



ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT:
Proposed Environmental and Public Realm
Improvement works to Market Square and Main
Street, Kilkullen including part of Bentley's Lane (L-
60741-0) and part of the pedestrian walkway along
the eastern banks of the River Liffey



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***Note:** All recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.*

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This desk-study report was commissioned by the Paul Hogarth Company, on behalf of Kildare County Council, to assess the potential impact on archaeology of proposed environmental and public realm improvement works to Market Square and Main Street, Kilcullen including part of Bentley's Lane (L-60741-0) and part of the pedestrian walkway along the eastern banks of the River Liffey (Figures 1, 2). The proposed development area is centred on Lower Main Street, Kilcullen which was probably the site of a medieval settlement that developed following the construction in 1319 of a bridge crossing over the River Liffey at Kilcullen, a predecessor of the current eighteenth century structure (NIAH 11819013) (Figure 1). Neither the bridge or medieval settlement are included in the Record of Monuments and Places. The closest Recorded Monument to the proposed development area is a prehistoric pit-cremation cemetery, KD028-079----, 200m to the south-west, which was excavated in 2001 at Riverside Manor (Kilcullenbridge townland), on the north bank of the River Liffey. On the south bank of the river, St. Moling's Well, RMP KD028-025----, is situated 205m to the south of the development area and the medieval Franciscan 'New Abbey' is located 600m to the south-east (Figure 1).

This assessment report begins by detailing the methodology that was employed in its compilation; this is followed by an overview of the archaeological and historical background to settlement at Kilcullen, which is in turn is followed by documentation of the specific, recorded archaeological sites and monuments within and in the immediate environs of the proposed development area and the results of field inspection. An Archaeological Impact Statement and recommendations for further mitigation conclude the report.

1.1 Assessment Methodology

The methodology which was employed in compiling this assessment report was guided by the *Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements* (E.P.A. 2002, 2003), and conforms to the methodologies recommended in *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Dept. of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands, 1999), Section 3.3 of which requires that 'whenever the archaeological heritage is affected, or proposed to be affected, by development the approach to be followed must be preservation in-situ or preservation by record through archaeological excavation and recording. Archaeological assessment is a method

of, and the first step in, ensuring that the approaches of preservation in-situ and preservation by record are applied appropriately. In certain circumstances it may, on the basis of the results of archaeological assessment, be considered appropriate to carry out archaeological monitoring. However, archaeological monitoring is not an end in itself, rather a method of ensuring that preservation in-situ or preservation by record take place as appropriate'. The methodology also conforms with the legislative frameworks of the *National Monuments Acts 1930-2004 (as amended)*, *Heritage Act 2000* and the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (ratified by Ireland 1997)*. The National Roads Authority's (NRA) *Guidelines for the Assessment of Archaeological Heritage Impacts of National Road Schemes* (2005) was also consulted because of its in-depth consideration of archaeological heritage as part of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). The assessment of architectural heritage was guided by the *Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities* (DAHG 2011).

The methodology for this assessment also conforms to the policies and strategies for the architectural and archaeological heritage of the county as set out in Section 12.2 of the Kildare County Development Plan 2017-2023:

- Protect and conserve buildings, structures and sites of special architectural, historic, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest.
- Protect and conserve the archaeological heritage of the county. The Council will favour the preservation in-situ of all sites, monuments and features of significant historical or archaeological interest in accordance with the recommendation of the Framework and Principals for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1999) or any superseding national policy.
- Protect and conserve areas that have particular environmental qualities that derive from their overall layout, design and character.
- Protect and conserve historic milestones, street furniture, and other significant features of interest wherever feasible.
- Encourage the rehabilitation, renovation and re-use of existing older buildings where appropriate.

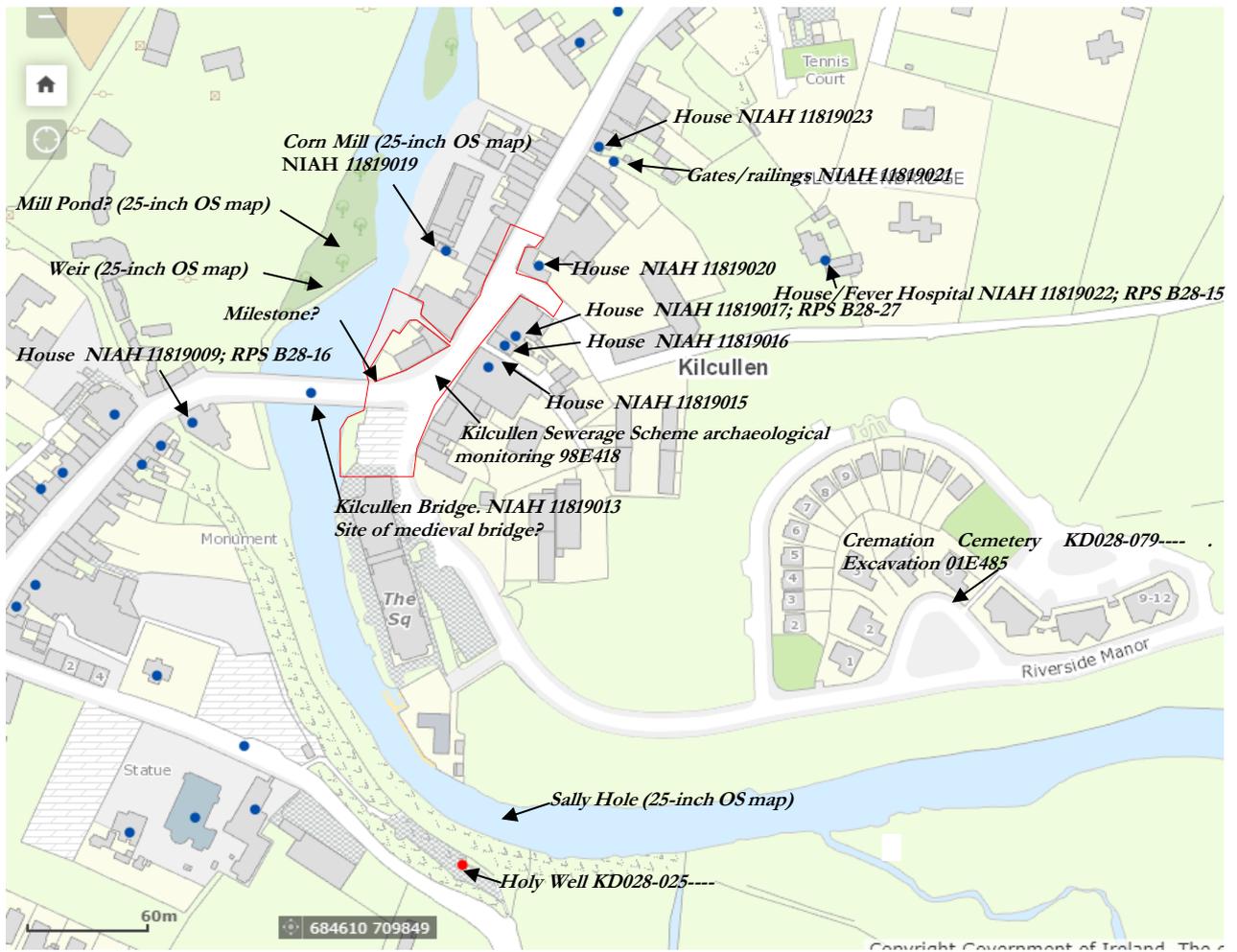


Figure 1: Proposed Development Area and archaeological and architectural heritage sites, see table 1 for detailed descriptions of each site

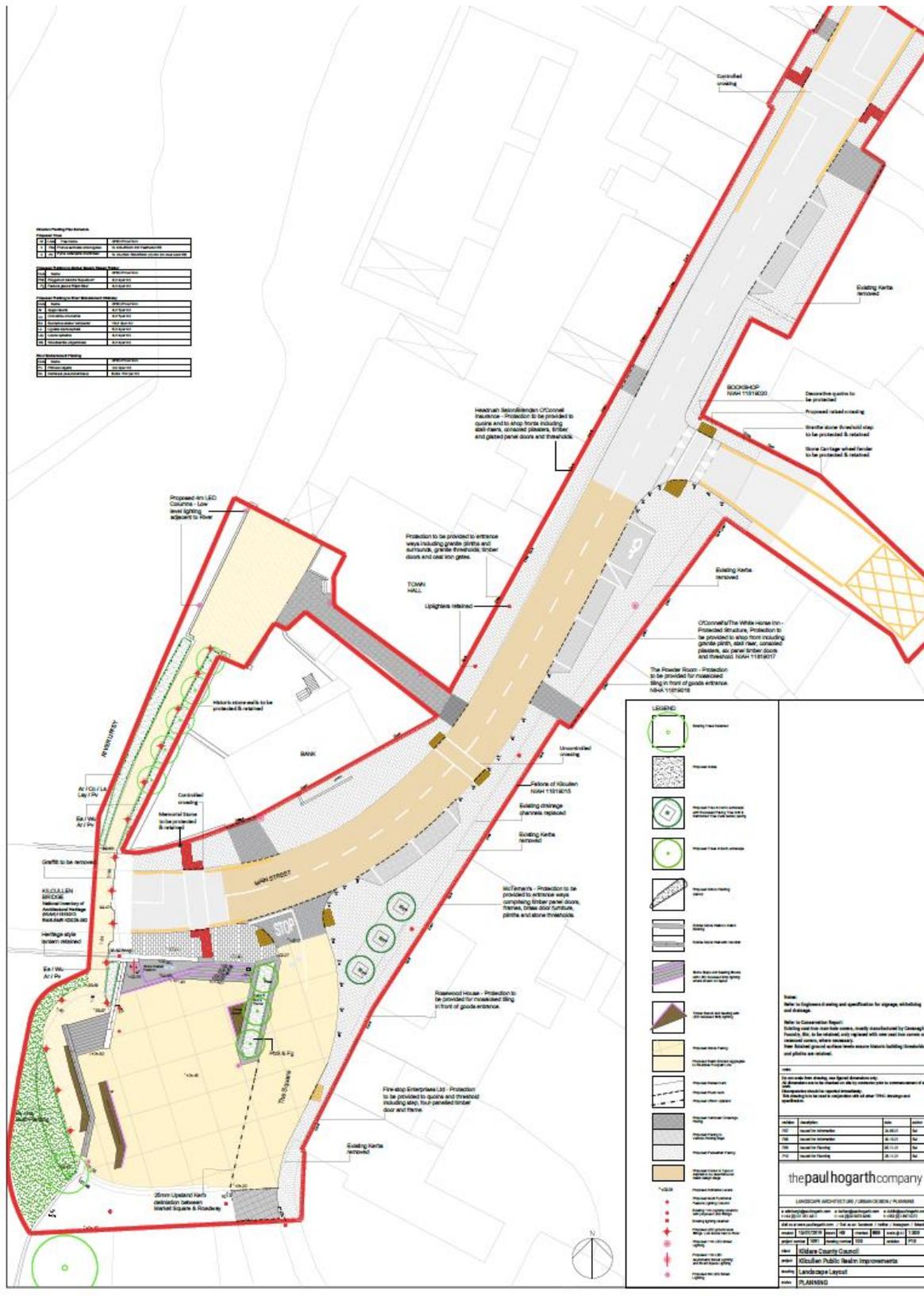


Figure 2: Proposed Development Plan Layout (Paul Hogarth Company)

1.2 Defining the Study Area

This assessment is primarily focused on the proposed development area, which comprises of 120m of Lower Main Street, beginning at the east side of Kilcullen bridge, a carpark area to the south-east of the bridge and a riverside walkway to its north (Figures 1, 2). In addition, the assessment incorporates the immediate environs of the development area, taking in additional archaeological and architectural heritage sites.

1.3 Assessment Components

This assessment comprises a desk-based study and a field survey of the application area.

Desk-based study

The aim of the desk-study is to present a coherent archaeological and historical narrative for the historic town of Kilcullen, its archaeological monuments and its architectural heritage. To this end the following documentary sources were examined:

- Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland
- Archaeological Survey of Ireland RMP files
- Historic maps of Kilcullen and Kildare
- Aerial photographs from 2000, 2005 and 2018 (Google Earth and Bing)
- Accounts of previous archaeological excavations in Kilcullen in the 'Excavations Bulletin', www.excavations.ie
- Architectural Heritage sites in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) for Kildare and the Record of Protected Structures for County Kildare in the 2017-2023 Kildare County Development Plan
- Archaeological 'grey literature' reports
- Secondary sources (see bibliography)

Field Survey

Field inspection was undertaken with the primary aim of identifying any potential impacts that the proposed development may have upon archaeological heritage and identified/previously

unidentified archaeological sites/areas of archaeological potential that lie within or in close proximity to the proposed development area. Field survey included examination, photography and written descriptions of each archaeological monument/area.

1.4 The Proposed Development

The proposed improvement works to Market Square and Main Street, Kilcullen, comprise (Figure 2):

- Footpath widening and resurfacing
- Resurfacing of riverside walkway and LED lighting introduced
- Upgrade of street furniture and street lighting to include a multi-functional lighting column in Market Square
- Resurfacing of Market Square and introduction of new stepped access from Main Street, planter and street furniture.
- Upgrade of stepped access to riverside walkway from Market Square
- Planting of 6 no. trees
- Removal of car parking spaces in Market Square and formalisation of on street parking along Main Street
- Junction improvements at the local access into Bentley's Lane (L-60741-0) to include a raised pedestrian crossing
- 3 Pedestrian crossings on Main Street (2 no controlled and 1 uncontrolled)
- All necessary services and utility provision and associated site works.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed development area is situated in Kilcullen (Kilcullenbridge townland, barony of Kilcullen) on the east bank of the River Liffey. Excavations in 2001 by Martin Byrne in advance of the Riverside Manor housing scheme, 200m south-east of the proposed development area, brought to light twenty-two pits containing cremated human bone, part of a prehistoric cemetery on the north bank of the River Liffey (Byrne 2002). The cemetery, although undated, probably represents an eastern extension of the extensive prehistoric ritual and burial landscape of the Curragh and the broader landscape around the royal hillfort at Dún Áilline (Clancy 2005). In the early medieval period a substantial amount of settlement occurred on the higher ground overlooking the River Liffey in the environs of modern Kilcullen: ringforts/enclosures are recorded at Kilcullenbridge, 600m north of the proposed development area, and 800m to the east at Logstown. The major church settlement of Old Kilcullen, 2.9km south-west of the town, originated in the fifth or sixth century as a monastery associated with Isernius (d. 468) and MacTail (d. 548) (Gwynn and Hadcock 1979, 42-3; Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 384-5, 391-599). Physical

evidence of the early monastery includes curving field boundaries which may reflect the line of an early monastic enclosure, three high crosses, a round tower and church ruins (Figure 3).

Following the Anglo-Norman conquest a borough was established at Old Kilcullen, incorporating the early medieval church site (Bradley et al. 1986 vol. 4, 384-99). A royal market charter was granted to the borough in 1403 and in 1456 it was 'burned, laid waste and destroyed' by the native Irish, resulting in a castle being built there by Roland FitzEustace. In 1478, FitzEustace obtained a murage grant for the town's defences, which according to Archdall in 1781 comprised 'a large walled town with seven gates', one of which was apparently still standing which he described as 'about 10 feet wide (c. 3m), with a handsome Roman arch, under which the present turnpike road runs'. Nothing of the walls survive today. The scarcity of references to Kilcullen in the 16th and 17th-centuries suggests the borough declined at this time.



Figure 3: Old Kilcullen, high cross shaft and round tower

Stokes, quoting Holinshed, states that in 1319 a bridge was built over the River Liffey at Kilcullenbridge by a Canon of Kildare Cathedral, Maurice Jake, who also constructed the bridge at Newbridge around the same time (Stokes 1899, 437; Thomas 1992 Vol. 2, 228-9). Very little is

known about the medieval bridge crossing. A 'castle' was constructed at it in 1486 as part of the augmentation of the Pale boundary defences, but its precise whereabouts are unknown (Thomas 1992 Vol. 2, 229). The crossing, but not the castle, is also marked on the 1654 Down Survey map (Figure 8). No trace of the medieval bridge survives today but it is possible that structural remains are buried in the river bed/banks under or near the present eighteenth century bridge. Construction of the bridge attracted settlement at Kilcullenbridge, which in turn probably contributed to the demise of the borough of Old Kilcullen. Problems in distinguishing if sixteenth and seventeenth century references to Kilcullen are referring to Old Kilcullen or Kilcullenbridge add to the difficulty in characterising and determining the topography of the latter. For instance, it is to be suspected that a 1606 Fair grant to William Eustace is referring to Kilcullenbridge rather than Old Kilcullen, but this is not known for certain (Stokes 1899, 439). Likewise, Thomas has suggested that some of the references to town walling that are attributed to Old Kilcullen could in fact have pertained to Kilcullenbridge, but there is as yet no physical or archaeological evidence in support of this theory (Thomas 1992 Vol. 2, 229).

The foundation in 1486 by Roland FitzEustace of the 'New Abbey' Observant Franciscan friary, 700m to the east of the bridge, may also have been intended as part of a plan to create an urban settlement (Fenton 1940-1; Gwynn and Hadcock 1970, 251-2). When it was suppressed in 1539 it comprised, 'a church and belfry, dormitory hall, two chambers, kitchen, cemetery and orchard garden with a small close of 8 acres'. In 1540, 'the church and house [were] in good repair' (ibid) but what remained was demolished in 1782 and reused in building a new chapel erected on the site, which itself was demolished in 1872 when the present Catholic church building, now in ruins, was completed. Some medieval fabric may survive incorporated into the latter. The graveyard contains the effigy of Roland FitzEustace and his wife Margaret Janico.¹

The present, six-span, eighteenth century, bridge at Kilcullen incorporates piers belonging to one of its precursors. The medieval bridge was destroyed by the Irish in the wars of the 1640s but had been rebuilt by 1654 when it was included in the Down Survey county map (Stokes 1899, 439-440) (Figure 8). A bridge is marked on the 1752 Noble and Keenan map and the 1783 Taylor map, by which time it formed part of the Dublin to Kilcullen Turnpike road, which had been founded

¹ <http://kildare.co/Graveyard-Details.asp?ID=K064>

by an Act of 1729, was the first Irish turnpike road (Leckey 1983, 107) (Figures 9 and 10). A 1795 drawing of Kilcullen bridge by Sir William Smith and George Petrie's painting of c. 1832 show the present structure before it was extensively renovated and widened c.1970 (Figures 5, 6). The Turnpike collapsed following the construction of the railway through Kilcullen in 1846 (Leckey 1983, 106).



Figure 4: Kilcullen Bridge, from north



Figure 5: 'Sketch of Kilcullen Bridge and part of the town as seen from the banks of the river' by Sir William Smith 1795 (Costello 1992-3). View from south-east.



Figure 6: Kilcullen Bridge by George Petrie (c. 1832), view from east (NLI ET A870)

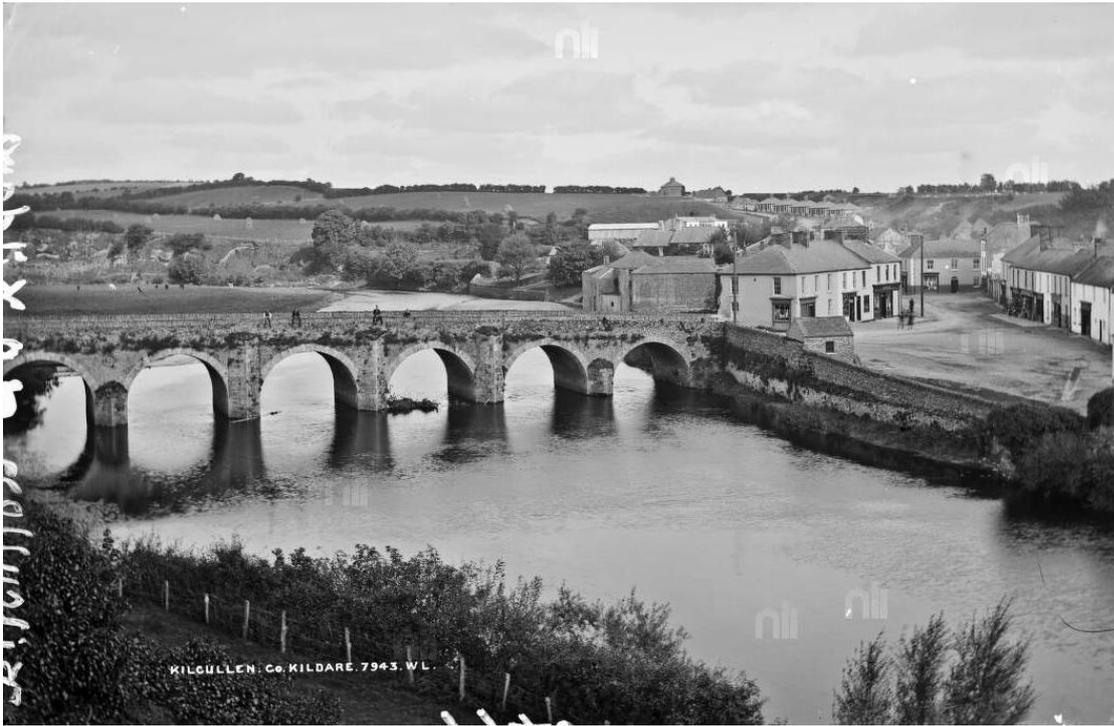


Figure 7: Kilcullen Bridge and Lower Main Street c. 1900 from south-east (Lawrence Collection NLI L_CAB_07943)



Figure 8: Kilcullen bridge and Old Kilcullen 'Kucullin' - on 1654 Down Survey map of the county of Kildare

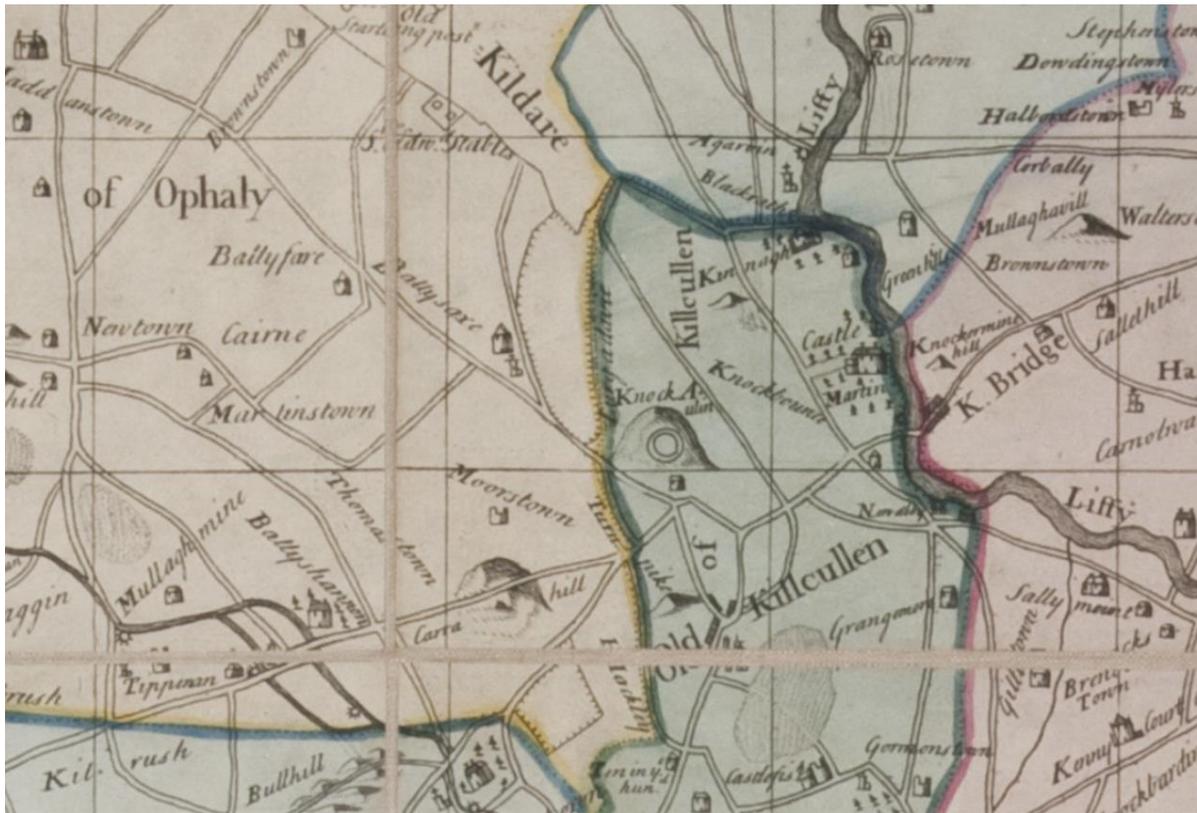


Figure 9: 'K. Bridge' on Map of county Kildare, J. Noble & J. Keenan; 2 sheets (D. Pomarede, Dublin, 1752).



Figure 10: 'Kilcullen Bridge' on A map of the County of Kildare by Alexander Taylor 1783

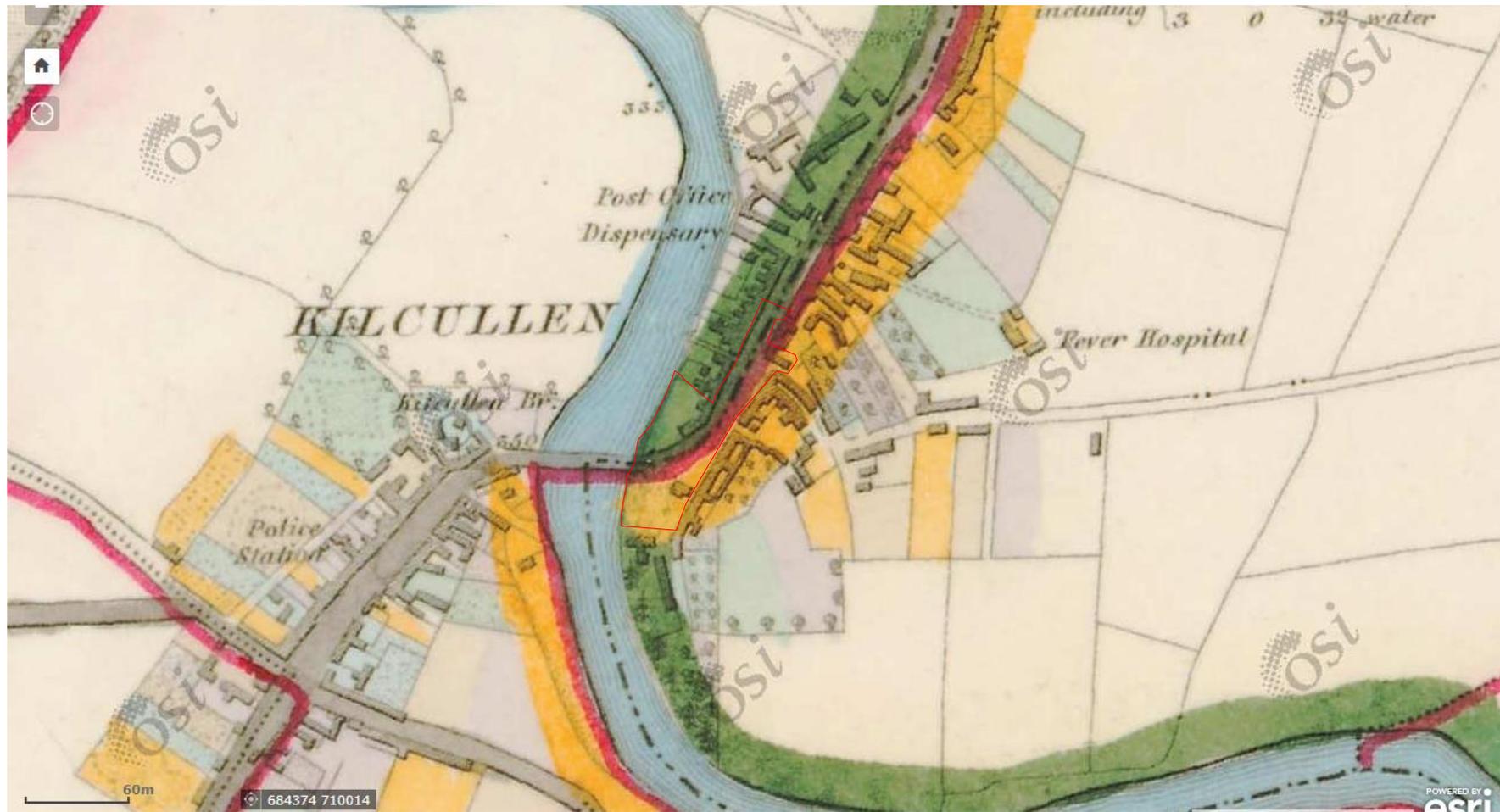


Figure 11: Proposed Development Area on First Edition (1838) Ordnance Survey map of Kilkullen, Sheet 17 (extract)

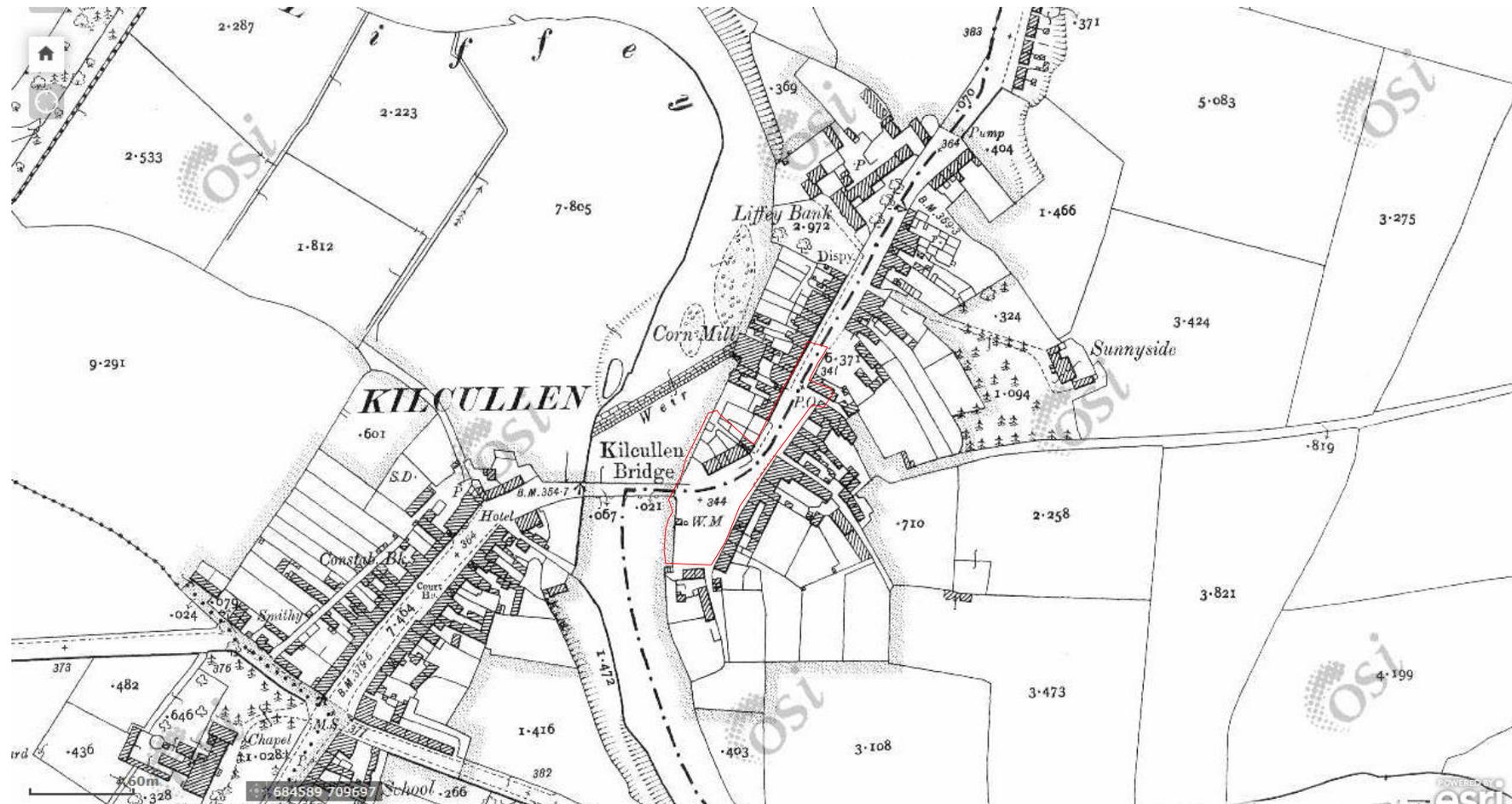


Figure 12: Proposed Development Area on 25-inch (1890) Ordnance Survey map of Kilcullen (extract)

Table 1: Table of archaeological and architectural heritage sites within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development (refer to figure 1 for locations)

LABEL	SOURCE	RPS	DESCRIPTION
Corn Mill (25-inch OS map) NIAH 11819019	NLAH 11819019	-	Corn Mill marked on 25-inch 1899 OS map. Part of wheel house survives intact. Not marked on first edition map.
Mill Pond? (25-inch OS map)	25-inch OS map	-	Mill pond marked on 25-inch 1899 OS map. Not marked on first edition map.
Weir (25-inch OS map)	25-inch OS map	-	Weir for Corn Mill marked on 25-inch 1899 OS map. Not marked on first edition map.
House NIAH 11819009; RPS B28-16	NLAH 11819009	RPS B28-16	<p>Kilcullen Credit Union.</p> <p>Description</p> <p>Detached three-bay two-storey house, c.1840. Renovated, c.1960, with timber shopfront inserted to ground floor. Reroofed and refenestrated, c.1980. Now in use as credit union. Gable-ended roof. Replacement artificial slate, c.1980. Concrete ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks. Replacement uPVC gutters, c.1990, on brackets with cast-iron downpipes. Rendered walls. Part ruled and lined. Painted. Exposed rubble stone construction to side (south-west and north-east) and rear (south-east) elevations with red brick sections. Cut-stone quoins to corners. Square-headed openings. Stone sills to first floor. Replacement timber casement windows, c.1980. Square-headed door opening to ground floor in round-headed relieving arch. Replacement timber panelled door, c.1960. Square-headed door opening to right ground floor. Replacement timber panelled double doors, c.1960. Timber shopfront, c.1960, inserted to ground floor with panelled pilasters, fixed-pane display window and timber panelled double doors having overlight and timber fascia (extending over whole ground floor) with moulded cornice. Road fronted. Concrete brick cobbled footpath to front.</p> <p>Appraisal</p> <p>Kilcullen Credit Union is an attractive, middle-size building, probably originally designed as a symmetrical composition, which retains some of its early character. The house is of some social and historic interest, representing the continued development of the historic core of Kilcullen in the mid nineteenth century. Renovated and remodelled in the late twentieth century to accommodate a commercial use to ground</p>

			<p>floor, the timber shopfront subsequently inserted alludes to traditional styles and is an attractive feature. The building retains very little of its original features or materials, with replacement roof covering and fenestration, although the latter have been inserted in keeping with the original appearance of the building. The construction in rubble stone, exposed to three elevations, distinguishes the building in its surroundings, being one of very few buildings in Kilcullen that is not entirely rendered. The building, prominently sited at an angle on a corner immediately to east of Kilcullen Bridge is a prominent and attractive feature in the locality.</p>
<i>Holy Well KD028-025- ---</i>	<i>RMP KD028- 025----</i>	-	<p>The well is a feature in a narrow, landscaped public park along the S bank of the River Liffey. According to Fitzgerald (1899-1902, 317) the well, ‘... [went] by the name of Tubber-molin ... or St. Moling’s Well’, while Jackson (1979-80, 151) attributes it to St. Brigid and says a pattern was formerly held there on February 1st. A small spring well issues from beneath a modern limestone sculpture by Fr. Henry Flanagan OP. An adjoining plaque commemorates the reconstruction of the well and the unveiling of the sculpture in 1977.</p>
<i>Sally Hole (25-inch OS map)</i>	<i>25-inch OS map</i>	-	<p>'Sally Hole', presumably a fishing/swimming spot of the River Liffey, marked on 25-inch OS map.</p>
<i>House NIAH 11819023</i>	<i>NLAH 11819023</i>	-	<p>House Description End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, c.1920, retaining early fenestration. Extended, c.1980, comprising single-bay single-storey return to rear to south-east. Part refenestrated, c.1990. Now disused. Gable-ended roof with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stack. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Gabled to return. Artificial slate. Timber eaves and bargeboards. Roughcast wall to front (north-west) elevation. Painted. Rendered to remainder. Unpainted. Square-headed openings. Stone sills (concrete to return). Original 1/1 timber sash windows (replacement uPVC casement, c.1990, to return). Glazed timber panelled door. Overlight. Road fronted. Concrete flagged footpath to front.</p> <p>Appraisal This house, although now apparently disused, is in relatively good condition and retains most of its original character. The house is of considerable social and historic</p>

			<p>interest, representing the modest-scale nature of the residences of the majority of the population of the locality at the beginning of the twentieth century. Most of the original features and materials are retained throughout, including timber sash fenestration and a slate roof. Set directly fronting on to the road the house is an attractive component of the streetscape.</p>
<p><i>Gates/railings NIAH 11819021</i></p>	<p><i>NLAH 11819021</i></p>	-	<p>Description Gateway, c.1850, comprising rubble stone piers with wrought iron double gates. Pier to south-west rebuilt, c.1990.</p> <p>Appraisal This gateway, providing access to Sunnyside House, is of an attractive, simple design that provides subtle incident to Main Street. The gates are a good example of early surviving wrought iron work.</p>
<p><i>House NIAH 11819020</i></p>	<p><i>NLAH 11819020</i></p>	-	<p>Description End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, c.1850, on an L-shaped plan with single-bay two-storey side elevation to south-west and three-bay two-storey return to rear to south-east. Renovated, c.1980, with some openings remodelled to ground floor to accommodate commercial use. Refenestrated, c.1990. Hipped roof on an L-shaped plan with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks. Cast-iron rainwater goods on paired consoles. Rendered walls. Ruled and lined. Painted. Vermiculated rendered quoins to corners. Square-headed openings (some remodelled, c.1990, to ground floor). Stone sills (concrete to remodelled openings). Replacement uPVC casement windows, c.1990. Fixed-pane timber display windows, c.1980, to remodelled openings with iron roller shutter boxes over. Timber panelled doors. Overlights. Road fronted. Tarmacadam verge to front.</p> <p>Appraisal This building is a fine, substantial structure that, although remodelled to ground floor in the late twentieth century to accommodate a commercial use, retains most of its original form to the first floor. The building is of some social and historic interest, representing a component of the continued development of Kilcullen in the mid</p>

			nineteenth century. Despite alterations, the building retains some important salient features, including rendered dressings such as the vermiculated quoins, and a slate roof with cast-iron rainwater goods on paired consoles. The remodelled openings to ground floor are a reversible action, while the re-instatement of timber fenestration might restore a more accurate representation of the original appearance of the building. Prominently sited, the building is stepped out from the established streetline of Main Street and is an attractive feature in the locality.
<i>House/Fever Hospital NIAH 11819022; RPS B28-15</i>	<i>NIAH 11819022</i>	<i>RPS B28-15</i>	<p>Description Detached three-bay two-storey house, c.1900, retaining early fenestration. Renovated, c.1950, with single-bay single-storey flat-roofed projecting porch added to centre. Gable-ended roof with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks. Rendered coping to gables. Replacement uPVC rainwater goods, c.1990, on rendered eaves band. Flat-roof to porch behind blocking course. Materials not visible. Roughcast walls. Unpainted. Rendered walls to porch with rendered dressings including piers and blocking course. Square-headed openings. Stone sills. 4/4 timber sash windows to ground floor. 2/2 timber sash windows to first floor. 1/1 timber sash window to porch. Square-headed door opening approached by flight of three stone steps. Glazed timber panelled door. Overlight. Set back from road in own mature landscaped grounds approached by avenue.</p> <p>Appraisal Sunnyside House is a fine, middle-size house that retains much of its original form and appearance - the additional porch to centre complements the design and has been built in keeping with the original character of the house. The house is of social and historic interest as one of the largest private houses in the locality of Kilcullen and was probably originally built by a local patron of significant status in the community, possibly related to the former corn mill located on the opposite side of Main Street (11819019/KD-28-19-19). The house, which has been relatively well maintained, retains many of its original features and materials, including timber sash fenestration and a slate roof, and it is possible that the interior also retains early fittings of note. Attractively set in its own grounds on an elevated site overlooking Kilcullen, the house is a picturesque feature in the locality.</p>

<p>House NIAH 11819017; RPS B28-27</p>	<p>NIAH 11819017</p>	<p>RPS B28-27</p>	<p>Description Terraced two-bay two-storey house, c.1850, retaining early fenestration. Renovated, c.1990, with timber pilaster pubfront inserted to left ground floor. Gable-ended roof with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Red brick chimney stacks. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Rendered walls. Painted. Square-headed openings. Stone sills. 1/1 timber sash windows. Timber panelled door. Overlight. Timber pilaster pubfront, c.1900, to left ground floor with decorative consoles and fixed-pane display window having timber fascia over with raised lettering and moulded cornice. Replacement glazed timber panelled door, c.1995. Overlight. Road fronted. Concrete footpath to front.</p> <p>Appraisal O'Connell is a fine and very well-maintained modest-scale building that retains an early character. The house is of social and historic significance as evidence of the continued development of Kilcullen in the mid nineteenth century. Although renovated to accommodate a commercial use to left ground floor, the resulting timber pubfront is an attractive addition and conforms to the true traditional Irish model, in this instance ornamented through the use of decorative consoles. The raised lettering to the fascia is also a feature, albeit increasingly rare, of the traditional Irish shopfront. The house retains many early features to the remainder, including timber sash fenestration and a slate roof. Complementing the building immediately to south-west (11819016/KD-28-19-16), the building is of importance for continuing the established streetline and roofline of the streetscape.</p>
<p>House NIAH 11819016</p>	<p>NIAH 11819016</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Description End-of-terrace two-bay two-storey house, c.1830, retaining early fenestration. Renovated, c.1880, with opening remodelled to right ground floor to accommodate commercial use. Refenestrated, c.1980, to right ground floor. Now disused. Gable-ended roof with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Red brick chimney stacks. Rendered coping to gable. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Rendered walls. Painted. Square-headed openings (remodelled, c.1880, to right ground floor). Stone sills. 6/6 timber sash windows. Timber pilaster architrave to door and window opening to right ground floor possibly originally part of shopfront with moulded cornice. Timber panelled door with overlight. Replacement timber casement window, c.1980, to right ground floor. Road</p>

			<p>fronted. Concrete footpath to front. Tarmacadam lane alongside elevation to south-west.</p> <p>Appraisal This house is a fine and well-maintained small-scale composition that bears the evidence of having subsequently undergone conversion to part commercial use. Despite the alterations necessary in this process the house retains most of its original character, form, features and materials, including multi-pane timber sash fenestration and a slate roof. To right ground floor the timber architrave to the door and window opening is surmounted by a section of replacement render, which serves to suggest that it was originally completed by a fascia and moulded cornice in the manner of the true traditional Irish shopfront style - should the building be re-converted to commercial use, it would be advantageous should this feature be maintained and restored in full. The probability of a shopfront emphasises the social and historic significance of the house as early evidence of the continued commercialisation of Kilcullen in the late nineteenth century. Complementing the building immediately to north-east (11819017/KD_28-19-17), the house is an attractive feature in the locality and is of importance for continuing the established streetline and roofline of the streetscape.</p>
House NIAH 11819015	NLAH 11819015	-	<p>Description End-of-terrace six-bay two-storey slate-hung house, c.1880, with three-bay two-storey return to rear to south-east. Renovated, c.1960, with some openings remodelled to ground floor to accommodate commercial use. Refenestrated, c.1990. Hipped and gable-ended roof on an L-shaped plan with slate. Clay ridge tiles. Rendered chimney stacks. Cast-iron rainwater goods. Slate-hung wall to front (north-west) elevation. Roughcast walls to remainder. Unpainted. Square-headed openings (remodelled, c.1960, to ground floor). Stone sills (concrete to ground floor). Replacement timber casement windows, c.1960, to ground floor. Replacement uPVC casement windows, c.1990, to first floor. Replacement timber doors, c.1980. Road fronted. Concrete footpath to front. Tarmacadam lane alongside elevation to north-east. Attached four-bay single-storey rubble stone outbuilding with attic, c.1880, to south-east with bowed side elevation to south-east. Reroofed, c.1940. Part refenestrated, c.1990, with one opening remodelled. Gable-ended roof (half-conical to bowed section). Replacement</p>

			<p>corrugated-iron, c.1940. Iron ridge tiles. Cast-iron rainwater goods on eaves course. Random rubble stone walls. Square-headed openings (some slit-style). No sills. Yellow brick dressings. Fittings not discerned. Square-headed door opening possibly originally segmental-headed. Yellow brick voussoirs to relieving arch. Replacement timber boarded door, c.1980, with sidelight and overlight.</p> <p>Appraisal Berney's is a fine and substantial house that dominates the south end of Main Street before it veers west to link with Kilcullen Bridge. The house is of some social and historic significance, representing a component of the continued development of the historic core of Kilcullen in the late nineteenth century. Originally composed of graceful Georgian proportions the harmony of the front (north-west) elevation has been upset by the remodelling of openings to ground floor to accommodate a commercial use. However, this is off-set and somewhat masked by the treatment of the façade with slate-hanging, an unusual feature in the locality, which distinguishes the building on the streetscape. The bold chrome lettering above the openings to ground floor is unsubtle and could be replaced with more attractive models. In the course of any future renovation works many of the original features, including fenestration, have been removed, but the natural slate used for the slate-hanging and the roof covering is an important survival. The main building is complemented to south-east by an outbuilding of much character. The juxtaposition of the rubble stone construction with the slate-hanging of the main building achieves an attractive effect, while the bowed section to south-east is unusual in such a utilitarian structure. The outbuilding retains many early or original features, including a corrugated-iron roof that is also of some interest.</p>
<p><i>Kilcullen Sewerage Scheme archaeological monitoring 98E418</i></p>	<p><i>Excavations Bulletin, www.excavations.ie</i></p>	<p>-</p>	<p>The upgrading of the Kilcullen Sewerage Scheme involved the excavation of trenches varying from over 3m to 1m deep, on the route extending northwards on rising ground from Kilcullen town to the suburbs and estates on the road leading to Naas. This particular area was characterised by the presence of a considerable stratum of sandy soil and gravel immediately below the tarmac and road metalling. This feature had resulted from the fact that the original humus and topsoil had been removed in earlier times during construction of the main thoroughfare that was the first turnpike road in this region. It was noteworthy that the original boulder clay overlying the sand</p>

			and gravel deposits had not been removed from the more level ground leading southwards from Kilcullen town centre towards the Athy road. Whilst a number of relatively modern concentrations of domestic spoil and bric-a-brac were encountered during trenching in areas adjoining the River Liffey close to the town bridge, no material of archaeological interest was recovered during the monitoring carried out between January and mid-June 1999
<i>Kilcullen Bridge. NIAH 11819013 Site of medieval bridge</i>	<i>NLAH 11819013</i>	-	<p>Description</p> <p>Six-arch rubble stone road bridge over river, c.1850 [date incorrect on NIAH], with triangular cut-waters to north and ashlar voussoirs. Extensively renovated and widened, c.1970, comprising six-span parallel bridge to north incorporating piers of earlier bridge. Rubble stone walls (rebuilt, c.1970, to north). Cut-stone triangular cut-waters to north. Replacement iron railings, c.1970, to parapet wall with remains of rubble stone parapet wall incorporated as intermediary piers. Six round arches to south. Ashlar voussoirs. Rubble stone soffits with render over. Six flat spans to north. Reinforced concrete lintels. Reinforced concrete to underside of spans. Sited spanning River Liffey with landscaped banks to river.</p> <p>Appraisal</p> <p>Kilcullen Bridge is a fine stone bridge that forms the centre of the village of Kilcullen - a bridge has been in existence at this point since the fourteenth century - and an imposing feature on the River Liffey, and is one of a group of bridges on the section of that river that passes through County Kildare. The construction of the original arches that have retained their original shape is of technical and engineering merit - similarly the replacement spans to north are of technical engineering merit as an example of late twentieth-century bridge building. The bridge exhibits good quality stone masonry and fine, crisp joints, notably to the ashlar voussoirs. The bridge is of considerable historical and social significance as a reminder of the road network development in Ireland in the mid nineteenth century and as evidence of growing commuter/national traffic that necessitated the widening of the bridge.</p>
<i>Cremation Cemetery KD028-079---- . Excavation 01E485</i>	<i>Excavations Bulletin, www.excavations.ie;</i>	-	In 2001, archaeological monitoring (Byrne, M. Excavation Licence No. 01E0485 http://www.excavations.ie) of topsoil-stripping associated with a housing development on the N bank of the River Liffey at Kilcullen revealed a complex of ash

	<p>RMP KD028-079---</p>		<p>deposits. The complex was slightly downslope of the highest area of the development site and overlooked a bend in the river. Initial investigations indicated the presence of cremated bone on the surfaces of the deposits. Consequent excavation of the deposits revealed 22 pits, ranging from 0.05m to 0.22m deep. The pits were spread over an area measuring 8m by 7m, which was not enclosed. Preliminary analysis of the pit fills indicated that almost all contained fragments of cremated bone. In addition, some pottery fragments and a small flint arrowhead were recovered from the fills.</p>
<p><i>Milestone?</i></p>			<p>Possible milestone from the Kilcullen to Dublin Turnpike road, built against the north-east parapet Kilcullen bridge.</p>



Figure 13: Kilcullen Bridge from west



Figure 14: Kilcullen Bridge, from north



Figure 15: Kilcullen Bridge, from south, with c. 1970 widening of carriageway



Figure 16: Remains of weir for the former Kilcullen Corn Mill from south



Figure 17: Part of former Corn Mill, from west



Figure 18: View towards Kilcullen Bridge, Lower Main Street, from east



Figure 19: Lower Main Street, north side from east



Figure 20: Lower Main Street, west side, from east



Figure 21: Laneway west side of Kilcullen Heritage Centre, from south

3.0 FIELD INSPECTION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA

The development area was walked 13th March 2019. Each historic site in the development area and in its immediate environs was inspected and photographed. The proposed development area commences at the east side of Kilcullen Bridge and extends for a distance of 158m along Lower Main Street (Figure 1). It also includes a carpark area to the south-east of the bridge and a riverside walkway to its north. None of the original eighteenth century bridge parapets are extant on the east side of the bridge, although stretches do survive on the west side (Figure 13). A possible milestone from the Kilcullen to Dublin Turnpike road is set up against the north-eastern parapet of the bridge. Forty-five metres upstream of the bridge is the remnants of what was formerly a large weir that is marked on the 25-inch 1890 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 12). The weir served to power the Kilcullen Corn Mill, part of the wheelhouse of which survives (Figures 16, 17). The weir appears to have been removed in the recent past, possibly when the modern stone revetting was inserted to stabilise the east bank of the river. Archaeological monitoring of a service trench

that ran up Lower Main Street in 1999 brought to light nothing of archaeological interest (O Riordain 1998). The street surface itself is tarmac and four houses that are included on the NIAH are extant within the development area (Figures 1, 18-20). The development area also includes a laneway that runs west from Lower Main Street by the south side of the Kilcullen Heritage Centre (Figure 21).

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT STATEMENT

4.1 Potential Impacts on Archaeology

No structures or features of archaeological significance were identified as having the potential to be impacted, directly or indirectly, by the proposed development works. No in-stream works are proposed in the river. However, the development area may be coterminous with a medieval settlement, which was possibly walled and provided with a castle, that was established following the construction of a bridge at Kilcullenbridge in 1319. The development area also includes several nineteenth and early twentieth century houses of architectural heritage significance. Prior archaeological monitoring within the development area uncovered nothing of significance (O Riordain 1999). The proposed development area can therefore be considered to be an area of limited archaeological potential. Although the proposed public realm project is largely restricted to shallow resurfacing works and the insertion of services, any groundworks on the site have a potential to disturb subsurface archaeological deposits, features, burials or structures, should they exist in the area.

4.2 Proposed mitigation strategy

In light of the above, it is recommended that all groundworks (ground reductions, site investigations, service trenching) associated with the proposed works should be monitored by an archaeologist under licence to the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

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