

# Fingal Historic Graveyards Project

## Volume 1 Introduction



**Fingal County Council**  
Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall



1.	Introduction .....	2
1.1.	Acknowledgments.....	2
2.	Fingal Historic Graveyard Project.....	2
2.1.	Survey Format .....	2
2.1.1.	Graveyard Survey Form.....	2
2.1.2.	Site Information .....	3
2.1.3.	General Information .....	3
2.1.4.	Location.....	3
2.1.5.	Designations .....	3
2.1.6.	Historic Maps .....	9
2.1.7.	Setting.....	9
2.1.8.	Historical Context.....	9
2.1.9.	Bibliographic References .....	9
2.1.10.	Archaeological and Architectural Features .....	9
2.1.11.	General Condition .....	10
2.1.12.	Grave Marker Types .....	10
2.1.13.	General Description .....	10
2.1.14.	Photographic Reference Numbers .....	10
2.1.15.	Conservation.....	10
2.1.16.	Reports .....	10
3.	Heritage Significance of the Graveyards.....	13
3.1.	Archaeological and Architectural heritage.....	13
4.	Grave markers.....	16
5.	Conservation .....	18
5.1.	Ownership.....	18
5.2.	Legal Status .....	18
5.3.	Conservation Issues .....	19
5.4.	Recommendations for Conservation and Further Study .....	19
5.4.1.	Aerial photographic and geophysical Analysis .....	19
5.4.2.	Clearance of vegetation .....	20
5.5.	Dealing with undulating ground surface .....	20
5.6.	Grave markers .....	21
5.7.	Structural Repairs .....	21

## **1. Introduction**

In 2008 Fingal County Council commissioned a study of historic graveyards in the county. The aim of the project is to provide an assessment of the historic graveyards and to provide baseline information on each graveyard. The results of the survey will inform the protection of historical burial grounds and encourage their maintenance in accordance with conservation principles, a policy of the Fingal County Development Plan (Policy HP5).

The project commenced with a period of desktop research to provide a context for the graveyards and identify significant features to record in the field. Surveying of the 54 sites in 35 Civil Parishes commenced in July 2008 and was completed in late 2008. The research and field survey data was collated on a Microsoft Access Database.

### **1.1. Acknowledgments**

The assistance of the following people in the completion of the graveyard survey is acknowledged – Mr. Gerry Clabby, Ms. Christine Baker and Ms. Helena Bergin of Fingal County Council, the members of the Fingal Heritage Forum who provided historical background material and private land owners who allowed access for the purposes of the field survey.

## **2. Fingal Historic Graveyard Project**

The project comprised a comprehensive desktop survey which recorded information on the name, location (including townland, Civil Parish, postal address), legal status (Record of Protected Structures, Record of Monuments and Places, National Monument), reference number in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, ownership, denomination (where known) and licensed archaeological excavations at the site. A brief historical account was recorded for the graveyard including the dates for the foundation of the site, its cultural associations, folklore, traditions and customs.

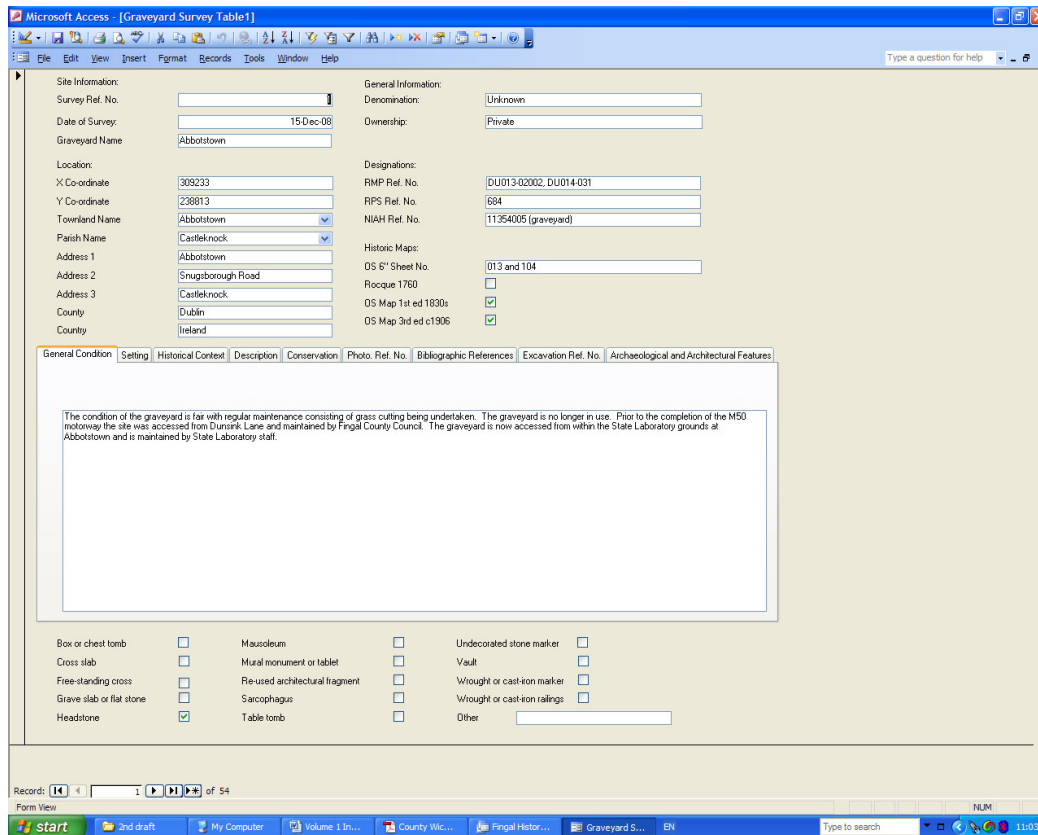
The field survey component recorded information on the general condition of the site (noting specific conservation issues and making recommendations for conservation or further study), a description of any archaeological and architectural features within the graveyard, a list of the types of grave markers present and a six figure National Grid Reference. A photographic survey of each graveyard was also undertaken and included context photographs, photographs of architectural and archaeological features, photographs of boundary treatments and of representative grave markers.

### **2.1. Survey Format**

As per the project brief a Microsoft Access database was designed to store the relevant information from the desktop and field survey. The photographs for each site, along with an aerial photograph, were stored in individual digital folders.

#### **2.1.1. Graveyard Survey Form**

A standard form was created within the Microsoft Access database (see Figure 1). Information collated from the desktop and field surveys was entered on this form. The information contained within each field of the form is outlined below.



**Figure 1: Standard Form in Microsoft Access database.**

**2.1.2. Site Information**

This field provide a unique reference number for the site (FHG 1 to FHG 54) and records the date of the site survey and the name of the graveyard in question.

**2.1.3. General Information**

This field includes the denomination of the site and the ownership of the site (where known).

**2.1.4. Location**

This field includes a six-figure National Grid Reference for the graveyard and its townland, parish and postal address.

**2.1.5. Designations**

This field includes the sites legal designation within the Record of Monuments and Places ([www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)). The Record of Monuments and Places comprises the results of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland and is a statutory list of all recorded archaeological monuments known to the National Monuments Service. Sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places all receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Acts. The information contained within the RMP is derived from the earlier non-statutory *Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)*; some entries, however, were not transferred to the statutory record as they refer to features that on inspection by the Archaeological Survey were found not to merit inclusion in that record or could not be located with sufficient accuracy to be included. Such sites however remain part of the SMR. The record is a dynamic one and is updated on a regular basis. The following table provides the references numbers for the

graveyards included in the RMP and their equivalent SMR reference no. on the National Monuments Service website [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie).

**Table 1: Record of Monument and Places numbers and their equivalent Sites and Monuments Reference numbers:**

Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. <a href="http://www.Archaeology.ie">www.Archaeology.ie</a>
FHG 1	Abbotstown	DU013-02002 & DU014-031	DU013-02001 (Church), DU013-02002 (Graveyard), DU014-031 (Graveyard)	DU013-02001- (Church), DU014-031- (Graveyard)
FHG 2	Baldongan	DU005-03702	DU005-03701 (Church), DU005-03702 (Graveyard)	DU005-037001- (Church), DU005-037002- (Graveyard)
FHG 3	Ballyboghil	DU007-01002	DU007-01001 (Church), DU007-01002 (Graveyard)	DU007-010001- (Church), DU007-010002- (Graveyard)
FHG 4	Ballymadrough	DU012-01302	DU012-01301 (Church), DU012-01302 (Graveyard)	DU012-013001- (Church), DU012-013002- (Graveyard)
FHG 5	Balrothery	DU005-05705	DU005-057 (Village), DU005- 05701 (Holy Well), DU005- 05702 (Standing Stone), DU005-05703 (Church), DU005-05704 (Stone Head), DU005-05705 (Graveyard), DU005-05706 (Tower House), DU005-05707 (Holy Well), DU005-05708 (Enclosures Site)	DU005-009001- (Church), DU005-009002- (Inscribed Stone), DU005-009003- (Graveyard), DU005-011--- - (Holy Well)
FHG 6	Bremore	DU002-00203	DU002-00201 (Fortified Rural House), DU002-00202 (Church), DU002-00203 (Graveyard)	DU002-002001- (Fortified House), DU002-002002- (Church), DU002-002003- (Graveyard), DU002- 002004- (cross - original location), DU002-002005- (Architectural Fragment(s)), DU002- 002006 (Architectural Fragment)
FHG 7	St. Marnock's, Portmarnock	DU015-00704	DU015-007 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU015-00701 (Church), DU015-00702 (Holy Well Site), DU015- 00703 (Ogham Stone Site), DU015-00704 (Graveyard), DU015-00705 (Memorial Slab)	DU015-007001- (Church), DU015-007002- (Holy Well), DU015-007003- (Ogham Stone), DU015- 007004- (Graveyard), DU015-007005- (Memorial Stone)
FHG 8	Buzzardstown, Mulhuddart	DU013-01002	DU013-01001 (Church), DU013-01002 (Graveyard)	DU013-010001- (Church)
FHG 9	St. David's, Kilsallaghan	DU011-01102	DU011-011 (Settlement Deserted), DU011-01101 (Church Site), DU011-01102 (Graveyard), DU011-01103 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure Possible), DU011-01104 (Tower House), DU011- 01105 (Field System), DU011-01106 (Earthwork Unclassified), DU011-01107 (Dwellings Site), DU011- 01108 (Dwelling)	DU011-011001- (Church), DU011-011002- (Graveyard), DU011- 011003- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure Possible), DU011-011004- (Tower House), DU011-011005- (Field System), DU011- 011006- (Earthwork), DU011-011007- (House - 16th/17th century), DU011- 011008- (House - 16th/17th century)

Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. www.Archaeology.ie
FHG 10	St. Brigid's, Castleknock	DU017-00802	DU017-00801 (Church Site), DU017-00802 (Graveyard)	DU017-008001- (Church)
FHG 11	Cloghran	DU013-00802 & DU014-046	DU013-00801 (Church), DU013-00802 (Graveyard), DU014-046 (Graveyard)	DU013-008001- (Church), DU013-008002- (Graveyard)
FHG 12	Cloghran	DU014-00902	DU014-00901- (Church Site), DU014-00902 (Graveyard)	Not included
FHG 13	St. Mary's, Clonsilla	DU013-01702	DU013-01701 (Church Site), DU013-01702 (Graveyard), DU013-01703 (Grave-slab)	DU013-017001- (Church), DU013-017002- (Graveyard), DU013- 017003- (Graveslab)
FHG 14	St. Mary's, Balscadden	-	-	-
FHG 15	Coolmine	DU013-01902	DU013-019 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU013-01901 (Church Site), DU013-01902 (Graveyard)	DU0130019001- (Church), DU013-019002- (Graveyard)
FHG 16	Chapelmidway	DU011-02202	DU011-02201 (Church), DU011-02202 (Graveyard)	DU011-022001- (Church), DU011-022002- (Graveyard)
FHG 17	St. Patrick's, Donabate	DU012-00503	DU012-005 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU012-00501 (Church), DU012-00502 (Tower House), DU012- 00503 (Graveyard), DU012- 00504 (Memorial Slab)	DU012-005001- (Church), DU012-005002- (Tower House), DU012-005003- (Graveyard), DU012- 005004- (Memorial Stone)
FHG 18	Fieldstown	DU011-00202 & DU007-030	DU011-002 (Settlement Deserted), DU01100201 (Church), DU011-00202 (Graveyard), DU011-00203 (Field System), DU011- 00204 (Holy Well), DU007- 030 (Settlement Deserted), DU007-03001 (Field System)	DU011-002001- (Church), DU011-002002- (Graveyard), DU011- 002004- (Holy Well), DU007-030001- (Field System)
FHG 19	Garristown	DU003-01103	DU003-011 (Settlement Possible), DU003-01101 (Church), DU003-01102 (Whetstone), DU003-01103 (Graveyard), DU003-01104 (Tomb Fragments Original Location), DU003-01105 (Architectural Fragment), DU003-01106 (Castle Site Possible)	DU003-01101 (Church), DU003-00205 (Graveyard), DU003- 00204 (Architectural Fragment)
FHG 20	Clonmethan	DU007-00602	DU007-00601 (Church Site), DU007-00602 (Graveyard)	DU007-006001- (Church), DU007-006002- (Graveyard)
FHG 21	Balymadun	DU006-00202	DU006-00201 (Church), DU006-00202 (Graveyard)	DU006-002001- (Church), DU006-002002- (Graveyard)

Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. <a href="http://www.Archaeology.ie">www.Archaeology.ie</a>
FHG 22	Grace Dieu	DU007-01510	DU007-015 (Archaeological Complex), DU007-01501 (Church), DU007-01502 (Grave-slabs), DU007-01503 (Holy Well Site), DU007-01504 (Holy Well Site), DU007-01505 (Mound), DU007-01506 (Watermill Site), DU007-01507 (Bridge), DU007-01508 (Bridge), DU007-01509 (Architectural Fragments, DU007-01510 (Cemetery), DU007-01511 (Enclosure)	DU007-015001- (Religious House), DU007-015002- (Graveslab(s)), DU007-015003- (Holy Well), DU007-015004- (Holy Well), DU007-015005- (Mound Barrow possible), DU007-015006- (Watermill), DU007-015007- (Bridge), DU007-015008- (Bridge), DU007-015009- (Graveslab), DU007-015010- Burial Ground)
FHG 23	Grallagh	DU007-00104	DU007-001 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU007-00101 (Church), DU007-00102 (Holy Well), DU007-00103 (Holy Stone), DU007-00104 (Graveyard)	DU007-001001- (Church), DU007-001002- (Holy Well), DU007-001003- (Holy/Saint's Stone)
FHG 24	St. Movee's	DU005-02404	DU005-024 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU005-02401 (Church), DU005-02402 (Holy Well), DU005-02403 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU005-02404 (Graveyard)	DU005-024001- (Church), DU005-024002- (Holy Well), DU005-024003- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU005-024004- (Graveyard)
FHG 25	St. MacCullin's (RC), Lusk	-	-	-
FHG 26	St. Thomas', Hollystown	-	-	-
FHG 27	Hollywood Great	DU004-02302	DU004-02301 (Church), DU004-02302 (Graveyard), DU004-02303 (Stoup)	DU004-023001- (Church), DU004-023002- (Graveyard)
FHG 28	St. Mary's Abbey, Howth	DU015-02906	DU015-029 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU015-02901 (Church), DU015-02902 (Holy Well), DU015-02903 (Altar-Tomb), DU015-02904 (Grave-Slab(s)), DU015-02905 (Architectural Fragment), DU015-02906 (Graveyard)	DU015-029001- (Church), DU015-029002- (Holy Well), DU015-029003- (Tomb - Altar), DU015-029004- (Graveslab(s)), DU015-029005- (Graveslab), DU015-029006- (Graveyard)
FHG 29	St. Mary's (Cofl), Howth	DU015-042	DU015-042 (Burial Ground)	DU015-042---- (Burial Ground)
30	Kilbarrack	DU015-02102	DU015-02101 (Church), DU015-02102 (Graveyard), DU015-02103 (Grave-Slab)	DU015-021001- (Church), DU015-021002- (Graveyard), DU015-021003- (Graveslab)
31	Kilcrea	DU012-01602	DU012-01601 (Church), DU012-01602 (Graveyard)	DU012-016001- (Church), DU012-016002- (Graveyard)
32	Killeek	DU011-03103	DU011-031 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU011-03101 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU011-03102 (Church), DU011-03103 (Graveyard)	DU011-031001- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU011-031002- (Church), DU011-031003- (Graveyard)
FHG 33	Killossery	DU011-00502	DU011-00501 (Church), DU011-00502 Graveyard, DU01100503 (Font Site)	DU011-005001- (Church), DU011-005002- (Graveyard)

Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. www.Archaeology.ie
FHG 34	Kilmartin	DU013-002	DU013-002 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU013-00201 (Church Site), DU013-00202 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure Site)	DU013-002001- (Church), DU013-002002- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure)
FHG 35	Kilshane	DU014-01202	DU014-012 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU014-01201 (Church Possible Site), DU014-01202 (Graveyard), DU014-01203 (Holy Well Possible Site)	DU014-012001- (Church possible), DU014-012002- (Graveyard), DU014-012003- (Holy Well possible)
FHG 36	Kinsealy	DU015-00202	DU015-00201 (Church), DU015-00202 (Graveyard)	DU015-002001- (Church), DU015-002002- (Graveyard)
FHG 37	St. MacCullin's (Cofl), Lusk	DU008-01005	DU008-010 (Village), DU008-01001 (Bullaun Stone), DU008-01002 (Ecclesiastical Remains Site), DU008-01003 (Round Tower), DU008-01004 (Church), DU008-01005 (Graveyard), DU008-01006 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU008-01007 (Holy Well)	DU008-010001- (Bullaun Stone - present location), DU008-010002- (Ecclesiastical Site), DU008-010003- (Round Tower), DU008-010004- (Church), DU008-010005- (Graveyard), DU008-010006- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU008-010007- (Holy Well)
FHG 38	St. Andrew's, Malahide	-	-	-
FHG 39	Malahide Demesne	DU012-03106	DU012-031 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU012-03101 (Church)DU012-03102 (Sheela-na-Gig), DU012-03103 (Sheela-na-Gig), DU012-03104 (Stoup), DU012-03105 (Tomb), DU012-03106 (Graveyard)	DU012-031001- (Church), DU012-031002- (Sheela-na-Gig), DU012-031003- (Sheela-na-Gig), DU012-031004- (Architectural Fragment), DU012-031005- (Tomb), DU012-031006- (Graveyard)
FHG 40	The Naul	DU004-04505	DU004-045 (Village), DU004-04501 (Watermill Site), DU004-04502 (Tower House), DU004-04503 (Holy Well), DU004-04504 (Church), DU004-04505 (Graveyard), DU004-04506 (Date Stone), DU004-04507 (Dwelling), DU004-04508 (Bridge Site)	DU004-010001- (Church), DU004-010002- (Cross), DU004-010003- (Graveyard), DU004-009--- (Holy Well)
FHG 41	Palmerstown	DU007-01303	DU007-01301 (Church), DU007-01302 (Holy Well), DU007-01303 (Graveyard)	DU007-013001- (Church), DU007-013002- (Holy Well), DU007-013003 (Graveyard)
FHG 42	St. Catherine's, Portrane	DU008-03102	DU008-03101 (Church), DU008-03102 (Graveyard), DU008-03103 (Architectural Fragment)	DU008-031001- (Church), DU008-031002- (Graveyard), DU008-031003- (Bullaun Stone possible)
FHG 43	Kenure (Church of Ireland)	-	-	-
FHG 44	Kenure	DU008-00402	DU008-00401 (Church), DU008-00402 (Graveyard), DU008-00403 (Tomb)	DU008-004001- (Church), DU008-004002- (Graveyard), DU008-004003- (Tomb)



Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. www.Archaeology.ie
FHG 45	St. Doulagh's, Kinsealy	DU015-00906	DU015-009 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU015-00901 (Church), DU015-00902 (Cross), DU015-00903 (Holy Well), DU015-00904 (Holy Well), DU015-00905 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU015-00906 (Graveyard)	DU015-009001- (Church), DU015-009002- (Cross), DU015-009003- (Holy Well), DU015-009004- (Holy Well), DU015-009005- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU015-009006- (Graveyard)
FHG 46	St. Margaret's	DU014-00202	DU014-00201 (Church), DU014-00202 (Graveyard), DU014-00203 (Chapel)	DU014-0020101- (Church), DU014-002002- (Graveyard), DU014-002003- (Chapel)
FHG 47	St. Fintan's	DU015-03103	DU015-03101 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU015-03102 (Church), DU015-03103 (Graveyard)	DU015-031001- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU015-031002- (Church), DU015-031003- (Graveyard), DU015-031004- (Cross)
FHG 48	St. Columcille's (RC), Swords	-	-	-
FHG 49	St. Columba's (Cofl), Swords	DU011-03403	DU011-034 (Town), DU011-03401- (Castle), DU011-03402 (Ecclesiastical Enclosure Possible Site), DU011-03403 (Graveyard), DU011-03404 (Church), DU011-03405 (Round Tower), DU011-03406 (Cross), DU011-03407 (Cross-Slab), DU011-03408 (Sheela-na-Gig Original Location), DU011-03409 (Grave-Slab), DU011-03410 (Grave-Slab), DU011-03411 (Grave-Slab), DU011-03412 (Mill Site), DU011-03413 (Holy Well), DU011-03416 (Dwelling), DU011-03417 (Burial)	DU011-034001- (Anglo-Norman Masonry Castle), DU011-034002- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure), DU011-034003- (Graveyard), DU011-034004- (Church), DU011-034005- (Round Tower), DU011-034006- (Cross), DU011-034007- (Cross-Slab), DU011-034008- (Sheela-na-Gig - original location), DU011-034009- (Graveslab), DU011-034010- (Graveslab), DU011-034011 (Graveslab), DU011-034013- (Holy Well), DU011-034014- (Architectural Fragment(s)), DU011-034017- (Burial), DU011-034018- (Burial Ground)
FHG 50	Tobertown, Balscadden	DU001-00302	DU001-00301 (Church), DU001-00302 (Graveyard), DU001-00303 (Holy Well), DU001-00304 (Grave-Slab Fragment)	DU001-003001- (Church), DU001-003002- (Graveyard), DU001-003003- (Holy Well), DU001-003004- (Graveslab), DU001-003005- (Ecclesiastical Enclosure possible)
FHG 51	Holmpatrick	DU005-03105	DU005-031 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU005-03101 (Church Site), DU005-03103 (Grave-slabs), DU005-03104 (Architectural Fragment), DU005-03105 (Graveyard)	DU005-031001- (Church), DU005-031002- (Graveyard), DU005-031003- (Graveslabs), DU005-031004- (Graveslab), DU005-031005- (Graveslab)
FHG 52	The Ward	DU011-03902	DU011-03901 (Church), DU011-03902 (Graveyard)	DU011-039001- (Church), DU011-039002- (Graveyard)

Ref. No.	Name	RMP ref.	RMP component parts	SMR ref. www.Archaeology.ie
FHG 53	Westpalstown	DU007-00803	DU007-008 (Ecclesiastical Remains), DU007-00801 (Church), DU007-00802 (Building - Ecclesiastical), DU007-00803 (Graveyard), DU007-00804 (Architectural Fragments)	DU007-00801- (Church), DU007-00802- (Church), DU007-00803- (Graveyard)
FHG 54	St. Maur's, Whitestown	DU008-02102	DU008-02101 (Church), DU008-02102 (Graveyard)	DU008-021001- (Church), DU008-021002- (Graveyard)

The field includes the reference number in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS). Under the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 2000, all Planning Authorities are obliged to keep a 'Record of Protected Structures' which is included in the county development plan. The record is a list of all structures of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest within the county ([www.fingalcoco.ie](http://www.fingalcoco.ie)).

It includes cross reference numbers in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage ([www.buildingsofireland.ie](http://www.buildingsofireland.ie)). The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a systematic programme of identification, classification and evaluation of the architectural heritage of the State. The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is currently using the Inventory as the basis for making recommendations for the inclusion of structures in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS).

References numbers from the Database of Irish Excavations ([www.excavations.ie](http://www.excavations.ie)) have also been included. Summary information from the excavations is included in the Archaeological and Architectural Features field (see below).

#### 2.1.6. *Historic Maps*

The field records the Ordnance Survey 6" sheet number on which the site is located and notes whether the graveyard is depicted on Rocque's *Map of Dublin City and County* (1760), the Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition (1830s) and the Ordnance Survey 25" edition (1906-1910).

#### 2.1.7. *Setting*

This field records information on the sites general landscape setting and whether features of early medieval date are recorded at the site.

#### 2.1.8. *Historical Context*

This field provides a brief historical account including the dates for the foundation of the site, its cultural associations, folklore, traditions and customs.

#### 2.1.9. *Bibliographic References*

The field lists the key bibliographic references used in the historical context.

#### 2.1.10. *Archaeological and Architectural Features*

This field records the built features within the graveyard including the standing or grassed over foundations of church buildings, cross slabs, bullaun stones, holy wells, round towers and boundary treatments. Where applicable the reference number of individual elements in

the Record of Monuments and Places has been included. Summary details of archaeological features revealed during licensed excavations on the site are also included in the field.

*2.1.11. General Condition*

This field records the general condition of the site, whether regular maintenance is evident and whether the graveyard is currently in use.

*2.1.12. Grave Marker Types*

This field consists of a tick box of the main grave marker types found in the graveyard.

*2.1.13. General Description*

This field provides descriptive information on the graveyard boundaries and the grave markers contained within it including general date ranges and details of significant grave markers (due to age, decorative quality or burials of significant persons).

*2.1.14. Photographic Reference Numbers*

This field provides a list of the photographic reference numbers. The photographic survey includes individual and context shots, significant architectural and archaeological features, boundary treatments and representative grave markers and an aerial photograph of the site and setting.

*2.1.15. Conservation*

This field records specific conservation issues at the site and makes specific conservation recommendations and recommendations for further study.

*2.1.16. Reports*

The database generates a three page A4 report containing all the desktop and field survey information on each site. These can be individually printed or a 162 page report containing all 54 records (see Volume 2).

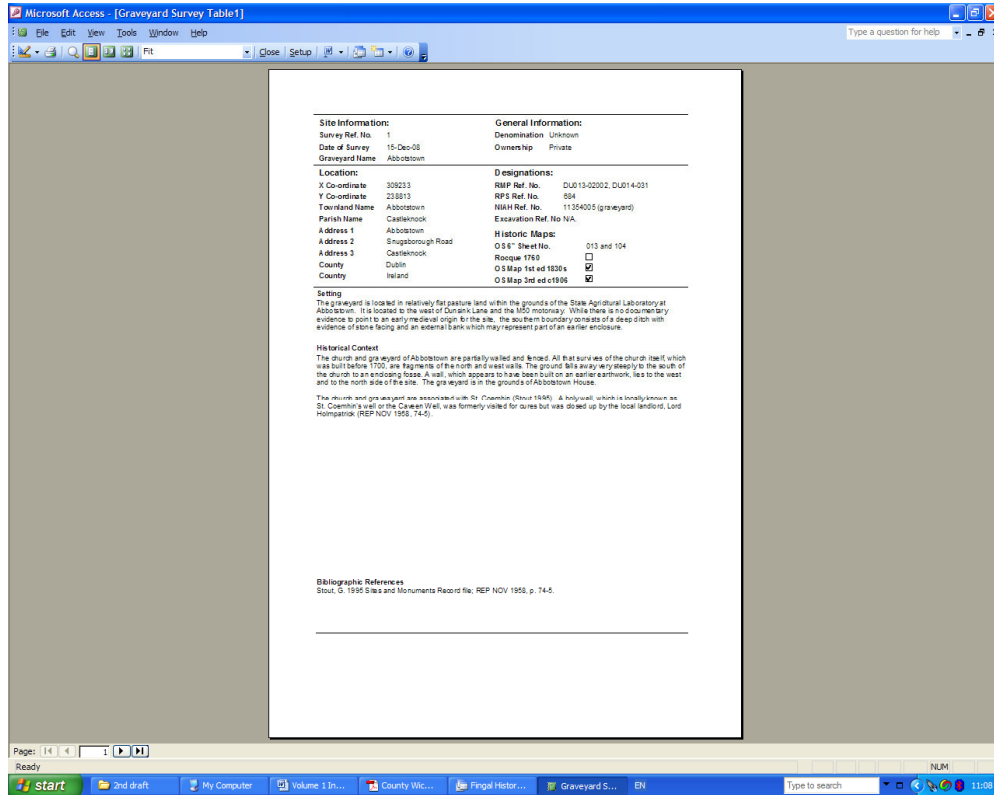


Figure 2: Standard Report Page 1 in Microsoft Access database.

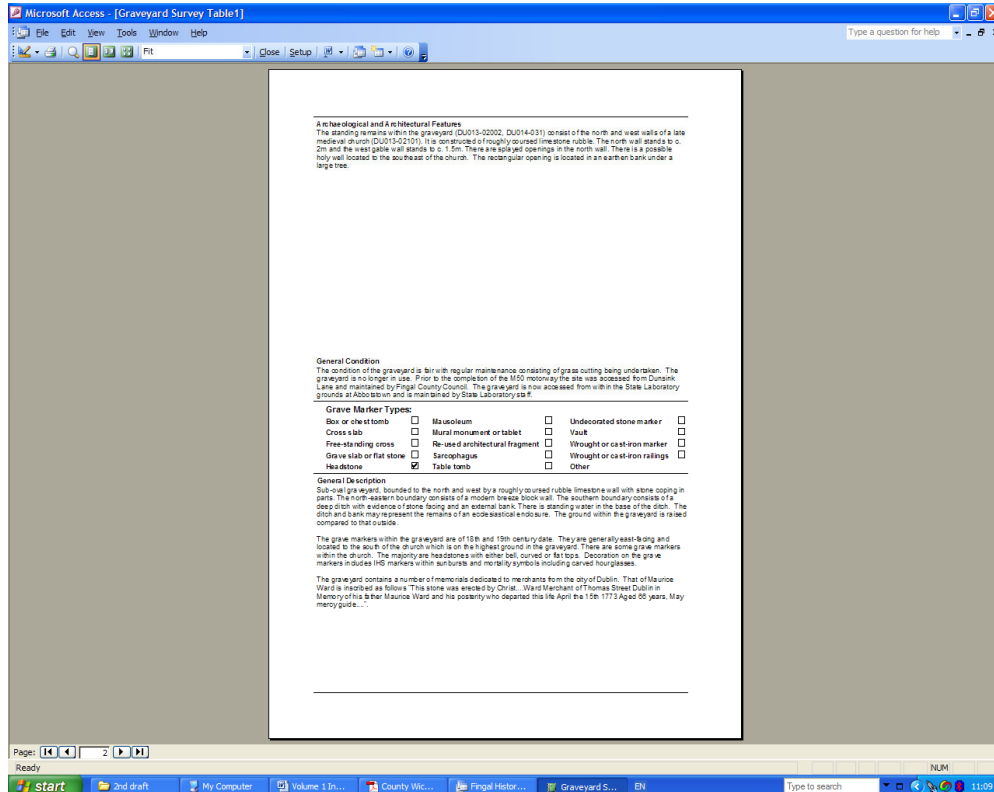


Figure 3: Standard Report Page 2 in Microsoft Access database.

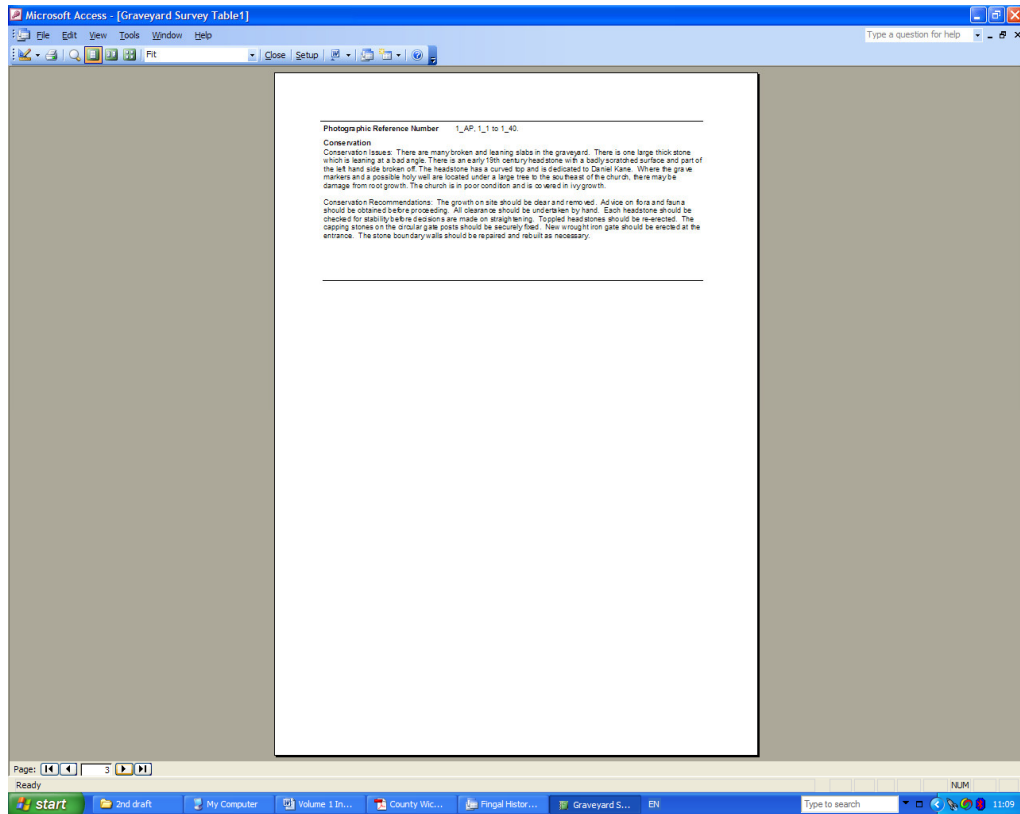


Figure 3: Standard Report Page 3 in Microsoft Access database.

### **3. Heritage Significance of the Graveyards**

Graveyards are a significant element of the county's heritage. They provide a rich social and historical resource and provide insights into the lives of local people. They contain a wide range of funerary monuments from simple uninscribed stones to ornate effigial tombs and 19<sup>th</sup> century headstones and mausoleums.

The majority (47 out of 54) of the graveyard assessed as part of the study were found to contain standing remains dating to the medieval period or were historically associated with medieval foundations. Of these, 11 are thought to pre-date the Anglo-Norman colonisation of Dublin, namely Bremore/FHG 6; Portmarnock/FHG 7; St. Movees/FHG 24; Killeek/FHG 32; Killossery/FHG 33; Kilmartin/FHG 34; Kinsealy/FHG 36; Lusk Church of Ireland/FHG 37; St. Doulagh's/FHG 45; St. Fintan's/FHG 47 and St. Columba's, Swords/FHG 49.

Only seven of the graveyard sites do not appear to have any direct medieval associations and contain 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century features, namely St. Mary's Bascadden/FHG 14; St. MacCullin's Roman Catholic Church, Lusk/FHG 25; Hollystown/FHG 26; St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Howth Demesne/FHG 29; St. Andrew's, Malahide/FHG 38; Kenure Church of Ireland/FHG 43) and St. Columcille's Roman Catholic Church, Swords/FHG 48).

Details of the significance of the archaeological and architectural heritage and the grave markers are outlined below.

#### **3.1. Archaeological and Architectural heritage**

Following the spread of Christianity in the period c. 500AD a number of church sites were founded in Fingal. The earliest church buildings were likely to have been constructed of timber and replaced by stone buildings in the subsequent centuries. Early stone churches were simple single chamber structures constructed of large limestone blocks with a round-headed window at the east end and a square-headed entrance at the west end (Fitzpatrick and O'Brien 1998, 11). Simple oratory structures survive at St. Fintan's/FHG 47 (see Plate 1) and at St. Doulagh's/FHG 45; though both have been rebuilt or extended in the intervening centuries.

While a large number of later medieval sites survive in Fingal the density of major sites is lower here than in south Dublin. Major sites survive at Lusk/FHG 37 and Swords/FHG 49 (Stout and Stout 1992, 16). These larger ecclesiastical and monastic sites functioned as urban centres. They were bounded by multiple circular enclosures consisting of banks of earth or stone and ditches. The monastic buildings including the church and round tower were located in the inner enclosure and the other enclosures contained industrial and residential buildings. Round towers, such as the example at Swords/FHG 49, are tall tapering towers with square-headed openings and conical roofs (see Plate 2). The Irish name "cloigteach" or "bell house" signifies they functioned as bell towers but would also have functioned as a store for valuables and as a place of refuge during the turbulent medieval period.

At many sites the line of the former enclosure is reflected in the local field boundaries or street pattern, as earthworks or as cropmarks. Lusk/FHG 37 is one of the best examples of an early medieval ecclesiastical enclosure in the country and enclosed an area c. 250 in maximum diameter. The line of the enclosure can be traced in the modern street pattern and field boundaries. The presence of stone church, a round tower and other ecclesiastical structures point to the wealth of the site and reference to a fair at Lusk in 739AD show that it was also an important commercial centre.

The earliest reference to the Christian use of holy wells dates to the early medieval period, though the sacred use of springs and other water sources may have originated in the Celtic Iron Age (Grogan and Kilfeather 1997, 162). Culturally, they are associated with curative powers and were venerated annually on a specific day known as the 'Pattern Day'. Holy wells are found within or in association with the following graveyards Abbotstown/FHG 1; Fieldstown/FHG 18; Grace Dieu/FHG 22; Grallagh/FHG 23; Kilshane/FHG 35; St. MacCullin's, Lusk/FHG 37; Palmerstown/FHG 41; St. Doulagh's, Kinsealy/FHG 45 (see Plate 3); St. Columba's Swords/FHG 49 and Tobertown, Bascadden/FHG 50.

Following the Norman conquest the system of early medieval monasteries was replaced by the parochial system. Under the patronage of wealthy Norman families many of the early medieval churches in Fingal were rebuilt or enlarged to serve as parish churches which has helped promote their survival (McMahon 1991, 3). The churches constructed during this period varied from simple single cell structures to larger structures where the nave and chancel was differentiated by a chancel arch. The churches are constructed of rubble with pointed arched windows in the east gable.

Fingal formed part of the area known as the Pale, which remained loyal to the English Crown, in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. An interesting architectural feature of many of the churches is the tower at the west end of the nave. While the towers differ in design from one another, they do differ markedly from the towers occurring in other parts of the country, and are therefore seen as forming a group characteristic of the Pale. McMahon (1991, 32) suggests that they served the double purpose of priests' residences and belfries. In some cases the tower has a batter. A very impressive example is the battlemented west tower of the church of Portrairie/FHG 42 (see Plate 4). The towers at Balrothery/FHG 5 (see Plate 5) and St. MacCullin's, Lusk/FHG 37 (see Plate 6) are two further examples of these west end towers. These two, however, are often viewed as forming a pair. Both have strongly battered walls and the parapets are of Irish, multi-stepped variety and the similarity in their features suggests they are the work of the same masons (Leask 1971, iii, 23).

Bell-cotes are a characteristic feature of many of the medieval churches of Fingal. They can be single, double, or triple. There is an excellent example of the triple bellcote at Malahide/FHG 39 (See Plate 7). Walsh (1888, 60) suggests that the bells may have been rung by hand by one or more bell-ringers, called *aistire*, who would have stood or sat underneath to strike the bell with a hammer. This would explain the stairs on the inside face of the examples at Malahide, Ballyboghil and Hollywood and on the outside face of the example at St. Mary's Howth, up which the bell-ringers could easily ascend. Three bells, which can be seen on the terrace in front of the main entrance to Howth Castle, are said to be from St. Mary's, where they are reputed to have been hanging until c. 1750 (McMahon 1991, 25-26). Eight of the churches have single, double or triple bellcotes at the west gable namely Balrothery/FHG 2; Ballyboghil/FHG 3; Hollywood Great/FHG 27; St. Mary's Howth/FHG 28; Kinsealy/FHG 36; Malahide Demesne/FHG 39; Kenure, Rush Demesne/FHG 44 and St. Fintan's/FHG 47.

Sheela-na-gigs are carvings of naked females posed in a manner which displays and emphasises the genitalia (Kelly 1996, 5). The name comes from the Irish language and has been interpreted as *Slighle na gCíoch*, meaning 'the hag of the breasts', or *Síle-ina-Gíob* meaning 'sheela (a name for an old woman) on her hunkers'. An assessment of the buildings on which they occur dates these enigmatic figures to the period between the thirteenth and seventeenth centuries AD and they occur, predominantly, in areas where there was heavy Anglo-Norman settlement. Where the provenance of the group of sheela-na-gigs found within the Pale are known, all appear to have religious associations. Their primary function therefore seems to have been as a provocation against lust (Kelly 1996). Later in the middle ages the figures began to be placed on secular buildings and this seems to indicate a change, over time, in the perceived meaning and function of sheela-na-gigs, to that of a protective icon (Kelly 1996, 44-45). Two crude female figures survive on the walls of the church at Malahide Demesne/FHG 39 (see Plate 8). The Sheela-na-gig at Swords was removed to the National Museum of Ireland and a single example is also believed to have existed at Lusk and was recorded by the antiquarian Austin Cooper.

The building of churches of various denominations was a marked feature in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Board of First Fruits (1711-1830), which flourished in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, financed the construction of many of the Church of Ireland churches in Fingal. These were typically simple Gothic Revival structures often with a tower at the west end e.g. St. David's, Kilsallaghan/FHG 9 (see Plate 9). Church of Ireland churches were frequently built on much older church sites and many incorporated medieval fabric.

The relaxation of the Penal Laws at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century saw the construction of a small number new Catholic churches. The early churches were modest barn churches and were generally unornamented. The Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829 heralded a new period of church construction and the buildings were generally more complex in plan and ornamentation e.g. St. Mary's Balscadden/FHG 14 (see Plate 9). The older Catholic churches are surrounded by graveyards while the modern graveyards are unusually located some distance from the church.

The architectural heritage within the graveyard sites in Fingal is not limited to the church building as significant boundary walls often exist around the site. These range from simple dry-stone walls to more elaborate rubble built or dressed stone examples. The entrance to the graveyard is often marked by stone pillars of dressed or ashlar masonry with cast-iron gates and stone stiles provided for pedestrian access e.g. St. Mary's Balscadden/ FHG 14 (see Plate 11).



#### 4. Grave markers

The erection of permanent stone monuments to mark individual or communal burials has a long history in Ireland stretching back to the introduction of farming in the Neolithic period. While individual burial became more common following the introduction of Christianity in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, few markers survive from the early medieval period and those that do survive are predominantly from significant ecclesiastical or monastic sites. In Fingal early medieval cross slabs survive at St. Columba's Swords/FHG 49 and at St. Mary's Abbey in Howth/FHG 28.

The early medieval cross slab at St. Columba's, Swords/FHG 49 has been set into the wall of the later medieval tower and is decorated with a section of cross with a lunette-shaped terminal (see Plate 7). A number of slabs have been recorded at St. Mary's Abbey, Howth, including one which has been reset into the edge of a flowerbed in the southwest of the graveyard. It consists of the lower portion of a slab which has a stepped cross base and part of the shaft of the cross carved in relief on it. Only one early medieval free-standing cross is recorded at the graveyards in the study and marks the entrance to St. Doulagh's/FHG 45. It comprises a granite cross with short arms and a triangular shaped head.

The influence of Anglo-Norman settlement in Fingal is also reflected in the presence of a number of late medieval effigial tombs. These commonly date to the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries in a period of Anglo-Norman resurgence following the Black Death and mark the burials of significant landed families. One at Malahide Demesne/FHG 39 memorializes Maud Plunkett and consists of a box tomb bearing the effigy of a female figure wearing a horned cap and typical 15<sup>th</sup> century dress (see Plate 8). A similar tomb stands at the east end of the south aisle of St Mary's Abbey in Howth. Its covering slab bears effigies of Sir Christopher St Lawrence, Lord of Howth and Anne Plunkett his wife. The former is dressed as a knight in armour and mail while the lady wears a horned headdress. The sides of the tomb have carved human figures and shields. A late 16<sup>th</sup> century table tomb bearing the effigy of a knight and lady is also recorded at St. MacCullin's Church of Ireland Church in Lusk. It commemorates Sir Christopher Barnewall and his wife Marion Sharl.

Prior to the late 17<sup>th</sup> century the majority of the grave markers were simple uninscribed stones. These typically comprise unshaped stones set into the ground at the head of the burial. Memorial monuments were chiefly found in church interiors and for the most part were dedicated to members of the landowning, clerical or merchant classes (McCormick 2007, 355). The early introduction of simple inscribed headstones is evident in Fingal. There are some late 17<sup>th</sup> century examples but they become more common in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The largest assemblage of inscribed early 18<sup>th</sup> century headstones is found at Balrothery with smaller numbers found at Ballyboghil, Garristown, Hollywood Great, Lusk, Naul, Toberstown, Skerries and Whitestown (Mytum 2004, 2). At Balrothery/FHG 5 the stones are smaller in height than later 18<sup>th</sup> century examples and they are typically unshaped or only roughly shaped (see Plate 14). The top of the headstones are decorated with IHS motifs with crosses, lozenges, hearts and scrolls (Mytum 2004, 9). Below this is a commemoration of the person interred in the grave which typically starts "Here lyeth" or "Here lieth" and goes on to record their first name and surname, the date of their death and their age at death (Mytum 2004, 17).

In the later 18<sup>th</sup> century larger, well dressed stones were erected by the growing number of middle class families in Fingal. The stones have curved, flat or bell shaped tops and are often ornamented with IHS motifs in large sunbursts. They show a wider variety of inscriptions and often record the profession of the person interred either in the symbolism used in the carving or in the inscription. While many of the people commemorated in graveyards around Fingal were local to the parish, merchants and or other professional people from the city of Dublin are also represented.

Fingal contains a number of significant coastal settlements including Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush, Portrane, Malahide, Portmarnock and Howth. The coast around Fingal was particularly hazardous for shipping with strong tides, rocky headlands and isolated offshore rocks and hundreds of shipwrecks are recorded (Bolton 2008, 13; Brady 2009). Headstones at graveyards in Holmpatrick, Balrothery and Kenure among others mark the burial place of

crew members lost in shipwrecks. One of the best known shipwrecks is that of the 'Belle Hill'. The ship drifted ashore near Newhaven Point, Bremore en route from Liverpool to Chile in 1875 (Brady 2009, 140). The bodies of seven of the crew were recovered and buried at Balrothery cemetery, though local tradition records that the cairn at Newhaven marks a mass grave (Brady 2009, 143).

The brig Savage from Portaferry was en route to Skerries when it ran onto rocks and was wrecked during a storm. The commander, William Murhead, and most of the crew were drowned. Headstones in Holmpatrick/FHG 51 record the resting place of the commander William Murhead. His headstone is inscribed "Here lyeth the body of William Murhead, Commander of the Brig Savage of Portferey (sic) which was unfortunately wreckd in the harbor (sic) of Skerries the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 1756 when most of the crew together with the master perished". The headstone of his crew member, Thomas McClerey, is inscribed as follows "Here lieth the body of Thomas McClerey Aged 16 years Son to John McClerey of Portaferry one of the unfortunate crue (sic) of the Savage of Portaferry that was wrecked at Skerries ye 12<sup>th</sup> day of Febry 1756" (see Plate 15).

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century a wider variety of memorial styles is evident. While the majority of plots are still marked by headstones, table tombs and box tombs also appear. The table tombs generally comprise a large rectangular slab of limestone which bears the inscription supported on granite legs.

Late nineteenth century markers typically consist of headstones, free-standing crosses and simple cast-iron markers. Free-standing crosses are Celtic Revival in style e.g. St. Mary's Balscadden/FHG 14 (see Plate 16) and reflect the designs of early medieval high crosses while headstones are more commonly Gothic Revival in style eg St. Andrew's Malahide/FHG 38 (see Plate 17).

A significant group of memorials erected by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to commemorate people who died in the world wars are found in the graveyards of Fingal. They are generally constructed of limestone with a standard inscription recording the rank, name and date of death of the person who died. Examples were recorded in the following graveyards - Balrothery/FHG 5; St. Marnock's/FHG 7 (see Plate 18); St. Mary's, Clonsilla/FHG 13; Kilbarrack/FHG 30; Killeek/FHG 32 and Holmpatrick/FHG 51.

## **5. Conservation**

All schemes for the clearing or maintenance of graveyards should be fully planned in advance, calling on expert advice as required. The Office of Public Works booklet “The Care and Conservation of Graveyards” offers advice to those planning on undertaking such schemes. The availability of funding for the scheme should be considered. All works should aim to enhance the sites specific heritage significance.

### **5.1. Ownership**

The Irish Church Act of 1869, heralded the disestablishment and partial disendowment of the Church of Ireland. Churches which were still in use at this time were vested in the Church Temporalities Commissioners of the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland. Those not in use were vested in the Burial Boards and were later transferred to the Local Authority.

As a result the vast majority of the graveyards in Fingal are either in the hands of the Local Authority or the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland.

Twenty-seven of the graveyards are in the ownership of Fingal County Council namely Abbotstown/FHG 1; Baldongan/FHG 2; Ballyboghil/FHG 3; Bremore/FHG 6; Coolmine/FHG 15; Chapelmidway/FHG 16; Garristown/FHG 19; Ballymadun/FHG 21; Grallagh/FHG 23; Hollywood Great/FHG 27; St. Mary’s Howth/FHG 28; Kilbarrack/FHG 30; Killeek/FHG 32; Killossery/FHG 33; Lusk Church of Ireland/FHG 37; Naul/FHG 40; Palmerstown/FHG 41; Portrairie/FHG 42; Kenure, Rush Demesne/FHG 44; St. Doulaghs/FHG 45; St. Margaret’s/FHG 46; Howth/St. Fintan’s/FHG 47; Tobertown, Balscadden/FHG 50; Holmpatrick/FHG 51; Ward Lower/FHG 52; Westpalstown/FHG 53 and Whitestown/FHG 54.

A further 12 sites are owned by the Representative Church Body: Balrothery/FHG 5; Castlefarm/FHG 9; St. Brigid’s Castleknock/FHG 10; Cloghran/FHG 12; St. Mary’s Church, Clonsilla/FHG 13; Donabate/FHG 17; Clonmethan/FHG 20; St. Thomas’ Hollystown/FHG 26; Howth Demesne/FHG 29; St. Andrew’s Malahide/FHG 38; Kenure Church of Ireland/FHG 43 and St. Columba’s Swords/FHG 49.

The relaxation of the Penal Laws at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829 heralded a new period of church construction. While the older Catholic churches are surrounded by graveyards, more modern churches are located at some distance from their graveyard. Three sites are owned by the Roman Catholic Church namely St. Mary’s Balscadden/FHG 14; St. MacCullin’s Lusk/FHG 25 and St. Columcille’s Swords/FHG 48.

Sites, notably those on estates, have remained in private ownership. Six of the graveyards in the study area are privately owned namely Ballymadrough/FHG 4; Cloghran/FHG 11; Fieldstown/FHG 18; Grace Dieu/FHG 22; St. Movee’s/FHG 24 and Malahide Demesne/FHG 39.

Four sites deemed to be of national importance have been designated as National Monuments and have been vested in the Commissioners of Public Works namely the church and tower at Baldongan (National Monument Reference No. 310 O), the church tower at Balrothery (National Monument Reference No. 590 O), St. Mary’s abbey Howth (National Monument Reference No. 36 O) and the round tower at Lusk (National Monument Reference No. 157 G).

The ownership of six sites was not determined during the project namely St. Marnock’s, Portmarnock/FHG 7; Buzzardstown/FHG 8; Kilcrea/FHG 31; Kilmartin/FHG 34; Kilshane/FHG 35 and Kinsealy/FHG 36).

### **5.2. Legal Status**

The legal status of the graveyard or any of its constituent parts should be determined prior to any conservation work.

Many of the graveyards are included in the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Dublin (see Table 1). Under the National Monuments Act 1994 notice must be given to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government at least two months in advance of any works being undertaken and it is an offence to carry out works without permission.

Excavation work should be undertaken by qualified archaeologist under license to the National Monuments Section of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Under the National Monuments Act 2004 ministerial consent may also be needed for work undertaken at graveyards that are in state guardianship or state care. The National Monuments Service will advise on whether this requirement applies to the graveyard in question. An application should be forwarded to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Within Fingal, many of the graveyards and the structures within them are included in the Record of Protected Structures in the Development Plan 2005-2011. The structures included on the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) are protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000. Works on these sites may require planning permission or a declaration and should only be undertaken following specialist advice from the Conservation Officer of the Local Authority. Any works undertaken should be carried out in accordance with Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government guidelines.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) is a systematic programme of identification, classification and evaluation of the architectural heritage of the State. The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is currently using the Inventory as the basis for making recommendations for inclusion in the Record of Protected Structures. The NIAH have completed an Interim County Survey for Fingal in which many of the church and graveyard sites are recorded.

### **5.3. Conservation Issues**

The field survey uncovered a number of key conservation issues in the graveyards:

- Vandalism including graffiti, malicious damage of headstones and lighting of fires (e.g. Buzzardstown/FHG 8 and Bremore/FHG 6),
- General littering including minor rubbish dumping and dumping of material cleaned from plots (e.g. Kinsealy/FHG 36),
- Vegetation growth including ivy and trees causing damage to grave markers, structures and cast-iron railings (e.g. St. David's Kilsallaghan/FHG 9 and St. Brigid's Castleknock/FHG 10),
- Inaccessibility due to lack of regular maintenance (e.g. Ballymadrough/FHG 4; Bremore/FHG 6; St. Marnock's, Portmarnock/FHG 7; Cloghran/FHG 11 and Kilcrea FHG 31),
- The use of abrasive cleaners on the surface of headstones and the painting in of inscriptions (e.g. Abbotstown/FHG 1; Killossery/FHG33; St. Doulagh's, Kinsealy/FHG 45 and St. Margaret's/FHG 46),
- Leaning, broken and fallen grave markers at the majority of sites with significant conservation issues at a smaller number of sites (e.g. Cloghran/FHG 12; St. Mary's Clonsilla/FHG 13; St. Patrick's Donabate/FHG 17 and St. Catherine's Portraine/FHG 14).

### **5.4. Recommendations for Conservation and Further Study**

#### **5.4.1. Aerial photographic and geophysical Analysis**

At a number of sites in Fingal there is evidence for enclosures of possible early medieval date. While excavation, geophysical assessment and aerial photographic studies have

identified the existence and extent of the enclosures at sites such as Lusk, Swords, Grace Dieu and St. Doulagh's others have not been subject to any form of archaeological investigation. Aerial photographic and geophysical analysis should be undertaken in the area immediately surrounding the following graveyard to determine if there are additional enclosures or other archaeological features associated with the graveyard:

Grallagh/FHG 23; Killeek/FHG 32; Killossery/FHG 33) Palmerstown/FHG 41; St. Fintan's/FHG 47) and Tobertown, Balscadden/FHG 50).

#### **5.4.2. Clearance of vegetation**

The following sites were found to be in poor condition due to long periods without regular maintenance Ballymadrough/FHG 4; Bremore/FHG 6; St. Marnock's, Portmarnock/FHG 7; Cloghran/FHG 11 and Kilcrea/FHG 31.

The graveyards should be subject to further assessment to determine if they are of specific floral or faunal significance prior to any site clearance. Should the sites be cleared of vegetation, a full survey should be undertaken and a regular maintenance programme should be implemented.

General site clearance or clearance of specific areas within the following graveyards is required Abbotstown/FHG 1; Buzzardstown, Mulhuddart/FHG 8; St. David's, Kilsallaghan/FHG 9; St. Brigid's, Castleknock/FHG 10; Cloghran/FHG 12; Clonsilla/FHG 13; St. Mary's, Balscadden/FHG 14; Fieldstown/FHG 18; Clonmethan/FHG 20; Grace Dieu/FHG 22; Kilbarrack/FHG 30; Killossery/FHG 33; Kinsealy/FHG 36; Malahide Demesne/FHG 39; Kenure/Church of Ireland)/FHG 43; St. Doulagh's, Kinsealy/FHG 45; St. Columba's/Church of Ireland, Swords/FHG 49; Tobertown, Balscadden/FHG 50) and Westpalstown/FHG 53).

Where clearance is required the following is recommended:

- A full photographic survey should be undertaken prior to commencing any works.
- Clearance should not be undertaken using machinery but should be undertaken by hand or using the appropriate hand tools.
- All cleared material should be removed from the site and should not be burned on site.
- Material should not be stored on site unless there is a designated storage area.
- The use of broad spectrum weed killers should be avoided as this may affect the natural heritage of the site.
- Specific advice should be sought when removing ivy from buildings. This is particularly important in buildings that have soft lime mortar as it might destabilize the building if it is removed.
- If the site has been cleared of vegetation, regular maintenance should be implemented to maintain it in good condition.
- The recovery of loose architectural or archaeological fragments should be notified to the National Monuments Section of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the National Museum of Ireland. The material should be left in situ and if this is not possible its position should be recorded archaeologically.

#### **5.5. Dealing with undulating ground surface**

An undulating ground surface within a graveyard may represent the remains of grassed over grave markers or other archaeological features. This was particularly evident at St. David's, Kilsallaghan/FHG 9) where a number of mounds were visible along the south side of the church. The mounds should be investigated archaeologically and vegetation cleared from them if required. Ground leveling should not be undertaken within historic graveyards as this may have a negative impact of subsurface archaeological remains.

### **5.6. Grave markers**

At Cloghran/FHG 12 a significant mid-18<sup>th</sup> century headstone dedicated to John Murphy and his wife Mary Youstas is leaning at an acute angle and one of the earliest inscribed headstones St. Catherine's Portraine/FHG 14; which is dedicated to Patt Mackian is leaning significantly. Professional advice should be sought on whether to reposition the stones to prevent them from falling or cracking. At St. Mary's Clonsilla/FHG 13 three significant 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century grave markers are located at the base of the south wall of the church. The stones show evidence for significant wear and the positioning of barriers should be undertaken to prevent further wear and loss of the inscriptions. At St. Patrick's Donabate/FHG 17 a significant 18<sup>th</sup> century headstone has a large crack running up the centre. The repair of the stone should be undertaken to prevent further deterioration. At Cloghran/FHG 11 a significant headstone has a family crest on one portion should be repaired and re-erected.

Structural repairs or conservation is required for a number of grave markers including the Hussey mural tablet at the Naul/FHG 40; the Comin's mural tablet at Buzzardstown; Mulhuddart/FHG 8; the 'Portaferry' headstone, Mann and Delahoyde slabs at Holmpatrick/FHG 51; the Plunkett effigial slab at Malahide Demesne/FHG 39; the 16<sup>th</sup> century slab at Grace Dieu/FHG 22 and the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century mausoleums at St. Margaret's/FHG 46.

When dealing with other grave markers the following recommendations should be followed:

- Unless the grave makers are in imminent danger of falling or cracking there should be left in situ in their original position.
- Professional advice should be sought if it is necessary to straighten a grave marker.
- If grave markers require cleaning then it should be carried out using soft bristle brushes. Abrasive cleaners should be avoided as they may damage the surface of the marker and its inscription and may leave it prone to further surface damage.
- Inscriptions should not be highlighted by paint as this may damage the surface of the grave marker.
- Significant grave markers that are recumbent should be provided with some sort of barrier to reduce wear.

### **5.7. Structural Repairs**

Structural repairs, conservation or consolidation of structures or boundary treatments is required to the following features – the gateposts and boundary walls at Abbotstown/FHG 1; the boundary walls at Bremore/FHG 6; the boundary walls at St. Marnock's, Portmarnock/FHG 7; the boundary walls at Buzzardstown, Mulhuddart/FHG 8; the church at Chapelmidway/FHG 16; the church at Clonmethan/FHG 20; the structural remains at Grace Dieu/FHG 22; the walls at St. Movee's/FHG 24; the church at Hollywood Great/FHG 27; the boundary walls at St. Mary's Abbey, Howth/FHG 28; the church at Kilbarrack/FHG 30; the church at Palmerstown/FHG 41; the church at St. Catherine's, Portraine/FHG 42) and the church and old entrance gates at St. Maur's, Whitestown/FHG 54).

Where structural repair or conservation work is required the following recommendations should be followed:

- The advice of a conservation architect and/or archaeologist should be sought.
- The pointing of structures in inappropriate styles and with inappropriate materials should be avoided. Flush or recessed pointing with soft lime-based mortars is generally recommended.

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Plate 1: St. Fintan's in Sutton (see FHG 47).



Plate 2: Round Tower St. Columba's Church of Ireland, Swords (FHG 49).



Plate 3: Holy Well, St. Doulagh's, Kinsealy (FHG 45)



Plate 4: Tower, St. Catherine's Portraine (FHG 42).

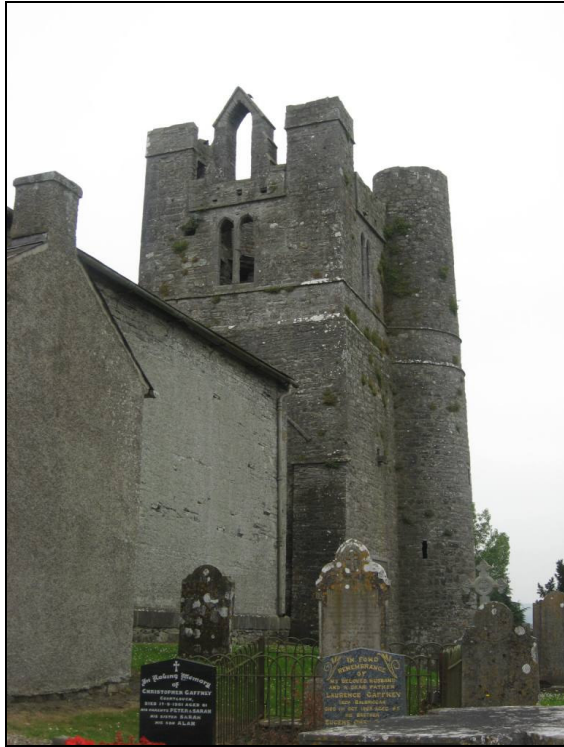


Plate 5: Tower, Balrothery (FHG 5).

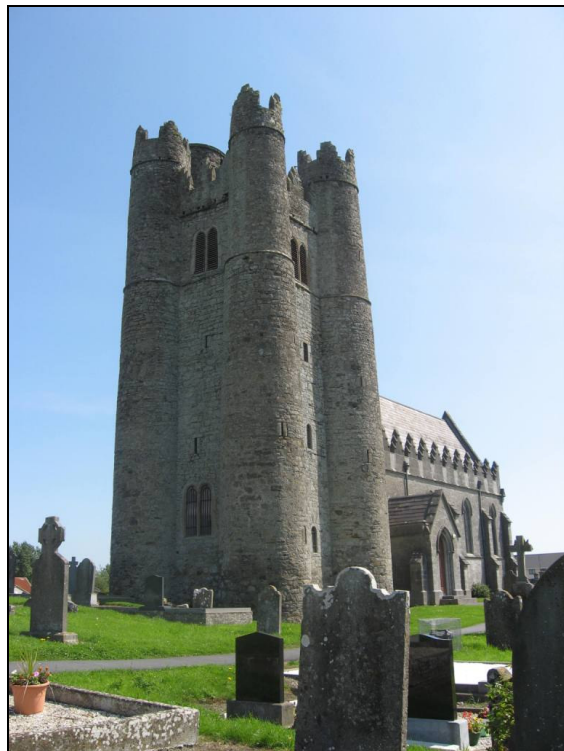


Plate 6: Tower, St. MacCullin's, Lusk (FHG 37).



Plate 7: Bellcote, Malahide (FHG 39).



Plate 8: Sheela-na-Gig, Malahide (FHG 39).



Plate 9: St. David's Church of Ireland, Kilsallaghan (FHG 9)

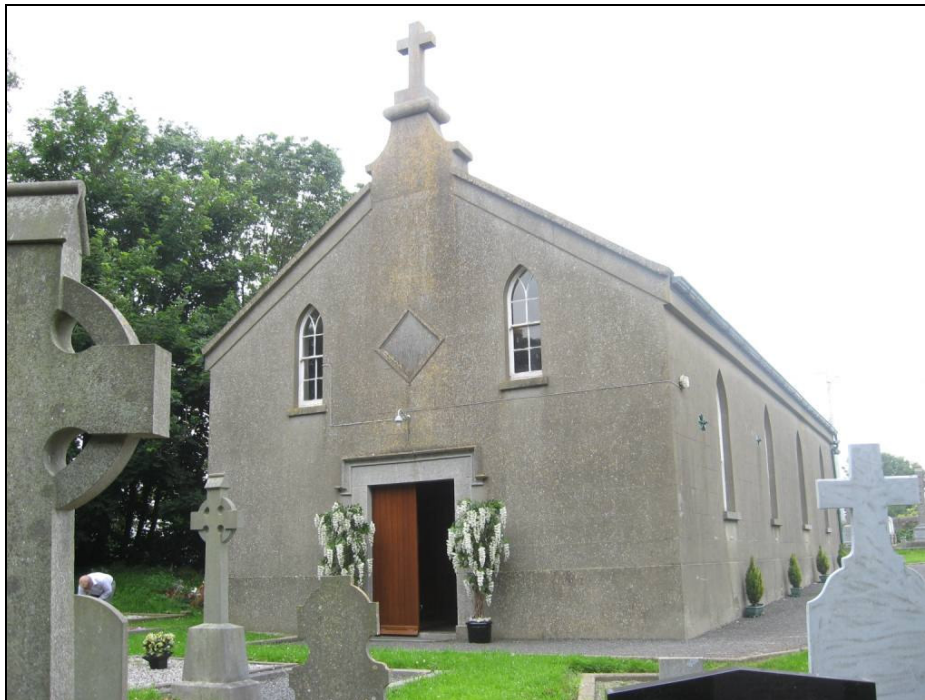


Plate 10: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Balscadden (FHG 14).



Plate 11: Entrance gates, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Bascadden (FHG 14).



Plate 12: Inscribed slab, St. Columille's Church of Ireland Church, Swords (FHG 49).



Plate 13: Effigial tomb, Malahide Demesne (FHG 39).



Plate 14: Early 18<sup>th</sup> century headstones, Balrothery (FHG 5).



Plate 15: Headstone of Thomas McClerey, Holmpatick, Skerries (FHG 51).



Plate 16: Celtic Revival Cross, St. Mary's, Balscadden (FHG 14).





Plate 17: Gothic Revival headstone, St. Andrew's Malahide (FHG 38).



Plate 18: First World War Memorial, St. Marnocks Portmarnock (FHG 7).