

Appendix A19.1 - Cultural Heritage Potential Impact on Setting

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1 INTRODUCTION

1. This document is an appendix to the document entitled ‘Applicants Response to Issues Raised in Submissions/Observations Received’ and should be read in conjunction with said document.
2. This purpose of this appendix is to expand upon the information contained in the EIS with regard to the potential impacts on setting should the proposed development proceed. It aims to address some concerns that have been expressed in submissions regarding the potential impacts on setting and provides further information for prescribed bodies and others to form their own opinion with regard to potential impacts on setting. This document is divided into the following sections:
 - National Monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State;
 - Demesne Landscapes and Historic Gardens;
 - Other Archaeological Sites and Monuments.
3. This document presents the information contained in the Chapter 14 of the EIS (and related Appendices) on a site by site manner with additional images and detailed site specific mapping, in order to allow relevant stakeholders to get a better understanding as to how the levels of significance of impacts on certain sites were determined. The majority of the information herein is included in the EIS.
4. It should also be noted the overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of any sites/monuments is as described in the EIS.
5. Currently Ireland has limited legislation in place that addresses impacts on the setting of cultural heritage sites. The character of Architectural Conservation Areas is recognised in the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. Similarly, the portion of land adjoining a National Monument in the Care of the State required to preserve its amenities is also protected. However, there is no formal protection of the setting of archaeological monuments, protected structures, demesnes landscapes and historic gardens, and other cultural heritage sites.
6. New National Monuments legislation is in the process of being drafted that will offer protection to the setting of archaeological sites and landscapes. Currently, in the absence of a national framework, Counties Monaghan, Cavan and Meath have independently developed policies and objectives in their respective county development plans which address the issue of setting .
7. In the absence of a legal framework, there are no formal guidelines on the assessment of impacts on setting relating to the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of Ireland. The Xi’an Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas (ICOMOS 2005) deals specifically with setting and was followed up in 2011 with the publication of Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (ICOMOS). This and other international guidelines were used to formulate the methodology used to assess the impacts of the proposed development on

the setting of archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites as outlined in the EIS (Volumes 3C and 3D Appendix 14.1).

2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN THE OWNERSHIP OR GUARDIANSHIP OF THE STATE, INCLUDING Teltown ZAA

8. Archaeological monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State that are located within 5km of the proposed development are listed in Volume 3D Chapter 14 Table 14.1 and details are included below (Table 2-1). Details regarding the distances of these monuments from the proposed development are contained within Volume 3D Section 14.4.4.3 of the EIS and are included in the discussion of impacts below for each site.

Table 2-1. National Monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State located within 5km of the proposed development.

Sub Category	Townland	National Monument No.	SMR No.
Bective Cistercian Abbey	Bective	187	ME031-026----
Cathedral of St Peter & Paul	Newtown	110	ME036-049002-
Cruicetown Church and Cross	Cruicetown	264	ME005-094----, ME005-094004-
Dunsany Church	Dunsany	489	ME037-019----
Robertstown Castle	Roberstown	256	ME011-004----
Robertstown Ringfort	Robertstown	542	ME011-009----
St. John's Priort	Saint Johns	553	ME036-049011-
Porch Fields, Trim	Blackfriary	679	ME036-048053-

9. The potential impact that the proposed development could have on the setting of all National Monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State located within 5km was evaluated. As mentioned in the EIS, in line with the recommendations of the EPA's Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements (2002) that significant effects be discussed, only sites where it was considered that the significance of the impact on their setting would be moderate or greater were included in the discussion of operational phase impacts, Volume 3C Section 14.5.4 and Volume 3D Section 14.5.4 of the EIS.
10. The EIS was also cognisant of prominent National Monuments in State Care located at a greater remove from the proposed development. The Tara complex, approximately 6 km from the proposed development, is included in the appraisal of impacts on setting due to its status, elevation and the fact that it is included in the Tentative List of World Heritage Sites. Impacts on the setting of Tara are discussed in the EIS (Volume 3D Section 14.5.4.1.1) even though the impact on the setting of Tara is considered to be slight. Kells, also included in the Tentative List of World Heritage Sites, is located approximately 7km from the proposed development. Although Kells was also reviewed, given its urban setting and lack

of views towards the proposed development, its impacts are not discussed further in the EIS. Both Tara and Kells are discussed in more detail herein.

11. The Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht in discussing National Monument sites in the Ownership or Guardianship of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (Submission SI-2015-0211) includes the landscape at Teltown. Having reviewed National Monuments in State Care: Ownership & Guardianship for County Meath (2009), there is no mention of either the Teltown Landscape or any of the archaeological monuments that are contained within it. Nonetheless, given the archaeological and mythological importance of the area, a detailed appraisal of the impact of the proposed development on the Teltown region was undertaken and is contained in Volume 3D Appendix 14.5 of the EIS. The landscape at Teltown and its associated archaeological monuments are discussed in more detail in this appendix.
12. The aim of this section of this report is to provide information to assist the prescribed bodies in making an assessment of the potential impact that the proposed development may have on the setting of National Monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State. This section of the report is also cognisant of the request by the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in their submission (SI-2015-0207) that *'further information be sought on the visual impact of the proposed development at monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship that already have a high visual expression, existing visitor amenities and tourism potential.'*

2.1 BECTIVE CISTERCIAN ABBEY (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 187)

13. Bective Abbey is located approximately 900m to the east of the proposed development in the vicinity of Towers 352 to 357 (Figure 2-1). The monument is located to the north of the Boyne River and to the immediate west of the L4010 local access road (Figure 2-2). The tallest structures on the site pertain to the fortified tower house at the south west angle of the cloister, three upper floors over a vaulted chamber. The Abbey is a popular visitor destination with a recently developed car park.

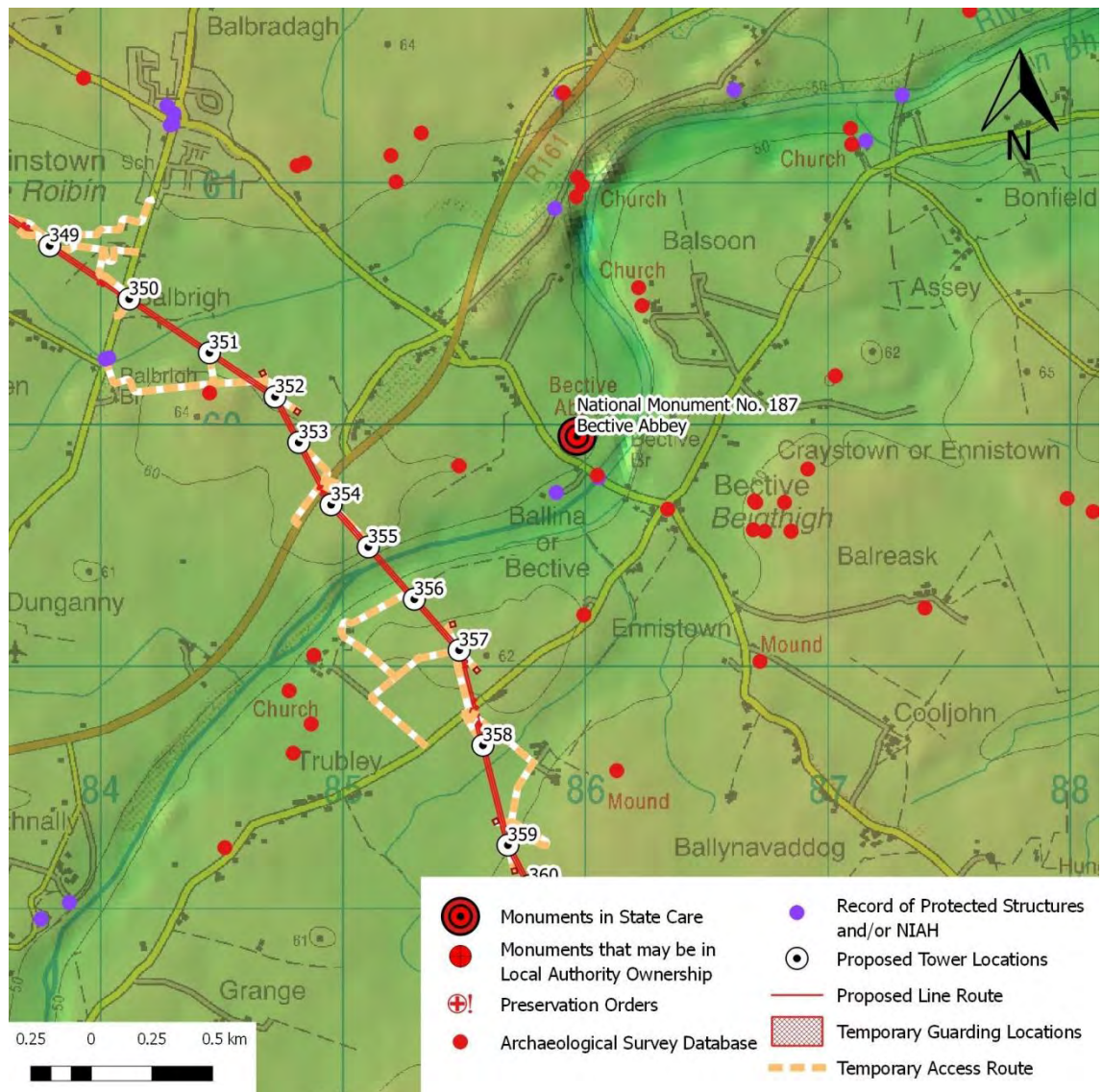


Figure 2-1. Location of Bective Abbey in relation to the proposed development.

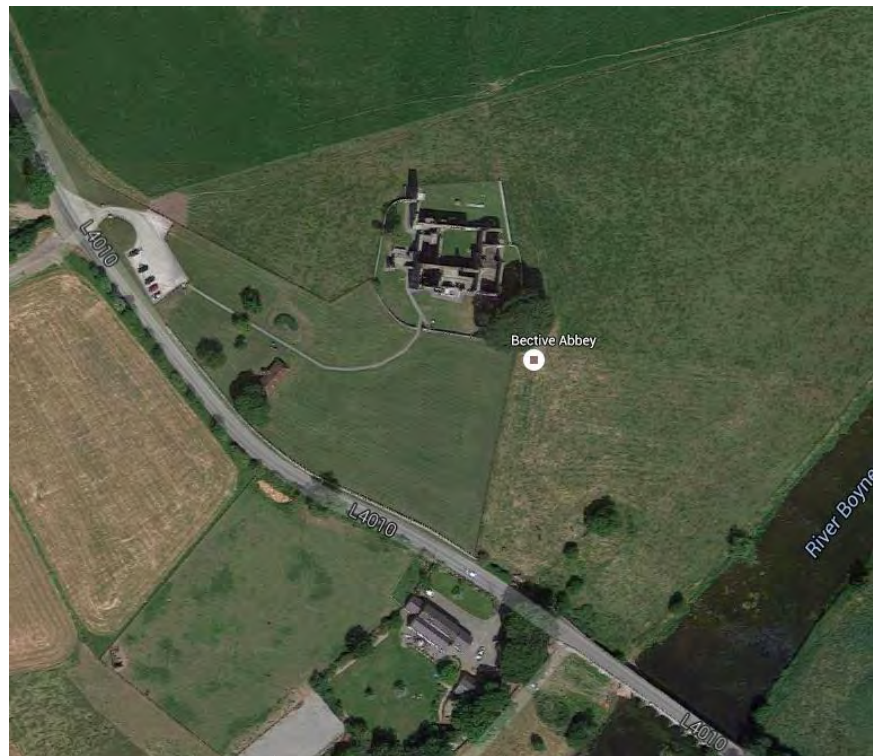


Figure 2-2. Google aerial photography showing Bective Abbey with adjoining car park.

14. The Abbey itself has an enclosing wall encircling it to the west, south and east with a gated entrance to the south.



Figure 2-3. Bing aerial photography showing detailed view of Bective Abbey with adjoining car park.

15. In the last few years work has taken place to improve access to the site, with the development of a car park. Previously parking was limited to the roadside on a blind bend (Plate 2-1) to the gate (Plate 2-2).



Plate 2-1. Photograph showing previous parking for Bective Abbey.



Plate 2-2. Previous access into Bective Abbey.

16. From the new carpark and access path the view west towards the Abbey is open, attractive and unencumbered, as can be seen in Figure 2-3. The abbey can be fully appreciated when accessing the site along a new pathway from the carpark. (Plate 2-3).



Plate 2-3. View of access to the Abbey from the carpark, looking south east.

17. The view westward towards the proposed development, from the carpark gate is largely screened by hedging along the L4010. It may be possible that the tops of some of the proposed towers may be visible through gaps in the vegetation during the summer months (Plate 2-4). During the winter this screening will be reduced.



Plate 2-4. View from carpark gate to the west, towards the proposed development.

18. There is full access to the grounds of the abbey both internally and externally. There is a first floor level to the fortified tower which is accessed via a stairs at the south facing façade of the building but this is gated and locked.
19. When standing to the south of the site near the river, looking north there is an impressive view of the complex (Plate 2-5). This viewshed allows for a complete appreciation of the range of the Abbey. From this general position looking west there will be very limited, distant views towards the proposed development.



Plate 2-5. View looking north towards Bective Abbey from field to the south.

20. Within the complex, in the nave and cloister area, there will be no views of the proposed development (Plate 2-6 & 2-7 **Error! Reference source not found.**).



Plate 2-6. View into cloister.



Plate 2-7. View looking south towards the nave.

21. From the nave there are impressive views to the north and east along the Boyne Valley and into the Draft Tara Skryne Landscape Conservation Area (LCA) (Plate 2-8). There are no views of the proposed development from this area.



Plate 2-8. View north from nave towards the Boyne River and the Draft Tara Skryne LCA

22. On the south facing façade of the Abbey there is a staircase up to a doorway into what was once the refectory (Plate 2-9). The doorway is now gated and locked and the refectory is not open to the public. It is from this location, elevated approximately 2m from the surrounding ground level, that the photomontages in the EIS are taken (Volume 3D Photomontages 64 and 65). This is notable as the elevation significantly changes the view to the west as can be seen in Plate 2-10 and Plate 2-11.



Plate 2-9. Stairs to refectory in south facing façade (Source: www.ancient-egypt.co.uk accessed 08-Oct-2015)



Plate 2-10. View from the top of the stairs on the south facing façade.



Plate 2-11. View from the bottom of the stairs on the south facing Façade.

23. There are particularly picturesque views relating to nearby Bective Bridge to and from the Abbey (Plate 2-12, 2-13 and Plate 2-14). From the Bridge there is a view of the proposed development to the west presented in Volume 3D Photomontage 66. It is notable that from the bridge the most picturesque view is north towards the Abbey, and away from the proposed development to the west. It is evident from Volume 3D Photomontage 64 that in Plate 2-13 the proposed development could be seen in the far right of the image above the old farm building.



Plate 2-12. View of Bective Abbey looking north from Bective Bridge.



Plate 2-13. View looking south towards Bective Bridge from the stairs at entrance to the refectory.



Plate 2-14. View from the eastern side of the Abbey towards Bective Bridge.

24. Bective Abbey is a popular regional tourist attraction, with a high visual expression and existing visitor amenities. The significant viewsheds from the road, from the bridge and from the entrance and pathway will not include the proposed development in the event that the development proceeds. Within the site of the Abbey there is much to explore and see, in the cloister area views are enclosed, from the nave the view is north and east across fields and south towards the river. From most areas within the site of Bective Abbey the proposed development will have no impact on its setting. The proposed development will be evident when the viewer is elevated and looking westward across the landscape, particularly from the stairs on the south facing façade. From Bective Bridge, the development will only be visible when the observer turns away from the Abbey to the west, as presented in Photomontage 66, Volume 3D of the EIS. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is very high. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting on the setting of Bective Abbey will be modest. Should the development proceed there will be a permanent, moderate, negative impact on the setting of Bective Abbey.

2.2 CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER AND PAUL, NEWTOWN (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 110)

25. The Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul is located in an urban green belt, Porch Fields, within the town of Trim, on the north bank of the Boyne River (Figure 2-4 and Figure 2-5). The green belt extends to the east past St John’s Priory (National Monument No. 553) and into agricultural land, and to the west to Sheep Gate (National Monument No. 469), Trim Castle (National Monument No. 514) and The Yellow Steeple and Nangle Castle (National monument No. 186). To the north and south of Porch Fields is a residential development. The site has high visual expression and is an existing tourist attraction within the town of Trim.

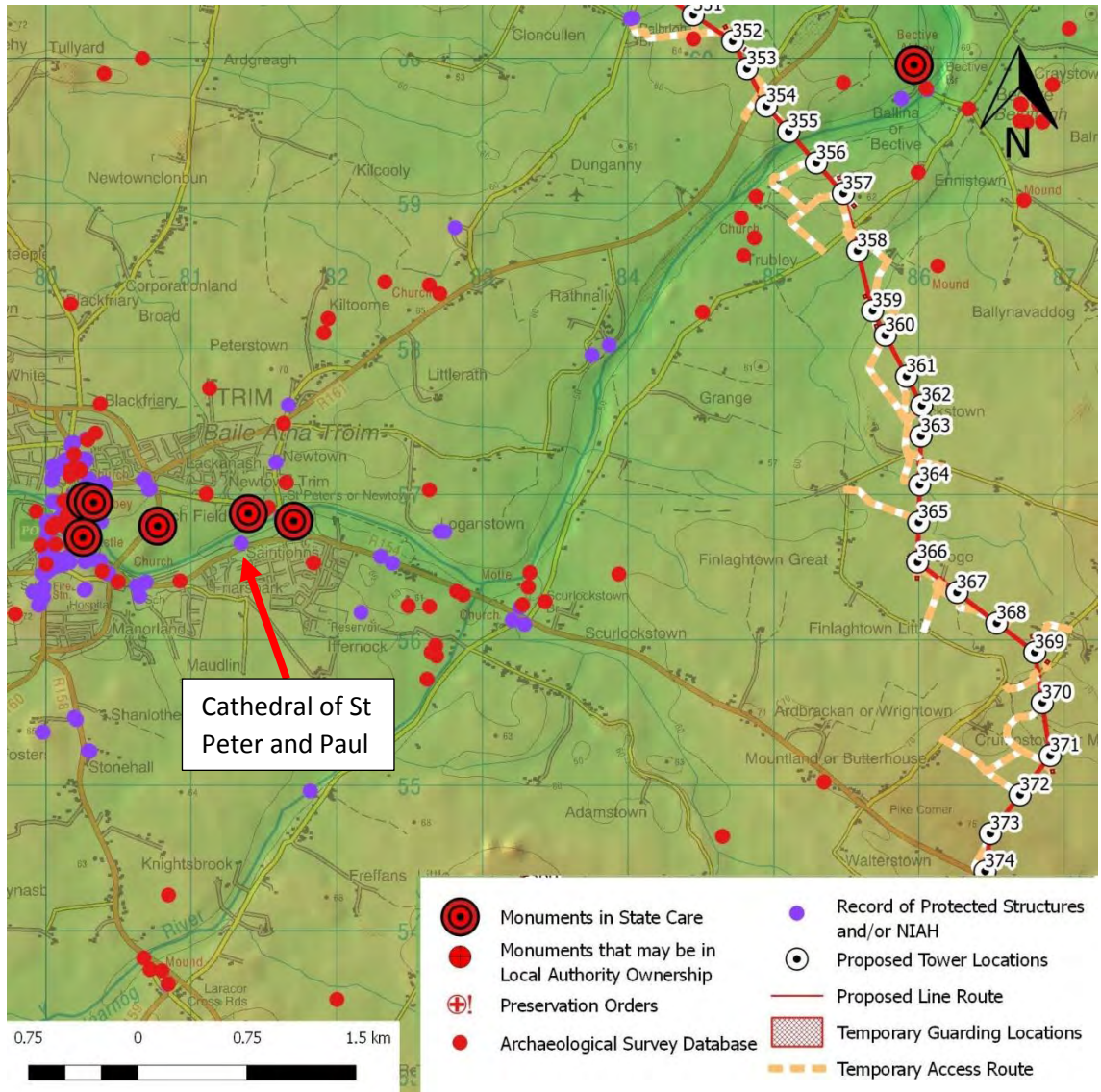


Figure 2-4. Location of the Cathedral of St Peter and Paul in relation to the proposed development.

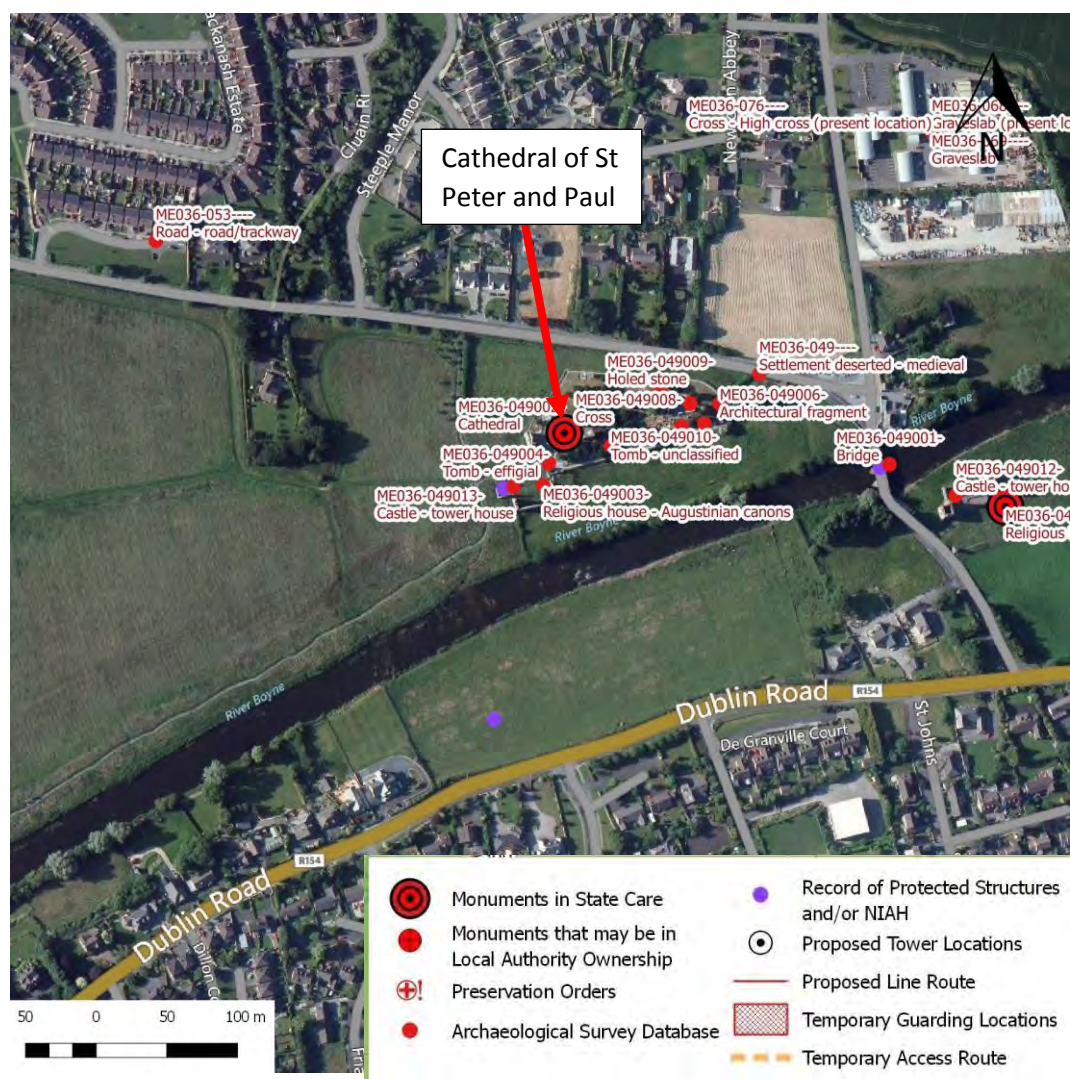


Figure 2-5. Location of the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul on Bing aerial photography.

26. The site of the Cathedral is on the crest of a south west-facing slope down to a west south west – east north east section of the River Boyne overlooking a level landscape with housing developments north and south. Westwards towards the development there are no publicly accessible elevated positions within the Cathedral from which the towers will be visible.
27. From the Cathedral there is a historic road across Porch Field (National Monument 679) west to Sheep Gate in the Trim Town Wall (National Monument No. 469). A photomontage (Volume 3D Photomontage 71) has been produced which indicates the view of the proposed development from the top of Trim Castle and the Cathedral is visible in this picture (see extract from photomontage below, Plate 2-15). The only view of the Cathedral which will be impacted on is the view from the top of Trim Castle.
28. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is high. Should the development proceed it will have a minor impact on the setting of the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the cathedral will be minor, from Trim Castle, and none from all other views. Should the proposed development proceed

there will be a permanent, largely imperceptible, negative impact on the setting of the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul.



Plate 2-15. Extract from Volume 3D Photomontage 71 with the location of the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul indicated.

2.3 CRUCIETOWN CHURCH & CROSS (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 264)

29. Located approximately 1.7km to the west of the proposed development Cruicetown Church and Cross occupy an elevated position, with extensive panoramic views over the surrounding area, including particularly picturesque views to the west (Plate 2-16) and north (Plate 2-17). The site is publicly accessible, with a new gate having been installed in the last few years. A photomontage has been produced (Photomontage 71, Volume 3D of the EIS) that shows the view of the proposed development when looking to the north east, towards the proposed development, from beside the nearby motte (SMR No. ME005-093--). It is evident from the photomontage that the proposed development is screened by topography when looking in this direction. Looking to the west there will be no view of the proposed development. Looking to the north, the proposed development is screened by a low ridge located to the north west of Cruicetown House. Looking to the south east and upon leaving the site there will be a partial view of some towers as the proposed development proceeds to the south from Tower 274 (Plate 2-18). The distance to Tower 274 is approximately 1.8km and the proposed development then moves away from Cruicetown in a southerly direction.

30. Given its elevated location and panoramic views of the largely undisturbed surrounding landscape Cruicetown Church's sensitivity to impacts on setting is very high. Should the proposed development proceed the magnitude of the impact on Cruicetown Church and Cross will be minor. Should the proposed development proceed there will be permanent, slight, negative impact on the setting of Cruicetown.

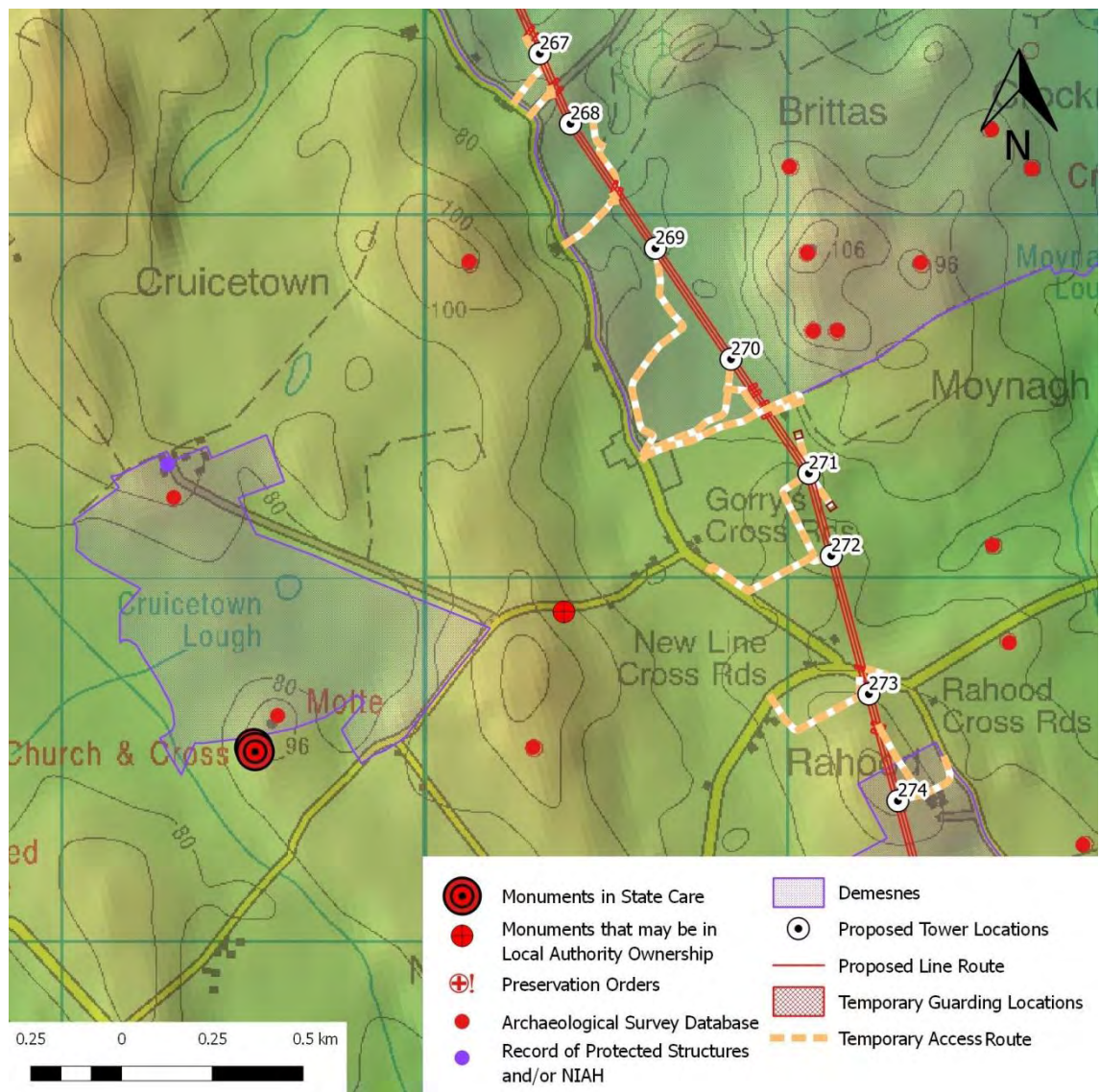


Figure 2-6. Location of Cruicetown Church and Cross in relation to the proposed development.

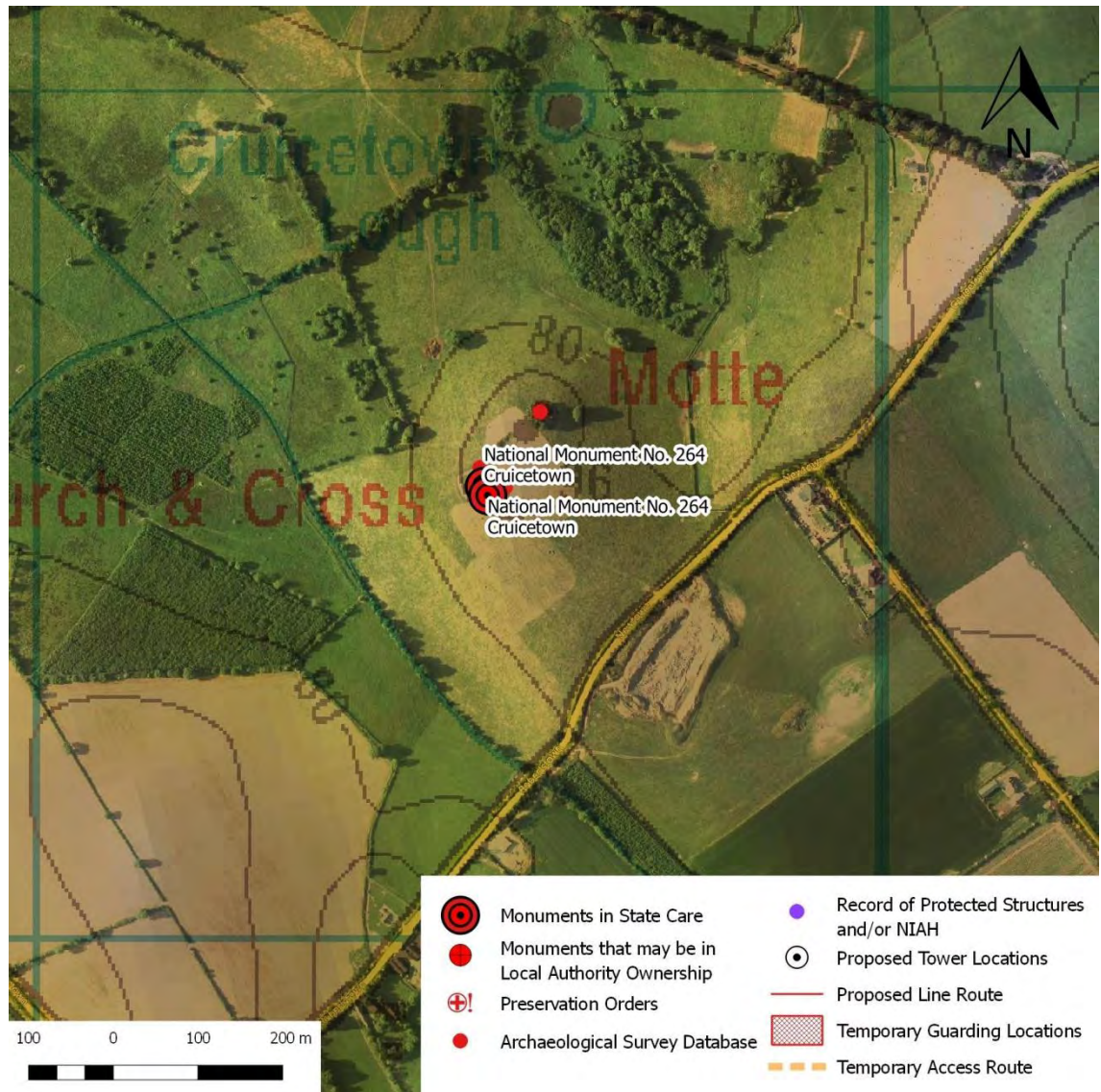


Figure 2-7. Location of Cruicetown Church and Cross on Bing aerial photography.



Plate 2-16. View from the east looking towards Cruicetown Church.



Plate 2-17. View from between Cruicetown Church and Cruicetown Motte looking to the north, towards Cruicetown House.



Plate 2-18. View from the top of Cruicetown Motte looking to the south.

2.4 DUNSANY CHURCH (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 489)

31. Dunsany Church is located in excess of 4.3Km from the proposed development on a fairly level landscape at the north side of a natural knoll (Figure 2-8). It is accessed via Dunsany castle which lies to the immediate west (Figure 2-9). The church is well screened by mature forestry (Figure 2-10). There will be no impact on the setting of this site from the proposed development.

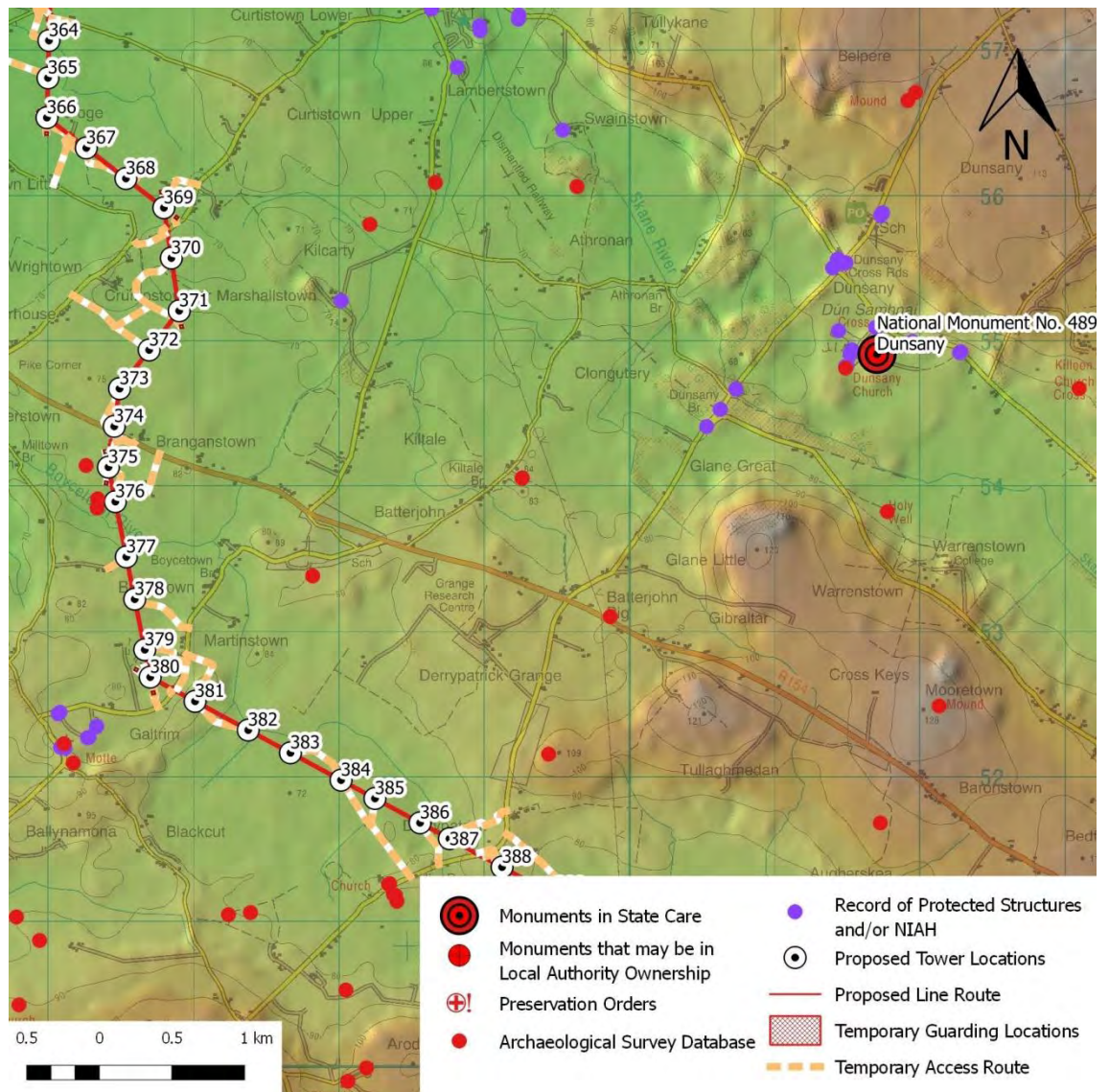


Figure 2-8. Location of Dunsany Church in relation to the proposed development.

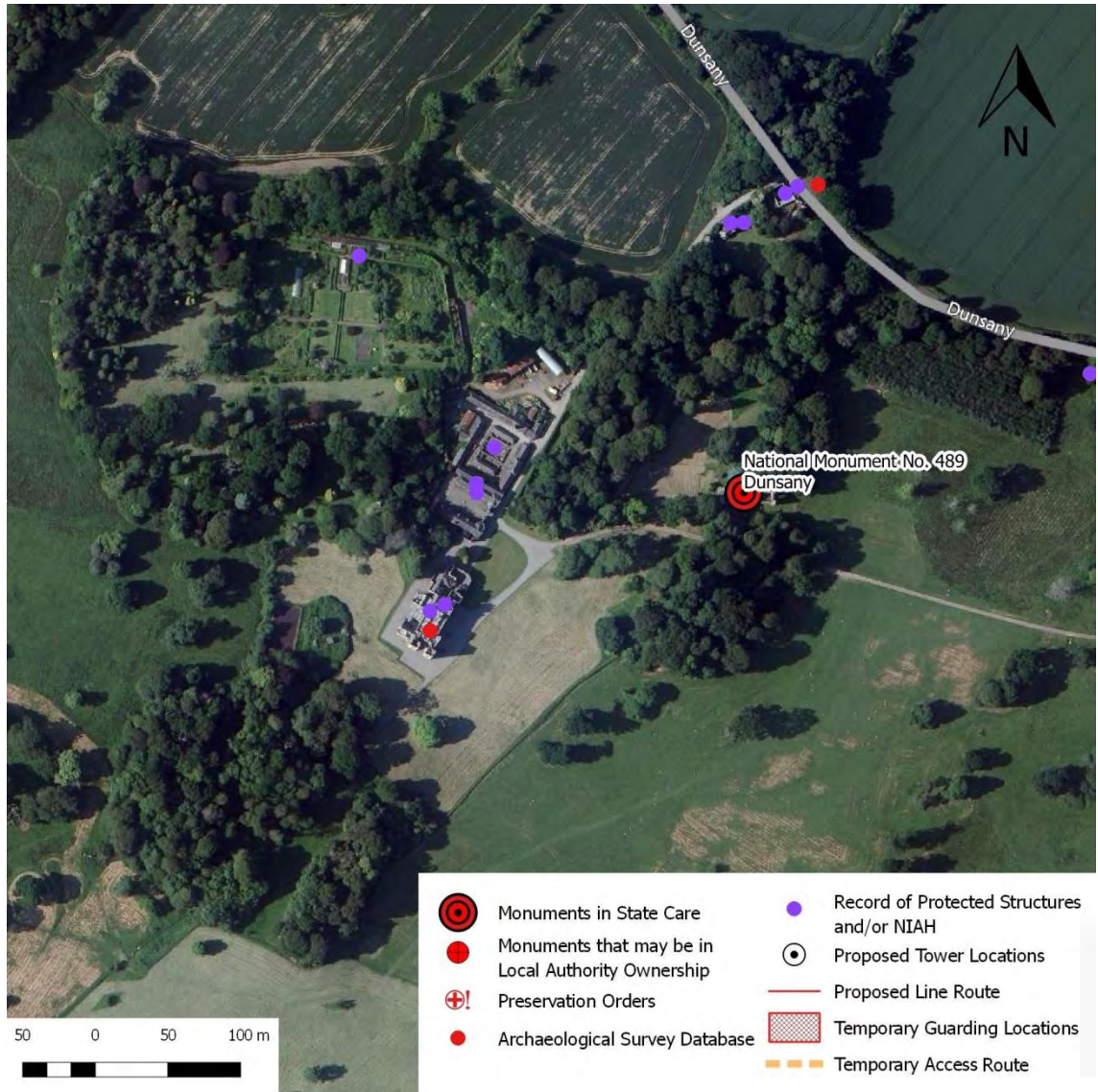


Figure 2-9. Location of Dunsany Church from Bing aerial photography.

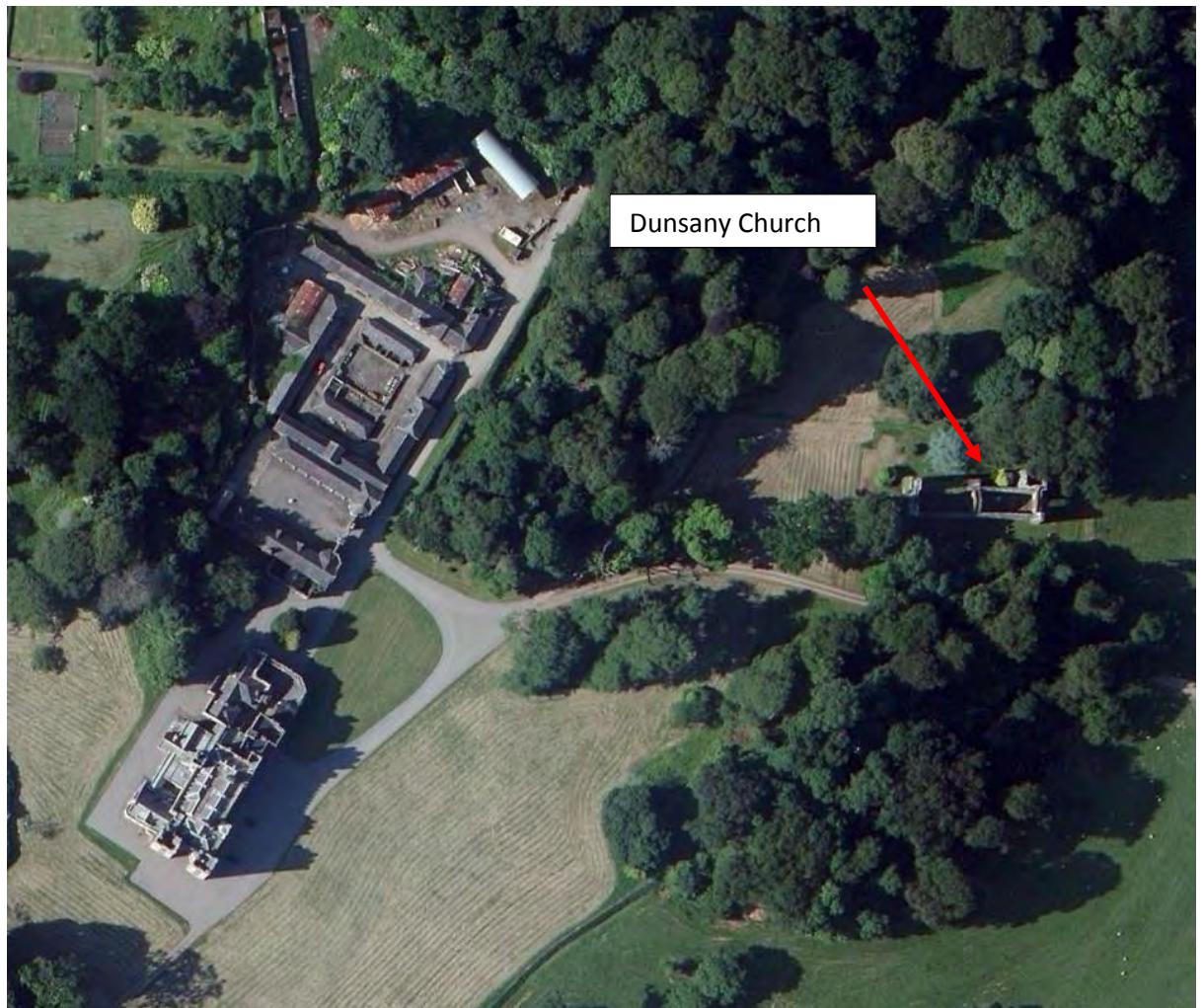


Figure 2-10. Dunsany Church surrounded by natural woodland.

2.5 KELLS

32. Kells is one of six Early Medieval Monastic sites which appears on the Tentative list of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. These six foundations are described as the epitome of the Early Medieval Monastic Cities which derived their unique settlement patterns from the major sites of pre-Christian Celtic Ireland which themselves developed over the several centuries of the Iron Age. The National Monuments in State Care associated with Kells include St. Columba's House (Nat Mon No. 108) and the Round Tower & High Crosses (Nat Mon No. 158). All these sites are located within an urban environment and are well visited with the requisite amenities.
33. The views from these sites have limited horizons due to the urban setting within which they are located. At ground level there are no views of the proposed development from the monastic sites of Kells. There is a view over the top of the urban environment of Kells towards the east from Church Lane, to the north of St. Columba's Church (Plate 2-20). The proposed development in this view would be at a greater distance from the observer than that of both Trim Castle and the Hill of Tara, both of which have had photomontages included in the EIS (Volume 3D Photomontage 68 and Volume 3D Photomontage 71). These photomontages provide a good guide to the magnitude of the impact that can be

expected should the proposed development proceed. It can be seen from Plate 2-20 that the view would be competing with the rooftops of houses and TV aerials.

34. The sensitivity of Kells to impacts on setting is very high to high in close proximity to the site, its sensitivity to impacts on setting to the west is reduced due to the urban environment within which it is located. The magnitude of the impacts of the proposed development will be predominantly none but there may be some minor impacts from areas with views to the east such as Church Lane. Should the proposed development proceed there will be an imperceptible impact on the setting of the Monastic site of Kells.



Figure 2-11. Cultural heritage sites in Kells, with urban setting evident.

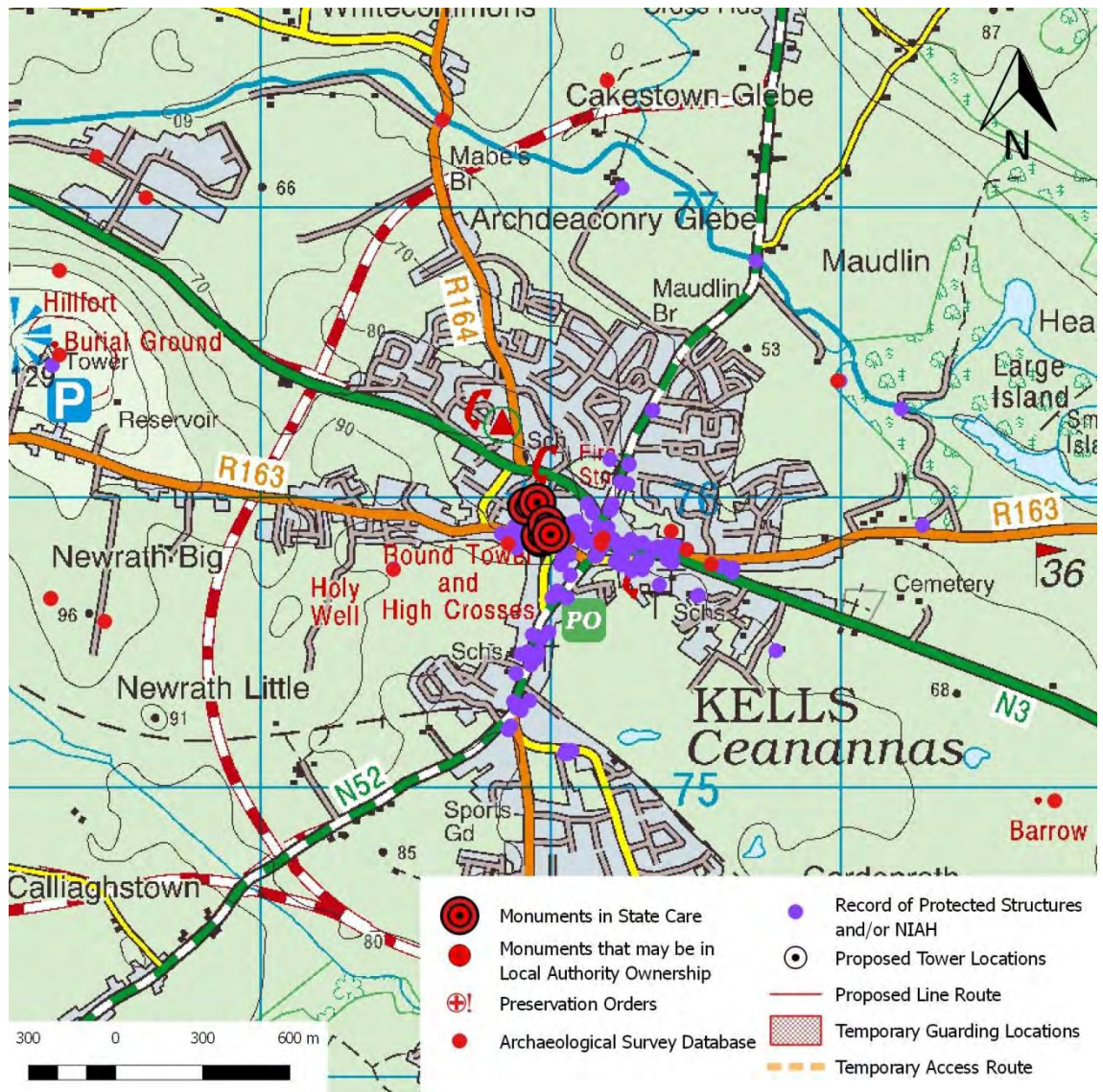


Figure 2-12. Cultural heritage sites in Kells, with urban setting evident.

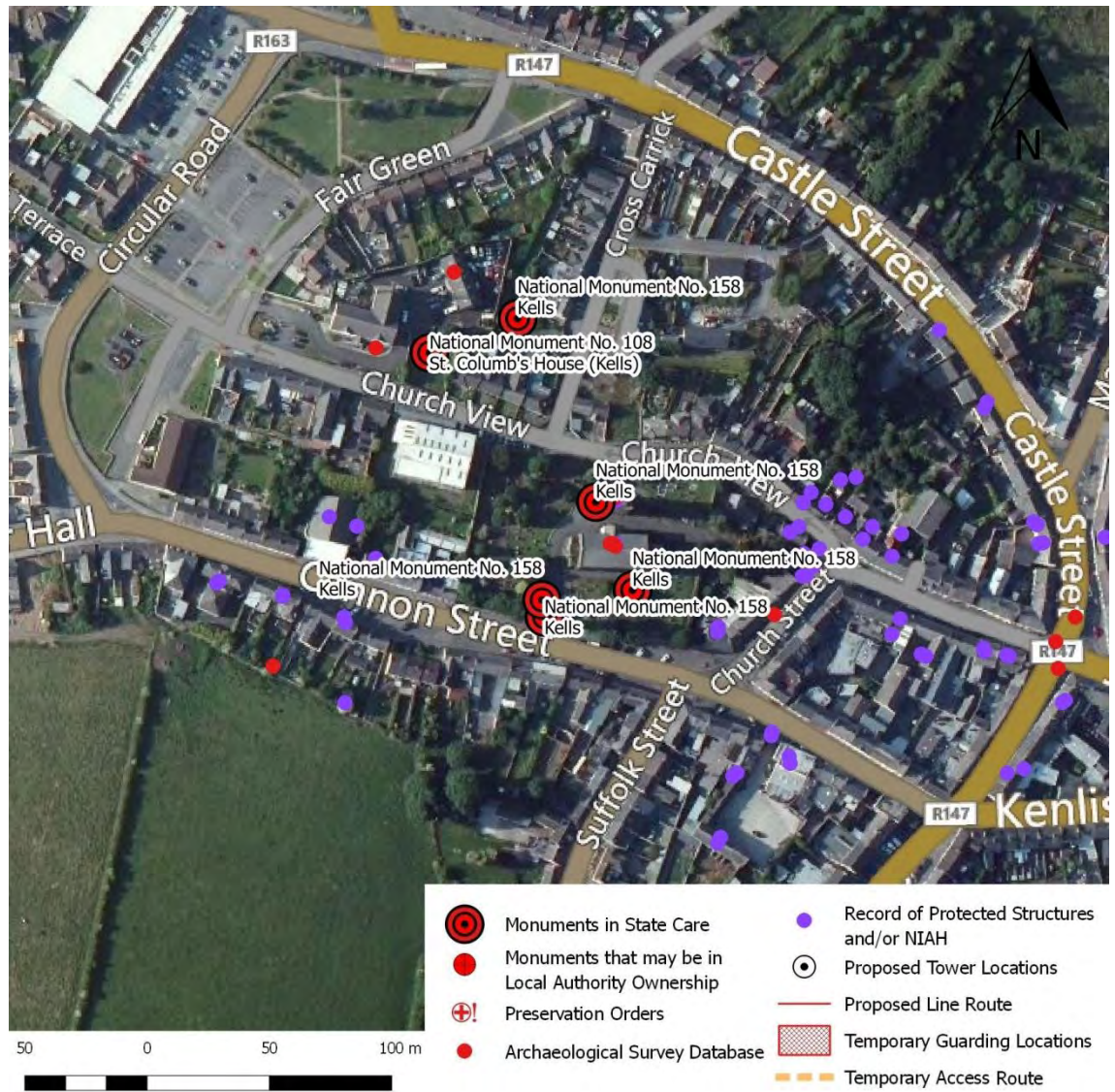


Figure 2-13. Detail of National Monuments in State Care in Kells.



Plate 2-19. View looking west towards St. Columba's Church (Source: Google Streetview, Accessed 13/10/2015).



Plate 2-20. View from Church Lane looking towards the proposed development (Source: Google Streetview, Accessed 13/10/2015).

2.6 PORCH FIELD, TRIM (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 679)

35. Located in the centre of Trim, this National Monument relates to Porch Field itself and an historic road that crossed from Sheep Gate located in Trim Town Wall (National Monument 469) to the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul (National Monument Number 110). The R154 Ring Road, the Navan Road, now crosses Porch Fields bisecting the historic road and

residential development has spread along both the northern and southern margins of this urban green space. A photomontage (Photomontage 71, Volume 3D of the EIS) has been produced which indicates the view of the proposed development from the top of Trim Castle and the old roadway is visible in this picture (see extract from photomontage 71 below).

36. The eastern extent of the historic road, at the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, is located approximately 4.6km to the west of the proposed development. The road extends for approximately 950m to the west to Sheep Gate. The monument is located in the green space of Porch Field, with urban development to the north, south and west. The site is not substantially elevated and there are no notable views to the east toward the proposed development. The area is publicly accessible and there are views from Sheep Gate and the road to a number of other National Monuments in the Care of the State that surround Porch Field, including Trim Castle (National Monument No. 514), The Yellow Steeple and Nangle Castle (National Monument No. 186), The Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul (National Monument No. 110) and St. John's Priory (National Monument No. 553). Although the site is a National Monument in the Ownership of the State its setting is somewhat degraded by its urban setting and the fact that the historic road has been bisected by the R154. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is high.
37. Views between the National Monuments mentioned above are encapsulated within Porch Field and its immediate environs. This is evident from Photomontage 71, Volume 3D of the EIS which is taken from the top of Trim Castle, which provides the most elevated viewing platform of all the monuments in the vicinity of Porch Field. The proposed development will not interfere with the intervisibility between any of these monuments. Any views of the proposed development will consist of very minor intrusions at over 4km remove to the rear of existing urban development and will be imperceptible. Views that will experience the greatest impact on setting will be those from the top of Trim Castle, which is located approximately 5.6km from the proposed development, and given the urban setting of the monument these will be largely imperceptible. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Trim Town Defences, including Sheep Gate and its associated road, will be largely imperceptible.
38. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of Trim Town Defences, including Sheep Gate and its associated road will be imperceptible.

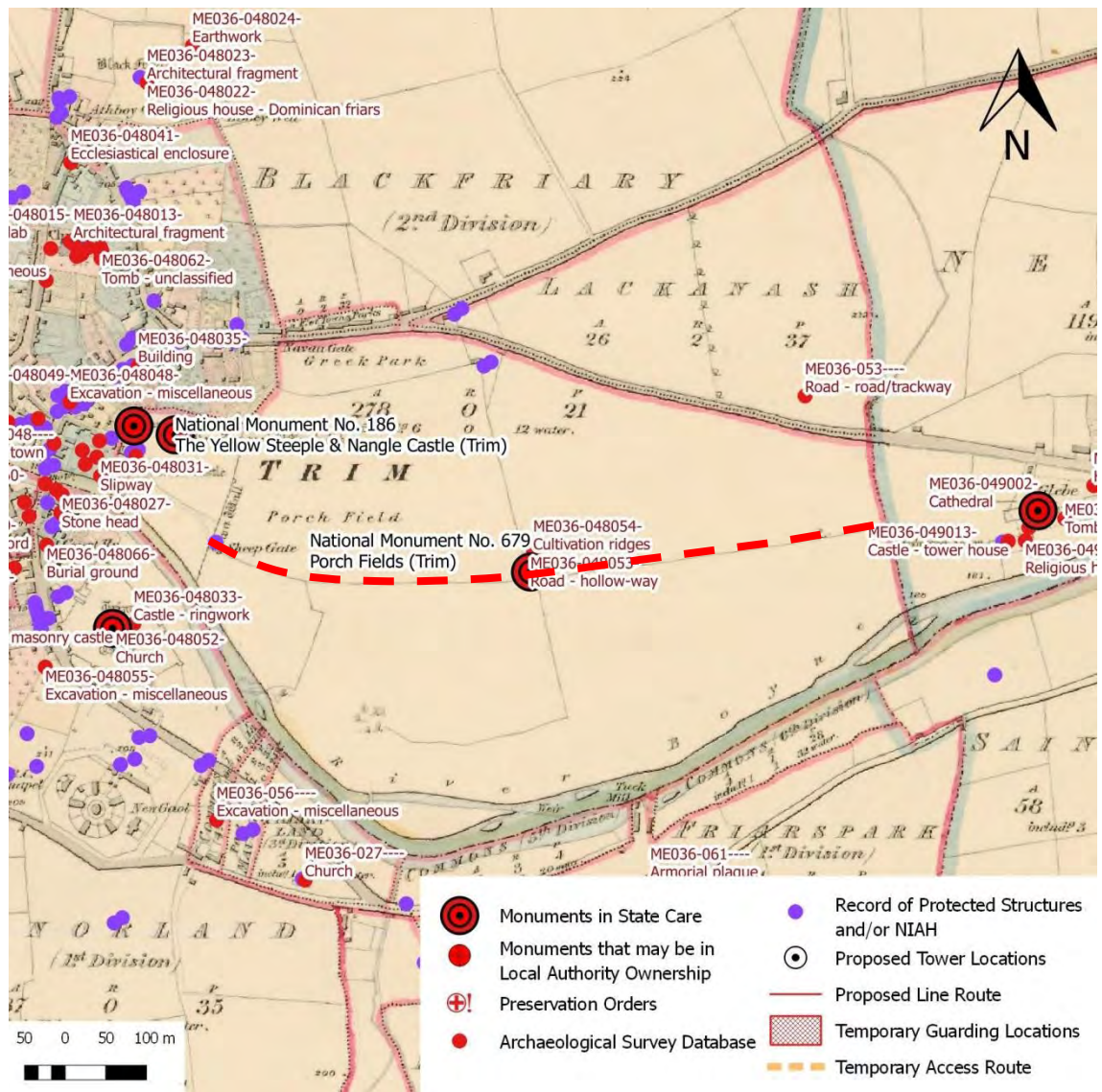


Figure 2-14. First edition Ordnance Survey Map indicating alignment of the road with Sheep Gate at its western end.

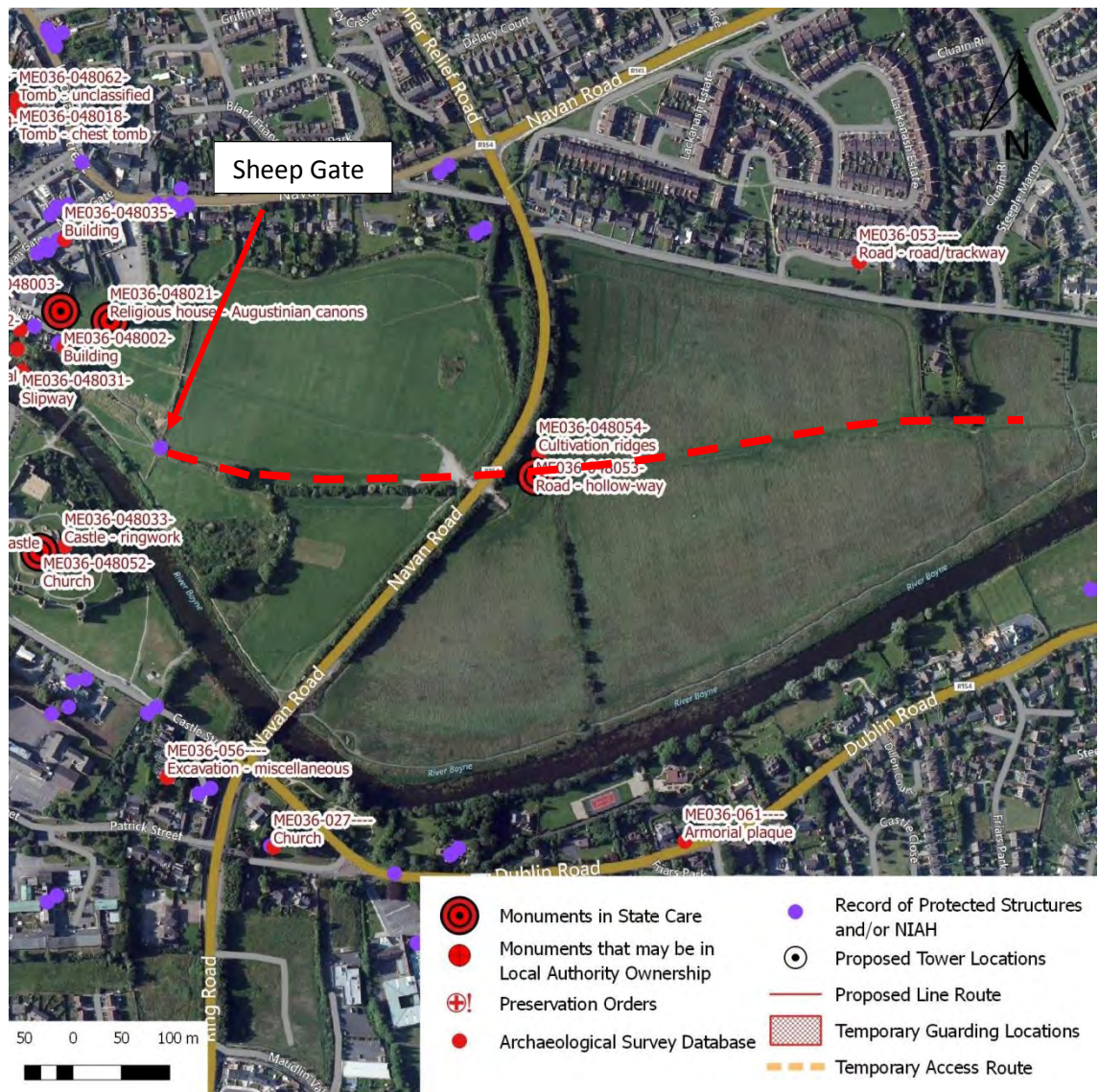


Figure 2-15. Aerial photography with the location of Sheep Gate and the alignment of the road indicated.



Plate 2-21. Extract from Volume 3D Photomontage 71 with the alignment of the historic road indicated in red and the Navan Road indicated in blue.

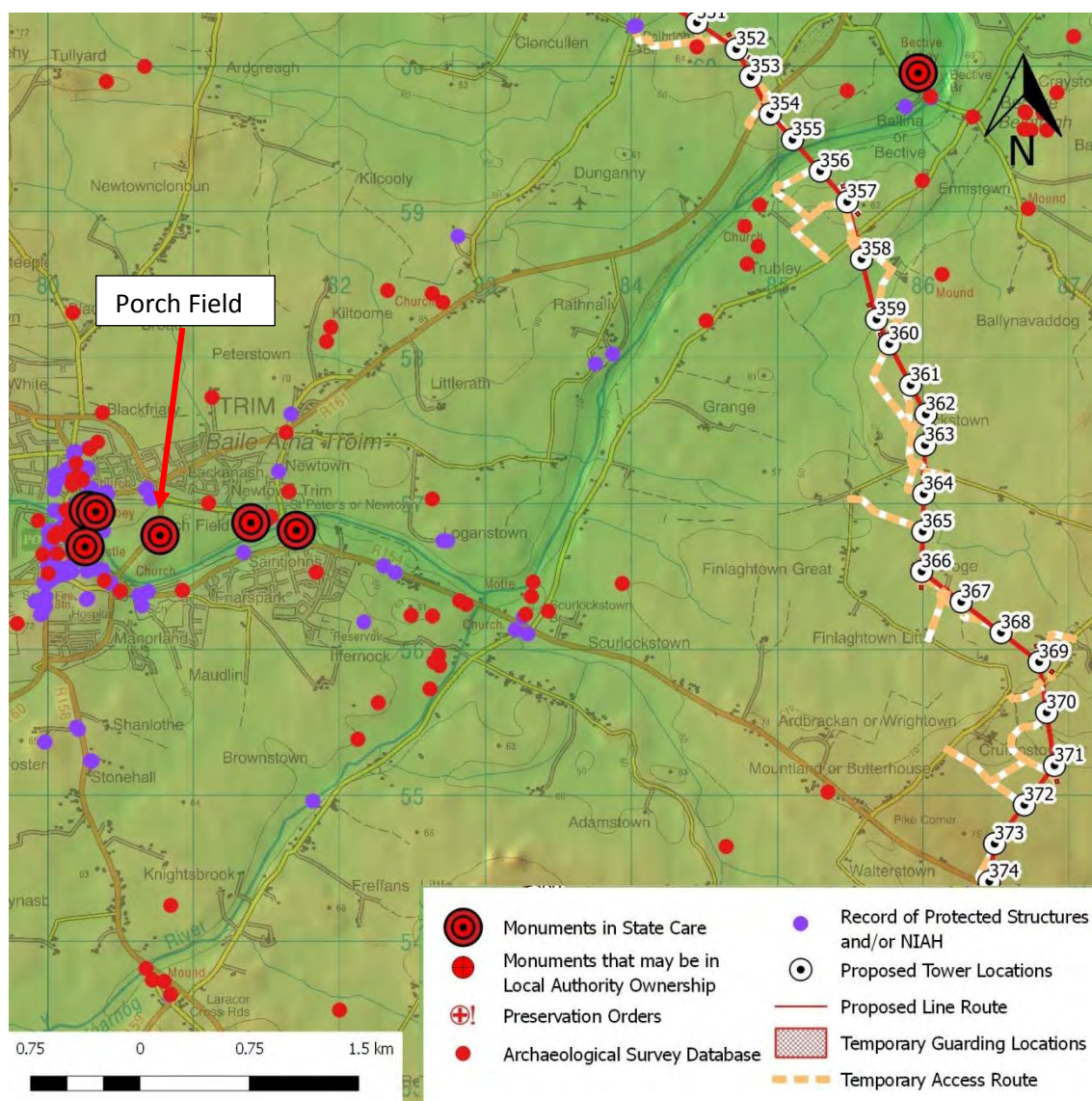


Figure 2-16. Location of Trim Town Defences in relation to the proposed development

2.7 ROBERTSTOWN CASTLE - MOTTE (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 256)

39. Robertstown Castle is a flat-topped motte (diam. of top 13m, diam. of base 36m, H 4-7m) with no visible fosse or bailey in open countryside. The site is visible from a nearby access road, but has no formal access. The motte is located approximately 2.8Km from the nearest point of the line route. There are intervening ridges between the site and the proposed development. There will be no impact on the setting of this site.

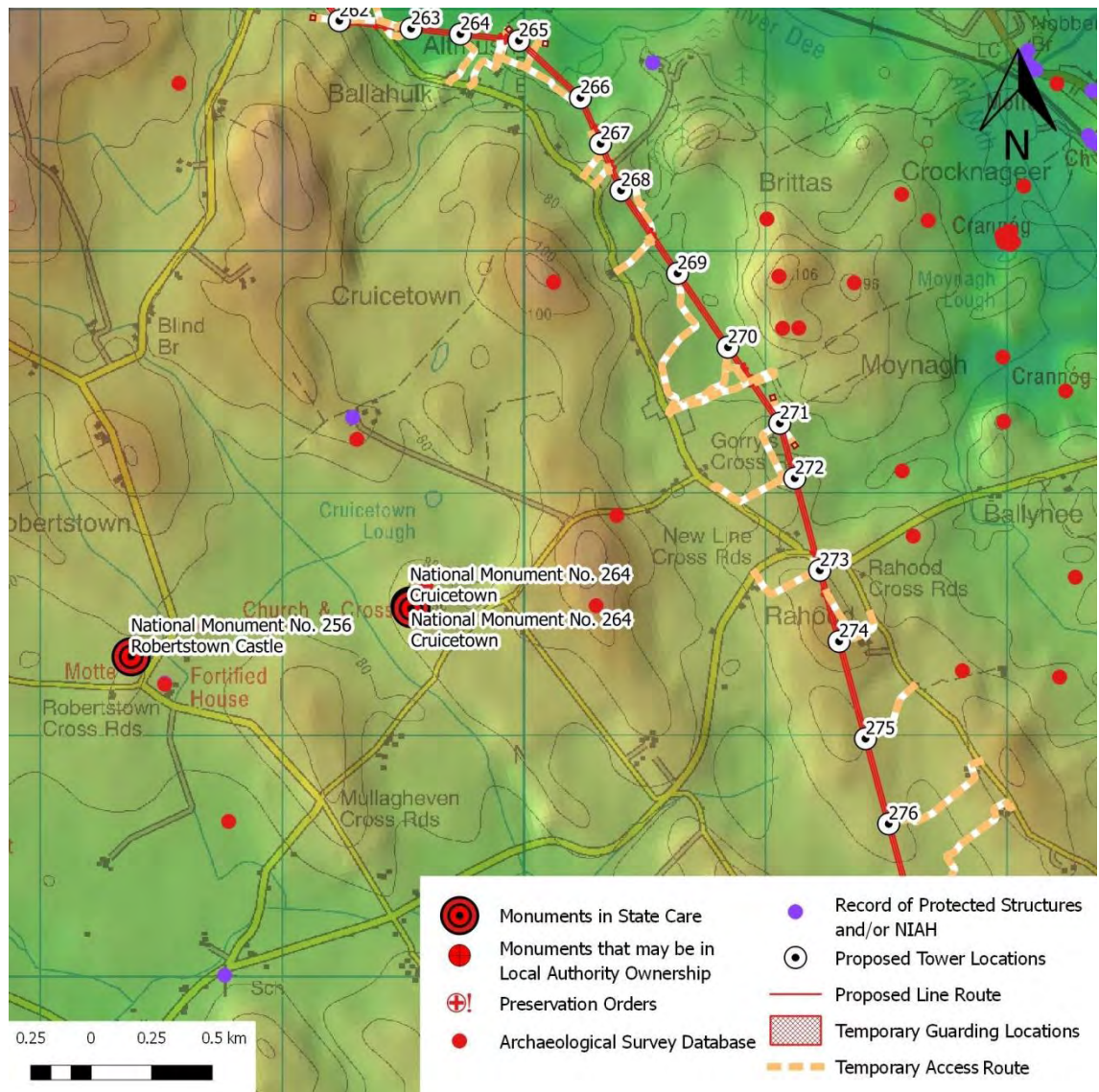


Figure 2-17. Location of Robertstown Castle in relation to the proposed development.

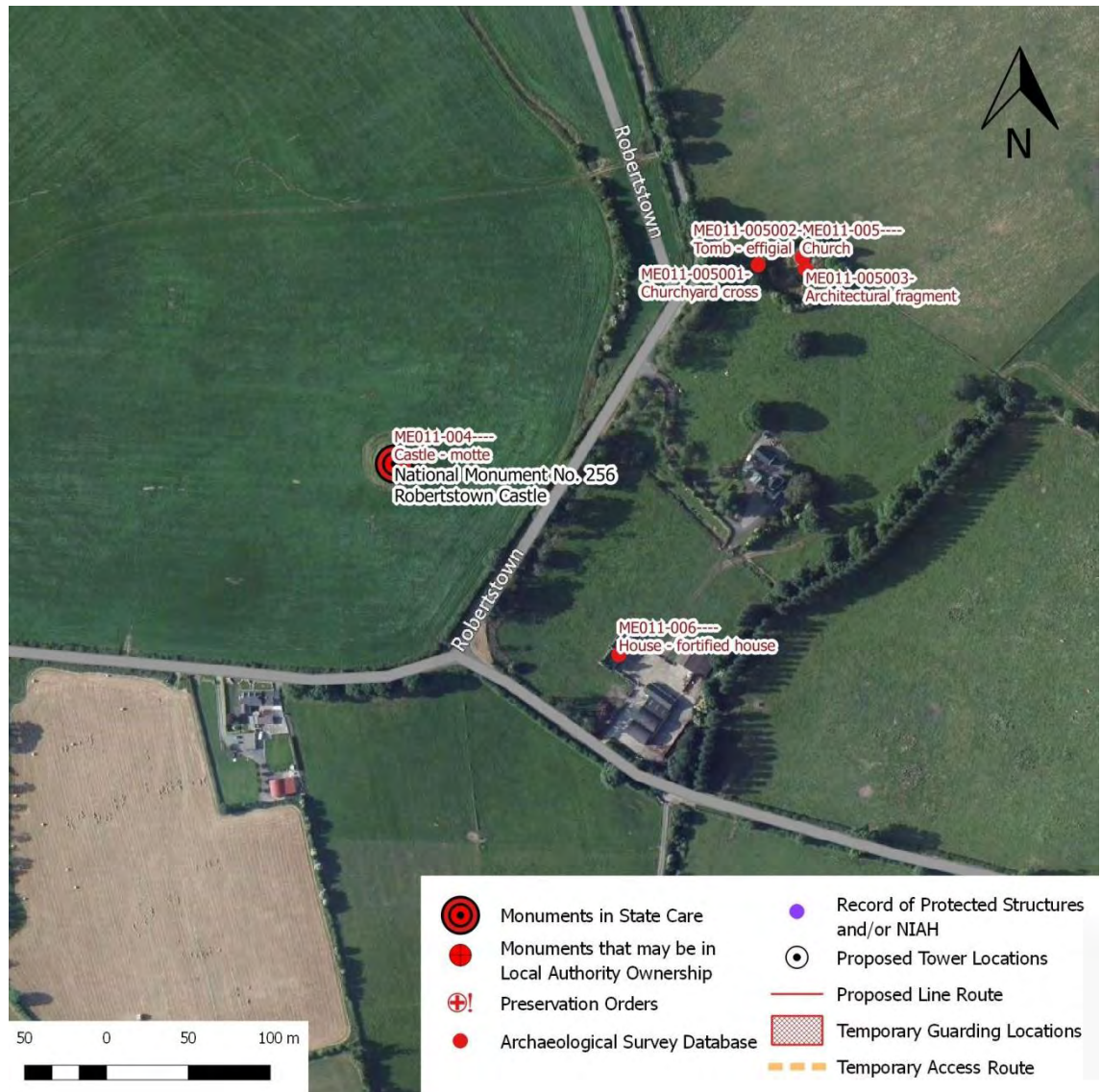


Figure 2-18. Detail of Robertstown Castle site.



Plate 2-22. View north towards Robertstown Castle – Motte.

2.8 ROBERTSTOWN RINGFORT (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 542)

40. Robertstown Ringfort is located on low-lying ground at almost 70m altitude approximately 3.6km to the west of the proposed development. The monument is situated in agricultural land and is not visible from the surrounding roadways. Public access to the site does not appear to be facilitated. Elevated ground to the east of the Ringfort will screen it from most views of the proposed development although the tops of some towers may be discernible. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is moderate. Should the development proceed there may be an impact that is minor in magnitude on the setting of the site. Should the development proceed there will be a permanent impact on the setting of the site that is largely imperceptible.

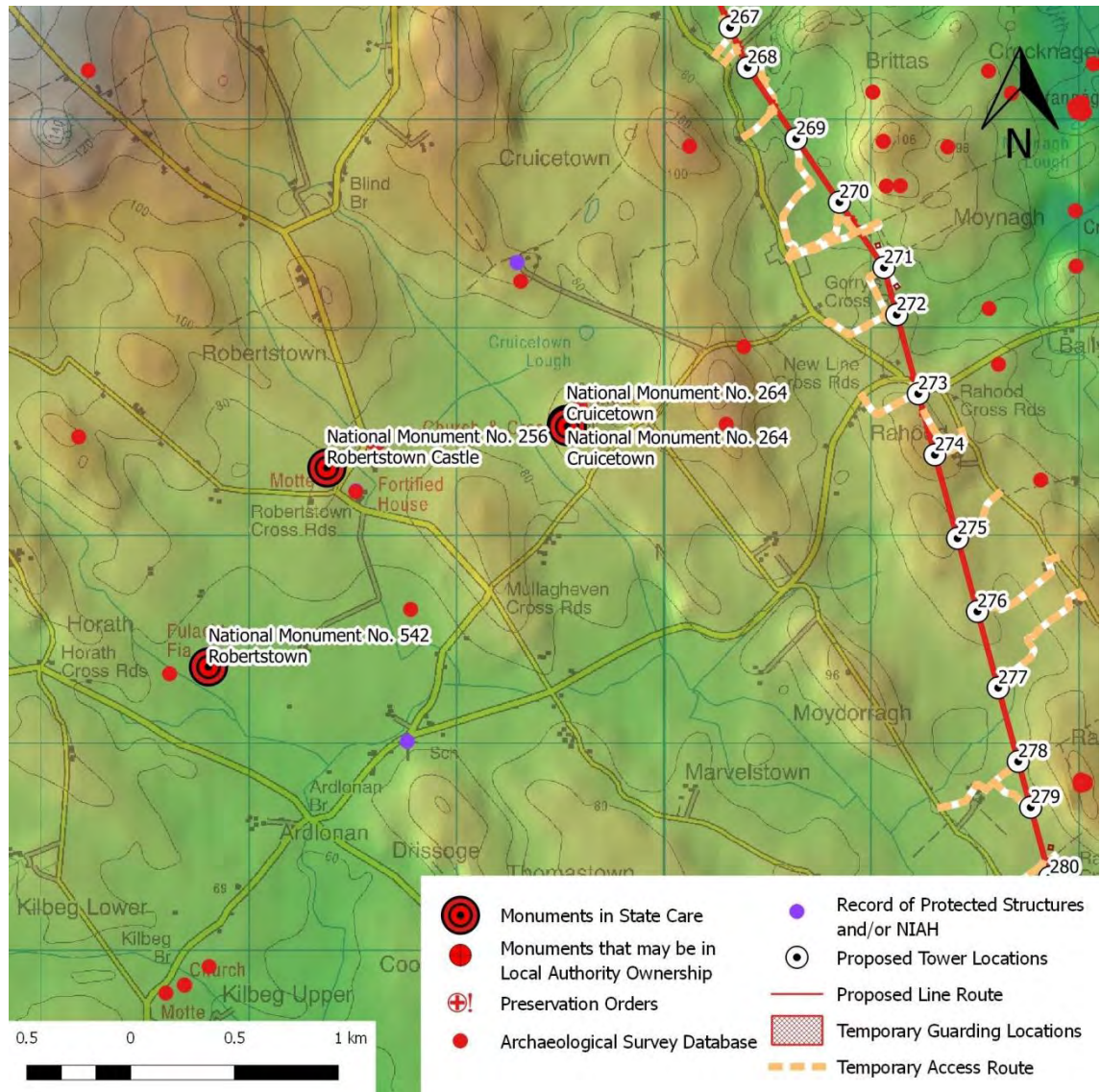


Figure 2-19. Location of Robertstown Ringfort relative to the proposed development.

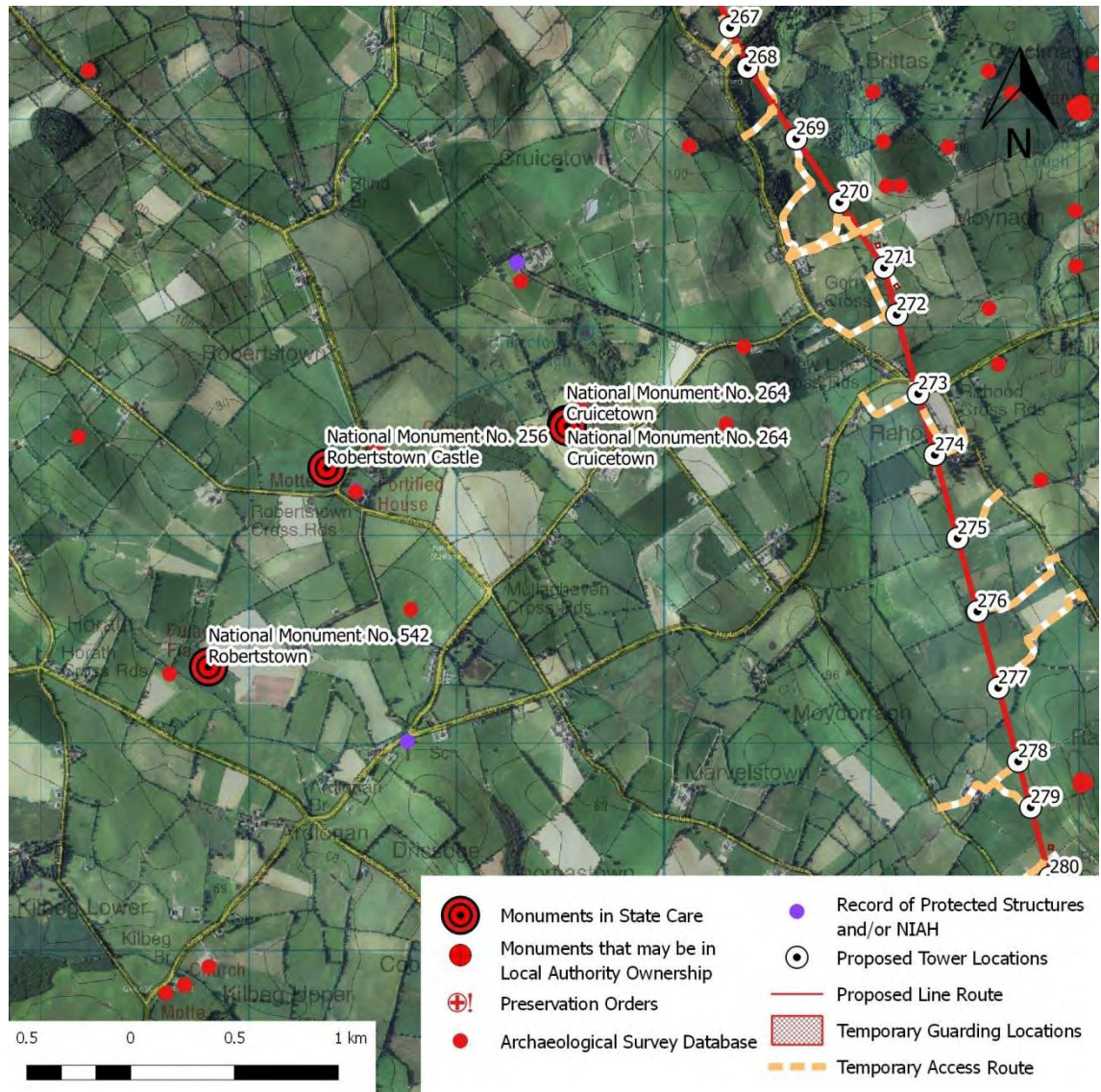


Figure 2-20. Overlay of aerial imagery showing location of Robertstown Ringfort relative to the proposed development.

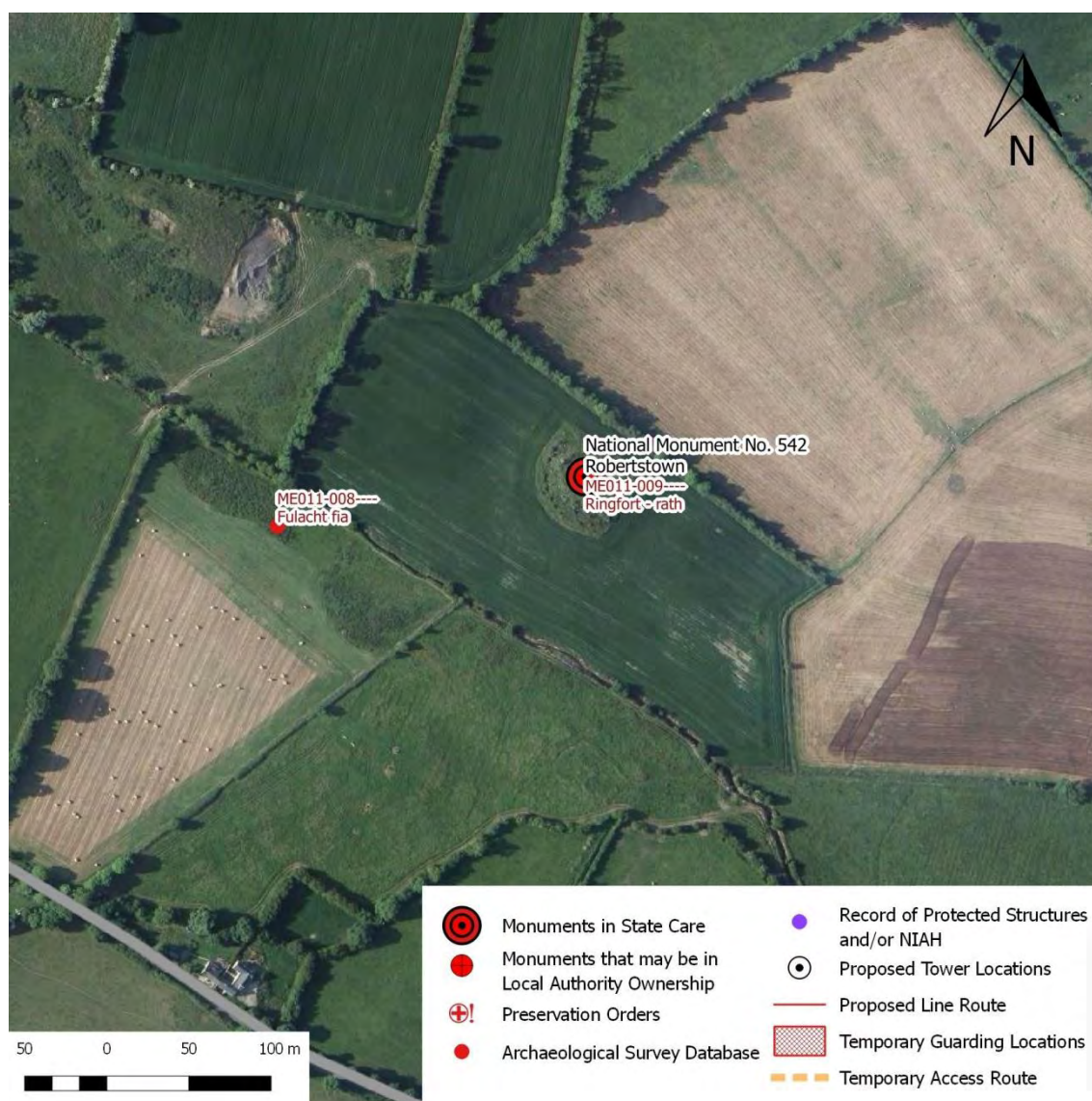


Figure 2-21. Detail of Robertstown Ringfort.

2.9 ST JOHN'S PRIORY (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 553)

41. St John's Priory is located on the eastern extent of Trim, on the southern bank of the Boyne River. To the north of the site is an industrial zone, with a residential area to its west. To the south of the site is more residential development and to the east, screened behind trees, is a sewage treatment plant. To the west, up river, is Porch Field, an extensive urban green space that extends through residential areas north and south to Trim Castle. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is high.
42. The site is low lying and publicly accessible. The proposed development will not be visible from the grounds of the Priory. There are no publicly accessible elevated positions within the Priory from which the proposed development will be visible. The only view that will be affected will be that from the top of Trim Castle, located approximately 1.4km to the west of the Priory. Volume 3D Photomontage 71 of the EIS shows a view from the top of Trim Castle and it is evident that at approximately 5.6km from the castle the development may

be visible, however, its affect will be negligible. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of St. John’s Priory will be imperceptible to none.

- 43. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of St. John’s Priory will be imperceptible.

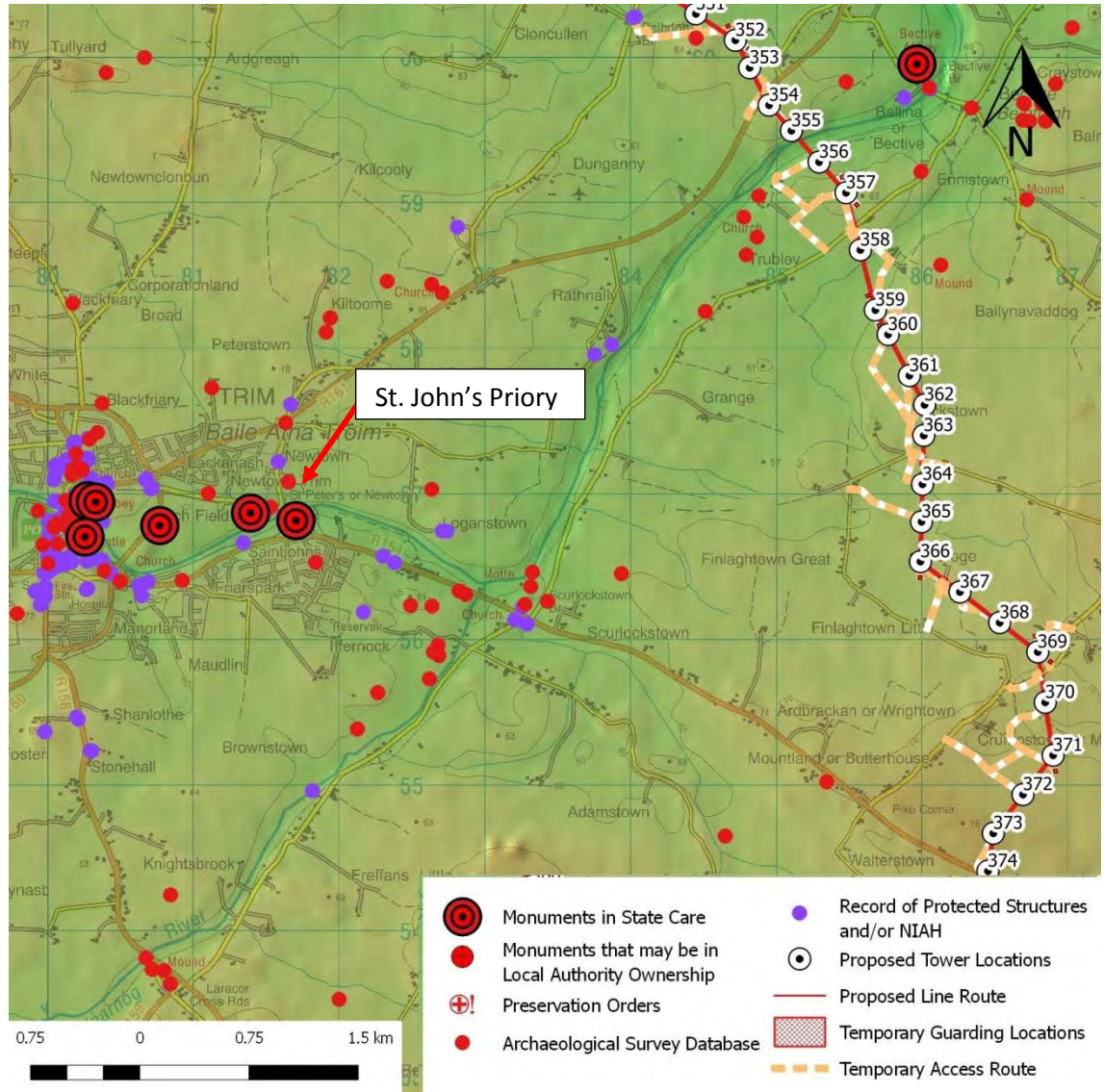


Figure 2-22. Location of St. John’s Priory in relation to the proposed development.



Figure 2-23. Detail of location of St. John’s Priory.

2.10 TARA COMPLEX (NATIONAL MONUMENT NO. 148)

44. The Tara complex is one of Ireland’s premier archaeological sites and is located at the core of the Draft Tara Skryne Landscape Conservation Area. In Meath the primary focus of Iron Age activity is associated with the Royal site of Tara. This complex was both the seat of the kings of Meath and the High King. The site is strongly linked to myth and legend and is associated with the transformation of Ireland from paganism to Christianity. In the literary tradition, recorded by medieval monks, this period corresponds with the epic tales of the Táin as told in the Ulster Cycle.
45. The complex is also a Candidate World Heritage Site, submitted for consideration in 2010 by the then Minister for Environment, Heritage & Local Government as part of a tentative list of sites that Ireland would be considering for World Heritage listing.
46. Located on elevated ground approximately 6.3km to the east of the proposed development, the area commands extensive views to the south west, west and north west.

The complex is comprised of 78 individual monuments listed in the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (Table 2-2) and encompasses an area of approximately 1.2km from north to south by approximately 400 metres east to west.

Table 2-2. Archaeological monuments associated with the Tara Complex, National Monument 148.

Classification	Count	Classification	Count
Barrow - bowl-barrow	14	Linear earthwork	3
Barrow - ring-barrow	8	Megalithic tomb - passage tomb	1
Barrow - unclassified	4	Mound	11
Church	1	Pit-burial	1
Enclosure	6	Ring-ditch	19
Excavation - miscellaneous	1	Ringfort - rath	1
Font	1	Road - road/trackway	1
Graveyard	1	Sheela-na-gig	1
Hilltop enclosure	2	Standing stone	2

47. Tara is a popular tourist destination with a visitors centre, guided tours available and café facilities and it is open all year round. Fáilte Ireland estimates that there were over 9,000 visitors to the Hill of Tara in 2013.
48. A photomontage presenting a view of the proposed development from the hill of Tara is presented in the EIS (Volume 3D Photomontage 68). A description of the photomontage by the landscape consultant is provided below:
49. *‘The viewpoint for Photomontage 68 is located on top of one of the most prominent and elevated earthworks within the complex of the Hill of Tara and in close proximity of Lia Fáil. The panoramic view is orientated to the west and southwest towards the proposed transmission line development. Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 lists the Hill of Tara as a designated protected panoramic viewpoint and prospect (Viewpoint 44) of national significance. It also states that views from the Hill of Tara are “across settled landscape with visible development including foreground powerlines, agricultural buildings, houses, quarries and roads.” It also states that views to the west contain “other prominent hilltops visible at great distance” and that the “foreground contains extensive areas of hedgerows and woodland”.’*
50. As is noted by the landscape consultant, the view presented in Photomontage 68 is taken from a position that provides the most open view to the west and towards the proposed development. It is therefore representative of the greatest impact that the proposed development will have on views from the Tara Complex.
51. It was noted in the cultural heritage chapter of the EIS that there is an existing 220 kV OHL located at the base of the Hill of Tara that provides a useful reference for the visibility of a lattice tower OHL development in the area (Volume 3D Section 14.5.4.1.1 of the EIS).

Figure 2-28 shows the location of Towers associated with the 220 kV development which have been numbered from north to south. T4 and T5 are located approximately 1.25 and 1.5km respectively from the position at which the photomontage was captured. In Figure 2-29 the locations of T4 and T5 have been highlighted. It is evident from this that lattice tower structures blend into the landscape effectively, especially a landscape that is already occupied by a mixture of farmland, hedgerows and existing buildings. It should be noted that the proposed development is to be located at a distance 4 times further away than the 220 kV towers highlighted.

- 52. The sensitivity of the Hill of Tara to impacts on setting is very high. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact that it will have on the Hill of Tara will be minor. Should the development proceed it will have a permanent, slight, negative impact on the setting of Tara.

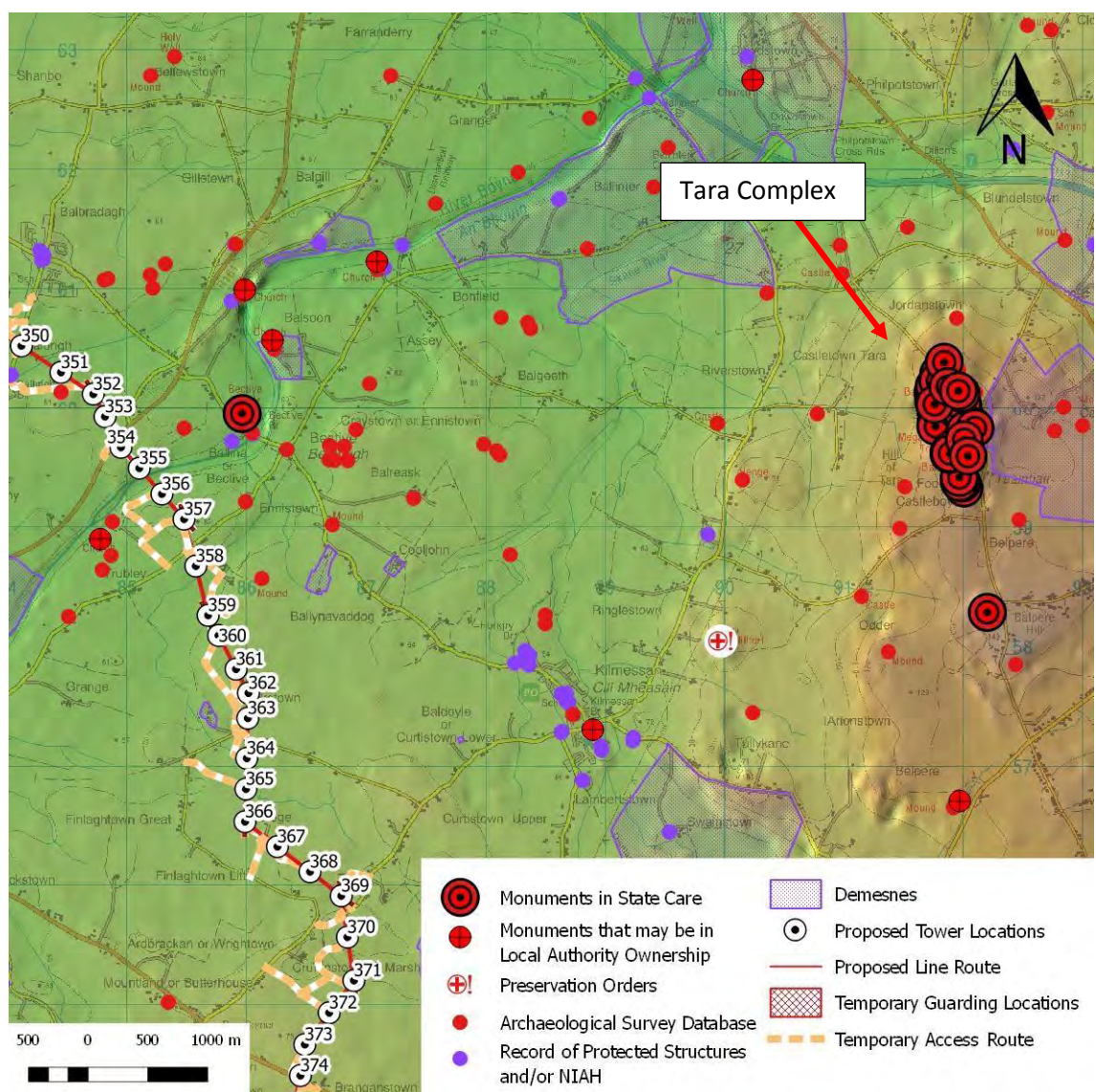


Figure 2-24 Location of the Tara Complex in relation to the proposed development.

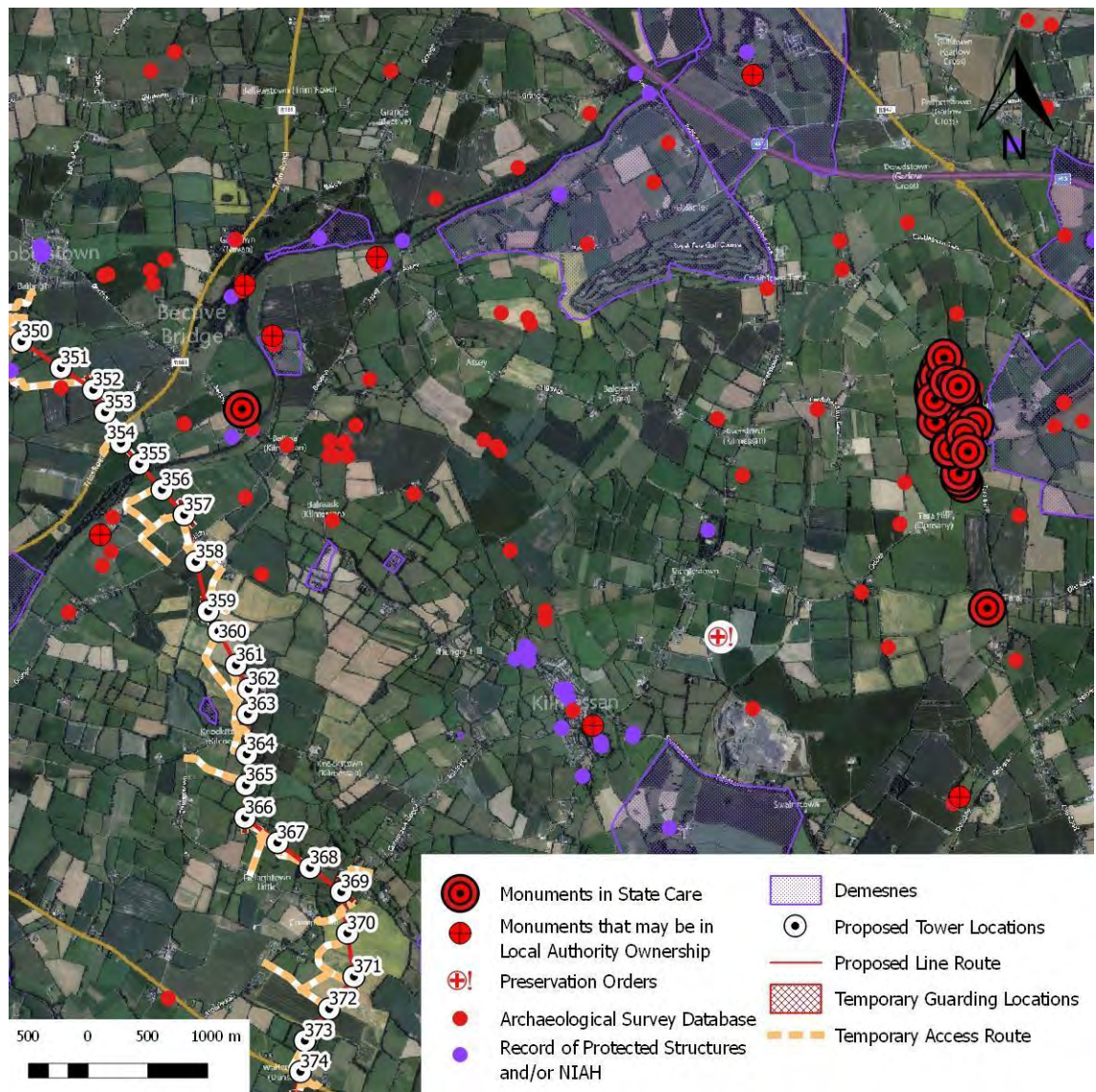


Figure 2-25. Location of the Tara Complex in relation to the proposed development on aerial photography.

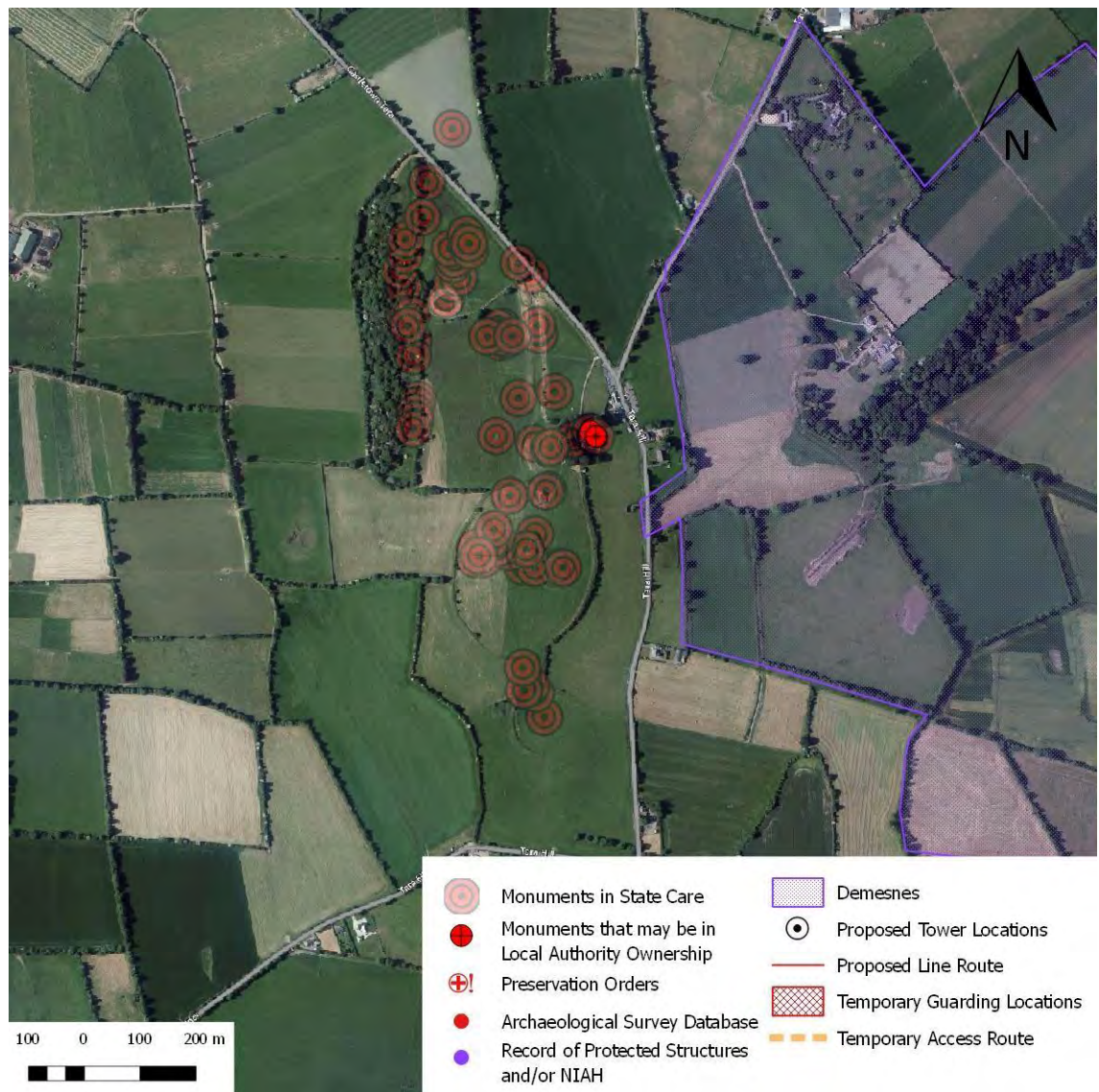


Figure 2-26. Detail of the Tara Complex.



Figure 2-27. Lidar image of The Tara Complex produced by the Discovery Programme.

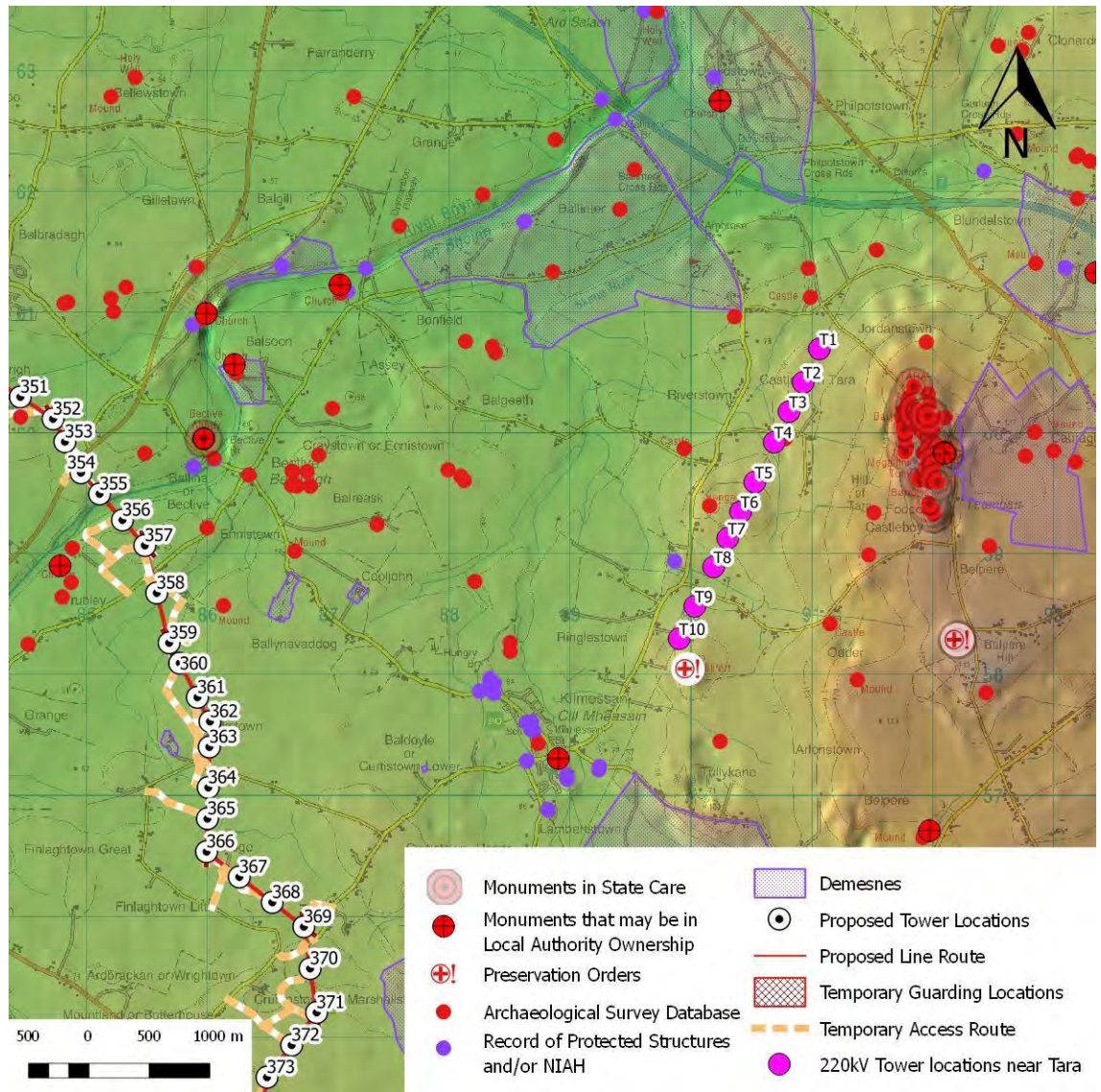


Figure 2-28. Location of 220kV OHL Towers in relation to Tara and the proposed development.



Figure 2-29. Extract from Photomontage 69 with T4 and T5 of the 220kV line indicated.

2.11 TELTOWN

53. A vast amount of information is available in the EIS in relation to Teltown. The Teltown Impact Assessment Report (**Volume 3D Appendix 14.5**) provides a detailed appraisal of a region highlighted by the National Monuments Service as an area of high archaeological potential, the Teltown Zone of Archaeological Amenity ZAA. Impacts on the Zone of ZAA are addressed in detail in both the Teltown Impact Assessment the EIS itself. Given the amount of information including detailed historical information, review of primary sources dedicated mapping and photomontages that is available in the Teltown Impact Assessment Report the reader is referred to that document for all background material.
54. Potential impacts that could arise as a result of the proposed development can be reviewed in the Teltown Impact Assessment Report and in the EIS. In the EIS, general construction phase impacts relating to the Teltown ZAA are discussed in Volume 3D Sections 14.5.3.2 of the EIS, operational phase impacts are discussed in Volume 3D Section 14.5.4.1.2 of the EIS and specific mitigation measures are discussed in Volume 3D Section 14.6.1.1 of the EIS.
55. As noted in the introduction to this section of this document, the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht have requested that *'further information be sought on the visual impact of the proposed development at monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship that already have a high visual expression, existing visitor amenities and tourism potential'*.
56. This section aims to provide supplementary information with regard to the future amenity potential of the Teltown Area.
57. Despite its folkloric significance there are only a small number of archaeological monuments recorded within the Teltown ZAA. Of the sites located within the Teltown ZAA

the following sites have folkloric or historical connections lending themselves towards tourism potential:

- Rath Dhú (SMR No. ME17-027----) which O'Donovan attributes to the core of the Tailtean festivities;
- The Knockauns (SMR No. ME017-049----), which along with luganeany is associated with the Teltown Marriages
- Teltown Church and Graveyard (SMR No.s ME017-031---- and ME017-031001-), located to the rear of Teltown House
- Rath Airthir (SMR No. ME017-033----) an impressive trivalate ringfort and motte
- St. Patrick's Graveyard (SMR No. ME017-034001-) associated with St. Patrick's Church in Donaghpatrick.

58. Rath Aithir and St. Patrick's Church and Graveyard are both located in the village of Donaghpatrick and as such are dealt with under the heading of Donaghpatrick below.

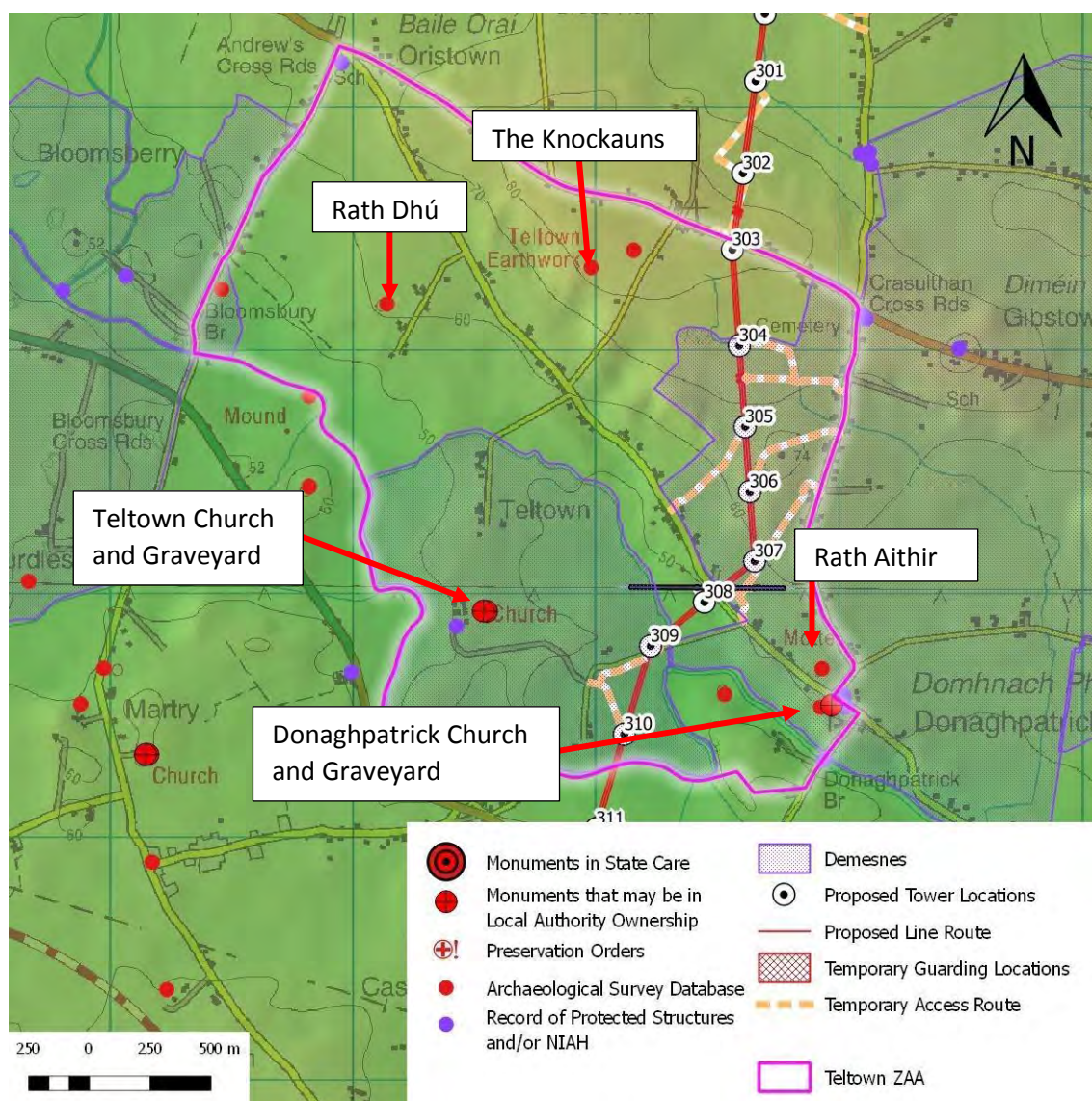


Figure 2-30. Location of sites of tourism potential within the Teltown ZAA.

2.11.1 Rath Dhú

59. During the time of the first edition OS survey Rath Dhú was located in the centre of an extensive field where, from its elevated position, it had commanding views over the relative flat rolling landscape of central Meath to the south (Figure 2-31). Its elevation is not as impressive as that of Tara or the Hill of Ward but its views were nonetheless extensive. Between the time of the first edition OS survey circa 1830 and the second edition OS survey circa 1900 the landscape changed. The large field had been divided into a dozen smaller fields and there was a laneway extending to the east of the monument from the north. Along this laneway there are now a number of houses and agricultural buildings (Figure 2-33).

60. It is noted that the Meath Development Plan 2001 to 2007 listed Sustainable Recreational use of Natural assets (SRUNA), one of which was listed as the Teltown Enclosure. The main aim with regard to these sites was social inclusion of a wide variety of natural recreational assets such as walks, viewing points and picnic areas throughout the County. A map

indicating the location of the Teltown Enclosure SRUNA was included with the development plan. The only enclosure in the vicinity of the SRUNA area indicated is Rath Dhú but the SRUNA area covers an area to the east of The Knockauns and does not cover Rath Dhú. SRUNA areas have not appeared in any subsequent Meath County Development Plans.

61. Given the changes that have taken place to the landscape that surrounds Rath Dhú and the developments now located in close proximity to it, its setting has changed dramatically from what it was back at the time of the first edition OS survey. It is noted that there are private residences located in very close proximity to the monument. The future tourism potential of this site therefore appears to be limited.

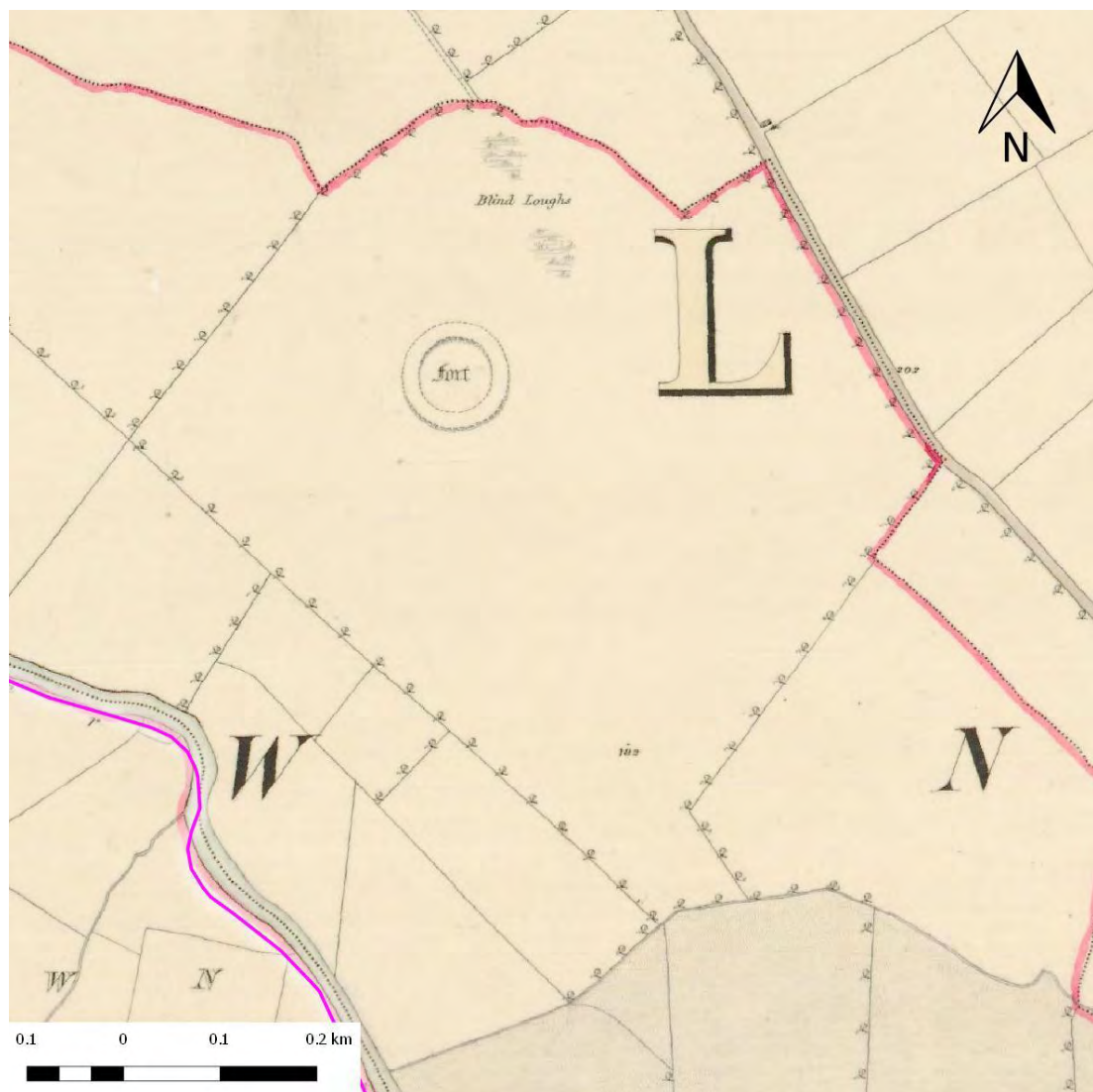


Figure 2-31. First edition OS map of Rath Dhú.

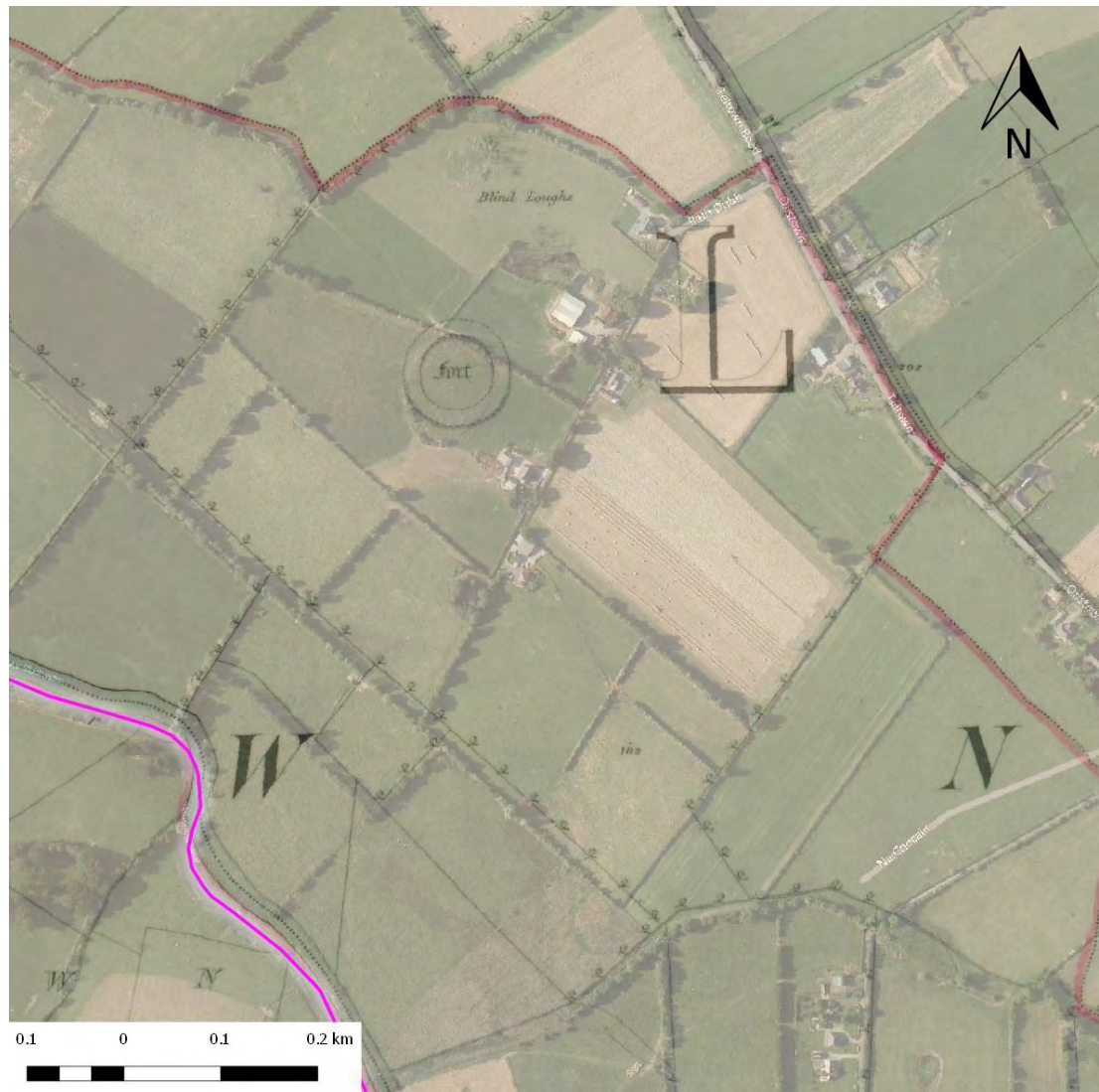


Figure 2-32. Composite image of Rath Dhú, first edition OS map and Bing aerial photography.



Figure 2-33. Detailed view of Rath Dhú and development in the vicinity.



Plate 2-23. View looking to the south west towards Rath Dhú from lane way to the east.

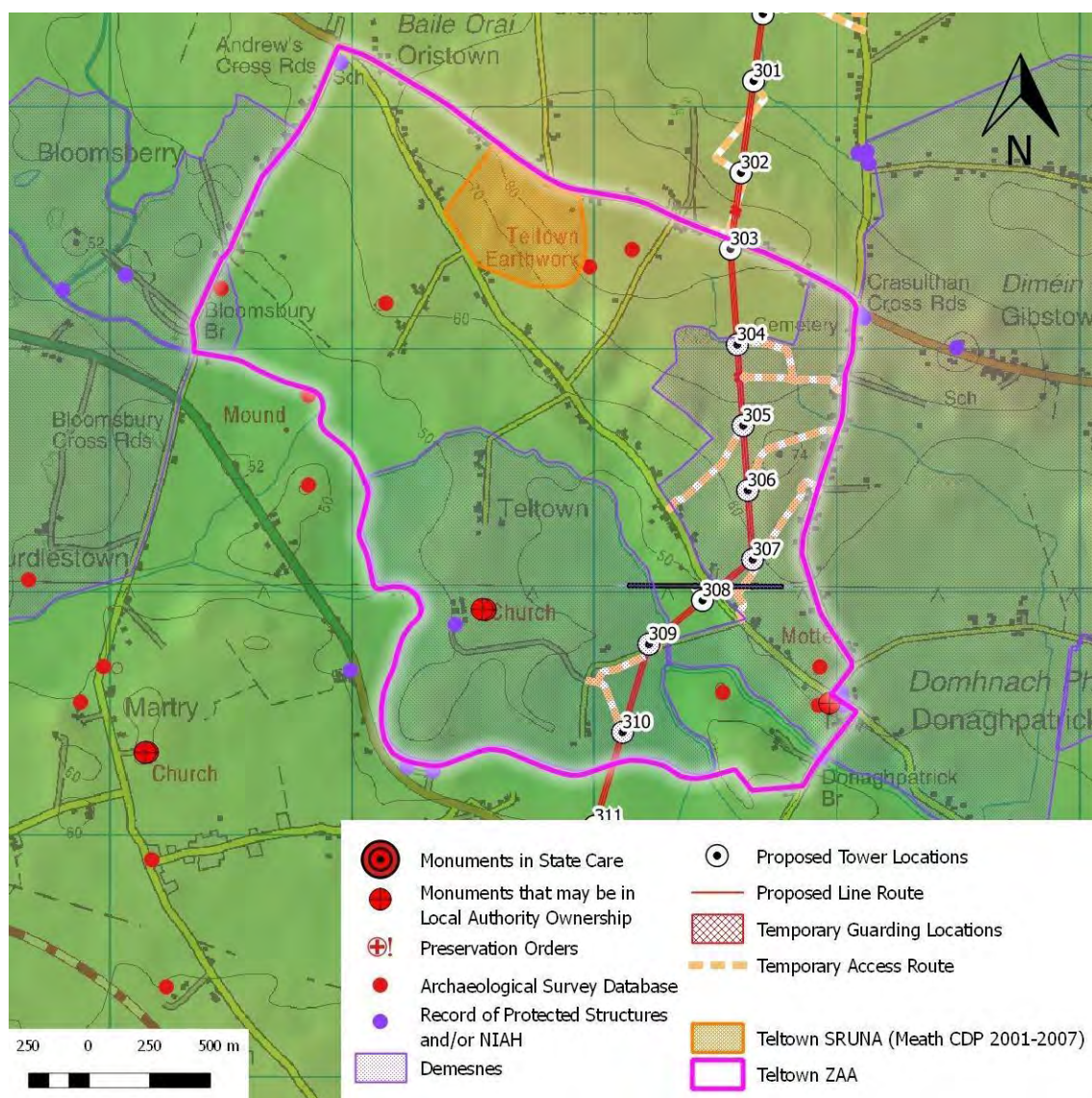


Figure 2-34. SRUNA area indicated in the Meath Development Plan 2001 to 2007.

2.11.2 The Knockauns

62. The Knockauns and Luganeany are associated with the Teltown Marriages. Luganeany is not an archaeological monument, but the site is noted on maps annotated by O'Donovan during the time of the first edition OS survey (Figure 2-36). Similarly to Rath Dhú, at the time of the first edition OS survey there was almost no housing in the vicinity of the Knockauns and Luganeany (Figure 2-35). Although there are still extensive views to the south, the landscape in the vicinity has changed significantly. There are houses along the road to the south and there are houses immediately to the east between The Knockauns and the proposed development (Figure 2-38). Although sign posted from the road junction to the south, public access to the Knockauns is not facilitated. The two houses located on the road immediately to the east of the Knockauns are located adjacent to Luganeany and between the knockauns and Luganeany.

63. Given that the Knockauns is now located to the rear of two private residences the future amenity and tourism potential of the site appears to be limited.

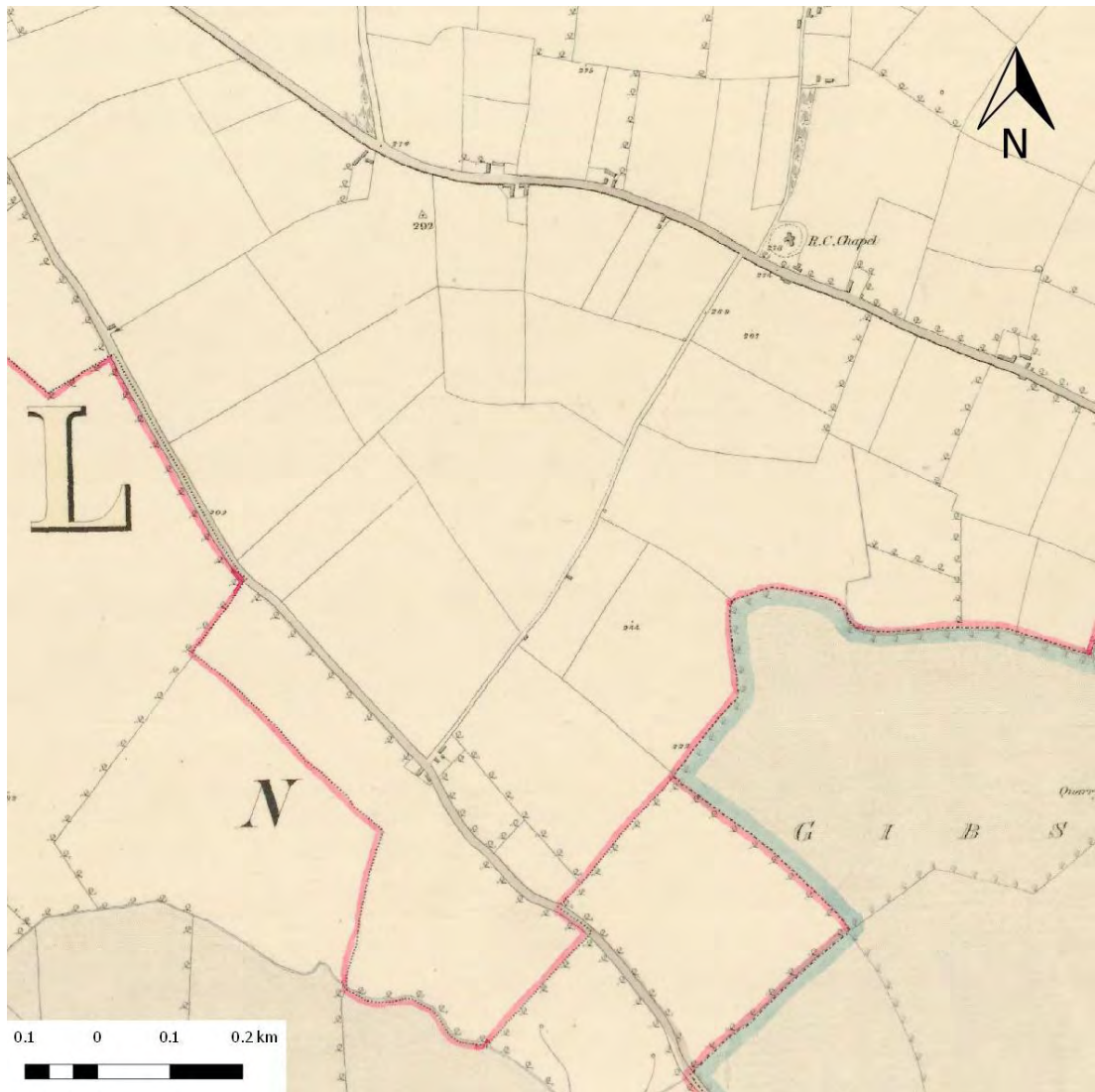


Figure 2-35. First edition OS map of Rath Dhu

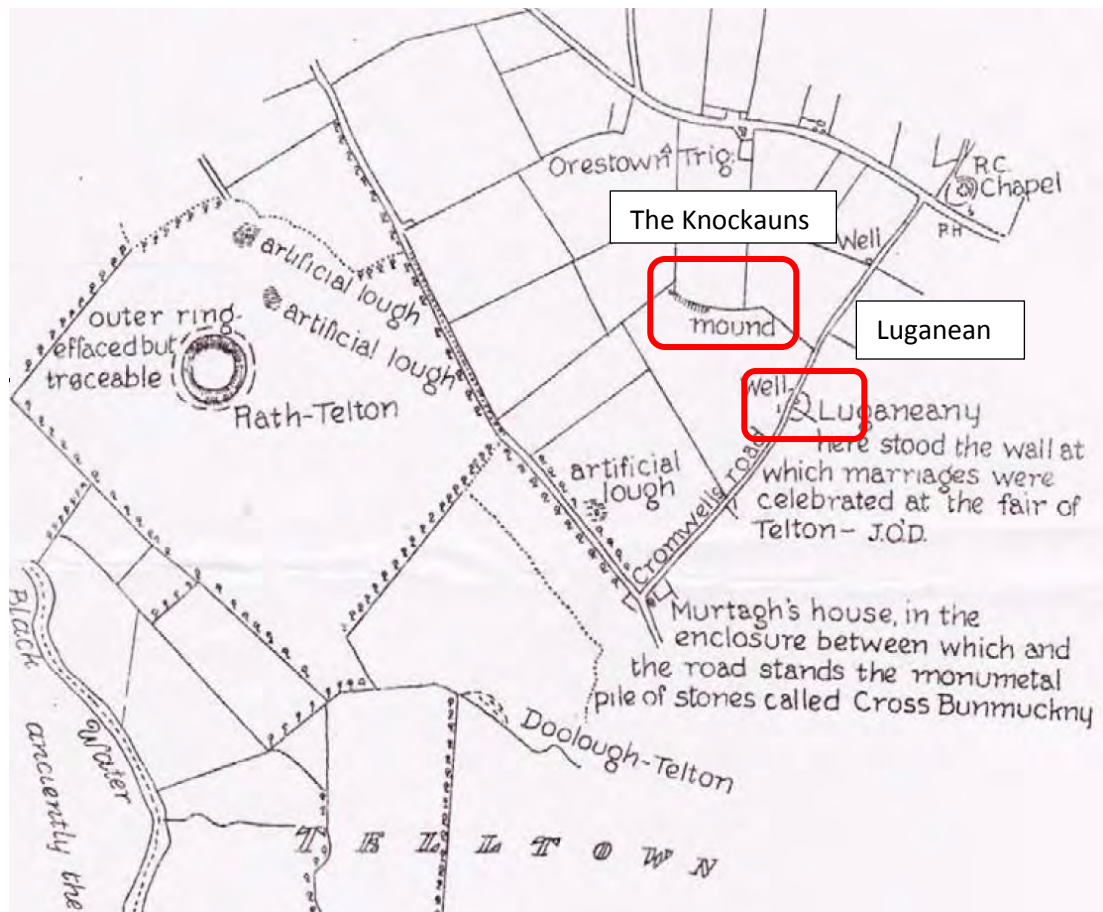


Figure 2-36. Map annotated by O'Donovan showing the location of the Knockauns and Luganeany



Figure 2-37. Composite image of the Knockauns, first edition OS map and Bing aerial photography.

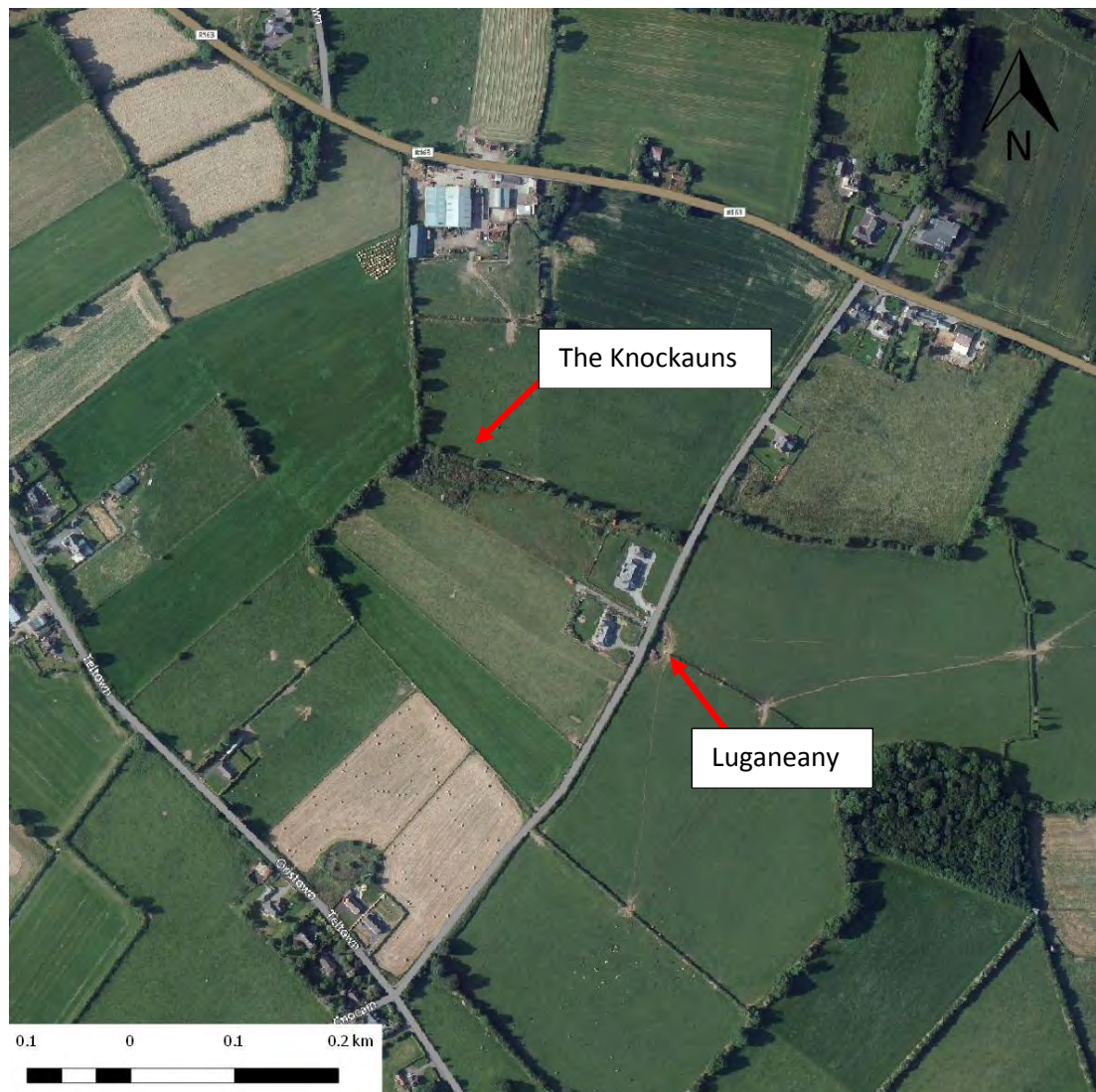


Figure 2-38. Detailed view of The Knockauns (Bing aerial photography).

2.11.3 Teltown Church and Graveyard

64. Teltown Church and Graveyard are located to the rear of Teltown House, a Protected Structure (RPS No. MH017-129). The house is currently in use as a B & B. The setting of the house and church and graveyard has changed little since the time of the first edition OS map.
65. There are extensive views over the surrounding landscape from the graveyard and the site is the subject of a photomontage (Photomontage 59, Volume 3D of the EIS). It is noted that there is an existing 110 kV OHL development running in an east west direction located approximately 75m to the north of the graveyard.
66. The site has a degree of tourism potential, although it is noted that it is accessed via private land associated with Teltown House.
67. Should the development proceed it will be located approximately 700m to the east of the graveyard. Should the development proceed it will have a moderate impact on the setting of Teltown Church and Graveyard.

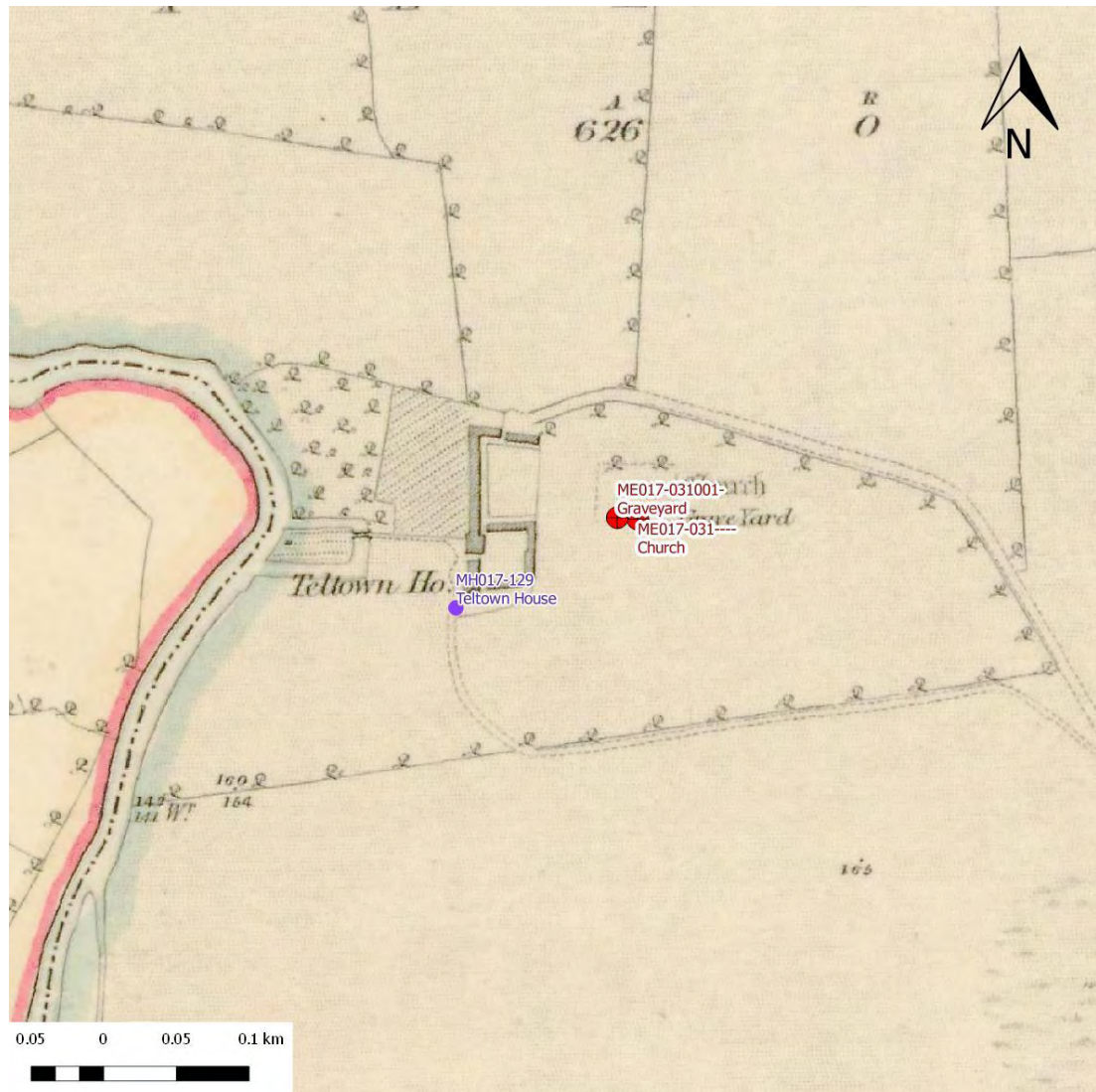


Figure 2-39. First edition OS map of Teltown Church and Graveyard.



Figure 2-40. Composite of first edition OS map and Bing aerial photography of Teltown Church and Graveyard.



Figure 2-41. Location of Teltown Church and Graveyard on Bing aerial photography.

2.11.4 Donaghpatrick

68. Donaghpatrick is a picturesque village located along the eastern margin of the Teltown ZAA. To the north of the Village is located Rath Aithir an impressive trivallate enclosure and motte, and there are a number of archaeological monuments associated with St. Patrick's Graveyard, including a graveslab, a standing stone and a sundial (Figure 2-45). The village also has a number of architectural sites listed in the Meath Record of Protected Structures, including St. Patrick's Church, St. Patrick's Hall, the Sexton's House and the Steward's House (Figure 2-46).
69. Little has changed in the town since the second edition OS survey. There are no modern houses in the historic core, to the west, and there is good intervisibility between all the archaeological and architectural sites in Donaghpatrick. Within the village there are limited vistas due to dense stands of mature vegetation to the west and east. Views are encapsulated within the village itself. There is a view of the surrounding landscape to the south and south west available from the southern boundary of the graveyard and a photomontage of this view is presented in the EIS (Photomontage 57, Volume 3D). Views

into the village from the surrounding area are limited, from approaches to the north, west and east there are no views into the village, due to the aforementioned vegetation to the east and west. There is a view of St. Patrick's Church and Graveyard from Donaghpatrick Bridge, to the south, and a photomontage of from this location is presented in the EIS (Photomontage 56, Volume 3D).

70. The village is very appealing with good upstanding archaeological monuments and architectural features, which can be appreciated from the local roads and St. Patrick's Church and Graveyard. The village has good tourism potential.
71. The impact of the proposed development on the village is addressed in the detail in the Teltown Impact Assessment Report (Volume 3D Appendix 14.5 of the EIS). Impacts on the setting of sites located in Donaghpatrick as a result of the proposed development are at most slight.



Figure 2-42. First edition OS map of Donaghpatrick Village.

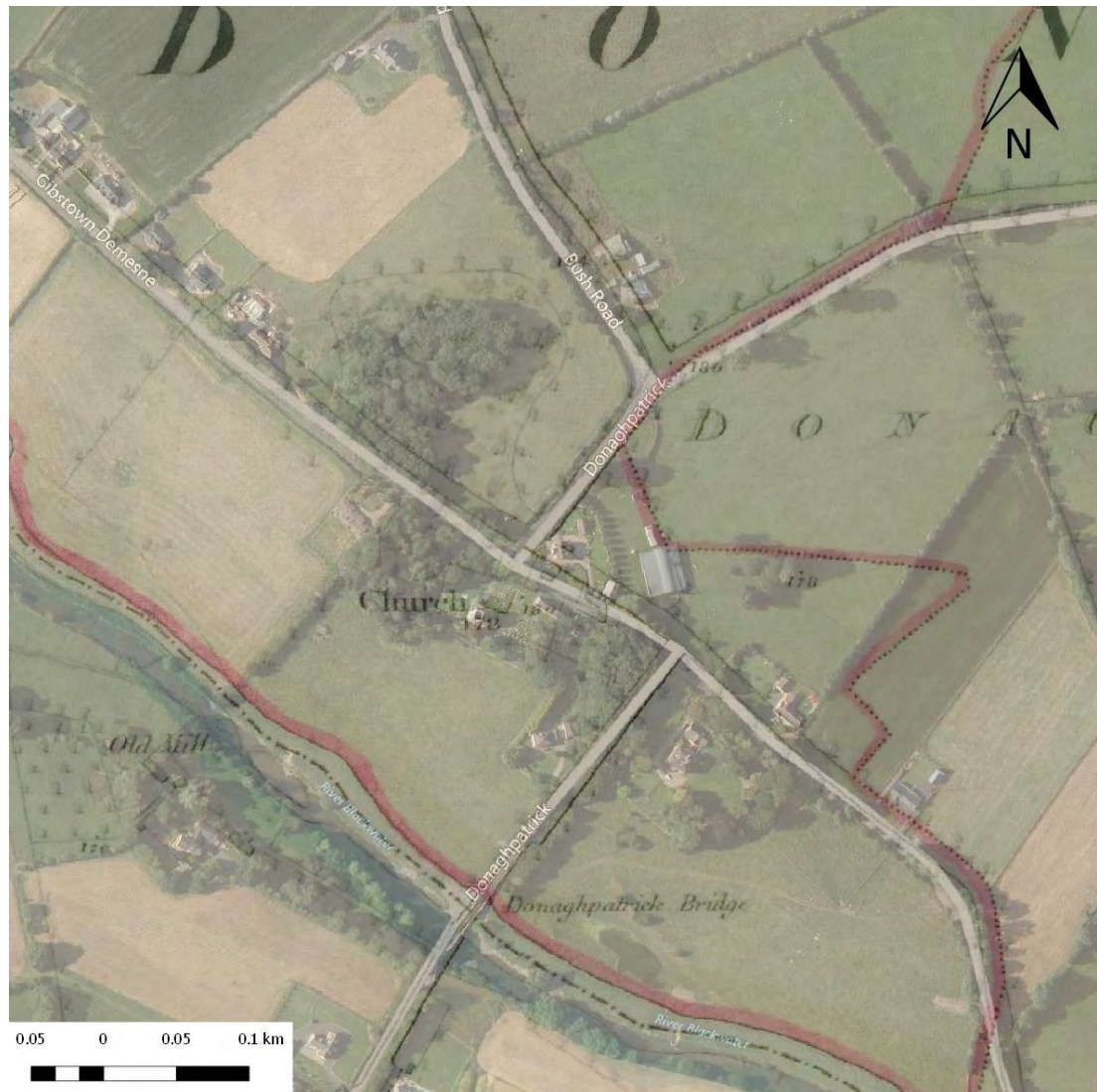


Figure 2-43. Composite of first edition OS map and Bing aerial photography, showing Donaghpatrick Village.



Figure 2-44. Donaghpatrick Village on Bing aerial photography.



Figure 2-45. Archaeological monuments in Donaghpatrick.



Figure 2-46. Architectural sites in Donaghpatrick.



Plate 2-24. St. Patrick's Hall and Sexton's House.



Plate 2-25. St. Patrick's Bridge.



Plate 2-26. St. Patrick's Church and Graveyard.



Plate 2-27. View of Rath Aithir from the gate of St. Patrick's Church

3 DEMESNE LANDSCAPES AND HISTORIC GARDENS

72. This section of the report outlines the potential impact of the proposed development on the setting of a number of Demesne Landscapes and Historic Gardens supplementing information contained in Chapter 14, Volumes 3C and 3D of the EIS.

3.1 ARDBRACCAN DEMESNE

73. Ardbraconn House and demesne occupies a historically important site as it has been the seat of the Bishops of Meath since the fourteenth century. The existing House and Demesne was partly designed by the German Architect Richard Castles and comprises a detached double-pile seven-bay two-storey over raised basement central block, built c.1776, flanked by quadrant walls to five-bay two-storey kitchen and stable wings, built c.1735. The demesne is located approximately 600m from the nearest point of the proposed development, separated from the line route by the M3 (Figure 3-1). Ardbraconn House (RPS No. MH024-109) is approximately 800m from the proposed development and its front façade faces to the south east, with a formal garden located to the rear (north west) of the house (Figure 3-3).
74. There are a number of protected structures associated with Ardbraconn Demesne, including Ardbraconn House (RPS No. MH024-109), outbuildings (RPS No. MH024-110), gate lodge (RPS No. MH025-102), Saint Ultan's Church (RPS No. MH025-100), the church lodge, a former national school (RPS No. MH025-101), a house (RPS No. MH024-112) and a water pump (RPS No. MH024-111) Figure 3-4.
75. The demesne is enclosed by an imposing wall, which is approximately 3 metres high, along its western boundary (Plate 3-1) behind which is a mature, deciduous tree belt that provides extensive screening and limits views towards the proposed development to the west and north west (Figure 3-3). The height of the vegetation in the vicinity of the house is evident in a photograph taken during the NIAH survey which shows trees to the north west of the house above the height of the roof when viewed from the south east (Plate 3-2). During the winter months there may be a partial view of the proposed development from some of the upper storey windows of the house.
76. Views of the proposed development from other protected structures associated with the demesne are also well screened. The gate lodge, located to the west, will have no views of the proposed development. The church and its associated lodge are both located in amongst a dense stand of trees that screens most views. There is a break in the screening along the southern boundary of the church grounds, but there is extensive screening along a property boundary approximately 70m away. The house (RPS No. MH024-112) and a water pump (RPS No. MH024-111) are screened by roadside vegetation (Plate 3-4 and Plate 3-5).
77. Although the sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting is high, it is evident that the demesne landscape and its associated protected structures are well screened from the surrounding landscape by an imposing wall and extensive woodland. Due to this screening, the effect of the proposed development will be limited to views through intervening vegetation during the winter months. The magnitude of the impacts was found to be

minor. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the demesne was found to be imperceptible to slight.

78. Given the level of existing screening within the demesne and the level of predicted impact, mitigation is not recommended.

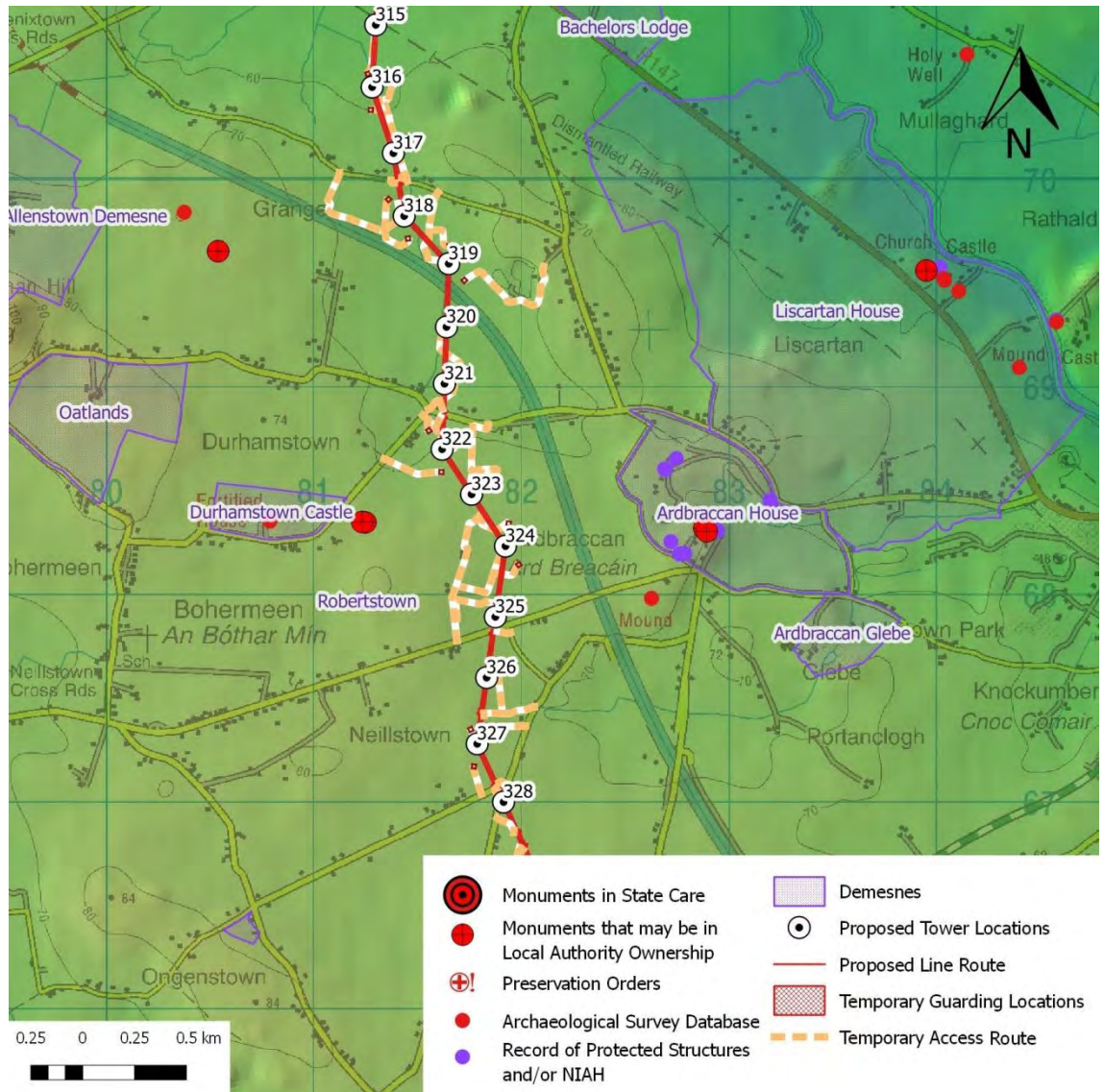


Figure 3-1. Location Map showing Ardraccan relative to the proposed development.

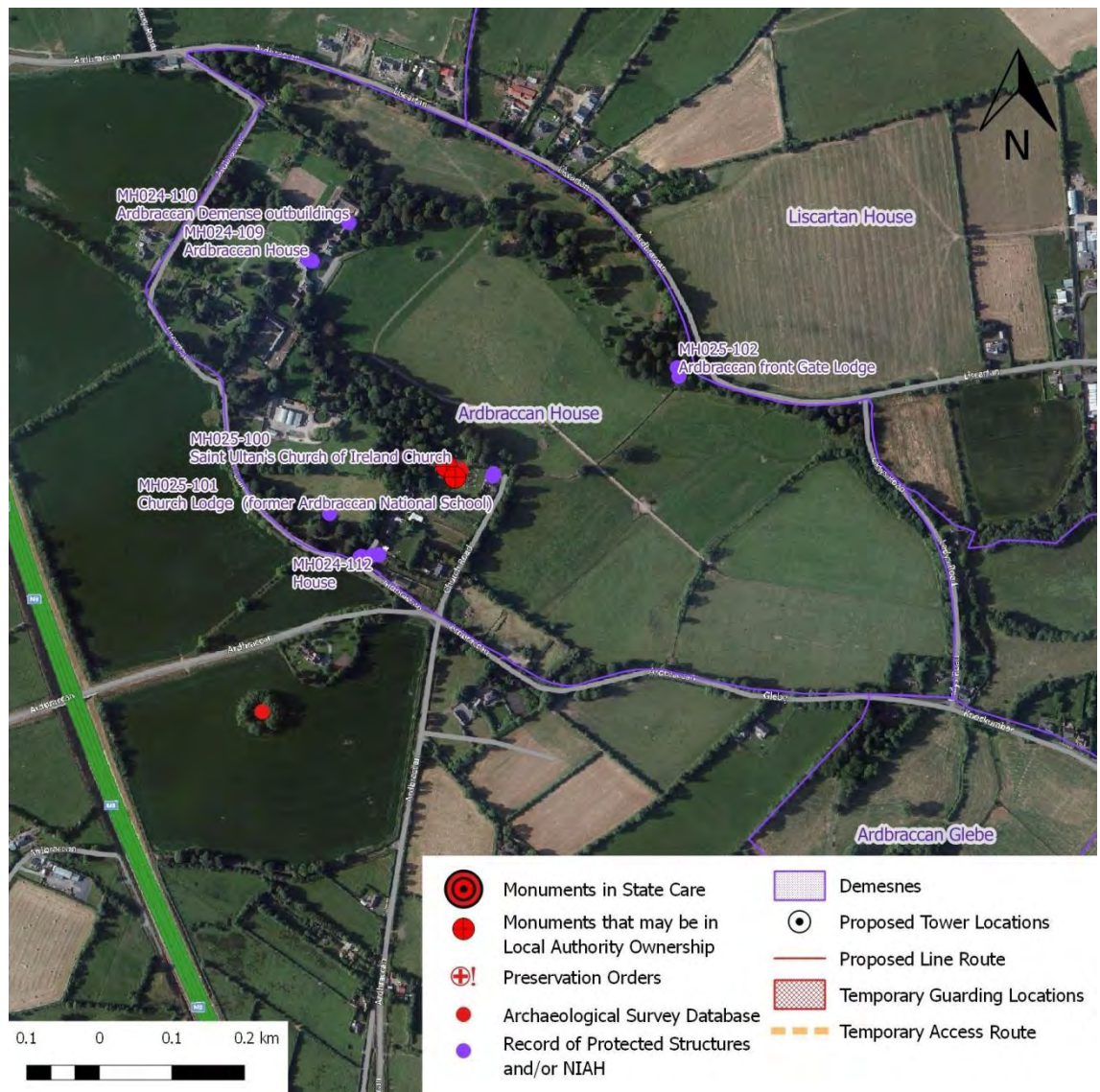


Figure 3-2. Aerial view of Ardraccon with principal sites indicated.



Figure 3-3. Detailed view of Ardraccon House (Source: www.bing.com/maps).

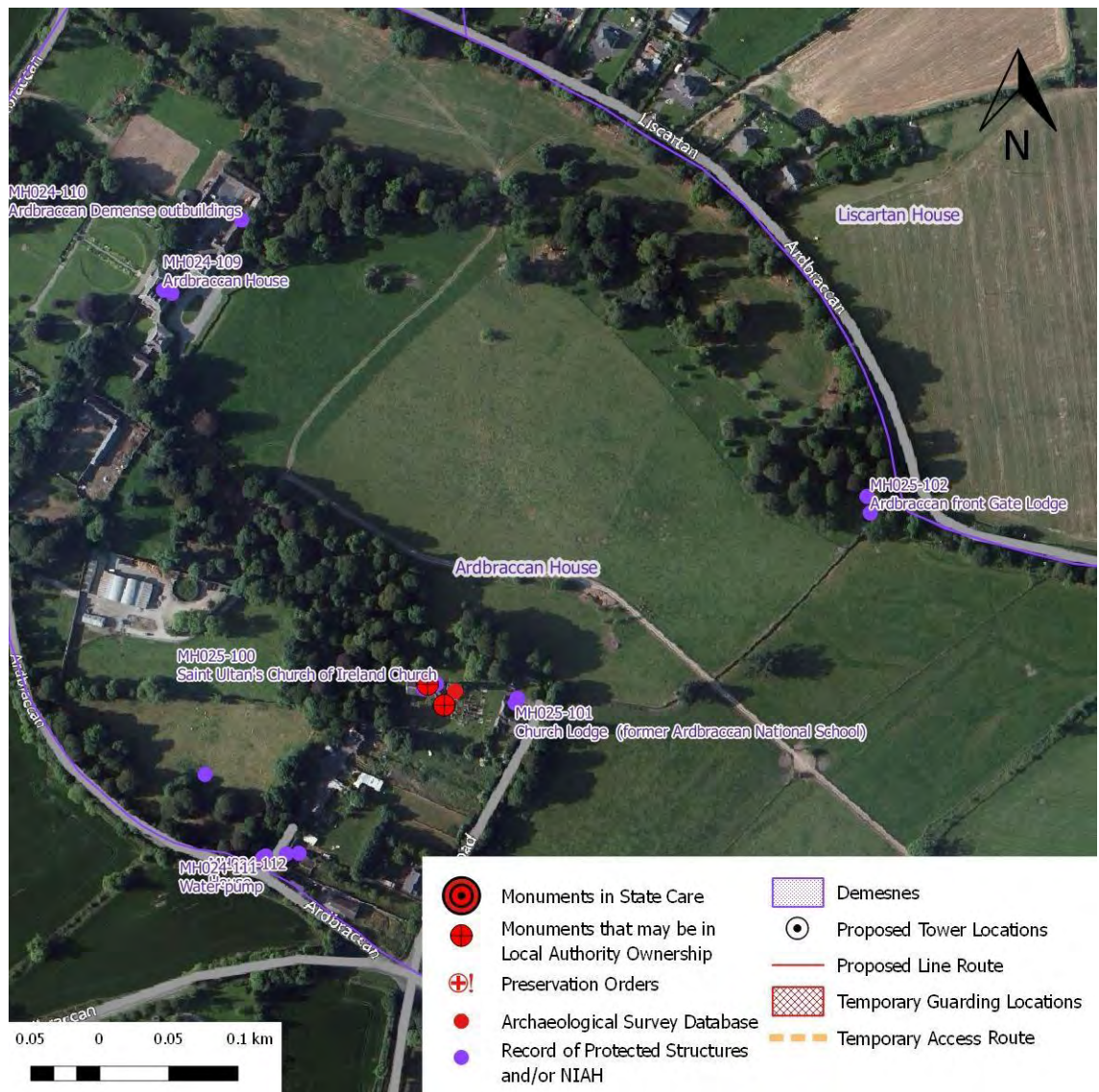


Figure 3-4. Detailed view showing the location of protected structures within Ardraccan Demesne.



Figure 3-5. Extract from OS First edition map showing Ardracchan house and demesne.



Plate 3-1. View of wall which extends along the western extent of Ardracchan Demesne.



Plate 3-2. Principal house, façade faces to the south east, the proposed development is located 800m to the west (Source: www.buildingsofireland.ie accessed (11/10/2015)).



Plate 3-3. Looking towards Ardbraconn House from north showing boundary walls (photo location depicted by red dot)



Plate 3-4. View from north west towards house and pump with screening evident to the west (Source: Google Streetview, accessed 11/10/2015).



Plate 3-5. View from south east towards house and pump with screening evident to the west (Source: Google Streetview, accessed 11/10/2015).

3.2 BRITTAS

79. Details regarding Brittas Demesne are contained in Volume 3D Section 14.4.6.3 of the EIS. For ease of reading, this content is reproduced in italics below.

80. *Brittas Demesne was the former home of General Thomas Bligh and was built in 1732 incorporating an earlier residence from 1672. The house was later extended in the 18th Century and its ballroom wing, designed by Francis Johnston, was added in the early 19th Century. The house itself is located approximately 430m to the east of the proposed development at Tower 266. The proposed development crosses the avenue between the entrance gates and Brittas House approximately 170m from the entrance into the demesne and a wire scape will be visible from the gate. Passing along the avenue, without screening, the development will be visible to the north and south where it crosses.*
81. *General Bligh was a brother of Lt. William Bligh (of Mutiny on the Bounty fame) and he took part in a number of continental wars including the War of the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years War. To commemorate his achievements he planted a battlefield wood replicating the battle lines of his engagements with opposing armies. The 'Battlefield', a 33 acre field located centrally and extending to the south-east within the estate has lime trees laid out in the formations in which he deployed his troops at the Battle of Cherbourg (1758). The 'Battlefield' is located to the east of wooded high ground approximately 430m from the proposed development. Many of the lime trees from the north western extent of the Battlefield have vanished but most of the trees to the south-east have survived.*
82. *On this his last and most successful military engagement the General was sent by Pitt to organise a descent into France. Bligh with the support of the navy bombarded Cherbourg to cover a landing and with his army drove off the French force detailed to oppose them, captured the town and destroyed its fortifications, docks and shipping. At the brow of a hill overlooking the Battlefield stands a wooded enclosure containing a brick and stone mausoleum to General Bligh which is located approximately 750m to the east of the proposed development. This mausoleum is marked on both the historic maps, the inscription reads:*
83. *"Mausoleum. Thomas Bligh, Lieutenant – General of his Majesty's Forces, and General of Horse who France's Arms withstood at Dettingen, at Valve, at Melle, at Fontenoy and Cherbourg. Not for his own but for his country's good he made this improvement, built all these Houses and Temples since the year 1732. Born A.D. 1695. Died Aug. 17, 1775, aged 80 years."*
84. *There are a number of archaeological monuments within Brittas Demesne including six ringforts, an enclosure and a cross (SMR Nos. - ME005-085, ME005-086, ME005-087, ME005-089001, ME005-0089002, ME005-090, ME005-091 and ME005-092). Three of the ringforts are within 400m of the proposed line; occupy low hills, with the closest, conjoined enclosures SMR Nos. - ME005-091 and ME005-092 located approximately 210m to the east of the proposed development. All three of these monuments will have their setting impacted on by the proposed development. The stone cross (SMR No. – ME005-089001) is described in the archaeological inventory as being located within the interior of a ringfort (SMR No. - ME005-089) and is crudely made with a cross in a circle inscribed on one side.*
85. *In the south-east corner of Brittas Demesne, approximately 1.2km to the east of the proposed development, is a complex of archaeological sites including a crannog on the shores of Moynagh Lough. This site was originally identified as a crannóg (SMR No. – ME005-088001) in 1977 and was excavated for a short season each year by J. Bradley from 1980 to 1989. Excavation revealed that while the monument has had a long history of occupation the main phase of the crannóg dates to early Christian times. At that time it*

consisted of a mound of stones and clay c. 40m across defined by wooden piles. A circular house 11.2m in diameter is associated with this phase.

86. The proposed development has been routed along its current alignment to take advantage of local topography and to reduce the impact on Nobber town to the east, which has a number of associated archaeological monuments and protected structures, and Cruicetown Church and Cross to the west, which is a National Monument in the Ownership of the State (Figure 3-6).
87. A number of options have been reviewed in the course of the project:
- It is noted in the Final Re-evaluation Report (2013)¹ that a route was proposed to the west of Brittas. From a cultural heritage perspective, the alternative route was not as favourable, as it would have been crossing an open landscape and would have impacted on the setting of a number of National Monuments in the Ownership or Guardianship of the State (at Robertstown and Cruicetown), as well as two graveyards.
 - An option was considered that looked at moving the proposed development to the west of the road running along the western boundary of Brittas and so outside of the demesne landscape. This option would have introduced a number of issues in relation to cultural heritage due to the change in elevation that would have resulted. The increased elevation would have increased the impact on the setting of Cruicetown Church and Cross (National Monument No. 264) and a number of archaeological monuments and protected structures associated with Nobber.
 - An undergrounding option in relation to Brittas was also reviewed in Annex 7, Appendix 10.2, Partial Undergrounding Report 2015 of the EIS and, from a cultural heritage perspective, it was concluded that a UGC route option would be slightly preferred, but overall the report concluded that there were ‘no impacts of such significance envisaged, including those on landscape, which would introduce the need for consideration of partial undergrounding for the proposed development at the location of Brittas Demesne’.
88. As much as has been practicably possible the topography of the area has been used to keep impacts on the setting of Brittas House to a minimum. The proposed development will be visible upon entering the demesne where it crosses the entrance avenue to Brittas House. At the entrance into the demesne there will be a wire-scape visible as is indicated in Photomontage 46, Volume 3D of the EIS. It is apparent from this photomontage that there will be an impact on the setting of the gate lodge, just inside the gate, although this site is not listed as a protected structure.
89. Soon after crossing under the proposed development the entrance avenue enters woodland for most of the remainder of the journey to the house. Similarly, on leaving the house the proposed development will not be visible until just before the observer reaches the proposed OHL (Figure 3-8). Where the proposed development crosses the entrance avenue, there are no views of the house and likewise in the vicinity of the house there are no views of the proposed development. There is the potential that there may be views from some of the upstairs windows of the house especially during the winter months. The

¹ North South Interconnection Development - Final Re-evaluation Report, Eirgrid (2013)

sensitivity of Brittas House (RPS No. MH005-105) to impacts on setting is high. Views relating to the proposed development with regard to the house include:

- No views of the proposed development at ground level in the vicinity of the house;
- No views of the house from the proposed development;
- Some views from upstairs windows of the house; and
- Views of the proposed development when accessing and leaving the demesne along the entrance avenue. There are no views when accessing or leaving the demesne when both the house and the development are visible together.

The magnitude of the impact on setting should the proposed development proceed is modest. Should the proposed development proceed the proposed development will have a slight to moderate impact on the setting of Brittas House.

90. There are important landscape features in the east of the demesne, including the battlefield wood and the Mausoleum and the proposed development will impact on some views from this area. To the west there are few demesne features although, as is noted above, there are several archaeological monuments located in the south west corner of the demesne landscape. The only other features in the west of the demesne landscape are a gate lodge and the entrance avenues to Brittas House. There are views into the east of the demesne landscape from Nobber. Views into Brittas from the roadway along the western boundary of the estate are very limited due to the presence of bands of mature woodland along the eastern side of the road. There are no views of Brittas House from surrounding publicly accessible areas.
91. There is no doubting the cultural heritage importance of Brittas Demesne however, taking into account all the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage in the area, it has been concluded that the proposed route is the most preferred option for the proposed development.
92. As has been stated in the EIS, Volume 3D Table 14.78, the sensitivity of Brittas to impacts on setting is very high and, should the development proceed, the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Brittas Demesne will be substantial. Should the proposed development proceed it will have a significant, permanent, negative impact on the setting of Brittas Demesne.
93. There is the potential to mitigate some of the impact of the proposed development where it effects the setting of the demesne as it crosses the entrance avenue to Brittas House (Figure 3-9). Mitigation could take the form of planting of vegetation on either side of the entrance avenue to reduce the impact of the proposed development by reducing the extent of views along the route alignment. Access to the property, to further evaluate the extent to which mitigation could be applied, has not been permitted.

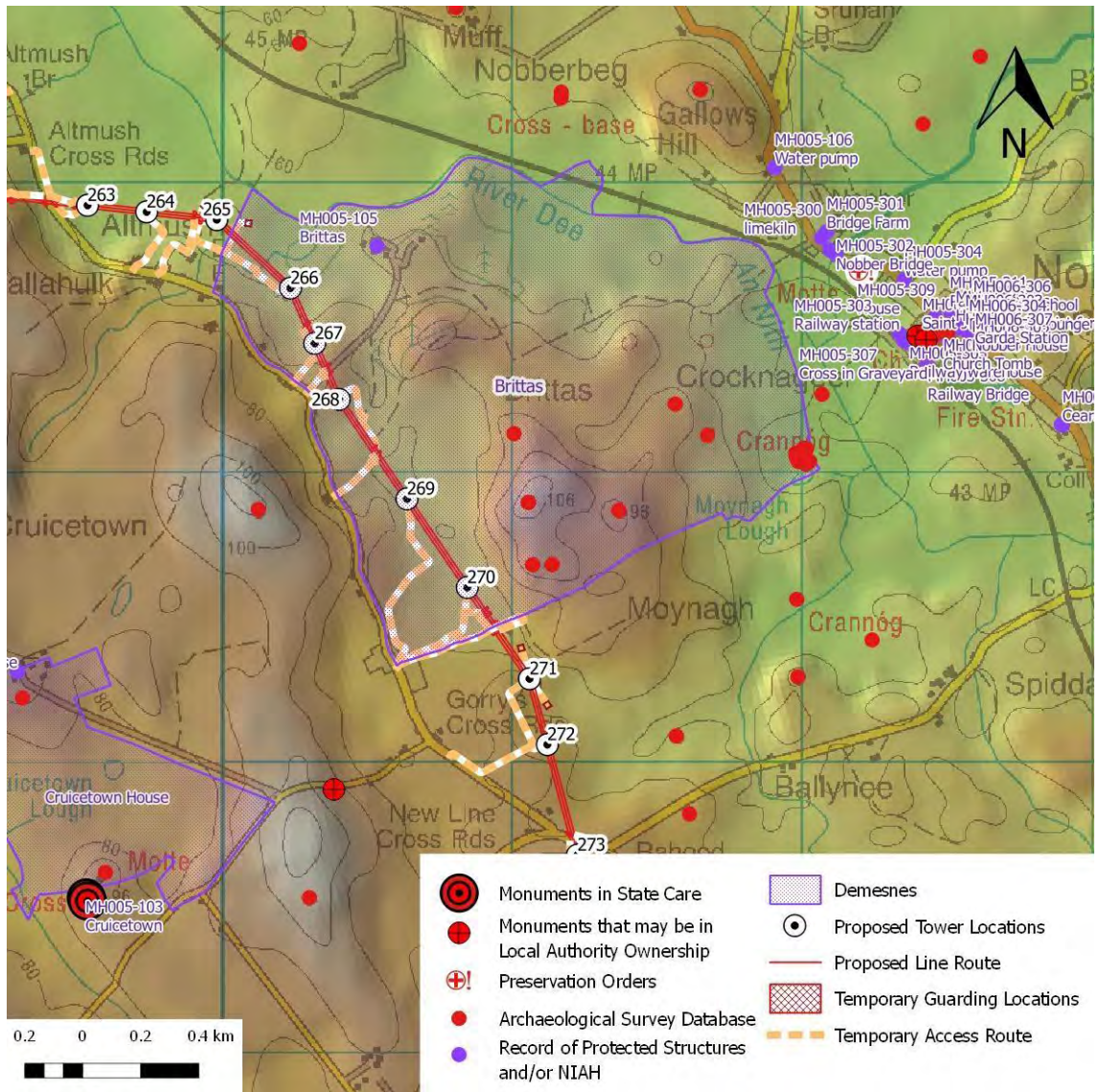


Figure 3-6. Brittas Demesne in relation to the proposed development.

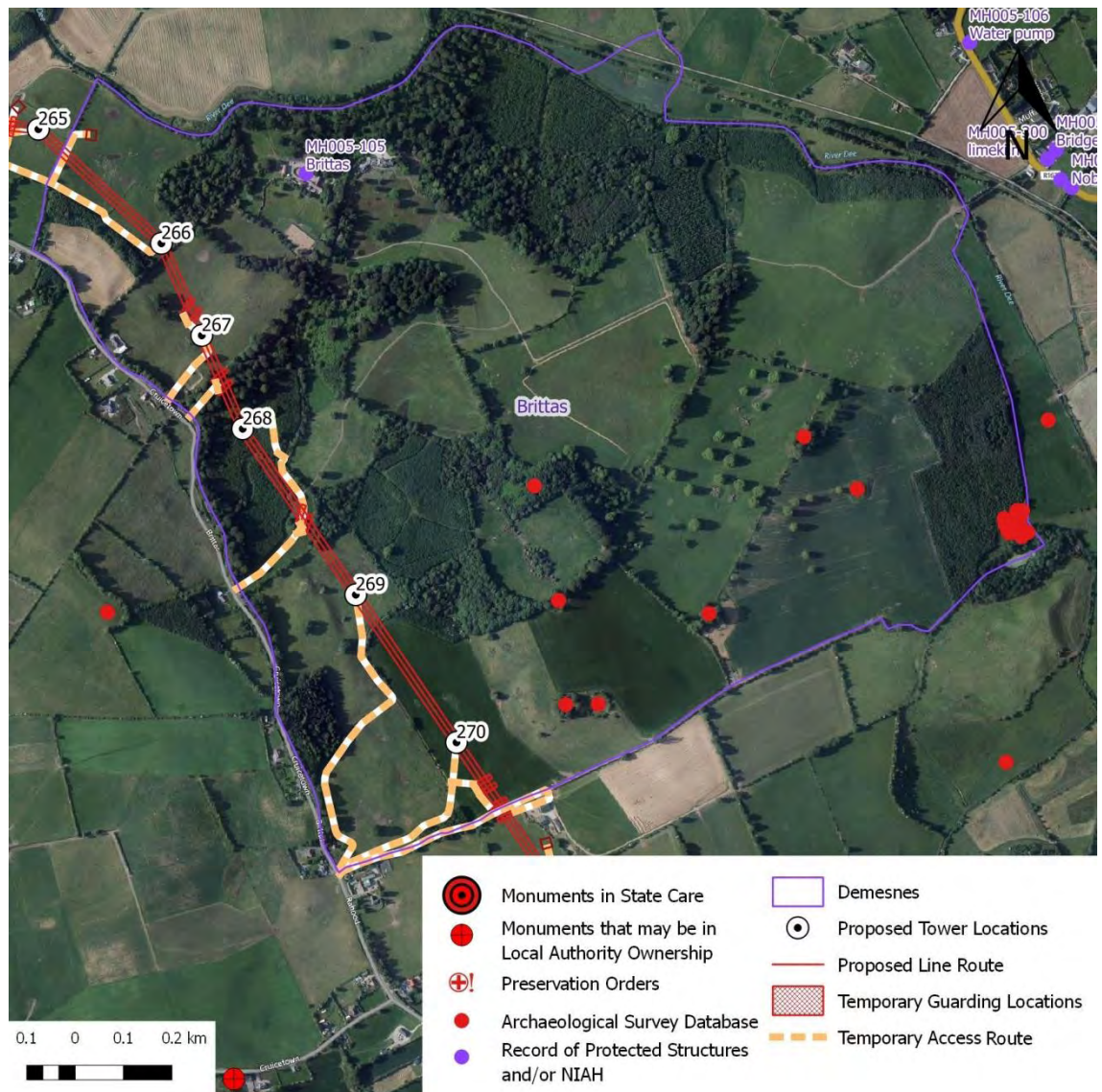


Figure 3-7. Brittas Demesne relative to the proposed development on aerial photography.

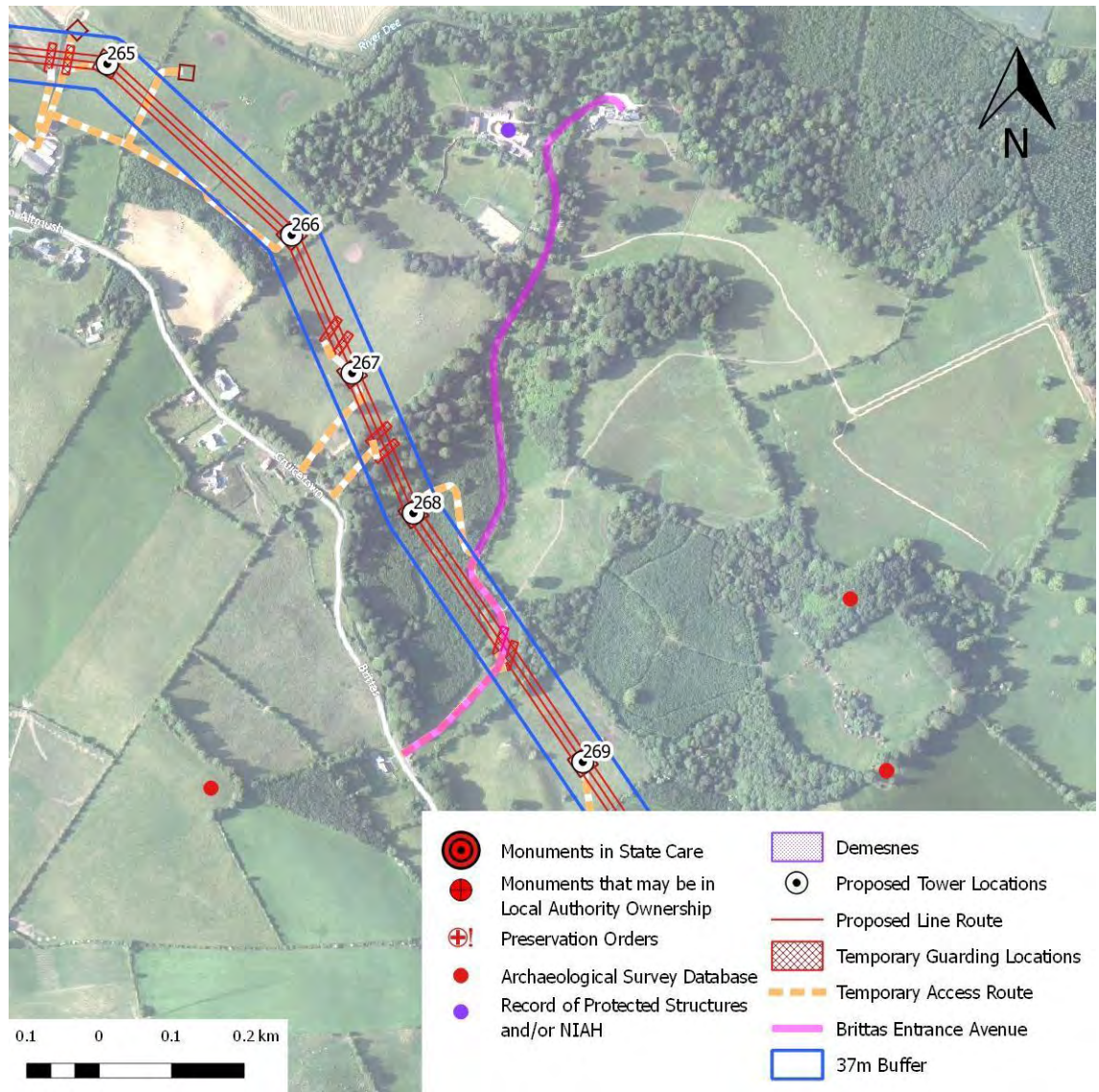


Figure 3-8. Entrance avenue into Brittas House.

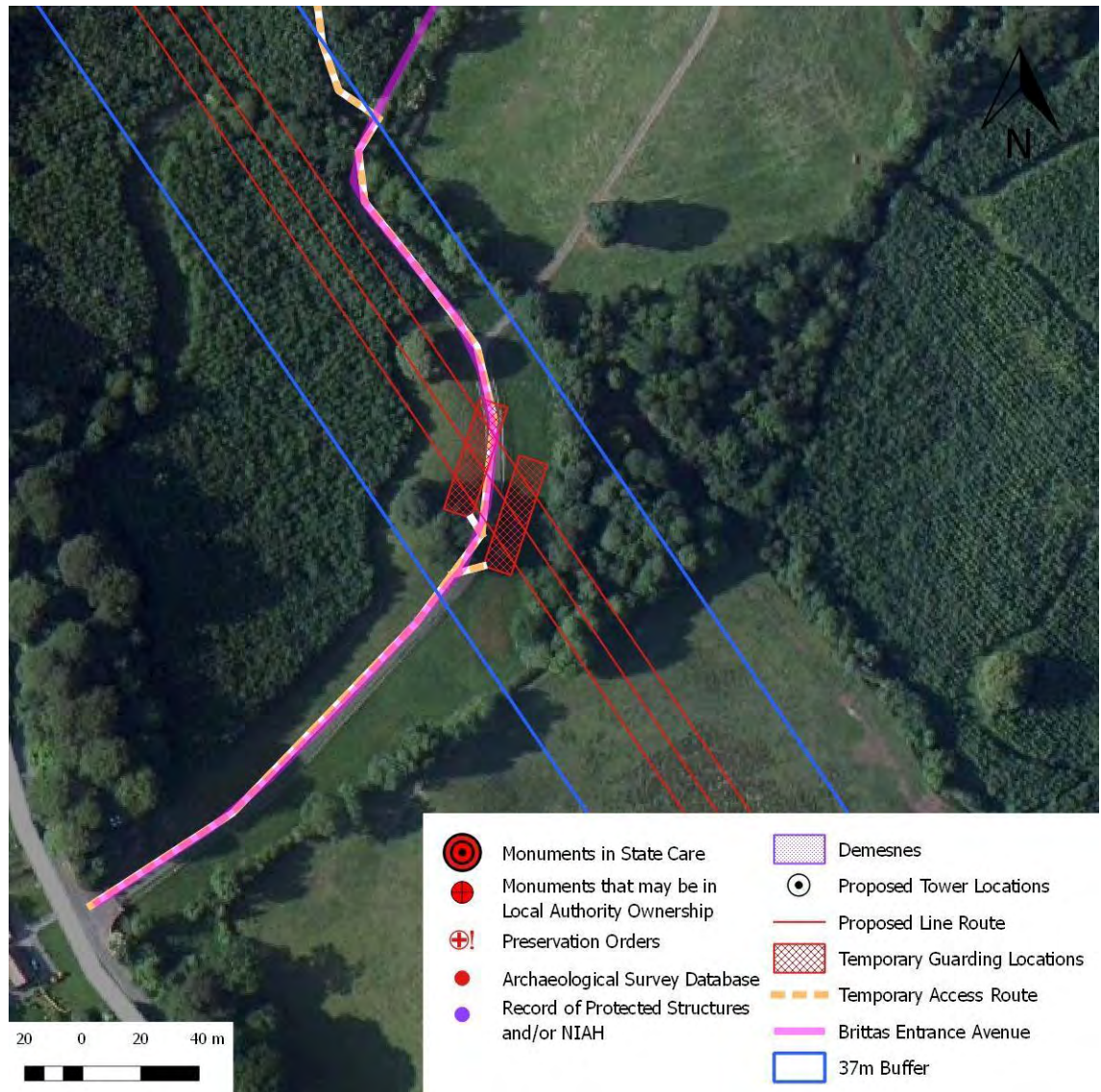


Figure 3-9. Detailed view of OHL crossing entrance avenue to Brittas House.

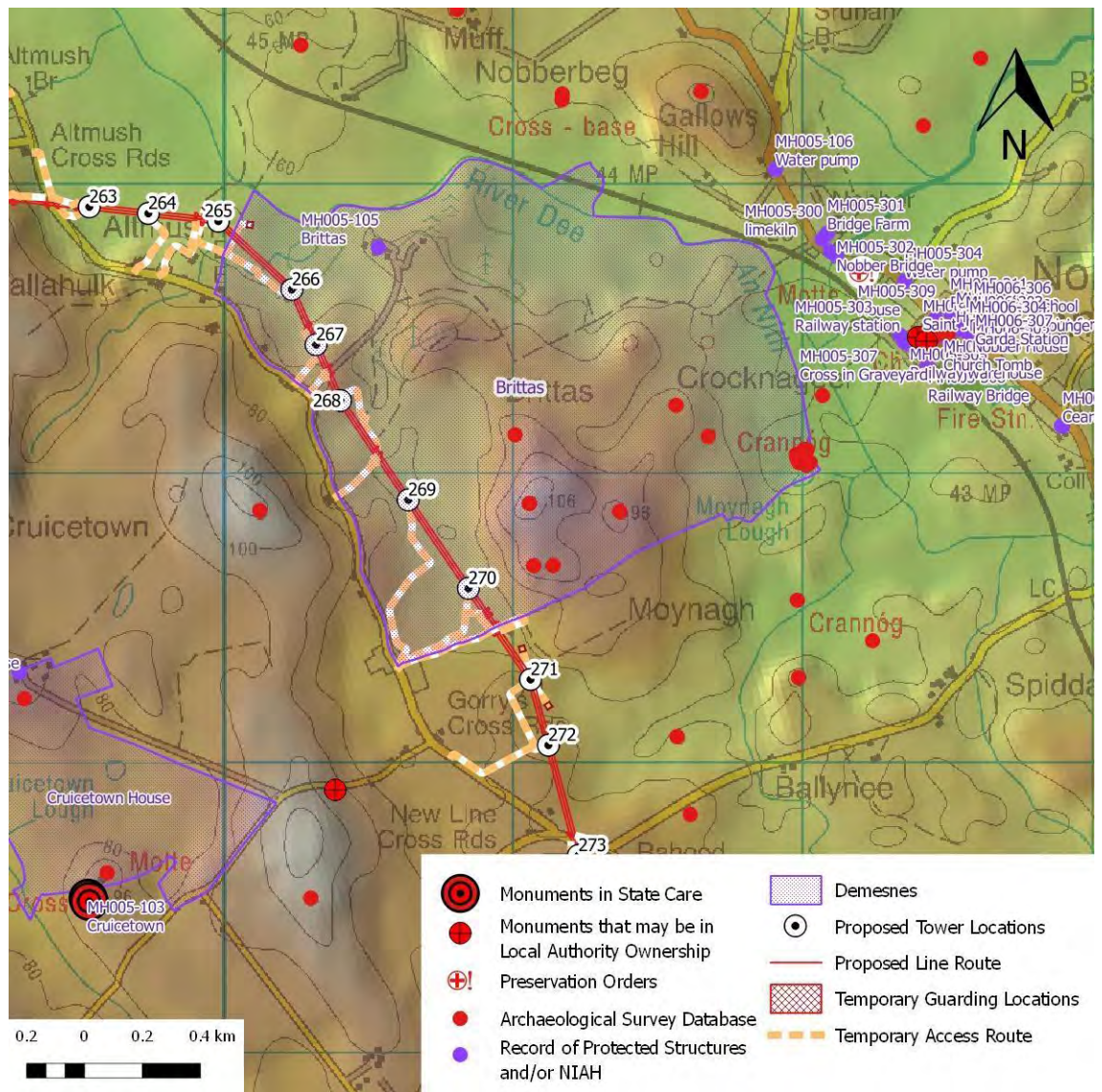


Figure 3-10. First edition OS map of Brittas Demesne with proposed development indicated.



Figure 3-11. First edition OS map of Brittas demesne.

3.3 CHURCHTOWN

94. Churchtown house and demesne appears on First Edition historic mapping and on the NIAH Garden survey (NIAH ME-42-N-818641) where it is described as having its 'Main features substantially present - peripheral features unrecognisable'. The two storey Georgian house is not listed on the NIAH building survey nor is it on the Record of Protected Structures for County Meath. The principal building faces to the south and has screening to the west. The proposed development is located 151m to the west of the house. The significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of Churchtown House and Demesne was evaluated to be moderate.

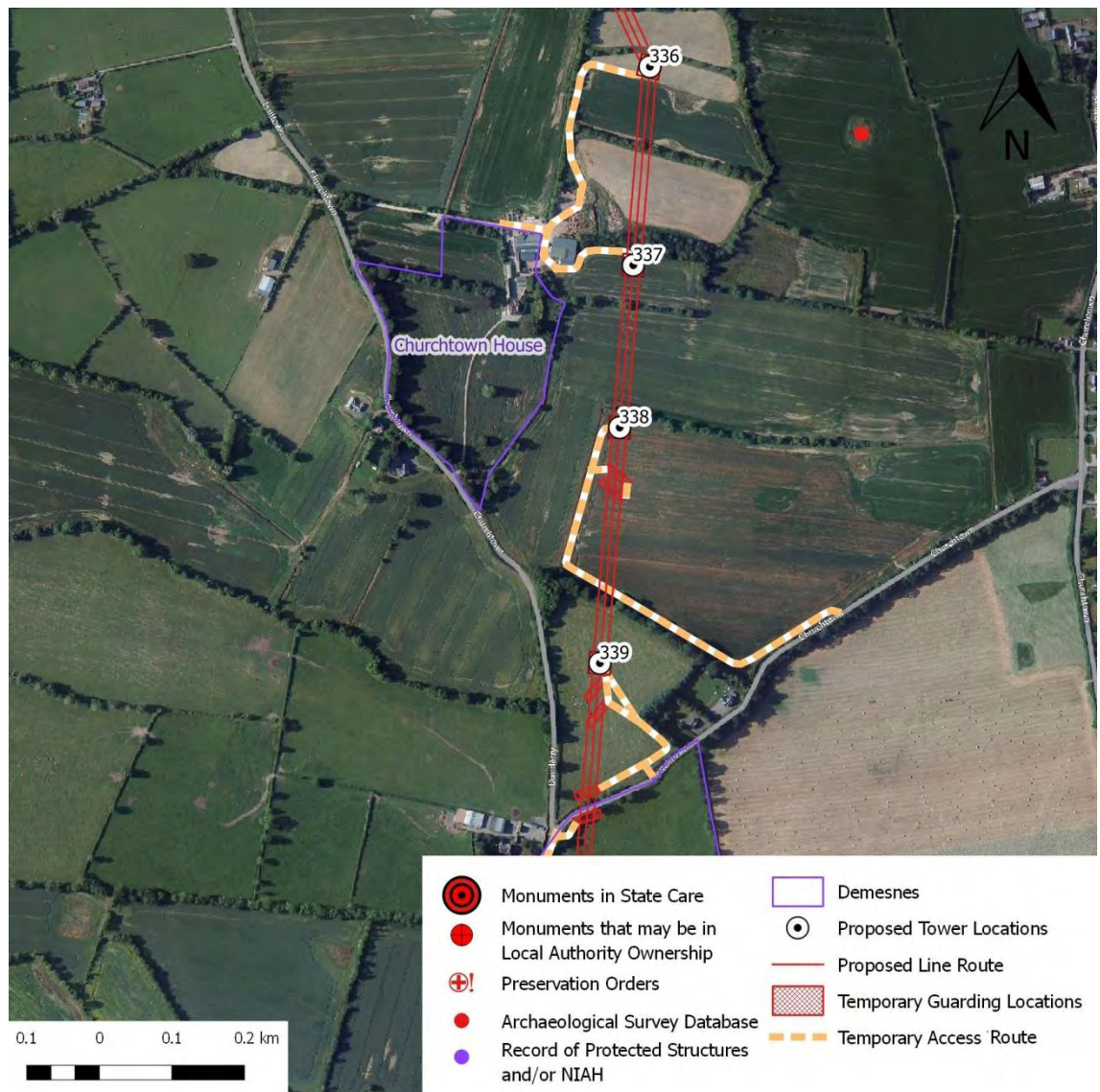


Figure 3-12. Aerial view of Churchtown relative to the proposed development.



Figure 3-13. Extract from OS First edition map showing Churchtown House.



Figure 3-14. Detailed view of Churchtown House

3.4 DOWDSTOWN

95. Dowdstown house is a protected structure (RPS MH011-124) and is described as a detached three-bay two-storey over basement house, built in 1793, gabled slated roof, roughcast rendered walls with limestone quoins. The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey and is described as having its 'Main features unrecognisable - peripheral features visible'. The principal building is extant, however much of the original woodland indicated on the first edition OS map is no longer present and there has been an alteration to the original access with a new drive to the south east (Figure 3-18). There are no other demesne features noted, although there is a cave indicated on both the first and second edition OS maps which is now recorded as a souterrain.
96. The front aspect of the house is towards the east. The proposed development is located 540m to the west of the house and 380m from the demesne with intervening mature tree lines and hedges (Figure 3-16). There are a number of large agricultural sheds to the rear (west) of the house. The only views of the proposed development from the house will be from the upper floor windows over the top of the agricultural buildings to the west (Plate 3-6). There are no views of the house from surrounding publicly accessible land where the house and the development will be visible together. The house does not appear to have been aligned to take advantage of views of the surrounding area and it is noted that the

original access passed through woodland to the south of the house before arriving at the house itself. Views to the east from the house were over agricultural land.

97. When entering the historic landscape from the south east the avenue crosses an open field, this part of the entrance avenue is a recent addition, post-dating the second edition OS survey. Although there are intervening hedgerows between the avenue in this area and the proposed development, these are set back from the avenue and there will likely be views of the proposed development in the distance. Views of the house in this area are partially screened by a mature hedgerow.
98. The sensitivity of the historic landscape to impacts on setting was appraised to be moderate. Should the proposed development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Dowdstown will be modest. Should the proposed development proceed there will be a slight, negative, permanent impact on the setting of Dowdstown.
99. As has been noted above, there are extensive farm buildings located between the house and the proposed development and there are intervening hedgerows between the entrance avenue to the south east, which itself is not an original feature of the demesne, and the proposed development. Given this existing screening and development in the vicinity of the house, no further mitigation is recommended.

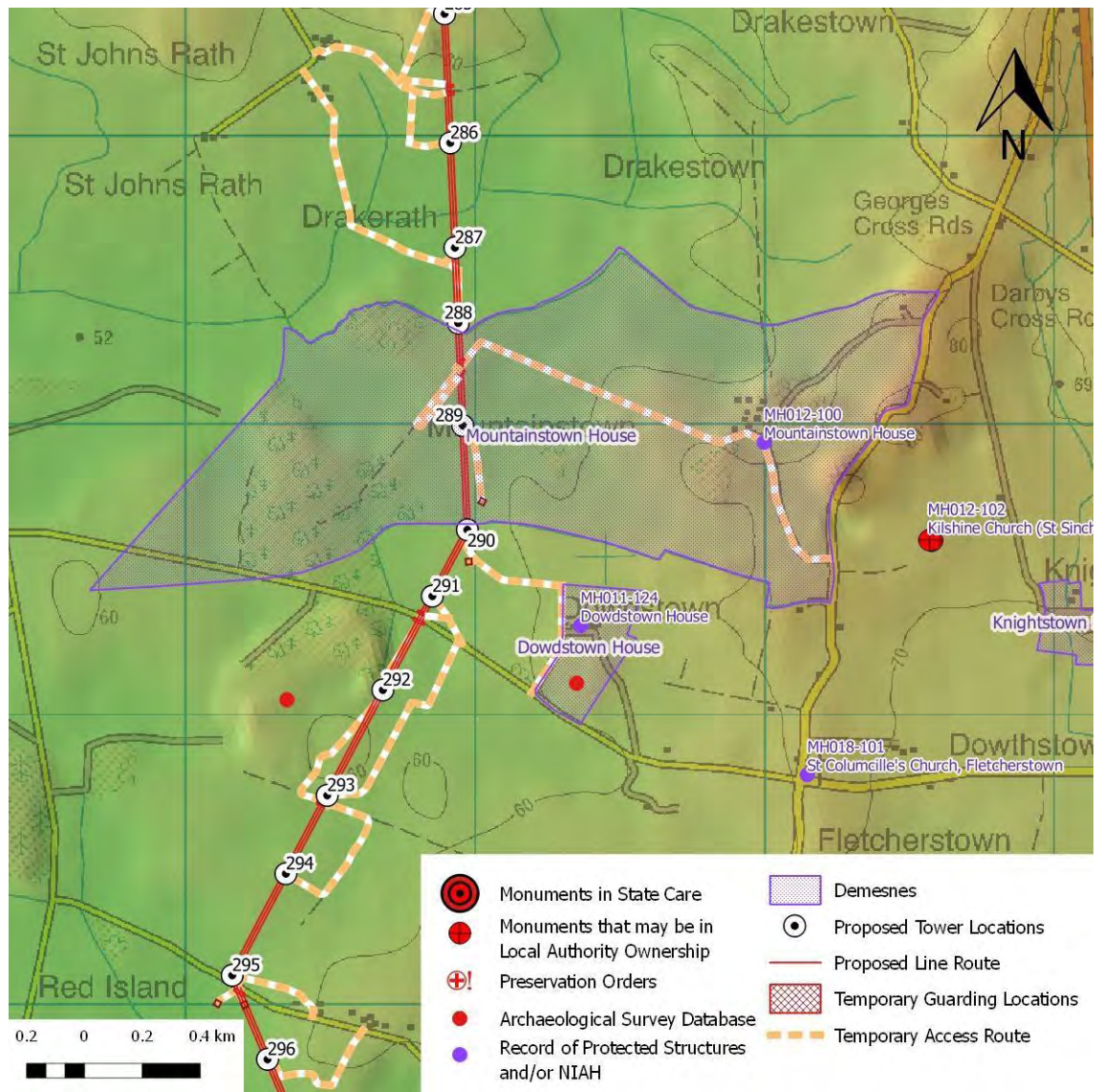


Figure 3-15. Location of Dowdstown House relative to the proposed development.

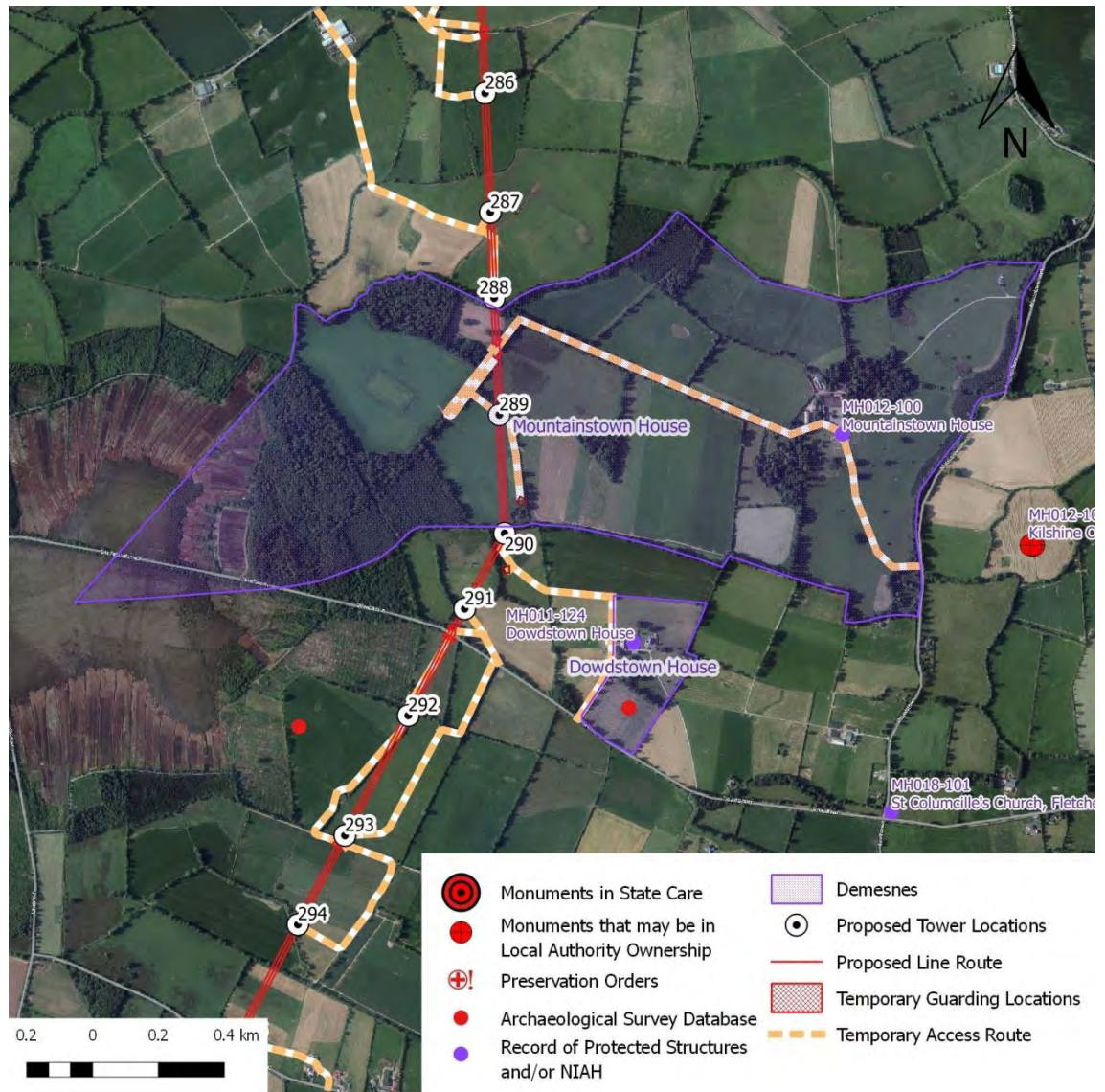


Figure 3-16. Aerial of Dowdstown House.



Figure 3-17. Dowdstown House from Bing Maps.

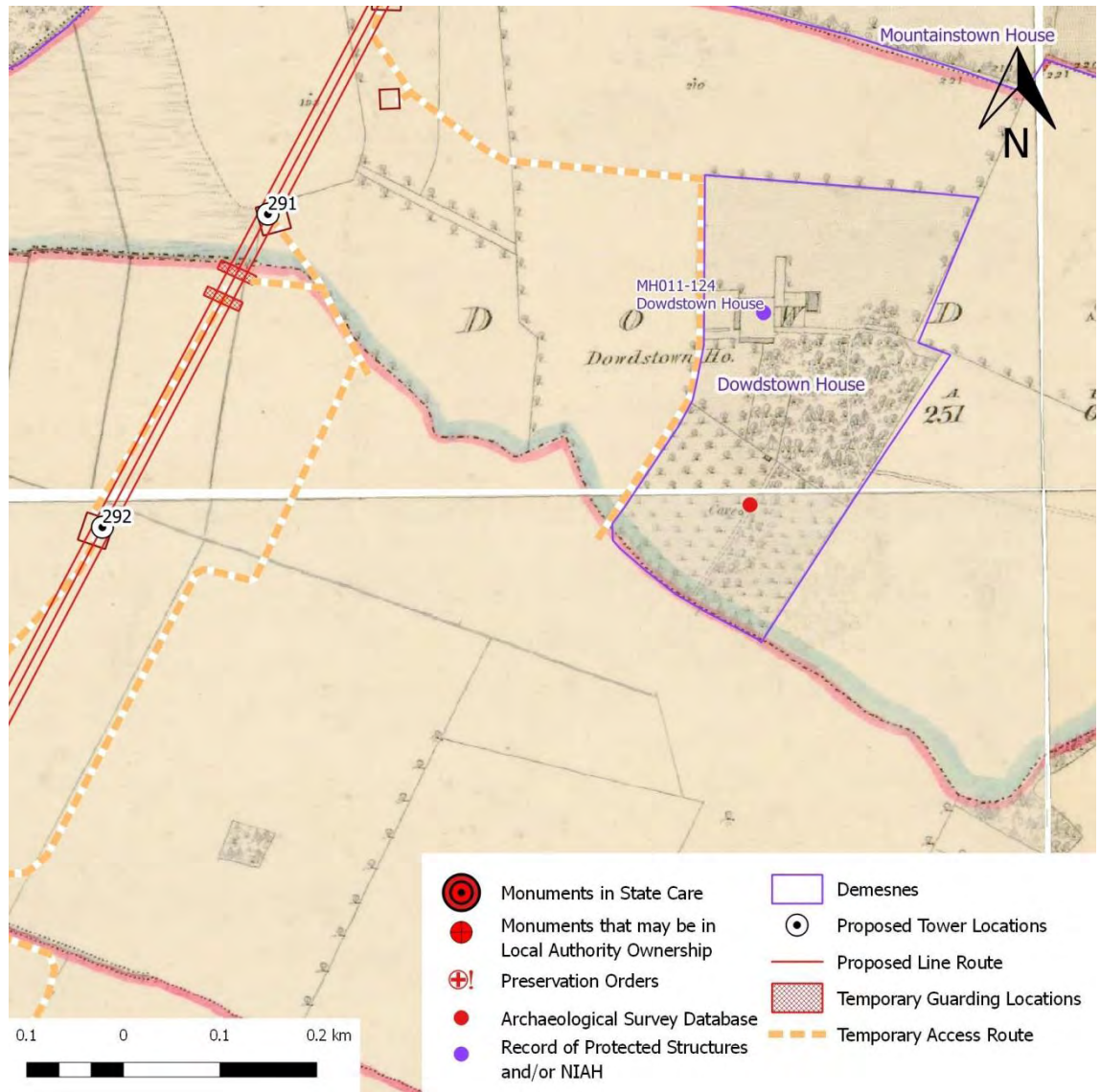


Figure 3-18. Extract from OS First edition map showing Dowdstown House.



Plate 3-6. View towards Dowdstown house from approximate location of proposed route.

3.5 MOUNTAINSTOWN

100. Mountainstown house is a protected structure (RPS MH012-100) and is described as a six-bay, two-storey over basement house, with two-bay breakfront and pediment. The house dates from c.1720 by Richard Gibbons. It was sold to John Pollock in 1780. The south west wing was added in 1813 and later the single storey kitchen wing. There are associated stable yards. The front of the house faces to the east, to the north of the house are agricultural buildings and stables. To the west there is a parkland with a mature tree belt.
101. The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey (ME-42-N-829790) and is described as having its 'Main features unrecognisable - peripheral features visible'. The proposed development will have two towers located just outside the boundary of the demesne with one tower (289) within the western grounds. The distance from the house to the centreline of the scheme is 1km (Figure 3-19).
102. The main façade of the house faces to the east and it can be seen in Plate 3-7 and Figure 3-22 that there is dense woodland located to the west of the house that screens any views from the grounds of the house or the lower floor windows of the house towards the proposed development. The south façade faces onto a recently constructed formal garden, and again, dense vegetation will screen views towards the proposed development in this area. It is noted that there will be a view of the proposed development as it approaches the demesne landscape from the north from one of the upstairs windows (Plate 3-8) and there may be similar views of the development from other upper storey windows in the west and north facing facades. The entrance avenues approach the house from the north

and south descending from elevated ground in the east, there may be views of the proposed development to the rear of the house from these avenues.

103. The proposed development will cross the demesne landscape approximately 1km to the west of the house. Features which appear on the first and second edition OS maps including a decoy and some buildings in the vicinity of the guarding location south of Tower 288 are not visible due to dense vegetation. Views into the demesne from the surrounding area are limited due to the presence of dense mature treelines along the property boundaries. There are no views of Mountainstown House from surrounding publicly accessible areas. Should the development proceed there will be no expansive views of the proposed development as it crosses the demesne from publicly accessible areas. There will be views of the development from within the demesne.
104. The sensitivity of the house to impacts on setting is high. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on Mountainstown House will be modest. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the house is appraised to be slight.
105. The sensitivity of Mountainstown Demesne to impacts on setting is high. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on Mountainstown Demesne will be modest. Should the development proceed there will be a permanent, negative impact of moderate significance on the demesne landscape.
106. Given the existing dense mature woodland already screening views of the proposed development in the vicinity of Mountainstown House no further mitigation is recommended.

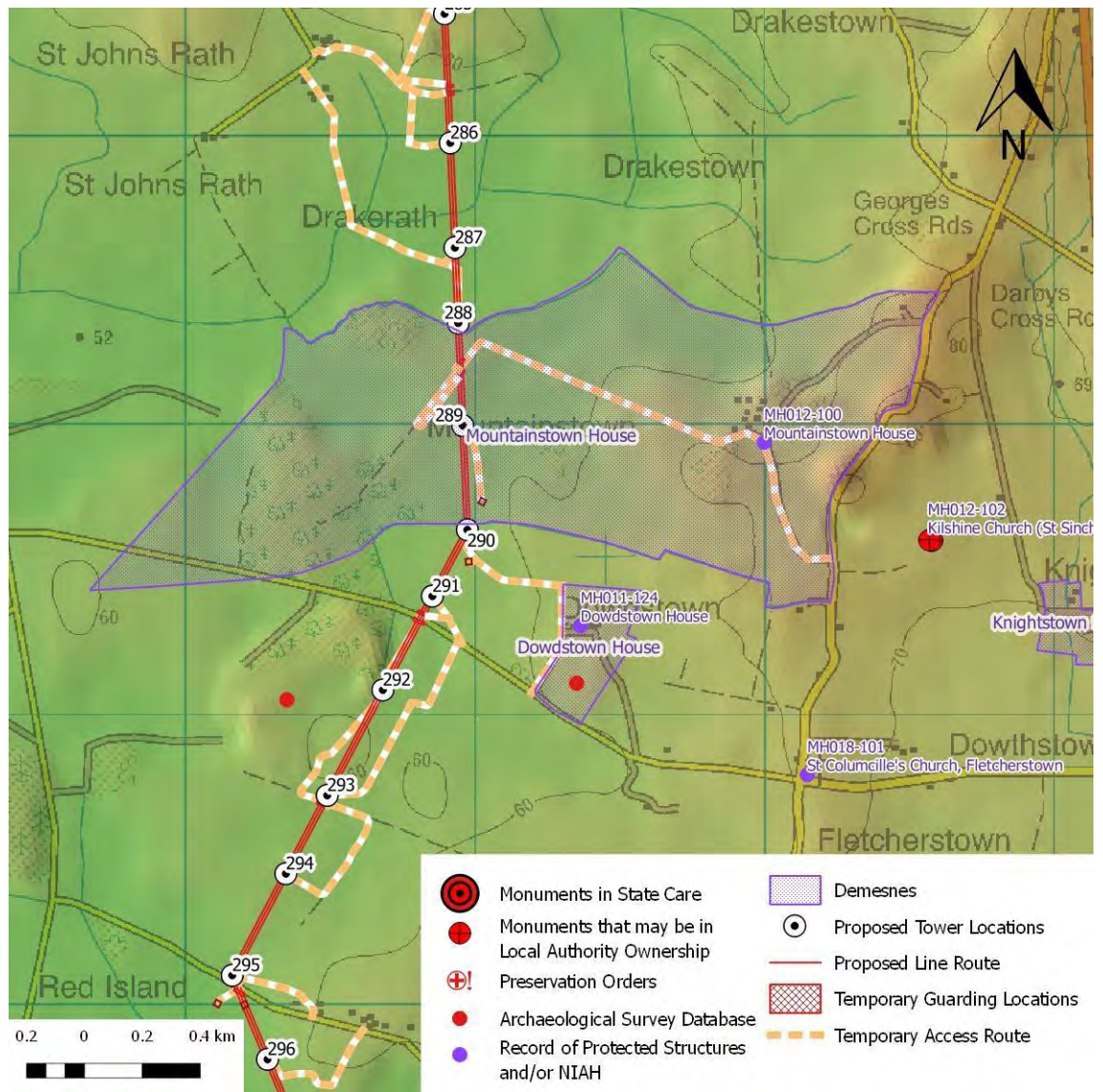


Figure 3-19. Location of Mountainstown House and Demesne

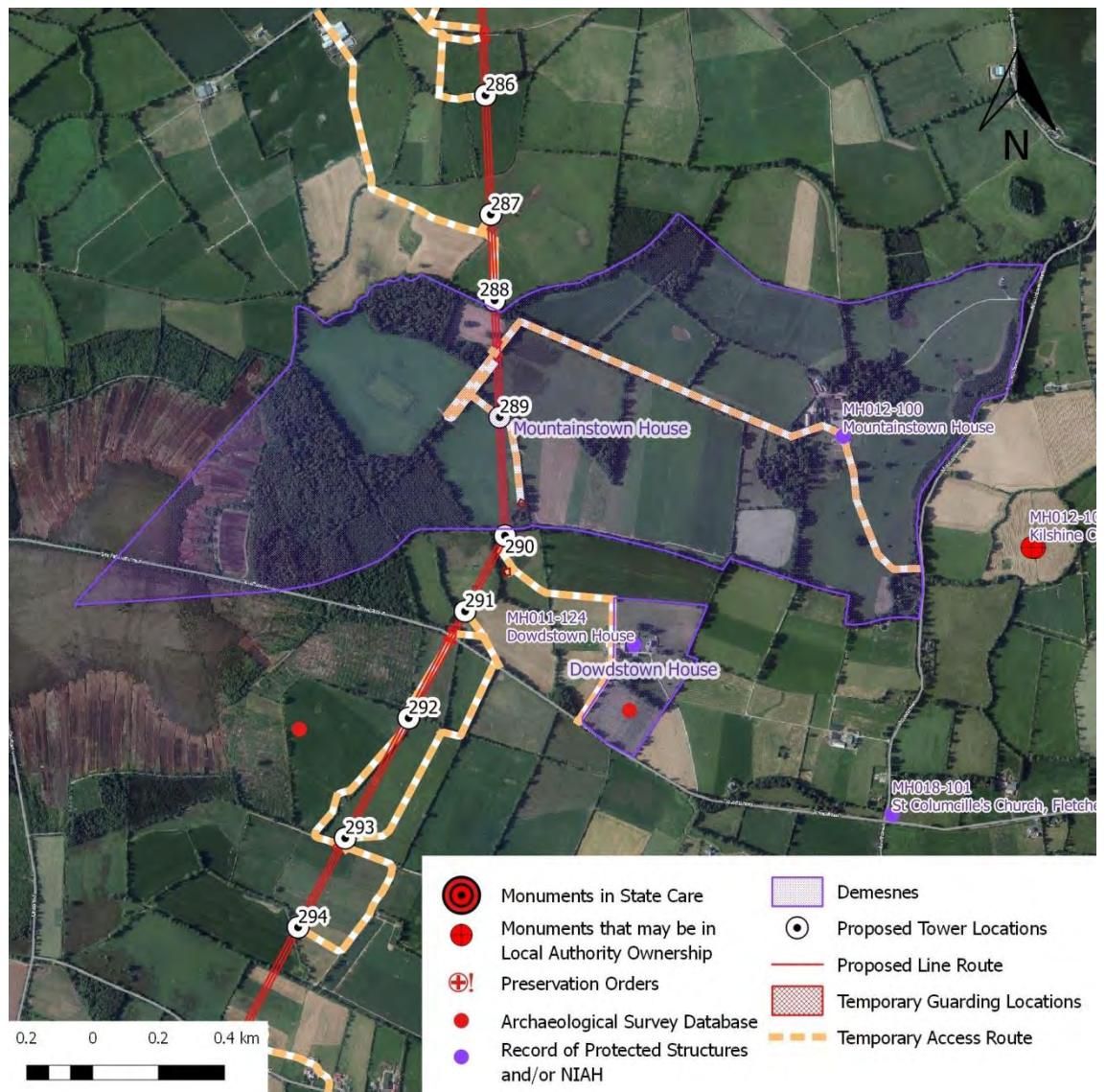


Figure 3-20. Aerial of Mountainstown House and Demesne.

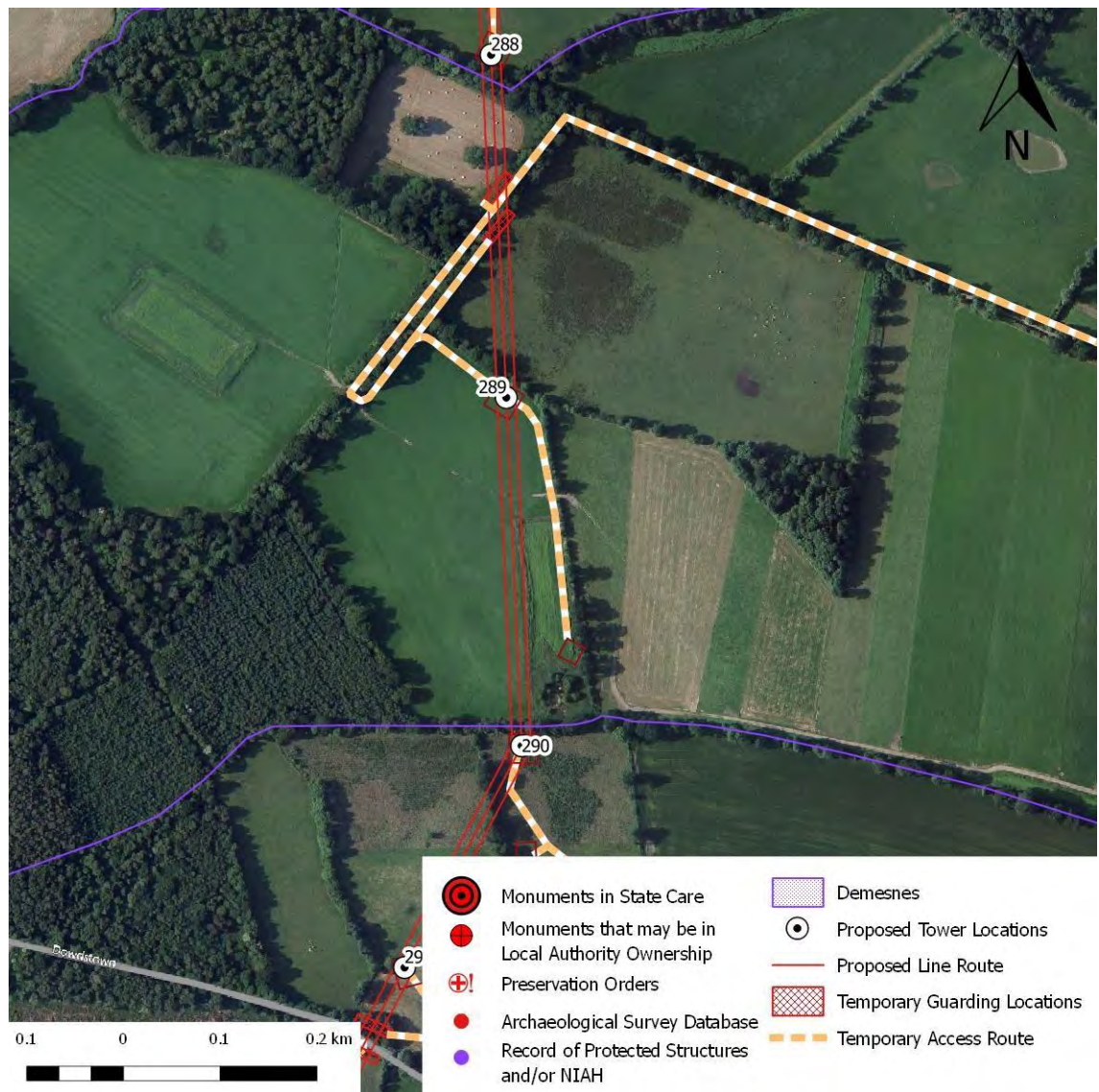


Figure 3-21. Aerial Image showing proposed line route through western portion of Demesne



Figure 3-22. Mountainstown House, front façade faces to the east, scheme is located 1k to the west.

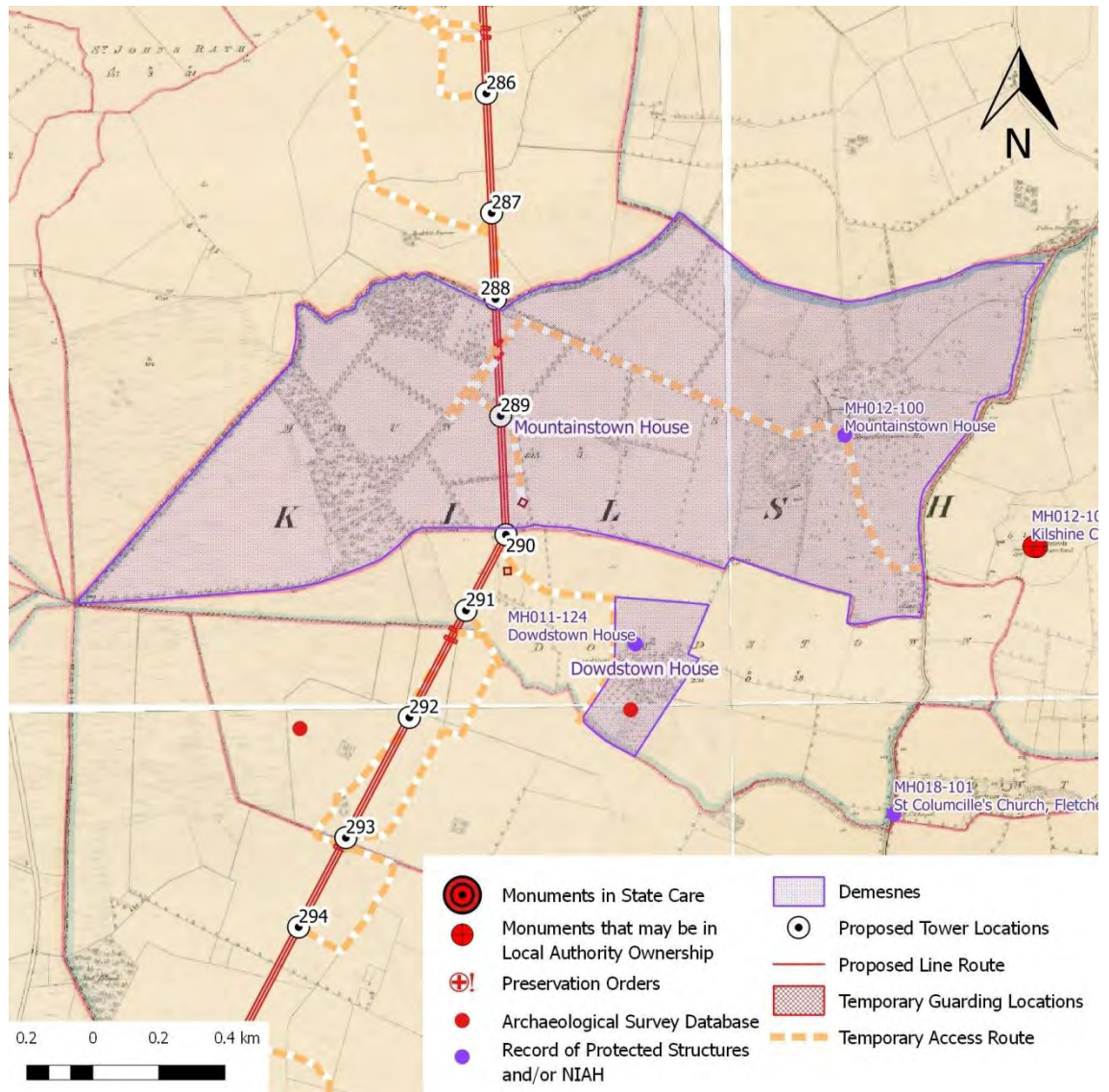


Figure 3-23. Extract from OS First edition map showing Mountainstown House and Demesne.

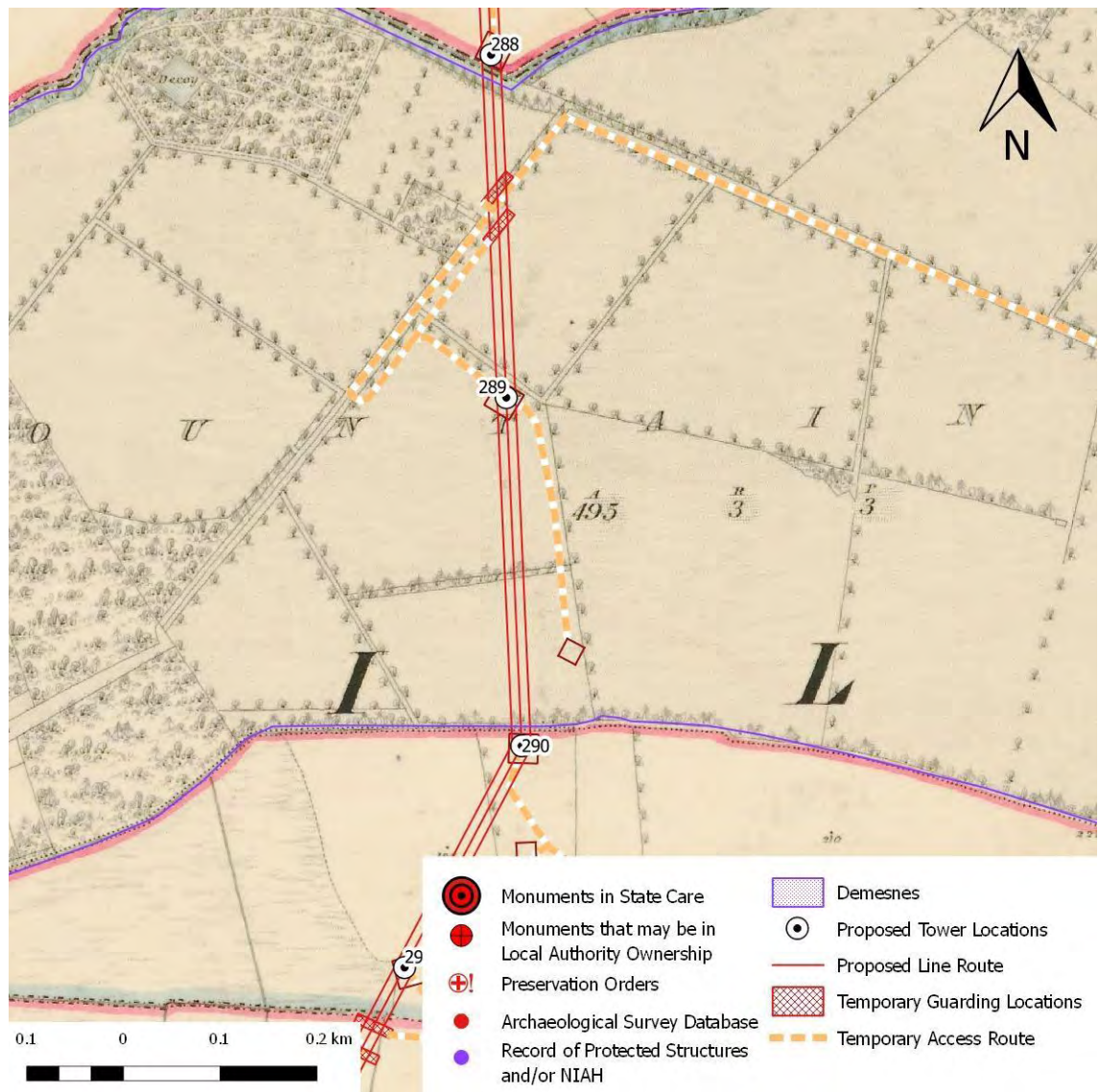


Figure 3-24. Extract from OS First edition map showing western portion of Mountainstown Demesne.



Plate 3-7. Looking west to Mountainstown House, note extent of screening to the rear (Source: www.myhome.ie accessed 10/10/15).



Plate 3-8. Looking towards the stables from Mountainstown House (Source www.myhome.ie accessed 10/10/2015).

3.6 PHILPOTSTOWN (DUNDERRY PARK)

107. Philpotstown House is an 18th Century House originally owned by Rev J. Preston of Ballinterand. It is a protected structure (RPS MH030-107). The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey (ME-42-N-823629) and is described as having its 'Main features substantially present - peripheral features unrecognisable'. The principal house is well screened with a mature tree belt to the west and east. To the south there is a pond with a stand of trees along its southern margin which provide screening of views towards the proposed development as it proceeds in a south easterly direction to the south of the demesne. Further screening is also located along the southern boundary of the demesne landscape in the form of poplar trees 20 to 30m high. A view to the south is presented in Plate 3-9.
108. The proposed development crosses the demesne landscape from north to south approximately 370m to the west of the House. To the west of the house a dense stand of trees will screen views towards the proposed development. When accessing the demesne along the main entrance avenue there will be intermittent views of the proposed development to the west (Plate 3-10). As it traverses the demesne landscape the proposed development will cross another entrance into the demesne from the west (Plate 3-11). Apart from the access from the west there are no demesne features located in the vicinity of the proposed development where it crossed the demesne landscape. There is a gate lodge indicate on the second edition OS map at the western entrance but this is no longer extant.
109. The sensitivity of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House) to impacts on setting is high. Should the proposed development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House) will be minor. Should the proposed development proceed there will be a slight, permanent, negative impact on the setting of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House).
110. The sensitivity of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown Demesne) to impacts on setting is high. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on Dunderry Park (Philpotstown Demesne) will be modest. Should the development proceed there will be a moderate, permanent, negative impact on the setting of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown demesne).
111. There is already mature woodland and poplar screening between the house and the proposed development. No further mitigation is recommended.



Figure 3-25. Site location showing Philpotstown House and Demesne (Dunderry Park) relative to the proposed development.

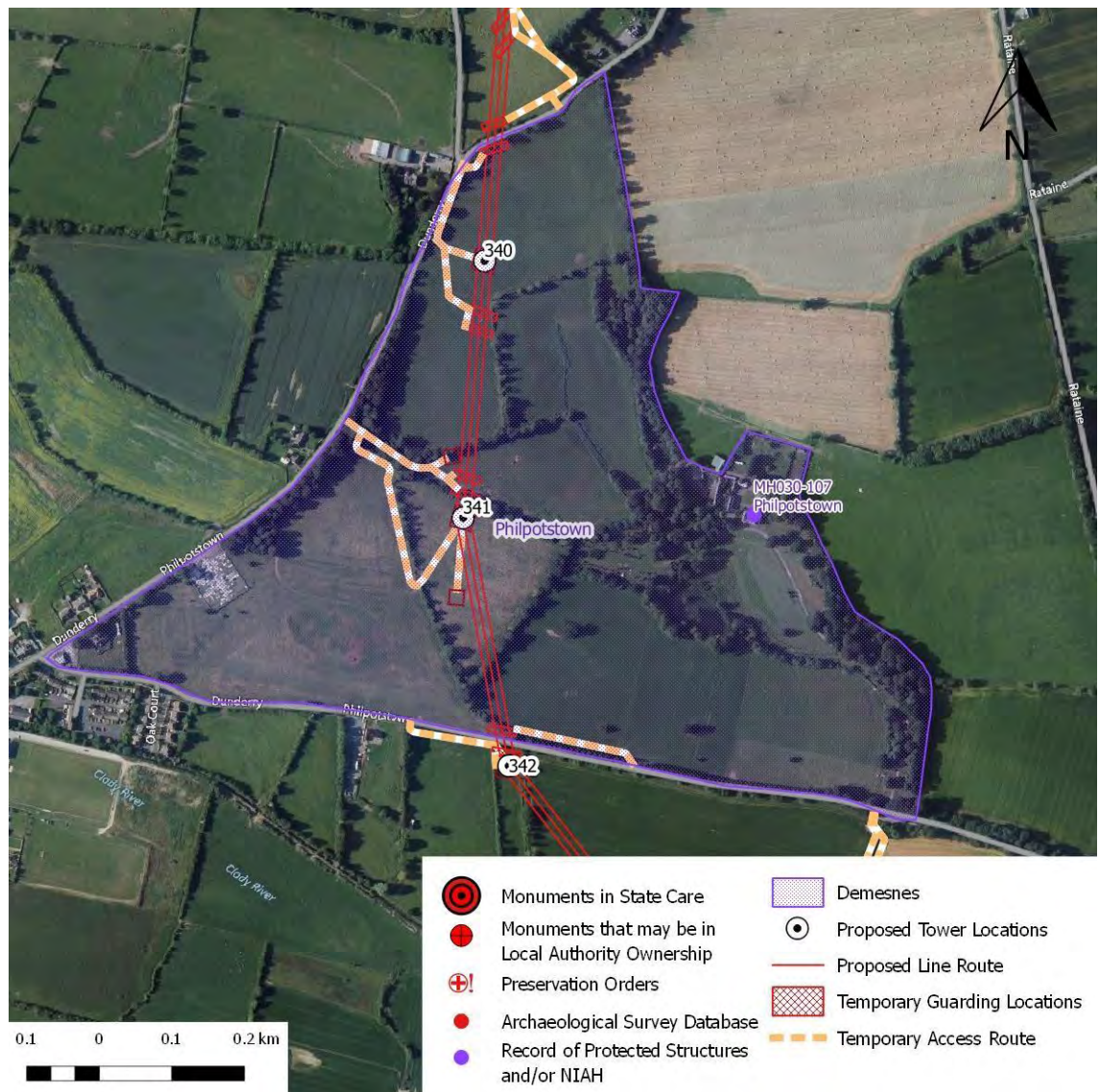


Figure 3-26 Aerial image showing Philpotstown (Dunderry Park).

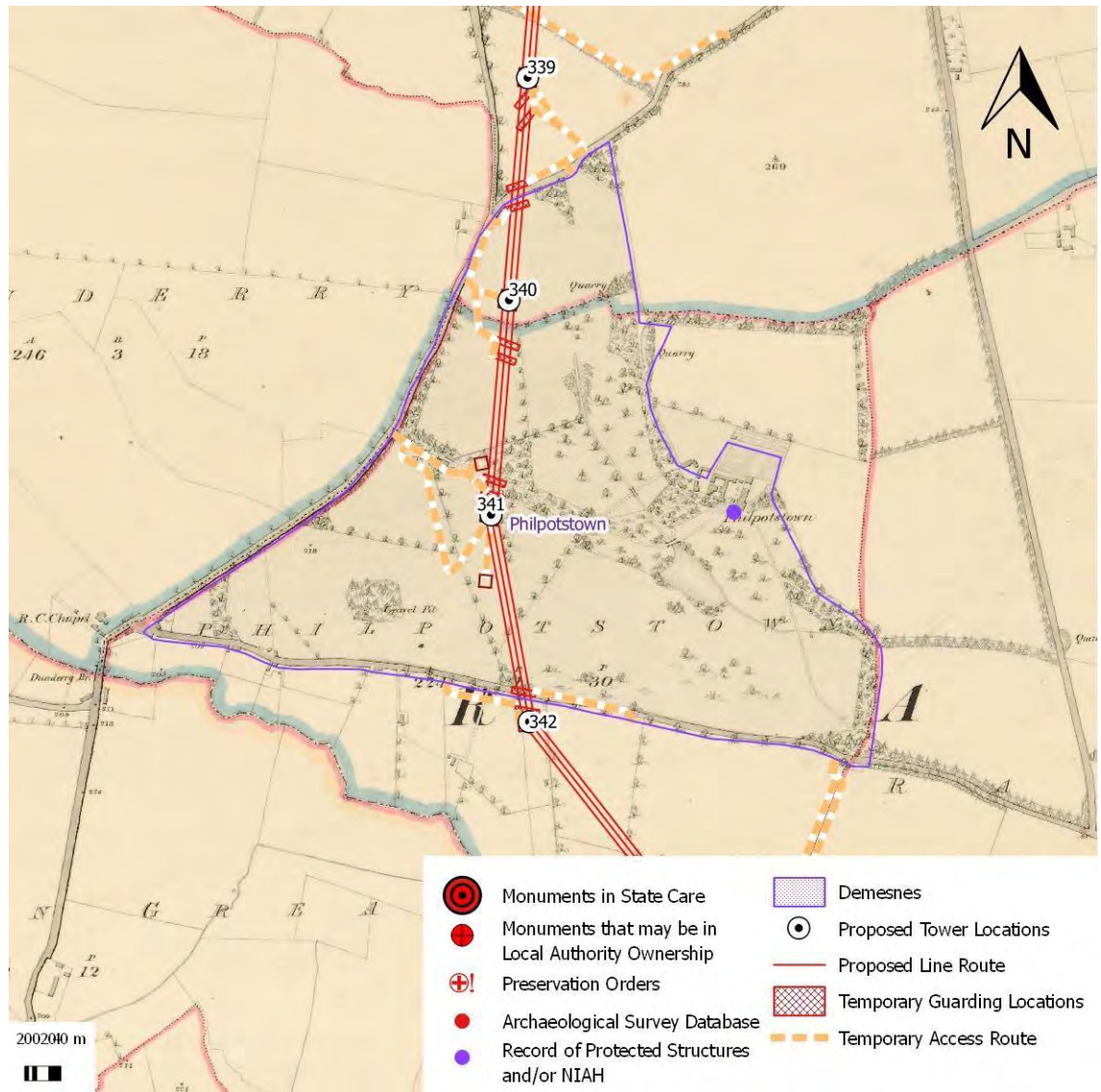


Figure 3-27 Location of proposed development in relation to Philpotstown (Dunderry Park) on first edition OS map.



Figure 3-28. Detailed view of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House) (Source: Bing Maps, accessed 12/10/2015).



Plate 3-9. View from the front of Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House) looking south (2014) (Source: www.tara-approach.org, accessed 12/10/2015).



Plate 3-10. View towards Dunderry Park (Philpotstown House) from the main entrance into the demesne.



Plate 3-11. Entrance into Dunderry Park from the west (Source: Google Streetview, accessed 12/10/2015)

3.7 SHANTONAGH

112. The existing Shantonagh House post-dates the Second edition 25" map (Figure 3-32) and is a smaller scale than the original. The original Shantonagh House, as featured on the second edition OS map, was a large rectangular building with bow ends (Figure 3-33). The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey (MO-28B-H-764116) and is described as having its 'Main features substantially present - peripheral features unrecognisable'. This description appears to be erroneous as a detailed review of historic mapping, current mapping and aerial photography indicated that the building has been replaced.
113. The landscape itself has changed significantly since the first and second edition OS surveys, with the removal of stands of woodland which almost surrounded the house at the time of the second edition survey. A small house, which was located at the western entrance into the demesne, may have been a gate lodge but this too is no longer extant. The only remaining features of the original demesne appear to be some of the outbuildings at the house and a remnant of woodland in the far east of the demesne. There are no demesne features noted in the vicinity of the proposed development where it crossed Shantonagh Demesne.
114. Give the degree of degradation of the demesne and that the original house and much of the landscape has changed significantly, the sensitivity of the demesne to impacts on setting is moderate to low. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the demesne landscape will be modest. Should the development proceed there will be an imperceptible to slight, permanent, negative impact on the setting of Shantonagh Demesne.

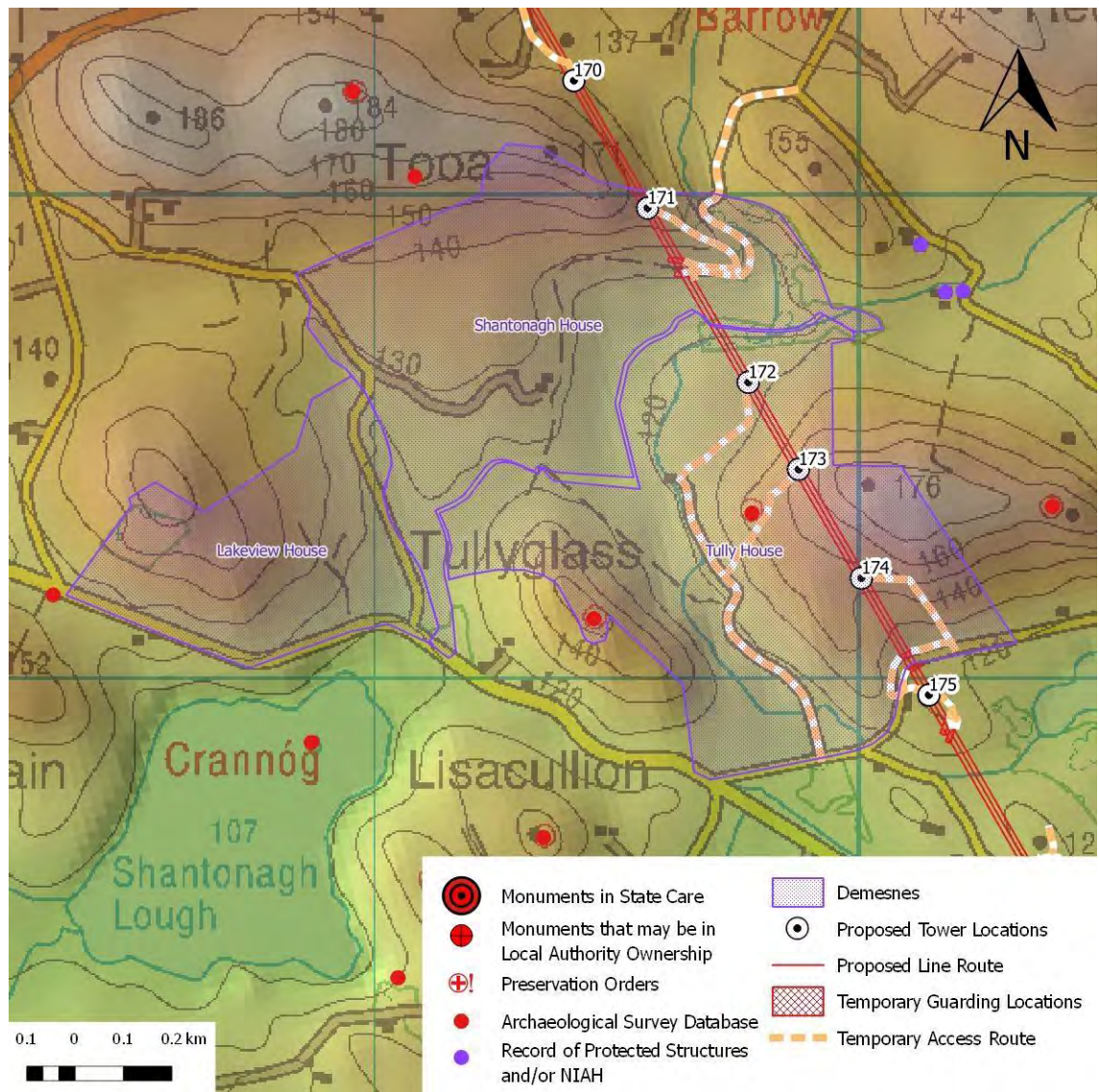


Figure 3-29. Site location showing Shantonagh House relative to the proposed development.

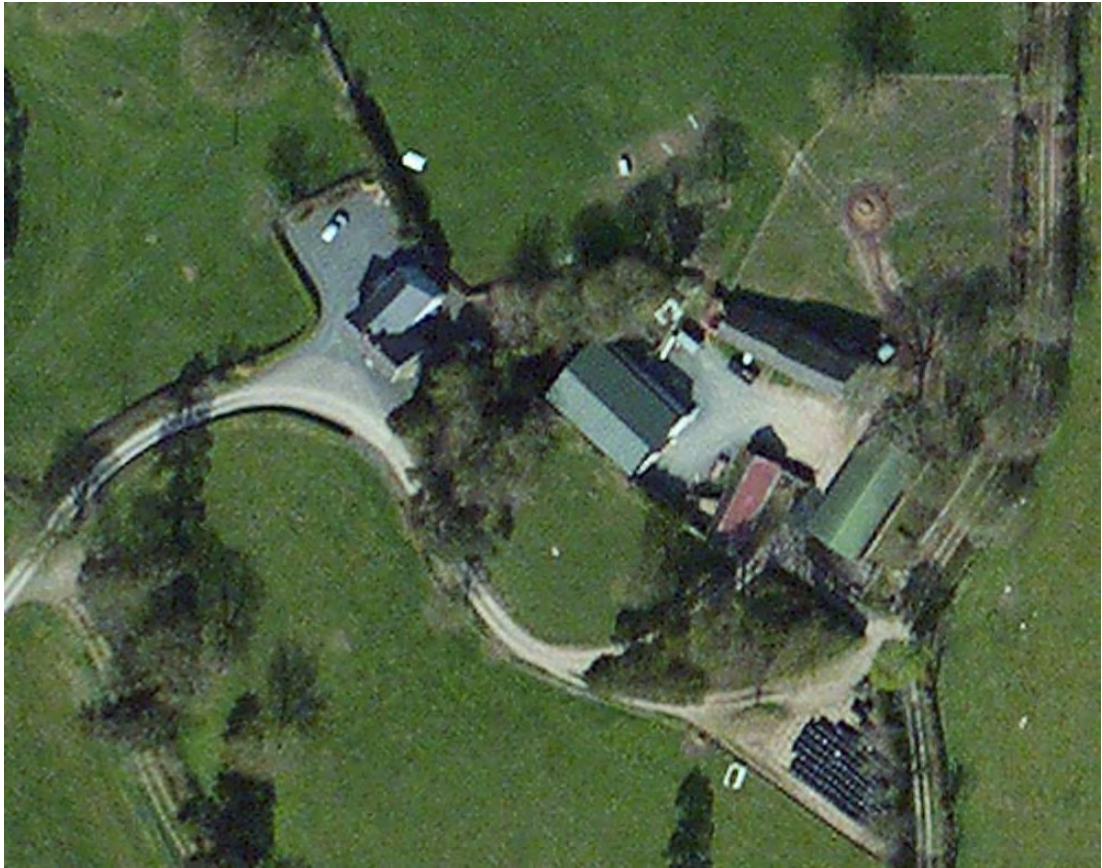


Figure 3-30. Aerial of existing Shantonagh House

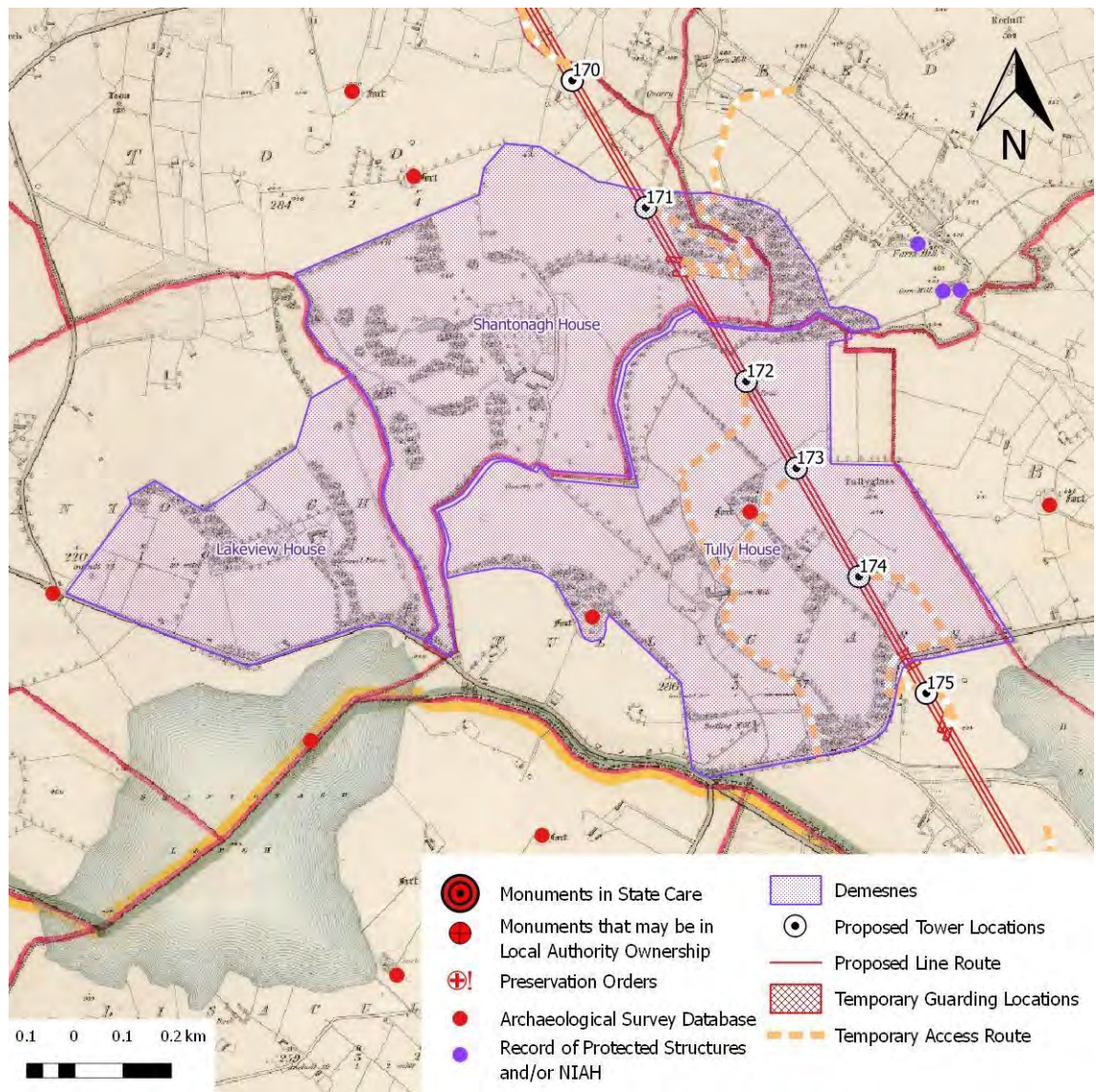


Figure 3-31. Extract from OS First edition map showing Shantonagh Demesne.

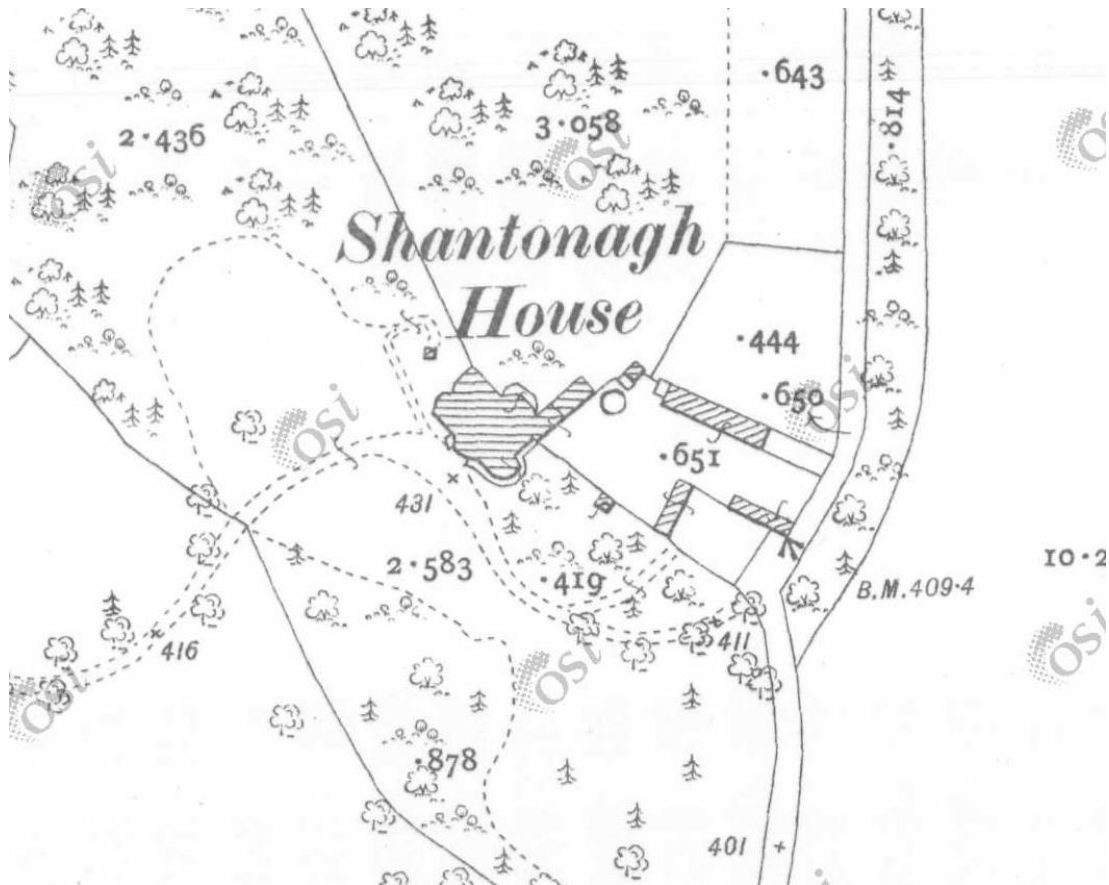


Figure 3-32. The original footprint of Shantonagh House as featured on the OS 25" sheet.



Figure 3-33. Overlay of existing dwelling and outbuildings on the second edition OS map.

3.8 TELTOWN HOUSE AND DEMESNE

115. Teltown House is a Protected Structure (RPS MH017-129) and is described as a two-storey three bay house, dating from the early 19th century. The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey (ME-42-N-804728) and is described as having its 'Main features unrecognisable - peripheral features visible'. The façade of the principal house faces to the west, the proposed development is located 790m to the west. There is some intervening screening in the form of hedgerows and a tree-line along the local access road. It is proposed to locate two towers within the south east of the demesne on the north side of the River Blackwater. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the demesne was deemed to be slight.

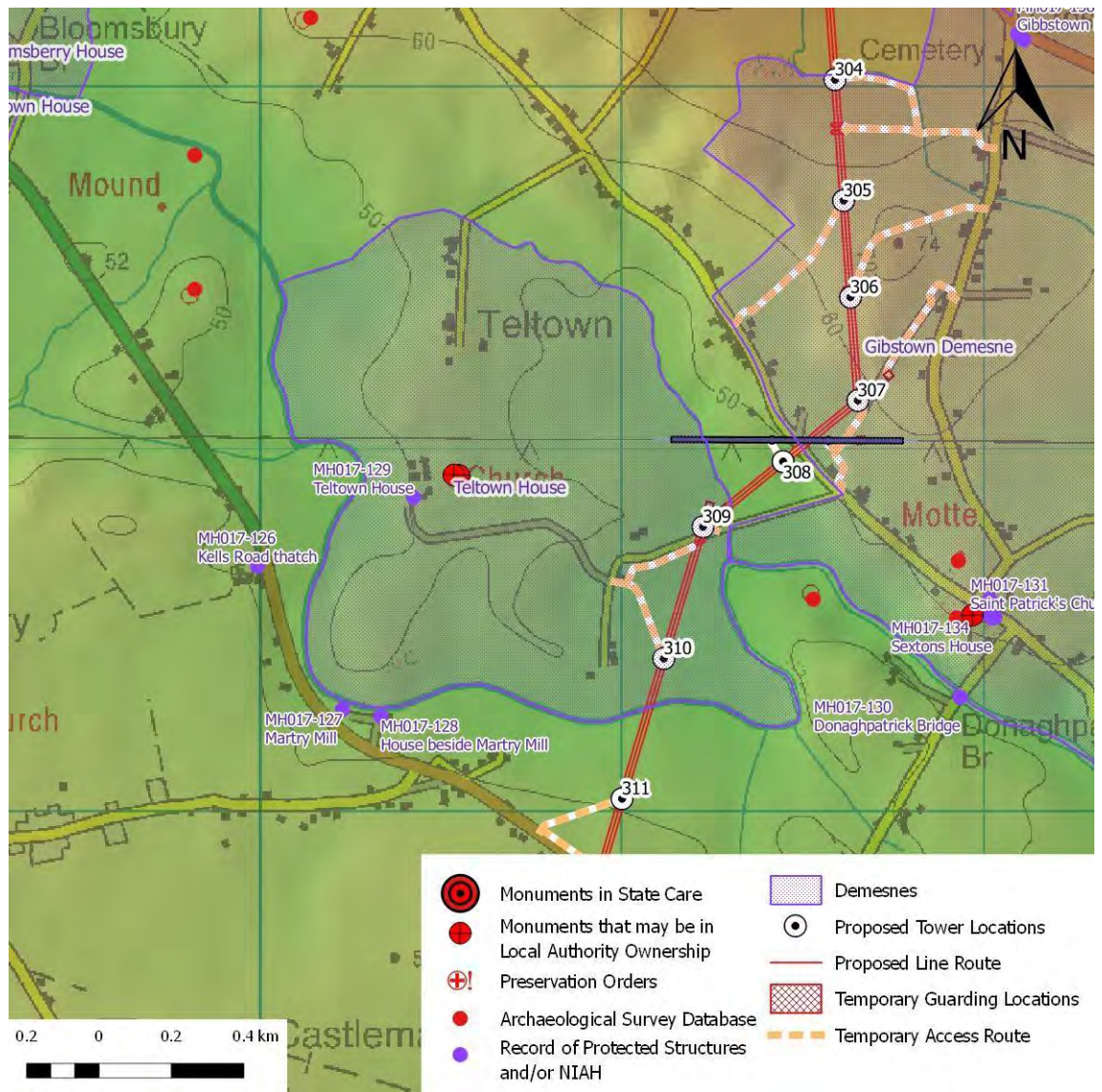


Figure 3-34. Site location map showing Teltown relative to the proposed development.

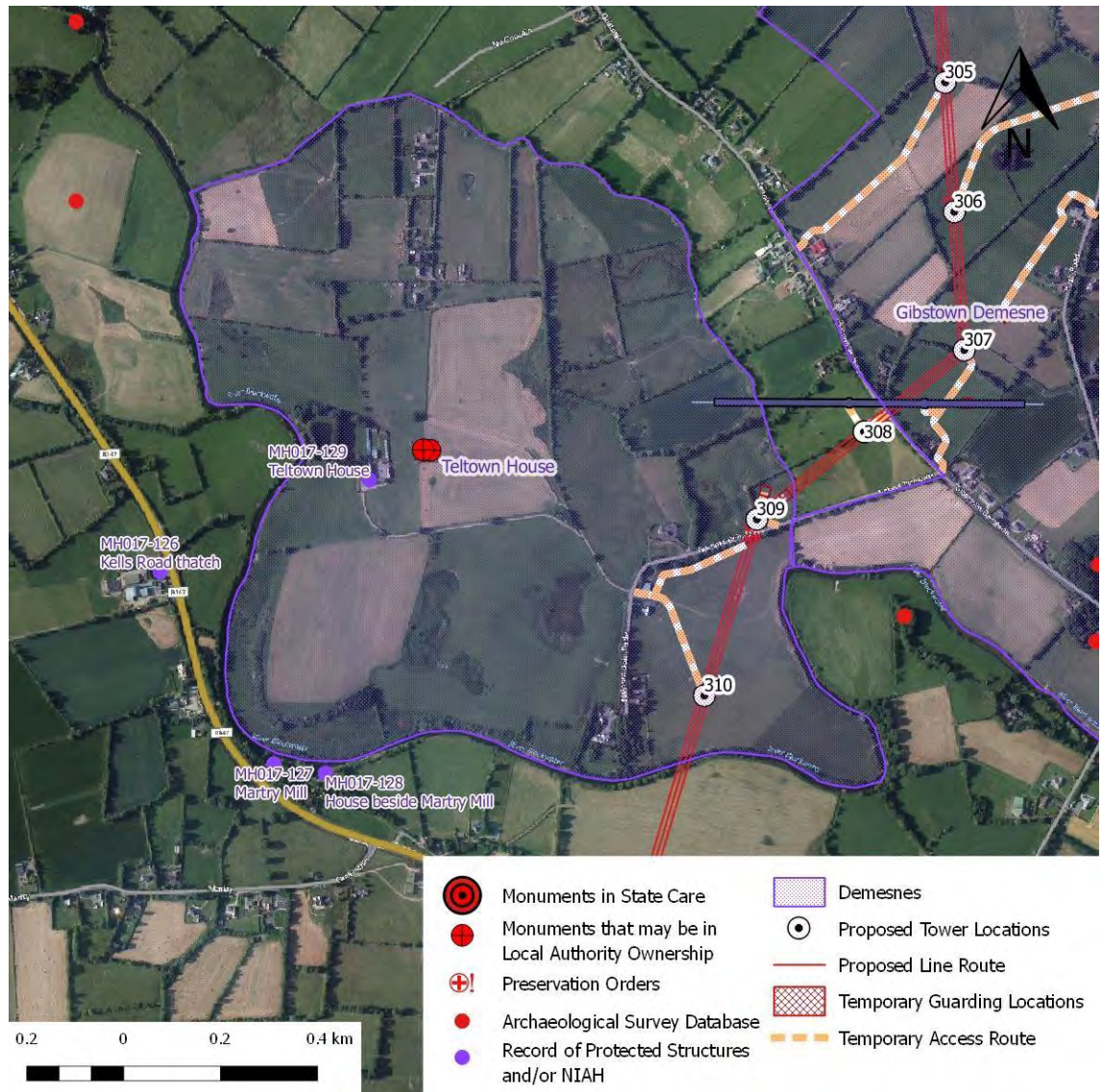


Figure 3-35. Aerial Image of Teltown demesne.

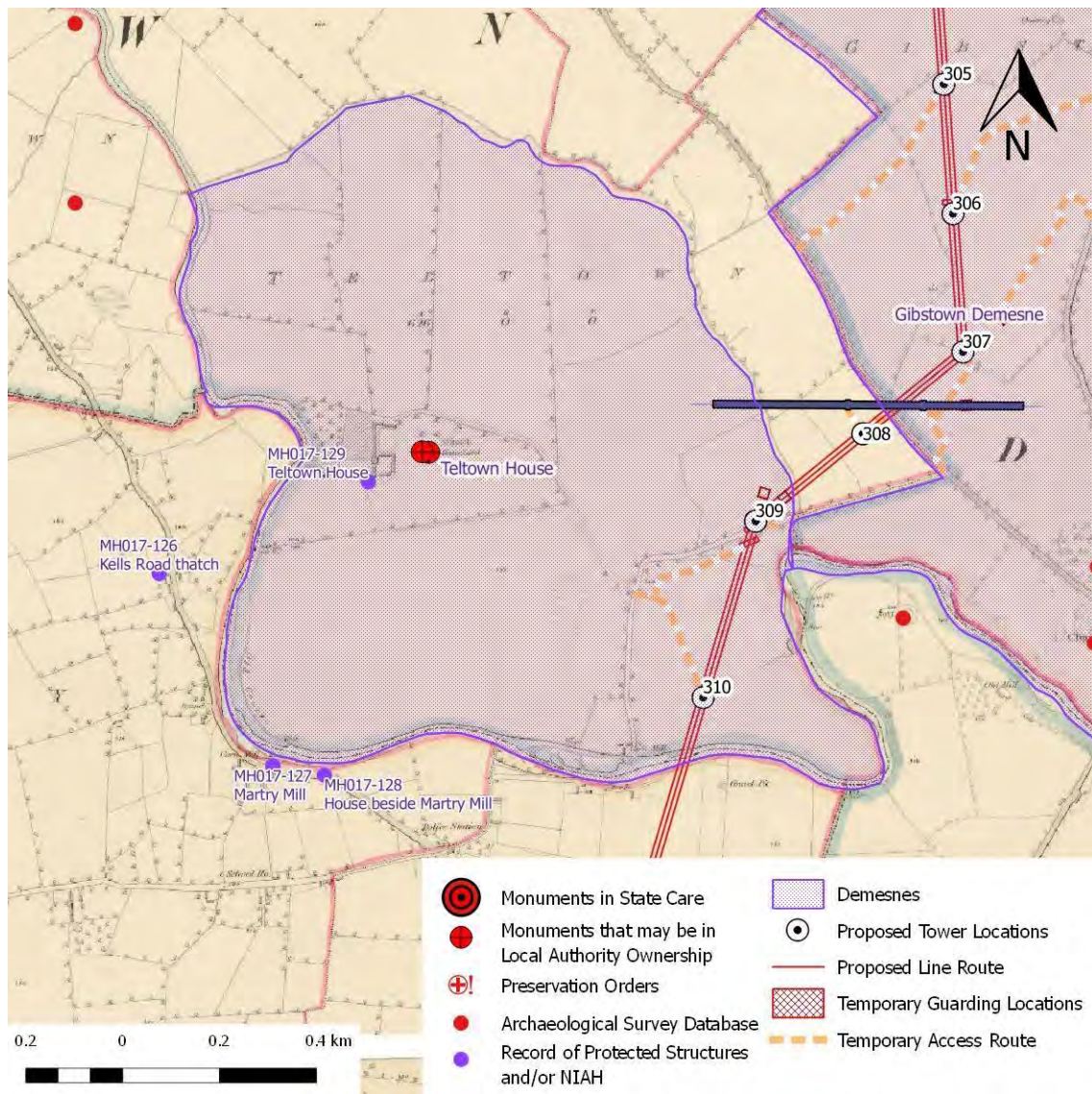


Figure 3-36. Extract from OS First Edition 6" map showing Teltown Demesne.



Figure 3-37. Aerial image from Bing showing Teltown House (facing west) and the nearby church and graveyard.

3.9 TULLY

116. The first edition OS map shows Tully House and a number of mills and a mill race as being located within the demesne landscape. By the time of the second edition OS map it appears that the footprint of the house may have changed. However, given that it is a small house it is not possible to be certain. The demesne is featured on the NIAH Garden Survey (MO-28B-H-764116) and is described as having 'Virtually no recognisable features'. Currently there is no trace of Tully House, the beetling mill that was located to the south has vanished too and only a couple of ruined walls remain of the once extensive corn mill that was located within the demesne. There is little left of the mill race in the vicinity of the house and corn mill, just a depression beside the road to the north. The only other remaining feature is a pond, located in the north of the demesne in the vicinity of Tower 172. There will be no direct physical impact on the pond from the proposed development (see also section 14.4.2 {Water} of the 'Applicants Response to Issues Raised in Submissions/Observations Received').

117. The landscape itself has also changed substantially, extensive tracts of woodland that were evident at the time of the first and second edition OS surveys have vanished and the once expansive fields have been subdivided.
118. Give the degree of degradation of the demesne and that the original house, mills and other upstanding features have vanished, the sensitivity of the demesne to impacts on setting is low. Should the development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the demesne landscape will be modest. Should the development proceed there will be an imperceptible permanent, negative impact on the setting of Tully Demesne.

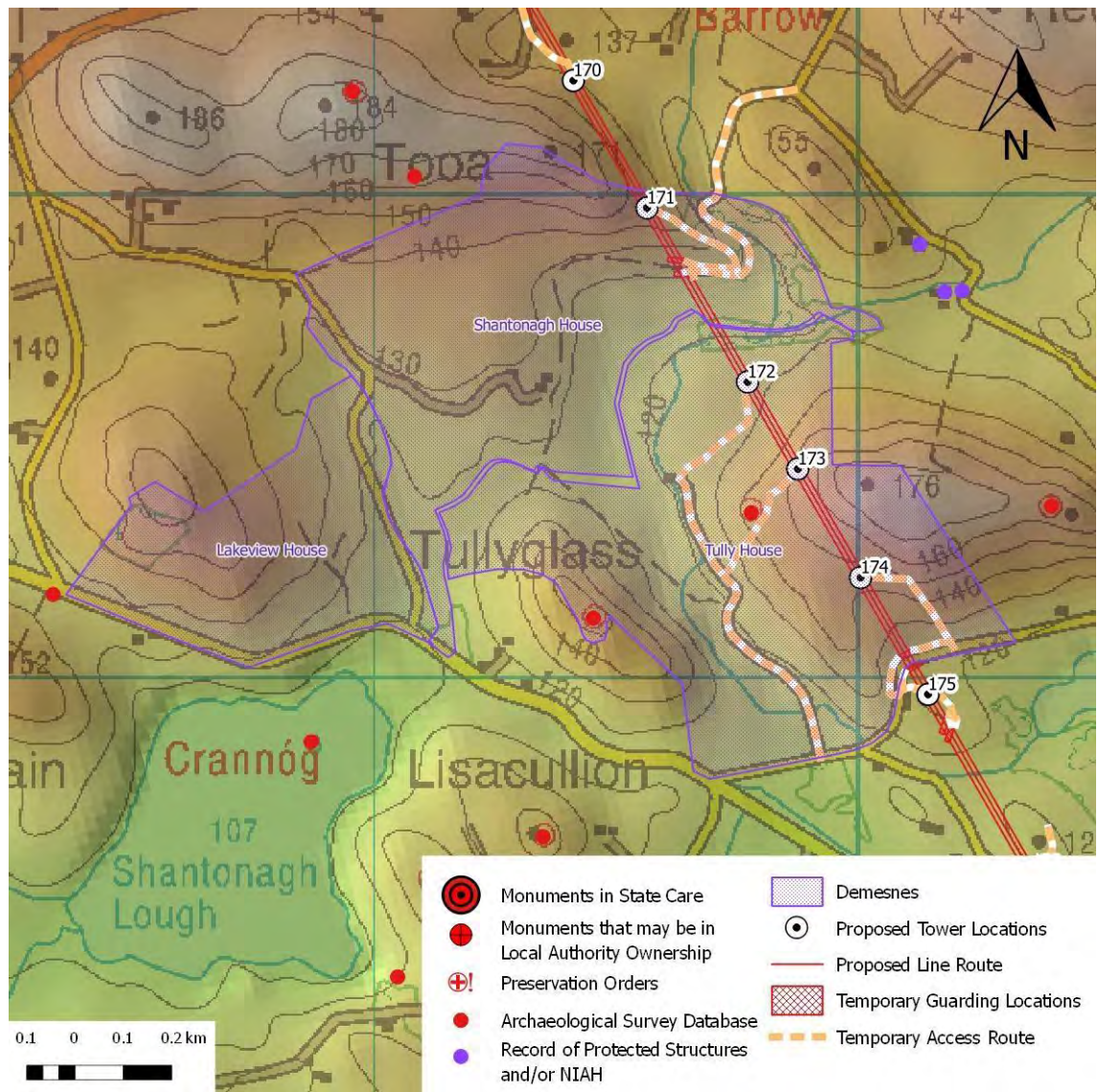


Figure 3-38. Site location showing Tully Demesne.

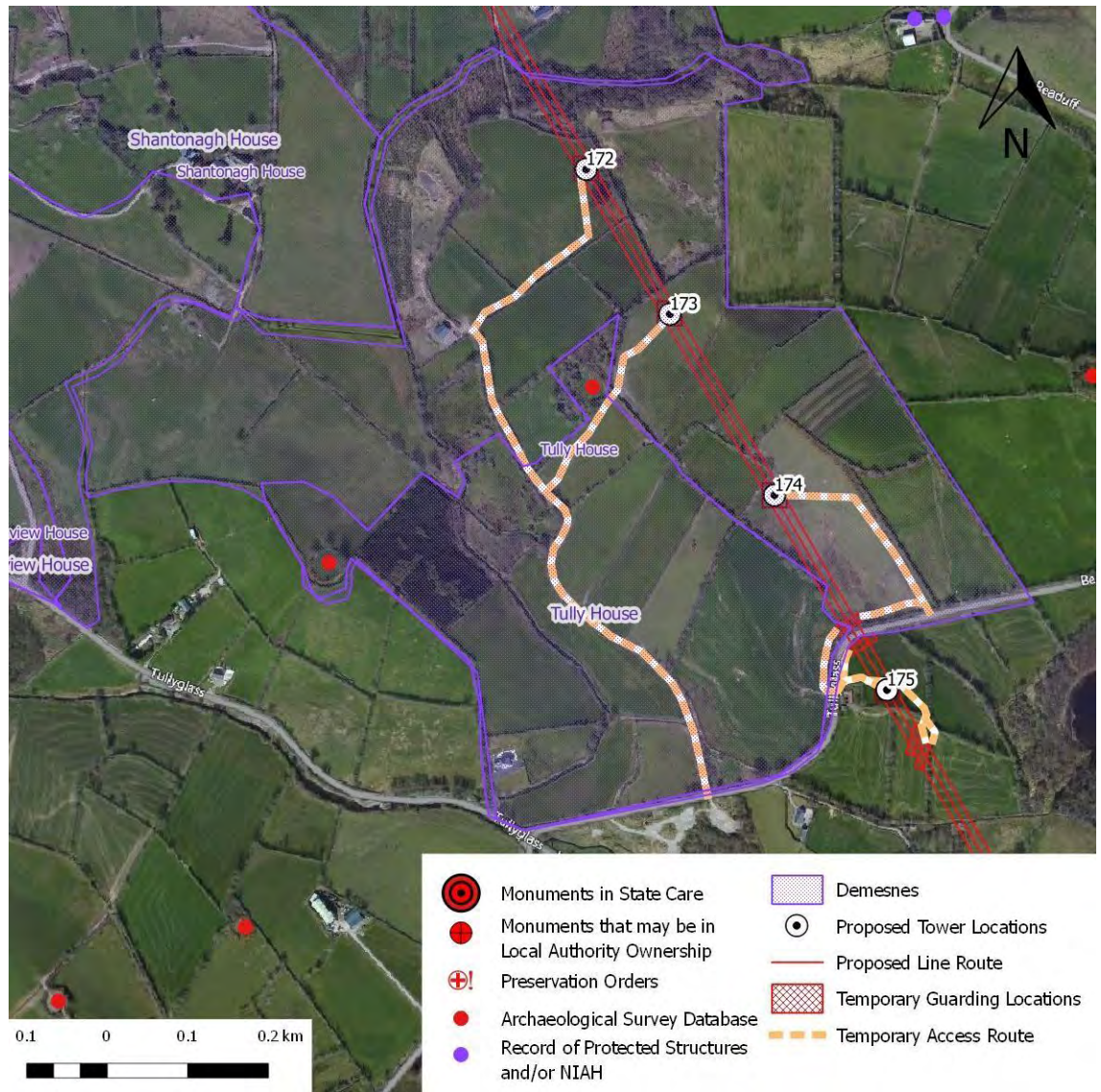


Figure 3-39. Aerial image of Tully Demesne.

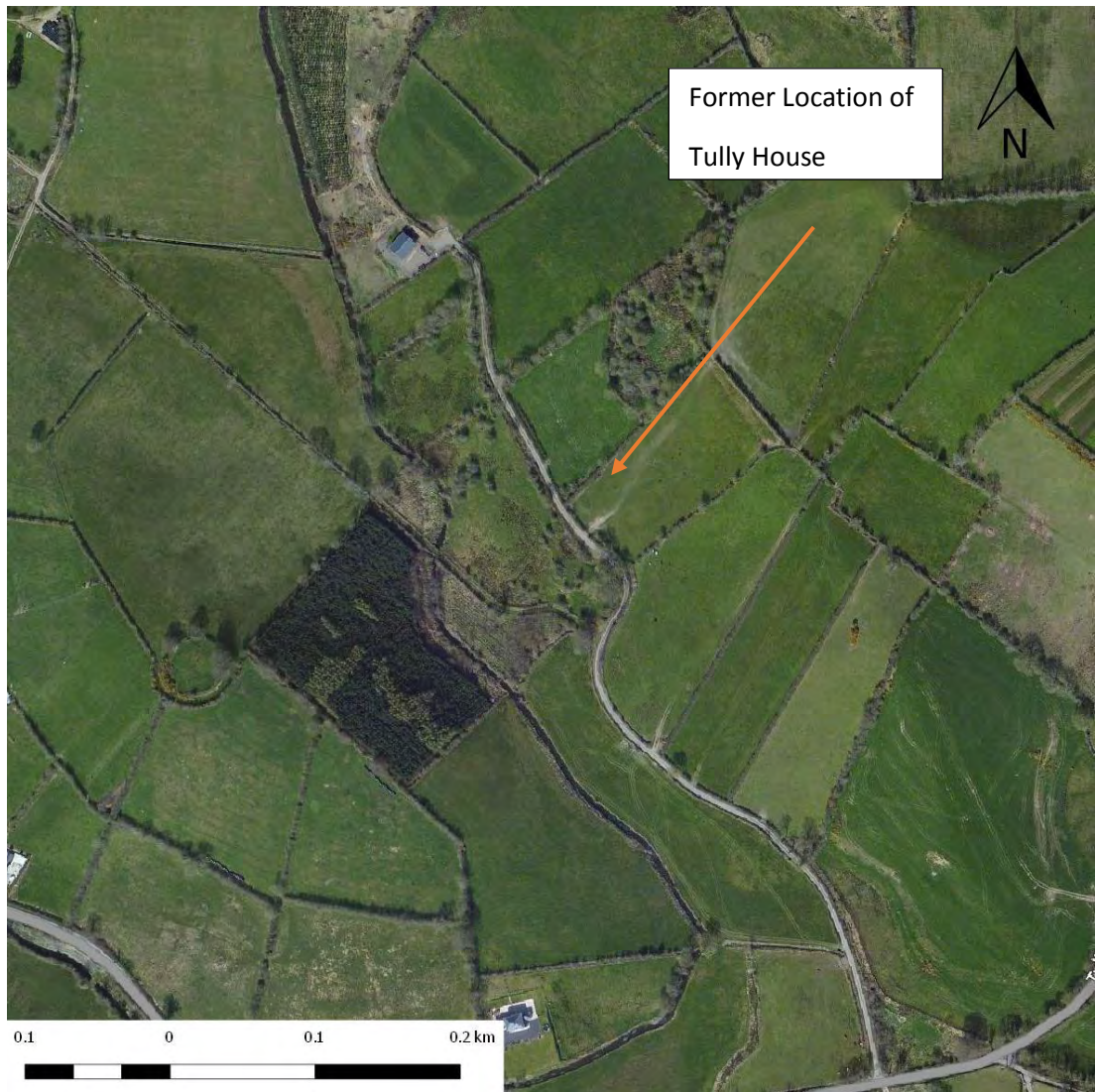


Figure 3-40. Former location of Tully house and Corn Mill

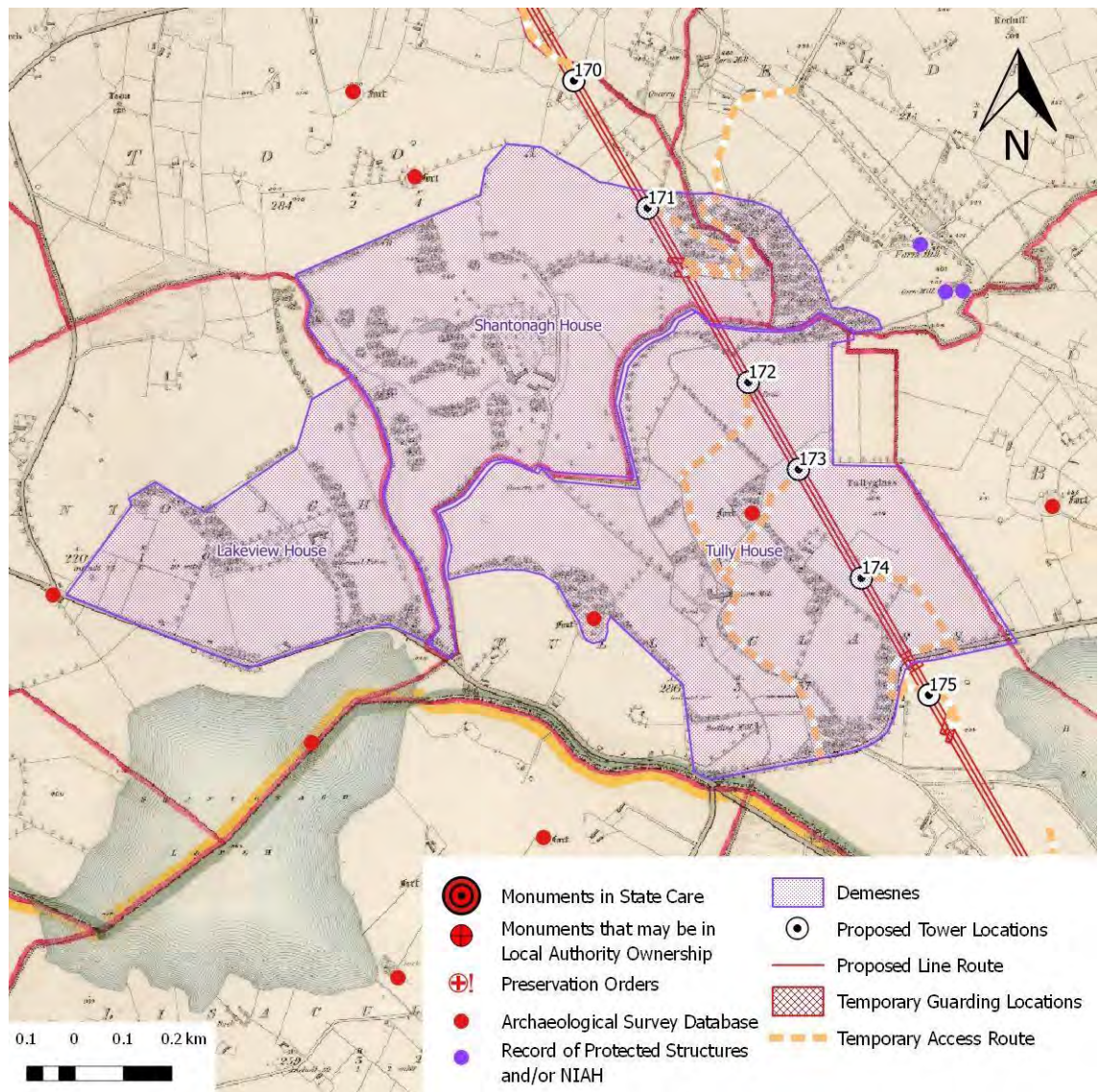


Figure 3-41. Extract from OS First Edition map showing extent of Tully Demesne.

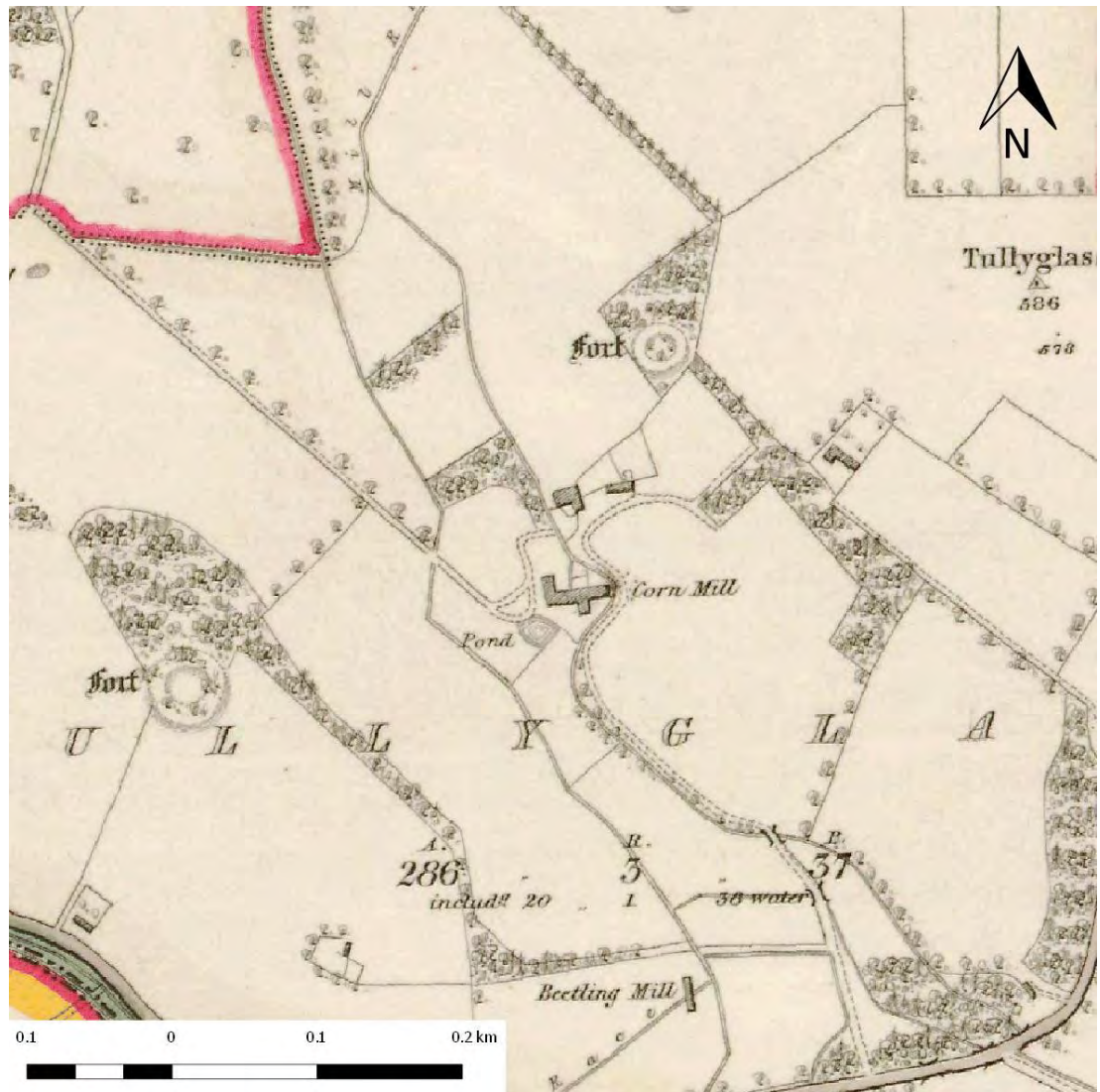


Figure 3-42. Tully House, corn mill and Beetling Mill.

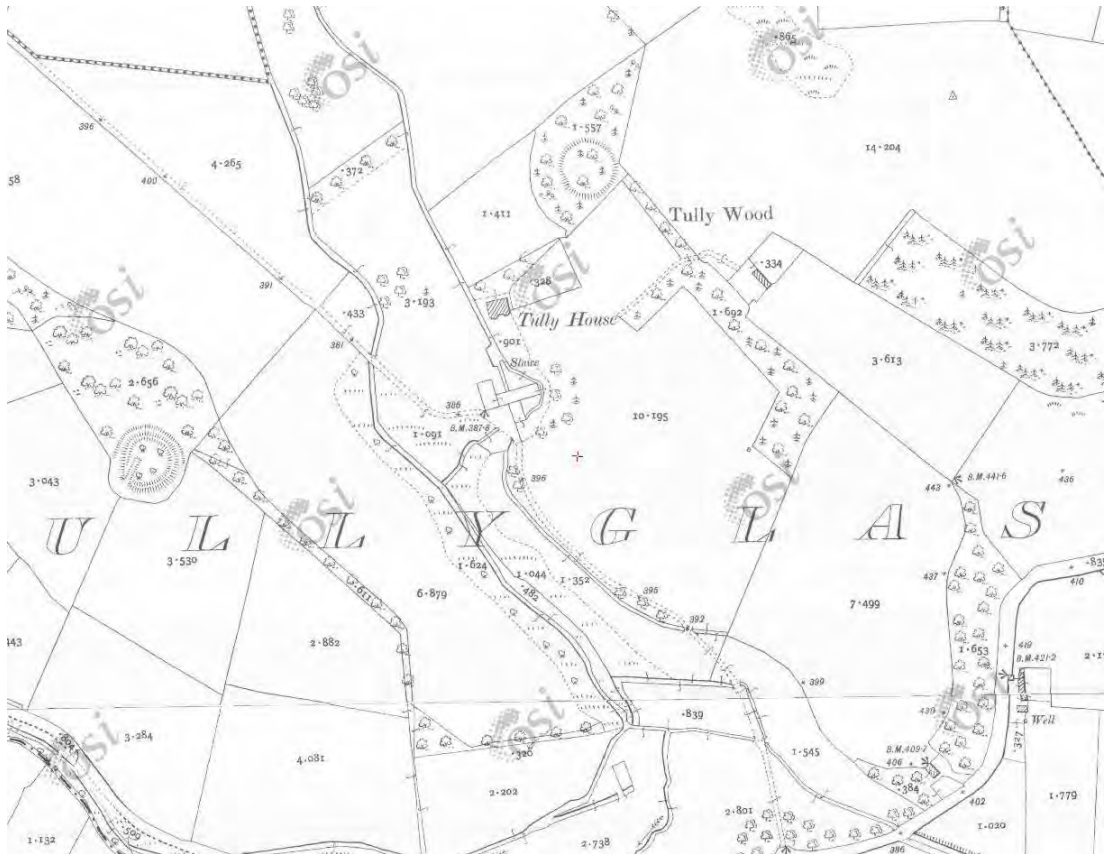


Figure 3-43. Extract of 25 inch OSI map, circa 1900



Plate 3-12. View of the remains of the corn mill located to the south of Tully House.

3.10 WHITEWOOD

119. Whitewood House, lodge and farm buildings are listed as protected structures. The country house (RPS MH005-104) is described as a three-bay, two-storey over high basement House, built in 1735 by Richard Castle. It was designed as a hunting lodge for the Preston Family, the buildings include a stable block, farm buildings and gate lodge (see also Volume 3D Section 14.4.6.2 of the EIS). A detailed appraisal of Whitewood Demesne by Dr John Olley is presented in the submission from North East Pylon Pressure (SI-2015-0332).
120. The First edition map shows the house sited on the western side of a hill with extensive forestry to the north and west. The house faces east north east, with the principal view from the front of the house over a ha-ha and along a tree lined avenue towards the nearby R162 (Figure 3-46). The second edition OS map indicates that of the outbuildings buildings and lodge in the vicinity of the house all are still extant at the time of the second edition map (Figure 3-47) and this is still the case today (Figure 3-48). There is a curved wall to the north and south of the house that focuses view from the front of the house to the east and all the principal features, including the tree lined avenue, the outbuildings and the Deer Keepers Lodge are located to the east of the house.
121. From its elevated position, there were extensive views over the surrounding landscape with avenues through woodland, highlighting views to the west south west, towards Whitewood Lough, and to the south south west, towards Cruicetown House. Cruicetown House is located approximately 3.3km from Whitewood House. At the time of the first and second edition surveys there was extensive woodland and wooded parkland covering the western and north portions of the demesne. Apart from some small copses of woodland in the vicinity of the house this has all been removed. A remnant of the avenue that framed the view of Whitewood Lough is still extant in close proximity to the house, but some vegetation within the avenue screens some views from the house. The avenue framing the view to Cruicetown House is entirely screened by mature woodland adjacent to the house.
122. The proposed development is located approximately 1.6km to the west of the house on the opposite side of Whitewood Lough. From Tower 255 to 261 the proposed development descends a ridgeline to the west of Whitewood Lough however a picture provided in the North East Pylon Pressure submission (SI-2015-0332) which is taken from a second storey window indicates that only towers 257, 258 and 259 will be visible. Of note is that this view will be obscured to some extent by vegetation when observed from the first floor and ground floor windows. Also Towers 258 and 259 do not break the horizon, although the very top of Tower 257 may be visible above the horizon. An opportunity to undertake a high resolution photomontage from the same location may show that the proposed development does not break the horizon at all in views from the rear windows of the house.
123. Although the immediate setting of the house and the views to the east remain largely unchanged, there have been significant changes to the demesne to the west and north. Here the first and second edition maps indicate that the demesne was covered in woodland, now apart from small remnants in close proximity to the house, it has all been removed.

124. The sensitivity of Whitewood House to impacts on setting is very high. Should the proposed development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Whitewood House will be modest. Should the proposed development proceed there will be a permanent, moderate negative impact on the setting of Whitewood House.
125. The sensitivity of Whitewood Demesne to impacts on setting is very high. Should the proposed development proceed the magnitude of the impact on the setting of Whitewood Demesne will be modest. Should the proposed development proceed there will be a permanent, moderate negative impact on the setting of Whitewood House.

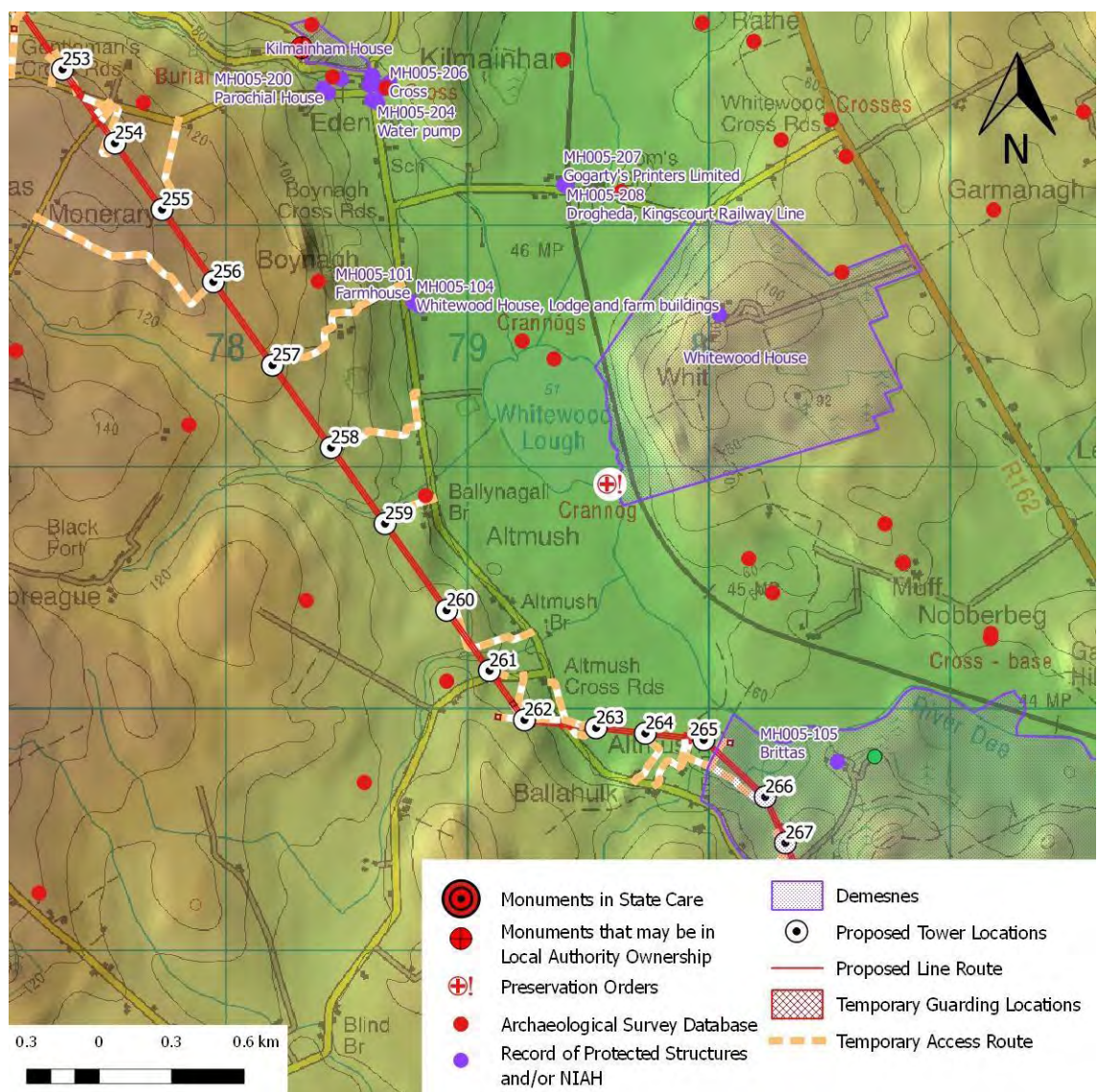


Figure 3-44. Site location map showing Whitewood

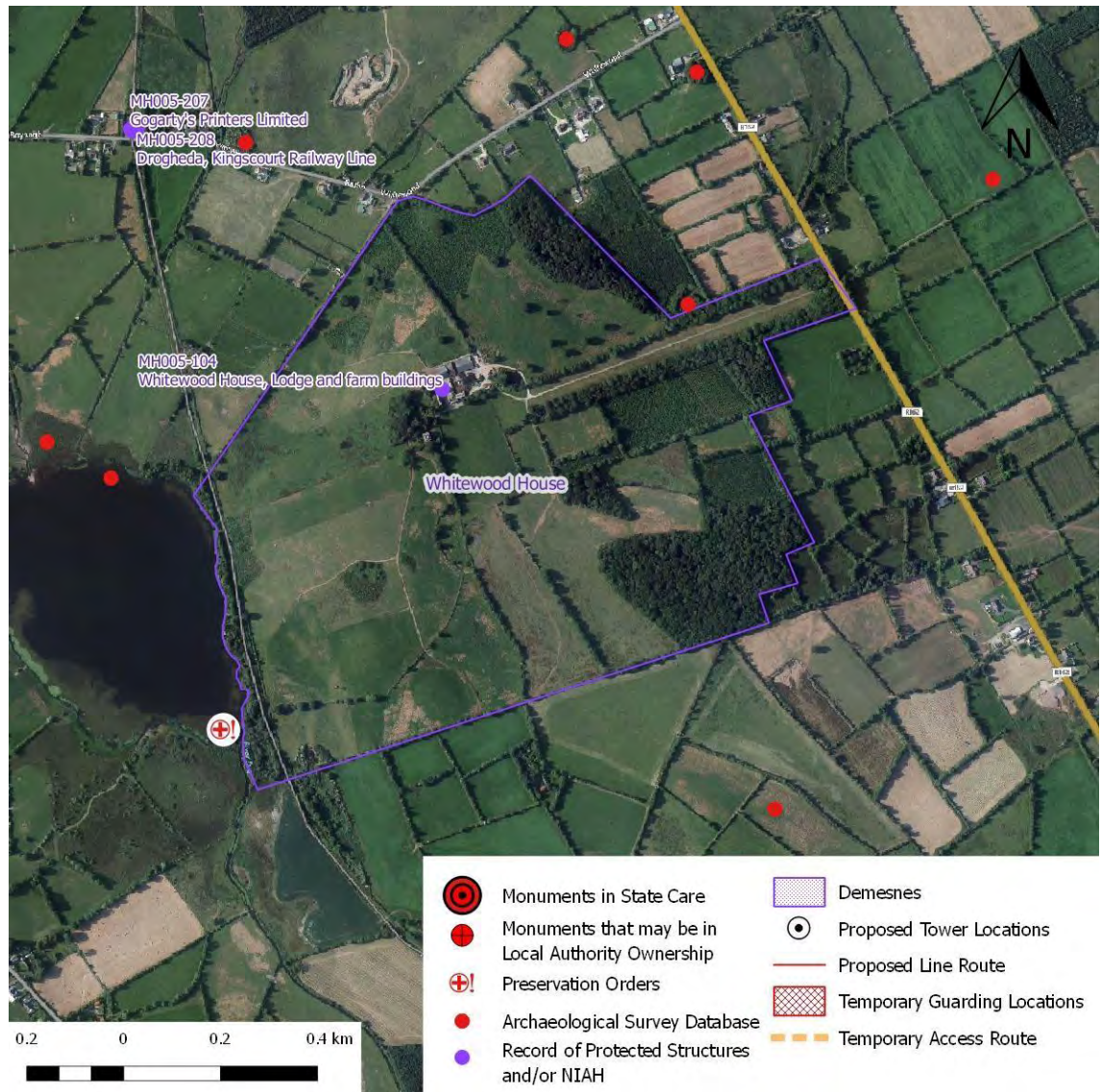


Figure 3-45. Aerial Image showing Whitewood Demesne.

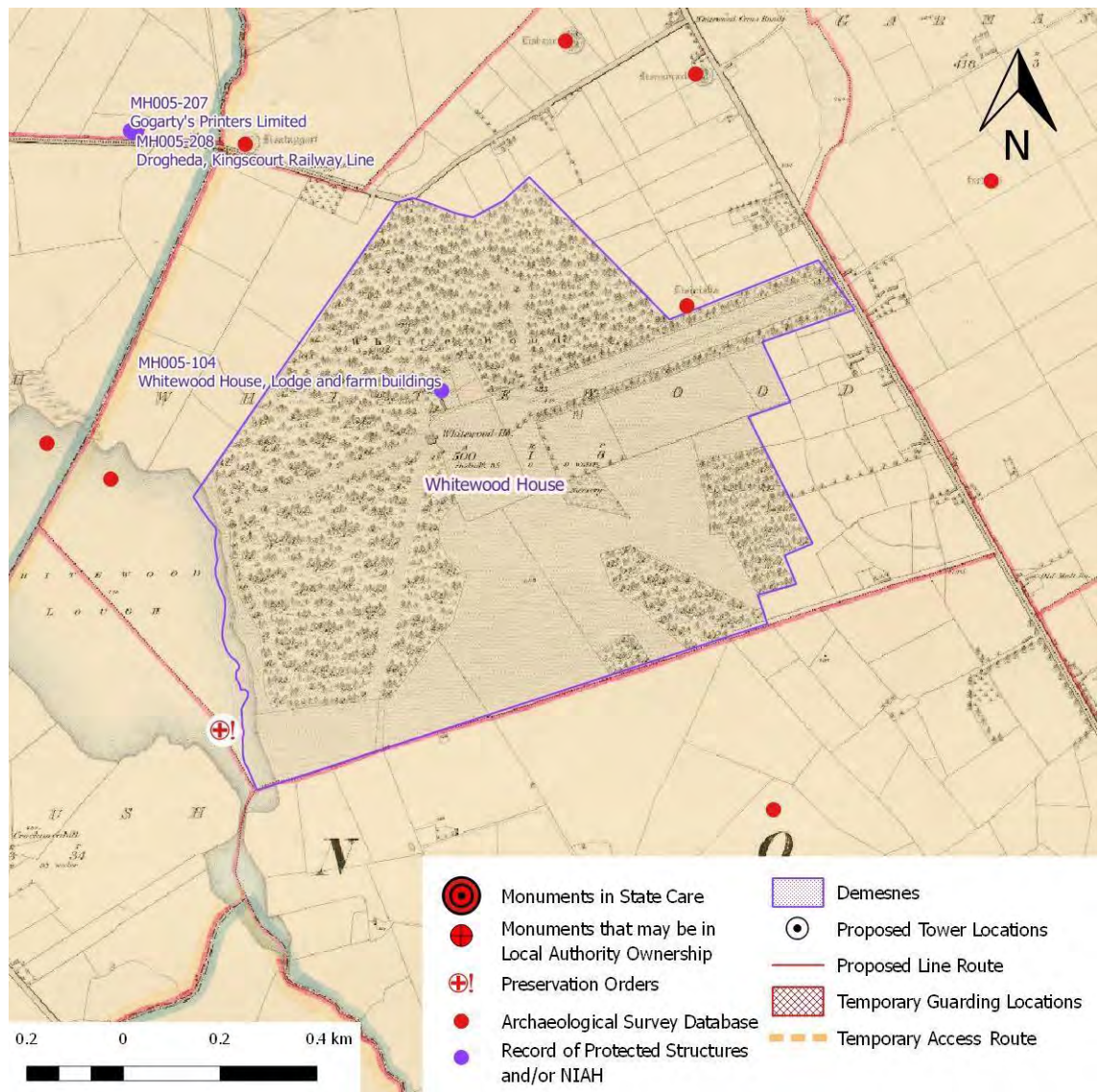


Figure 3-46. Extract from First Edition map showing Whitewood House and demesne, note extent of tree cover and view-sheds through forestry.



Figure 3-47. Second edition OS map with existing structures indicated. Original structures in cyan and modern structures in magenta.



Figure 3-48. Whitewood House, from Bing maps, note existence of farm buildings and reduced tree cover.

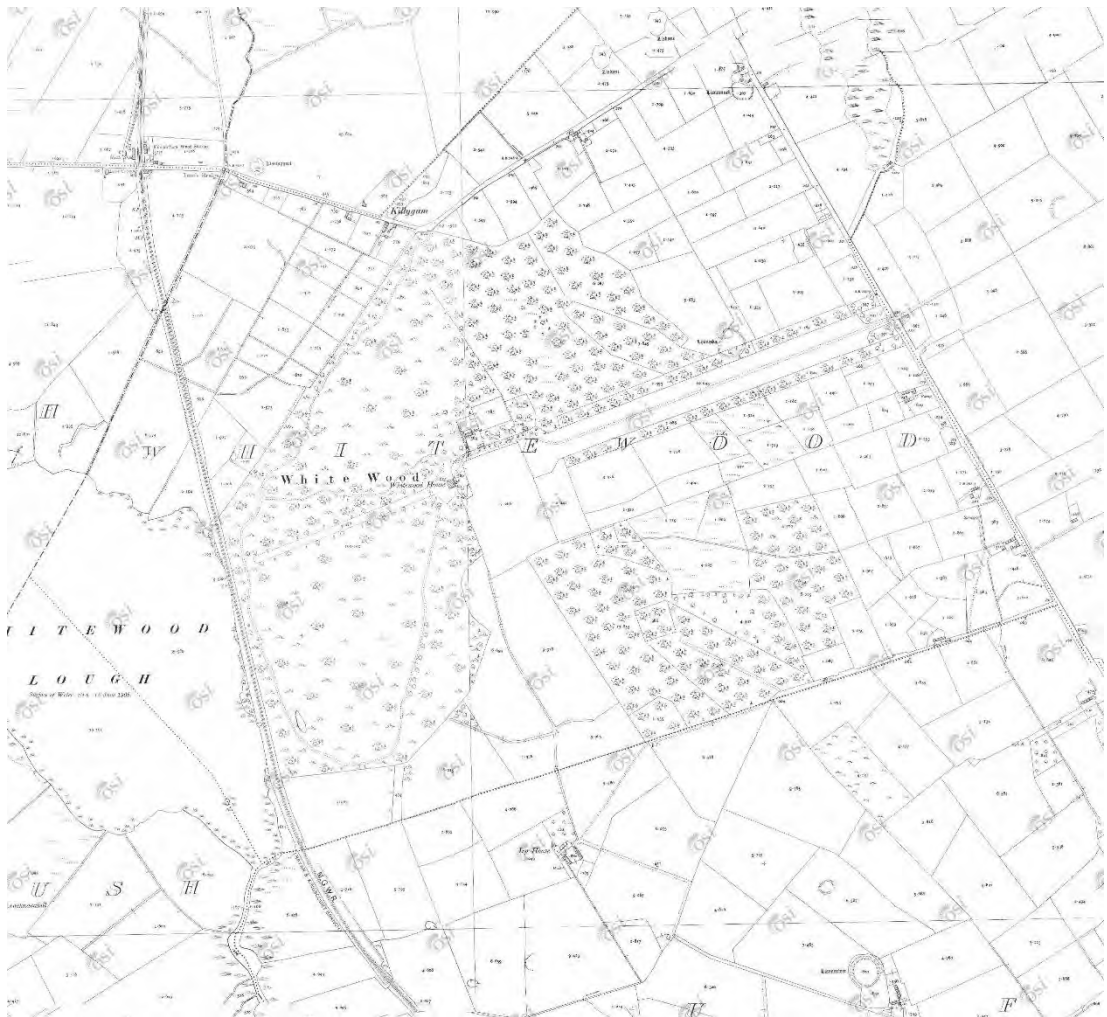


Figure 3-49. Extract from second edition 25" map showing Whitewood House and demesne.

4 IMPACTS ON SETTING – OTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND MONUMENTS

126. It is noted in the EIS that the following sites will experience impacts on their setting of a significance that is moderate or greater. Outlined below are details concerning the approach for assessing the significance of impact in relation to each of the sites. Detailed supporting information in the form of mapping and photography, where available, is also included. The sites are listed in alphanumerical order based on Sites and Monuments Record Number (SMR No.). All the sites listed below are documented in Volume 3C, Appendix 14, Section 14.2.2 and Volume 3D, Appendix 14, Section 14.2.2 of the EIS.

4.1 ME002-027----, ENCLOSURE, TULLYWEEL, COUNTY MEATH

127. The enclosure at Tullyweel (see Plate 4-1, Plate 4-2 and Figure 4-1, Figure 4-2) is described in the Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) as a 'Marked 'fort' on 1873 OS Map. Raised circular area defined by modern stone-faced scarp (diam. 56m) Gap to SE. No visible fosse'. The enclosure features on historic mapping and survives fully extant, significantly it is not overgrown with trees. The enclosure is situated in good pastureland to the rear of a farmhouse with good views of the monument from the road 275m to the east.
128. Despite the presence of an existing 220 kV OHL approximately 120m to the north of the monument, the sensitivity of the monument to impacts on setting was found to be high. The development will be seen on the skyline passing to the south and southwest of the monument. The impact will be cumulative to an existing 220 kV line which passes east west approximately 120m to the north of the site. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the monument was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the monument was found to be moderate.
129. It should be noted that the entrance to this enclosure may be aligned to the south east.

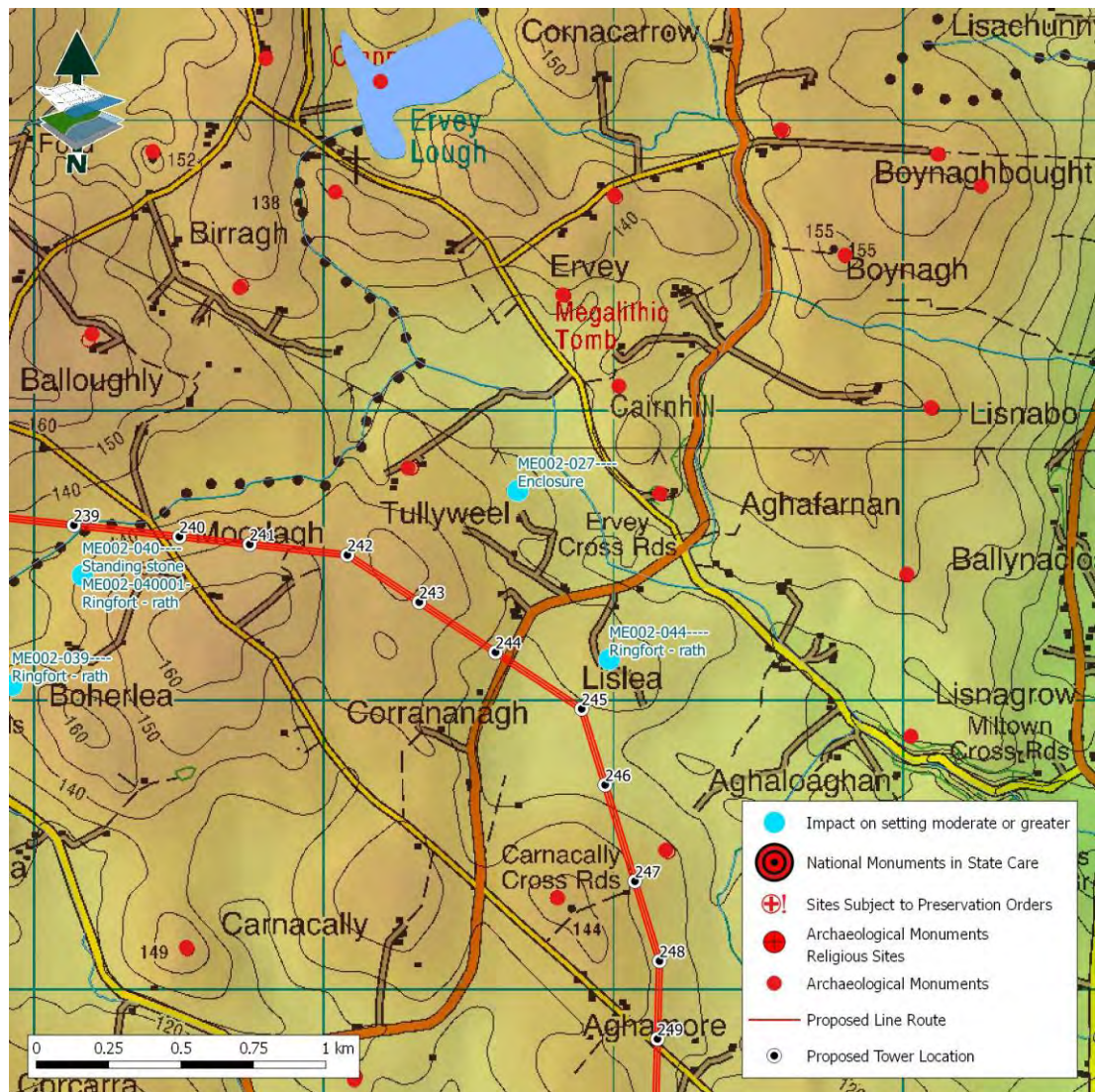


Figure 4-1

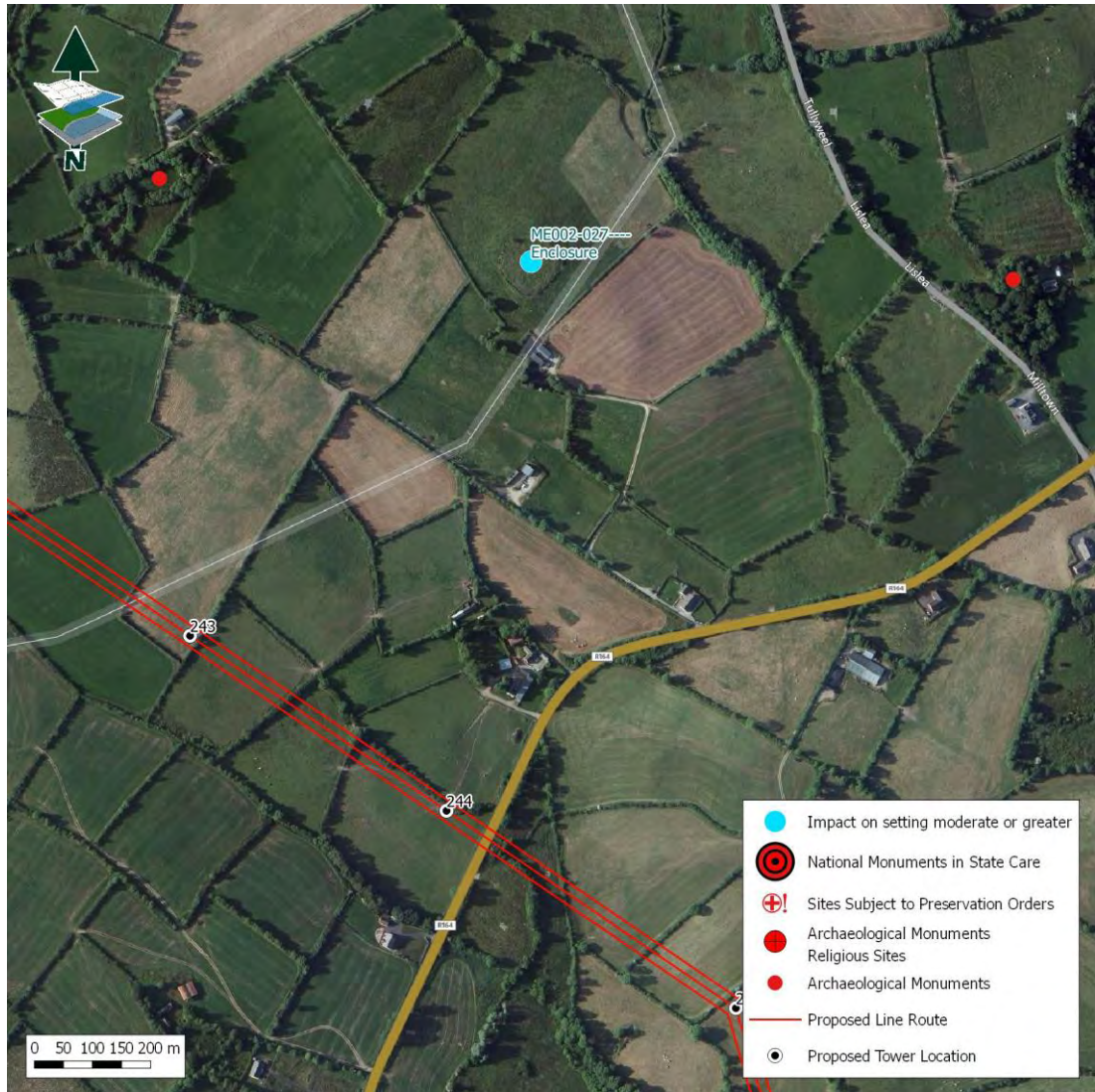


Figure 4-2



Plate 4-1 Looking SW towards ME002-027 (centre at top of ridge).



Plate 4-2 Looking W at ME002-027 (centre).

4.2 ME002-039----, RINGFORT - RATH, BOHERLEA, COUNTY MEATH

130. Described in the ASI as a ringfort, this site is marked fort on the 1st edition OS map and is hachured on the 3rd edition OS map. This site is situated on the northwest slope of a broad high ridge orientated NW-SE. The ASI describes it as being located in 'fairly good pasturage-though rather wet and rushy in places. Fairly good views of undulating ridges to N, W, and S. Overlooks Edengora Rath to the W, separated from it by the stream which flows into the Kilmainham River. The interior is circular in shape and slopes slight WSW. Old cultivation ridges in the interior run ENE-WSW. It is enclosed by a grass-covered earthen bank on an embankment with slight traces of an outer fosse. Original entrance may have been through a gap at the SE. There are also gaps at W and NE and the bank may have been disturbed in a few places by cattle and by badger holes. The bank is very slight N of the gap at SE. There is a very slight slope from all sides of the perimeter towards the centre of the rath. Maximum height of the bank is 1.5m, maximum width is 5.2m' (see Figure 4-3 and Plate 4-3).
131. This well preserved rath, with a tree and gorse covered enclosing bank, is located on the western slope of a hill and is visible from a number of locations. Due to its prominence, the sites sensitivity to impacts on setting was found to be high. The proposed development is located approximately 600m to the north of the monument and there will be views to the proposed development from neighbouring roads to the north and south. The magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the monument was found to be moderate to significant.



Figure 4-3

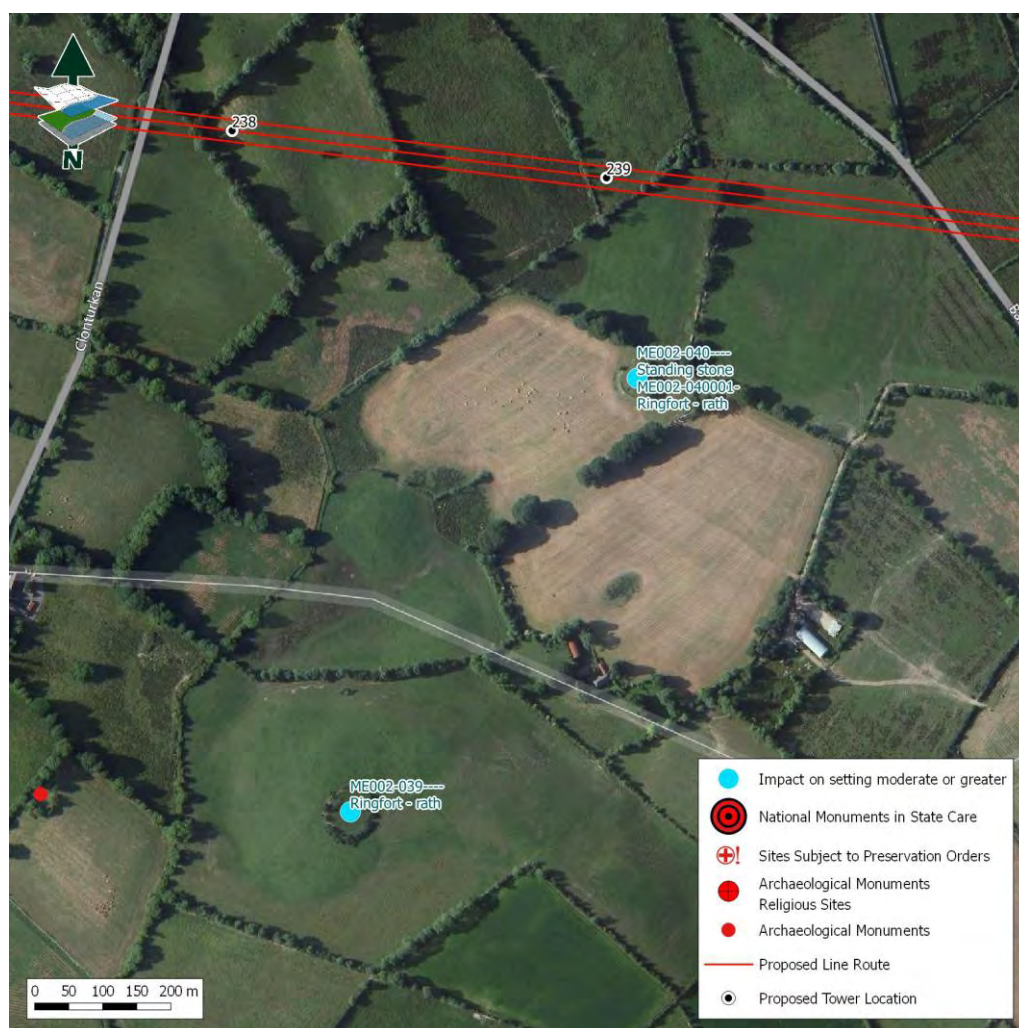


Figure 4-4

Plate 4-3 Looking North at ME002-039, proposed development located 600m to the north of the enclosure

4.3 ME002-040---- & ME002-040001-, STANDING STONE & RINGFORT – RATH, BOHERLEA, COUNTY MEATH

132. The standing stone (ME002-040--) is described as a rock or stone approximately rectangular in cross section and sub-rectangular in plan. Orientated NW-SE, natural small depressions are visible on the SW face. It is located on side of ridge. The ringfort site (ME002-040001--) is marked fort on the 1st edition OS map and is hachured on the 3rd edition OS map (see Figure 4-5, Figure 4-6 and Plate 4-3). It is situated on a fairly level shelf on the NW lower slopes of a broad high ridge. According to the ASI there is 'fairly good pasturage but rather wet and rushes growing in the adjacent fields. The view is blocked by higher ridges on all sides. Interior is circular in shape and slopes slightly NW. Exceptionally broad ridges run NW-SE in the interior and are probably old cultivation ridges. Rock boulder protrudes little SSE of centre. It is surrounded by a grass covered bank of earth and shale-stone. There are slight traces of an outer fosse from SSW-SW-W and from W-NW the fosse is deeper and of uneven width. Some stones have been thrown in it and it may not by

the original fosse. A slight narrow fosse continues from NW-NNW-N. There is a gap in the bank at NNW- possibly the original entrance. There is another gap at S with three boulders lying in it. Despite the boulders it seems a more likely entrance than the other gap which slopes fairly steeply to the field level outside. One whitethorn grows in the interior and a few blackthorn bushes around the bank. In the adjacent field, N of the rath, there is a small boulder which may have been artificially set in the ground. Immediately on the SW side of it a small portion of rock sticks out of the ground. This portion of rock now partly covered in grass may be a loose fallen boulder similar to that now standing or it could be a rock outcrop. On the SW face are a number of small holes like cup-marks – but probably of natural origin- water marks. The stone is also probably an isolated natural boulder- similar to the one inside the rath, though there is the possibility that it was either a standing stone or formed part of a megalithic tomb. There is a slight mound NE-SW of the standing stone. It is unclear whether the entrance to the enclosure is aligned to the NNW or to the south.

133. The site consists of a well-defined rath and standing stone located on the north-west slope of an elevated platform (140m). There are a significant number of forts in the locality, all on drumlins overlooking small streams. The fort lies in the east corner of a field surrounded by hedgerows with mature trees and has good screening but there will be intervisibility towards the development and Tower 239 in particular. In the field to the north is a stone associated with the ringfort that is noted in the SMR description. This upright stone is located 125m from the centre of tower 239 and can be seen from the road to the north. The sensitivity of this area is considered high and the magnitude of the impact substantial. The line route passes 150m to the north and based on its proximity, the impact on the setting will be moderate / significant.



Figure 4-5



Figure 4-6



Plate 4-4 ME002-040001-, Standing Stone, visible at centre of plate (pinpointed with arrow), viewed from North. The wirescape will pass through the foreground 150m to the north of the standing stone. The enclosure site is located behind the line of trees to the rear of the standing stone

4.4 ME002-044----, RINGFORT - RATH, LISLEA, COUNTY MEATH

134. Marked 'fort' on 1837 and described in the ASI as a circular area defined by earthen bank (diam. 38m) and W-N by stone wall (see Figure 4-7 , Figure 4-8 and Plate 4-5). A laneway skirts site from South to North. There is no visible entrance or fosse.
135. This ringfort consists of a tree-lined, raised circular area with an agricultural track running to its immediate west and south. Both the first and second edition maps indicate a farm yard to the sites south-east which impacted on its enclosing bank. This farmstead has since been cleared away. The site lies 173m north of Tower 245 in good pasture. There is some screening between the monument and the OHL provided by trees ringing the monument and intervening hedgerows. The sensitivity of the site was found to be moderate and given the proximity of the proposed development the magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the monument was found to be moderate.

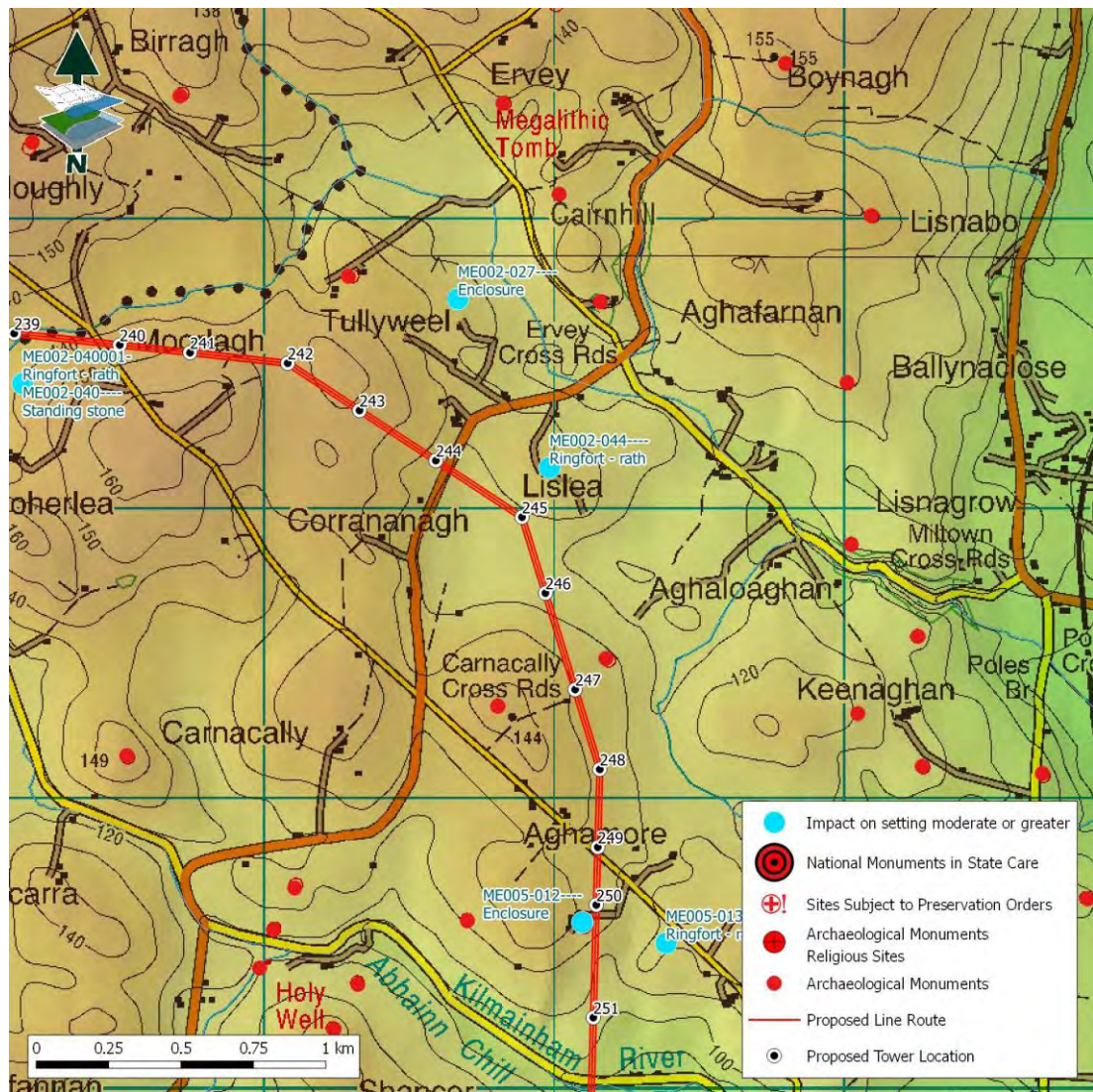


Figure 4-7



Figure 4-8



Plate 4-5 Panoramic view looking south towards ME002-044—at right pinpointed. Proposed development will be visible 173 further south.

4.5 ME005-012-----, ENCLOSURE, AGHAMORE, COUNTY MEATH

136. Described in the ASI as a raised circular area surrounded by an earthen bank (diam. 40m) with external fosse, which has been destroyed SSE-SW by modern farm buildings (see Figure 4-9, Figure 4-10 and Plate 4-6). Original entrance may have been in destroyed area.
137. This ringfort is featured on both first and second edition OS mapping. The site is situated to the immediate east of a farm house and yard which significantly impacts on the original setting of the monument. Access to this property is via a lane to the east that runs along the northern and western edge of the enclosure. The ringfort has reasonable screening and its bank is ringed with mature bushes and trees to the south. Views from the monument will be impacted particularly by the OHL to the east; southwards there will be restricted views to Tower 251. Views to the north will be limited as the line route passes over the crest of the hill and mature hedgerows restrict the view to Tower 250. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be low and the magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the site was found to be moderate.

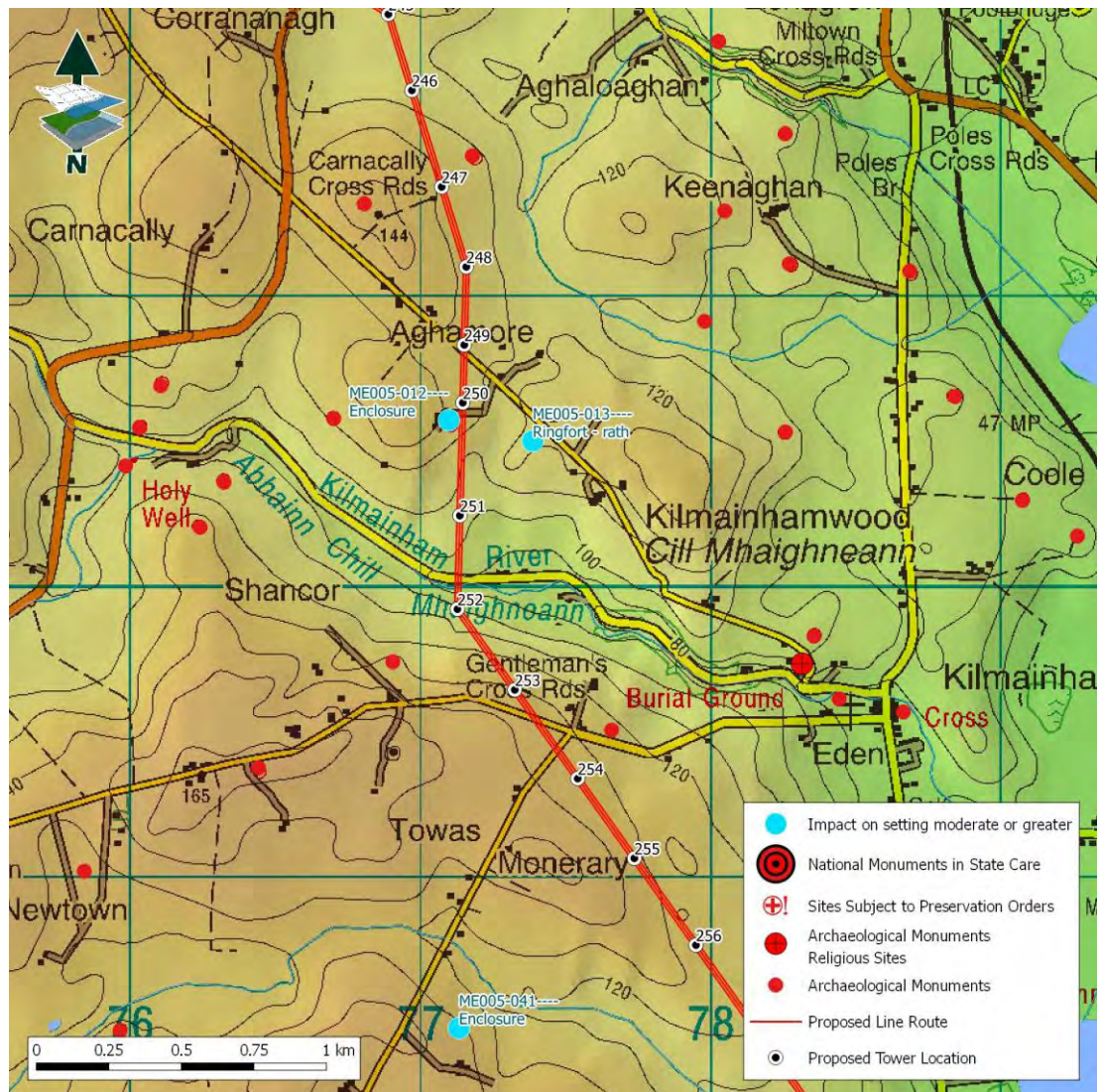


Figure 4-9



Figure 4-10



Plate 4-6 Looking West at ME005-012 (pinpointed). The proposed development will pass through the foreground to the rear of the first line of trees.

4.6 ME005-013----, RINGFORT - RATH, AGHAMORE, COUNTY MEATH

138. This site comprises a subcircular area defined by a bank and fosse from N-S and elsewhere by a field fence (dims 55m E-W, 50m N-S) (see Figure 4-11, Figure 4-12 and . The original entrance might be at the SSE, according to the ASI.
139. This heavily overgrown ringfort is situated on the downward slope of a ridge with good views westwards towards the line route. The fort which can be seen from a nearby access road has relatively good intervening screening with mature hedgerows bounding roads and fields. Approaching the monument from the road from the north-west there is a field boundary and the site is not readily evident. Approaching the monument from the south-east the vegetation that encloses the monument restricts views of the sites defining features. From within the monument views will be entirely screened by surrounding vegetation. From the southern edge of the fort there will be views to the south towards the proposed development as it crosses the Kilmainham River Valley. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate and the magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the site was found to be moderate.

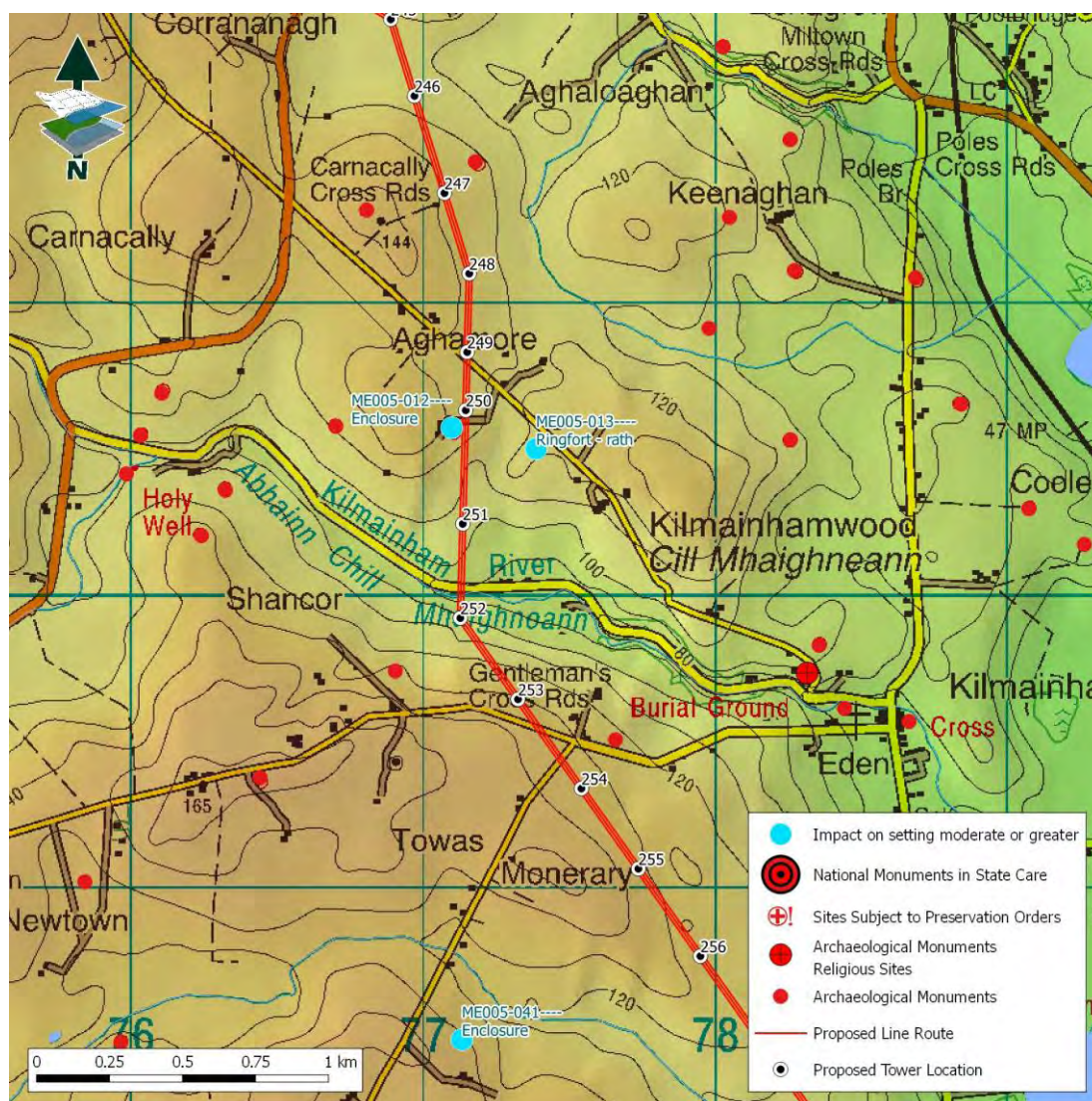


Figure 4-11

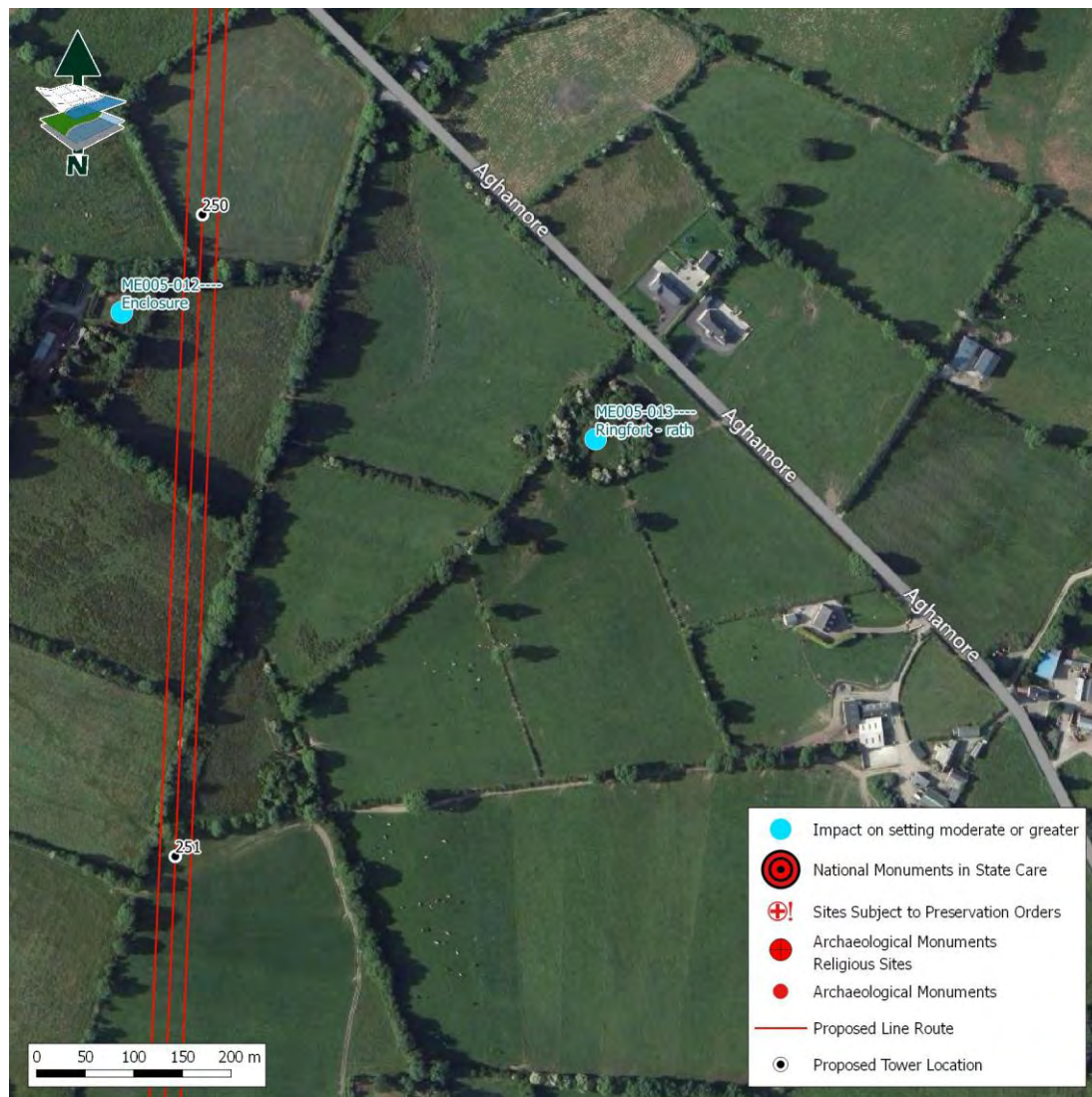


Figure 4-12



Plate 4-7 Looking west towards ME005-013--- (pinpointed). The wirescape of the proposed development will pass 240m further west

4.7 ME005-041----, ENCLOSURE, ARDMAGHBREAGUE, COUNTY MEATH

140. Described as a subcircular area defined by modern field fence (dims 98m E-W, 80m E-W) in the ASI (see Figure 4-13, Figure 4-14 and Plate 4-8). 'Wide shallow depression within (dims 66m E-W, 45m N-S) may indicate site of original enclosure.'

141. The site is on an elevation with expansive views of the surrounding area. The SMR classifies the site as an enclosure however it appears on the first edition OSI maps as 'Lisbane'. The site is easily viewed from the road to the west. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be high. The proposed development passes from north-west to south-east approximately 780m to the north-east of the monument and will form a prominent feature on the horizon where a number of towers will be visible. The magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact was found to be moderate to significant.

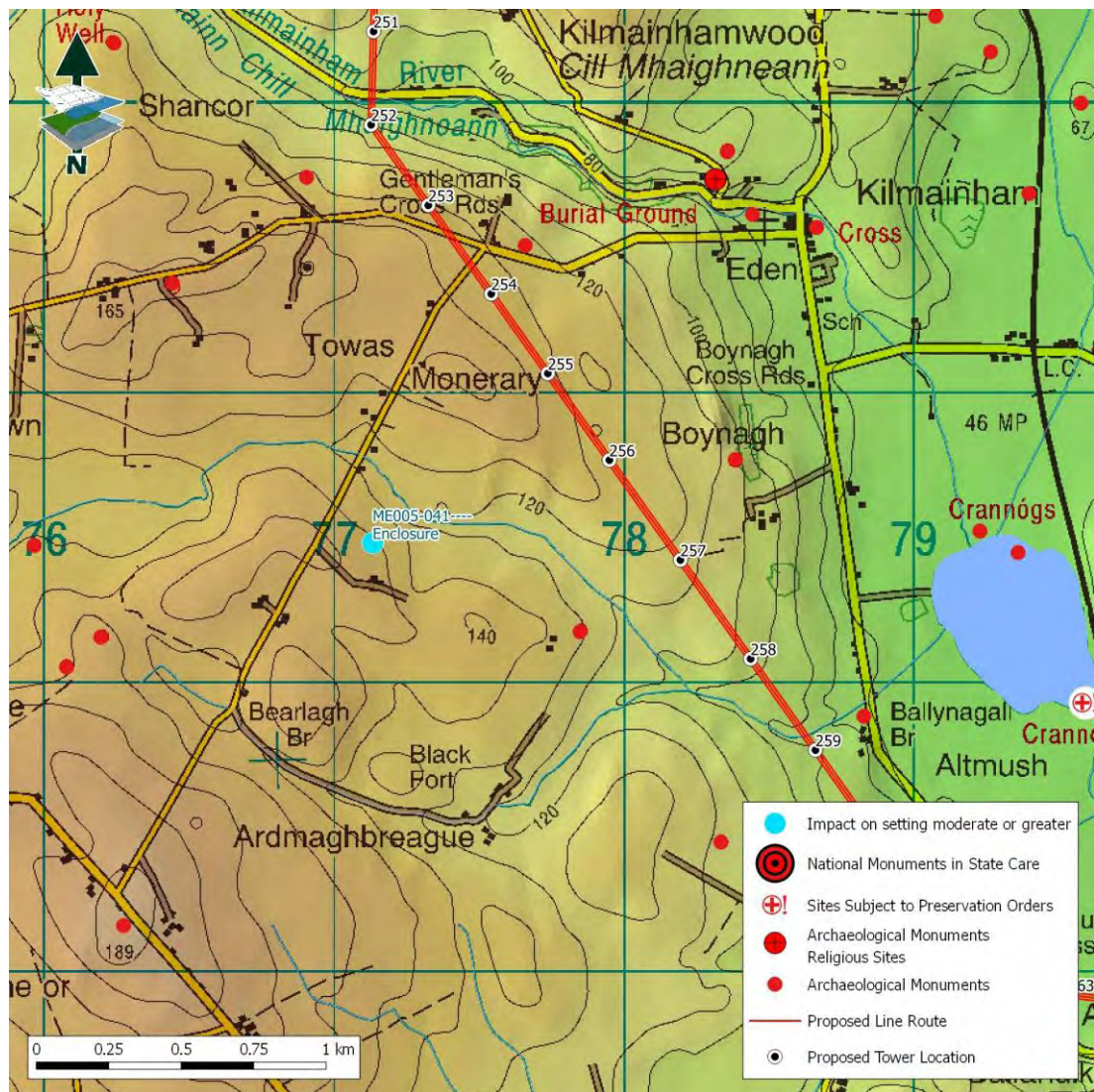


Figure 4-13



Figure 4-14



Plate 4-8 Looking east at location of ME005-041—(pinpointed). The proposed development will be visible approximately 780m north-east of the site.

4.8 ME005-089---- & ME005-089001-, RINGFORT – RATH & CROSS , BRITTAS, COUNTY MEATH

142. In the ASI this site is described as a raised circular area defined by a slight earthen bank which has been re-faced on the outside to create a tree-ring (max diam 40m). The original entrance is at the ESE. In the centre of the site there is a crudely made stone cross with cross in circle inscribed on one side (see Figure 4-15, Figure 4-16 and Plate 4-9).
143. This fort occupies a summit on the edge of mature hedgerow within Brittas Demesne. The fort enjoys good views to the east, south and west. The fort has a group value because of a number of raths to the north, south and east, and the archaeological complex at Moynagh Lough approximately 1km to the east. To the north SMR ME005-085 is located within woodland and will not be impacted on by the proposed development. However approximately 165m to the south are SMR Nos. ME005-091 and ME005-092 - two well preserved raths. Approximately 270m to the south-east, behind a hedgerow is another rath SMR No. ME005-090. There are intermittent views of these monuments from the road to the west which become more restricted during the summer months due to dense vegetation. The sensitivity of this complex of raths to impacts on setting was considered to be high. The proposed development is located approximately 300m to the west of the monument where it passes from north north-west to south south-east. The OHL does not pass between these monuments but to the west of the group. The magnitude of the impact was deemed to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the area was found to be moderate to significant. As outlined in Volume 3D Section 14.4.6.3 of the EIS this region was highlighted as being particularly sensitive and attempts were made to find alternative routes that would not impact on the demesne, however local topography, Cruicetown National Monument on high ground to the west and Nobber to the east along with other constraints restricted alternative options.

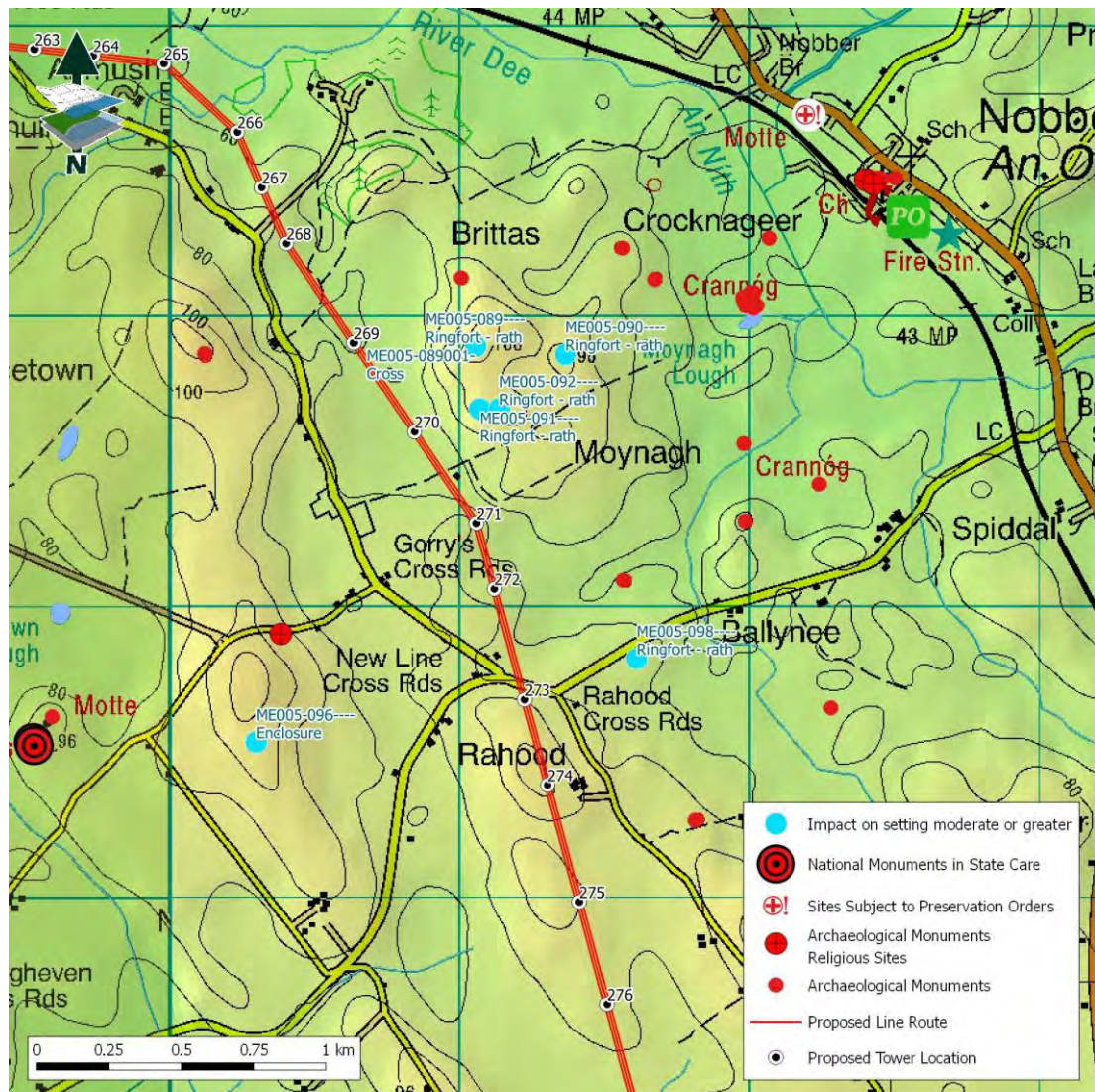


Figure 4-15



Figure 4-16



Plate 4-9 Looking East towards ME005-089—, ME005-090----, and ME005-091---- from road. The proposed development will be visible intermittently in the foreground.

4.9 ME005-090----, RINGFORT - RATH, BRITTAS, COUNTY MEATH

144. This raised circular area is defined by low bank or scarp (diam. 35m) with traces of fosse at SW. The ASI describes it as 'outer edge of scarp faced with drystone walling to create tree-ring. Original entrance cannot be determined.' For impacts on this site see ME00-089--- above.

4.10 ME005-091----, RINGFORT - RATH, BRITTAS, COUNTY MEATH

145. A bivallate Ringfort. This site comprises a raised circular area defined by a low bank or scarp (diam. 35.5m) with external fosse and outer bank (diam. 35.5m) and a second external fosse and outer bank (max diam. 51m). Outer bank is missing from N-ESE. Original entrance with causeway at ESE. For impacts on this site see ME00-089--- above.

4.11 ME005-092----, RINGFORT - RATH, BRITTAS, COUNTY MEATH

146. A circular area defined by an earthen bank (diam 44m) with external fosse. Entrance with causeway at SE. For impacts on this site see ME00-089--- above.

4.12 ME005-096----, ENCLOSURE, CRUCIETOWN, COUNTY MEATH

147. Described in the ASI as a circular area (dims 67m N-S, 63m E-W) defined by a small earthen bank and shallow outer fosse from SE-NW (see Figure 4-17, Figure 4-18 and Plate 4-10). The original entrance cannot be determined.
148. This site is described in the archaeological survey database as 'probably a tree ring' but appears on the first edition OSI maps as a 'Fort'. Given its elevation and good state of preservation with views of a wide area, the site's sensitivity to impacts on setting was found to be high. The development passes from north to south at a lower elevation, approximately 900m to the east of the monument. Even though there is no public access, there will be views of the proposed development over a wide area with several towers visible. There is a view of the monument from the road approaching from the east and the proposed development will be in the foreground. The magnitude of the impact on the site was found to be moderate to substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the monument was found to be moderate.

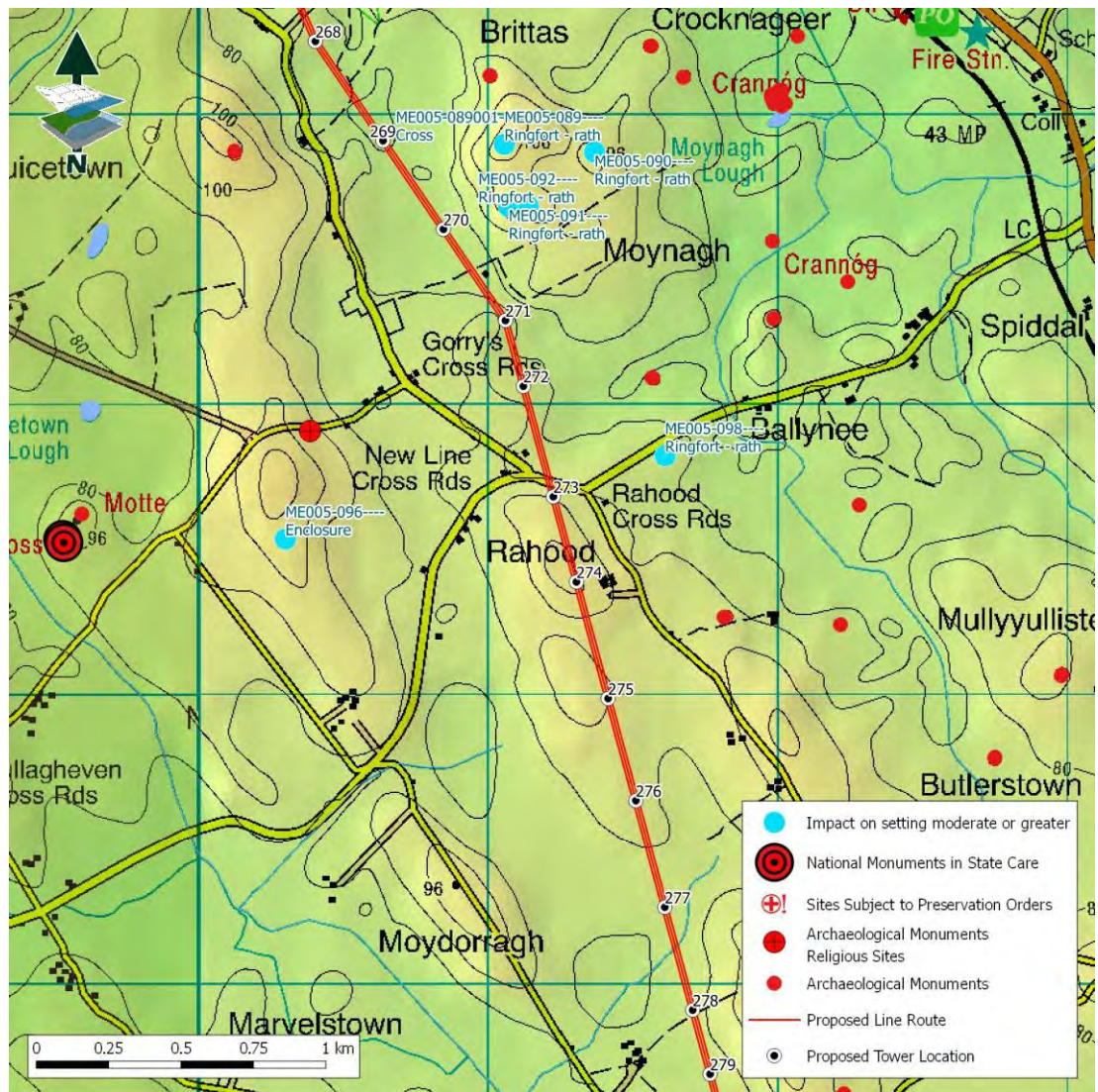


Figure 4-17



Figure 4-18



Plate 4-10 Looking west at ME005-096---. The proposed development will pass 900m to the east.

4.13 ME005-098----, RINGFORT - RATH, RAHOOD, COUNTY MEATH

149. Described in the ASI as ‘a raised circular area (dimensions 58m N-S, 62m E-W) defined by scarp with remains of bank at NNE-E (see Figure 4-19, Figure 4-20 and Plate 4-11). External fosse can be traced WNW-S. Original entrance cannot be determined.’
150. This monument is in good condition and the bank, which is ringed with trees, is partially visible on a rise beside the road. Elsewhere from neighbouring roads there are no distant views towards the site. Given its elevated position its sensitivity to impacts on setting was found to be moderate to high. The development passes from north to south approximately 360m to the west of the monument. The line route is at a slightly lower elevation than the monument and several towers will be visible. The magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the monument was considered to be moderate.

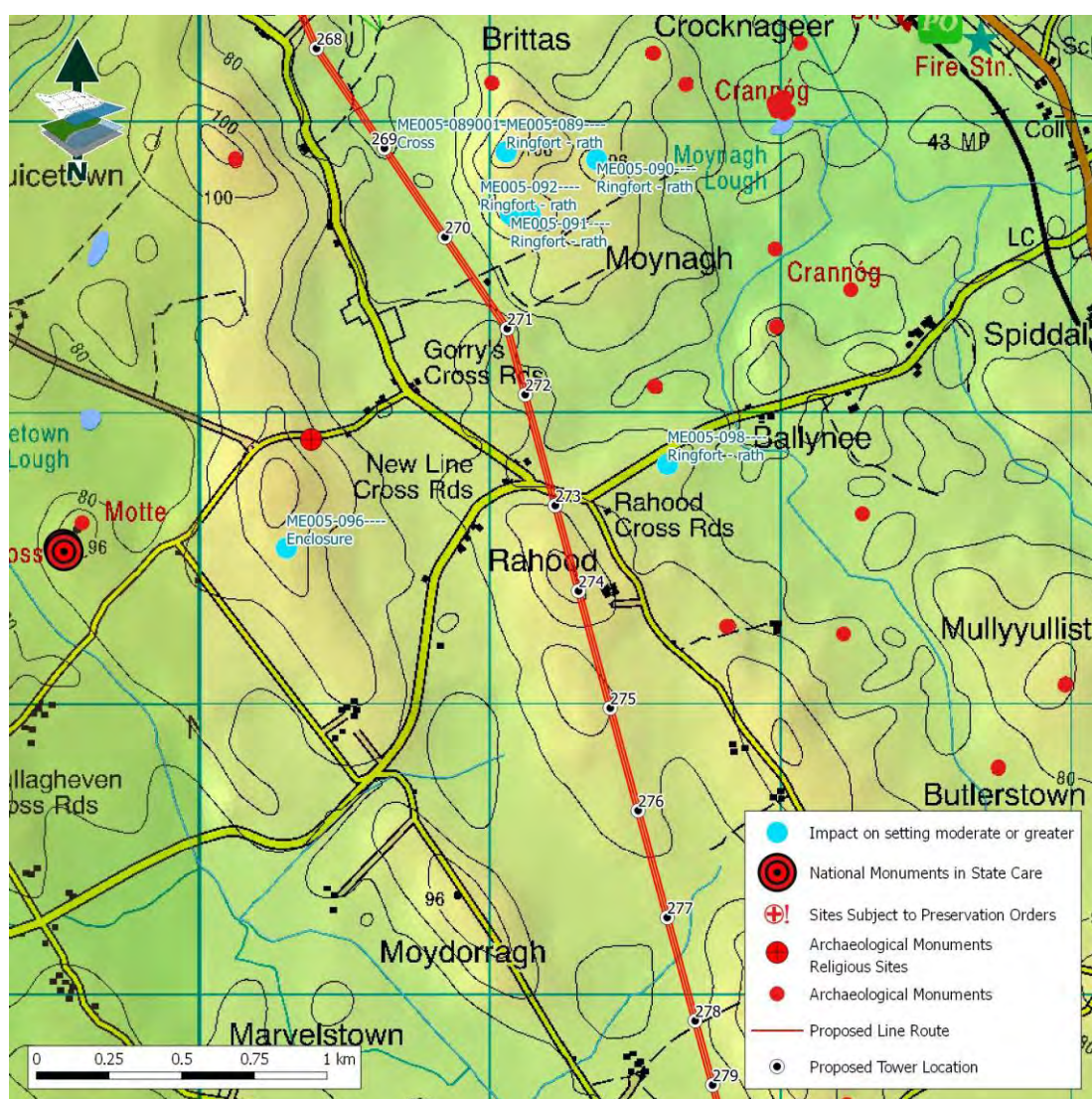


Figure 4-19



Figure 4-20



Plate 4-11 Looking south at ME005-098—from road.

4.14 ME017-031----, CHURCH, TAILTIN, COUNTY MEATH

151. Situated on a slight rise in the floodplain of the NW-SE Blackwater River, with a N-S section of the stream c. 230m to the W. The church of Teltown (see Figure 4-21 and Figure 4-22) was burnt by Dermot Mac Murrugh in 1170 (Mulvany 1971, 15). According to Dopping's Visitation (1682-5) the parish church was dedicated to St. Barnabas but had been a ruin for 40 years and it was not enclosed (Ellison 1973, 8). Part of the N wall (L 7.3m; T 0.7m; max. H 2.5m) and the adjacent part of the W (L 6m) wall of the church survive with no architectural features. The N wall might extend a further 8m or 11m to the east, but the church is of indeterminable dimensions. It is in a rectangular graveyard (dims c. 53m E-W; c. 43m N-S) defined by masonry walls. The parish church of Teltown (ME017-031----) is in a rectangular graveyard (dims c. 53m E-W; c. 43m N-S) defined by masonry walls (ME017-031001-).
152. Teltown Church consists of the ruins of a small church surrounded by a number of gravestones and a low, rectangular enclosing bank. Located as it is, in in a large field, there are unobstructed views from the church across the surrounding landscape. Although indicated on one of O'Donovan's maps he has little to say on the site, only acknowledging its existence. Wilde expands little upon this, only telling us that it was plundered twice in the 12th Century.
153. To the west, Teltown House (RPS No. - MH017-129) with its extensive cut stone outbuildings compliments the historic setting of the church and views to the house and the lands to the south and south east are unobstructed. To the north there are a number of more modern houses located along the Domhnach Phádraig (Donaghpatrick) Baile Oraí (Oristown) Road and a cul-de-sac that extends off it to the south. The only reason that locations of Rath Airthir and St. Patricks Church are evident is due to the amount of vegetation surrounding them, screening them from any intervisibility. There was no intervisibility noted between the church and any of the other archaeological sites in the area. Approximately 75m to the north of the monument, extending from east to west is an existing 110 kV OHL. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be high. A Photomontage (photomontage 59) of this site and the proposed development is presented in Volume 3D, Figures, of the EIS.
154. Although located at almost 700m from Teltown Church a number of the Towers associated with the proposed development will be visible as it passes to the east. This is all the more evident as there is little in the way of screening or other development between the proposed development and the church. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development was found to be substantial and cumulative to the existing 110kV OHL to the north. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of Teltown Church was found to be moderate negative.



Figure 4-21

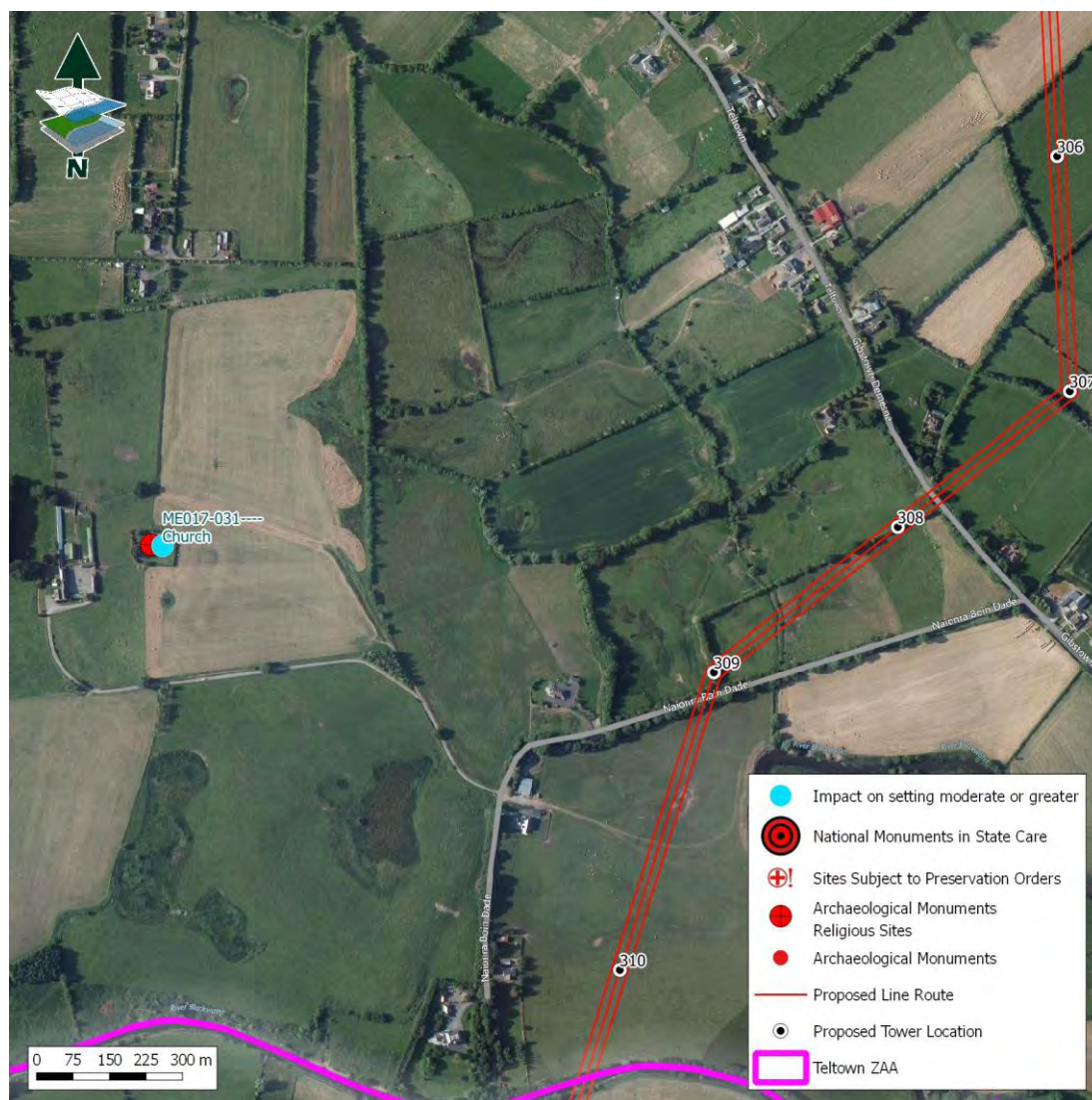


Figure 4-22

4.15 ME031-017----, ENCLOSURE, BALBRIGH, COUNTY MEATH

155. A circular area defined by an earthen bank (diam. 70m) with outer modern bank except E where there is a drain. Probably a landscape feature, according to the ASI (see Figure 4-23, Figure 4-24 and Plate 4-12).
156. This tree lined, circular enclosure is described in the inventory as possibly a landscape feature, on the first edition mapping however it is referred to as a 'fort'. The site is located to the north-west of a field with mature trees bordering it to the immediate north and east. The line route turns within 180m to the north and east of this site. The enclosure has no public access but the development will impact on an appreciation of the site from the surrounding fields. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate. Due to the proximity of the site to the line route the magnitude of the impact on the monument was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the development on the site was found to be moderate.

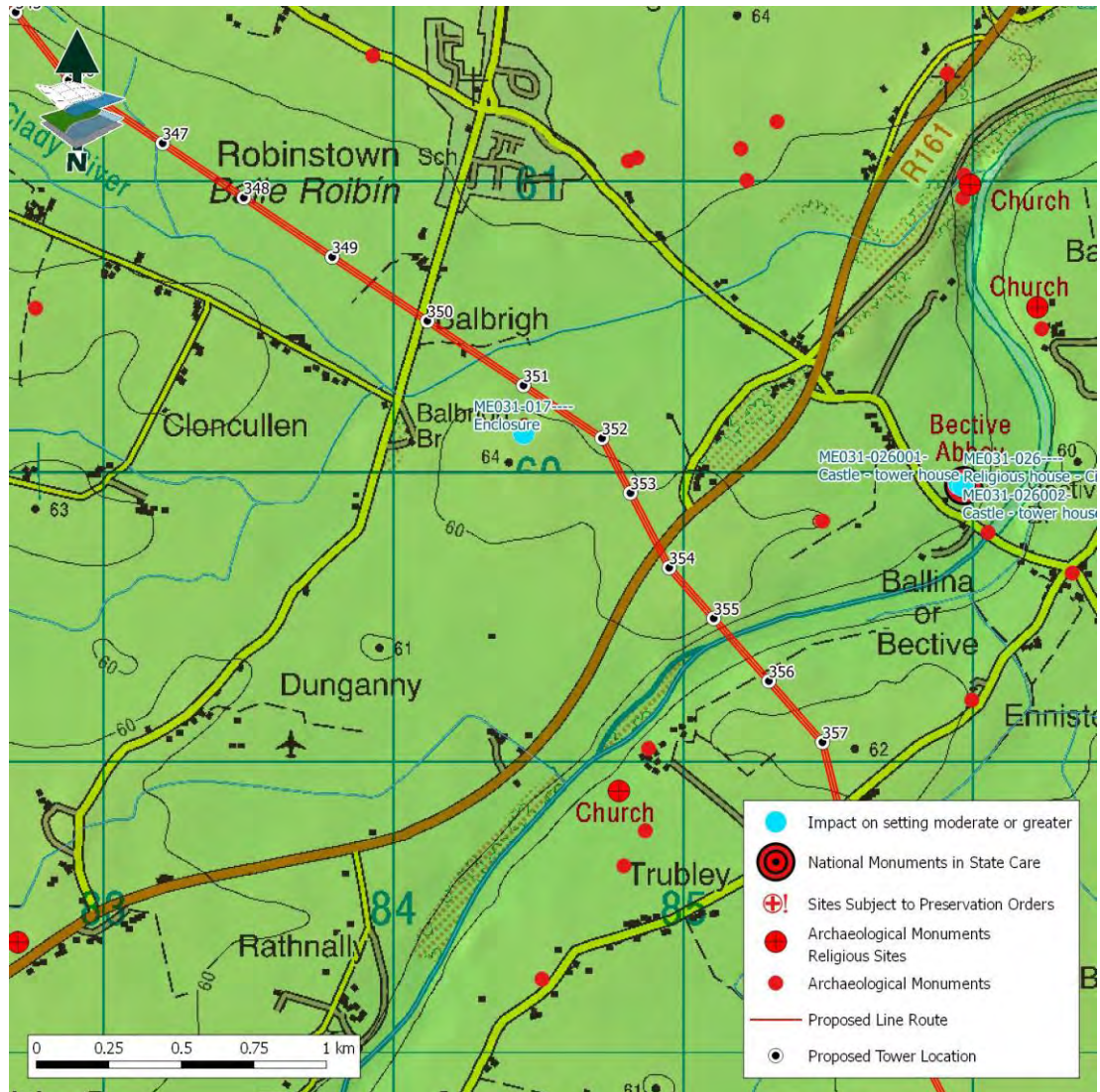


Figure 4-23

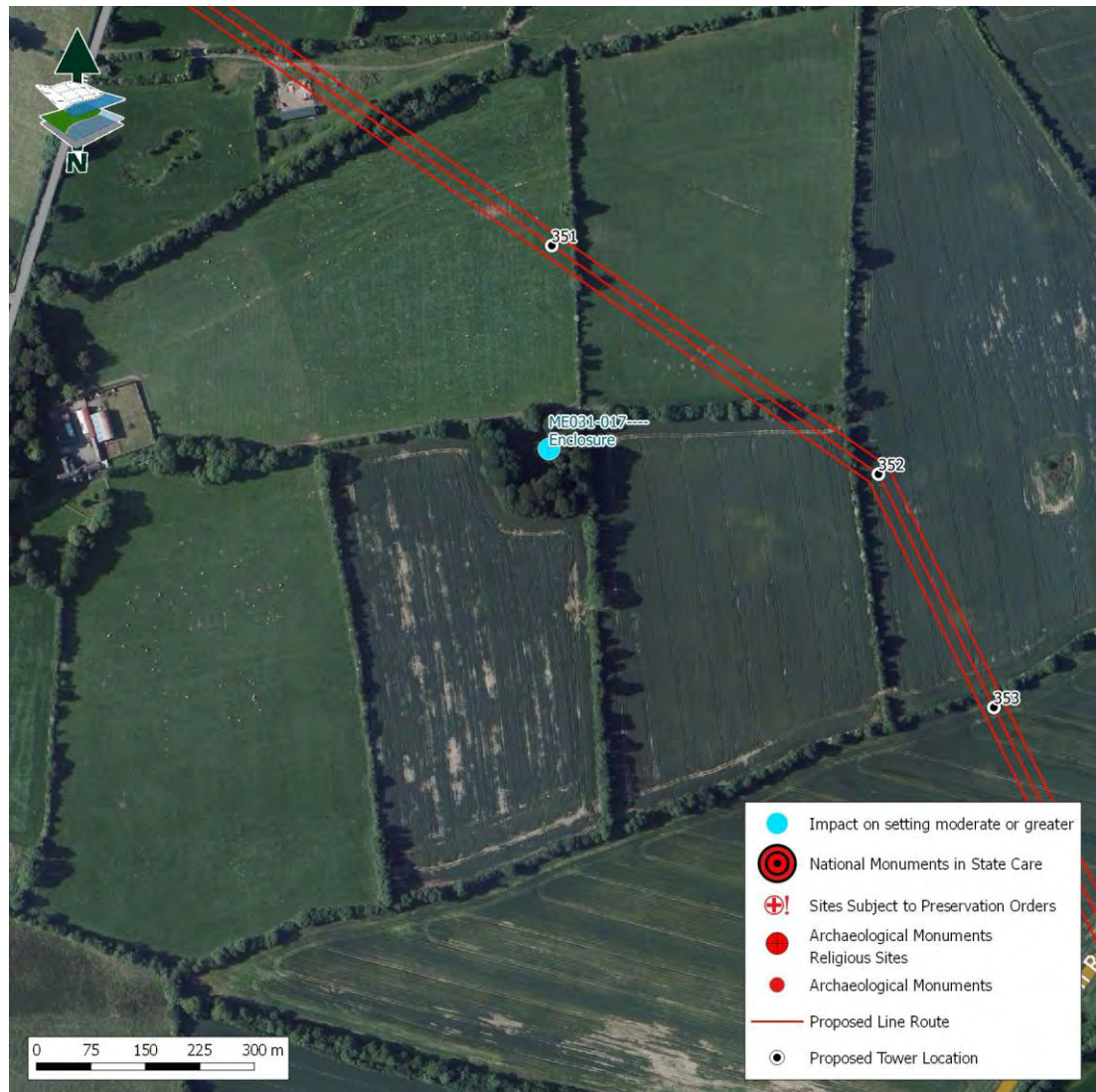


Figure 4-24



Plate 4-12 Looking South East at ME031-017—(pinpointed). The proposed development will turn south east within 180m to the north and east of this site.

4.16 ME031-026----, ME031-026001- & ME031-026002- RELIGIOUS HOUSE - CISTERCIAN MONKS & CASTLE-TOWER HOUSES, BECTIVE, COUNTY MEATH

157. These sites all relate to Bective Cistercian Abbey a National Monument in the Care of the State. For a detailed description of the expected effects of the proposed development see **Section 2.1** of this appendix.

4.17 ME037-022----, RINGFORT - RATH, BRANGANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH

158. Listed in the ASI as a ringfort. Only a portion of the bank and external fosse survive SE-W (C 54m).
159. The ringfort (see Figure 4-25 and Figure 4-26) is located 250m to the south of the R154, set one field back from the road with adjacent field boundaries to the north and west, restricting any passing views. The monument itself is quite degraded with only a portion of the bank surviving to the south. The sites sensitivity to impacts on setting was found to be low to moderate. The proposed development passes approximately 110m to the east of the monument and tower 375 is located in the same field on the field boundary with no intervening screening. The magnitude of the impact on setting of the site was found to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the site was found to be moderate.



Figure 4-25

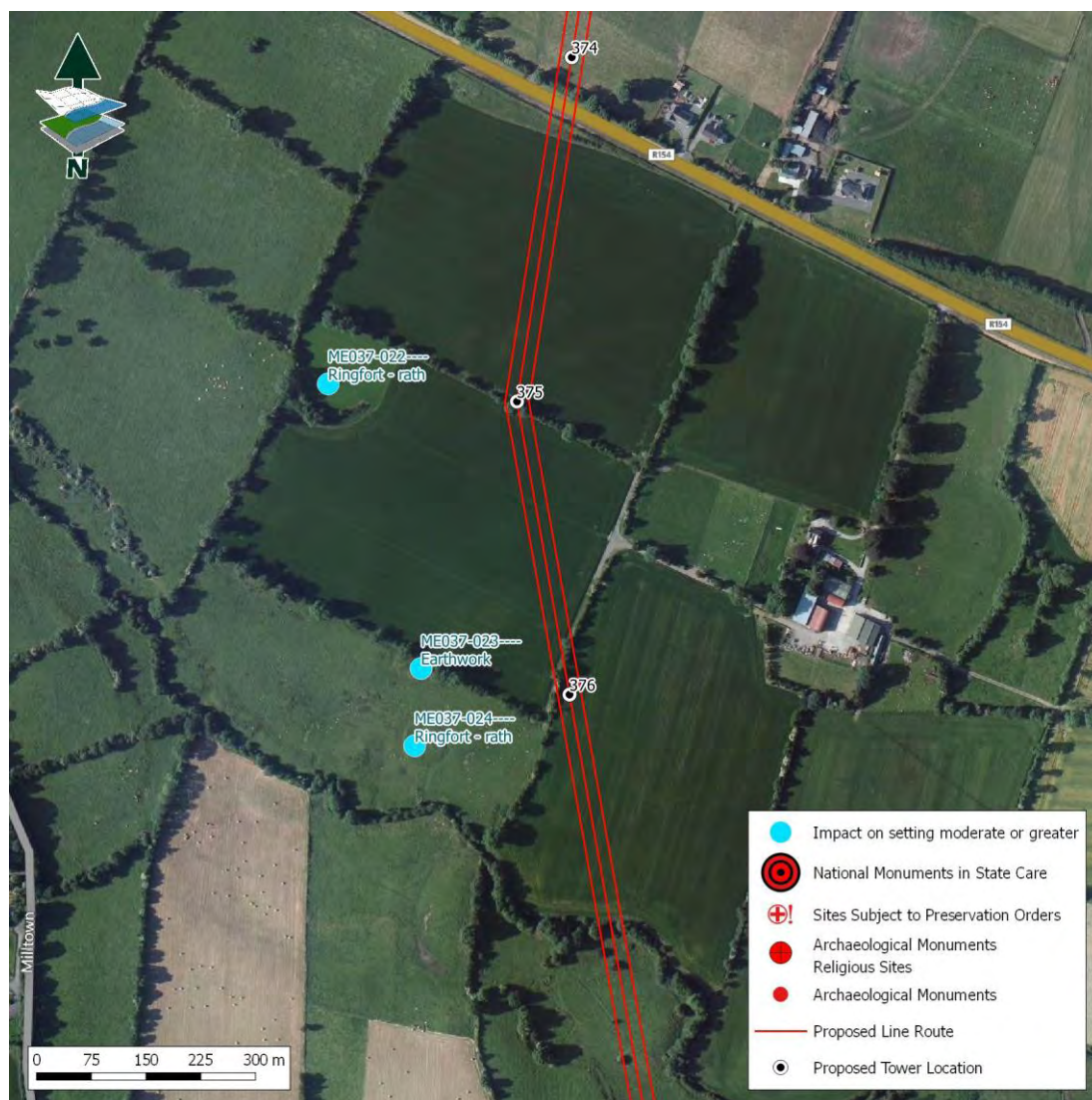


Figure 4-26

4.18 ME037-023----, EARTHWORK, BRANGANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH

160. This site comprises of a rectangular earthwork (see Figure 4-27 and Figure 4-28). It is situated on a raised rectangular area (dims 18 E-W, 11m N-S) with a mound towards the centre (diam. 5m, H 0.7m) which may be upcast from a small quarry in S side.
161. This earthwork is just over 100m to the west of Tower 376 and is located along a field boundary approximately 30m to the north of rath SMR No. - ME037-024. There is no public access to the site and it cannot be viewed from neighbouring roads. There is good screening from the field boundary to the north which will limit views of the tower from this direction, looking southwards however; the tower and wirescape will be prominent. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be low to moderate. The magnitude of the impact on the setting of the site was found to be substantial to major and the overall significance of the impact on the site is considered to be moderate.



Figure 4-27

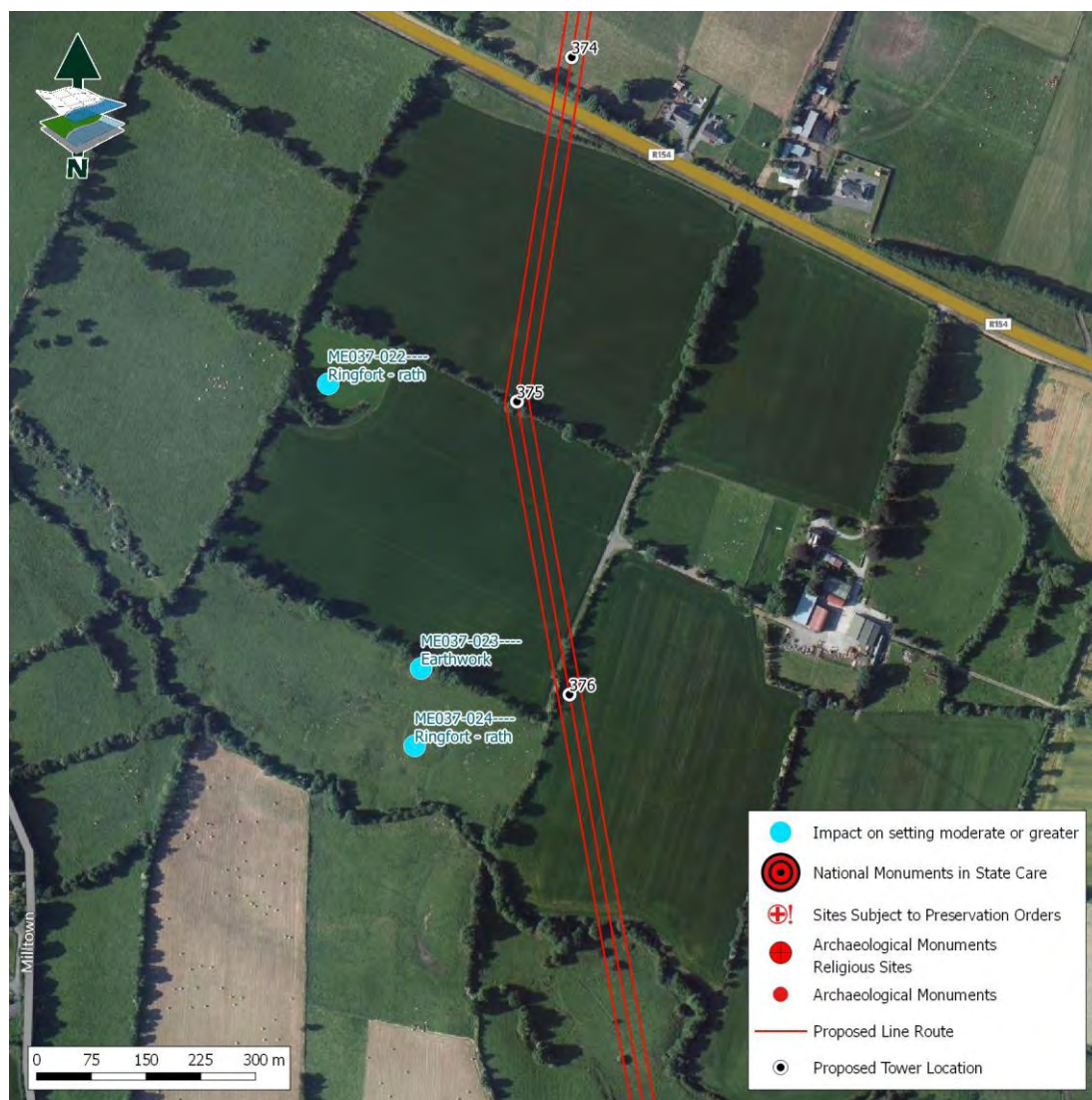


Figure 4-28

4.19 ME037-024----, RINGFORT - RATH, BRANGANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH

162. This is listed as a ringfort. It is a subcircular area defined by a scarp (dimensions 36m North-South, 32m E-W) with surrounding fosse (see Figure 4-29 and Figure 4-30). There is no visible entrance.
163. This ringfort is located in relatively open pastureland and appears as a scarp in the field just to the north of the Boycetown River. The site is set back from surrounding roads and there are no views of it from any publicly accessible areas. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be low to moderate. The development is located just over 100m to the east of the monument with Tower 376 located just to the east of the field boundary. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development on the site was found to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the site was considered to be moderate.



Figure 4-29



Figure 4-30

4.20 ME043-018---- & ME043-018002-, CASTLE – MOTTE & HOUSE - 16TH/17TH CENTURY, CULMULLIN, COUNTY MEATH

164. This site comprises a Motte (possible). It is described as a ‘flat-topped earthen mound (diam. top 20m, H 4-6m) with no visible fosse. Octagonal font (ME043-018001-) now in grounds of Culmullin house but not originally from Culmullin church.’ There is no description available for ME043-018002-, the 16th/17th century house (see Figure 4-31 and Figure 4-32).
165. This site has a group value containing a possible motte, a font and a 16th/17th century house, all located within a site that appears on the first edition OSI maps as Culmullin Demesne. The nearby church (SMR No. ME043-017) and font (SMR No. ME043-017001) are also included within the demesne landscape, however it is noted that the font now located in Culmullin House was originally situated in the nearby graveyard (SMR No. ME043-017001). The house and its setting along with the castle motte and bailey have a general aspect towards the proposed development. However the church and graveyard are located in a well screened setting with no views towards the line route. The proposed development

is located approximately 460m to the west of the house, where it crosses a ridge as it passes from north north-west to south south-west. Vegetation will screen much of the development as it approaches from the north but Tower 396 and the wirescape will be clearly visible from the house. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be high. The magnitude of the impact on the site was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact on the site was found to be moderate to significant.



Figure 4-31



Figure 4-32

4.21 MO014-021001- & MO014-021002-, RINGFORT – RATH & BUILDING POSSIBLE, LEMGARE, COUNTY MONAGHAN

166. This site consists of an oval earthen bank enclosing the greater part of a small NW-SE ridge of rock (see Figure 4-33 and Figure 4-34). From NNW-N-E-SE and from S-SW the bank is built along the foot of the ridge. From SE-S the bank cuts across the ridge. From W-NW-NNW the side of a large outcrop which also occupies a large portion of the interior here substitutes for a bank. From the SW to W is a scarp. There is a second larger outcrop inside the bank on the west. Immediately to the NNW of centre and partly between the two outcrops are the three sides of a large rectangular structure represented by small banks of earth and stone. Springing from the east corner of this is another slight bank of earth and stone extending east for a distance of 5m. The surrounding ringfort bank rises but slightly over the interior except from the SE-S. The outside of the bank is highest on the SW where it is 1.9m. Situated in average pasture in a low-lying area surrounded by higher ground. Fern and furze grow in the interior. A gap on the south with here stones set in its east side appear to the entrance. It is 4.4m wide on top and 2.3. Wide on bottom. Another gap on

the southeast, 4m wide at bottom and 6.3m wide on top may be due to disturbance. Overall dimensions of the rectangular structure in the interior are 9.7m by 5.7m. The average overall width of the banks in 1.1m and the average height is 30cm. This site is marked on the 1835 OD map. According to Finbar McCormick a souterrain was surveyed at this site by the OPW. The enclosure is 39m by 26m in diameter.

167. This site is visible from a local access road located 400m to the southwest of the monument. The wirescape associated with the proposed development passes in the immediate vicinity of the monument, with Tower 105 located approximately 280m to the north-west and Tower 106 approximately 90m to the south-east. Given the proximity to the towers and the OHL the magnitude of the impact will be major. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate. The significance of the impacts on the setting of the archaeological monument was found to be significant.

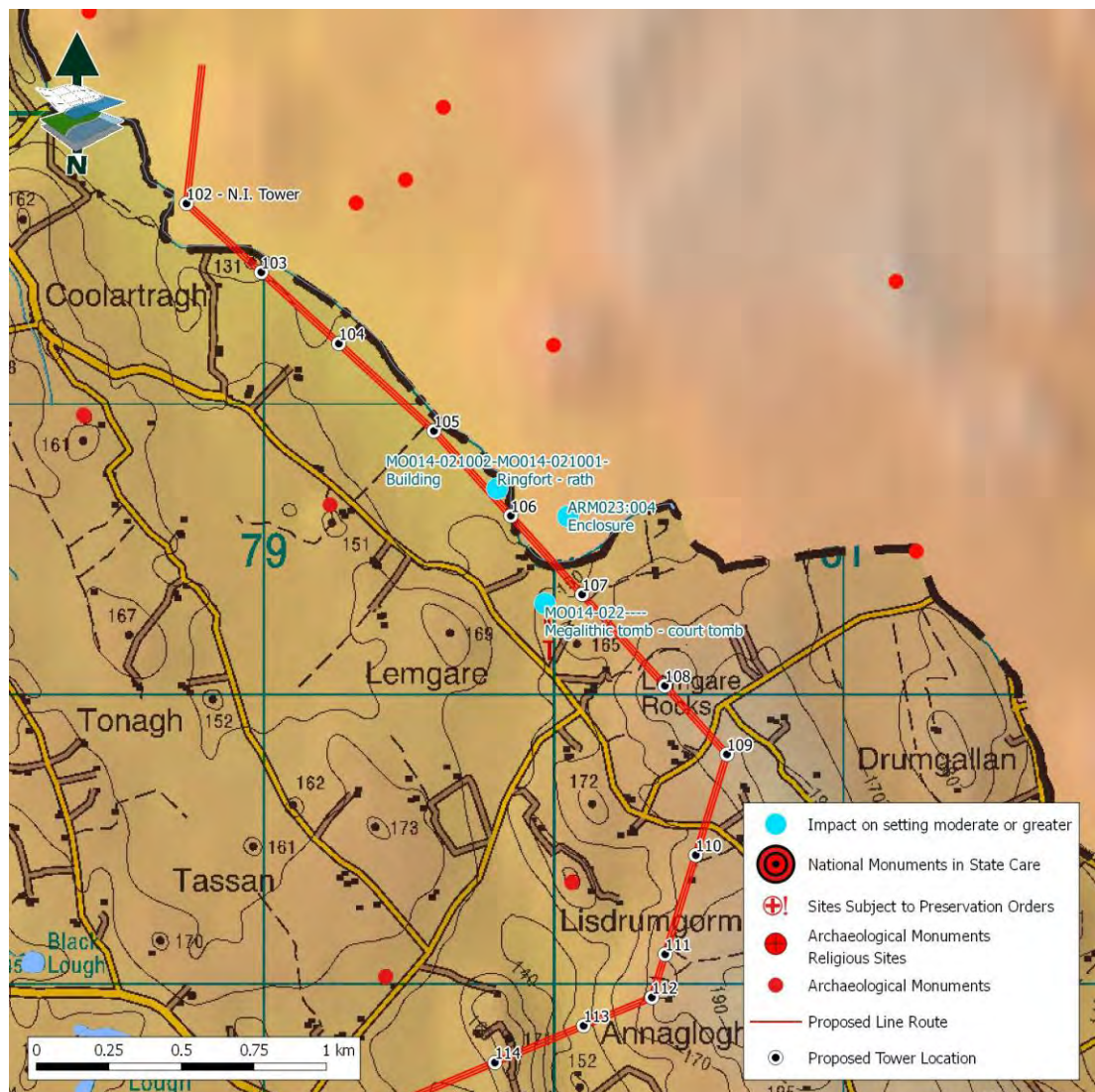


Figure 4-33



Figure 4-34

4.22 MO014-022-----, MEGALITHIC TOMB - COURT TOMB, LEMGARE, COUNTY

MONAGHAN

168. A court-cairn consisting of small part of court with portion of a first chamber situated in the SSE end of an oval cairn of which only the base remains (see Figure 4-35, Figure 4-36 and Plate 4-13). The NNW end of the cairn base has a fairly straight line and there is a possible single revetment stone remaining here. Of the court the two portal jambs, each flanked by a larger orthostat remain. One large stone on the W side of the chamber remains. The N end of this has cracked. One small stone inside the portal jamb and one large orthostat inside the former remain in the E side of the chamber. From the chamber a wide shallow depression leads NNW through the cairn and almost the NNE end of the latter. What can be seen of the chamber measures 1.8m long and 1.15m wide. The W side of the chamber is 90cm high at present. The W portal jamb is 75cm high and the flanker outside it is 35cm higher. Situated on the brow of a gentle rise in average pasture. The court faces high ground to the south. The Cairn is densely overgrown with blackthorn and whitethorn. It is marked fort of 1835 OS 6" map.

169. This court cairn is situated in the SE corner of a field 150m away from the nearest access road. The site is well screened and densely overgrown with both blackthorn and whitethorn. The nearest Tower 107 is located 130m to the east. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate. The magnitude of the impact on the site was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the site was found to be moderate.

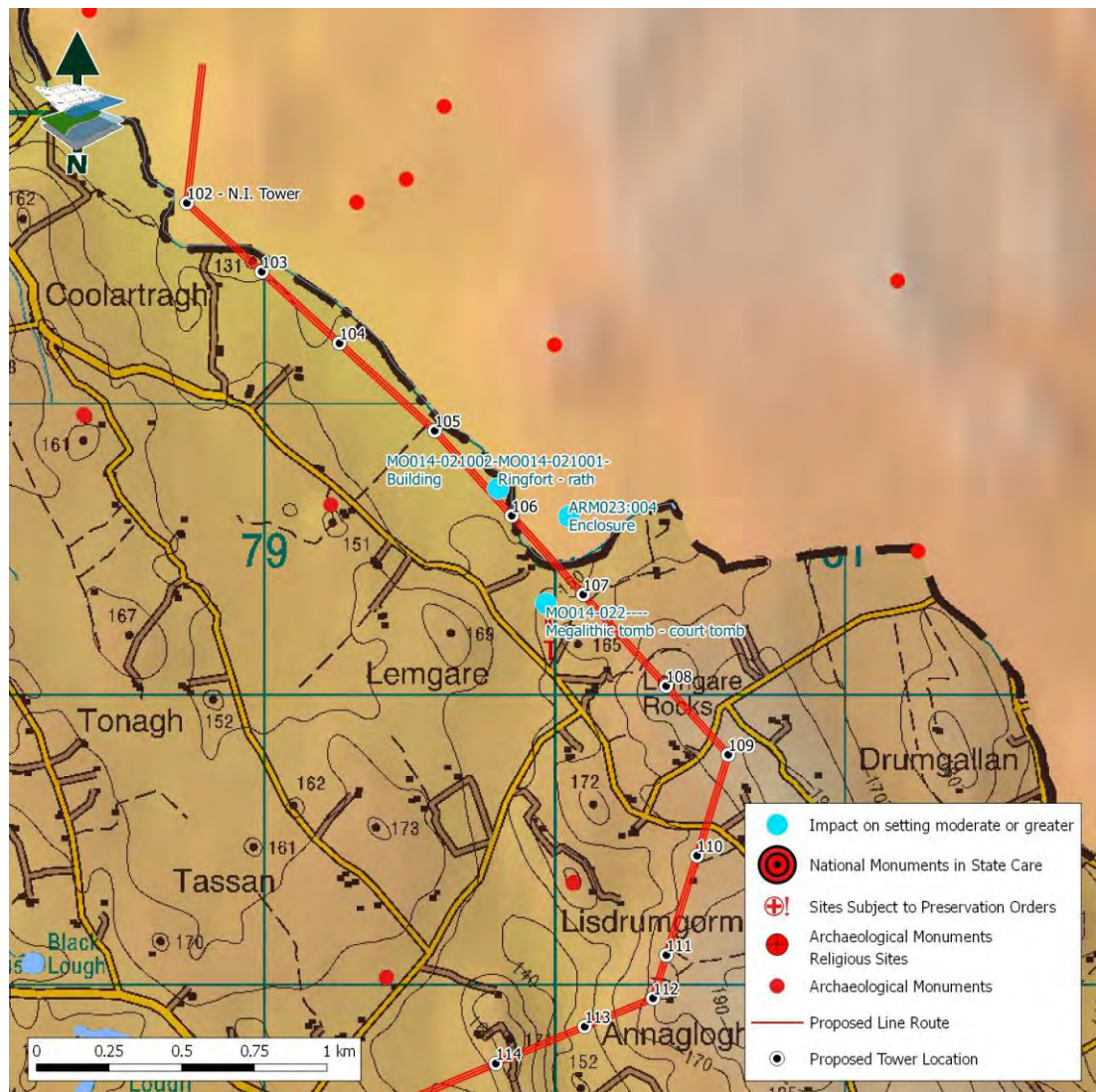


Figure 4-35



Plate 4-13 Looking West at MO014-022---. Tower 107 is located 130m to the east of the monument

4.23 MO019-016----, MEGALITHIC TOMB - PORTAL TOMB, LENNAN, COUNTY MONAGHAN

170. On side of hill, facing south east, down slope over rough grazing with outcrops. The field, in which the site is located, was covered in hay at the time of visit by the ASI. It is clearly visible as a dark spot against a white background on the aerial photograph H 173-175. The monument is in good condition (see Figure 4-36, Plate 4-14 and Plate 4-15); it consists of a largish capstone set on at least two orthostats. Due to inclement weather and the presence of brambles and field stones the lower (back) end of the structure could not be investigated. Borlase recorded possible ogham inscriptions on one of the supporters of the flagstone. In the neighboring field there is a mass rock, known as the Giants Stone.
171. This portal tomb is located in the saddle of hill, visible on the skyline from the nearby road to the west. The site is elevated and exposed, with expansive views over the surrounding area, particularly to the south. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be high. The proposed development will run from north to south approximately 210m to the east of the monument. The magnitude of the impact of the proposed development was found to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting is considered to be significant.



Figure 4-36



Plate 4-14 Looking east at MO019-016--. The proposed development will run from north to south approximately 210m to the east of the monument



Plate 4-15 Looking east at MO019-016--.

4.24 MO019-037----, MEGALITHIC TOMB - COURT TOMB, CORNAMUCKLAGH SOUTH, COUNTY MONAGHAN

172. Known locally as the Cashel this site was probably a wedge-shaped gallery grave. Orientated NW-SE (see Figure 4-37, Figure 4-38 and Plate 4-16). The ASI notes that a portion of cairn is in young plantation. On slope of high ridge (mid height) of average grassland and corn fields (oats and potatoes).
173. This monument is located in the corner of a field under a copse of trees ringed with field clearance stones. The site is not visible in the wider area and can only be appreciated within its immediate setting. The OHL passes 50m to the west with a tower located on the boundary of the field containing the monument to the north-west. Although the court of the tomb opens to the northwest, views of the tower will be limited by vegetation. The impact will be cumulative to an existing OHL crossing almost directly over the site. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate to high. The magnitude of the impact on the site was found to be substantial. The overall significance on the impact on setting of the site was considered to be moderate.



Figure 4-37



Figure 4-38



Plate 4-16 Looking north at MO01-9037---. The proposed development passes 50m to the west

4.25 MO019-038----, RINGFORT - RATH, CORNAMUCKLAGH SOUTH, COUNTY MONAGHAN

174. This ringfort is situated on the summit of a long high drumlin ridge orientated NW-SE, commanding a magnificent view in all directions and surrounded by good pasture (see Figure 4-39, Figure 4-40, Plate 4-17 and Plate 4-18). The interior is broad oval in shape and slopes slightly to the southeast. There is also an incline off the crest of the ridge to the south. The surface of the interior is flat and it is enclosed by a grass-covered bank which rises slightly above the interior and to a moderate height above the exterior. The outside of it is faced with drystone masonry - probably in recent times. Where the two field fences join the ringfort at ENE, the outside of this bank is very defaced and the inside part (i.e. the part that rises above the interior) looks modern (from ENE-E-ESE) where it is not covered by bushes. Small stones are visible in its composition at this point. No sign of original entrance. There is a modern trackway to the interior at the SSW where the bank has been defaced. Furze, hawthorn and blackthorn grow on the E-ESE-SE and there are slight traces of a possible fosse outside the bank here. The ringfort measures 44m by 35m in diameter.
175. This heavily overgrown fort is located on the summit of a hill (135m) with good views in all directions. The centre line of the proposed development is located approximately 25m from the site passing to the west of the summit from north-west to south-east. From the monument there will be several towers visible to both the north and south. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate. The magnitude of the impact on the monument was found to be major. The overall impact on the setting of the monument will be significant.

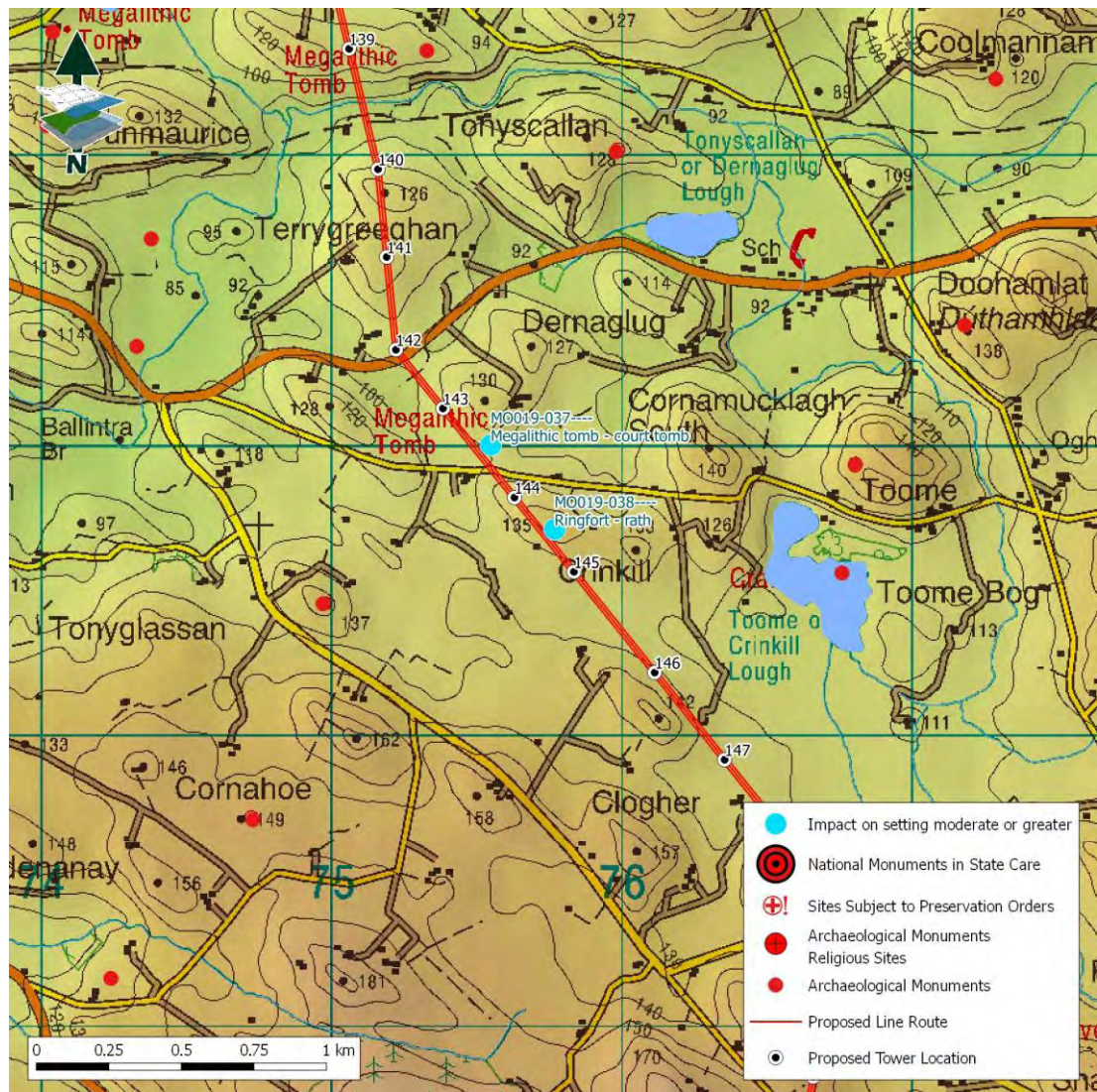


Figure 4-39



Figure 4-40



Plate 4-17 Looking south at MO019-038--. The centre line of the proposed development is located approximately 25m from the site passing to the west of the summit from north-west to south-east.



Plate 4-18 Looking south at MO019-038---

4.26 MO019-048----, ANOMALOUS STONE GROUP, DERRYHALLAGH, COUNTY MONAGHAN

176. Overlooking Ghost Lough which is c. 50m to the E. According to the ASI it is located 'on slightly raised ground which slopes gently from S to N (see Figure 4-41 and Figure 4-42). Nine irregular shaped limestone boulders placed closely together (3.5m NS × 3.2m E-W), forming no definite pattern. According to local tradition this feature is known as a 'giants grave' and there are various legends and superstition associated with the stones.'
177. The site is not publicly accessible and it is not visible from roads in the vicinity. The proposed development passes from north-east to south-west approximately 80m to the north-west of the site. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was deemed to be moderate to high. The magnitude of the impact on the setting of the site was considered to be substantial. The overall impact on the setting of the site by the proposed development was considered moderate.



Figure 4-41



Figure 4-42

4.27 MO024-032----, RINGFORT - RATH, AGHMAKERR, COUNTY MONAGHAN

178. This ringfort is situated on a plateau near the bottom of a high drumlin ridge, which rises steeply above the site to the northeast (see Figure 4-43 and Figure 4-44). A rapid stream flows by the ringfort in the valley below the shelf to SW, S and SE and outside the ringfort in this S quadrant there is a fairly sharp drop to the stream. High ridges overlook the site on all sides and there is now an extensive view in any direction surrounded by fairly good pasturage. The site measures 30.5m by 32m in diameter and consists of a circular, flattish area surrounded by the remains of an earthen bank on an embankment. The interior slopes from north-south and has old cultivations ridges running NE-SW. There are only traces of the bank surviving but the embankment is entire. A modern stone fence with trench outside faces the outer, lower portion of this embankment. Three field fences join the ringfort. There is a gap in the ringfort bank at ESE which is possibly the original entrance. The gap is now closed with the modern outer facing. It is impossible to say with certainty whether the trench is original or modern- it has definitely been sharpened in modern times and is probably entirely modern.

179. From aerial evidence this site is very overgrown with scrub and mature trees, the rath is on the slope of a hill in average pasture with limited views due to high ground both to the north and south. The rath is located 74m to the west of the line route, there is an intervening field boundary with mature trees that will provide some screening, however there will be inter-visibility particularly to the south and the south-east. The magnitude of the impact on this site will be substantial, the sensitivity of this area to impacts was considered moderate. The overall significance of the impact on the setting will be moderate.

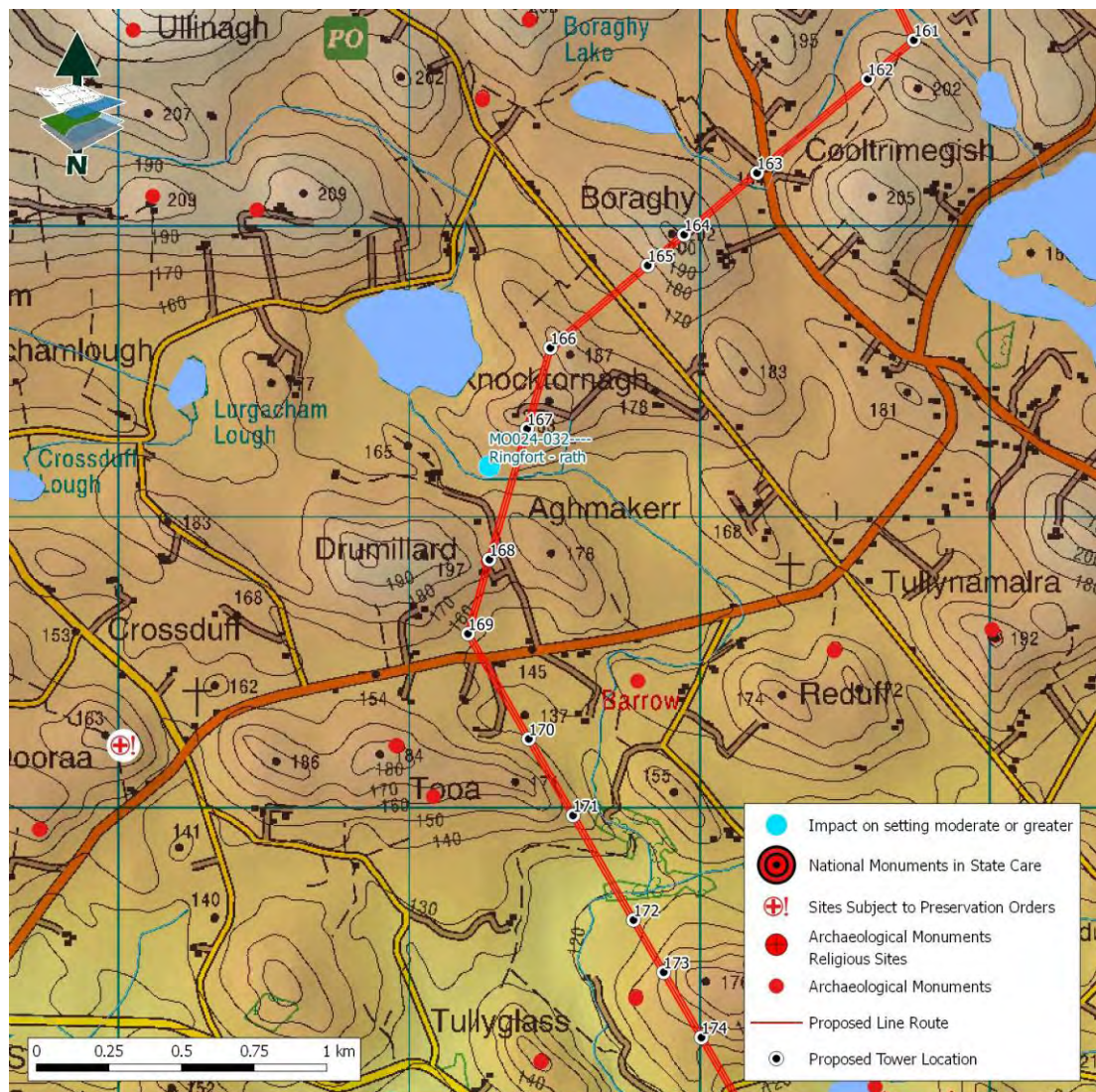


Figure 4-43



Figure 4-44

4.28 MO024-034001-, CHURCH, LATTONFASKY, COUNTY MONAGHAN

180. This site is located on the shore of Lough Eglisk (originally a rocky island). The walls are fairly complete, but all ashlar quoins and cut stones have been carefully removed (see Figure 4-45 and Figure 4-46, Plate 4-19 and Plate 4-20). The interior dimensions are 59 x 22.5 ft. In the east wall there was a fair-sized rectangular window with a masonry arch, perhaps for a 16th century rectangular frame. In the N wall there is no window. In the W wall there was a small rectangular gable window. There was a small niche with rough sill and lintel towards the S end of the E wall. Half-way up the gable ends is a ceiling ridge. At the W end there may have been a belfry. The S wall is fairly breached and probably contained the door. There is no direct evidence for dating, but the small stones and other features suggest that it is not early. It was a Franciscan Friary in use in 1775 but it is unsure how long it was in use after this date. In the N corner of the W gable 4' from the ground is a stone called locally as 'the ogham stone'. It is not an ogham stone. In the churchyard there are some crudely carved stone and a well known locally as the 'Friars Well'. Occasional burials still take place here. Local tradition has it that Wolfe Tone was detained here for a night when being taken prisoner to Dublin.

181. The site is located 1159m from the nearest Tower 161. Access to the church and graveyard is via a rough lane. From the site, which is a signposted amenity area there will be distant views across the lake towards the scheme. The view to the west north-west will see the development breaks the horizon of a low hill beyond the R181 road. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be high and the magnitude of the impact on the setting of the site moderate to substantial. The overall significance of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the site was considered to be moderate.



Figure 4-45



Figure 4-46



Plate 4-19 Looking south from R181 towards MO024-034001— (pinpointed)



Plate 4-20 Looking north from MO024-034001— the proposed development will break the horizon of the low hill beyond the R181 road

4.29 MO027-076001- & MO027-076002-, RINGFORT – RATH & HUT SITE, UMMERAFREE, COUNTY MONAGHAN

182. The Ringfort, MO027-076001, is described in the ASI as ‘a circular, flat area surrounded by a small earthen and stone bank (see Figure 4-47 and Figure 4-48). The interior slopes slightly from S-N. There may be very faint old cultivation ridges running from the SE-NW or this feature may be caused by the blackthorn bushes which completely cover the site. The bank is best preserved in the S quadrant. Modern field fences incorporate and act as an outer facing to the bank from E-N-W and the bank is almost level with the interior, on the inner face at these points. There are several gaps in the bank- cow track gap at SE, a large one at NE (1.7m probably modern), a large one at NNW (2.5m wide) and a cow track gap at WNW. Leading inwards from gap at NNW is a passage flanked by a low bank on either side, which leads into a square shaped structure, defined by a very low earthen stone bank (probably a hut site, MO027-076002). The ringfort is on the summit of a high ridge of average grassland and tillage fields with great views. It is 32.6m by 30m in diameter’.
183. This heavily vegetated ringfort is located on the summit of a ridge and appears to be in good condition. Generally roads in this area follow steep sided valleys limiting the immediate viewshed. The proposed development runs from east to west approximately 150m to the north of the site. There are a number of other recorded monuments to the west and north of this fort all of which have been completely destroyed. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate. The magnitude of the impact was found to be substantial. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the monument was found to be moderate.

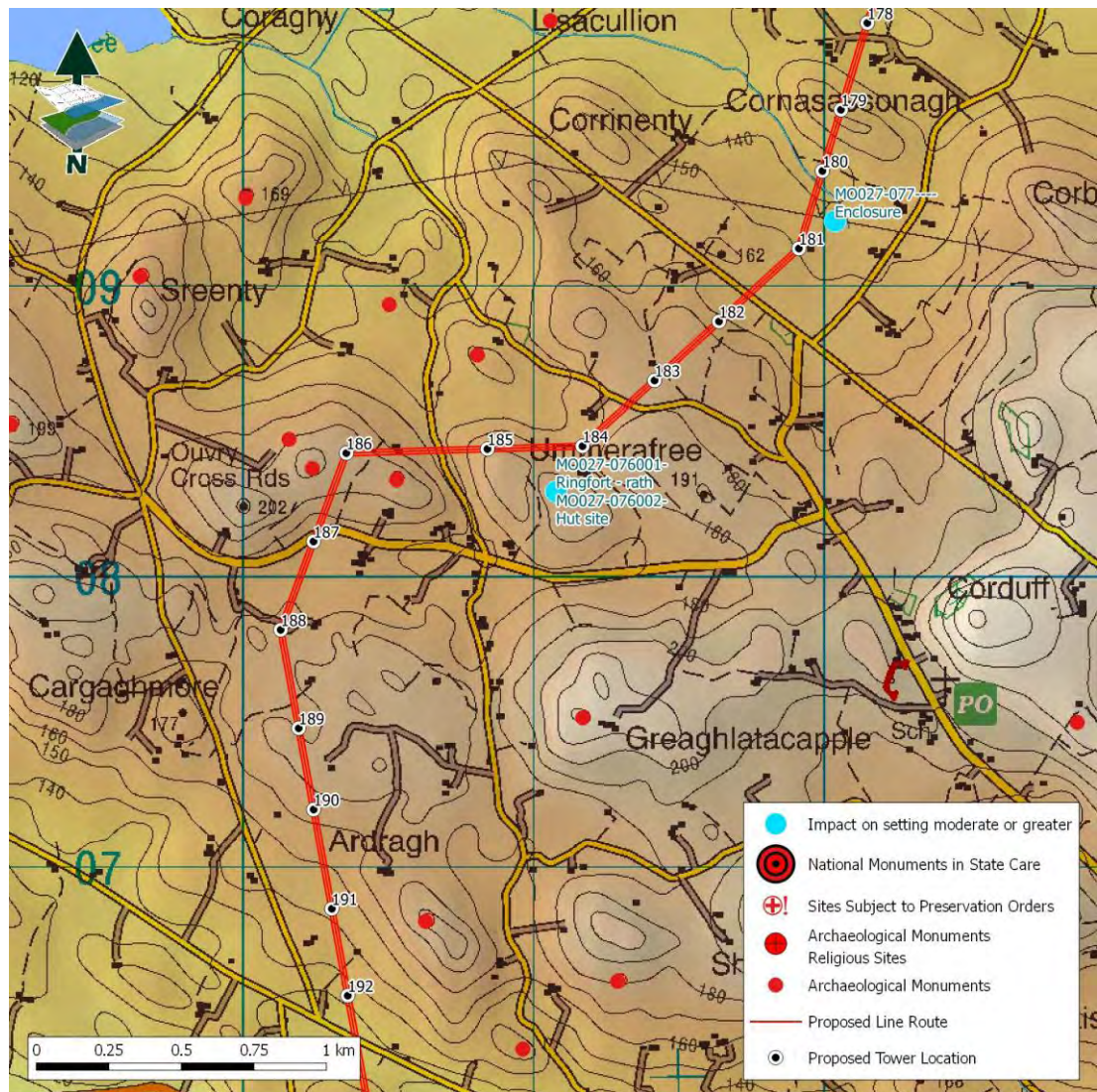


Figure 4-47

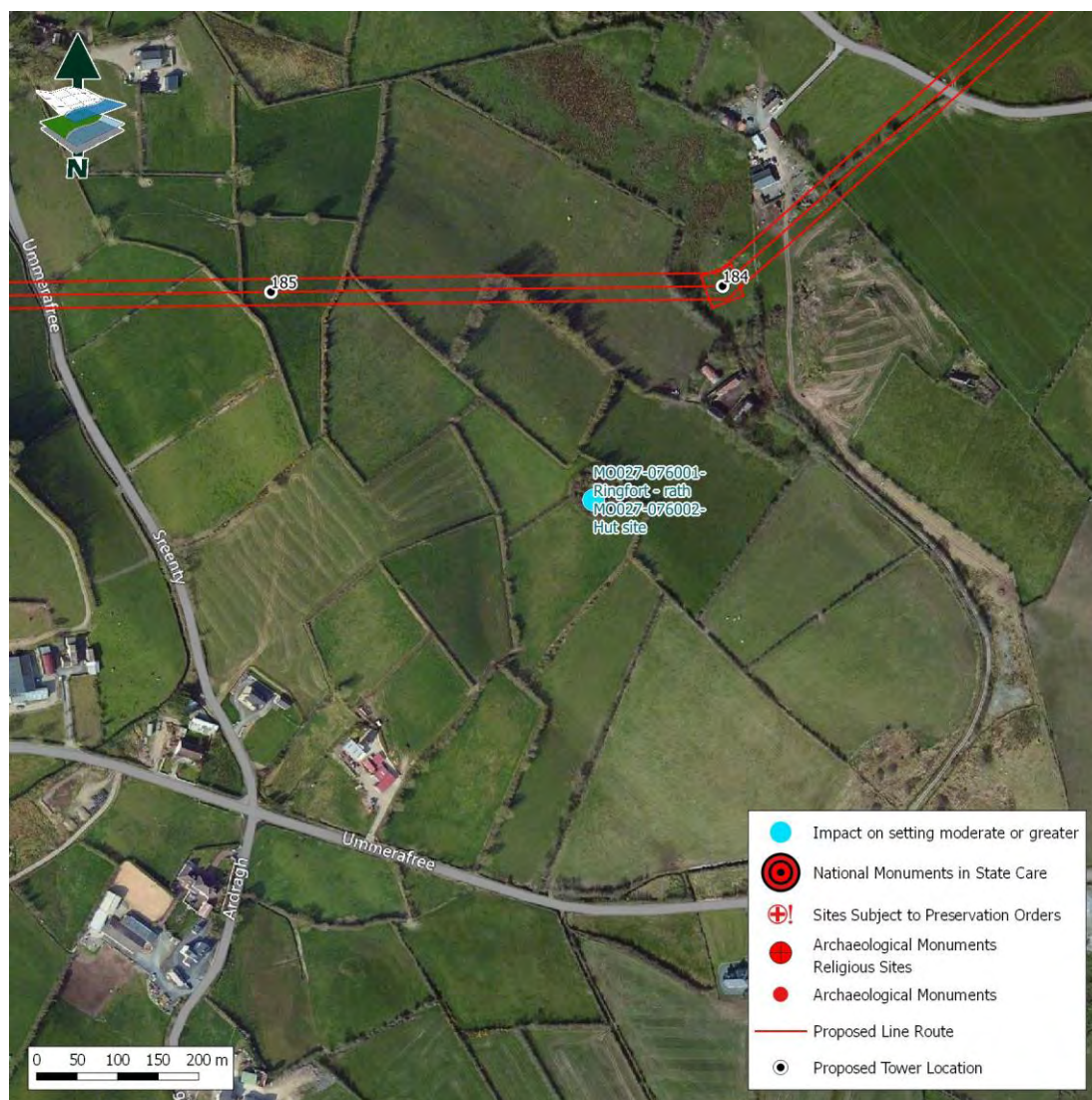


Figure 4-48

4.30 MO027-077----, ENCLOSURE, CORRINENTY, COUNTY MONAGHAN

184. A sub rectangular, flattish area surrounded by a low, small, stone and earthen bank (see Figure 4-49 and Figure 4-50). The monument is at the SE end of a low, outcrop eminence beside a stream. The ASI notes that 'towards the centre of the interior is a low irregular mound of loose, grass covered stones orientated approx W-E which might indicate the site of a hut, however there is no definite shape to it. At NE end of interior is a semicircular depression, possibly the result of quarrying or a collapsed souterrain. The W and S banks are mostly grass covered walls, whilst the N and E is more earthen bank-like. In the S portion of the W wall are 2 slabs set transversely to form a very narrow entrance. A third stone set transversely between the makes the acceptance of this feature as an entrance very doubtful. Outside the N corner of the E bank is a subrectangular addition which may have been caused by collapse of wall-bank on underlying outcrop; the bank seems disturbed inside this feature. Outside the S corner of the E bank is a sub-oval feature enclosed by a low bank which may be the residue after quarrying (the bank of the main enclosure has definitely been quarried at this point). Outside the corner of the S wall bank is a small projecting bank which may have been caused by collapse. These 3 external

features may however prove an excavation to be some thing different – the 2 outside the E bank remind one of the turrets at the Shortstone East, Co. Louth site but the similarity is not great. The size of the present enclosure is too small to imagine it being a castle bawn. The enclosure is on a low eminence of outcrop in poorish grassland. Fair view.'

185. This site is defined by a grassed over, sub-rectangular bank in a field of poor pasture with frequent gorse bushes. Within the enclosure there are a number of anomalies that may indicate small scale quarrying and/or the presence of a hut site. The site is oversailed by an existing 110 kV transmission line. The height of a poleset <20m to the west (part of the 110kV powerline) is to be reduced. The proposed development passes 80m to the west of the site with an intervening hedgerow. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was found to be moderate and the magnitude of the impact substantial. The overall significance of the impact from the propose development was found to be moderate and cumulative to the existing impact from the 110 kV OHL.

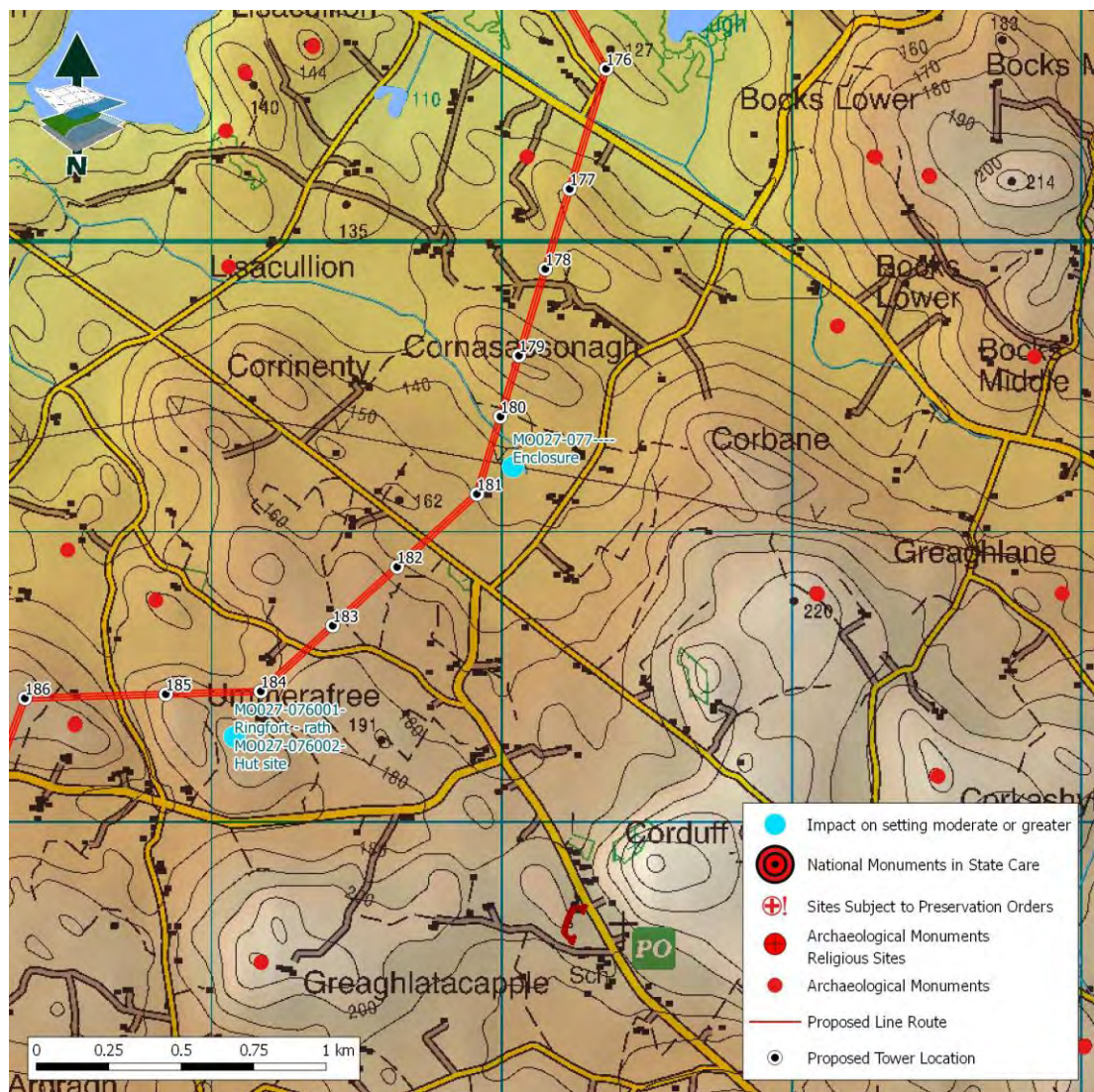


Figure 4-49

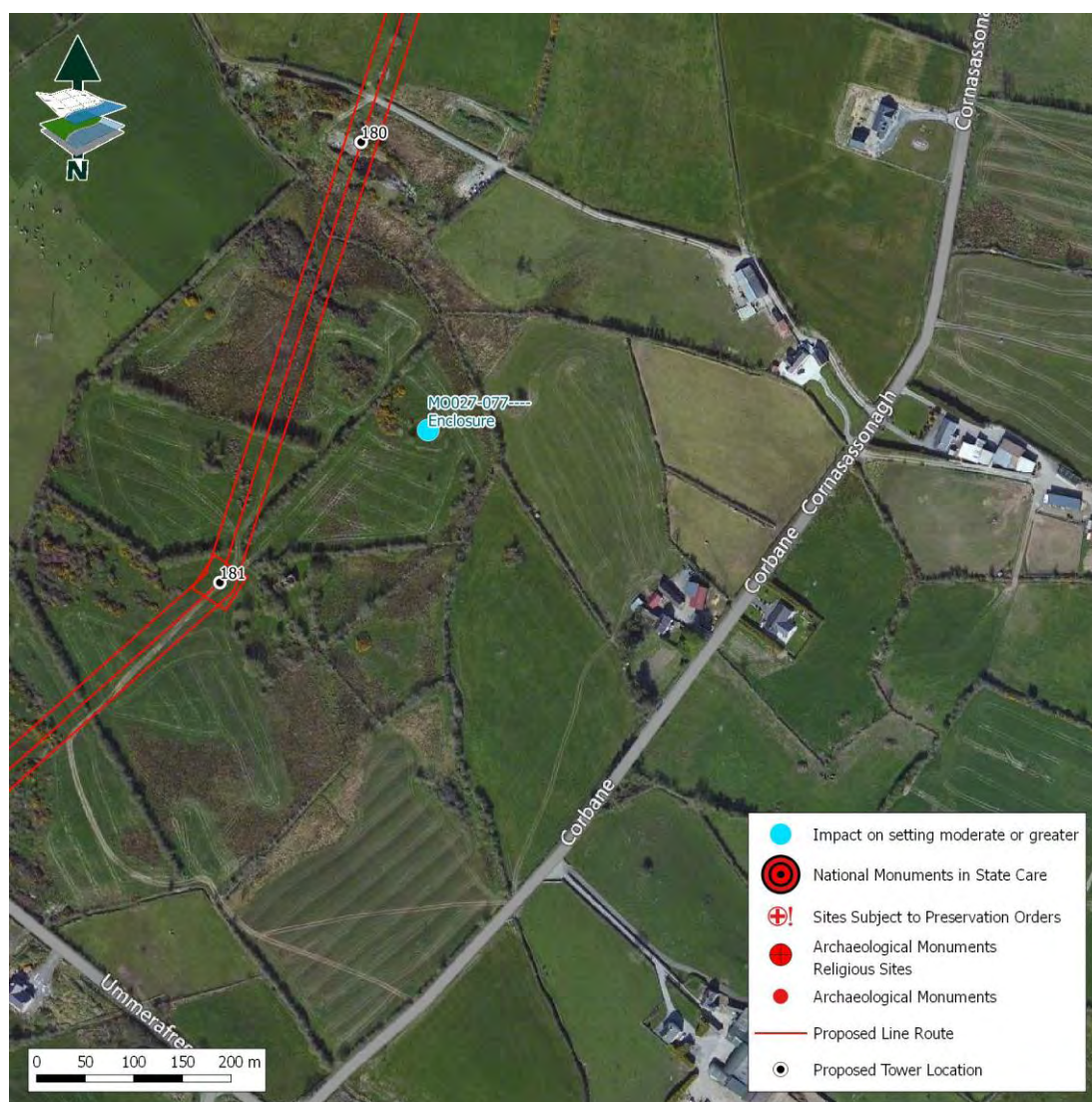


Figure 4-50

4.31 MO030-021----, RINGFORT - RATH, CORNALARAGH, COUNTY MONAGHAN

186. An approximately circular smooth area bounded by a well defined earthen bank with a wide steep sided external fosse from S-W-NNW (see also Volume 3C, Chapter 14, Section 14.4.5.7 of the EIS) (see Figure 4-51, Figure 4-52 and Plate 4-21). The bank is best preserved from NW-N and from ESE-S-SW. Elsewhere it rises only slightly over the interior. From N-E-ESE the bank is very slight and is superimposed by a modern field fence. Modern breaks in the bank on E, SES, S, and SW. There is no definite entrance but the gap on the SW may possibly be one although much of its present state is due to disturbance. There is a causeway-like feature outside it, crossing the fosse, which appears to be due to collapsed material from the bank. Modern field fences encroach on the rath on NNW, SSE and W. A modern field fence is built against the outer face of the bank, in the fosse, from ESE-S (of profile) Situated in average pasture on top of a NW-SE ridge. The site measures 39.5m by 36.50m. Slight trace of original fosse outside bank on SSE of profile. The interior has traces of what appear to be cultivation ridges.

187. This ringfort lies approximately 40m to the north-east of the centreline of the proposed development occupying the summit of a ridge with an elevation of 177m. The site is visible as a circular enclosure lined with mature trees with three field boundaries extending from its bank to the north-east, north-west and south south-east. The OHL passes to the west and south-west of the monument within the same field. The sensitivity of the site to impacts on setting was deemed to be moderate to high and the magnitude of the impact on the monument was considered to be substantial to major. The overall significance of the impact on the setting of the monument was found to be significant.

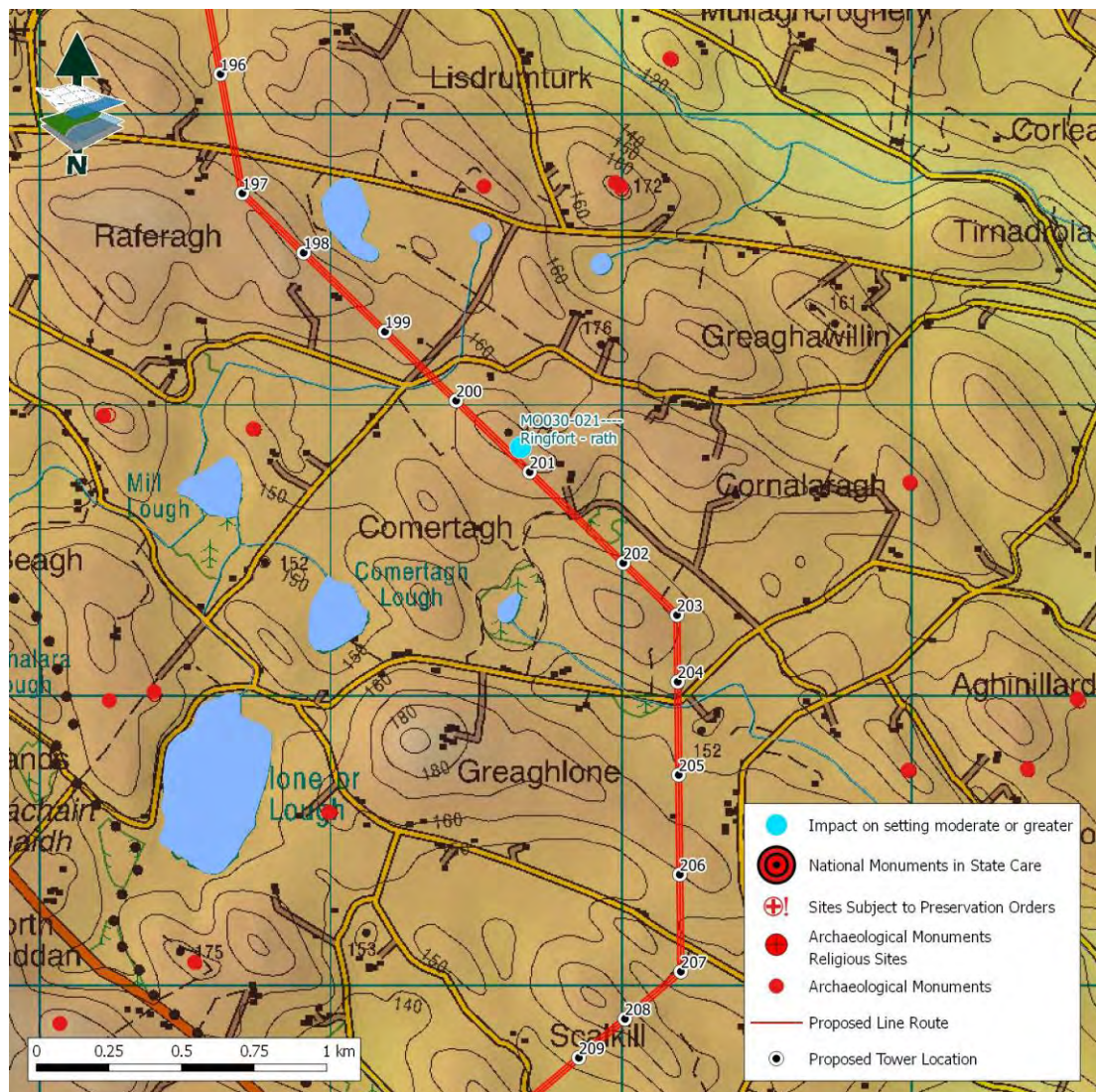


Figure 4-51



Figure 4-52



Plate 4-21. Looking south at ME030-021-- The proposed development passes to the west and south-west of the monument within the same field.

4.32 MO030-037----, RINGFORT - RATH, SCALKILL, COUNTY MONAGHAN

188. An approximately circular smooth area, sloping gently from NNW down to SSE, surrounded by an earthen bank which has been pared up in recent times from NW-N-NE presumably when constructing the laneway which skirts the Rath from N (see Figure 4-53 and Figure 4-54). There are slight indications of a fosse outside the bank from NW-W-SW. The above mentioned lane is well below modern field level and it is conceivable that the builders of the latter went down to a solid foundation (i.e. the bottom of the fosse which presumably existed here also). A gap in the WSW is possibly the entrance. A large gap in NE owes its present form at least to a cutting for farm machinery. The interior is under meadow. The site measures 39m by 41m in diameter. Situated almost on the summit of a NW-SE drumlin.

189. This treelined ringfort occupies the south eastern edge of a ridge within a field surrounded by mature hedgerows (elevation 160m). A lane runs along its northern circuit providing access to a farmyard. From the nearby road, located 130m to the south-west, the fort is visible as a tree copse. This site has a high sensitivity to impacts based on its elevation. The magnitude of the impact of the OHL located 113m to the south-east was considered substantial. The overall impact on the setting of the monument was found to be significant.

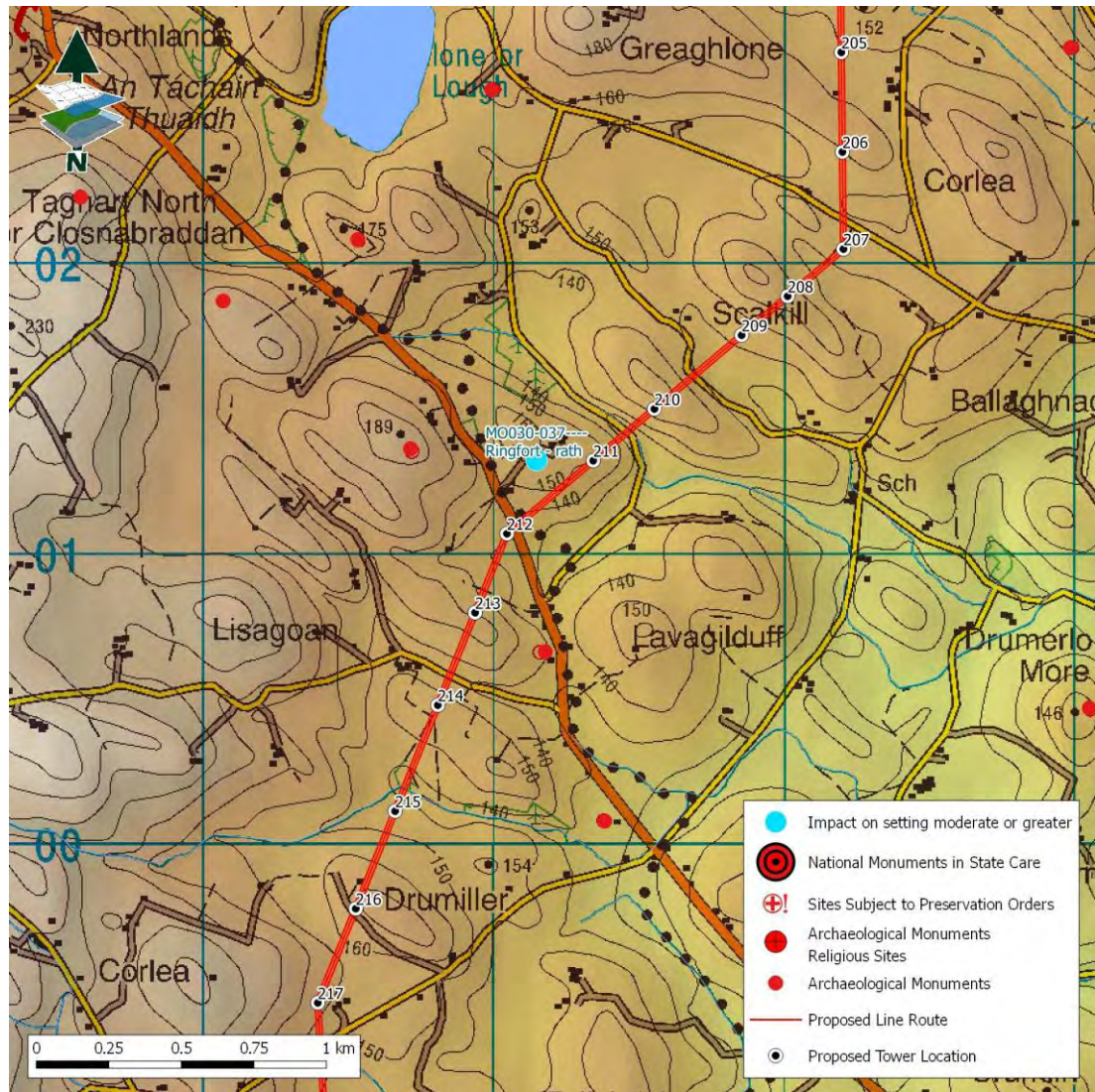


Figure 4-53



Figure 4-54