

## **Chapter 13 – Cultural Heritage**

Cahermurphy West Wind  
Farm, Co. Clare





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Prepared By: **MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway  
Ireland  
H91 VW84**



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## 13. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

### 13.1 Introduction

IAC Archaeology has prepared this chapter to assess the impact, if any, on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource of the Proposed Project (Cahermurphy West Wind Farm), County Clare.

This study determines, from existing records and field inspections, the nature of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource within the Proposed Project and its environs using appropriate methods of study. The study areas for the assessment are described in Section 13.2.1.

Desk-based assessment is defined as a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic, and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets (CIfA 2020a).

This leads to the following:

- Determining the presence of known cultural heritage assets that may be affected by the Proposed Project;
- Assessment of the likelihood of finding previously unrecorded archaeological remains during the construction programme;
- Determining the potential impact upon the setting of known cultural heritage sites in the study area; and
- Suggested mitigation measures based upon the results of the above research.

The study involved detailed interrogation of the archaeological and historical background of the Proposed Project and study area. This included information from the Record of Monuments and Places of County Clare, the topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland, and cartographic and documentary records. Inspection of the aerial photographic and satellite imagery coverage of the Proposed Project held by Tailte Éireann, Bing Maps, and Google Earth has also been carried out.

A field inspection was carried out during August 2024 in order to identify any known archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites and previously unrecorded features, structures, and portable finds within the Proposed Project.

#### 13.1.1 Statement of Authority

This chapter was prepared by Faith Bailey (MA Cultural Landscape Management, BA (Hons) Archaeology, MIAI, MCIfA) and Johnnie Gallacher (MA (Hons) Archaeology, MLitt Archaeological Studies, MIAI). Faith is a licence eligible archaeologist, a member of the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists, a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and has over 22 years' experience working in the commercial cultural heritage sector. She has been responsible for the production and delivery of multiple archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage assessments and EIAR for renewable energy projects, including the Yellow River Wind Farm (Co. Offaly), Derrysallagh Wind Farm (Co. Sligo), Derreenacrinnig Wind Farm (Co. Cork) and the Robertstown Wind Farm (Co. Waterford). Johnnie Gallacher is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and has over 5 years' experience working in the commercial cultural heritage sector.

### 13.1.2 Definitions

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

‘Cultural Heritage’ where used generically, is an over-arching term applied to describe any combination of archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage features, where the term:

- ‘Archaeological heritage’ is applied to objects, monuments, buildings or landscapes of an (assumed) age typically older than AD 1700 (and recorded as archaeological sites within the Record of Monuments and Places).
- ‘Architectural heritage’ is applied to structures, buildings, their contents and settings of an (assumed) age typically younger than AD 1700.
- ‘Cultural heritage’, where used specifically, is applied to other (often less tangible) aspects of the landscape such as historical events, folklore memories and cultural associations.

### 13.1.3 Consultation

Following the initial research, a number of statutory and voluntary bodies were consulted to gain further insight into the cultural background of the Proposed Project site and study area, as follows:

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage – the Heritage Service, National Monuments and Historic Properties Section: Record of Monuments and Places; Sites and Monuments Record; Monuments in State Care Database; Preservation Orders and Register of Historic Monuments;
- National Museum of Ireland, Irish Antiquities Division: topographical files of Ireland;
- Clare County Council: Planning Section; and
- Historical and Ordnance Survey Maps.

#### 13.1.3.1 Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Regarding Heritage related observations, the DHLGH recommended the following:

- *“In addition to a robust desk-study supported by a comprehensive field inspection the CHIA should incorporate a visual impact assessment (to assist in identifying any possible impacts to the setting of sites or monuments)”* – The visual impact of the Proposed Project on the cultural heritage resource has been addressed in Section 13.5.3 and Appendix 13-6 of this EIAR
- *“the CHIA should include an assessment of the possible effects of the proposal on the wider archaeological landscape. It is of importance that the study area for the CHIA should be of sufficient size and extent to support this.”* – The study areas are defined in Table 13-1 below and are sufficient to assess the Proposed Projects impact on the surrounding cultural heritage features.

### 13.1.4 Guidance and Legislation

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

- National Monuments Act 1930 to 2014 (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage);
- The Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2024 (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage);

- Planning & Development Regulations 2001–2018 (Department of Housing, local Government and Heritage);
- Heritage Act, 1995, as amended;
- Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1999, (formerly) Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and Islands;
- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999 and the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts 2000–2018;
- Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023;
- European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention 1992);
- The European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention 2000);
- The Granada Convention (Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe, 1985); and
- Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2011.
- Guidelines on the information to be contained on the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EPA, 2022).
- European Commission (2020). Guidance document on wind energy developments and EU nature legislation. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg

The National Monuments Act 1930, as amended by various acts including but not limited to, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1954, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987, the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994 and the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004 (together the National Monuments Acts) make provision for the protection and preservation of national monuments, archaeological monuments and archaeological objects in Ireland. The description of the existing environment in this chapter takes account of those statutory designations and the chapter takes account of the legislative monitoring and licencing requirements as mitigation.

The Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2023 (the 2023 Act) was enacted by the Oireachtas in late 2023 and aims to address a range of structural issues, simplify terminology, as well as provide a single accessible piece of legislation. At the date of writing many sections of the 2023 Act have yet to commence. It is not anticipated that this will result in statutory protection being extended to any potential receptors apart from those already considered in this chapter and the chapter already identifies as mitigation the various archaeological investigations and licencing requirements that will come into force when the 2023 Act is commenced. Accordingly, the EIAR conclusions are likely to be unchanged should the 2023 Act commence fully while the application is moving through the planning process.

## 13.2 Assessment Methodology

### 13.2.1 Study Area Definitions

The definition of the study areas utilised for the assessment of the Proposed Project are detailed in Table 13-1. These areas have also been applied to the assessment of potential cumulative effects. The determination of study areas is based on professional judgement, given there are no national guidelines available with regards to how the development of wind farms may impact on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource. The study area for the proposed wind farm site is large, due to the potential indirect effects that may occur in the relation to the setting of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites. The study area for the Proposed Grid Connection and any interventions along the Turbine Delivery Route is 50m as the footprint of these works are small-scale and confined primarily to the existing road network.

Table 13-1: Study Area Definitions

Proposed Project Element	Study area	Site Types
Proposed Turbines	10km from the proposed turbines	All sites of international or national significance, including UNESCO World Heritage Properties (including Tentative List), National Monuments under state care or guardianship and any sites subject to a Preservation Order (PO).
Proposed Turbines	5km from the proposed turbines	All archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage assets subject to statutory protection, including sites listed in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and Record of Protected Structures (NIAH), National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) structures and Designed Landscapes (DL).
Proposed Turbines	2km from the proposed turbines	All previously unrecorded sites or structures of cultural heritage merit, such as buildings of architectural heritage merit (not included in the RPS/NIAH and archaeological sites not included in the RMP).
Proposed Grid Connection	50m	All recorded and previously unrecorded cultural heritage sites.
Any interventions along the Turbine Delivery Route (TDR)	50m	All recorded and previously unrecorded cultural heritage sites.

## 13.2.2 Proposed Hen Harrier Habitat Enhancement

Seven parcels of marginal upland terrain will be subject to habitat improvement for Hen Harriers, as part of the Proposed Project. These areas are located between 900m northeast and 5.5km east-northeast of T5. The areas comprise a mixture of commercial forestry and boggy, water-logged marginal grassland. The habitat management will comprise a mixture of commercial forestry felling and agricultural management. No excavation works are required as part of the habitat management and there are no recorded or previously unrecorded sites of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage significance in any of the areas (as per a review of the resources noted in Section 13.2.2 below). As habitat management will not result in any direct or indirect effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource, it is screened out of further assessment.

## 13.2.3 Desktop Assessment

The following sources were consulted as part of the desktop assessment for the Proposed Project:

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): properties inscribed on the World Heritage List and those nominated for inclusion on the tentative list;
- Record of Monuments and Places for County Clare;
- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for County Clare;
- National Monuments in State Care Database;
- List of Preservation Orders;
- Register of Historic Monuments;

- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and documentary sources relating to the study area;
- Clare County Development Plan (2023 – 2029);
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage County Clare (Architectural & Garden Survey);
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2025); and
- Place name analysis

The function of a UNESCO World Heritage list is to encourage member states to protect and manage their natural and cultural heritage. Properties considered for inclusion have cultural, historical, scientific or other significance, considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. There are three sites inscribed onto the UNESCO World Heritage List on the island of Ireland. These comprise the Giant’s Causeway and Causeway Coast, Brú na Bóine and Skellig Michael, none of which lie within 10km of the Proposed Project. In addition, there are no sites included on the tentative list located within 10km.

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) was established under Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments Act 1994 (as amended) which provides that the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) shall establish and maintain a RMP where it is known that such monuments exist. The record comprises of a list of monuments and relevant places and mapping showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the State. Sites recorded on the RMP all receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Act. All sites listed on the RMP are referred to as Archaeological Heritage (AH sites) within this assessment.

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds documentary evidence and records of field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g. only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Service as termed ‘un-located sites’ and cannot be afforded legal protection. As a result, these are omitted from the RMP. SMR sites are also listed on a website maintained by the DHLGH – [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie). All sites listed on the SMR are referred to as Archaeological Heritage (AH sites) within this assessment. It should be noted that revisions are proposed to the RMP and SMR, with some sites listed as redundant records and proposed for removal and other, newly discovered sites, proposed for inclusion. As the revisions have yet to take place, all current RMP/SMR sites are listed as AH sites within this assessment, with the relevant detail provided as to the nature and extent of each site included.

National Monuments in the State Care Database is a list of all the National Monuments in the State guardianship or ownership. Each is assigned a National Monument number whether in guardianship or ownership and has a brief description of each monument. A National Monument receives statutory protection and is described as ‘a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto’ (National Monuments Act, 1930, Section 2). The Minister for the DHLGH may acquire National Monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The State or Local Authority may assume guardianship of any National Monument (other than dwellings). The owners of National Monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the Local Authority as guardian of that monument if the State or Local Authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the State, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister. There are no National Monuments located within 10km of the proposed turbines.

Preservation Orders List and/or Temporary Preservation Orders, can be assigned to a site or sites that are deemed to be in danger of injury or destruction. Orders are allocated under the National Monuments Act, 1930. Preservation Orders make any interference with the site illegal. Temporary Preservation Orders can be attached under the National Monuments Act, 1954. These perform the same function as a Preservation Order but have a time limit of six months, after which the situation must be reviewed. Work may only be undertaken on or in the vicinity of sites under Preservation Orders with the written consent, and at the discretion, of the Minister (DHLGH). A cashel (AH70) is

recorded within Cahermurphy townland and is subject to a Preservation Order (4/1957), c. 840m south of Turbine 8.

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

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

Cartographic sources are important in tracing land use development within the Proposed Project and study area as well as providing important topographical information on areas of archaeological potential and the construction of buildings in the past. Cartographic analysis of all relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies or structures that no longer remain within the landscape. These include current and former townland and parish boundaries.

All previously unrecorded sites of potential archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage merit identified during the map analysis and aerial photographic analysis are listed as Cultural Heritage (CH) sites within this assessment.

Documentary sources were consulted to compile background information on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage receiving environment of the Proposed Project. A full list of references is given in Section 13.6.

Development Plans contain a catalogue of all the Protected Structures, archaeological sites and Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA) within every county. The Clare County Development Plan (2023 – 2029) was examined as part of this assessment. All protected structures are referred to as Built Heritage sites (BH) as part of this assessment.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) was established under the provisions of the Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999. It is a government-based organisation tasked with making a nationwide record of locally, regionally, nationally and internationally significant structures dating to post-1700 AD, which in turn provides local authorities with a guide as to what structures to list within the Record of Protected Structures. Only those structures of regional importance or above are included in the Minister's recommendations for inclusion in the RPS. The NIAH have also carried out a nationwide desk-based survey of historic gardens, including demesnes that surround large houses. All NIAH structures are referred to as Built Heritage sites (BH) as part of this assessment.

Whilst the NIAH Garden Survey was utilised as part of this assessment, this was carried out in conjunction with detailed analysis of the first edition Ordnance Survey maps and field inspection, in order to identify any Designed Landscapes (DL) within the study area of the Proposed Project.

Aerial photographic coverage is an important source of information regarding the precise location of sites and their extent. It also provides information on the terrain and its likely potential for archaeology. Aerial photographs held by Tailte Éireann (1995–2013), Google Earth (2005–2025) and Bing Maps (2023) were examined for this assessment.

Excavations Bulletin is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2010 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is also available online

([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)) from 1970-2025. Information from this resource is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files.

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

### 13.2.4 Field Inspection

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

The field inspection for the Proposed Project was carried out during August 2024 and entailed:

- Noting and recording the terrain type and land usage;
- Noting and recording the presence of known and previously unknown features of archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage significance;
- Verifying the extent and condition of recorded sites and structures (RMPs/ RPS/ NIAH); and
- Visually investigating any suspect landscape anomalies to determine the possibility of their being anthropogenic in origin and of archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage significance

## 13.3 Impact Assessment Methodology

The significance of potential effects has been evaluated using a systematic approach, based upon identification of the importance/value of receptors and their sensitivity to the Proposed Project activity, together with the predicted magnitude of the impact. This is in accordance with the approach laid out in the “Guidelines on Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements” (EPA 2022). For the purposes of this assessment, the maximum turbine range has been assessed, however, consideration to the lower turbine range was also given. The Photomontage Booklet included as part of this application and turbine permutations (i.e Scenarios 1, 2 & 3 within the booklet) were consulted when drafting this chapter, however, given that the magnitude of change in scale between each turbine permutation was minor and given that the larger tip height is more visually obtrusive than Scenarios 2 & 3, the largest turbine model (i.e Scenario 1) was utilised for the purposes of this assessment

### 13.3.1 Sensitivity of receptor

For each impact, the assessment identifies receptors sensitive to that impact and implements a systematic approach to understanding the impact pathways, magnitude and the level of effects on given receptors.

The definitions of receptor sensitivity for the purpose of the archaeology, architectural and cultural heritage assessment are provided in Table 13-2. This is based on the presence (or not) of statutory protection and the determination by the author.

Table 13-2: Criteria for determination of receptor sensitivity

Sensitivity	Criteria
Very High	Sites of International Importance: UNESCO World Heritage Properties (including tentative list) National Monuments Monuments subject to Preservation Orders
High	RMP Proposed RMP Record of Protected Structures (RPS) Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) Well-preserved demesne landscapes Previously unrecorded archaeological sites
Medium	SMR Sites listed on the NIAH (upstanding) Buildings not on NIAH/RPS (based on professional judgement) Moderately well-preserved demesne landscapes Townland boundaries
Low	Buildings not on NIAH/RPS (based on professional judgement) Poorly preserved demesne landscapes
Very Low	SMR – Record only or redundant record Proposed RMP – excavated Fully developed demesne landscapes Buildings not on NIAH/RPS (based on professional judgement)

### 13.3.2 Magnitude of Impact

The scale or magnitude of potential impacts (both beneficial and adverse) depends on the degree and extent to which the Proposed Project activities may change the environment, which usually varies according to project phase (i.e. construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning).

As per the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines, the nature of impacts can be categorised as follows:

- Quality: Positive, neutral or negative
- Nature: Direct, indirect
- Probability: Likely or unlikely
- Duration: Momentary, brief, temporary, short-term, medium-term, long-term, permanent, reversible
- Frequency: Once, rarely, occasionally, frequently, constantly

The criteria used to assess the different impacts associated with the Proposed Project are shown in Table 13-3. The criteria has been defined by the author in consideration of the “Guidelines on Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements” (EPA 2022).

Table 13-3: Criteria for determination of Magnitude of Impact

Magnitude	Criteria
Very High	These impacts arise where an archaeology or cultural heritage site, either below ground or upstanding, is completely and irreversibly destroyed.
High	An impact which, by its magnitude, duration or intensity, alters an important aspect of the archaeological and cultural heritage environment, including the setting of upstanding monuments. An impact like this would be where part of a site would be permanently

	impacted upon, leading to a loss of character, integrity and data about an archaeological or cultural heritage feature/site.
Medium	A medium impact arises where a change to a site/monument is proposed which though noticeable, is not such that the archaeological or cultural heritage integrity of the site is compromised. The change is likely to be consistent with existing and emerging trends. Impacts are probably reversible and may be of relatively short duration.
Low	An impact which causes changes in the character of the environment, such as a visual impact, which are not high or very high and do not directly impact or affect an archaeological or cultural heritage feature or monument.
Very Low	An impact on an archaeological or cultural heritage feature or monument capable of measurement but without noticeable consequences.

### 13.3.3 Significance of Effects

An Impact Assessment Matrix (IAM) is used to determine the significance of an effect. In basic terms, the potential significance of an effect is a function of the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of the impact, as shown in Table 13-4.

The matrix provides a framework for the consistent and transparent assessment of predicted effects although it is important to note that the assessments are based on the application of expert judgement.

The matrix provides levels of effect significance ranging from imperceptible to profound. For the purposes of this assessment, potential effects identified to be of significant significance or above (i.e., significant, very significant or profound) are considered to be “significant in EIA terms” and additional mitigation will be required. Potential effects identified as less than significant (i.e. moderate, slight, imperceptible or not significant) significance are generally considered to be not significant in EIA terms.

Table 13-4: Impact Assessment matrix for determination of significant of effect

Sensitivity of Receptor	Magnitude of Impact				
	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
Very High	Profound	Very Significant	Significant	Moderate	Slight
High	Very Significant	Significant	Significant - Moderate	Moderate - Slight	Not Significant
Medium	Significant	Significant - Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Imperceptible
Low	Moderate	Moderate - Slight	Slight	Not Significant	Imperceptible
Very Low	Slight	Not Significant	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Imperceptible

## 13.4 The Receiving Environment

The Proposed Wind Farm is located within the townlands of Cahermurphy, Carrowmagry South, Castlepark, Caheraghacullin, Doolough, Drummin, Kilmihil, Knockalough, Knocknahila More South, all in County Clare.

The Proposed Grid Connection passes through Cahermurphy, Cloonwhite South, Sheeaun, Leitrim, Cloonreddan, Kilmacduane East, Clooncullin, Lissanair, Teernagloghane, Brisla East, Brisla West, Gowerhass, Tullagower, Garraunnatooha, Knockerry West, Carrowfree, Derrylough, Dunneill, Doonnagurroge, Pouladarree, Carrowdotia South, Carrowdotia North, all in County Clare.

The proposed Turbine Delivery Route exits the N68 in Knockalough, where it joins the R484 before passing through Lacken, Kilmihil (including Kilmihil village), Cloonakilla, Castlepark, and Cahermurphy. The Turbine Delivery Route will require minimal accommodation works to the existing road network. Interventions (truck body oversail, wheelbase accommodation, blade oversail) are proposed in Knockalough, Kilmihil, Castlepark and Cahermurphy.

The Proposed Wind Farm site is primarily comprised of agricultural land, forestry and bogland, set in a rural landscape (Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-2). There are no recorded monuments within the Proposed Wind Farm, though 112 groups of monuments are recorded within the 5km study area. These include one which is additionally protected by a Preservation Order (AH70). This comprises a cashel recorded within Cahermurphy townland, c. 840m south of Turbine 8.

There are no National Monuments within 10km of the Proposed Wind farm. Four recorded monuments are situated within 50m of the grid connection route, none of which are National Monuments or subject to Preservation Orders.

There are no protected structures located within the Proposed Wind Farm. Similarly, no structures listed in the NIAH are located within the Proposed Wind Farm. There are a total of four structures recorded within the 5km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm (Table 13-6, Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-2). All four are also listed in the NIAH building survey. There is also one recorded architectural site situated within the 100m corridor study area for the Proposed Grid Connection Route. It is both a protected structure and a NIAH structure.

There are three Designed Landscapes (DL) within 5km of the Proposed Wind Farm. A further three Designed Landscapes are located within the study area of the Proposed Grid Connection.

Sites and structures described in this assessment are shown in Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-5.

## 13.4.1 Archaeological and Historical Background

### 13.4.1.1 Prehistoric Period

#### Mesolithic Period (c. 8000–4000 BC)

Recent discoveries from another area of County Clare, c. 25km east-northeast of the Proposed Wind Farm, have pushed back the date of the earliest human presence in Ireland to the Upper Palaeolithic Period, c. 10,500 BC (Dowd and Carden 2016). The Mesolithic period is the earliest time for which there is clear evidence for permanent human inhabitation in Ireland. During this period people hunted, foraged and gathered food and appear to have led a primarily mobile lifestyle. The presence of Mesolithic communities is most commonly evidenced by scatters of worked flint material, a by-product of the production of flint implements.

The River Shannon lies c. 16.3km south of the Proposed Wind Farm, although its course has changed over time. It formed one of the main access routes into mainland Ireland and was a focus for settlement from the Mesolithic period onwards. The results of the archaeological intertidal survey of the Shannon estuary carried out for the North Munster Project of the Discovery Programme revealed evidence for some sea-level rise and marine transgressions (O’Sullivan 2001). Local conditions appear to have resulted in the submergence of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age forest landscapes, which now lie sealed beneath estuarine clays.

### Neolithic Period (c. 4000–2500 BC)

During this period communities became less mobile, and their economy became based on the rearing of stock and cereal cultivation. The transition to the Neolithic was marked by major social change. Communities had expanded and moved further inland to more permanent settlements. This afforded the development of agriculture which demanded an altering of the physical landscape. Forests were rapidly cleared, and field boundaries were constructed. Pottery was also being produced, possibly for the first time. The advent of the Neolithic period also saw the construction of megalithic tombs. There are four types of tomb in Ireland, namely the Court Cairn, Portal, Passage and Wedge; of which the latter style straddles the Neolithic to Bronze Age transition. Whilst there are no sites of this period recorded in the 5km study area, after County Antrim, the Clare/Limerick area of Munster, is Ireland's second richest area for yielding Neolithic stone axes (Sheridan *et al.* 1992).

### Bronze Age (c. 2500–800 BC)

This period was marked by the widespread use of metal for the first time in Ireland. As with the transition from the earlier Mesolithic to Neolithic periods, the transition into the early Bronze Age was accompanied by changes in society. Megalithic tombs were no longer constructed, and the burial of the individual became typical. Cremated or inhumed bodies were often placed in a cist, which is a stone-lined grave, usually built of slabs set upright to form a box-like construction and capped by a large slab or several smaller lintels. The Bronze Age has also long been believed to have seen the peak of burnt mound/ *fulachta fia* activity (Waddell 2022, 164). Burnt mounds are typically located in areas where there is a readily available water source, often in proximity to a river or stream or in places with a high-water table. In the field burnt mounds may be identified as charcoal-rich mounds or spreads of heat shattered stones. The closest recorded *fulacht fia* (AH40) is located c. 3.11km northeast of the Proposed Wind Farm.

### Iron Age (c. 800 BC–AD 500)

There is increasing evidence for Iron Age settlement and activity in recent years as a result of development-led excavations as well as projects such as Late Iron Age and Roman Ireland (Cahill Wilson 2014). Yet this period is distinguishable from the rather rich remains of the preceding Bronze Age and subsequent early medieval period, by a relative paucity within the current archaeological record. The Iron Age in Ireland is problematic for archaeologists as few artefacts dating exclusively to this period have been found and without extensive excavation it cannot be determined whether several monument types, such as ring-barrows or standing stones, date to the late Bronze Age or Iron Age. It is likely that there was significant continuity in the Iron Age, with earlier monuments re-used in many cases. There are no recorded Iron Age sites within the 5km study area of the Proposed Project.

### Early Medieval Period (AD 500–1100)

The most common indicator of settlement during the early medieval period is the ringfort. The Shannon Estuary area has one of the highest ringfort densities in the country (Stout 1997) and there are numerous ringforts recorded in the area surrounding the Proposed Project, the closest (AH70) being situated c. 840m south of Turbine 8. The high concentration of ringforts indicates a relatively high population density at this time.

The early medieval period marked the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, which was to have a profound impact on the country. This is evidenced by the proliferation of ecclesiastical sites throughout the country during this period. Three ecclesiastical enclosures (AH11, AH72, AH90) are recorded within the 5km study area, along with five holy wells (AH74, AH76, AH103, AH104, AH111). The veneration of well sites is one of the oldest traditions in Irish Christianity and most likely has its origins in pagan ritual activities. Plummer (1910) demonstrates that at least some holy wells in Ireland were important venues of pre-Christian ritual activity. These wells can manifest themselves in a variety of forms ranging from natural springs to rain collecting rock depressions. Many holy wells can be found associated with

early ecclesiastical sites and well veneration and its antecedent well worship is not confined to Ireland or even to Europe.

### Medieval Period (AD 1100-1600)

The piecemeal conquest by the Anglo-Normans of Ireland, which commenced in AD 1169, had a fundamental impact on the Irish landscape. The main success of the Anglo-Norman occupation was the welding of scattered territories into a cohesive unit through the introduction of the English form of shire government. The rural landscape became a network of manorial centres; these units would generally contain a castle (motte and bailey), a manorial house and a number of dwellings, with extensive surrounding acreage. While the west of Ireland, including the landscape containing the Proposed Project, was far less directly affected by this conquest, Norman architecture certainly influenced the designs of castles built by the native Irish (Loeber 2019).

During the 14th to 16th centuries, tower houses were the typical residence of the Irish gentry and were a common feature in the Irish landscape. There are a number of castle and tower houses sites (AH22, AH91, AH1, AH12) within the 5km study area, the closest of which is AH91, located c. 2.78km south-southeast. One of these (AH22), is known to have probably been built by Mortagh O'Brien, and granted to Donagh O'Brien, the fourth earl of Thomond in 1585 who leased it to James FitzNicholas Bourke of Limerick in 1618. AH1 and AH12 are also castle sites. AH1 is located c. 5km north of the Turbines 1 and 2. It is associated with the Mac Brody family in the 17th century. AH12 is located c. 4.34km to the northwest of the Proposed Wind Farm site. This is shown on the 1922 OS map as a building named 'Finnor Castle'.

### Post-Medieval Period (AD 1600-1800)

The 17th century in County Clare, as with other parts of the country, was a turbulent period of warfare, religious strife and political upheaval, characterised by three specific conflicts – the Nine Years' War (1593-1603), the Irish Confederate Wars (1641-53), and the Williamite War (1688-91). In 1651, a protracted siege by Cromwell's forces left Limerick City besieged with famine, pestilence and death. The city finally surrendered with a death toll of 5,000 inhabitants. The Williamite Wars of the late 17th century saw the reactivation of the city mint to finance James II's campaign. Gun money was minted in Dublin and Limerick, allegedly from the brass of old cannons, hence its name. Limerick City withstood attacks by Williamite forces throughout 1690 and 1691, becoming the last Jacobite stronghold to repel William's army. After the slaughter of 600 inhabitants who had become trapped outside the city walls and the failure of French reinforcements to arrive, Patrick Sarsfield signed the Treaty of Limerick in October 1691 (Spellissy 1998).

The ending of the Williamite Wars saw the beginning of a comparative politically calm era, which allowed the country's landowners the security to experiment with the latest styles of architecture without the need to refer to defensive matters. Initially, constraints on available resources resulted in mansions of a relatively modest scale and relatively plain appearance. However, as the Irish aristocracy's sense of security grew over the following decades, their greater access to wealth helped foster a shift towards more ostentatious buildings. There are three designed landscapes located within 5km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm. DL1 was established as part of Clooneenagh House (CH34) and is located c. 1.67km southwest of T7. DL2 was established as part of Doulough Lodge (CH5) and is located c. 1.43km to the northeast of Turbine 2. DL3 was established as part of Knocknahila House, c. 1.65m west-northwest of Turbine 1.

Clooneenagh House (CH34, DL1) is shown on the 1848 OS map and although it is not shaded as a demesne on this map, it does possess features typical of a landscape, including the main house, outbuildings, an access drive, walled garden and a gate lodge. By the time of the 1898 map, these features remain present although the tree lined boundaries are shown in more detail. The 2,169 acres estate of John O'Kelly of Clonina [Clooneenagh] was advertised for sale on 3 March 1854 (<https://landedestates.ie/estate/2104>). John O'Kelly held these lands from the McMahons previously of

Clonina, who in turn held them from the Earl of Thomond. The O'Kellys were living at Clonina from at least the mid-1840s when James O'Kelly of Clonina married Margaret Kenny of Freagh Castle. Today, the demesne has been subsumed into a modern farm. Aerial photography suggests that the principal structure and other buildings are retained in the farm, though the designed landscape otherwise appears poorly preserved. An online report indicates that in recent decades Clooneenagh House was completely restored having previously been in ruins (Birdthistle 2020).

Doolough Lodge demesne (CH5, DL2) is marked on the 1898 OS map within a small demesne with the main house constructed on a mound, and outbuildings located to the west, along with the main drive entrance. The house is not marked on the earlier OS map, but Treanmanagh House was formerly located in the northwest of the later demesne landscape. Records of this estate go back to 1715 when it was home to the Kennys and it is claimed that this was the only pre-emancipation 'big house' owned by a Catholic between Ennis and Loophead (Keenan 2020). The Landed Estates website describes Doolough Lodge as follows: "At the time of Griffith's Valuation Matthew Kelly [of Kilrush] held a herd's house valued at £3 and 201 acres from Edward O'Brien at Treanmanagh. The house dates from about the mid-19th century and was the Irish home of Matthew's son General Sir Thomas Kelly Kenny. Weir writes that the General had King George V to stay in the house following the King's coronation in 1910." (<https://landedestates.ie/property/2185>). The principal structure remains extant today (CH5) and the demesne has retained many of its original features.

Knocknahila House (DL3) is first labelled on the 1898 OS map situated within a group of four tree-lined fields and surrounded by four other buildings. Settlement was visible on the earlier 1848 OS map, though it did not appear as a designed landscape at that time. No entry was found on the Landed Estates website. Griffith's Valuation suggests that the house was owned by the Kelly family. Today the main house is no longer present and whilst some of the planted landscape survives, part of the site is now occupied by modern agricultural buildings.

Additionally, the grid connection route passes through two Designed Landscapes (DL4-5) and runs immediately adjacent to another (DL6) within the existing road network. Doonagurroge Castle demesne (DL4) is shown on the 1848 OS map as a shaded and relatively small geometric demesne landscape situated c. 1.5km north of the Shannon coastline (Appendix 13-1, Figure 13-4). A tower house (SMR Ref. CL067-058) was built on this site by the McMahons of Clonderlaw in around 1500 (Ua Cróinín, R. & Breen, M. 1992). Approximately 300 years later, a detached L-plan four-bay two-storey farmhouse (NIAH Ref. 20406720) was constructed. This incorporated fabric of the earlier tower house, while parts of a 17th-century bawn or courtyard wall, shown on Dineley's sketch of 1680, may have been incorporated into a later exterior wall. Aerial photography indicates that this demesne landscape is well-preserved, albeit with a road running through it, which the cable route will follow. The proposed turbines are located c. 15.5km to the north.

Carrowdotia House (DL5) is shown on the 1848 OS map as a shaded and relatively small demesne landscape situated c. 700m north of the Shannon coastline. Carrowdotia House was part of the Vandeleur estate ([landedestates.ie](https://landedestates.ie)). The Vandeleur family descended from Maximilian Van Der Leur, a Dutch merchant, who had settled in Ireland by the early 17th century. His grandson, the Reverend John Vandeleur, was rector of Kilrush, barony of Moyarta, county Clare in the 1680s. By the mid-19th century, the Vandeleur estate amounted to almost 20,000 acres in county Clare. It was the residence of William Daxon in 1814 and of R.D. Daxon in 1837 (<https://landedestates.ie/property/2169>). Valued at £17 at the time of Griffith's Valuation and occupied by James Cathro. Today the main house is present but appears to be uninhabited (CH71) and the Proposed Grid Connection passes to the west of the house via an existing track and through the main gate entrance where the derelict gate lodge remains present (CH70). The demesne has become very denuded and there is modern development to the northeast and south.

Besborough House demesne (DL6) is located to the immediate east of the cable route. The principal structure is a Protected Structure (RPS. 483) built c. 1790 with late-19th century additions. It is shown on the 1848 OS map as a large demesne landscape situated adjacent to the Shannon estuary. It was occupied by Reverend Theobald Butler in 1837 and still in his possession at the time of Griffith's

Valuation. He held the property from Letitia Hickman and it was valued at over £22. The house was later owned by the Reeves family, who settled in Ireland during the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century (<https://landedestates.ie/estate/2055>; <https://landedestates.ie/property/2168>). The demesne, for the most part, has been subsumed into an agricultural landscape, although demesne planting around the main house, and to the north, remains present.

Due the rural and margin nature of the area under assessment, the built heritage resource is characterised by the remains of vernacular buildings. ‘Vernacular architecture’ is a term used to describe traditional buildings constructed using locally available materials and according to local/regional styles i.e. the homes and workplaces of the ordinary people. This is in contrast to formal architecture, such as the grand estate houses of the gentry, churches and public buildings, which were often designed by architects or engineers. Typically, the single-storied thatched cottage would be considered to represent the real vernacular style in Ireland. The majority of vernacular buildings are domestic dwellings, but examples of other structures that fall into this category include outbuildings, mills, limekilns, farmsteads, forges, gates and gate piers. Multiple vernacular structures, both ruined and renovated to modern use are recorded within the 2km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm and the 50m study area of the Proposed Grid Connection and Turbine Delivery Route.

## 13.4.2 Summary of Archaeological Fieldwork

A review of the Excavations Bulletin (1970-2025) and the available excavation reports revealed no previous archaeological investigations have taken place within the Proposed Project area boundary. One previous archaeological investigation has been carried out within 2km of the Proposed Wind Farm, which comprised a programme of archaeological monitoring (Bennett 2019:419, Licence Ref.: 19E0089). This investigation was carried out in 2019 at Cahermurphy, c. 250m east of the Proposed Wind Farm. The 2019 works involved the construction of three wind turbines, a sub-station and a borrow pit. No archaeology was found. No investigations have been carried out along or adjacent to the Cable Route or at an intervention points associated with the Turbine Delivery Route.

## 13.4.3 Cartographic Analysis

### 13.4.3.1 William Petty, Down Survey, The County of Clare, c. 1655

Several of the Down Survey Barony maps of County Clare were destroyed by fire in 1711 and to date no copies have been located. As a result, only the county map is available. This larger scale map shows very little detail of the area containing the Proposed Project.

### 13.4.3.2 Henry Pelham, Grand Jury Map of the County of Clare, 1787

This map shows very little detail of the area of the Proposed Project which is depicted as an open area containing hills, water courses, lakes and roads.

### 13.4.3.3 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1848, scale 1:10,560

The first edition OS map of 1848 shows the overall Proposed Wind Farm as rough, marginal land with occasional field boundaries and some scattered vernacular settlement associated with some small fields of improved pasture. Five small buildings are located in the townland of Knocknahilamore South in the northwest of the Proposed Wind Farm and two small buildings are marked in the eastern portion of the Proposed Wind Farm site, within the townland of Cahermurphy. The Proposed Grid Connection follows a road that is present within this map, down to the Shannon estuary.

There are several interventions required along the Proposed Turbine Delivery Route within the townlands of Cahermurphy, Castlepark and Kilmihil. Within Cahermurphy the proposed intervention

will cross the site of an earlier road (CH39), which is marked on this map. No other structures or features are located within the proposed intervention points.

### 13.4.3.4 Ordnance Survey Map, 1898, scale 1:2,500

By the time of this map the overall landscape continues to be marked as a rough and marginal area. There has been an increase in the construction of field boundaries but an overall reduction in the level of vernacular settlement in the landscape. A number of the vernacular structures marked in the northwest portion of the Proposed Wind Farm are no longer present, but two new buildings have been constructed, one of which remains extant today (CH26). There are no major changes to note along the path of the Proposed Grid Connection, which remains present as a roadway to the Shannon estuary. At the proposed intervention points along the Turbine Delivery Route, within the townland of Cahermurphy, the earlier road (CH39) remains present and a school is now marked to the immediate north of the proposed intervention point.

## 13.4.4 County Development Plan

### 13.4.4.1 Archaeological Heritage

The Clare County Development Plan (2023-2029) recognises the statutory protection afforded to all RMP sites under the National Monuments Legislation (1930-2014). The development plans list a number of aims and objectives in relation to archaeological heritage (Appendix 13-2). Monuments located within 5km are listed in Table 13-5 and shown in Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-2.

There are no recorded monuments within the Proposed Wind Farm site, although 112 individual or groups of monuments are recorded within the 5km study area (Table 13-5). These include one which is additionally protected by a Preservation Order (AH70), located within Cahermurphy townland, c. 840m south of Turbine 8 (Appendix 13-1, Figure 13-2). There are no National Monuments within 10km of the Proposed Wind farm.

Five recorded monuments are situated within the 50m study area for the Proposed Grid Connection, none of which are National Monuments or subject to Preservation Orders. There are no recorded monuments located within the study area of where interventions to the existing road network will take place for the Turbine Delivery Route.

All National Monuments and sites with Preservation Orders possess very high sensitivity. Recorded monuments possess high sensitivity, whereas sites that have been reclassified as redundant records, or subject to archaeological excavation in the past, possess very low sensitivity.

Table 13-5: Recorded Monuments within the Study Areas

AH No.	RMP No.	Location	Classification	Nearest Turbine	Distance
<b>Proposed Wind Farm</b>					
AH1	CL039-004001	Castlemarket	Enclosure and castle	T1	c. 4.88km north
AH2	CL039-011	Shanavogh West	Ringfort - rath	T2	c. 4.89km north
AH3	CL039-013	Coor West	Ringfort - rath	T3	c. 4.79km north
AH4	CL039-014	Coor West	Ringfort - rath	T2	c. 4.47km north

AH5	CL039-016	Coor West	Ringfort - rath	T2	c. 4.32km north
AH6	CL039-019	Clonlaheen West	Ringfort - rath	T5	c. 4.55m north-northeast
AH7	CL039-020	Clonlaheen Middle	Redundant record	T5	c. 4.97m northeast
AH8	CL038-033	Finnor More	Hut site	T1	c. 4.90m northwest
AH9	CL038-034/002	Finnor More	Ring-barrow and house of indeterminate date	T1	c. 4.87km north
AH10	CL038-035	Finnor More	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 4.82m northwest
AH11	CL038-036001-3	Finnor More	Burial ground, holy well and ecclesiastical enclosure	T1	c. 4.59km northwest
AH12	CL038-039001	Finnor More	Earthwork and castle	T1	c. 4.38km northwest
AH13	CL038-070	Finnor More	Excavation – miscellaneous	T1	c. 4.62km northwest
AH14	CL038-069	Finnor More	Kiln – corn-drying	T1	c. 4.55km northwest
AH15	CL038-067001-2	Carrowlagan	Burnt mound	T1	c. 4.28km northwest
	CL038-068001-3	Carrowlagan	Three burnt mounds	T1	c. 4.33km northwest
AH16	CL038-018	Ballymackea beg	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 4.25km north-northwest
AH17	CL038-019	Ballymackea beg	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 4.47km north-northwest
AH18	CL039-001	Doonogan	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 3.79km north-northwest
	CL038-036001-2	Doonogan	Penitential station and holy well	T1	c. 3.69km north-northwest
AH19	CL039-005	Doonogan	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 3.73km north
AH20	CL039-007	Doonogan	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 3.14km north
AH21	CL039-044	Doonogan	Redundant record	T2	c. 3.64km north
AH22	CL039-010002	Doonogan	Castle – tower house	T2	c. 3.80km north

AH23	CL039-017	Clonlaheen West	Ringfort – rath	T2	c. 3.72km north- northeast
AH24	CL039-018	Clonlaheen West	Ringfort – rath	T5	c. 4.04km northeast
AH25	CL039-021	Cloonlaheen Middle	Redundant record	T5	c. 4.81km northeast
AH26	CL038-040	Finnor Beg	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 4.15km northwest
AH27	CL038-041	Carrowlagan	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 3.99km northwest
AH28	CL038-043	Carrowlagan	Barrow – ring- barrow	T1	c. 3.91km northwest
AH29	CL038-042	Carrowlagan	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 3.65km northwest
AH30	CL039-002	Doonogan	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 3.03km north- northwest
AH31	CL039-027	Moyglass More	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 2.77km north- northwest
AH32	CL039-028	Moyglass More	Children’s burial ground	T1	c. 2.26km north- northwest
AH33	CL039-030	Moyglass More	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 2.60km north
AH34	CL039-031	Carrownagry North	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 2.29km north
AH35	CL039-032	Carrownagry North	Ringfort – rath	T1	c. 2.10km north
AH36	CL039-045	Creevagh	Redundant record	T5	c. 3km north- northeast
AH37	CL039-039001	Creevagh	Hut site	T5	c. 2.99km northeast
	CL039-039002	Creevagh	Hut site	T5	c. 3.02km northeast
	CL039-043001	Creevagh	Hut site	T5	c. 2.82km northeast
	CL039-043002	Creevagh	Hut site	T5	c. 2.76km northeast
AH38	CL039-042	Creevagh	Enclosure	T5	c. 2.47km northeast
AH39	CL039-038/001	Creevagh	Two enclosures	T5	c. 3.19km northeast
AH40	CL039-037	Creevagh	Inscribed stone and sweathouse	T5	c. 3.45km northeast
AH41	CL038-037	Cloghaunnatinny	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 4.08km west- northwest
	CL038-038	Cloghaunnatinny	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 3.96km west- northwest

AH42	CL038-055	Cloghaunnatinny	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 2.94km west-northwest
	CL038-056001-2	Cloghaunnatinny	Ringfort and hut site	T1	c. 2.85km west-northwest
AH43	CL039-026	Moyglass Beg	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 2.12km northwest
AH44	CL039-029	Carrownagry North	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 1.51km north
AH45	CL039-033001-2	Treanmanagh	Children's burial ground and ringfort	T1	c. 1.12km north
AH46	CL039-034	Treanmanagh	Redundant record	T2	c. 1.59km north-northeast
AH47	CL038-050	Molosky	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 4.03km west-northwest
AH48	CL038-054	Molosky	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 3.26km west-northwest
AH49	CL038-065	Molosky	Quarry	T1	c. 2.68km northwest
AH50	CL038-066	Knocknahila More (North)	Standing stone	T1	c. 2.21km northwest
AH51	CL038-058002	Knocknahila More (North)	Enclosure	T1	c. 2.23km west-northwest
AH52	CL038-058001	Knocknahila More (North)	Burial ground	T1	c. 1.89km west-northwest
AH53	CL038-052	Molosky	Ringfort - rath	T1	c. 3.70km west-northwest
AH54	CL038-051	Cloghaun More (West)	Ringfort - rath	T3	c. 3.73km west
AH55	CL038-053	Cloghaun More (West)	Ringfort - rath	T3	c. 3.48km west
AH56	CL038-057	Cloghaun More (East)	Ringfort - rath	T3	c. 2.03km west
AH57	CL047-014	Cloghaun Beg (West)	Ringfort - rath	T3	c. 2.98km west-southwest
AH58	CL047-011	Cloghaun Beg (West)	Earthwork	T3	c. 3.37km west-southwest
AH59	CL047-054	Cloghaun Beg (East)	Cairn - unclassified	T3	c. 2.46km west-southwest
AH60	CL047-017	Cloghaun Beg (East)	Hut site	T7	c. 2.51km west
AH61	CL047-016	Cloghaun Beg (East)	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 2.51km west

AH62	CL048-001	Cloghaun Beg (East)	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 1.40km west
AH63	CL047-009	Cloghaun More (West)	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.85km west-southwest
AH64	CL047-010	Creagh South	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.85km west-southwest
AH65	CL047-036	Ballynagun East	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.46km southwest
AH66	CL047-012	Creagh South	Burial ground	T7	c. 3.93km southwest
	CL047-013	Creagh South	Enclosure	T7	c. 3.82km southwest
AH67	CL047-015001-2	Creagh North	Ringfort and souterrain	T7	c. 2.92km southwest
	CL047-018	Creagh North	Enclosure	T7	c. 2.75km southwest
AH68	CL048-002	Cloonwhite North	Redundant record	T7	c. 845m south-southwest
AH69	CL048-004	Cahermurphy	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 1.22km south-southeast
AH70	CL048-005/001	Cahermurphy	Ringfort – cashel and hut site	T8	c. 840m south
AH71	CL048-007	Cahermurphy	Hut site	T8	c. 1.39km southeast
AH72	CL048-006001-2	Castlepark	Ecclesiastical enclosure and graveyard	T8	c. 1.62km south-southeast
AH73	CL048-075	Castlepark	Enclosure	T8	c. 2.35km southeast
AH74	CL048-011001-2	Kiltumper	Mound and holy well	T8	c. 3.20km southeast
AH75	CL048-012	Kiltumper	Hut site	T8	c. 3.68km southeast
AH76	CL048-073	Kiltumper	Ritual site – holy well	T8	c. 4.02km southeast
	CL048-083	Kiltumper	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 3.95km southeast
AH77	CL048-013	Kiltumper	Enclosure	T8	c. 4.44km southeast
AH78	CL047-037	Leitrim	Burial ground	T7	c. 4.08km southwest
AH79	CL047-038	Leitrim	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 3.74km southwest
AH80	CL048-017	Leitrim	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 3.49km southwest

AH81	CL048-018	Leitrim	Earthwork	T7	c. 3.24km southwest
AH82	CL048-021001-3	Leitrim	Ringfort, souterrain, house of indeterminate date	T7	c. 3.04km south-southwest
AH83	CL048-022	Leitrim	Hut site	T7	c. 2.89km south-southwest
AH84	CL048-023001-2	Leitrim	Cashel and souterrain	T7	c. 2.89km south-southwest
AH85	CL048-027	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 2.84km south
AH86	CL048-032	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 2.75km south
AH87	CL048-085	Sheeaun	House – indeterminate date	T8	c. 2.61km south
AH88	CL048-033001-3	Sheeaun	Two ringforts and house of indeterminate date	T8	c. 2.65km south-southeast
AH89	CL048-082	Sheeaun	Ringfort – rath	T8	c. 2.82km south-southeast
AH90	CL048-034001	Cloonakilla	Ecclesiastical enclosure	T8	c. 3.25km south-southeast
	CL048-034002	Cloonakilla	Cross-slab	T8	c. 3.25km south-southeast
AH91	CL048-008	Castlepark	Ringfort – rath	T8	c. 2.65km south-southeast
	CL048-009001-5	Castlepark	Moated site, tower house, enclosure. X2 houses indeterminate date	T8	c. 2.78km south-southeast
AH92	CL048-010	Kiltumper	Enclosure	T8	c. 3.28km southeast
AH93	CL048-035	Knockmore	Ringfort – rath	T8	c. 3.36km southeast
AH94	CL048-084	Knockmore	Excavation – miscellaneous	T8	c. 3.54km southeast
AH95	CL048-036	Knockmore	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 3.74km southeast
AH96	CL048-038	Knockmore	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 4.47km southeast

AH97	CL048-076	Knockmore	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 4.95km southeast
AH98	CL048-016	Clooneedan	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.29km south-southwest
AH99	CL048-019	Clooneedan	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.30km south-southwest
AH100	CL048-053	Clooneedan	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.74km south-southwest
AH101	CL048-020	Clooneedan	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.27km south-southwest
AH102	CL048-054	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.59km south-southwest
AH103	CL048-055	Sheeaun	Ritual site – holy well	T7	c. 4.91km south-southwest
AH104	CL048-024	Sheeaun	Ritual site – holy well	T7	c. 3.66km south-southwest
AH105	CL048-025	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 4.14km south-southwest
AH106	CL048-026	Sheeaun	Burial ground	T7	c. 3.97km south
AH107	CL048-028	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 3.48km south
	CL048-029	Sheeaun	Earthwork	T7	c. 3.66km south
	CL048-030	Sheeaun	Ringfort - rath	T7	c. 3.65km south
	CL048-031	Sheeaun	Enclosure	T7	c. 3.69km south
AH108	CL048-057	Cahercannavan	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 4.36km south
AH109	CL048-060	Kilmihil	Standing stone - pair	T8	c. 3.76km south-southeast
AH110	CL048-061	Kilmihil	Ringfort - rath	T8	c. 4.77km south-southeast
AH111	CL048-063001-3	Kilmihil	Church, graveyard and holy well	T8	c. 4.91km south-southeast
AH112	CL048-037	Knockmore	Quarry	T8	c. 4.64km southeast
<b>Proposed Grid Connection</b>					
AH83	CL048-022	Leitrim	Hut site	N/a	c. 50m west
AH113	CL067-059	Doonnaghurroge	Ringfort - rath	N/a	c. 5m east

AH114	CL067-057	Poulnadarree	Ritual site – holy well	N/a	c. 28m west
AH115	CL067-042	Carrowdotia South	Ringfort - rath	N/a	c. 41m south
AH116	CL067-041	Carrowdotia South	Ringfort - rath	N/a	c. 38m east

### 13.4.4.2 Architectural Heritage

The Clare County Development Plan (2023 – 2029) recognises the value of the built heritage to the county and are committed to the protection and enhancement of this heritage by providing measures for the protection of architectural heritage (Appendix 13-3). These include the establishment of a Record of Protected Structures (RPS) and the designation of Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs).

There are no recorded architectural heritage sites within the Proposed Wind Farm site, although four structures are recorded within the 5km study area (Table 13-6, Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-2). All four are also listed in the NIAH building survey. There is one protected structure, which is also listed in the NIAH, located within the study area of the Proposed Grid Connection. There are no protected structures within the study area of the interventions required for the Proposed Turbine Delivery Route.

Table 13-6: Built Heritage Sites within the Study Areas

BH No.	RPS No	NIAH	Location	Classification	Nearest Turbine	Distance
<b>Proposed Wind Farm</b>						
BH1	131	20403901	Coor West	R.C Church	T2	c. 3.93km north
BH2	106	20403801	Finnor More	Church /chapel	T1	c. 4.55km northwest
BH3	140	20404802	Kilmihil	Church /chapel	T8	c. 4.64km south-southeast
BH4	138	20404704	Creegh South	Church /chapel	T3	c. 4.87km west-southwest
<b>Proposed Grid Connection</b>						
BH5	171	20405704	Knockerry West	Church /chapel	N/a	c. 10m east

### 13.4.4.3 Architectural Conservation Areas

There are no Architectural Conservation Areas within the 5km study area of the proposed wind farm site.

## 13.4.5 National Inventory of Architectural Heritage

### 13.4.5.1 Buildings Survey

A review of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) survey of County Clare (2000) was undertaken as part of this assessment. There are four structures listed in the NIAH within the 5km study areas of the proposed wind farm site, all of which are also protected structures and listed in Table

13-6. BH5, which is also a protected structure is included in the NIAH survey and located 10m east of the Proposed Grid Connection.

### 13.4.5.2 Garden Survey

The first edition Ordnance Survey maps of County Clare (1848) shows the extent of demesne landscapes as shaded portions of land within the 5km study area. These were established as a naturalised landscaped setting for the large houses of the landed gentry (Table 13-7, Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-4). None of the three demesnes within the study area of the Proposed Wind Farm are included in the garden survey (DL1-3). Only one of the demesne landscapes in the study area of the Proposed Grid Connection is listed in the survey. No demesne landscapes are located within the study area of interventions required for the Turbine Delivery Route.

Table 13-7: Designed Landscapes in the Study Areas

DL No	NIAH Garden ID	Name	Townland	Nearest Turbine	Distance
<b>Proposed Wind Farm</b>					
DL1	-	Clooneenagh House	Clooneenagh	T7	c. 1.85km southwest
DL2	-	Treanmanagh House	Treanmanagh	T2	c. 1.62km north-northeast
DL3	-	Knocknahila House	Knocknahila More (North)	T1	c. 1.81km west-northwest
<b>Proposed Grid Connection</b>					
DL4	-	Doonagurroge Castle	Doonagurroge	N/a	0m
DL5	-	Carrowdotia House	Carrowdotia South	N/a	0m (within GCR)
DL6	3698	Besborough	Poulnadaree	N/a	To the immediate east

### 13.4.6 Topographical Files of the National Museum of Ireland

Information on stray archaeological finds from the study area in County Clare has been recorded by the National Museum of Ireland since the late 18th century. Location information relating to these finds is important in establishing prehistoric and historic activity in the study area. The recorded finds from the study area of the Proposed Project are detailed below in Table 13-8. Whilst elements of the Proposed Project are in the townland of Cahermurphy, no find location is given in the files for the wooden mether noted below. The proposed Grid Connection Route passes through the eastern corner of Teernagloghane via the existing road.

Table 13-8: Stray Finds listed in the Naional Museum's Topographical Files

NMI Ref	Find	Townland	Description
1946:353	Wooden mether	Cahermurphy	Two-handed. Found in bog.
1961:181	Socketed bronze axehead	Teernagloghane	Socketed bronze axehead with heavy green patination, pitted over much of the surface. The socket is almost circular, the external axes being pitted over much of the surface. The rim is flat but in three places, it still retains portions of metal from the pouring gate. The cutting-edge is widely splayed and the socket is waisted. In the interior of the socket there are two short casting ridges, one on either face. The casting seams have not been rubbed down. Below the rim, on a line with the underside of the top of the loop, there is a slight step on the external surface of the specimen. L 9.9cm, W 6.9cm. Found in bank of a ringfort while it was being removed in 1948.
1961:182	1946:353	Teernagloghane	Socketed bronze axehead. Cutting-edge missing in antiquity, split along casting-seam opposite loop, large piece missing out of one face, loop broken off. All damage occurred in ancient times. There is a crack in the second face and one along the casting-seam on the look edge. The specimen appears to have been of the type with oval socket and a thickened rim. Inside the socket, one on either face, there are two short, casting ridges. L. 5.7cm. Found in bank of a ringfort while it was being removed in 1948.
1961:183	Hollow bronze ring fragment	Teernagloghane	Portion of a tubular bronze ring. Cast, but internal casting seam so rubbed down and worn that it is worn through and gives the impression of a folded piece of metal meeting edge to edge. External surface convex, internal almost flat. External diameter of completed ring, 12cm. T. 1.95cm. Found in bank of a ringfort while it was being removed in 1948.

### 13.4.7 Aerial Photographic Analysis

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage of the Proposed Wind Farm held by *Tailte Éireann* (1995–2013), Google Earth (2005–2025) and Bing Maps (2023) revealed that the landscape containing the Proposed Wind Farm has been dominated by the presence of commercial forestry in recent years. The majority of the proposed turbines (except Turbine 5 and 8) and associated infrastructure are located in areas containing trees and existing tracks. Turbines 5 and 8 are located in rough marginal pasture. There are pockets of improved pasture that will be crossed by proposed access roads. No

previously unrecorded sites or areas of archaeological potential were noted within the aerial coverage for the Proposed Project.

### 13.4.8 Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage (CH) assets can incorporate both archaeological and built heritage remains, which do not have statutory protection, or which have not been previously recorded as heritage assets in any known datasets. Cultural heritage also includes more ephemeral aspects of the heritage environment, including folklore. A number of sources were reviewed in order to identify cultural heritage assets within the 2km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm and the 50m study area of the Proposed Grid Connection and interventions required as part of the Turbine Delivery Route. These included the historic Ordnance Survey mapping, aerial photographic coverage and field inspection.

A total of 73 cultural heritage sites have been identified within the 2km study area of the Proposed Project; the 50m study area of the Proposed Grid Connection and within 50m of interventions required for the Turbine Delivery Route. These are listed below in Table 13-9, and shown in Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-1-5.

Table 13-9: Cultural Heritage Sites within the Study Areas

CH No	Townland	Description	Nearest Turbine	Distance from development
<b>Proposed Wind Farm</b>				
CH1	Carrownagry North	Two ruined vernacular structures, which are marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T1	c. 1.60km north-northwest
CH2	Carrownagry North	Two vernacular houses, now renovated and in modern use. Marked as part of a larger settlement on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps, but today the complex has been affected by modern development.	T1	c. 1.63km north
CH3	Carrownagry North	Vernacular house and outbuildings marked on the 1898 OS map and now part of a large modern farmyard.	T1	c. 1.53km north-northeast
CH4	Treanmanagh	Possible ruins of a small vernacular structure, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map.	T2	c. 1.52km north
CH5	Treanmanagh	Doolough Lodge. Single storey house with square plan and hipped roof, dating to the 19 <sup>th</sup> century and constructed on a mound to provide elevation to the structure. Located within DL2.	T2	c. 1.57km north-northeast
CH6	Carrownagry North	Single storey vernacular outbuilding, with replacement corrugated roof –	T1	c. 1.76km northwest

		possibly once part of a larger cottage. Marked on the 1898 OS map.		
CH7	Knocknahila Beg	Vernacular cottage and outbuilding marked on the 1898 OS map. Renovated and currently inhabited.	T1	c. 1.64km north-northwest
CH8	Knocknahila Beg	Semi-derelict single storey vernacular cottage, marked on the 1898 OS map and accompanied by a slightly later range of outbuildings to the north, which are now in ruin.	T1	c. 1.77km northwest
CH9	Knocknahila Beg	Vernacular cottage and range of outbuildings marked on the 1898 OS map and now incorporated into a modern farmyard.	T1	c. 1.86km northwest
CH10	Treanmanagh	Vernacular cottage marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map and now incorporated into a larger farmyard.	T2	c. 1.09km north
CH11	Treanmanagh	Vernacular cottage and outbuildings marked on the 1898 OS map and now incorporated into a larger farmyard.	T1	c. 1.26km north
CH12	Treanmanagh	Vernacular cottage and an outbuilding, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map. Now abandoned and part of a larger farmyard.	T2	c. 1.18km north
CH13	Drummin	Ruins of a vernacular cottage, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T5	c. 945m north-northeast
CH14	Drummin	Two vernacular buildings marked on the 1898 OS map and extant today. The western structure is also shown on the 1848 OS map and may represent an earlier cottage.	T5	c. 1.52km northeast
CH15	Treanmanagh/ Drummin	Small masonry road bridge with low rubble parapet walls. Marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps, but labelled as Drummin Bridge of the 1898 map.	T2	c. 1.16km northeast
CH16	Treanmanagh	Small cottage, now extended and subject to modernisation, marked as Seropol Cottage on the 1898 OS map. A renovated vernacular range of outbuildings is also present.	T5	c. 1.74km northeast
CH17	Drummin	Derelict vernacular cottage and outbuilding. Marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T5	c. 950m northeast

CH18	Knocknahila Beg	The 1848 OS map shows small settlement at this location, which is also marked on the 1898 map. Today six vernacular structures remain present and form part of a farm yard.	T1	c. 720m northwest
CH19	Carrownagry South	Two single storey vernacular cottages, with small outbuildings. Marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps and now forming part of a more modern farm complex.	T1	c. 550m north-northeast
CH20	Carrownagry South	Ruins of a vernacular structure marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map.	T2	c. 685m north
CH21	Drummin	Renovated vernacular cottage and outbuildings, in good condition. Marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T5	c. 945m north-northeast
CH22	Cloghaun More (East)	Vernacular cottage and range of outbuildings, marked as part of a larger settlement on the 1848 OS map, but shown as two buildings on the 1898 OS map. Now part of a large agricultural complex.	T1	c. 1.93km west
CH23	Cloghaun More (East)	Vernacular cottage marked on the 1898 OS map and present today within a larger farmyard complex.	T1	c. 1.97km west
CH24	Cloghaun More (East)	Vernacular cottage, subject to poor renovation in the past and a range of stone outbuildings. Marked on the 1898 OS map.	T3	c. 1.76km west
CH25	Cloghaun More (East)	Derelict vernacular cottage, marked on the 1898 OS map and now part of a larger modern farmyard.	T1	c. 1.14km west
CH26	Knocknahila More (South)	Derelict remains of a structure marked on the 1898 OS map.	T1	c. 233m south
CH27	Cahermurphy	Vernacular cottage marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map, which remains extant and in good condition.	T8	c. 758 east
CH28	Cahermurphy	Ruins of a vernacular cottage which is marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map.	T6	c. 828m east-southeast
CH29	Cahermurphy	Small vernacular settlement marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps, and comprising group of five vernacular cottages and associated outbuildings. One of the cottages is derelict, whilst	T6	c. 913m east-southeast

		the remainder are in use and modern agricultural buildings have been added to the farms.		
CH30	Cloghaun Beg (East)	Cloghaun Beg School, which is extant as a renovated single storey school structure and first marked on the 1898 OS map.	T3	c. 1.69km west-southwest
CH31	Caheraghacullin	Single storey renovated vernacular cottage marked on the 1898 OS map.	T7	c. 1.23km west-southwest
CH32	Caheraghacullin	Vernacular cottage and outbuilding marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map and now forming part of a large modern farm yard.	T7	c. 793m west-southwest
CH33	Caheraghacullin	Vernacular cottage marked on the 1898 OS map, which is now extended.	T7	c. 1.27km west-southwest
CH34	Clooneenagh	Cloneenagh House. Two storey house with L-shaped plan and gable roof, dating to the 19th century. Located within DL1. Depicted on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps. Additionally, two outbuildings depicted on the 1898 OS map also survive and appear to have been renovated.	T7	c. 1.67km west-southwest
CH35	Cloonwhite North	Two single storey vernacular cottages with associated outbuildings, marked on 1898 OS map. The buildings remains in use although the western cottage is in poor condition.	T7	c. 1.54km southwest
CH36	Cahermurphy	Two single storey vernacular cottages with associated outbuildings, marked on 1898 OS map. The western cottage is in poor condition and the eastern cottage inhabited and now part of the larger farm yard.	T7	c. 1.16km south
CH37	Cahermurphy	A group of vernacular structures, including one cottage that appears intact with the remainder in ruin. Settlement marked at this location on the 1848 and 1898 OS map.	T7	c. 1.21km south-southeast
CH38	Cahermurphy	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> century single storey vernacular cottage, no renovated. Accompanied by two masonry outbuildings. Marked on the third edition OS map.	T8	c. 1.04km south-southeast

CH39	Cahermurphy	Site of an early road (no longer extant) shown on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T8	c. 1.10km southeast
CH40	Cahermurphy	Renovated single storey vernacular cottage, marked on the 1898 OS map and flanked by two masonry outbuildings.	T8	c. 1.13km southeast
CH41	Cahermurphy	Renovated single storey vernacular cottage, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps and flanked by two masonry outbuildings.	T8	c. 1.23km southeast
CH42	Cahermurphy	Single storey vernacular cottage and outbuilding, marked on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.61km east-southeast
CH43	Cahermurphy	Derelict single storey vernacular cottage and outbuilding marked on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.67km east-southeast
CH44	Cahermurphy	Group of four single storey vernacular cottages, all of which appear to be inhabited. Some are marked on the 1848 map but all are present on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.80km east-southeast
CH45	Cahermurphy	Renovated single storey cottage with associated masonry outbuildings and marked on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.92km east-southeast
CH46	Castlepark	Two renovated vernacular cottages shown on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T8	c. 1.39km southeast
CH47	Castlepark	Derelict vernacular cottage and outbuilding marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T8	c. 1.75km southeast
CH48	Castlepark	Group of vernacular structure, including a farm house with dormer level, vernacular cottage and various masonry outbuildings. Some of the structures are on the 1848 OS map, and they are all present on the 1898 map.	T8	c. 1.80km southeast
CH49	Castlepark	Derelict former single storey vernacular cottage, now in use as an outbuilding.	T8	c. 1.74km southeast
CH50	Castlepark	Single storey vernacular cottage depicted on the 1840 and 1898 OS map. Now possibly in use as an outbuilding.	T8	c. 1.96km southeast

CH51	Castlepark	Single storey vernacular cottage and range of outbuildings marked on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.88km southeast
CH52	Castlepark	Single storey vernacular cottage and outbuilding, marked on the 1898 OS map.	T8	c. 1.85km south-southeast
CH53	Cahermurphy	One renovated vernacular cottage depicted on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	T8	c. 1.52km south
CH54	Cahermurphy/ Cloonwhite South	Masonry road bridge marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps with random rubble masonry parapet walls.	T8	c. 1.72km south
CH55	Cloonwhite South	Ruined vernacular cottage marked on the 1848 OS map and derelict later cottage marked on the 1898 OS map.	T7	c. 1.86km south
<b>Proposed Grid Connection</b>				
CH27	Cahermurphy	Vernacular cottage marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map, which remains extant and in good condition.	N/a	c. 50m west
CH40	Cahermurphy	Renovated single storey vernacular cottage, marked on the 1898 OS map and flanked by two masonry outbuildings.	N/a	c. 12m east
CH39	Cahermurphy	Site of an early road (no longer extant) shown on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	N/a	To immediate northeast
CH53	Cahermurphy	One renovated vernacular cottage depicted on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	N/a	c. 5m southeast
CH54	Cahermurphy/ Cloonwhite South	Masonry road bridge marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps with random rubble masonry parapet walls.	N/a	c. 15m northwest
CH56	Sheeaun	Two single storey vernacular cottages marked on the 1898 OS map and in good condition.	N/a	c. 5-15m east
CH57	Leitrim	Single storey vernacular cottage with dormer level and substantial chimney stakes. Marked on the 1898 OS map and in good condition.	N/a	c. 15m east
CH58	Cloonreddan	Derelict single storey cottage with large window opes, wooden shutters and a	N/a	c. 5m west

		hipped roof. Marked on the 1898 OS map.		
CH59	Cloonreddan	Road bridge marked on the 1898 OS map with rubble parapet walls.	N/a	0m
CH72	Cloonreddan	Single storey and outbuildings marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps and recently converted and renovated to one residential structure.	N/a	c. 10m southeast
CH60	Cloonreddan/ Kilmacduane East	Road bridge marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps. The southern side of the bridge may have been widened as the parapet wall is in concrete.	N/a	0m
CH61	Kilmacduane East/ Clooncullin	Road bridge marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps. Parapet walls of repointed random rubble with concrete copping.	N/a	0m (HDD proposed)
CH62	Clooncullin	Single storey vernacular cottage and range of outbuildings, all in good condition and marked on the 1898 OS map.	N/a	c. 13m north
CH63	Clooncullin/ Teernagloghane	Clooncullin Bridge. Marked and labelled on the 1848 and 1898 OS map. Large road bridge with substantial masonry parapet walls.	N/a	0m (HDD proposed)
CH64	Brisla East	Derelict single storey vernacular cottage marked on the 1898 OS map.	N/a	c. 5m east
CH65	Gowerhass	Derelict single storey vernacular cottage and outbuilding marked on the 1898 OS map.	N/a	c. 5m north
CH66	Tullagower	Recently renovated single storey vernacular cottage marked on the 1898 OS map.	N/a	c. 5m west
CH67	Tullagower	Renovated single storey vernacular cottage with former level, which is marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map.	N/a	c. 5m west
CH68	Knockerry West	A group of two single storey vernacular cottages in good condition and a number of outbuildings. Marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	N/a	c. 5m west/east
CH69	Poulnadarree	Single storey former Smithy marked on the 1898 OS map and now forming part of a modern residence.	N/a	c. 5m east

CH70	Carrowdotia	Gated entrance and gate lodge. This is a recessed entrance and adjacent gate lodge associated with Carrowdotia House, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps. The stone gate pillars remain present with ornate wrought iron gates. The adjacent gate lodge is derelict and overgrown.	N/a	Immediately adjacent
CH71	Carrowdotia	Carrowdotia House, marked on the 1848 and 1898 OS map within its demesne landscape (DL5). The house remains extant but is surrounded by scrub and trees. It is a two storey structure with a hipped roof.	N/a	c. 32m southeast
<b>Turbine Delivery Route - Interventions</b>				
CH40	Cahermurphy	Renovated single storey vernacular cottage, marked on the 1898 OS map and flanked by two masonry outbuildings.	N/a	c. 8m northeast
CH39	Cahermurphy	Site of an early road (no longer extant) shown on the 1848 and 1898 OS maps.	N/a	0m
CH49	Castlepark	Derelict former single storey vernacular cottage, now in use as an outbuilding.	N/a	c. 19m northeast
CH73	Knockalough	Modified public house, four-bays wide and two storeys. Pitched roof with three chimney stacks. Window opes have been enlarged and modern extension to the west. Marked on the 1898 OS map – structures shown here on the 1848 map, but likely to have been replaced.	N/a	c. 7m northeast

### 13.4.9 Placename Analysis

Townland and topographic names are an invaluable source of information on topography, land ownership and land use within the landscape. They also provide information on history, archaeological monuments and folklore of an area. A place name may refer to a long-forgotten site and may indicate the possibility that the remains of certain sites may still survive below the ground surface. The Ordnance Survey surveyors wrote down townland names in the 1830's and 1840's, when the entire country was mapped for the first time. Some of the townland names in the 5km study area of the proposed wind farm site are of Irish origin and through time have been anglicised. The main references used for the place name analysis is Irish Local Names Explained by P.W Joyce (1870) and logainm.ie. A description and possible explanation of each place name in the 5km study area of the proposed wind farm site are provided in Table 13-10 below.

Table 13-10: Placename Analysis

Townland	Origin	Derivation	Possible Meaning
Cahermurphy	Irish	<i>Cathair Mhurchú</i>	Murphy's "city" / settlement
Cloon More	Irish	<i>An Chluain Mhór</i>	Great meadow / large meadow
Craggaknock West	Irish	<i>Craig an Chnoic Thiar</i>	Western craggy hill
Creagh South	Irish	<i>An Chríoch Theas</i>	The southern close
Cloonadrum	Irish	<i>Cluain an Droma</i>	Meadow of the ridge
Craggaknock East	Irish	<i>Craig an Chnoic Thoir</i>	Eastern craggy hill
Finnor More	Irish	<i>Fionnúir Mhór</i>	Large fair hill
Molosky	Irish	<i>Maigh Loiscthe</i>	Burnt plain
Finnor Beg	Irish	<i>Fionnúir Bheag</i>	Small fair hill
Cloghaun More (West)	Irish	<i>An Clochán Mór Thiar</i>	Great causeway / Great stone structure (west)
Ballymackea Beg	Irish	<i>Baile Mhic Aodha Beag</i>	MacKay's little town / MacHugh's little town
Creagh North	Irish	<i>An Chríoch Thuaidh</i>	Northern shaking bog / Northern market
Ballynagun East	Irish	<i>Baile na g-con</i>	Town of the hounds (east)
Cloghaunnatinny	Irish	<i>Clochán Mhaoile Tine</i> <i>Clochán na teine</i>	Stepping stones, near the fire-tree
Cloghaun Beg (West)	Irish	<i>An Clochán Beag Thiar</i>	Little causeway / Little stone structure (west)
Cloghaun More (East)	Irish	<i>An Clochán Mór Thoir</i>	Great causeway / Great stone structure (east)

Townland	Origin	Derivation	Possible Meaning
Alva	Irish	<i>Ailbhe</i>	Flocks
Cloghaun Beg (East)	Irish	<i>An Clochán Beag Thoir</i>	Little causeway / Little stone structure (east)
Carrollagan	Irish	<i>Ceathrú an Logáin</i>	Flat or hollow quarterland / Logan's quarterland
Derreen	Irish	<i>An Doirín</i>	Little oakwood
Leitrim	Irish	<i>Liatroim</i> <i>Liath-Druim</i>	Grey ridge
Knockanalban	Irish	<i>Cnoc an Albanaigh</i>	Mount Scott Hill of the Scot
Knocknahila More (North)	Irish	<i>Cnoc na hUille</i> <i>Cnoc na h-aidhle</i>	Will's hill (great, north) / Hill of the staff
Moyglass Beg	Irish	<i>Maigh Ghlas Bheag</i>	Green little plain
Knocknahila Beg	Irish	<i>Cnoc na hUille</i> <i>Cnoc na h-aidhle</i>	Will's hill (little) / Hill of the staff
Doonogan	Irish	<i>Dún Ógáin</i>	Hogan's fort
Clooneenagh	Irish	<i>Cluain Fhíne</i> <i>Cluain éidhneach</i>	Meadow of the ivy
Moyglass More	Irish	<i>Maigh Ghlas Mhór</i>	Large green plain
Knocknahila More (South)	Irish	<i>Cnoc na hUille</i> <i>Cnoc na h-aidhle</i>	Will's hill (great, south) / Hill of the staff
Carrownagry North	Irish	<i>Ceathrú na ??</i>	Quarterland of the ?? (north)
Cahercannavan	Irish	<i>Cathair Cheannabháin</i>	Canavan's "city" / settlement
Caheraghacullin	Irish	<i>Caithreacha cuillinn</i>	Forts of the holly

Townland	Origin	Derivation	Possible Meaning
Cloonwhite North	Irish	<i>Cluain Fhaoit</i>	White's meadow (north)
Cloonakilla	Irish	<i>Cluain Mhic Giolla</i>	MacGill's meadow
Sheeaun	Irish	<i>An Sián</i>	The fairy mound
Carrownaghy South	Irish	<i>Ceathrú na ??</i>	Quarterland of the ?? (south)
Cloonwhite South	Irish	<i>Cluain Fhaoit</i>	White's meadow (south)
Treanmanagh	Irish	<i>An Trian Meánach / Trian meádhnach</i>	The middle third
Killernan	Irish	<i>Cill Earnáin</i>	Ernan's church
Shanavogh West	Irish	<i>Sean ?</i>	Old ?
Drummin	Irish	<i>An Droimín</i>	Little ridge
Coor West	Irish	<i>Cúr or cúbhar,</i>	Pit or round hollow
Creevagh	Irish	<i>An Chraobhach</i>	Place of the branch / Bushy place
Lack West	Irish	<i>An Leac Thiar</i>	Flat stone or rock, flagstone (west)
Castlepark	Irish	<i>Páirc an Chaisleáin</i>	Field of the castle
Clonlaheen West	Irish	<i>Cluain Fhlaithín</i>	Fhlaithín's meadow (west)
Kilmihil	Irish	<i>Cill Mhichíl</i>	(Saint) Michael's church
Knockmore	Irish	<i>Cnoc mór</i>	Big hill
Doolough	Irish	<i>Dúloch / Dubh-loch</i>	Black lake
Cloonlaheen Middle	Irish	<i>Cluain Fhlaithín / Cluain Leathchaoín</i>	Fhlaithín's meadow (middle)
Kiltumper	Irish	<i>Cill Tiompair / Cill an t-Iompair</i>	Church of (?)support

Townland	Origin	Derivation	Possible Meaning
Glenmore	Irish	<i>An Gleann Mór</i>	The great glen
Greygrove	Irish	<i>An Garrán Riabhach</i>	Grey grove / Streaked grove

### 13.4.10 Townland Boundaries

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

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

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

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

Although not usually recorded as archaeological monuments in their own right, townland boundaries are important as cultural heritage features. It remains unclear how old some of these land units actually are, though it has been convincingly argued that many may date to at least the medieval period and, in some cases, may be significantly older than this (McErlean 1983; MacCotter 2008).

The Proposed Grid Connection passes through Cahermurphy, Cloonwhite South, Sheeaun, Leitrim, Cloonreddan, Kilmacduane East, Clooncullin, Lissanair, Teernagloghane, Brisla East, Brisla West, Gowerhass, Tullagower, Garraunnatooha, Knockerry West, Carrowfree, Derrylough, Dunneill, Doonnagurroge, Pouladarree, Carrowdotia South, Carrowdotia North in County Clare. The townland boundaries within the overall development area are retained in the landscape as field boundaries or run along existing roads.

Three townland boundaries are located within the Proposed Wind Farm and include the boundary between (1) Knocknahila More (South) and Carrownaghy South, (2) Knocknahila More (South) and Cahermurphy, and (3) Carrownaghy South and Cahermurphy. Each of these townland boundaries appear in aerial photography as ditches, but they are also concealed by forestry in parts. Given the marginal terrain, it is likely that the boundaries date to the mid part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the first edition of the Ordnance Survey mapping was compiled.

### 13.4.11 Field Inspection

A field inspection of the Proposed Project was carried out during August 2025. The field inspection commenced at the eastern side of the Proposed Wind Farm site, at the proposed entrance. There is an existing land access point at this location that comprises a narrow stony lane, which is flanked on both side of extensive forestry and scrub. Proposed construction compounds are proposed to the north and south of the access route (Plates 13-1,2). The access road will then cross improved pasture in a westerly direction, which is currently occupied by a grass track (Plate 13-3). A branch of the road will cross the same pasture to the site of Turbine 6, which is located in commercial forestry. A further road will run directly south from the west of the construction compounds to the proposed sub-station. This will run through dense commercial forestry before turning southeast to follow a green track (Plate 13-4), which becomes stony track (Plate 13-5). The proposed substation occupies a mixture of scrub and improved pasture either side of the farm track, on a slight south facing slope. Approximately 10m west of the proposed sub-station, a standing stone was noted (Plate 13-6). The landowner was spoken to during the course of the visit and he confirmed that he had dug the stone out of boggy ground to the south and had decided to erect it at this location. As such, the stone possesses no antiquity and is not of archaeological interest.

The field inspection then moved to the western portion of the Proposed Wind Farm, where the locations of Turbines 1-4 are located, along with associated access roads. This area is dominated by commercial forestry and existing forestry tracks. The site of Turbine 1 is located within a parcel of land that has recently been clear felled (Plate 13-7). This is level terrain, but the process of felling has led to a large degree of ground disturbance. Turbine 2 will be accessed via an existing forestry track, running in an easterly direction from Turbine 1 (Plate 13-8). The track is flanked to the north by dense forestry and to the south by the base of a north facing slope, under rough pasture (Plate 13-9).

The site of Turbine 3 is located further upslope from Turbines 1 and 2 and is situated to the south of an existing forestry track under dense commercial forestry, (Plate 13-10). Turbine 4 and the proposed road to access it, is also located within thick forestry and scrub cover.

Turbine 5 is located to the east-southeast of Turbine 2 and an access road will run between the two turbines. Much of the proposed access road runs through forestry, which was dense and inaccessible. This included the site of a proposed borrow pit located to the west of Turbine 5. Turbine 5 occupies an area of boggy ground, which was waterlogged and uneven under foot. As noted above, Turbine 6 is also located in forestry. Turbines 7 and 8 are located further to the south and these will be accessed via a proposed road along the existing forestry tracks (Plate 13-11). The site of Turbine 7 is located to the north of an existing track on elevated ground and has recently been restocked with commercial trees (Plates 13-12).

The proposed access route will then run in an easterly direction along a small grass track, which has all but disappeared, into boggy ground at the base of a south facing slope (Plate 13-13). Once again, the level of vegetation cover and uneven ground conditions made access to Turbine 8 difficult. From Turbine 8, the access road will continue to the south and east of a section of improved pasture to the site of a proposed borrow pit. The pit occupies a moderate north facing slope (Plate 13-14) and is under rough pasture, but also contains boggy ground at its northern extent.

No specific areas of archaeological potential were identified within the Proposed Wind Farm site. The landscape is very marginal and today has been affected by extensive commercial forestry. Due to the nature of the landscape, it is likely that it was used for grazing animals in the summer during the past and would not have represented a prime location for habitation during the prehistoric or historic periods.



*Plate 13-1 Proposed access route to wind farm, facing east-southeast*



*Plate 13-2 Proposed compound location, facing north*



*Plate 13-3: Route of proposed access road with Turbine 6 location within forestry to the left of image, facing west-southwest*



*Plate 13-4: Route of access road from sub-station to wind farm*



*Plate 13-5: Route of access road from sub-station to wind farm*



*Plate 13-6: 'Standing stone' erected by landowner, facing north*



*Plate 13-7: Site of Turbine 1, facing west*



*Plate 13-8: Access route to Turbine 2, facing east*



*Plate 13-9: Access route to Turbine 2, facing east*



*Plate 13-10: Site of Turbine 3, facing southwest*



*Plate 13-11: Existing access track running south towards Turbine 7*



*Plate 13-12: Site of Turbine 7, facing northwest*



*Plate 13-13: Route of proposed access road to Turbine 8, facing east-southeast*



*Plate 13-14: Location of proposed borrow pit, facing west*

The proposed Grid Connection Route will be confined to a road, where it travels from the proposed sub-station to the existing Moneypoint 110kV Station on the Shannon Estuary to the south. Historical map analysis and the field inspection identified 22 Cultural Heritage sites adjacent to the proposed cable route. These, for the most part, comprise vernacular houses in varying states of preservation. These are detailed in Table 13-9 and shown on Appendix 13-1, Figures 13-5. The Grid Connection Route will pass c. 15m southeast of a small bridge (CH54) and here the route will pass beneath the watercourse via HDD. The launch and reception compounds for the Grid Connection are located in rough, level pasture either side of the watercourse. The Grid Connection will be laid within two bridges where watercourses are crossed – CH59 and CH60. Two further bridges are located along the route, comprising CH61 and CH63. At these locations the cable will pass beneath the bridges and watercourses via HDD. At CH61 the launch and reception compounds will be located within existing hard standing. At CH63 the reception compounds will be located within pasture.

No specific features of archaeological potential were noted along the path of the proposed Grid Connection, with the exception of the general archaeological potential associated with existing watercourses.

The proposed Turbine Delivery Route will run from the N68, along the R484, where it will then bypass the village of Kilmihil and then run north along local roads before reaching the Proposed Wind Farm. There are seven locations along the route that will require physical accommodation works in order to allow the body of the delivery trucks to pass. Four Cultural Heritage sites have been identified in the 50m study area for each intervention location (Table 13-9).

At the junction of the N68 and R484 the intervention area is located within existing hard standing, adjacent to a public house (CH73). At Kilmihil, a temporary road will be constructed to the west of the village. The road will cross three fields of slightly undulating margin/waterlogged pasture. The lands are shown as marginal within the historic mapping and no previously unrecorded sites or structures of cultural heritage merit were noted in this area. Further to the north, in the townland of Kilmihil, the road will require slight widening to the west, into a field of pasture although the works are minimal.

In the townland of Castlepark a new section of temporary road will be required in order to accommodate the passing of delivery trucks through this area. The new road will pass c. 15m west of a derelict vernacular cottage (CH49) and run through two fields of pasture to the immediate east of two modern residential buildings. This area is relatively level and no previously unrecorded features of archaeological potential were noted. Approximately 375m to the north-northwest another section of temporary road will be required (this will also contain a section of the Grid Connection Route), which will run in a southwest-northeast direction. Here the route will traverse a moderate south facing slope, which is currently under improved pasture. The route partially follows the route of an earlier road, which is shown on the historic OS maps (CH39). The path of this road has been modified in recent years to function as an agricultural track at its southwestern extent. Further to the east, the former road does not possess obvious surface expression. This is unsurprising given the road went out of use before 1898.

Further to the northeast, an area of accommodation works is proposed in order to allow delivery trucks to turn to the north. This is located to the southwest of CH40, but a large portion of this area is already under hard standing. The remainder comprises rough pasture occupying a slight westerly slope.

The northern proposed intervention point is already present in the form of a short section of road located to the immediate east of the existing road, which provided access for turbine delivery as part of the existing wind farm, which is located to the east of the Proposed Wind Farm. This road has been cut through the brow of a hill and no further physical interventions are proposed for this location.

No specific features of archaeological potential were noted within the proposed interventions associated with the proposed Turbine Delivery Route.

## 13.5 Likely Effects and Associated Mitigation Measures

### 13.5.1 Do Nothing Scenario

There will no impact on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource if the Proposed Project were not to proceed.

### 13.5.2 Construction Phase

The construction of the Proposed Project will not result in any direct, negative effects on the recorded archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource as none of these sites are located within the footprint of the development that requires excavations and ground works.

It is possible that the construction of the Proposed Wind Farm, Grid Connection Route and Turbine Delivery Route, in greenfield and bogland areas, will result in direct, negative (permanent) effects on previously unrecorded archaeological remains that may survive within these areas with no surface expression. Construction effects comprise topsoil stripping and excavations associated with the installation of turbines, crane pads, access roads, temporary construction compound, borrow pits, sub-station and launch/reception compounds. Effects, dependent on the sensitivity of any remains identified, have the potential to be moderate to very significant. Following the implementation of mitigation measures outlined in 13.5.2.1 the effect on previously unrecorded archaeological remains would be slight, which is not significant in EIA terms

The construction of the development may result in direct, negative (permanent) effects on bridges CH59 and CH60, as the proposed Grid Connect Route will be laid through the desk of the structure. Effects prior to the application of mitigation, have the potential to be moderate.

The construction of the development may result in direct, negative (permanent) effect on the site of an early road CH39, as proposed accommodation works associated with the Turbine Delivery Route will cross the path of this feature. Effects prior to the application of mitigation, have the potential to be moderate.

The construction of the development will result in direct, negative (permanent) effects on sections of townland boundaries that will be removed due to the construction of proposed access roads. Within the Proposed Wind Farm, five short sections of townland boundary will be crossed between Carrownaghy South, Knocknahilla More and Cahermurphy. Overall, the significance of effect is considered slight in each case. The proposed Grid Connection Route will cross 19 townland boundaries, but given the cable route is located predominantly within the existing road, no impacts are anticipated at these locations.

#### 13.5.2.1 Mitigation and Monitoring Measures

All elements of the Proposed Project located within existing greenfield will be subject to archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping. This work will be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DHLGH. If archaeological remains are identified during the course of these works further mitigation will be implemented as required and will include preservation by record or in-situ. Any further mitigation will require agreement from the DHLGH.

All interventions that are required along townland boundaries, as part of the construction of the Proposed Wind Farm, will be subject to archaeological monitoring, and will include a full record of the sections of townland boundaries that are removed. This work will be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DHLGH.

The excavation of the Proposed Grid Connection, where it runs through bridges CH59 and CH60 will be subject to archaeological monitoring. This work will be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DHLGH and include a full record of the fabric of the bridge and any earlier road surfaces contained within same.

All topsoil stripping, where it is required for the construction of the temporary access road at CH39, will be subject to archaeological monitoring. This work will be carried out under licence to the National Monuments Service of the DHLGH and should any remains of the earlier road be identified during the course of works, these will be preserved by record. Please refer to Appendix 13-5 for further information on archaeological and architectural mitigation measures.

### 13.5.3 Operational Phase (Indirect Effects)

A full assessment of the potential, indirect operational phase effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource has been carried out and is included in Appendix 13-6. This has been carried out utilizing the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping and photomontages for the development, produced as part of the Landscape and Visual assessment. It should be noted that the ZTV is a bare-earth model and does not take account of any potential screening from vegetation or buildings. Where no impact is defined in Appendix 13-6, this is due to the fact that the site is either no longer extant, or the ZTV mapping indicates no turbine visibility from this location. The assessment assumes long term effects based on the proposed operational life of 35 years. Appendix 13-6 also includes residual operational impacts for the sites assessed.

It is not possible to mitigate indirect effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource, due to the nature and scale of the proposed turbines within the landscape. It is noted below that effects are not significant or permanent and would be removed following the decommissioning and removal of the turbines.

#### Sites of National Significance within 10km of the Proposed Wind Farm

With regards to sites of national significance, no significant negative operational impacts have been identified. One indirect, negative impact has been identified of moderate significance of effect, which relates to the site of a ringfort - cashel (AH70; CL048-005; Preservation Order 4/1957), which is situated c. 840m south of Turbine 8.

#### Archaeological Heritage (AH) sites within 5km of the Proposed Wind Farm

With regards to recorded archaeological heritage sites, no significant negative operational impacts have been identified. One indirect, negative impact has been identified of moderate significance of effect, which relates the site of a ringfort and children's burial ground (AH45), which is situated c. 1.12km north of Turbine 1. The remaining effects vary from imperceptible to slight in significance.

#### Built Heritage (BH) sites within 5km of the Proposed Wind Farm

No significant negative operational effects have been identified upon the recorded built heritage resource. No significant effects are predicted on all four BH sites in the study area of the Proposed Wind Farm.

### 13.5.3.1 Designed Landscapes (DL) within 5km of the Proposed Wind Farm

No significant negative operational effects have been identified upon the three DL sites within the study area of the Proposed Wind Farm. Predicted effects range from imperceptible to not significant.

### 13.5.3.2 Cultural Heritage (CH) sites within 2km of the Proposed Wind Farm

No significant negative operational effects are predicted upon the Cultural Heritage sites within the 2km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm. Predicted effects range from imperceptible to slight.

### 13.5.4 Decommissioning Phase

The decommissioning of the Proposed Project will not have any negative effects on the archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource as no new ground disturbances will be introduced that may affect buried archaeological remains.

No mitigation is required for the decommissioning phase, as no effects are predicted.

### 13.5.5 Residual Effects

Following the completion of all construction mitigation measures, there will be no significant residual effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource. This is due to the fact that any archaeological remains located within the proposed development area will be identified during archaeological monitoring. This will lead to either their preservation in-situ or by record. As all archaeological remains will be identified and preserved, there will be no significant residual effects.

There will be residual effects on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource, due to indirect effects on the setting of a number of recorded sites and structures. Whilst these are long-term effects, none are defined as significant and they are not permanent. Residual effects are detailed for each site in Appendix 13-6.

### 13.5.6 Cumulative Effects

A review of the proposed and permitted, non-wind energy developments within 5km of the Proposed Project has been carried out in order to identify any potential construction cumulative effects, the Methodology of which can be found in Ch. 2: Background to the Proposed Project of this EIAR. The study area reflects the 5km study area assessed for the Proposed Wind Farm and the 50m study area for the Grid Connection Route and interventions required for the Turbine Delivery Route. Given that any archaeological remains identified within the footprint of the Proposed Project will be preserved in-situ or by record, no negative cumulative construction effects have been identified.

The following proposed or permitted wind farms, within 10km of the Proposed Wind Farm have been assessed for potential negative operational cumulative impacts upon the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource. The 10km area reflects the largest study area applied during the course of this assessment. Existing wind farms within the study area are not addressed within the cumulative assessment, as they represent existing infrastructure that forms part of the baseline environment as outlined above.

#### ➤ Proposed Slieveacurry Wind Farm (c. 8.6km north-northeast)

No cumulative effects have been identified upon the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage resource that are greater than effects already predicted as part of each individual development and the effects predicted as part of the Proposed Project. As discussed above, as well as in the description and assessment of the Proposed Project in regards to the baseline conditions, no significant cumulative effects are anticipated.

### 13.5.7 Conclusion

A full analysis of the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage baseline has been carried out as part of the Proposed Wind Farm, Proposed Grid Connection and interventions required for the Turbine Delivery Route. There are 112 groups of monuments recorded within the 5km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm, including one which is additionally protected by a Preservation Order (AH70). Four recorded monuments are situated within 50m of the Proposed Grid Connection.

There are four structures recorded within the 5km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm that are listed as protected structure and also included in the NIAH building survey. There is also one recorded architectural site situated within the 100m corridor study area for the Proposed Grid Connection. It is both a protected structure and a NIAH structure. There are three Designed Landscapes (DL) within 5km of the Proposed Wind Farm. A further three Designed Landscapes are located within the study area of the Proposed Grid Connection. A number of sources were also reviewed in order to identify cultural heritage assets within the 2km study area of the Proposed Wind Farm and associated infrastructure. A total of 73 cultural heritage sites have been identified within the 2km study area of the Proposed Project; the 50m study area of the Proposed Grid Connection and within 50m of interventions required for the Turbine Delivery Route.

The construction of the Proposed Project will not result in any direct, negative effects on the recorded archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage resource as none of these sites are located within the footprint of the development that requires excavations and ground works. A number of potential direct, negative impacts upon the archaeological and cultural heritage resource have been identified at construction stage, but following the completion of the mitigation measures laid out in Chapter 13 and associated appendices, there will be no significant residual effects as a result of the construction phase. Indirect negative impacts have also been identified at operation phase, due to the presence of the turbines in the landscape. None of these effects are predicted to be significant and as such, there will be no significant residual effects.

### 13.5.8 Difficulties Encountered

No difficulties were encountered in the preparation of this chapter of the EIAR.

### 13.5.9 Cartographic Sources

William Petty, Down Survey *Map of the County of Clare*, c. 1655

Henry Pelham's Grand Jury Map of the County of Clare, 1787

Ordnance Survey Mapping of County Clare, 1848, 1898

### 13.5.10 Electronic Sources\*

[www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie) – Summary of archaeological excavation from 1970-2025.

[www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie) – DHLGH website listing all SMR/RMP sites.

[www.heritagemaps.ie](http://www.heritagemaps.ie) – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural and natural heritage.

[www.googleearth.com](http://www.googleearth.com) – Satellite imagery of the proposed project area.

[www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com) – Satellite imagery of the proposed project area.

[www.booksulster.com/library/plnm/placenamesC.php](http://www.booksulster.com/library/plnm/placenamesC.php) - Contains the text from Irish Local Names Explained by P.W Joyce (1870).

[www.logainm.ie](http://www.logainm.ie) –Placenames Database of Ireland launched by Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaelige and the DHLGH.

[www.landedestates.ie](http://www.landedestates.ie) – Landed Estates: Ireland's landed estates and historic houses, c.1700–1914. (University of Galway).

[www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie) – National Library of Ireland, collections.

\*accessed 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026

# EIA CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

Please see the below table for a summary of all identified impacts for the Proposed Project relating to archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage.

1.

## PROPOSED PROJECT

Cultural Heritage	Pre-Mitigation Effect	Mitigation Section Reference	Residual Effect	Significant
<b>Construction Phase</b>				
Unrecorded archaeological remains	Permanent, Moderate to Significant, Negative	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Permanent, Not Significant, Negative	Not Significant
Bridges	Permanent, Moderate, Negative	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Not Significant, Negative	Not Significant
Recorded early road	Permanent, Moderate, Negative	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Permanent, Not Significant, Negative	Not Significant
Townland Boundaries	Permanent, Slight, Negative	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Permanent, Slight, Negative	Not Significant
<b>Operational Phase</b>				
Sites of National Significance within 10km	N/A	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Moderate, Negative	Not Significant
Archaeological Heritage sites within 5km	N/A	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Not Significant to Moderate, Negative	Not Significant
Built Heritage sites within 5km	N/A	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Not Significant, Negative	Not Significant
Designed Landscapes within 5km	N/A	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Imperceptible to Slight, Negative	Not Significant
Cultural Heritage Sites within 2km	N/A	Section 13.5.2.1 Appendix 13-5	Long-term, Imperceptible to Slight,	Not Significant

Decommissioning Phase				
N/A	N/A	Section 13.6	N/A	N/A