



ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHOD STATEMENT
AND SCHEDULE OF WORKS CMF 2026
STREAM 1
Kilpipe Church and Graveyard,
Co. Wicklow.

WI039-015----Church
WI039-015001- Graveyard

Preservation Order
PO no. 131/1940

Yvonne Whitty and John Kelly
February 2026

Wicklow County Council (Stream 1)

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1. Summary

This Archaeological and Engineering Method Statement has been jointly prepared by the Project Archaeologist (Yvonne Whitty) and the Conservation Engineer and Project Manager (John Kelly, CARE-registered) in support of an application to the Community Monuments Fund 2026, Stream 1, for conservation works at Kilpipe Church (WI039-015), a Recorded Monument protected under Preservation Order No. 131/1940.

The proposed works are repair-led, conservative and non-invasive, confined entirely to the above-ground fabric of the medieval church. No excavation, ground reduction or disturbance of archaeological stratigraphy is proposed. The project focuses on the stabilisation, consolidation and repointing of vulnerable masonry, together with the careful management and temporary storage of displaced stone.

The methodology has been developed collaboratively to ensure that structural stabilisation requirements are fully aligned with archaeological best practice. All interventions will follow the principles of minimum intervention, compatibility of materials, reversibility where feasible, and preservation in situ. The conservation works will be undertaken under continuous archaeological and engineering supervision, with detailed recording carried out before, during and after intervention.

The project is informed by a Conservation Management Plan completed in 2023 and subsequent condition assessment. The monument remains vulnerable due to vegetation growth, mortar loss and weather exposure, and sections of the standing fabric are at risk of further deterioration.

Stream 1 funding will enable the implementation of carefully controlled conservation measures designed to arrest ongoing decay and secure the long-term stability of the monument, while safeguarding its archaeological integrity and historic character within its graveyard setting.

2. Site Location

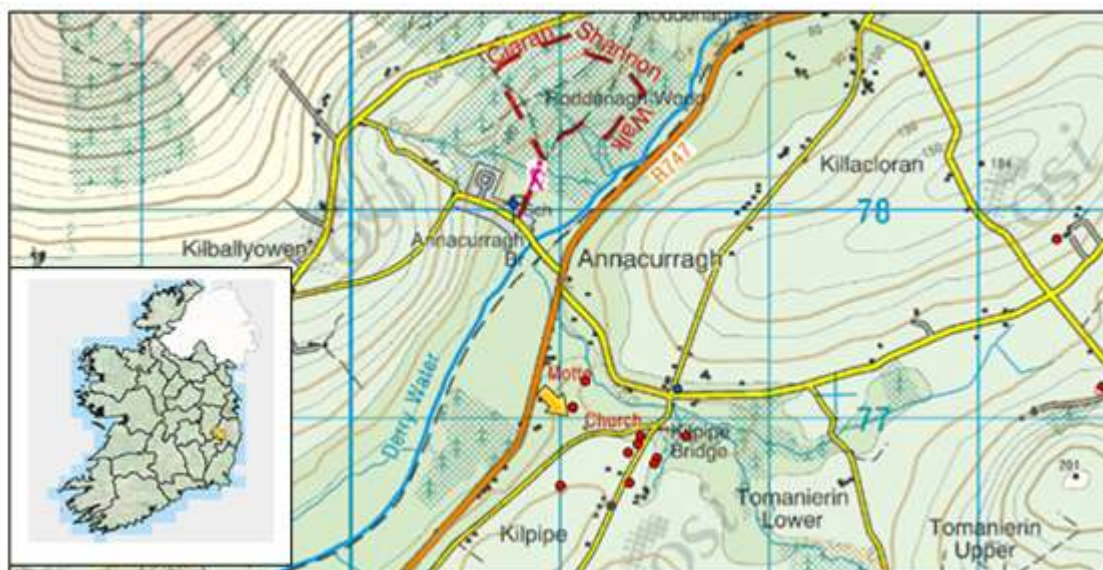


Figure 1: Site location (www.archaeology.ie).

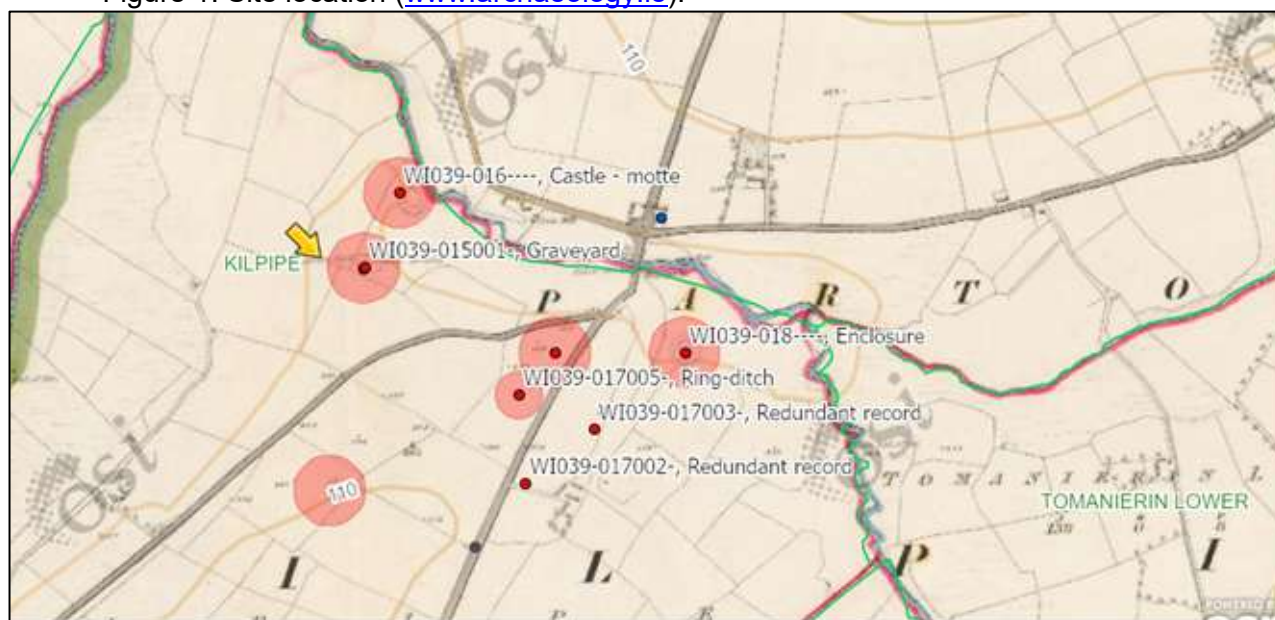


Figure 2: Site location Kilpipe Church (www.archaeology.ie).

Below information extracted from www.archaeology.ie for Kilpipe Church.

WI039-015----

Class: Church

Townland: KILPIPE

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on level ground on the summit of a small NE-SW ridge. A rectangular church (max. dims. 16m E-W; 7.15m N-S) with an apsidal chamber at the E end in which there is a single narrow, round-headed window. There are three similar evenly spaced windows in the N and S walls, and a door at the W end. The church contains some 18th-century headstones and is at the W side of a rectangular graveyard (dims. 40m x 30m) defined by an earth and stone bank (Wth

2m; H 0.2-1.6m) with an external facing of drystone walling and an external fosse (Wth 1.8m; D 0.5m). A motte (WI039-016----) occurs 150m to the NE.

WI039-015001-

Class: Graveyard

Townland: KILPIPE

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on level ground on the summit of a small NE-SW ridge. A roughly rectangular graveyard (dims. 40m x 30m) with a church (WI039-015----) on the W side. The graveyard is defined by an earth and stone bank (Wth 2m; H 0.2-1.6m) with an external facing of drystone walling and an external fosse (Wth 1.8m; D 0.5m). A motte (WI039-016----) occurs 150m to the NE.

WI039-016----

Class: Castle - motte

Townland: KILPIPE

Scheduled for inclusion in the next revision of the RMP: Yes

Description: Situated on the NE edge of a natural ridge. Oval site (max. ext. dims. 62m NNE-SSW; 50m NNW-SSE) consisting of a flat-topped mound (dims, on summit 41.5m NNE-SSW; 32m NNW-SSE) formed by the modification of the ridge. Surrounded by a steep-sided fosse and an external bank (Wth 3.5-4.5m; H 1.5m). Access is via a ramp ascending to the summit by two bends from base of fosse at the SE side. A church stands 150m to the SW (WI039-015----). (CUCAP, BDQ72).



Plate 1: Ruins of church at Kilpipe WI039-015.



Plate 2: Church WI039-015 in relation to motte WI039-016 (as described in the SMR files).



Plate 3: Overview of church after vegetation trimming.



Plate 4: Overview of chancel and apsidal chamber of church.



Plate 5: Voussoir construction of chancel arch.



Plate 6: View of window opening in the apsidal chamber facing southwest, note how there is a small projection of masonry from the north wall, this is evident on the drawing of the church, Plate 8 below.



Plate 7: External northwest elevation.



Plate 8: Frazer and Beranger illustration of Kilpipe Church, Co. Wicklow¹

The above illustration is a view of the ruins of Kilpipe Church, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow. It is undated but is a copy by William Frazer after an original drawing by Gabriel Beranger after Stephen Reilly. The full record details in the NLI notes that Beranger, Gabriel was alive ca. 1729-1817 and artist Frazer, William, d. 1905, artist. What is noticeable is that the church is in ruins presumably at the time of Beranger's drawing. There is no roof on the church and there are only three open windows

¹ Frazer, William, and Gabriel Beranger. Kilpipe Church, County Wicklow. Context: Kilpipe Church, County Wicklow (nli.ie). Accessed 22/10/2023

depicted. It is possible that the middle one was blocked up by the time of this illustration and it was simply not noted by the artist, there is a tree at the location of this blocked window. The entire window of the apsidal chamber has collapsed however at the time of the drawing it appears that the window opening was framed by a flat wall. It is interesting to note that traces of this design are visible today as highlighted by the white arrow above and Plate 6. This feature will be retained during conservation works.

3. Statement of Significance

Cultural significance, as defined by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), refers to the ability of places to enrich people's lives by connecting them to their community, environment, and heritage. This connection often spans generations and is deeply rooted in both shared history and personal experiences. Kilpipe Church embodies these qualities, representing an important cultural and historical landmark. Its significance is multi-dimensional, reflecting the key values highlighted by the Burra Charter: architectural, historical, archaeological, cultural and social significance.

Architectural Significance

Kilpipe Church is an important example of early medieval ecclesiastical architecture in Ireland. The surviving ruins, including a distinctive chancel arch and an apsidal chamber, suggest a structure of considerable craftsmanship. The use of a semi-circular apse is particularly notable, as it is an uncommon feature in Irish medieval churches, adding to its architectural rarity.

Historical Significance

Kilpipe Church has a long history, with its earliest recorded reference dating back to 1179 when it was confirmed as a possession of the Diocese of Glendalough. However, historical and toponymic evidence suggests that the site predates the Norman invasion. It has witnessed periods of both Gaelic and Anglo-Norman influence, reflecting broader regional power struggles. In 1760, a decision was taken by the church authorities to move the site of worship away from the medieval church and in 1765 a new church was built 5km away.

Archaeological Significance

Kilpipe Church is part of a wider archaeological landscape that includes a graveyard, a motte (WI039-016), and a possible settlement site. The presence of a nearby Norman motte (as detailed in the SMR files), potentially with a detached bailey, suggests that Kilpipe was a focal point for both religious and defensive activities during the medieval period. The land is undeveloped in the vicinity of the church and future geophysical surveys and future archaeological investigations could reveal further evidence of early Christian and medieval occupation.

Cultural Significance

Kilpipe Church holds cultural significance as one of the few remaining churches in south Wicklow.

It serves as a tangible link to the religious, social, and political transformations that shaped the region over the centuries. The church and graveyard also provide an important genealogical resource, as many families with historical ties to the area can trace their ancestors to burials within the site.

Social Significance

Kilpipe Church is embedded in the collective memory of the local community. Though now in ruins, it continues to hold symbolic and educational value. Community-led conservation efforts, supported by Wicklow County Council and the CMF highlight the church's role in fostering a sense of place and belonging. Plans to engage local schools further reinforce its contemporary relevance.

4. Historical Background²

The detailed historical and archaeological assessment of Kilpipe Church is set out in the Conservation Management Plan prepared in 2023 (Appendix 1). The following provides a concise summary of the key historical context relevant to the proposed Stream 1 conservation works.

Kilpipe Church (WI039-015) is first recorded in 1179, when it was confirmed as a possession of the Diocese of Glendalough. However, both toponymic evidence and its architectural form suggest a likely pre-Norman origin. The use of the prefix Cill (church) and its location on a frontier landscape between early medieval territories support an early ecclesiastical foundation.

Architecturally, the church is of particular importance due to the survival of an apsidal east end and well-preserved chancel arch. The semi-circular apse is an uncommon feature in Irish medieval churches and contributes significantly to the monument's architectural rarity within County Wicklow. The surviving fabric demonstrates skilled masonry construction using local sandstone with quartz and shale inclusions.

The church occupies a prominent position within a sub-rectangular graveyard defined by an earth and stone bank and external fosse. Approximately 150m to the north-east lies a substantial earthwork (WI039-016), interpreted as a Norman motte or ringwork castle. The proximity of this earthwork suggests that Kilpipe formed part of a broader medieval settlement and defensive landscape.

Following the Anglo-Norman invasion of the late 12th century, the surrounding lands formed part of the manor of Kynalo (or Kynaloh), granted to Maurice de Prendergast and later associated with the de Wogan and de Valence families within the Lordship of Wexford. Documentary references from the 13th and 14th centuries confirm the continued ecclesiastical function of Kilpipe during a period

² The following historical overview is a summary based on the Conservation Management Plan prepared by Dwyer (2023), supplemented by site inspection and archaeological assessment by Whitty.

when the region was a contested frontier between Anglo-Norman and Gaelic powers. By the early 15th century, papal records attest to clerical appointments to the rectory of Kilpipe, indicating its sustained role within the diocesan structure of Ferns despite wider political instability.

The church remained in use until the mid-18th century. In 1760 a decision was taken to relocate worship to a new site approximately 5km away, and the medieval structure was intentionally de-roofed. By the late 18th century the building was in ruin, as depicted in early illustrations attributed to Gabriel Beranger. Thereafter, the structure continued in use as a burial ground and has remained a prominent landmark within the rural landscape.

Today, Kilpipe Church survives as a roofless but substantially intact medieval ruin. While the monument retains considerable architectural and archaeological value, ongoing deterioration due to vegetation growth, mortar loss and weather exposure has placed sections of the fabric at risk. The proposed Stream 1 works seek to stabilise and conserve this significant historic structure, ensuring its continued survival within its historic setting.

Kilpipe currently presents conservation issues which, if left un-remedied, will lead to further deterioration of the surviving masonry. A structural assessment and condition report has been prepared by Dermot Nolan Historic Buildings Consultant and Consulting Engineer and is attached to this application in the CMP. The main issues of threat to this monument are:

- Ongoing deterioration of the overall fabric of the building.
- Collapsed masonry
- Invasive vegetation

5. Team, Roles and Responsibilities

The Stream 1 conservation works at Kilpipe Church will be delivered through a clearly defined project structure, with roles and responsibilities assigned to ensure effective management, statutory compliance and protection of the archaeological fabric.

Project Oversight and Compliance

Deirdre Burns – Project Oversight and Compliance Coordinator (Heritage Officer, Wicklow Co Co)

Deirdre Burns will provide project oversight and compliance coordination, as envisaged in the CMF Handbook. She will ensure that the CMP process aligns with CMF requirements and best-practice heritage management and will provide advisory input at key stages of the project and administer the grant payments.

Project Archaeologist

Yvonne Whitty – Project Archaeologist

In line with CMF requirements, Yvonne Whitty will ensure that all specific conditions attached to the grant, if awarded, are complied with in full. Yvonne will be responsible for archaeological oversight, including pre-works recording, monitoring of all conservation activities, identification and recording of archaeological features or fabric exposed during the works, and preparation of the final archaeological report.

Conservation Engineer

John Kelly, David Kelly Partnership: B.E., M.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.Struct.E., M.I.E.I., FConsEI (CARE-registered)

John Kelly will act as Project Manager for the Stream 1 works and will have overall responsibility for programme management, sequencing of works, coordination of the project team and delivery of the conservation works in accordance with the approved methodology, drawings and specifications.

Ecologist

Faith Wilson – Ecologist

Faith Wilson will be responsible for ecological assessment, preparation of the Bat Derogation Licence application, and monitoring of compliance with licence conditions during the works.

Stone Masons TBC following tendering

The Conservation Contractor will carry out all masonry repairs and associated works under the direction of the Project Manager and in consultation with the Project Archaeologist and Compliance Coordinator, ensuring that all interventions are undertaken in a careful, repair-led and reversible manner.

6. Description of the Proposed Works/Project – See Appendix 2 for detailed information.

Below is a schedule of Stream 1 works to Kilpipe Church prepared by CARE registered project engineer John Kelly.

Schedule of works Stream 1 Kilpipe

Apse

- 1 External - Pack crack with NHL 2 mortar and grout the cracks.
- 2 Remove the ivy and vegetation from the wall tops. Lift and reset any loose masonry in NHL 2 mortar.
- 3 Consolidate wall ends with NHL 2 mortar. Rebuild core as necessary to support overhanging masonry above.
- 4 Internal - rake out and repoint eroded joints with NHL 2 mortar.

North Wall

- 5 External – Remove the ivy and vegetation from the wall tops. Lift and reset any loose masonry and re-bed in NHL 2 mortar.
- 6 External – Consolidate core and broken wall ends in NHL 2 mortar, reinstating core as necessary to support overhanging masonry.
- 7 External – Remove ivy and repoint eroded joints with NHL 2 mortar both faces

Chancel Arch

- 8 Remove ivy and vegetation at wall tops. Lift and rest loose stone as rough-racked masonry in NHL 3.5 mortar
- 9 Repoint the eroded joints on both wall faces with NHL 2 mortar and pinnings.

South Wall

- 10 Remove the ivy and vegetation and repoint eroded joints with NHL 2 mortar - both faces
- 11 External - Consolidate the exposed core where the wall is broken back at wall ends using NHL 2 mortar and pinning stones as necessary.
- 12 External – Remove the ivy and vegetation from the wall top. Lift and re-bed any loose masonry in NHL 2 mortar.

Materials

The works will reuse the existing loose stone on the site wherever possible. Rebuilding will only be undertaken where required to ensure the long-term structural stability of the walls.

This will require the gathering of loose masonry and the sorting of stone piles currently within the site, all under archaeological supervision. The introduction of new stone is to be avoided but, if required, it will be sourced locally to match historic masonry in material and colour.

New lime mortar will be used for repointing, consolidation and bedding of masonry. The design of the mortar will be informed by mortar analysis where this is possible and will use a weak natural hydraulic lime or hot-mixed lime and pozzolan-based mortar.

Methodology

Conservation work on this Recorded Monument will be the subject of regular inspection by the project team. It is a requirement of this project that the masons employed on the works be experienced in the conservation of masonry in historic buildings/National or Recorded Monuments.

Ivy Removal

Where ivy removal is deemed to be necessary in areas designated for conservation work by this Method Statement, the following procedure shall be adopted.

The ivy shall be removed beginning at the outer and top edges of the growth. It may be necessary to carefully lever the stem and aerial rootlets away from the face of the structure taking care not to disturb the masonry. True roots embedded in the structure should be carefully teased out, pulling out the entire root where possible. Deeply embedded roots may need to be cut. All cut surfaces shall be treated immediately with neat glyphosate herbicide.

All heavy ivy stems will be drilled at the base of the stem and injected with herbicide using sustained release plugs (Ecoplugs or similar).

Making a Record

A high-resolution ortho-rectified photography (photographic plans/elevations to scale) survey of the monument has been undertaken. When vegetation has been removed, and prior to the commencement of work on the masonry, cleared areas are small, will be photographed by the team and added as a supplement to the record. This record will be sufficiently accurate to allow individual stones to be identified and located. If dismantling of masonry is required, the contractor will use this record to mark on enlarged copies of the survey drawings the location of each labelled stone for reinstatement in their original positions.

Consolidation of Wall Tops

Work to wall tops will involve the careful removal of accumulated humus and the lifting of those stones only which have been displaced by vegetation. The cleaned wall tops will then be consolidated by resetting any disturbed masonry and repointing around the remainder of the masonry carefully shaped to allow water to be shed from the top of the wall.

Consolidation of wall tops must be preceded by the creation of a record as described above. Once the archaeological recording has been completed and the working full-size drawing is made, work

on cleaning the wall top may proceed carefully removing vegetation and ensuring to kill off any deep-rooted plants. Stones may be removed only where they are fully loose or where their removal is necessary to eliminate saplings etc. The wall top is then re-set, mortared and pointed but, in doing so, the top of the wall should not be fully filled with mortar rather it should be left in the shape in which it was found, the only change being to ensure that rainwater will drain away from the top surface and not pond. Where erosion of the mortar extends down several courses, the procedure to follow would be to grout, either by gravity or using a hand operated grout pump to ensure that voids are refilled with lime mortar or grout.

Dismantling and Rebuilding (if found to be necessary)

Repair of protected structures or monuments proceeds on the basis of minimum intervention. There will, however, be occasions when dismantling and rebuilding is warranted, in this case small areas of wall-top too fragile to be conserved as-is may need to be dismantled and rebuilt in order to ensure the stability of adjoining sections of wall.

The procedure to be followed is described below.

Number and record the positions of each stone prior to dismantling. Dedicate an area of adjoining scaffolding for spreading and sorting the dismantled stone. Lay geotextile for spreading stone. Separate dressed and facing stone from core material. Separate pinning stones and store separately. Identify and number all dressed stone and as many as possible individual facing stones.

The team will be available on site at the outset and as necessary during this identification process.

Rebuild the wall bedding the masonry in lime mortar designed to replicate the original mortar based on an analysis of a sample of the original mortar, placing the identified stones in their original location. The masonry should be rebuilt in character with the surviving wall in similar style and workmanship, taking account of the style and shape of any pinnings, coursing patterns, stone shapes and the like to replicate, as closely as possible, the rhythm of the surrounding masonry. It may be useful to get up a grid using a frame with mason's lines or similar to facilitate the reconstruction.

Rebuilding alone may not be sufficient to secure the section of wall and it may be necessary to incorporate modern materials such as stainless steel or bronze to tie sections of the wall together and so avoid a replication of the original cause of deterioration.

The rebuilt section is classified as new work and will be marked as such.

Repointing

Repointing must be preceded by careful cleaning of the joints. All vegetable matter and decayed mortar needs to be removed and the joint cleaned before repointing. Samples of the raked-out mortar will be recovered for analysis. A groundsheet or plywood over plastic will be spread on the ground when raking out old masonry to capture the coarse aggregate.

A sieve analysis of a substantial sample of the mortar will be undertaken, so that the texture of the replacement mortar will match the original as closely as possible. An analysis of the sand and grit may also help to identify the source which will usually have been relatively local. The lime for the new mortar mix will be a natural hydraulic lime selected to replicate the properties of the original mortar. The mortar will be made with NHL 3.5, in combination with sand and grit. The sand needs to be washed and sharp and graded as close as is practicable to the sand in the original mortar. Coarse aggregate (grit), 12mm and down, will also be added in the proportion in which it occurred in the original mortar. The exact ratio of lime to sand and grit will be determined by the mortar analysis, the grading of the sand being used and the degree of exposure of the wall.

Sample panels of various lime and sand mixes will be carried out to find the closest match before further works are carried out. The contractor should have buckets of different size/type round aggregate on site from the start to ascertain the best mix.

New mortar will be pressed into the joint to a depth at least one and a half times the height of the masonry joint to ensure the stability of the new pointing mortar. The mortar, properly mixed, should be quite fat in texture, but with a well-controlled water content so that the mortar when placed remains firm. Pinnings will be inserted in large joints to reduce the depth of the joint to 15mm to 20mm.

The mortar will be tightly packed in the joint to ensure that it engages with the masonry and struck off level with the face of the stone. (In the raking out process some joints will be raked through the core of the wall in a regular pattern and a plastic grout tube fitted and held in place by the repointing mortar).

As the mortar is hardening up it will be hammered on the face with a bristle brush to finally tighten up the joint and to expose the coarse aggregate in the mortar. The contractor will be required to undertake sample repointing for approval.

The repointing guidance published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage will be given to the contractor in advance of the works and its recommendations shall be implemented in full.

Grouting (if found to be necessary)

It is not anticipated that grouting will be necessary but it is possible that some minor grouting of the surviving inner face of the collapsed section may be needed in addition to repointing to reintegrate the two faces with the core of the wall.

On completion of the repointing, a lime grout sometimes containing an intrusion aid such as “casein” may be pumped in using a hand operated grout pump and commencing at the lowest grout tubes. Pumping will continue until the grout appears at the next tube vertically. At this stage the stainless-steel twist ties will be inserted into the grout holes. Both tubes will then temporarily plugged and the sequence continued along the wall and thence to the next level, etc.

As the grout hardens the grout tubes will be withdrawn and the joints repointed. Grout, by virtue of its high water content, is not suitable for filling very large voids which may have to be opened up to allow sufficient access for conventional filling with mortar and small stones.

Stainless-steel ties shall be inserted in the grout holes. Ties shall be 8mm diameter helical stainless-steel ties approximately 1.5m in length. The outer end of the tie shall be 50mm inside the face of the wall in each case.

Locations of Recommended Measures

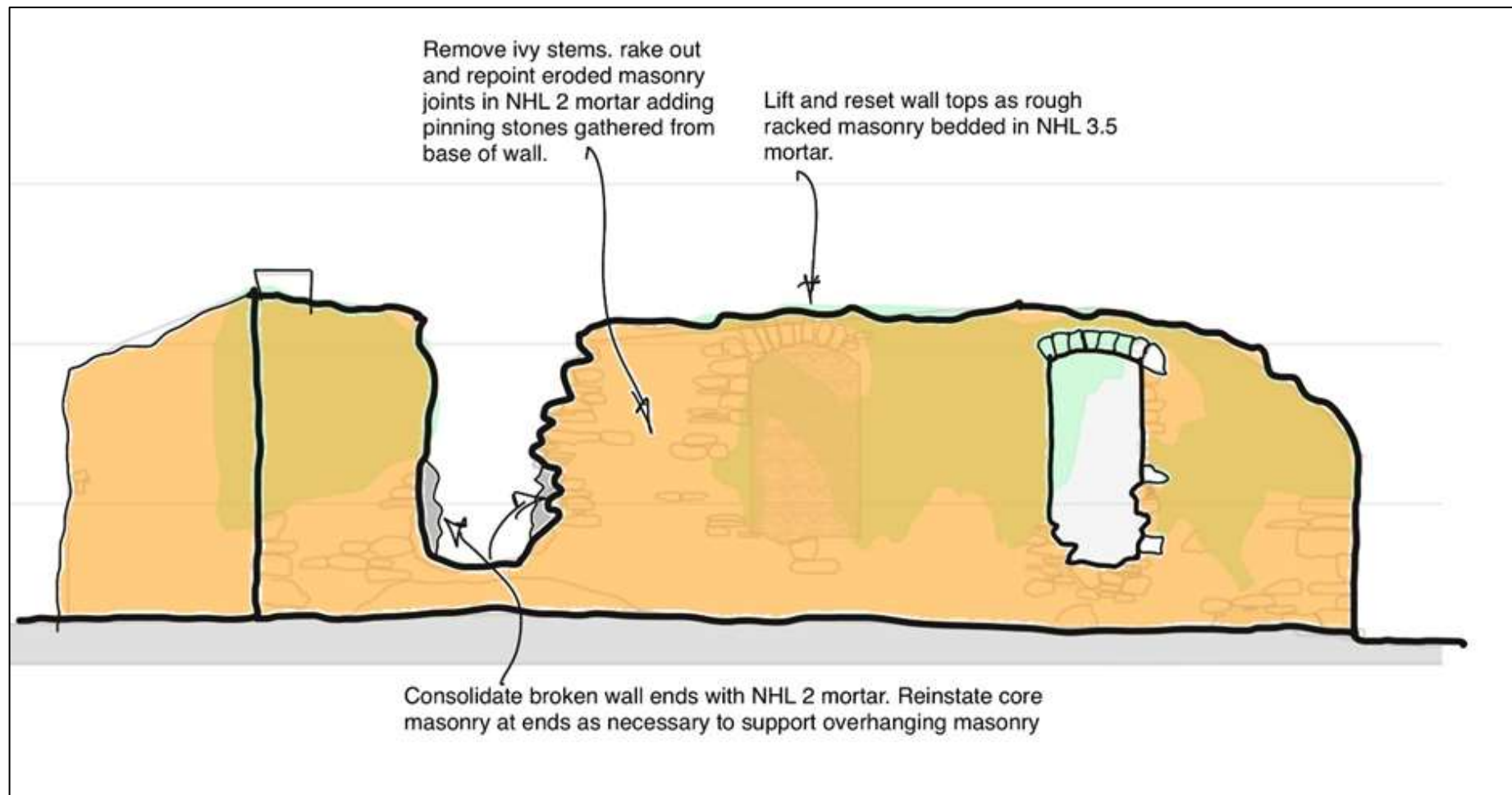


Figure 3: North Wall External Face.

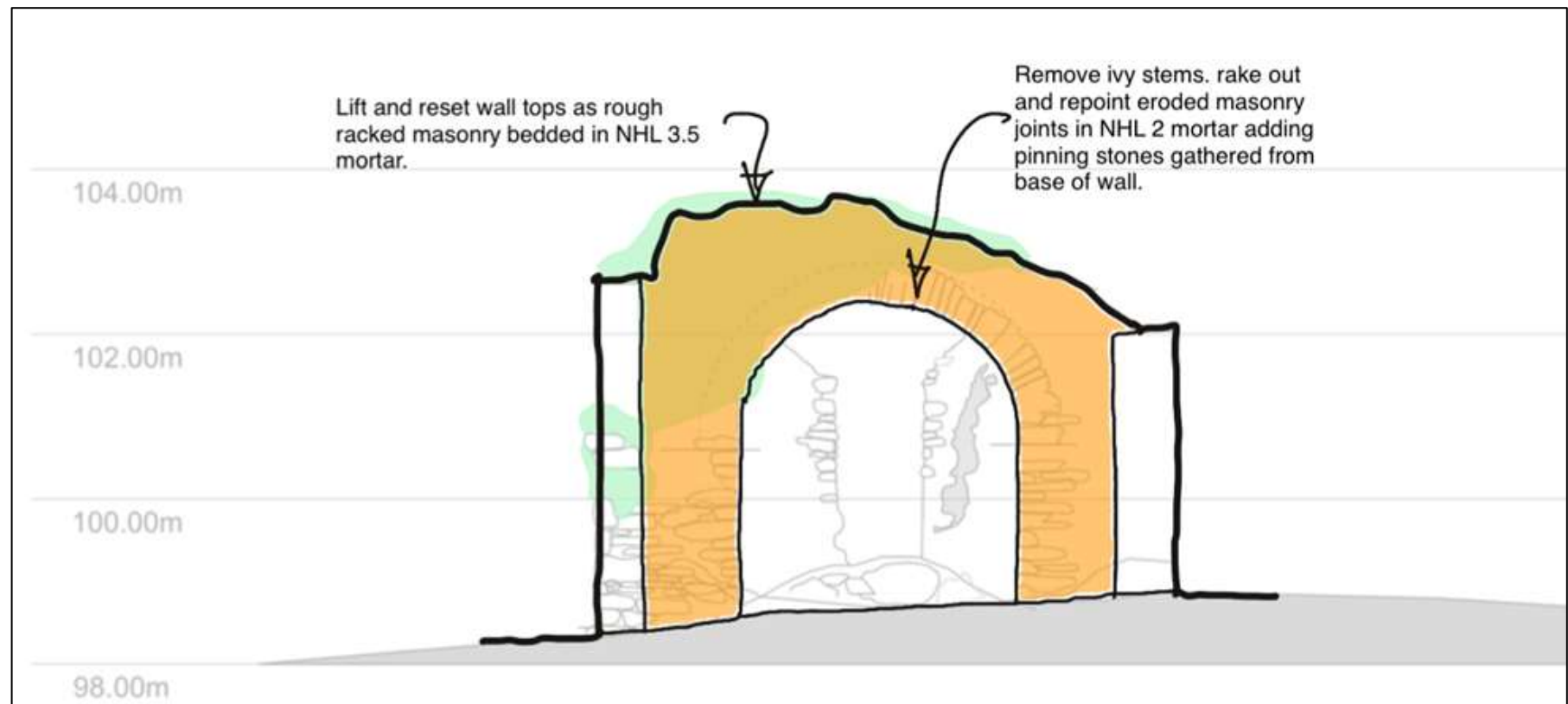


Figure 4: South Wall – External

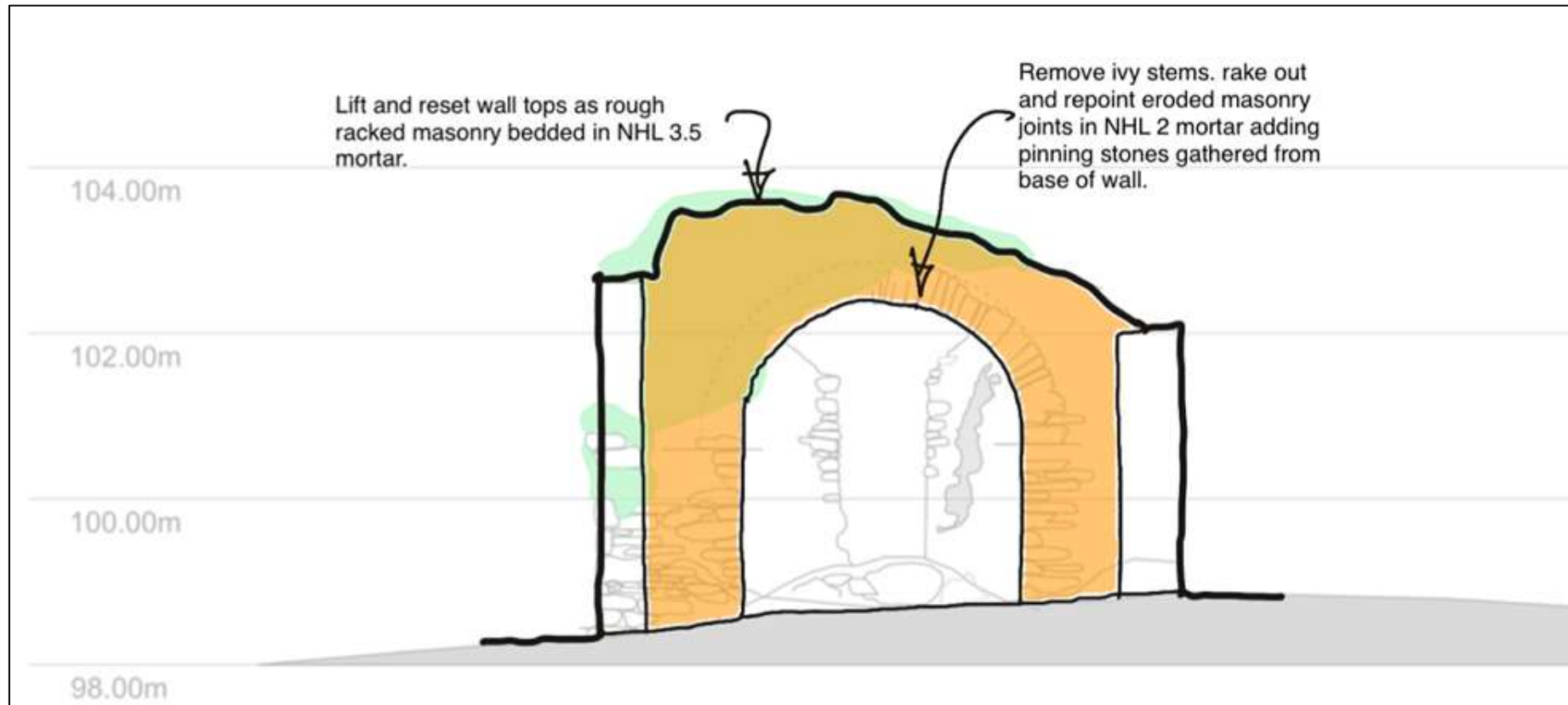


Figure 5: Chancel Arch.



7. Impact Assessment of Proposed Works Kilpipe CMF 2026 Stream 1

The proposed conservation works at Kilpipe Church are repair-led, conservative and non-invasive, and are confined entirely to the above-ground fabric of the monument. No excavation, ground reduction or subsurface disturbance is proposed. The overall archaeological impact of the works is therefore assessed as low, provided that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented.

Proposed Activity	Nature of Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures
Site set-up and access within graveyard	Risk of inadvertent disturbance of graves markers or sub-surface deposits	No ground reduction permitted; scaffold founded on timber sole boards; agreed access routes only; archaeological oversight during set-up
Vegetation removal from wall faces and wall tops	Exposure of previously hidden masonry; possible dislodging of unstable stone	Hand removal only; no mechanical tools; photographic record before and after clearance; archaeological supervision throughout
Wall-top clearance and consolidation	Minor disturbance of displaced stones; potential loss of historic alignment	Only fully loose stones lifted; numbered and recorded if necessary; reinstated in original positions; no alteration to wall profile beyond stabilisation.
Raking out and repointing of joints	Loss of historic mortar fabric	Hand raking only; shallow raking limited to decayed mortar; retention of sound historic mortar; mortar analysis undertaken; compatible lime mortar used
Localised dismantling (if required for stability)	Short-term removal of historic stonework	Undertaken only where structurally necessary; pre-dismantling record; reinstated in original sequence; no speculative reconstruction
Reuse and sorting of loose masonry	Risk of misidentification of architectural fragments	Archaeologist to inspect and identify worked stone; architectural fragments retained separately; no removal from site without consultation. Excess stone stored in gabion baskets
Grouting (if required)	Introduction of new material into historic core	Lime-based grout only; minimal and localised application; undertaken following archaeological and engineer inspection; no cementitious materials
Confirmed bat roost within structure	Risk of disturbance to protected species	Works subject to NPWS Bat Derogation Licence; seasonal restrictions observed; ecological monitoring in place

Table 1: Archaeological Impact and Mitigation of proposed works.

8. Sequence of Works Kilpipe Stream 1

Stage	Schedule / Sequence of Works	Responsibility
Upon grant award April/May	Review Community Monuments Fund grant conditions; confirm scope, budget, reporting and compliance requirements	Individual Team Members
Pre-commencement review April/May	Review ecological constraints, noting confirmed bat roost within the church	Compliance Coordinator WCC/ Project Archaeologist / Ecologist
Ecological assessment Prior to works / subject to NPWS Bat Derogation Licence requirements	Detailed bat survey to confirm roost type, usage and seasonal sensitivities. Preparation and submission of Bat Derogation Licence application to NPWS	Ecologist
Ministerial Consent Application April/May	Submit ministerial consent application with method statement to NMS	Project Archaeologist
Procurement TBC	Tendering out of conservation works	Project Manager (Engineer)
Programme confirmation TBC	Finalisation of works programme to align with licence conditions and permitted seasonal window	Project Manager
Pre-start meeting July	Site induction covering archaeological, ecological, health & safety and compliance requirements	Team with Conservation Contractor
Site preparation	Establishment of access routes, scaffolding and protective measures in accordance with licence conditions	Conservation Contractor under Project Manager (Engineer)
Vegetation removal	Controlled removal of ivy and vegetation from wall faces and wall tops	Conservation Contractor under Archaeological supervision
Fabric recording	Detailed photographic and written recording of exposed masonry	Project Archaeologist

Conservation works July-September	Masonry stabilisation, repointing, limited rebuilding and lime mortar capping. Site visit with NMS (if available)	Conservation Contractor under Project Manager (Engineer), with Archaeological supervision
Completion September/October	Final inspection and verification of compliance with licence and grant conditions and claim to CMF	Project Manager (Engineer) / Compliance Coordinator WCC/ Project Archaeologist
Reporting October	Submission of final archaeological, ecological and compliance reports	Project Manager (Engineer) Project Archaeologist / Ecologist / Compliance Coordinator WCC

Table 2: Sequence of Works Stream 1 Kilpipe CMF 2026.

9. Constraints on Archaeological Methods

Archaeological works are confined strictly to above-ground recording and monitoring. No excavation, ground reduction or disturbance of archaeological stratigraphy is proposed. All works are further governed by ecological licensing requirements relating to a confirmed bat roost within the structure.

10. Finds Retrieval Strategy

There will be no sub surface excavation carried out during this phase of works. However, existing rubble will be moved and used in rebuilding where appropriate. Dressed stone will be sorted from rubble and will be stored safely until an agreement with NMI is made for its long-term storage. Consideration will be given to stray finds concealed in mortar, the rake out will be regularly inspected.

Any objects retrieved will be bagged, labelled, and registered according to their context and stratigraphic location. All objects will be recorded by context with individually significant objects being recorded three-dimensionally using a sequence of unique numbers, following the guidelines of the National Museum of Ireland. All objects recovered shall be retained and removed from site for conservation (when necessary) and specialist examination/analysis. Cleaning may take place on site or after removal, as appropriate. All recording, cleaning, storage, and conservation of objects shall be in accordance with the Irish Professional Conservators' and Restorers' Association 'Conservation Guidelines for Archaeologists' and the 'Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Archaeological Objects in the Context of an Archaeological Excavation' from the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland.

Advice shall be sought from Susannah Kelly in UCD in relation to storage of finds at the earliest opportunity where there are questions in relation to storage and to determine which corroded metal artefacts are suitable for X Ray.

The following steps will be followed immediately and on recovery of finds:

- Labelled with coordinates.
- Separated according to material type and metal type.
- All metal finds shall be handled wearing gloves as some metal compounds may be toxic and acid from the skin may damage the artefact.

The cataloguing will be undertaken by Ann Hanbidge who provides post excavation services to Yvonne Whitty.

11. Specialists

Although not anticipated, in the event that human remains are encountered An Garda Síochána will be notified along with the National Monuments Service and the National Museum of Ireland. An Osteoarchaeologist Mairead Ni Challanain will be available for consultation. This process shall be carried out in accordance with the policies of the National Museum of Ireland and the IAI:

- IAI Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Human Remains.
- IAI Guidelines for the Treatment of Human Remains: Technical Paper for Archaeologists.

Specialists will be employed where required and may include the following:

- Radiocarbon Dating – CHRONO Centre
- Faunal Remains – Margaret McCarthy
- Paleoenvironmental analysis – Lorna O Donnell and Nikolah Gilligan
- Archaeological Conservator – Susannah Kelly
- Lithics identification – Conor Brady
- Small Finds- Colm Moriarty
- Metal- Colm Moriarty
- Medieval pottery – Colm Moriarty
- Prehistoric pottery – Eoin Grogan

12. Storage after Completion of Fieldwork

The archive and any finds relating to the fieldwork shall be stored in safekeeping and in appropriate conditions at the office of De Faoite Archaeology. Prior to deposition the archive shall be ordered, arranged, boxed and deposited with the statutory authorities in accordance with *Guidelines and Forms for the Transfer of Excavation Archives to National Monuments Service Archive* (National Monuments Service 2012) and *Guidelines for producing database records, for Archaeological Archives presented to National Monuments Service Archive* (National Monuments Service 2012).

13. Sampling and analysis

It is not anticipated that soil sampling and analysis will arise as a component of these works, as no excavation is proposed. However, if in situ archaeological stratigraphy is identified samples may be collected from appropriate contexts for the purposes of radiocarbon dating and other environmental analysis as may be required. Retrieval and analysis of environmental samples (where relevant) shall be in accordance with the following:

- 'NRA Palaeo-environmental Sampling Guidelines
- 'Retrieval, analysis and reporting of plant macro-remains, wood, charcoal, insects, and pollen from archaeological excavations' Rev. 4 Jan 20154

'Environmental Sampling: Guidelines for Archaeologists' compiled by the Environmental Subcommittee of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland

14. Conservation

Any finds requiring immediate conservation will be referred to a specialist (Susannah Kelly and/or National Museum of Ireland, subject to advice). All archaeological artefacts will be numbered in accordance with the Advice Notes for Excavators (1997/updated April 2010) of the National Museum of Ireland and Treatment of Archaeological Objects (IAI 2006).

When works finish the artefacts shall be transported safely and securely to Unit 10 Riverside Business Centre, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow and/or to the relevant specialist as soon as the project has been completed.

15. Types of report to be submitted.

A report outlining the results of monitoring will be submitted to the client, NMS and NMI within 8 weeks of the completion of fieldwork and will be incorporated into the conservation report which shall be submitted by the end of November 2026.

This report will be submitted to the NMS in two parts. The first part will contain purely archaeological content. The contents will be produced to the standards set out by the NMS in their Guidelines for Authors of Reports on Archaeological Excavations (DEHLG 2006) and will be in accordance with the NMS's Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation (DAHGI 1999). The second part will contain other information, where appropriate, regarding the archaeological works, e.g., owner of the site, reasons for carrying out the archaeological works.

A summary of the results of the archaeological monitoring will be submitted to the Database of Irish Excavation Reports (www.excavations.ie).

