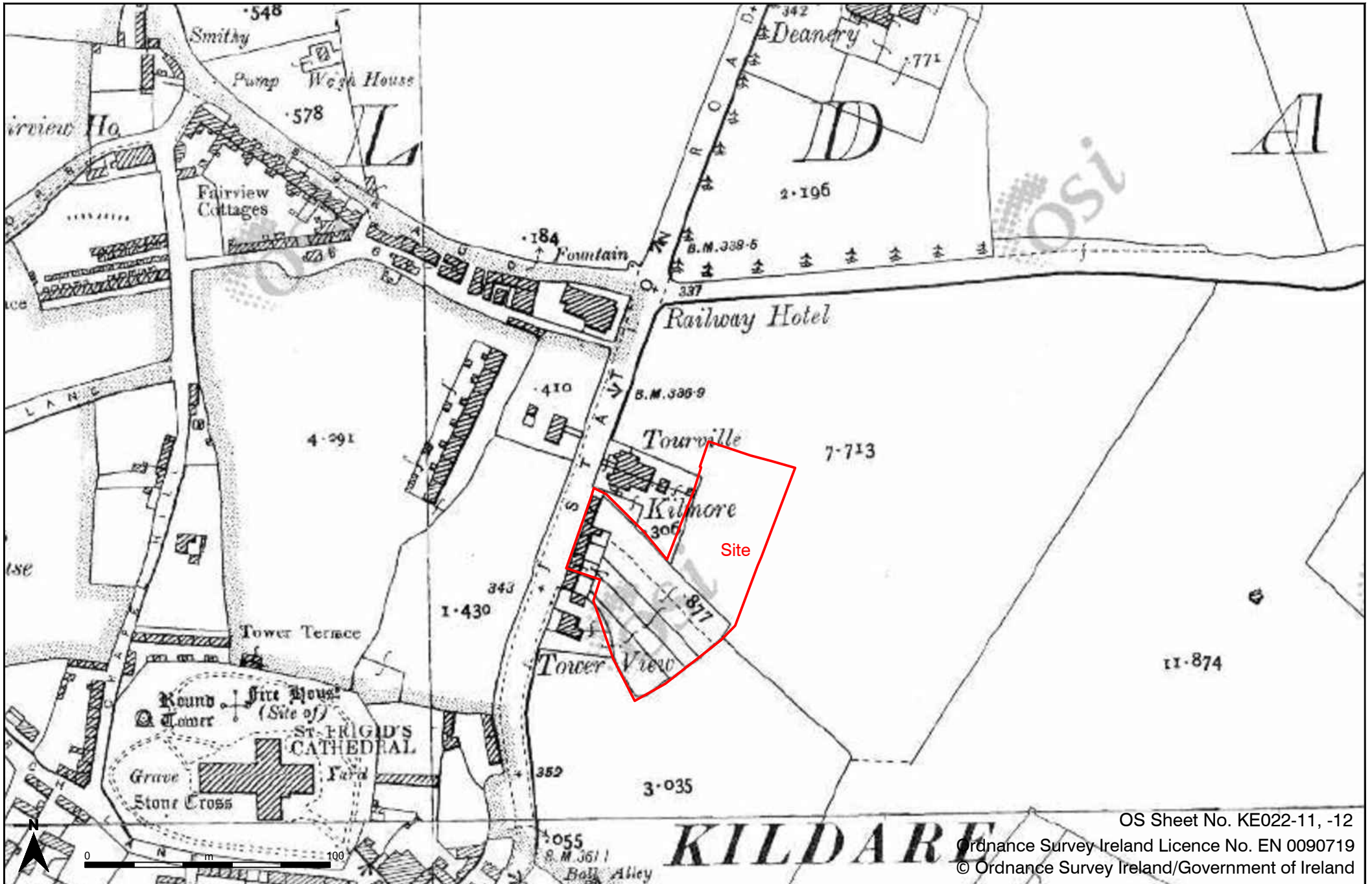
**Date** November 2023

**Drawing No.** 23141\_C0006

**Figure 6** Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 6-inch map (surveyed 1836 - published 1839), showing location of site

**Scale** 1:2,000 @ A4





OS Sheet No. KE022-11, -12

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Project Station Road, Kildare

Date November 2023

Drawing No. 23141\_C0007


Figure 7 Extract from 3rd edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 25-inch map (surveyed 1908 - published 1909), showing location of site

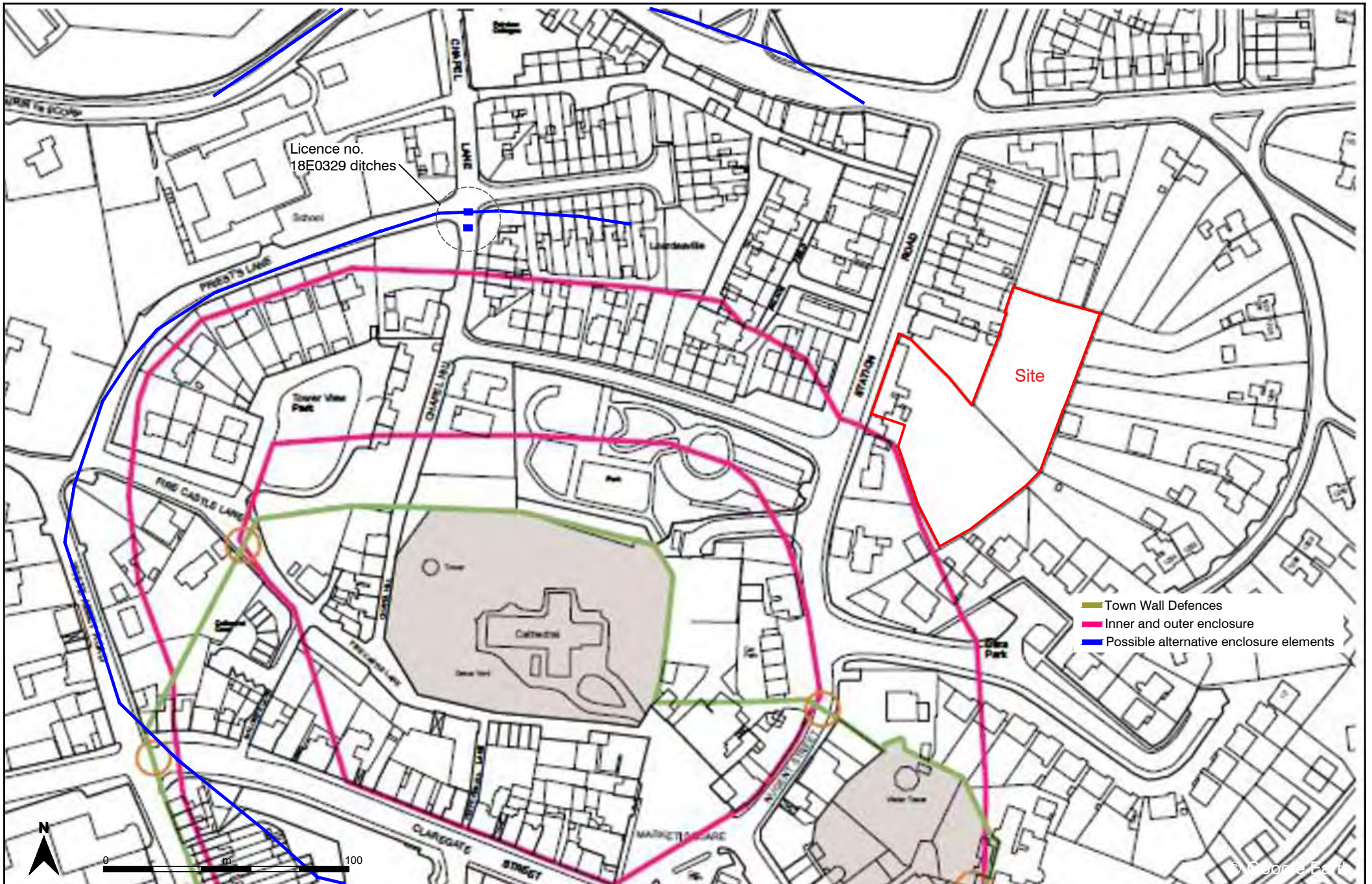
Scale 1:2,000 @ A4





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<b>Project</b> Station Road, Kildare	<b>Date</b> November 2023	<b>Drawing No.</b> 23141_C0008	
<b>Figure 8</b> Aerial view of site		<b>Scale</b> 1:750 @ A4	



**Project** Station Road, Kildare

**Date** November 2023

**Drawing No.** 23141\_C0009

**Figure 9** Map showing the conjectural lines of the monastic and town wall enclosures and possible alternative enclosures elements (after Swan)

**Scale** 1:2,000 @ A4



Plate 1: Site overview, facing south.



Plate 2: Access from Station Road, facing northwest.



Plate 3: Rear of row of dwellings along Station Road, facing southwest.



Plate 4: Site overview, facing southwest.





Plate 5: Site overview, facing east.



Plate 6: Site overview, facing north.



Plate 7: Site overview, rear of row of houses, facing north.



Plate 8: Site overview, facing east.



Plate 9: View of the cottages (now boarded up) from Station Road, facing northeast.



Plate 10: View of the cottages (now boarded up) from Station Road, facing southwest.



Plate 11: Mud houses, 1861, view from Chapel Lane, facing southwards.