

CONSERVATION PLAN
KILLEEVAN CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD
COUNTY MONAGHAN

ON BEHALF OF
MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL

March 2018



IAC Irish Archaeological
Consultancy



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

As the primary output of the early Christian Monaghan Project, Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd has compiled this plan on behalf of Monaghan County Council to assess the significance and identify conservation issues associated with the Early Christian elements of the site at Killeevan, which is located within the townland of Killeevan Glebe in the Barony of Dartree, County Monaghan (OS Sheet 12). This plan was undertaken by Paul Duffy and Christina O'Regan of IAC Ltd. with specialist input from Paul Stevens of the School of Archaeology, UCD. The resultant reconstruction drawing was drafted during the Conservation Plan process by Philip Armstrong of Paint the Past, Archaeological Reconstruction.

Summary of objectives

The Conservation Plan for Killeevan, County Monaghan, provides a framework for the conservation and management of the historic church (MO012-070) and graveyard (MO012-070001) while setting out the key objectives and future vision for the management of the early Christian built heritage of Killeevan.

The objectives of the Conservation Plan are to:

- outline the significance of the monuments;
- present a brief history and description of the surviving features of early Christian Killeevan;
- identify the issues that affect the core values of the various components of the site and of the site in its entirety;
- draft policies for effective management of the early Christian components of Killeevan into the future while maintaining and highlighting the integral part that these elements play in the social and cultural significance of the modern local landscape;
- deliver a practical programme, operable within community networks, to enable communities to take responsibility for and participate in the development and conservation of their heritage assets.

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	I
CONTENTS	II
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project Background.....	1
1.2 Objectives	2
1.3 Project Team	2
1.4 Consultations.....	3
2 CONSERVATION PLAN METHODOLOGY.....	5
2.1 Paper Survey.....	5
2.2 Field Inspection	8
2.3 Consultations.....	8
3 UNDERSTANDING THE MONUMENT	10
3.1 Topography and Landscape setting	10
3.2 Historical Overview	10
3.3 Condition Assessment.....	13
3.4 Previous Archaeological Fieldwork	21
3.5 Cartographic Analysis.....	21
3.7 Aerial Photographic Analysis	22
3.8 Social and Cultural History/Heritage	23
4 ASSESMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	27
4.1 Historical Significance	27
4.2 Architectural and Artistic Significance	27
4.3 Archaeological Significance	27
4.4 Social Significance	27
4.5 Ecological Significance	27
5 ASSESSMENT OF CONSERVATION ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES	28
5.1 Issues and Vulnerabilities	28
5.2 Potential Threats	28
5.3 Research and Knowledge Gaps	28
5.4 Tourism, Interpretation and Site Access.....	28
5.5 Protecting and Enhancing the Setting	28
6 POLICIES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION.....	29
6.1 Policies	29
6.2 Recommendations	29
6.3 Implementation.....	30
6.4 Immediate/Short term actions.....	31
7 REFERENCES	32

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In the summer of 2017, the Monaghan County Heritage Officer conceived and launched the 'Early Christian Monaghan Project' with the aim of promoting and safeguarding three sites of early Christian significance within the county. Following a successful tender bid, IAC Archaeology with specialist input from Paul Stevens (UCD), was appointed to undertake a series of community workshops based around these three sites as well as produce Conservation plans for the sites: Mullanacross (Drumsnat) graveyard; Donagh graveyard and cross and Killeevan church and graveyard.

This conservation plan has been developed in line with international best practice guidelines as outlined in James Semple Kerr's *The Conservation Plan – Seventh Edition* (2013) and endorsed and upheld by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Venice (1964), Washington (1987) and Burra (1981) charters. The plan addresses cultural heritage issues in an integrated manner and has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders including the Monaghan County Council Heritage Officer.

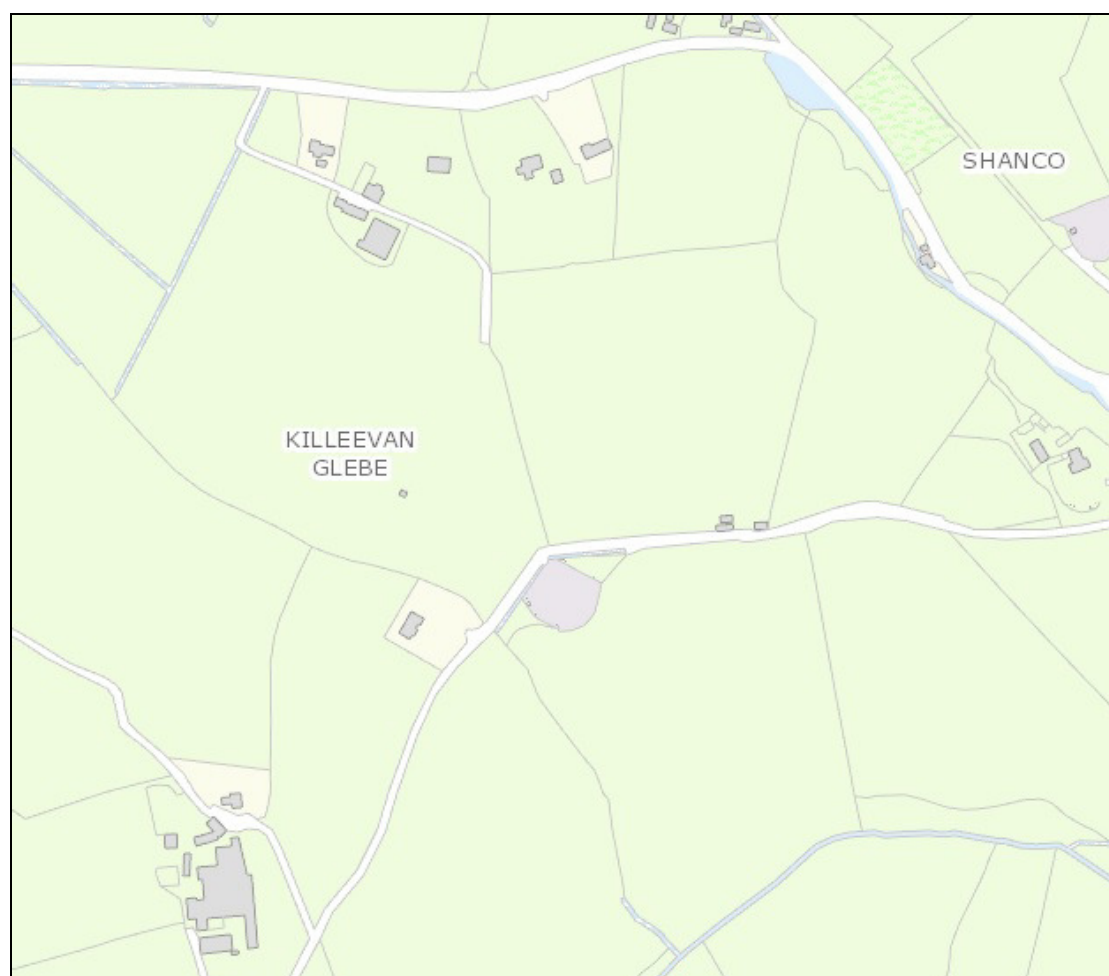


Figure 1: Modern Killeevan

1.2 OBJECTIVES

The Conservation Plan for Killeevan, County Monaghan, provides a framework for the conservation and management of the historic church and graveyard (MO012-070, MO012-070001), while setting out the key objectives and future vision for the management of the early Christian built heritage of Killeevan. The purpose of the plan is to ensure the long-term conservation and preservation of these important monuments to international standards by putting in place a management framework that will protect the unique qualities of the individual elements in addition to the combined significance of these features in the context of the early Christian landscape.

The plan aims to ensure that the site's unique qualities and significance are understood in order to conserve and safeguard the inherited cultural and historical assets. The project aligns with Section 6 of the 1995 Heritage Act to promote interest, education, knowledge and pride in, and facilitate the appreciation and enjoyment of the national heritage, and with the actions outlined in the County Monaghan Heritage Plan 2012–2017.

The objectives of this Conservation Plan are to:

- outline the significance of the monuments;
- present a brief history and description of the surviving features of early Christian Killeevan;
- identify the issues that affect the core values of the various components of the site and of the site in its entirety;
- draft policies for effective management of the early Christian components of Killeevan into the future while maintaining and highlighting the integral part that these elements play in the social and cultural significance of the modern local landscape;
- deliver a practical programme, operable within community networks, to enable communities to take responsibility for and participate in the development and conservation of their heritage assets.

The plan will inform the day-to-day and long-term management of the various elements discussed. It will be a working document that is open to periodic review, with additions or amendments being made as conditions change.

1.3 PROJECT TEAM

The following is a summary of the team involved in developing and delivering this plan.

Paul Duffy BA Hons, MIAI

Paul is a licence eligible archaeologist with over 12 years' field experience. In recent years, Paul's focus has been on community archaeology. He has extensive experience designing, co-ordinating and delivering on archaeological survey, research projects,

outreach events and excavations which prioritise community involvement and community ownership. Paul's understanding of and passion for community archaeology was fostered during his time on numerous international projects. These include supervising community-based excavations in Southern France as well as leading many large-scale heritage surveys and rock shelter excavations in tandem with Aboriginal communities in Western Australia. Prior to this, Paul spent several years working on large infrastructure projects supervising numerous prehistoric and medieval excavations throughout Ireland. Paul has lectured widely on his work and has published work in several peer-reviewed journals including the international *Journal of Community Archaeology and Heritage*. Paul is currently serving on the board of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland. Paul holds a first-class BA (Hons) in Heritage Studies from GMIT.

Christina O'Regan BA MSc MIAI

Christina has over 15 years' experience of working in the archaeological sector in Ireland. Community Archaeology is one of Christina's passions and she recently spent two years developing and delivering archaeological workshops for schools on both sides of the border. She has developed a particular expertise in managing such projects with seven years' experience as Project Manager in both the Republic and Northern Ireland. Christina holds a BA (Hons) degree in Archaeology with History from University College Cork and an MSc in Environmental Archaeology from Queen's University Belfast. She served as the Events Organiser for the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland from 2014–2016 and is a full member of the Institute. She also serves on the Historic Monuments Council for Northern Ireland.

Paul Stevens BA, PHD Candidate UCD School of Archaeology

Paul is an archaeologist and leading scholar in the field of the early Christian Church in Ireland. In addition to his academic career, Paul has extensive experience as a project manager, publication manager, heritage resource management consultant, site manager, editor, author and researcher with a large scale archaeological consultancy. He has conducted 78 licenced excavations in Ireland (1995–2016), notably directing the important ecclesiastical monastic enclosure site of Clonfad 3 where a significant assemblage of early historical artefacts and ironworking activity were recovered. He has published widely on the early Christian period in Ireland.

Paul has been awarded Irish Research Council Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship funding and is currently completing a PhD in UCD with one year remaining. The title of his research is *Doing God's work? The role of the church in the expansion of the early medieval Irish economy, AD 400–1100*.

1.4 CONSULTATIONS

Following initial research, a number of statutory and voluntary bodies were consulted to gain further insight into the cultural background of the individual monuments and the overall site. These were as follows:

- Monaghan County Council Heritage Officer, Shirley Clerkin
- Office of Public Works, Ana Dolan, Senior Architect, Trim District

- Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs – the Heritage Service, National Monuments and Historic Properties Section: Record of Monuments and Places; Sites and Monuments Record; Monuments in State Care Database; Preservation Orders; Register of Historic Monuments and the database of current licences (2009–2011);
- National Museum of Ireland, Irish Antiquities Division: topographical files of Ireland;
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage: County Monaghan;
- Trinity College Dublin, Map Library: Historical and Ordnance Survey Maps;
- National Library of Ireland.

2 CONSERVATION PLAN METHODOLOGY

A Conservation Plan seeks to set out what is significant in a place and identify what policies are appropriate to enable that significance to be retained in its future use and development (Kerr 2013). The most influential proponent for the preparation and implementation of the Conservation Plan model, James Semple Kerr, has stated that the methodology of the Conservation Plan is particularly appropriate to the 'study of complex or composite monuments in vulnerable, dynamic and changing environments' (1999).

Conservation Plan methodology involves two principal stages, namely Stage I – Understanding the Place. Stage I of the process seeks to set out:

- What the current location, physical composition and current presentation of a monument or place is;
- Why that monument or place is culturally or materially significant;
- How that significance may be vulnerable.

And Stage II – Conservation Policy and its implementation which seeks to:

- Assess the source of the issues faced by a monument or place;
- Evaluate the potential impact or change and development on or close to the monument or place;
- Advise and manage that change in order to conserve by adding value.

Gathering evidence for the Conservation Plan (Stage I) has been undertaken in three phases. The first phase comprised a paper survey of all available archaeological, architectural, historical and cartographic sources. The second phase involved a field inspection of the individual monuments, the overall site and its overall setting. The third phase consisted of a workshop in Innishkeen with the aim of consulting the relevant local stakeholders.

2.1 PAPER SURVEY

The following sources were examined to provide background, context and specific detail on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage of the component monuments and the overall site of Killeevan:

- Record of Monuments and Places for County Monaghan;
- Sites and Monuments Record for County Monaghan;
- Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders;
- Topographical files of the National Museum of Ireland;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the study area;
- County Monaghan Development Plan 2013–2019;
- County Monaghan Heritage Plan 2013-2017;

- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage;
- Place name analysis (Logainm.ie);
- Schools Folklore Collection Co. Monaghan;
- National Library of Ireland;
- Aerial photographs;
- Excavations Bulletin (1970–2017)

Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is a list of archaeological sites known to the National Monuments Section, which are afforded legal protection under Section 12 of the 1994 National Monuments Act and are published as a record.

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds documentary evidence and field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g. only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Section as ‘un-located sites’ and cannot be afforded legal protection due to lack of locational information. As a result, these are omitted from the Record of Monuments and Places. SMR sites are also listed on the recently launched website maintained by the DAHRRGA – www.archaeology.ie.

National Monuments in State Care Database is a list of all the National Monuments in State guardianship or ownership. Each is assigned a National Monument number whether in guardianship or ownership and has a brief description of the remains of each Monument.

The Minister for the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht may acquire National Monuments by agreement or by compulsory order. The state or local authority may assume guardianship of any national monument (other than dwellings). The owners of National Monuments (other than dwellings) may also appoint the Minister or the local authority as guardian of that monument if the state or local authority agrees. Once the site is in ownership or guardianship of the state, it may not be interfered with without the written consent of the Minister.

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

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

discovery of sites of archaeological significance.

Cartographic and Pictorial sources are important in tracing land-use development within the development area as well as providing important topographical information on areas of archaeological potential and the development of buildings. Cartographic analysis of all relevant maps has been made to identify any topographical anomalies or structures that no longer remain within the landscape.

- *William Petty's Down Survey Map, Monaghan, Barony of Dartrey, 1656-8*
- *William McCrea's Barony Map of Dartrey, 1793*
- *First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey Map, 1837, scale 1:10560*
- *Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, scale 1:2500*

Documentary sources were consulted to gain background information on the archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage landscape of Killeevan.

Aerial photographic coverage is an important source of information regarding the precise location of sites and their extent. It also provides initial information on the terrain and its likely potential for archaeology. A number of sources were consulted including aerial photographs held by the Geological Survey of Ireland, the Ordnance Survey and Google Earth.

Place Names are an important part in understanding both the archaeology and history of an area. Place names can be used for generations and in some cases, have been found to have their roots deep in the historical past.

County Monaghan Development Plan 2013–2019 contains a catalogue of all the Protected Structures and archaeological sites within the county. The County Monaghan Development Plan was consulted to obtain information on cultural heritage sites in and within the immediate vicinity of Killeevan.

County Monaghan Heritage Plan 2013–2017 contains an action plan for the heritage of the county up to 2017. It also contains a synopsis of the relevant legislation governing sites and an explanation of the levels of protection afforded to different monuments.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage is a government-based organisation tasked with making a nationwide record of significant local, regional, national and international structures, which in turn provides county councils with a guide as to what structures to list within the Record of Protected Structures. The architectural survey for County Monaghan was completed during 2011 and 2012. The NIAH have also carried out a nationwide desk-based survey of historic gardens, including demesnes that surround large houses. This has also been completed for County Monaghan and was examined in relation to the surviving demesnes within the surrounding area of Killeevan.

Place name analysis – Logainm.ie is a comprehensive management system for data, archival records and placenames research conducted by the State. The website is made available as a public resource and administered by DCU and DAHRRGA.

Schools Folklore Collection – Ducas.ie In 1937 the Irish Folklore Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Education and the Irish National Teachers' Organisation, initiated a revolutionary scheme in which schoolchildren were encouraged to collect and document folklore and local history. The website makes these entries available as a public resource and is administered by UCD, the National Folklore Collection, the National Folklore Foundation, DCU and DAHRRGA.

National Library of Ireland contains photographic collections dating back to the 19th century. A number of these collections are available online at <http://sources.nli.ie/>.

Excavations Bulletin is a summary publication that has been produced every year since 1970. This summarises every archaeological excavation that has taken place in Ireland during that year up until 2010 and since 1987 has been edited by Isabel Bennett. This information is vital when examining the archaeological content of any area, which may not have been recorded under the SMR and RMP files. This information is also available online (www.excavations.ie) from 1970–2017.

2.2 FIELD INSPECTION

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

The archaeological and architectural field inspection entailed:

- Visiting and assessing the condition of each of the monuments;
- Walking the graveyard of Killeevan and its immediate environs;
- Noting and recording the terrain type and land usage;
- Noting and recording the presence of features of archaeological, architectural or cultural heritage significance;
- Verifying the extent and condition of recorded sites;
- Visually investigating any suspect landscape anomalies to identify potentially unrecorded features of cultural heritage significance.

2.3 CONSULTATIONS

Consultation was undertaken with Shirley Clerkin, the Heritage Officer for County Monaghan upon IAC Archaeology's appointment. A meeting was undertaken in Monaghan County Council offices in order to formalise IAC Archaeology's appointment and to outline timescales and expand upon projected outputs of the

project. Particular emphasis was placed upon capturing the social and cultural significance of the monuments and the sites within the modern landscape.

Ana Dolan, senior architect with the Office of Public Works, Trim District and Pauline Gleeson, senior archaeologist with the National Monuments Service were also consulted during the drafting of the Conservation Plan.

3 UNDERSTANDING THE MONUMENT

3.1 TOPOGRAPHY AND LANDSCAPE SETTING

Killeevan Church and Graveyard (MO012-070, MO012-070001) are located within the townland of Killeevan Glebe, Killeevan Parish in the Barony of Dartree, County Monaghan (OS Sheet 12). The drift geology of the region is Ordovician greywacke located in the northern limit of a high ridge that runs in a southwest-northeast direction from Scotshouse through Newbliss and to the south of Monaghan town. The Ordovician and Silurian beds form irregular hillocks across this ridge. This is typically a highland region with average heights of 160m above sea level, the average elevation of the site is 266m. The landscape of the county was significantly altered by the process of glaciation, this is commonly seen by the presence of drumlins (Hegarty 2017; McDermott 2010).

The immediate site topography is characterised by upland drumlins and a series of lakes and inter-drumlin wetlands, in an area known as the Central Lakeland and Upland Drumlin Zone (McDermott 2010). The area is mostly pasture and the site lies on a ridge situated between the southern slopes of the river Finn valley and the convoluted stream course running through Newbliss from Corlougharoe Lough northwards into the river Finn (Mytum *et al.* 2002, 131).

In 1939 the townland of Killeevan Glebe was 108 acres and owned by the rector Mr. Wright and the soil was recorded as being excellent producing wheat, oats, flax, and potatoes (Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, p. 202)

3.2 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

3.2.1 Early Documentary Sources

The earliest cartographical source of Ireland is a gazetteer of lakes, rivers, settlement and people in c. AD 150, and comes from the Classical Greek Geographer *Claudius Ptolemy*, who identified a *Voluntii* tribe in the northeast region—believed to be *Ulaid*, from which the root name of Ulster is derived. Two important settlements were also identified are *Regia* (Clogher) and *Isamnion* (*Emain Macha* / Navan Fort), both have been subject to extensive archaeological excavation and revealed significance later prehistoric and Iron Age ceremonial and settlement evidence (Warren 1974; Lynn *et al.* 2013; Mallory 2000; Waterman 1997).

Both were important early royal centres and regional caput of the Ulaid. However, early documentary sources list their decline with Fergus Fogha (†AD 392) as the last king of Emain Macha, and the Ulaid contracted and were forced into the northeast, to the modern counties Down and Armagh. Emain Macha was largely forgotten to be replaced by Armagh, which ultimately became the primatial ecclesiastical centre for Ireland.

Following the battle of *Achadh Leithdheirg* in the Barony of Farney, which took place as recorded in the Annals in AD 333, Fergus Fogha, the last king of Ulster was

defeated by the three Collas who also burned Emain Macha (AD 331). The men were kin of the Connacht King Muiredach and gathered a large army for the invasion of Ulster. The spoils of the battle were divided among the three Collas, to form the new territory of Oirghialla/ *Airgialla* (later known as *Oriel / Uriel*). With the emergence of a new powerful polity, Clogher became the Royal seat of *Oirghialla*, allied to the powerful ruling High Kings of Tara, the Northern and Southern *Uí Neill*, carving lands that at its most expansive stretched from Lough Erne to Lough Neagh, including modern counties south-[London]Derry, Tyrone, Fermanagh and most of Monaghan.

The Oirghialla territory was significantly diminished after the Battle of Leth Cam (827 A.D.) which occurred over a dispute to control the church of Armagh. The Cenél nEógain and the Northern Uí Néill, under the rule of Niall Caille, defeated the Ulaid of East Ulster together with the Uí Chremthainn ‘and many other kings of the Airgialla’. These defeated kingdoms, the Uí Chremthainn group in Western Oirghialla (modern Fermanagh, Monaghan and the Clogher Valley) and the Airthir or ‘Eastern parts’ (modern Armagh), were then compelled to give *dáerchís* (base tribute) to the Cenél nEógain. Two of the Uí Chremthainn sub-groups within Co. Monaghan were the Clann Ceallaigh and the Clann Cathail of the Sil nDamine branch. They occupied the parishes of Clones and Roslea and parts of Drumully, Aghabog, and Killeevan parishes (McDermott 2010).

County Monaghan, *Muineachán* in Irish, was formed in AD 1585 and comprised the five baronies of Cremorne, Dartree, Farney, Monaghan and Truagh, from the countries of *Iriell*, *Dartrey*, *Loghtie*, and *Trow*. The territory is often referred to Mac Mahon’s. According to the annals, the region took its name from the 4th-century *Manaigh* or *Monaigh*. It was part of the larger ancient territory of *Oirghialla* (also known as Oriel) overseen, until the 12th century, by *Uí Cremthainne* (Cremorne) and *Clan Colla* dynasties and originally ruled from Royal caputs of Clogher (west) and *Emain Macha* (east). During the later medieval period, it was known as ‘Mac Mahons country’.

The Barony of Dartree, *Dartraighe Coininnsi* (Dog’s Island), is first mentioned in the Annals of the Four Masters under the year AD 867 as the birthplace of Martin the Abbot of Clonmacnoise and Devenish who had died that year. The survey of 1591 recorded that it held eighteen ballybetaghs and three/four tates. It consists of six parishes, Aghabog, Clones, Currin, Drummully, Ematris, and Killeevan (Shirley 1879). Dartraige along with the ancient territory of Fernmag formed part of the territory of the *Uí Cremthainne*. The most powerful man in the Barony of Dartree at the end of the sixteenth century was Brian McHugh Óg MacMahon (Ó Dufaigh 2017).

Killeevan Glebe has been a church townland in the Parish of Killeevan since 1640. It contains both the present and original parish church of Killeevan (Ó Dufaigh 2017; Shirley 1879).

3.2.2 Ecclesiastical History

The Civil Parish of Killeevan, in Irish known as Cill Laobháin, Church of St Laobhán. The parish is partly in both the barony of Dartree and the barony of Monaghan, in the

Diocese of Clogher. It was originally one of the three divisions of the great parish of Galloon and the corps of the Chancellorship. The Bishop of Clogher originally possessed the land around the church, a termon of two tates known as Killyvan. Of the three chapels in the parish the oldest was colloquially called the 'The Abbey of Killeevan' "but of the original church, there only remains the western gable, with a very small lancet window, which indicates the antiquity of this building." (MO012-070). In 1804 the parish was separated from the corps of the Chancellorship and by 1812 the Glebe House was constructed (Lewis 1837; Ó Dufaigh 2017; O'Hanlon 1875; Shirley 1879).

In 1806 the parish of Galloon was broken up when the parishes of Killeevan, Aghabog, Currin, and Ematris, were established in Co. Monaghan by the Church of Ireland (Shirley 1879, 327). The number of medieval churches in the Dartree part of Galloon is unknown, but St Laobhán's church in Killeevan Glebe (MO012-070) and the church in Drumswords (MO017-033001) are the only two within Killeevan parish.

The church was marked in ruins on the 1657 Down Survey mapping but the graveyard, which had been in use since the introduction of Christianity in the area, was still in use by 1939 (Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, p. 203).

St Laobhán's name is probably derived from *laobh* which translates to crooked and may be a reference to a shepherd's crook thus linking the saint to the pastoral tradition of early Christianity. His mother was Cuman a maternal cousin of St Brigid of Kildare. The Life of Forannán of Alternan records Cuman's 47 offspring meeting Colum Cille (Ó Riain 1837).

From the Martyrology of Tallagh it is known that St Laobhán was remembered on the 1st June at a place called Áth Éigis in Dartree it is possible that this was an old name for Killeevan. His name was anglicised in Killeevan as Laban/Leban and it is possible that this same saint was celebrated as Lanus the patron of Coolaghy in the parish of Ardstraw, Co. Tyrone based off a 1607 survey of the Diocese of Derry. According to the Martyrology of Donegal Laobhán was remembered as Láán at Killaan and he shared his feast day with Nathí of Achonry on the 9th of August. The saint is also recorded as being from Ballyovey, barony of Carra, Co. Mayo and Inchmore, parish of Bunown, barony of Kilkenny West, Co. Westmeath (O'Hanlon 1875; Ó Riain 1837). The church of Domhnach Laobhán is linked to St Laobhán which is believed to be now known as Killaan in the barony of Kilconnell, Co. Galway. The church at Kilkeeran, Co. Mayo is believed to be the church of St Laobhán (MA099-025001-). However, according to William M. Hennessy Laobhán's locality was known as Kill Laobhain, now Killeevan, Dartree which would suggest his church was located there (O'Hanlon 1875; Ó Riain 1837).

The saint is associated with a number of feats such as the creation of the *Fionn Faoidheach*, a reliquary of St Patrick, the founding of a church at Inchmore at the River Shannon in the fifth century as Líobhún, and a holy well in the townland of Sligo. He is one of the three named smiths of St Patrick, the other two being Mac Céacht

and Foirtchearn. Laobhán was a disciple of Patrick as well as one of his official servants or domestics (O’Hanlon 1875; Ó Riain 1837).

St Laobhán was not the only saint believed to be associated with the church, one local tradition attributes the foundation to St Patrick and another to St Livinus (Schools’ Folklore Collection MSS 950, pp. 316, 356). Though in the latter’s case it is possible that the nearby church of St Livinus in Killyfuddy has been confused with the old parish church (MO012-070) in Killeevan Glebe.

3.2.3 Later Medieval Sources

There is still some debate as to the nature of early church organisation in Ireland, from the early missionaries and hermitic foundations to the emergence of diverse and complex ecclesiastical settlements and episcopal-monastic centres. The early medieval church could be characterised as a range of pastoral churches, private foundations, hermitic and powerful ecclesiastical estates, episcopal *civitates* in Latin, meaning ‘Cities of God’, with no clear governing central authority, and dynastic appointments, intertwined with secular ruling families and ambitions up until the AD 1001 Synod of Cashel, which abolished inheritance, and clerical marriage reducing dynastic influences. After the AD 1101, the Synod of Rathbressail and the AD 1152 Synod of Kells, the Primacy of Armagh was formally recognised and a national ecclesiastical administrative system of Parish, Diocese, and Arch-diocese or Metropolitan units established that broadly continues unchanged to this day. The parish church was located on the site in the middle ages and the west wall and adjoining part of the south wall of the medieval church survive on the site. The surrounding graveyard contains gravestones ranging in date from 1714 to c. 1800. The current parish church is located c. 1km to the northeast of the church and graveyard in Killyfuddy.

3.3 CONDITION ASSESSMENT

3.3.1 The Church MO012-070----

The church is under the patronage of St Laobhán and it is believed that it was once in use as a chapel-of ease to the parish church of Galloon in Co. Fermanagh (Foley and McHugh 2014, 750-7). The names of the clergy are not recorded as the chapel is not found in the ecclesiastical lists.

The church (dimensions c. 18.5m east–west; 5.75m north–south) is located the crest of the south-facing slope of an east–west ridge. The most extensive part of the church still standing today is the west wall of the church (length 7.4m). The adjoining section of the south wall of the church also survives (length 2.5m) but only portions of the footings of the remaining walls are still traceable. The west wall or gable does not have any evidence of a belfry but does contain an off-centre, narrow window with a re-used cusped ogee window-head.

3.3.2 The Graveyard MO012-070001-

The graveyard is subcircular or D-shaped and contains the church (MO012-070). Its dimensions are c. 50m northwest-southeast and c. 45m northeast-southwest.

Potentially the only aspect of the original boundary of the graveyard is represented by a scarp (width 2.2m; height 1.5m) and a slight outer ditch (width at base 0.5m; depth 0.1m) southwest-west, although its line merges into a field bank east–southwest. Straight scarps and outer ditches to the northeast (length c. 35m) and northwest (length c. 25m) mark the perimeter. Where these meet to the north there is a gateway to a roadway.

The inscriptions and engravings of the headstones in the graveyard have been recorded. They contain a variety of mortuary and trade symbols and date from 1714 to the 20th century. The earliest headstone belongs to Bryan Gagly to the south of the church and the latest memorial dates from 1949 at the southern edge of the graveyard. There are four main forms of memorial present in Killeevan graveyard; the ledger, wheeled cross headstone, slab headstone, and the rough marker. Mytum and Evans conducted an investigation of the headstones and concluded that the wheeled cross form was at its most popular in the 1740s before being replaced in popularity by the slab headstone. The ledger was used throughout the century, it was considered an elite form of burial. Whereas the rough marker seems to represent use of the graveyard by the poorer members of society. To the south and west of the church are examples of the earlier wheeled cross form while the east, north and peripheral areas contain the later slab form (Mytum *et al.* 2002, 137-141).

3.4 Archaeological sites in the surrounding landscape

The wider landscape around the church and graveyard contains a number of other archaeological features. The presence of a megalithic court tomb is evidence of an earlier ritualised landscape. There are twenty *rath*/ringfort sites nearby representing early medieval occupation of the area along with a crannog, souterrain in a *rath*, and enclosure. A redundant record that is recorded as an earthwork enclosure on McCrea’s 1793 map but has no visible evidence probably represents a *rath*. An ecclesiastical site that locals believe was a convent dedicated to a holy woman named Una is possibly an example of early medieval settlement. Another church and graveyard are located nearby in Annaghkilly, though the exact location is unknown. A mass-rock is evidence of Catholic activity and persecution in the landscape during the time of Penal Laws in Ireland. An unclassified castle, that only appears on McCrea’s map, is the only element of late medieval settlement. There are also three unrelated standing stone sites of indeterminate age throughout the area.

TABLE 2: Adjacent Recorded Archaeological Sites (RMPs) (Source: archaeology.ie)

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
MO012-071----	Killeevan Glebe	Standing Stone	Situated on the summit of a WNW-ESE drumlin ridge. This is a schist pillar with a square cross-section at the base (dims 0.9m N-S x 0.85m E-W; H 1.9m) and a roughly pointed top.	654945/825225 c. 95m northeast
MO017-009----	Davagh	Ringfort - rath	Circular area (28m NE-SW; 33m NW-SE) surrounded by earthen bank. No visible trace of fosse.	655267/824784 c. 540m southeast
MO012-	Cappog	Ringfort - rath	Located at the crest of the E-	654257/825070

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
068----			facing slope of a drumlin. This was described in 1968 as a circular grass-covered area (diam. 49m E-W; 48m N-S) that sloped down slightly to the NE defined by an earthen bank incorporated in a field bank (Wth c. 3m; int. H c. 0.6m; ext. H 1.5m) S-NW with an outer fosse E-SW, and a scarp elsewhere. The entrance (Wth of base 4.8m) and causeway (Wth of top 3.4m; H 0.3m) were at E. The perimeter had been removed W-N-SE by 1995 (OSAP).	c. 550m west
MO012-072----	Shanco	Ringfort - rath	Situated on top of a drumlin. This was described in 1968 as a circular grass-covered area (diam. 36m E-W; 34.5m N-S) defined by a grass-covered scarp (at N: Wth 4m; H 1.3m) that was incorporated into a field bank (at SW: Wth 1.7m; H 1.8m) and hedge S-W. There was no visible fosse or entrance. The field bank had been removed by 1995 (OSAP), but the vegetation mark reveals evidence of a fosse with a wide break, perhaps for a causeway at WNW.	655126/825655 c. 555m northeast
MO012-069----	Killycoonagh	Ringfort - rath	Located in a low-lying area with a mill-race skirting the perimeter S-W and there was a large mill-pond immediately to the W. It is depicted as an oval wooded feature described in gothic lettering as a 'fort' on the 1834 edition of the OS 6-inch map and as an oval hachured feature on the 1907 edition, by which time the mill-race and pond had been built. This is an oval grass-covered area (dims 33.3m NW-SE; 26m NE-SW) defined by an earthen scarp (at W: Wth 1.4m; H 1.7m) and hedge. The original entrance is not identified.	654797/825820 c. 640m north
MO017-010----	Corkeeran	Enclosure	Marked 'Fort' on 1835 OS 6-inch map. No visible surface traces.	655339/824513 c. 790m southeast
MO012-073----	Drumcaw	Crannog	Located in a poorly drained valley between drumlins. Drumcaw Lough is represented as an oval lake (max. dims c. 250m WNW-ESE; c. 110m NNE-SSW) on the	655499/825729 c. 845m northeast

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
			1834 edition of the OS 6-inch map with the crannog represented as an island close to the NE shore, but the lake would have extended further to the ESE (max. dim. c. 650m WNW-ESE). The lake is now a marshy pasture and the crannog is visible as an oval grass-covered rise (dims 15m N-S; 10m E-W; H 0.5m) with stone and charcoal in the matrix.	
MO017-008----	Killygone	Ringfort - rath	Oval area (41m N-S; 33m E-W) surrounded by earthen bank. No visible surface traces of fosse or entrance.	654362/824381 c. 885m southwest
MO012-067----	Killycoonagh	Ringfort - rath	Located on a hilltop. This is a subcircular grass-covered area (dims 32.3m N-S; 28.5m E-W) defined by an earthen bank or scarp (at SSW: Wth 1.2m; H 1.2m) and hedge, with traces of an external stone facing. There is a fosse (Wth of base 1.7m; D 0.6m) SSE-SW that can be traced in a slighter form SW-N-E. There is a ramp rising up the scarp at S, but its inner edge is closed.	654250/826003 c. 1km northwest
MO012-066----	Killycoonagh	Ecclesiastical site	Located in woodland at the crest of the W-facing slope of a NE-SW spur. There is a local tradition that there was a convent here dedicated to a holy woman named Una. It was reputedly burned in 1703 by a settler family called Barnett (IFC: 950, 201: https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes). It was a daughter house of a convent in Clones, and in crossing the Finn River just to the W by means of stepping stones a precious book was lost (IFC: 950, 473:). The reputed location is a small subrectangular or D-shaped area (dims c. 20m NE-SW; c. 18m NW-SE) defined by the bases of stone walls. The enclosed area is growing laurel and is connected by a laurel walk to Killycoonagh House c. 150m to the ESE. It was probably a landscape feature.	653832/825845 c. 1.19km northwest
MO012-065----	Annaghkilly	Standing stone	Located at the crest of the S-facing slope of a hill that is known as Fall Crom. The hill is thought to	653599/825584 c. 1.28km northwest

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
			have been an inauguration site of a branch of Ó Mórdha of Laois (Moore) who migrated here during the seventeenth century (Moore 2014). The stone is represented only on the 1907 edition of the OS 6-inch map as 'Ancient Stone (Site of)'. It was described in 1941 (SMR file) as 'two upright stones 3 feet high (c. 0.9m) remain in the hedge. Two or three others were removed some time ago.... The stones apparently formed a small ring.' No stones are present now, although a lot of field stones are in the field bank just to the N.	
MO017-006----	Ballynure	Ringfort - rath	Circular area (27.5m NE-SW; 28.5m NW-SE) surrounded by earthen bank with external fosse and an outer bank extending from SSW-W-NE. No fosse or outer bank elsewhere due to presence of a very steep natural slope. Gaps through inner bank at S and NE; latter is probably the original entrance. No corresponding gap in outer bank but this may be due to field fence modification.	653536/824662 c. 1.35km southwest
MO017-007----	Killygone	Ringfort - rath	Circular area (c. 33m N-S; 34.5m E-W) surrounded by artificial scarp. No visible surface trace of external fosse or entrance.	653611/824513 c. 1.35km southwest
MO012-064----	Annaghkilly	Mass-rock	Located at the crest of a N-facing slope and on the N side of an E-W field bank. This is a rectangular block (Wth 0.75m; H 1m; T 0.2-0,3m) with a flat top that slopes down slightly to the E. It is known locally as a mass-rock and was recorded in the School's manuscripts of the Folklore Commission (see this web-page accessed on 12/08/2016: http://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/5162164/5160483) although there are no tales relating to it. (Ó Gallachair 1957, 113)	653505/825746 c. 1.42km northwest
MO012-074----	Killyfuddy	Redundant record	Situated on a NE-SW drumlin ridge. An earthwork enclosure is depicted in this vicinity of Killyfuddy on McCrea's Map of County Monaghan (1793), but on	656218/825780 c. 1.47km northeast

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
			no other map, although it is listed as an earthwork (Brindley 1986, 26, No. 310). No archaeological feature is visible in pasture at this location, and the McCrea map is probably a representation of the rath (MO012-075----) c. 500m to the NE.	
MO017-011----	Lisalea	Ringfort - rath	Circular area (32m N-S; 33m E-W) surrounded by earthen bank and external fosse. No visible trace of entrance.	655592/823785 c. 1.53km southeast
MO012-063----	Annaghkilly	Graveyard	Situated on a NE-facing slope. The name Annaghkilly is derived from Eanach cille – the marsh of the church – and this townland had been owned by the Augustinian abbey of Clones before 1587 when it was leased by Henry Duke (Moore 2014). There is a local tradition of a church (MO012-063001-) and cemetery here. There are no visible surface traces of a church or graveyard, and the location is not certain, although it may be within a small copse.	653359/825700 c. 1.54km northwest
MO012-063001-	Annaghkilly	Church	Situated on a NE-facing slope. The name Ahaghkilly is derived from Eanach cille – the marsh of the church – and this townland had been owned by the Augustinian abbey of Clones before 1587 when it was leased by Henry Duke (Moore 2014). There is a local tradition of a church (MO012-063001-) and cemetery here. There are no visible surface traces of a church or graveyard, and the location is not certain, although it may be within a small copse.	653358/825698 c. 1.54km northwest
MO017-012----	Lisalea	Ringfort - rath	Circular area surrounded by two earthen banks with intervening fosse. Entrance with causeway at ESE.	655968/824006 c. 1.58km southeast
MO012-044----	Boughill	Ringfort - rath	Situated on a level, low-lying landscape. An enclosure is depicted at Boughill in this vicinity only on McCrea's Map of County Monaghan (1793), but it is not marked on any later map. No archaeological feature is evident at ground level but the precise location is not known.	655579/826648 c. 1.63km northeast

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
MO012-043----	Boughill	Ringfort - rath	Located on top of a low drumlin, at the crest of the E-facing slope. This is a subcircular grass and scrub-covered area (dims c. 42m N-S; c. 32m E-W), the E half of which slopes down steeply to the E, defined by a slight earthen bank or overgrown scarp (at W: Wth 2.6m; H 1.55m), with a small bank at the base of the scarp WSW-NW. There is no visible fosse and the original entrance is not identified.	655106/826795 c. 1.64km north
MO017-026----	Lisnagore	Ringfort - rath	Circular area (c. 35m ENE-WSW; 37m NNW-SSE) surrounded by earthen bank with external fosse.	653827/823804 c. 1.65km southwest
MO012-042----	Boughill	Ringfort - rath	Located on top of a drumlin with a N-S section of the River Finn c. 160m to the W. This is a circular overgrown platform (diam. 35m NW-SE; 33m NE-SW) defined by a scarp (H 1.2-1.6m) surrounded by an outer drystone wall that has largely collapsed. There is no visible fosse or entrance.	654895/826898 c. 1.7km north
MO012-047----	Killygorman	Ringfort - rath	Situated on the W shoulder of an ENE-WSW drumlin ridge. This is a circular area within a deciduous wood (diam. 26.5m E-W; 25m N-S) defined by a scarp (at W: H 2.4m), with slight traces of an outer fosse or berm (Wth c. 3m) at SW and an outer stone wall facing (H c. 1.8m) N-E. The original entrance is not identified.	655866/826564 c. 1.71km northeast
MO017-025----	Ellinure	Ringfort - rath	Oval area (26m E-W) surrounded by earthen bank. Interior rises towards centre.	653511/823956 c. 1.75km southwest
MO017-013----	Drumbaragh	Ringfort - rath	Marked 'Fort' on 1835 OS 6-inch map. No visible surface traces.	656582/824616 c. 1.8km southeast
MO012-049----	Killygorman	Standing stone	Situated on a low NW-SE ridge in a low-lying position between drumlins. This is an upright pillar with a subrectangular cross-section (dims 0.45-0.8m; 0.75-0.85m; H 1.05m) roughly aligned NW-SE and narrowing to a crest at the top.	656189/826472 c. 1.84km northeast
MO012-048----	Killygorman	Megalithic tomb - court tomb	Situated in a slight col on top of an ENE-WSW drumlin ridge with slightly higher ground to the E and WSW. This is a court-tomb	656009/826653 c. 1.86km northeast

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
			comprising a long cairn (L 30m; max. Wth 9m) aligned WNW-ESE. Incorporated in the cairn 15m from the W end are the remains of a gallery (L c. 9m; Wth 1.2m) divided into two chambers by segmenting jambs. Entry jambs at the W are doubled; the front pair are exceptionally large and well matched. The easternmost stone in the gallery, partly set inside the line of the chamber, may indicate further segmentation. Three kerb stones survive N of the gallery.	
MO012-062----	Annaghkilly	Ringfort - rath	Situated at the N end of a short N-S drumlin ridge. This is a circular fairly overgrown area (diam. 32m N-S; 31m E-W) that slopes down to the NW defined by an earthen bank (Wth c. 3m; int. H 0.3m at NW to 1m at SE (upslope); ext. H 1.4-1.7m) separated by a fosse (Wth of base c. 1.8m; ext. D c. 1.5m) from an outer bank (Wth c. 3m; ext. H c. 1.8m) that has an external stone facing. At the centre is a possible souterrain visible as a rock-cut circular depression (diam. of base 8m; max. D 1.6m), with a trench (L 7m; Wth 2m; max. D 1.3m) extending W from it, although it might be a quarry. The entrance through the inner (Wth 2.5m) and outer (Wth 2.5m) banks with traces of a causeway is at ENE.	652903/825391 c. 1.9km west
MO012-062001-	Annaghkilly	Souterrain	Situated at the N end of a short N-S drumlin ridge and at the centre of rath (MO012-062----). A rock-cut circular depression (diam. of base 8m; max. D 1.6m), with a trench (L 7m; Wth 2m; max. D 1.3m) extending W from it is visible, although it might be a quarry.	652899/825391 c. 1.9km west
MO017-005----	Ellinure	Ringfort - rath	Oval area (31m NE-SW; 41.5m NW-SE) on top of hillock defined by artificial scarp.	653088/824214 c. 1.95km southwest
MO012-046----	Conaghy	Castle - unclassified	A local tradition recorded in the Schools Collection of the Irish Folklore Commission relates that the ruins of Mahon's castle were on land then (1930s) owned by	655705/826957 c. 1.97km northeast

RMP. NO.	TOWNLAND	CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE TO COMPLEX/ITM
			<p>George Manly, on top of a hill in Conaghy. See this web-page accessed on 20/04/2016. http://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723854/4719271 Another page records that the castle was beside a fort http://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4723854/4719305 There is no other record of this castle. Conagh (5) is marked on the Down Survey (1656-8) map parish map, for which see this web-page http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/down-survey-maps.php#bm=Dartry&c=Monaghan but no structures are depicted there. No fort or castle at Conaghy is known from the OS 6-inch maps, but a fort is indicated there on William McCrea's map of Co. Monaghan (1793) on top of a hill. The hill is easily identified but the exact positions of either the castle or ringfort are not known.</p>	
MO012-045----	Conaghy	Ringfort - rath	<p>A circular earthwork is shown on a hill at Conaghy on McCrea's map of County Monaghan (1793) in the National Library of Ireland (MS 161.10). This is probably the same as the 'fort of the Cú (hounds) ...situated beside Mac Mahon's castle' (MO012-046----) known in the folk traditions (IFC: Schools' MSS: 946, 59: https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes). The hill is easily identified but the exact positions of either the castle or the rath are not known.</p>	655734/826985 c. 2km northeast

3.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

A review of the Excavations Bulletin has revealed that no previous archaeological fieldwork has taken place in Killeevan Glebe nor in a 2km radius around the site.

3.5 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

A number of historic cartographic sources have survived for Killeevan. These are as follows:

William Petty's Down Survey Map, Monaghan, Barony of Dartrey, 1656-8
 The Down Survey was the first attempt in the world to systematically map an area as large as Ireland at a scale of 40 perches to one inch. While there is very little detail in

the townland of Killeevan a church is depicted near the western limit in roughly the same location as the church and graveyard (MO012-070, MO012-070001). A road leads south from this church connecting it to 'The Highway to Belturbett'. No buildings or topographical features are depicted, save for an area of 'bog' to the southeast.

William McCrea's Barony Map of Dartrey, 1793

This mapping is more detailed than Petty's, rivers, lakes, and topographical features are shown more clearly. The area has become more developed as evidenced by the road network. The church and graveyard are still depicted and to their east the village of Killeevan is seen for the first time with St Luke's Church (NIAH Ref. 41401251) to its immediate north.

First Edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey Map, 1837, scale 1:10560

This is the first accurate historic mapping coverage of Killeevan Glebe. The church and graveyard are depicted and show the extent of the area though they are now marked as in ruins. The Glebe House is marked to the east along a road that connects the graveyard to Killeevan village. The village is depicted as a small linear arrangement of buildings along the main street in the townland of Shanco which borders Killeevan Glebe to its east. A corn mill is found at the river beside a quarry to the northeast. There is a turret to the immediate northwest of the graveyard. Most of the surrounding area is still rural.

Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, scale 1:2500

Not much has changed since the previous mapping. Killeevan village has slightly expanded and contains a smithy and school. St Luke's Church is now marked as in ruins and a new church, St Laebhan's Church, can be found just south of the road between the rectory/glebe house and the village. A standing stone is now marked to the immediate northeast of the graveyard.

3.7 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage for Killeevan Glebe area held by the Ordnance Survey, Google Earth and Bing Maps was undertaken with the goal of identifying any features of archaeological potential surrounding the site of the church and graveyard. Inspection of the aerial photographic coverage did not reveal any previously unidentified archaeological features. Between 2005 and 2015 the peripheral vegetation in the graveyard appears to have been thinned out.



Figure 2: Aerial view of the church and graveyard

3.8 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY/HERITAGE

Killeevan church and graveyard are located within the townland of Killeevan Glebe. The surrounding townlands consist of Latroe, Davagh, Drumacoon, Shanco, Drumcaw, and Killycoonagh. These townlands are located within the parish of Killeevan, Barony of Dartree, County Monaghan.

3.8.1 Place Name Analysis

Townland and topographic names are an invaluable source of information on topography, land ownership and land use within the landscape. They also provide information on history; archaeological monuments and folklore of an area. A place name may refer to a long-forgotten site and may indicate the possibility that the remains of certain sites may still survive below the ground surface. The Ordnance Survey surveyors wrote down townland names in the 1830's and 1840's, when the entire country was mapped for the first time. Some of the townland names in the study area are of Irish origin and through time have been anglicised. The main references used for the place name analysis were Logainm and the Schools' Collection. A description and possible explanation of each townland name in the environs of Killeevan are provided below.

Killeevan (Parish) / Killeevan Glebe (Townland): *Cill Laobháin* in Irish, meaning 'church of St Laobhán'. Though it has also been translated as 'church of the calves'. Also recorded as *Killyvan* (1591), *Killeuan* (1655), *Kileevan* (1659), *Killevan* (c. 1660), *Killeevan* (1664), *Keakeoavan* (c. 1671), *Killivan* (1725), *Killeevan* (1793), *Killeevan* (1825), and *Killevin / Cill Laobhain / St. Laevan's church* (1835). The Glebe House was built in 1812 (Clerkin 2009, 14; Logainm.ie; Shirley 1979, 335).

The surrounding placenames in the area are numerous references to topographical features, e.g. Killycoonagh, *Coillidh Chuanach* in Irish, meaning 'O'Cooney's wood'; Drumcaw, *Droim Chatha* in Irish, meaning 'Ridge of the chaff'; Shanco, *An Seanchuach*

in Irish, meaning 'old hollow'; Drumacoon, *Droim Mhic Comhainn* in Irish, meaning 'Mac Cavan's ridge'; Davagh, *Dabhach* in Irish, meaning 'a keeve' or 'a well'; and Latroe, *An Leacht Rua* in Irish, meaning 'red monument' (logainm.ie).

The old village of Killeevan was known as Shanmullen in the Cromwellian era due to the presence of a corn mill 40 perches away. In 1770 Shanmullen and Shanco were freely interchanged with each other as the village's name but by 1830 Shanco was the only name in use. This name was in turn given up in 1873 and named Killeevan instead, after the parish it is located within (Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, p. 201-2).

3.8.2 Cultural Heritage Sites

The term 'cultural heritage' can be used as an over-arching term that can be applied to both archaeology and architecture. However, it also refers to more ephemeral aspects of the environment, which are often recorded in folklore or tradition or possibly date to a more recent period. Killeevan graveyard is mentioned in relation to a folktale about a giant. The folk memory of this farm represents an example of a cultural heritage site.

3.8.3 Folklore

A number of entries from the schools' folklore collection contain references to Killeevan and elements of the surrounding landscape:

There was once a Giant who lived in a house at the back of Mr Tom Greenan's Quarry.

The remains of the old house are to be seen yet, and a hundred years ago the walls and doorway were still standing. It is said that the door way was ten feet heigh and four feet wide.

He was supposed to be nine feet, nine inches tall, and weighed fifty five stones.

He was buried in the old graveyard beyond the rectory at Killeevan. His name was Seamus McCaffery.

The stone steps at Killeevan School house door way are parts of the broken tomb stone over his grave, and were taken from the graveyard by a man named Duffy, over eighty years ago.

This is absolutely true.

(Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, pp. 342-3)

The following entry describes a graveyard in Killygone however the description of the building in the graveyard and its proximity to a glebe suggest that this is a mistake and that the location should be Killeevan instead. The entry includes information about the legendary foundation of the graveyard:

There is an old churchyard up at the glebe. The name of the townland in which the churchyard is situated is Killygone.

There are many old tomb stones in it. Some of them have skulls and cross bones and bells, birds and many other things as well carved on them. There is

also a vault in it too, and the Virgin Mary is carved on it. The ruins of the church is still there and it is covered with ivy.

There is one small window in the gable of it. There are trees all round the graveyard. It is said that Saint Patrick laid the foundation stone of that church. The children who are not christened are buried in that graveyard. There is a girl buried in the vault in the old graveyard in Killeevan and her slippers and clothes are laid out at the side of her coffin. She wanted her slippers and clothes when she died.

The age of the graveyard is eighteen hundred years.

(Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, pp. 316-7)

The reason for the ruinous state of the church and an alternate religious founder are given in the entry below:

The county of Monaghan for one thing can boast of having one of the oldest Catholic churches in the province. The building is situated in the town-land of Latroe, near Killeevan. It is now overgrown with weeds and briars and there is not much of it now standing, having been reduced to ruins by Cromwells army.

Long ago when Cromwell was passing through county Monaghan he noticed it to be a Catholic church, blew it down, with big cannons and handed the graveyard over to the protestants. In this graveyard there are two kinds of graves, graves of Protestants and graves of Catholics. The tombstones are all half sunken but these are not the oldest of them because there are others fully sunken. It was used for burying ground up to about five years ago but it is not used now.

It is said that St. Livinus built this Church. There is an old story told about the building of it. Livinus employed men to build it. Every day there came a bullock to them. Livinus told them to kill the bullock and cook it and eat it but to not break the bones. One day when they were eating it a man named McMahan broke one of the bones. Livinus put a curse on the McMahons. He said that the wall might never fall till it would fall on a McMahan, so, the McMahons are careful not to go near this wall.

(Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, p. 356)

Killeevan church and graveyard are very close to the townland boundary with Latroe and offer an explanation as to the site's location in the entry. The closest church dedicated to St Livinus is in Killyfuddy, c. 975m to the northeast and it is possible information about two separate churches have been conflated as there is no tradition of Killeevan church and graveyard being associated with Livinus.

There is a structure c. 115m to the northwest of the graveyard described as a mausoleum by the NIAH survey (41401241). An entry about the Barony of Dartree in the Schools' Folklore Collection describes this structure and its connection to the 1798 Rebellion:

Near this place [Killeevan church and graveyard] is a small hill called the torist hill on which there are the remains of an old observatory built by the Rev. Mr. Wright, the then rector of the parish, 50 years prior to Donovan visiting the scene, and which Rev. Mr. Campbell in the day of '98 used as an auxiliary outlook for watching the movements of the United Irishmen of whom Mr. Hamill was Captain, whose descendants are still happily amongst us to the present day.

(Schools' Folklore Collection MSS 950, p. 203)

4 ASSESMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

4.1 HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Examination of each of the elements that make up the whole of an historic place provides a wider perspective and context for the whole site. This assessment of significance is based on the various elements which distinguish Killeevan Glebe as a special place and an analysis of the combination of these various elements and the ways in which they combine.

4.2 ARCHITECTURAL AND ARTISTIC SIGNIFICANCE

The headstones in Killeevan graveyard bear an artistic significance that ties into the wider area. The works of two local sculptors known as the 'Puppy skull carver' and the 'Lozenge nose carver' are seen in Killeevan and at graveyards in Edergole, Tydavnet, and Clones. The works of these two artists/tradesfolk are clearly distinct from other headstones in the 1720s to 1740s (Roycroft *et al.* 2009, 65, 67).

4.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

TBC

4.4 SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

TBC

4.5 ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

TBC

5 ASSESSMENT OF CONSERVATION ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

TBC

5.2 POTENTIAL THREATS

TBC

5.3 RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GAPS

TBC

5.4 TOURISM, INTERPRETATION AND SITE ACCESS

TBC

5.5 PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE SETTING

TBC

6 POLICIES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 POLICIES

6.1.1 Policy 1: Protection and Retention of the Historic Integrity of the Site

To place the conservation of all elements of early Christian Killeevan, both known and unknown, and the protection of the significance of its various elements at the heart of planning and management of the monuments.

Policy 1.1 A Steering Group should be established, which includes representatives of the key stakeholders, to oversee the implementation of the Conservation Plan policies and recommendations.

6.1.2 Policy 2: Conservation, Repair and Maintenance

To implement effective regimes for maintenance and repair, while protecting the significance and historic integrity of the various elements of early Christian Killeevan while observing exemplary standards of conservation practice.

Policy 2.1 Undertake any proposed conservation and repair with reference to the principles outlined in the ICOMOS Venice, Burra and Washington Charters, promoting an approach of minimum intervention rather than restoration.

6.1.3 Policy 3: Enhancement and Improvement

To enhance the historic character and visual qualities of the various elements of early Christian Killeevan by consolidating eroding elements, removing intrusive elements and addressing impacts upon setting.

6.1.4 Policy 4: Access and Interpretation

To encourage public understanding and enjoyment of the various elements of early Christian Killeevan, by promoting both physical and intellectual access to the monuments and meeting the needs of a broad variety of users.

Policy 4.1 Align with Section 6 of the 1995 Heritage Act to promote interest, education, knowledge and pride in, and facilitate the appreciation and enjoyment of the national heritage.

6.1.5 Policy 5: Research, Education and Tourism

To develop an understanding of the various elements of early Christian Killeevan through informed archaeological investigation and research, ensuring their preservation in an accessible form. To promote the various elements as an integral site of interest and a historical resource for learning about the past.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

TBC

6.3 IMPLEMENTATION

General inspection of monument	
Task	Visual inspection to identify any sudden changes such as vandalism, development of potential risks etc
Location	Roundtower, House-shaped shrine, headstones, access, High Cross
Equipment	None
Frequency	Monthly
Comments	This task will ensure that any potentially damaging changes are captured in the short term.

Dry cleaning of surfaces	
Task	Inspection of horizontal surfaces to remove accumulation of leaf litter, general litter, dust, etc
Location	Access paths to front and rear of graveyard, plinth of High Cross
Equipment	Brush, protective clothing, rubbish bags
Frequency	Monthly
Comments	This task will reduce the risk of slips and trips which may occur due to the accumulation of mossy growth, leaf litter etc. Also help to improve the general appearance of the graveyard.

Treatment of snow and ice	
Task	Application of 'salt' to slippery surfaces
Location	Access paths to front and rear of graveyard
Equipment	None
Frequency	When required
Comments	This task should be carried out when there is a possibility of snow/ice accumulation. Consideration should be given to the visual impact of the 'salt' residue.

Treatment of minor vegetation such as weeds	
Task	Removal of weeds
Location	Access paths, wall, High Cross
Equipment	Spraying equipment, hand tools
Frequency	Annually
Comments	Due cognisance should be given to the fact that any works, including vegetation clearance, directly affecting a National Monument will need to be carried out under Ministerial Consent.

Redecoration of metalwork	
Task	Repainting metalwork
Location	Access gateways, railing around High Cross
Equipment	Painter's equipment and suitable paint
Frequency	Biennial
Comments	It should be established who is currently responsible for this work in order to avoid duplication of treatment.

6.4 IMMEDIATE/SHORT TERM ACTIONS

TBC

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